

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINNESOTA

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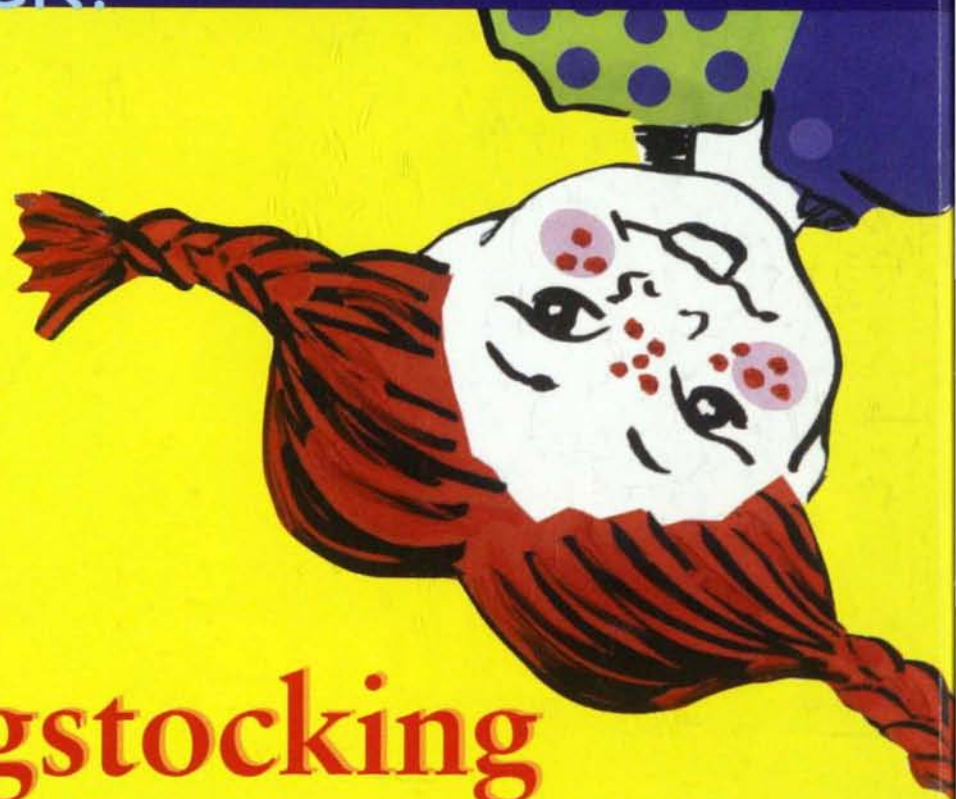
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Features



16 How I Got from Here to ... Here

Looking back on life's decisions can be every bit as bewildering as was standing before them.

Essay by William Swanson

18 Voices: Teaching Peace

Training diplomats, military personnel, and specialists in human rights, elections, and international law, alumna Lyly Rojas de Knaus strives to impart a sense of compassion for others and respect for differences.

As told to Vicki Starvig

22 Mold Busters

With the Department of Environmental Health and Safety on the case, everyone at the University can breathe easier.

By Doug Fine



26 Behind Gate 27

In 1942, Ancel Keys opened his legendary Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene beneath the bleachers of Memorial Stadium. Keys and his studies of starvation and the relationship between cholesterol and heart disease would draw worldwide attention.

By Tim Brady

32 The Song of the Lake

The winning entry in Minnesota magazine's second-annual fiction contest.

By Linda Norlander

36 Anywhere but Here

Seeing the world has never been more popular for University alumni of all ages. And whether they seek thrilling adventures, educational excursions, or family fun, travelers have more tour and destination options than ever before.

By Berit Thorkelson

42 Out of the Rough

A young, new coach for Gopher women's golf has taken a team of home-state honors students into the national rankings. Plus, previews of track and field, baseball, softball, and men's golf.

By Chris Coughlan-Smith



Columns and Departments

6 In Focus

A look back at the 18-cent battery battle and other economic crises in the University's past.

8 Campus Digest

The U Film Society turns 40; sesquicentennial snapshots; faculty research; campus arts and events; and more.

14 In Brief

President Yudof fears retrenchment and tuition increases under governor's budget proposal; NIH removes unfavorable exceptional status designation from the U; ground is broken for microbial and plant genomics building.

50 UMAA Report

Grassroots action on state funding becomes urgent; the Minnesota Orchestra and fireworks at the annual meeting; alumni center wins engineering award; and the UMAA calendar.

53 UMAA National President

Sesquicentennial events and other occasions to celebrate.

56 Executive Director

Life as we know it would be hard to imagine without Big Ten research discoveries.

Cover photograph by Harold Sweet

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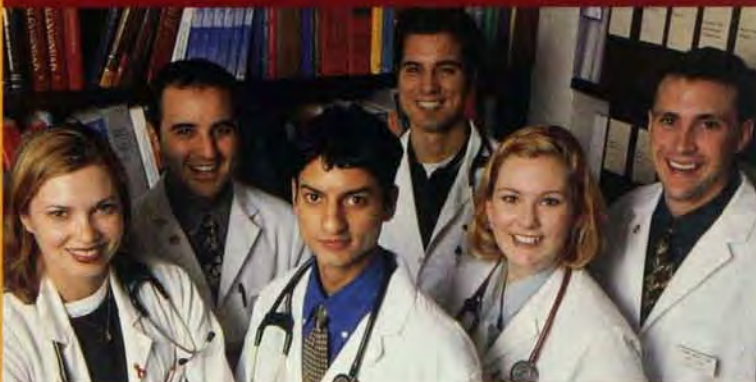


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In Focus

A Line in the Snow

In the midst of perhaps the most extraordinary public fight over the future of the University, it may be helpful to look to the lessons of prior budget battles as a guide.

In Cyrus Northrop's time (he was president 1884-1911), the struggle was over approval for the purchase of two batteries for 18 cents. The state had instituted a Board of Control that oversaw the expenses of prisons and insane asylums. Somehow the U fell under its control, setting off a constitutional autonomy battle.

In 1921 the University faced a \$3 million cut below what it called subsistence levels. "In this moment," wrote University historian James Gray, "the whole community of faculty, students and alumni became militant," holding meetings, passing resolutions, and deluging the capitol with letters, telephone calls, and personal visits until the legislature responded with an appropriation within a few thousand dollars of what the University had requested.



Tom Garrison

In 1925 the principle at stake was the right of the University to provide its faculty with health insurance—then totaling a mere \$45,000. In 1951, during the U's centennial year, President James Lewis Morrill protested what he called "calamitous" cuts and promised to "leave no stone unturned to make the University's case." In the 1970s "R&R" came to stand for "retrenchment and reallocation." Class sizes and courses taught by teaching assistants increased, and it would take decades to reverse the trend.

Today, Governor Jesse Ventura has proposed new funding for the U only one-fourth of what it requested, the third lowest allocation in a nonrecession year since 1945. After already cutting administrative costs by \$33.1 million and reallocating \$112.7 million to other priorities, University President Mark Yudof believes Minnesotans have a singular chance to keep undergraduate education affordable, retain a world-class medical school, and strategically position the state for its future workforce needs. Without that investment, Yudof predicts that tuition will rise up to 14 percent a year and program funding could be cut up to 7 percent. Once again, Minnesotans are called to rally to the state's premier land grant and research university.

Recently, three former presidents of the University of Minnesota gathered backstage at Northrop Auditorium prior to a sesquicentennial tribute. With a sense of déjà vu, or perhaps post-traumatic stress, C. Peter McGrath, Ken Keller, and Nils Hasselmo thought about our current biennial budget battle. The three men agree that, unlike any of their fights—including McGrath's having to cut more than \$25 million from the budget during a severe economic downturn—what's so unusual about Governor Ventura's public combat with higher education is that it all seems unnecessary. Even with a 20 percent smaller state surplus than originally forecast, "there is no crisis," says McGrath. "Why make one? Why make yourself vulnerable to being raided of your best people and being unable to attract new high-caliber faculty?"

President Lotus Coffman, who drew his own line in the snow in 1932, said it best: The University "could [emphasis added] dispense with that body of scholars who draw its highest salaries; it could recruit a cheaper and less competent staff; it could . . . even train doctors without hospital or clinical experience. . . . The degree at the end would have the same letters. . . . But we could not fool ourselves nor anyone else who knows what is real education."

—The Executive Editor
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Campus Digest

Sesquicentennial Snapshots

The University of Minnesota has been celebrating its 150th birthday for nearly a year, but the celebration reached fever pitch in February. Founders Week, February 18 through 25, featured numerous events and tributes around the state.

University and state officials and friends of the U converged in St. Paul on February 21 for a Birthday at the Capitol party in the rotunda. A life and drum corps from the Fort Snelling First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry greeted the arrival of University President Mark Yudof, who was joined by Patricia Spence, chair of the Board of Regents; Roger Moe, Senate majority leader; Steve Sviggum, speaker of the House of Representatives; and Governor Jesse Ventura.

The University Choir performed "Processional," a canon by University composer laureate Dominick Argento, and accompanied the crowd in "Happy Birthday" and the "Minnesota Rouser."

The Birthday at the Capitol event commemorated the signing of the charter in 1851 by Governor Alexander Ramsey that would create the University of Minnesota. "Imagine what those visionary leaders would think if they could see the University today!" said Yudof.

Other sesquicentennial events included concerts, art exhibitions, a conference series, and a statewide Maroon and Gold Day, in which alumni and friends donned maroon and gold Gopher gear.

The grand finale for the sesquicentennial celebration takes place June 29. It is combined with the University of Minnesota Alumni Association annual meeting and will feature fireworks and the return to campus by the Minnesota Orchestra.



A Quick Study

According to the University's Office of International Programs, study abroad participation is up for U of M students. More than 400 students in 2000-01 enrolled in short-term, faculty-led study abroad programs, a 15 percent increase from the previous year.

The Most Important Survey of the Day

The University Dining Service (UDS) visited all six residence halls on the Twin Cities campus this past fall to survey students about their favorite breakfast cereals. The winners were:

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2. Frosted Flakes
3. Cap'n Crunch
4. Frosted Mini-Wheats
5. Corn Pops
6. Cocoa Krispies
7. Low-Fat Granola
8. Apple Jacks
9. Froot Loops
10. Lucky Charms
11. Cheerios
12. Crispix
13. Marshmallow Blasted Froot Loops
14. Raisin Bran

Says UDS marketing manager Suzanne Odell: "Our hopes . . . were to have the students choose what we offer so that we could standardize all buildings to have the same cereals. This way when students eat at different halls they know what to expect."

Faculty Research

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



A \$5 Million View

A large donation will give University of Minnesota astronomers about three weeks each year at the world's most powerful telescope. A \$5 million gift from Hubbard Broadcasting lets the University have a block of time at the Large Binocular Telescope, now being built at the Mount Graham International Observatory, a facility more than 10,000 feet up in the mountains of southeastern Arizona. It is expected to be completed in 2004. The telescope will have 28-foot-wide, 20-ton mirrors that will allow it 25 times more light collecting area and 10 times better resolution than the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope. Astronomy department faculty and researchers will have 20 days a year to use the instrument, which will allow them to see solar systems so distant it takes light from them up to five billion years to reach Earth. The telescope will allow advanced research into how planets form in other systems. Len Kuhl, chairman of the Department of Astronomy, said access to the telescope, along with an already highly respected faculty, will put the department "into the big leagues right away." The department also could trade time on the big telescope for access to other state-of-the-art instruments. Last year, Hubbard Broadcasting gave \$10 million to the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and has provided about \$4 million in smaller gifts over the past few years.

Organ Donating Made Easy

Despite having a kidney and part of his pancreas removed, a Wisconsin man was able to get up and leave the hospital within a week, thanks to a procedure pioneered by University of Minnesota surgeons and performed at Fairview-University Medical Center. The patient underwent the first-ever laparoscopy in order to donate a kidney and part of his pancreas to his niece. The laparoscopy involves making a small incision and using a scope to allow surgeons to see inside the abdomen as they remove organs. This procedure cut the donor's recovery time to several days rather than two to three weeks. The kidney/partial-pancreas transplant is done in patients with severe diabetes. Typically, a patient will have already suffered enough kidney damage that a transplant is necessary, while the pancreas transplant serves to protect the new kidney and halt or slow progression of diabetes. About 150 pancreas transplants and 240 kidney transplants are done each year at the University, including between 50 and 75 kidney/partial-pancreas transplants. Just five to 10 kidney/partial-pancreas transplants from living donors are performed, however. Surgeons hope the success of the laparoscopy will make potential donors feel more willing to donate organs, since the procedure is less invasive and less risky than the traditional surgery conducted to remove the organs.

A Drug for Kleptomania

A drug used to treat alcoholism will be tested on kleptomaniacs in a University of Minnesota study. Naltrexone, which works by blocking receptors in the brain that register the pleasurable "high" that alcoholics crave, may also block the pleasure received from other behaviors. Although the drug has already shown promise in treating compulsive gamblers and some kleptomaniacs, the University's study marks the first clinical drug trial for kleptomania, a rare mental disorder that produces an irresistible impulse to steal. The resulting short-lived high usually gives way to shame, depression, and even thoughts of suicide. Psychiatric resident Dr. Jon Grant, who is leading the trial, hopes the 12-week study of 20 to 30 patients will help prove that kleptomania is a medical problem that can be treated. Researchers also hope to get a better idea of what triggers kleptomania, how the urges change over time, and how various life events affect the condition.

PATRICIA TILLBERG HASSELMO, wife of former University President Nils Hasselmo, died of multiple myeloma December 30, 2000, at Fairview-University Medical Center. She was 70.

Patricia Hasselmo REMEMBERED

Patricia Hasselmo earned a reputation as a quiet crusader because of her fund raising and diplomatic actions on behalf of the U. A gracious hostess at Eastcliff, the University president's home, she initiated a drive to raise private donations for refurbishing the residence. The Hasselmos are pictured outside of Eastcliff.

Before her involvement at the University, Hasselmo had served in the Twin Cities as a member of the Metropolitan Council and on the Golden Valley school board. She also considered running for a seat in the state legislature. After 1987, the Hasselmos moved to Washington, D.C., where Nils Hasselmo became president of the American Association of Universities. Patricia Hasselmo is survived by Nils, her husband of 42 years, three children and one sister.



U Film Society Celebrates 40 Years

Since spring of 1962, the University Film Society has screened almost 7,000 films—many of which have never been seen anywhere else in the Midwest. Tenacious founder Al Milgrom (B.A. '47, M.A. '62) has single-handedly brought hundreds of international movies out of obscurity. And according to Milgrom, stalwart patrons of a series of Russian films screened in the 1980s were able to predict the fall of Gorbachev just by going to the movies.

What began as a modest operation—screenings of mostly foreign films ran three nights a week until 1980—has become, in its way, an even more modest project. Receiving no funding from the University, U Film maintains squatter's rights to the Bell Museum audio-



U Film Society founder Al Milgrom

rium, where it runs nightly movies and gains 80 percent of its income from ticket sales. The rest comes from small arts grants. With two permanent employees, a few student workers, and a boss who graduated from the U with a degree in journalism (and later a master's in sociology), U Film has a small office crowded with boxes, overflowing file cabinets, cans of film, and a couple of aging computers.

The original mission of the U Film Society was to show movies that were making a hit in Europe but that remained largely unseen in

the United States except on the East and West coasts. U Film also hoped to finance movies by burgeoning young studio-arts majors at the University, where there was no real film program. Even now, the University is only beginning to support a campuswide film initiative involving multiple departments in the College of Liberal Arts, including a new film major in the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature and Art History. Operating in a competitive film market and with a University parking plan that, Milgrom points out, is well known as being "non-user friendly," U Film has its battle scars.

So why does he continue to run one of the most innovative film programs in town as well as a first-class international film festival that takes place over the course of 15 days? Milgrom needs a job. He is past retirement age but has no retirement benefits and is still registered as a student because he takes introductory Spanish classes at night. Still speaking like a hipster, Milgrom talks about the buddies with whom he started U Film. He tells of crashing on friends' couches when he goes to various international film festivals. And he is enamored with the possibility of showing movies from Tajikistan, Iran, Brazil, and Egypt, to name a few.

A bit cynically, Milgrom says that the U Film Society's International Film Festival, April 6 through 21 this year, provides "exotic armchair travel" for Twin Cities moviegoers. It does more than that. Smaller versions of the festival, now in its 19th year, are taken to Rochester, Ely, and Duluth, Minnesota, and Fargo, North Dakota. Indirectly, the U Film Society is providing a fabulous education and making an argument about the value of art.

Milgrom wonders, though, how much people care. He says that with "many more outlets, choices, and opportunities for cultural distraction, audiences have become lazy. Parking is a headache. Critics are worse than ever." But despite this grim evaluation, Milgrom believes that the University nevertheless plays an important cultural role. If the University needs U Film to do that, then Milgrom is willing to help. Celebrating 40 years, the University Film Society is one of the oldest film societies in the country. Its film festival only gets bigger, its movies more offbeat, and its founder more committed to this beloved project.

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—Cecily Marcus

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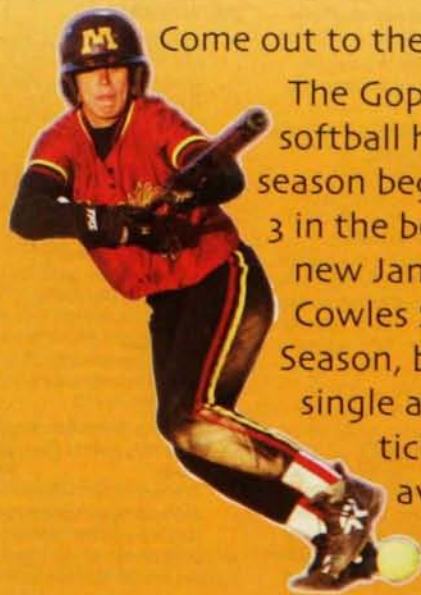
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Women's Athletics
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Campus Arts and Events

At the Weisman

A model of the human eye, from the Department of Physics Teaching Collection, is part of the "Cabinets of Curiosities" exhibition at the Weisman Art Museum through May 27.



PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB FOOT

At Ted Mann

Sonny Rollins performs March 25 at the Ted Mann Concert Hall as part of the Northrop Jazz Season.



At the Weisman



Girls in a Field, 1928-30, oil on canvas, by Kazimir Malevich, is part of the "Painting Revolution" exhibition at the Weisman through April 8.

At the Weisman

More than 100 negatives were found in the archives of a secret prison run by the Khmer Rouge, part of "Facing Death: Portraits from Cambodia's Killing Fields" at the Weisman through April 1.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

At the State Theatre



PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL O'NEILL



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEAN WILLIAMS

The premier of *Herman, USA*, filmed in Minnesota, opens the University Film Society's 19th annual Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival at the State Theatre in downtown Minneapolis April 6.

At Northrop

The inventive Pilobolus Dance Theatre performs at Northrop Auditorium April 7.

DANCE

NORTHROP DANCE SEASON

Northrop Auditorium is located at 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis. Call 612-624-2345 or visit www.northrop.umn.edu.

Alonzo King's LINES Ballet
Led by choreographer Alonzo King, this company of sleek dancers lets the inner self move the outer body. Poetic impulses scale new technical heights in new works, including "Who Dressed You Like a Foreigner?" to a score by Indian tabla master Zakir Hussein and "Soothing the Enemy." April 3 and 4 at 7:30 p.m. at Northrop Auditorium. Tickets are \$22, \$27, \$37.

Pilobolus Dance Theatre
Full of wit and physical invention, the members of this feisty company (named for a sun-loving barnyard fungus) become "human pretzels" in their dance favorites. The company, now in its 30th year, will also launch a new dance, with klezmer music, co-commissioned by Northrop Auditorium. April 7 at 8 p.m. at Northrop Auditorium. Tickets are \$20.50, \$24.50, \$29.50.

UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM

The Barbara Barker Center for Dance is located at 500 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Call 612-624-5060.

On the Edge
A new work by Ruth Zaporah. April 12-14 at 8 p.m. at the Barbara Barker Center for Dance, studio 100. Admission is free. Call 612-624-2345.

Student Dance Concert
April 26-28 at 8 p.m. at the Barbara Barker Center for Dance, studio 100. Admission is free.

Informal Showing
Workshop material by guest artist Jawole Willa Jo Zollar. May 2 at 5 p.m. at the Barbara Barker Center for Dance, studio 100. Admission is free.

End of the Year Technique Showing
May 3 at 3 p.m. at the Barbara Barker Center for Dance, studio 100. Admission is free.

WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

333 East River Road, Minneapolis, 612-625-9494.

Color/Dance with Matt Jensen's New and Slightly Used Dance
As part of the Weisman's "Portable Art" program, Matt Jensen and his company perform an original dance piece that inscribes the intensity, modulation, and expressiveness of color in the articulation of physical movement. March 22 at noon and 7 p.m., and March 23 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

FILM

UNIVERSITY FILM SOCIETY

The 19th annual Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival features more than 100 films from 40 countries screening at several Twin Cities area theaters, including the Bell Auditorium, on 17th and

University avenues, and the Oak Street Cinema, at 309 Oak St. The festival kicks off April 6 at the State Theatre in downtown Minneapolis with a gala reception and the screening of the locally produced film *Herman, USA*. Written and directed by Bill Semans, *Herman, USA*, tells the story of the men in a small, western Minnesota town who faced a shortage of women in their farming community and how their desire to attract brides drew worldwide media attention. For information on the festival, call 612-627-4430 or visit www.ufilm.org.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

BELL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

10 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, 612-624-7083. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 12-5 p.m.

Dioramas Revisited
Photographer Chris Faust and writer Lansing Shepard revisit the sites of three dioramas (elk, tundra swan, and sandhill cranes) made for the Bell Museum in the 1940s. This exhibit illustrates how and why the locations have changed over time. Shepard's essays illuminate a landscape in transition, while Faust's photographs provide dramatic "before and after" comparisons that put past and present in perspective. Ongoing.

Francis Lee Jaques: Master Artist of the Wild

Minnesota native Francis Lee Jaques is recognized for his paintings of wildlife and wilderness environments. For 20 years Jaques worked at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, where he painted dioramas. The Bell is showcasing its collection of Jaques's paintings and drawings, including 19 wildlife dioramas painted in the 1940s and '50s. Through May 13.

FREDERICK R. WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

333 East River Road, Minneapolis, 612-625-9494. Hours: 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.

Facing Death: Portraits from Cambodia's Killing Fields

In the 1970s, the Khmer Rouge operated the secret prison S-21 in Phnom Penh during Pol Pot's regime. Prison archives—which contained photographic negatives that produced the 100 images in this exhibit—show that more than 14,000 people at S-21 fell victim to genocide and other brutalities. Through April 1.

Painting Revolution: Kandinsky, Malevich, and the Russian Avant-Garde

This exhibition celebrates early 20th-century Russian painting, created amid turbulent social and political climates. Organized by the Foundation for International

Arts and Education, the show consists of 86 works dating from 1905 to 1925. Through April 8.

Cabinets of Curiosities

Artist Mark Dion, who creates intriguing installations that explore collecting, the conventions of museum display, and the role of the artist-investigator, is collaborating on this exhibition in conjunction with the University's sesquicentennial celebration. More than 600 objects from over 30 of the University's research collections are arranged in nine cabinets based on Renaissance ideas about how the world was structured. Through May 27.

GOLDSTEIN GALLERY

244 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, 612-624-7434.

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Here by Design

This exhibition explores the place of design in a society that increasingly displaces its use of designed objects from environmental, social, and political contexts. Focusing on six designers working in Minnesota, the exhibit demonstrates that the needs met by design are interdependent and that the choices made by designers and consumers are shaped by and affect our communities, natural environments, and economies. Through April 15.

Senior Student Show

Approximately 50 seniors from the Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel (graphic design, interior design, and clothing design majors) display their work, including prints and drawings, promotional advertising, packaging, clothing, and plans and models. April 29-May 13.

KATHERINE E. NASH GALLERY

On the West Bank in Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., 612-624-7530. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is free.

Department of Art Scholarship Recipients

April 3-21 in the Teaching Gallery.

Brenda Litman

Department of Art adjunct faculty member show, April 3-21 in the Spotlight Gallery.

Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibitions

April 3-May 4 in the Main Gallery.

Chris Dashke

Department of Art adjunct faculty member show, April 24-May 4 in the Spotlight Gallery.

Graduating Senior Salon

April 24-May 4 in the Teaching Gallery.

MUSIC

NORTHROP JAZZ SEASON

The Ted Mann Concert Hall is located on the West Bank at 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. For tickets, call 612-624-2345. To order on-line, visit www.northrop.umn.edu.

Sonny Rollins

For nearly half a century, Sonny Rollins has amazed audiences with his mastery of the tenor sax and an unprecedented harmonic imagination that fuels his musical ideas. Rollins gives live performances sparingly these days, so this return engagement is a stroke of exceedingly good fortune. March 25 at 7 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$24, \$28.

John Zorn's Masada

Saxophonist-composer John Zorn and his Masada quartet challenge and energize modern jazz. Masada's music is a mix of Jewish roots and new jazz, but all of it is complex and captivating. April 14 at 8 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$24, \$28.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Ted Mann Concert Hall is located at 2128 Fourth St. S. Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall is inside Ferguson Hall at 2106 Fourth St. S., both on the West Bank in Minneapolis. Unless otherwise noted, admission to University School of Music events is free. For more information, call 612-626-8742.

Jazz and Dance

Students from the School of Music's Jazz Ensemble II and the University Dance Program perform together in a special concert. April 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Barbara Barker Center for Dance, 500 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Call (612) 624-5060.

Eric Hermanson's Soul

The Minnesota premiere of an opera by University alumna Libby Larsen. Akira Mori, conductor; Vern Sutton, director. April 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m.; April 8 at 2 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$14 to \$17. Call (612) 624-2345.

Richard Buckley Master Class

Richard Buckley, known locally for conducting the Minnesota Opera's *Turandot* this season, presents a masterclass on Verdi, Puccini, and bel canto arias. April 9 at 6:30 p.m. in room 225 of Ferguson Hall.

An Evening of Jazz-Inspired Classical and Classical Jazz

A recital by School of Music professor Thomas Ashworth (trombone, euphonium) with pianist Willis Delony from Louisiana State University. April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Keith McCutchen, director. April 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Bach Festival: Jon Humphrey Master Class

Tenor Jon Humphrey presents "The Evangelist Role in Bach's Passions." April 12 at 2:30 p.m. in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

Bach Festival: St. John Passion

This special performance of the story of Jesus's arrest, trial, crucifixion, and burial as seen through the eyes of St. John the Evangelist takes place within the Good Friday vespers service, exactly as Bach himself performed

the St. John Passion in Leipzig in the 18th century. Performed by the University Chamber Singers and the Bach Festival Orchestra. April 13 at 7 p.m. at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church, 797 Summit Ave., St. Paul. Free-will offering.

Dean Billmeyer Recital

School of Music professor Dean Billmeyer performs works for organ. April 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis.

University Band

Amy K. Roisum, conductor. April 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Meet the Composer: Joan Tower
Chamber music by internationally celebrated composer Joan Tower, plus commentary and conversation. April 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

Duke Ellington's Sacred Services and More!

Presented by the Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and Jazz Ensemble I. Kathy Saltzman Romey, Keith McCutchen, and Dean Sorenson, directors. April 22 at 7 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 1601 Fourth Ave., Anoka.

Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band

April 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Rita Sloan Master Class

Pianist Rita Sloan is a regular performer in major venues worldwide. April 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

Campus Orchestra

April 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Gospel Choir

April 29 at 4 p.m. in the St. Lawrence Church and Newman Center, 1201 Fifth St. SE, Minneapolis.

Singing the Creative Mind: Writers, Composers, and Performing Artists

What do Virginia Woolf, Langston Hughes, and the Frankenstein monster have in common? Find out at this special concert presented by the Ted Mann Vocal Quartet. April 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Symphony Orchestra

Akira Mori, conductor. May 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

READINGS AND SPEAKERS

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM EVENTS

The Creative Writing Program in the Department of English presents the 42nd annual Joseph Warren Beach Memorial Lecture, featuring poet, translator, and environmental activist **W.S.**

Merwin. March 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the A.J. Johnson Great Room in the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE. Poet and performer **Cecilia Vicuña** visits campus April 12 (time TBA) at the Weisman Art Museum, 333 East River Road. Call 612-625-3363.

First Tuesday Lecture Series

The Carlson School of Management presents lunch and a top-level executive as the keynote speaker the first Tuesday of every month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome. The April 3 speaker is Jack Grundhofer, chairman and CEO of US Bancorp. The May 1 speaker is Robert Stephens, founder and president of the Geek Squad. The June 5 speaker is Steven Sanger, chairman and CEO of General Mills. The cost of \$18 includes lunch and parking in the Washington Avenue ramp. Call 612-626-9634.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Northrop presents His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize for Peace, who will teach and speak on the Minneapolis campus May 8 and 9. The Dalai Lama presents "Generating a Good Heart," dharmic teaching, May 8, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Northrop Auditorium; "Compassion and Universal Responsibility in a New Century," a public address, May 8, 5:30-7 p.m., at Williams Arena; and an interfaith dialogue with other religious leaders, May 9, 5:30-7 p.m., at Northrop Auditorium. Tickets for individual events are \$28 to \$152 (proceeds benefit establishing a Tibetan cultural center in the Twin Cities). Call 612-624-2345. Northrop Auditorium is located at 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis. Williams Arena is located at 1925 University Ave. SE.

Women's Health Research Showcase Events

The Women's Health Fund presents breakfast and lunch lectures at which faculty members in the University's Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Women's Health discuss their cutting-edge research in gynecologic cancer, infertility treatment, mature women's health, and maternal-fetal medicine. April 11, 7:30-9 a.m., and April 16, noon-1:30 p.m., at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis, 410 Oak Grove St. Call 612-626-0105.

THEATER

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

The Rarig Center is located at 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. For tickets and information, call 612-625-8878.

Emperor Henry IV

After falling from a horse, a man is convinced he is an 11th-century monarch. Nobel Prize-winning playwright Luigi Pirandello reveals his ability to dramatize philosophy, reflecting on the nature of identity, the instability of space and time, and the conflicts between illusion and reality. Translated by Eric Bentley and directed by third-year M.F.A. candidate Jennifer Blackmer. April 10-29 in the Stoll Thrust Theatre at the Rarig Center.

in Brief

The Board of Regents is "totally committed" to supporting the University of Minnesota in its budget request, said Regent Patricia Spence at the regents' February meeting. "We will spend a significant amount of time talking to citizen groups, Rotary groups, and legislators about our success story," she said.

In addition to citing the value of the University to rural and urban communities, several regents commended University President Mark Yudof on his vision and leadership skills. "People in Minnesota appreciate integrity and honesty and people who do what they say they will do," said Regent William Hogan.

Retrenchment, salary freezes, and "double-digit or more" tuition increases are likely if Governor Jesse Ventura's recommended \$56.6 million in new state funding for the University is passed, Yudof told the Faculty Consultative Committee on January 25. Ventura's recommendation is about 75 percent less than what the University requested. "Total allocation is \$2 million less than the total needed to maintain the same health-care benefits all of you have today," Yudof said. The appropriation is the third lowest in a non-recession year since 1945.

Yudof called the proposed funding "so far off the mark [that] it puts all the gains [in undergraduate education] of the last three years at risk." The University has requested \$221.5 million for the biennium—\$150 million for core operations and \$71.5 million to support initiatives that fuel Minnesota's economy. For more information about U's request, visit www.umn.edu/govrel.

The new \$20 million microbial and plant genomics building "is an example of a collaboration that advances the state," said Yudof at the February 7 groundbreaking ceremony on the St. Paul campus. The three-story, 64,000-square-foot facility is funded equally by the state and Cargill and is scheduled for completion in November 2002. It will house research and computational laboratories, conference and instructional facilities, and administrative space for 17 principal investigators and 168 research scientists. Work will center on the genomes of plants and microbes and will be geared toward producing improvements in the food supply, new drugs and treatments, and new ways to remove environmental contaminants.

"Biodale is one-stop shopping for cutting-edge biological research support services [that is] one-of-a-kind in the state and nation," said Robert Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences at the February 7 grand opening of the U's new biotechnology facilities. Located in the lower levels of Snyder Hall and Gortner Laboratory of Biochemistry, Biodale's services include automated DNA sequence analysis, mass spectrometry, and high-speed network workstations to analyze and compare genome information.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has removed the University's exceptional status designation, which was imposed in August

1995 following the discovery of systemic weaknesses in its grant management procedures. "This move demonstrates NIH's confidence in the University's management of its sponsored research programs and it returns the University of Minnesota to the community of research universities in good standing with the federal government," said Frank Cerra, senior vice president for health services.

Since 1995, the University has taken corrective actions, including developing an electronic grants management system and a new sponsored projects management model. It has also implemented extensive training programs and new oversight systems and tools. NIH is the largest sponsor of research at the University, granting more than \$150 million for research through more than 800 grants and contracts each year to the University.

Campaign Minnesota has raised more than \$1 billion in gifts as of December 2000, making the University the first organization in Minnesota and one of eight public universities to do so nationally. The campaign goal is to raise \$540 million in new endowment funds for faculty, students, and strategic investments and \$760 million for ongoing program support by 2003. "[Donors] want their gifts to supplement, not replace, other sources of funding," said Burr Gibson, a fund-raising expert who has advised six Big Ten schools conducting billion-dollar campaigns, including the University of Minnesota.

The University has received \$200,000 from Time Warner Cable of Minnesota to support economically disadvantaged students studying telecommunications and business and for programs in the U's Office of Community Economic Development. The gift includes \$150,000 in scholarship money and paid internships over the next 10 years.

Carlson School of Management faculty members ranked seventh for outstanding accomplishments in research productivity in the December 2000 *Academy of Management Journal*, which compared faculty at 380 accredited business schools. Production/operations management and management information systems were each ranked number one, while management and marketing placed seventh and ninth, respectively.

The University will cooperate in studies and analysis relating to a new football stadium but will not lead an effort, Eric Kruse, vice president of University Services, reported to the Faculty Consultative Committee on February 18. The U is examining the issue because the Minnesota Vikings and the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission have asked for the University's position. The sports facilities commission is seeking an endorsement from the University of its plan to remodel the Metrodome for football only. The Vikings organization, however, has rejected the renovation plan and is campaigning for a new stadium that could include the Gophers. The University has hired a Kansas City consulting firm that specializes in sports facilities to evaluate the various proposals and determine how they meet the needs of the U and its football program. The Faculty Consultative Committee reiterated its 1995 position not to support a new stadium. ■

Pauline Oo is a writer in the Office of University Relations.

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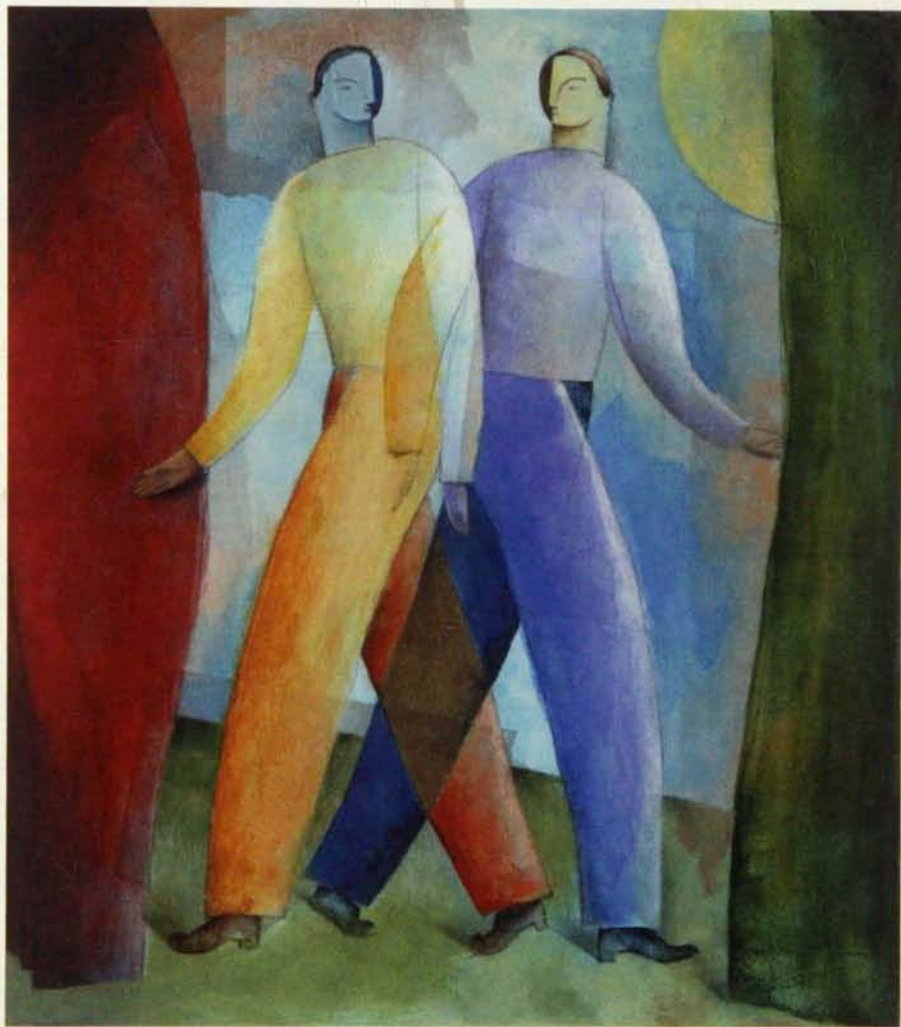
How I Got from Here to... Here

Looking back on life's decisions can be every bit as bewildering as was standing before them. **By William Swanson**

By the time you read this essay, my son, our firstborn, will be preparing to graduate from college and wrapping up plans to work in New York. The young man has goals. The young man has aspirations. The opportunities are fanned out in front of him like a deck of playing cards. Our second child is still an undergraduate, but already the possibilities are beginning to open, flowerlike, before her eyes.

What to do with their lives? Where to do it? These are the most urgent of the questions my wife and I are at once pained and relieved we don't have to answer for our children. We've made so many decisions for them already; now it's up to them. The question that nags at me is: How did I, when I was their age, make those decisions? Or, put another way: How did I end up where I've ended up? Which is to say: What am I doing here? And the short answer is: Damned if I really know.

I'm pretty sure I never had a plan. Figuratively as well as in physiological terms, I've always been nearsighted. What's more, if my opportunities had been spread out like cards, they were spread out face down. I don't recall much in the way of career guidance, either. Whatever my devout, widowed mother thought about my future, her advice could be summed up by the phrase "Walk with the Lord." My four siblings, all considerably older than I, were out of the house well before I came of age; by the time I might have thought to ask, they were busy cobbling together grown-up lives of their own. As far as college was concerned, the University of Minnesota was a given, mainly because it was here and because it was a



bargain. The idea of trotting off to some pricey private institution, if it occurred to me at all, would have fallen into the same category as my fantasy about dating Natalie Wood. Myopic as I was, I'm not sure I even *tried* to see what lay beyond my formal education. Besides, the war in Vietnam was heating up, guys like me were getting drafted, and, being the '60s, it seemed obvious in some vague but insistent way that the times they were a-changin'.

The only definite career decision I ever remember making I made in the eighth or ninth grade: I'd be a high-scoring forward for the Lakers. They were the *Minneapolis* Lakers in those days, and the great Elgin Baylor was my idol. When I realized, a couple of years later, that the NBA wasn't going to happen for this lead-footed white boy, I thought about sportscasting. But even then I wrote better than I talked, so sportscasting sort of morphed into sports-

"Back home" seemed like Mayberry RFD viewed through the wrong end of a telescope. Meanwhile, visions of myself as a Gauloises-sucking, trench-coat-wearing correspondent for the Times or the Post danced through my head.

writing, and I volunteered for the sports section of the Roosevelt High *Sagamore*. Moving on to the U, I found myself taking the 35-words-a-minute typing test required for admission to its journalism school. By the time I graduated, what with the war and the mayhem in the streets and the Jefferson Airplane, I sensed there were other subjects a good deal more intriguing than a ball game.

On two separate occasions not long after college I faced the big questions: What do I do with my life? and Where should I do it? I imagine myself standing in a doorway, my past represented at my back by my mother's clunky living-room furniture and a cloud-dotted blue sky representing the future. On the first occasion, I was living in Mexico City, the beneficiary of a now defunct program that sent a Minnesota journalism major down there to work for a year on an English-language daily. On the second, I was wrapping up two years of army duty in Germany (I had been drafted shortly after completing the Mexican fellowship).

In Mexico, as a 22-year-old tyro, I listened to the stories of seasoned newspaper folk and hangers-on who had come from places (Tulsa, Newark . . .) no more exciting than the Twin Cities. By virtue of their varied experience and expatriate status, they qualified, in my naïf's mind, as Men and Women of the World. Later, in Europe, I gulped the intoxicating air of London, Paris, and the Costa Brava and promised both myself and my German girlfriend that I would return after I'd satisfied my military obligation and visited my family back home. ("Back home," by that time, seemed like Mayberry RFD viewed through the wrong end of a telescope.) Meanwhile, visions of myself as a Gauloises-sucking, trench-coat-wearing correspondent for the *Times* or the *Post* danced through my head. Ward Just had succeeded Elgin Baylor as my hero.

I don't recall deliberately stepping back and closing the door. I do remember walking along the Nicollet Mall during my supposedly temporary sojourn in Minnesota and comparing it, in snide, unflattering terms, with Barcelona's Ramblas. I had added Günter Grass and García Márquez to my personal pantheon and was eager to remove myself from Nixon's Amerika once more and for good. But it never happened.

I developed a serious crush on the grad student I'd hired to help strengthen my German in preparation for my return to Europe. Then I fell head over heels for the sister of a new friend. Following a chance encounter in the B. Dalton racks at Southdale, I accepted a job on the staff of a small local publishing company where I declared a passion for glossy magazines. True enough, I had grown up with *Life* and *Look* in their glory years and had emerged from journalism school at a time when *Esquire* magazine, edited by Harold Hayes, was the most exciting publication on earth. I just don't think I ever really decided that magazines were what I wanted to do, and that right here in Minneapolis was where I wanted to do them. It was an opportunity that jumped up in front of my four eyes, and, without giving it a lot of thought, I grabbed it.

All of which took place more than half a lifetime ago. After a dozen years working for local publications, then another dozen-plus as a freelance writer and corporate "outsourcer," I am back on the masthead of a glossy magazine. I live with my wife (the sister of that friend) in the same Linden Hills house we've lived in since 1976. My mother has passed away and my siblings have retired. My kids have moved out and on, leaving me in an interrogatory state of mind. Why *did* I come back? Why *did* I stay? Why *have* I made the career choices I've made? There was never an overarching objective. There was never a master plan. From where I sit now the decisions I made then seem ad hoc, existential. It's been a long trip that began with a single small step and has continued with a series of small, sometimes bumbling steps (right, left, left . . .), and the path it's defined looks, at times, like a circle.

Some years ago, when I was freelancing, a friend bumped into a woman I'd known during college. The woman asked after me and seemed surprised and disappointed to learn I was living in the Twin Cities and ghostwriting executive speeches. "Oh, I assumed he'd gone off to cover wars or something," she told my pal. Her comment, like a paper cut, stung *way* more than it should.

It may be the same base emotion (hurt, anger, embarrassment—*what?*) that leads me to reply the way I do to the young colleague who makes the mistake of asking for career advice. "Get the hell out of here!" I tell the kid. "Go to New York," I say. "Get thee to Washington or Barcelona or Rio. The land o' lakes isn't where it's happening. And go *now*, while you can. Before you fall in love and buy a house and fill it with kids. Before you decide that although what you do isn't particularly interesting or important, it's interesting and important *enough*—whatever that means." Then I add, a little sheepishly: "If Rio doesn't work out, you can always come home."

Many of my acquaintances came here for college or for a job or because their lovers or spouses did. Their reasons for staying are varied and often imprecise. I'm here, at least in part, because I was born here and because my roots run deep and because the impulse to live elsewhere has not been strong enough for me to yank those roots out of the tundra. And while, theoretically, my wife and I, now empty nesters, could go anywhere we want, we're staying put. We like the landscape and the seasons. We like the proximity to family and friends. We like the ease of getting from our place to theirs, to work, to our favorite joints. My wife, by the way, was born and raised here, too, and long ago planted her flag in the ground. There's never been any second-guessing for her.

As for me and the future, I'm more curious on my kids' behalf than I am about my own. I've reached the point where I'm shamelessly living through them, enjoying their adventures from afar. I'm dying to see what choices they make, and fear only that they may ask how I made mine. ■

William Swanson (B.A. '68) is a senior editor at Mpls.St.Paul Magazine.

FIRST PERSON features personal essays written by alumni, faculty, students, or anyone with a University connection. To request writers' guidelines for First Person, write to Shelly Fling, Editor, *Minnesota Magazine*, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Or e-mail fling003@tc.umn.edu.

Teaching

Training diplomats, military personnel, and specialists in human rights, elections, and international law, alumna Lyly Rojas de Knaus strives to impart a sense of compassion for others and respect for differences.

AS TOLD TO VICKI STAVIG
PHOTOGRAPH BY HAROLD SWEET

Voices

I'M A GLOBAL CITIZEN. I DON'T IDENTIFY WITH ANY ONE CULTURE. I identify more with inner peace and world peace. My family emigrated from Nicaragua to the United States when I was a toddler because my parents and their families were severely persecuted for their political beliefs. I currently live in Vienna, Austria, and in the jungles of Bali, Indonesia, and work in North America, South America, Asia, and Europe.

There's a Chinese saying: If you want to heal the world, you must first heal the nation. If you want to heal the nation, you must first heal the family. If you want to heal the family, you must first heal yourself. As a psychotherapist, I am involved in healing. As a consultant, I have developed training for 22 missions to the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.



Two years ago, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which has 54 member states, asked me to put together a training program for diplomats, military personnel, and specialists in human rights, international law, democratization, and elections who would be going to Kosovo after the bombing to reconstruct it into a new democratic nation. I also am a consultant for various United Nations organizations, such as the Atomic Energy Agency, some of which shared the mission with OSCE of reconstructing Kosovo physically and politically.

I work with the seedy sides of humanity, the darkest sides. The mission members I train and the organizations I consult for deal with child soldiers, with the trafficking of women and children, and with rape used as a systematic war weapon. Missions are pressure cookers. Members might have to deal with loneliness, being kidnapped or killed, stepping on a land mine, exposure to biological or chemical warfare, getting medical care, being hated by the people they have come to help, or even falling in love with their translators.

What are the members of a mission going to do in a village where a woman has been searched by soldiers and now is a pariah and could even be killed by members of her community for being touched by a man who was not her husband—in front of others, no less? How do you approach that with Muslims? Are you going to tell them they're wrong? Are you going to belittle them? How do you answer nationals who say, "How are you going to teach me democracy when the United States has the death penalty and is using up all the energy and natural resources while we are freezing?"

I teach and do consultancies in several areas, including negotiations and cross-cultural communications. Sometimes I must help resolve conflicts among mission members of different specialties. For example, should the elections people decide on the elections date without input from the human rights people? Or, maybe the locals feel differently than the nationals do about a certain situation.

I try to get members of the missions—regardless of their professional backgrounds or the countries they represent—to have compassion for the people they are going to work with. I do that through experiential exercises and simulations. I might put an ambassador and a nurse in the same group, for example, or a Russian on a team with people who don't share his point of view. I might be teaching people who have studied human rights in the United States and who find themselves in a room with colleagues from Spain or Italy or Russia or with people who don't share their backgrounds or beliefs. What I really am doing is getting people to look at themselves and their assumptions about others. I don't take sides. I listen compassionately to all points of view and try to help everyone—the internationals and the nationals—move forward together.

I teach what I call the "culture of peace" rather than the "culture of war." Like any culture, war and peace have their customs, points of view, literature and songs, and beliefs people would die for. Certainly the culture of peace is about compassion, and compassion and war do not mix well. Most people have

never even heard anyone talk about the culture of peace. And specialists who go into war zones are not necessarily peacekeepers. They may, in fact, be very much pro-war.

I also teach negotiation and conflict-resolution skills to people who have nothing to do with war zones, including scientists, human rights workers, and diplomats. I have personally acted as a mediator to diplomats who were not speaking to each other anymore and, therefore, were holding up treaties or other important work.

Historically, there have been many talented and well-intentioned specialists who have gone on missions but who have left those missions before their contracts are up. It's costly to ship people around the world and then have them leave. So I started to look at what was lacking in the training of specialists and diplomats. I discovered that they come in with certain expectations and motivations that are not spoken. They include everything from wanting to ease the suffering of others to hoping to get a job promotion when they return from the mission, or even just the opportunity to get away from a spouse they are angry with.

In general, many of the people who are unhappy with mission work see the locals—the nationals—as people they are going to do something *to*, rather than cooperatively do something *with*. There was a subtle arrogance, but no one would discuss any of this before I started the training programs. These highly trained specialists had to look at their motivations, expectations, and assumptions for going on a mission before they could help others.

If there is any unifying theme for my work, it is the dignity and compassion of people. For people in power, it's realizing what to do with that power and having compassion for the nationals who have no power. For the victims, it's how to live with dignity and compassion.

I WAS RAISED IN LOS ANGELES and earned my undergraduate degree in communication disorders and psychology from California State University in Long Beach. I was very interested in the relationship between mind and language. Did the mind shape language, or did language shape the mind? I came to the University of Minnesota on a scholarship in 1973, because I wanted to study with Hildred Schuell, who was a top aphasiologist. I didn't know until I got there, however, that she had died. But I stayed anyway.

The University was one of the best in the United States for studying aphasia, which means, among other consequences, the lack of ability to speak or to understand language. Professor Schuell had developed a test for aphasia, but people were more focused on the test than the individual. What was different about her work is that everyone else was trying to put brain-damaged people in a "box." She was much more concerned with their humanity, with seeing people as individuals. In my work today I say, "Let's look at individual differences." I like individual differences, because they're what make us unique, not what make us wrong.

When I got to Minnesota, it was eight degrees below zero. I was there for five winters; that's how I counted the time. But I

was very impressed with the University, because it had values, and I saw a side of people I had not been exposed to in California. Minnesotans were a shock to me. They are so solid; they don't try to impress people. You couldn't tell rich people from poor people, because everyone lived like their parents and grandparents lived. They didn't throw things away like Californians did. They were proud to have an old table, for example. I have a great respect for Minnesotans. They were friendly to me and very kind.

I was doing graduate work in the Department of Communication Disorders and also was taking courses in neuropathology and neuropsychology at the Medical School. I worked as a graduate student aphasiologist at Hennepin County Medical

In the late '80s, I began putting myself out there—speaking at conferences, meeting people, and giving away work in areas I had a heart for, until people began to ask me to come in as a consultant. I impressed people through sheer hard work and the fact that I live a multicultural life rather than just teach from theories.

In 1991, I began to live in the rice paddies near a sacred temple in Bali because I wanted to live simply and naturally in a more reflective way. I also live in Vienna, because the U.N. and OSCE and many people I consult for are based there or in other parts of Europe. I live in Vienna's second district, which I love because it is a global village with Jews from throughout Eastern and Western Europe, as well as Africans, Turks, Chinese,

I work with the seedy sides of humanity,
the darkest sides. The mission members I train and
the organizations I consult for deal with child soldiers,
with the trafficking of women and children,
and with rape used as a systematic war weapon.

Center and as an assistant to some of the professors at the University. A family emergency drew me back to California in 1978, so I didn't earn a degree from the University.

I worked for a while in California in psychology and communication disorders in the public school system and became a specialist in multicultural special education. I was controversial because I was not happy with the systems of labeling ethnic minority students. I was more focused on what they could do than what they couldn't do, more interested in getting these youngsters out of the box labeled "retarded" or "aphasic" than I was in promoting these systems. I developed my own tests for showing how a Spanish-speaking child who was labeled as autistic, for example, actually could be gifted. When I lectured at conferences, my favorite speech was titled "From Retarded to Gifted in Seven Minutes." As in my work now, I see cultural differences as strengths, not disorders or failures.

The USO [United Service Organization] hired me to establish five day-care centers in Japan, so I lived there for a year. I also have been a student for many years of Hinduism and Buddhism and went to Bali for six months to do research. I was introduced to the culture and to what the shamans were doing there with traditional healing.

I also am a teacher of Buddhism and have studied with many teachers. I go to various monasteries, but my favorite is Plum Village in France, which is run by Thich Nhat Han, an exiled Vietnamese monk. The more open your mind and heart are, and the more you immerse yourself in world points of view rather than in your own culture, the more you can serve others from broad-based skills. Even though I'm a Latin woman, I'm more Asian than anything now.

Filipinos, Spaniards, and French.

I am a consultant in Bali to parents who have special needs children and am setting up a clinic there. I also am a published author. I wrote three children's books for kids who have trouble reading: *Made's Birthday* and *Echo the Gecko*, both set in Bali, and *Under My Bed*, set anywhere in the Western world. I'm now writing a book titled *From Inner Peace to World Peace and All the Pieces In Between*, which is about how our outer work is totally mirrored by our inner selves. Even peacemakers have to be peaceful inside before they can teach peace on the outside. I also write a syndicated column on international life called *Inner World/Outer World*, which is published in magazines and newspapers in Asia and Europe.

What links all of my professional experiences is compassion, respect for differences rather than fear of them, improvement of communication wherever and however it might be difficult, and a desire to ease life's inevitable traumas—no matter if it's not being able to read or not being able to live without genocide.

This is all work I do with conviction. I'm trying to shed some light by trying to get people in power to shed light on their internal selves. What I'm after is to have the inner life form the outer life. People on all sides, people of all nationalities, must look inside for their own sense of motivations, assumptions, and expectations. People who want to help others must know their true reasons for wanting this and must respect others who want to help or to receive help but who feel differently than they do. If I can teach people to do this, I will have accomplished what I set out to do. ■

Vicki Starvig is a regular contributor to Minnesota.

Mold Busters

With the Department of Environmental Health and Safety on the case, everyone at the University can breathe easier.

By Doug Fine | Photograph by Doug Knutson



Aspergillus fumigatus grows at body temperature and can cause pulmonary aspergillosis, which is 95 percent fatal for people whose immune systems are weak, such as bone marrow transplant patients.

In his office deep in the Boynton Health Service building, Neil Carlson keeps file drawers full of case folders pertaining to indoor air quality investigations. From the files, he produces photos that compel the viewer to scramble for a surgical mask: shots of a mildewed ventilation fan, the mold-infested backside of vinyl wallpaper, splotches of mold growing behind a puppy calendar hanging in an office, and the wall in the basement of a former University building that had been flooded but never properly cleaned up. Not long after the water receded, black fungus grew to a height of five feet over every square inch of the water-damaged wall. Carlson points to tiny black specks above the water mark. "Here you can see the daughter generation," he says, emphasizing the extent of the neglect.

Carlson (B.S. '86, M.S. '88), an industrial hygienist and ergonomist in the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (DEHS), also has photographs of workers cleaning up problem areas, making them safe again for occupancy. And down in the lab, a refrigerator stores petri dishes of molds and other fungi that he and his colleagues study to better understand the enemy. In photographs taken through a microscope, the molds look breathtakingly beautiful—some like bunches of long-stemmed flowers, others like works of modern art worthy of framing. "We're thinking of putting these designs on neckties," Carlson says and smiles.

Nonetheless, Carlson and his colleagues at DEHS don't have enough bad things to say about mold, whose airborne spores can cause respiratory and other health problems and are especially dangerous in health-care facilities. The concern over indoor air quality has grown significantly in the past decade, and University experts are leaders in the field.

"There is an increasing awareness that you have to go to fairly extreme lengths to control the atmosphere in environments like offices and laboratories, let alone a bone marrow transplant facility in a health services building," says DEHS Director Fay Thompson (Ph.D. '70), a University administrator for 30 years. "As recently as seven years ago, not everybody realized this. It's an emerging issue.



Neil Carlson (left) and Andy Streifel monitor air filters in the new McNamara Alumni Center.

It took a while to track down problems with air quality; it wasn't clear initially that the mold issue was so significant. But the more we learn, the harder we work to make University environments healthy ones."

Buildings that house health-care facilities on campus require, not surprisingly, the highest standard of indoor air quality and overall environmental health. Andy Streifel (B.S. '70, M.P.H. '78), an infection control specialist at DEHS, is something of a crusader, not only making sure Fairview-University Medical Center, the Mayo Memorial Building, and the Boynton Health Service building are safe, but also lecturing at other institutions, such as Johns Hopkins University, on the latest techniques for making hospitals the cleanest, most healthful environments possible.

"It makes a difference in patients' health," Streifel says. "People susceptible to infection or with respiratory illnesses—say, folks with diabetes or leukemia, or transplant patients—can have serious consequences from poor ventilation or [exposure to] aspergillus. And that's just airborne spores, which can travel through air shafts in buildings. Direct contact is something we have to watch too. That's how colds and flu, for example, are spread."

Streifel recalls one case a few years ago at the Variety Club Heart Research Center on East River Road. "Transplant and other high-risk patients were complaining of diesel fumes right in the clinic," he says. "They couldn't understand why." Streifel and others at DEHS conducted a barrage of tests and discovered that the arrangement of nearby buildings created a tunnel-like effect on air currents. The Variety Club building was drawing air from a location where trucks sat idling as they made deliveries and pickups. "Transplant patients are anxious during a very clinically sensitive time," he says. "You don't want their rooms to smell like the back of a truck."

After Streifel studied the air currents around the building, the University raised its air intake area by 30 feet. The retrofit cost \$40,000. "Not cheap, but necessary," Streifel says. "This is the front line of indoor air quality."

At Williamson Hall, DEHS workers lit smoke bombs and released a pungent banana oil to solve a vexing air flow problem. Sometimes an air quality solution requires that crews squeeze into places not intended for people, like in the ceil-

ings. Those are jobs for contract workers, Carlson says. "They love us over at older buildings," he says sarcastically, referring to problems that required contract workers to crawl on their bellies through ventilation ducts, cleaning them.

In addition to responding to calls at existing buildings, Streifel and Carlson are also in on new campus construction projects at the architectural blueprint stage, often pointing out that the most aesthetic ventilation system, for example, might not work out so well if placed close to the loading dock across the street. This is a common problem, Carlson says, and one that had to be dealt with during the construction of the Carlson School of Management building on the West Bank in the mid-1990s.

When most people walk around campus, they see beautiful architecture and landscaping. Neil Carlson sees environmental health and safety issues, including a bike path that leads cyclists around a blind corner and into a construction fence (DEHS quickly addressed that problem).

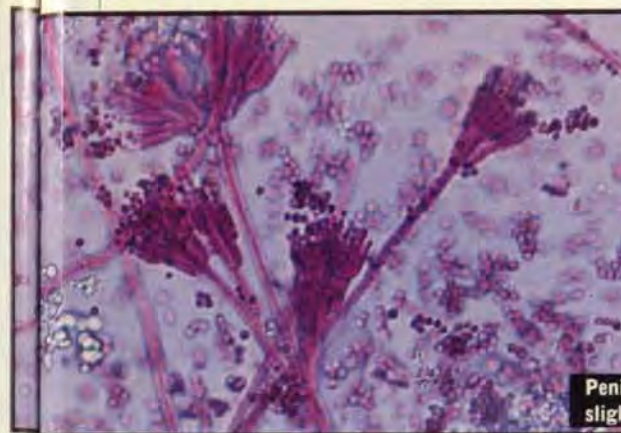
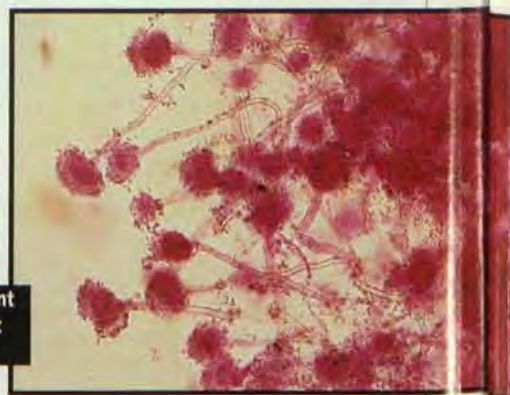
On a frigid afternoon in December, Carlson points to an impressive stone cupola on the south side of Folwell Hall. "See that carving that is jutting out?" he asks. "It holds standing water like a basin. It created a tremendous mold problem we had to remedy in the office just on the other side of it. Old buildings can be a challenge. Many of the older campus buildings, especially those built in the 1950s and '60s, combined with our climate here, have mold issues."

Moisture in buildings might result from a number of circumstances, including insufficiently sealed windows, leaky pipes, broken drains, and spring floods. Carlson suggests that every person who uses a University structure look out for moisture—such as around windows and on walls—and mold and to contact DEHS if they spot problems (612-626-6002; dehs@tc.umn.edu). Sometimes mold is visible on walls or carpeting. In other cases, the clues to its presence are allergic reactions, respiratory problems, or dry eyes and throat.

"Mold can be difficult [to detect] because it affects people to different degrees and many people not at all," Thompson says. "It requires diligence to isolate a problem that may be a ventilation problem, or a mold problem, or simply an indi-

"We in the local health and safety community have benefited tremendously from the expertise of the staff. . . . They were among the first to initiate discussions around indoor air quality topics."

Exposure to a large quantity of mold can trigger the development of allergies, asthma, or chronic sinusitis, and antibiotics do not work against fungal agents. At right is aspergillus terreus.



Penicillium is difficult to kill if it is colonizing on a surface that is even slightly porous. Bleach will remove visible mold, but it will return.

vidual's unrelated allergy."

Other indoor air quality issues include poor ventilation, such as in storage areas or computer closets that have been converted to offices without proper air vents, or fumes or odors circulating through a building. Carlson remembers receiving a call from a University employee baffled by the smell of cigarette smoke hanging around her department's floor (smoking is not allowed in University buildings). She and some colleagues had been unable to track down the source, so Carlson arrived with a particle detector. It led him to the office of a woman who had thought closing her door to smoke was adequate.

Carlson and Streifel respond to approximately 90 such calls a year, and just one call will prompt a visit.

"The very fact that they respond to every call speaks loudly about DEHS," says Anne Everett, associate administrator for the Division of Epidemiology, whose offices on the West Bank have suffered two floods in the past five years.

When a moisture problem, such as because of a burst pipe, could lead to mold, Facilities Management often comes in to dry the carpet and furniture. This is only the first step in the process, however. After the immediate problem is dealt with, Carlson steps in to ensure that repairs are done in a manner that eliminates future concerns about indoor air quality.

"We check moisture levels," Carlson says, pointing to his moisture metering equipment. "And our recommendation can range from pulling out the carpet to starting a full reconstruction right from the moldy Sheetrock." In the case of the epidemiology offices, the solution after a 1996 holiday flood was indeed intense.

"There was fungal growth in carpet and then in walls and underneath cabinets," Carlson recalls. "There was an environment where mold could reproduce and this could be a health hazard. So we moved out the employees who were experiencing symptoms, then removed the furniture, ripped out the carpet, removed the water-damaged Sheetrock and cleaned the floor and replaced it with a more microbe-resistant carpet

"There is an increasing awareness that you have to go to fairly extreme lengths to control the atmosphere in environments like offices and laboratories, let alone a bone marrow transplant facility."

that adheres to the floor [to prevent air pockets that could trap moisture and breed mold. We also repainted with antimicrobial paint. Then we put the furniture back in, and invited the employees back in."

"We haven't had problems since," says Everett.

Keeping mold growth at bay is only a small part of the Department of Environmental Health and Safety's domain, according to Mark Cox (B.S. '74), interim assistant vice president for Campus Health and Safety. DEHS acts as a policy and investigative arm of industrial hygiene and safety, hazardous waste disposal, radiation protection, and public and occupational health at the University. But its efforts toward indoor air quality do get noticed.

"I think the University is recognized by other institutions as being ahead of the curve on this," says Cox. "Neil and Andy are always speaking at other institutions on their research and practical experience over the years."

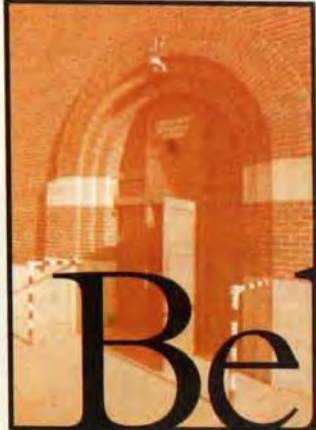
"We in the local health and safety community have benefited tremendously from the expertise of the staff of the U's [environmental health and safety] department," says John Mulhausen (M.S. '80, Ph.D. '86), manager of the Corporate Industrial Hygiene Group at 3M. "They were among the first to initiate discussions around indoor air quality topics."

This might be because the University has such a wide variety of buildings—and 26 million square feet of space in them, according to Craig Moody (B.A. '73, M.S. '78), assistant director of DEHS. "Underground buildings, old construction, space issues: We've had a diverse environment to learn from as the field evolves."

For Carlson and Streifel, their work is both gratifying and never finished. "It's a constant watchdog situation," says Streifel. "Our work can be unsung. People might not realize the immediate benefits of some of our fixes, like the absence of fumes, but over time they do. There's no reason that hospitals can't be extremely sanitary places, and that's what I work toward."

Carlson agrees. "Ergonomics, another area we handle, has immediate payoff. You fix a chair, people feel better. But over time, poor air quality can have kidney and liver effects, and we can prevent that. This is why I feel good about my work." ■

Doug Fine is a freelance writer who lives in Minneapolis.



THE LABORATORY OF PHYSIOLOGICAL HYGIENE WAS LOCATED INSIDE GATE 27 OF MEMORIAL STADIUM FROM 1942 UNTIL 1991, WHEN THE FOOTBALL STADIUM WAS DEMOLISHED.

Behind Gate 27

Ancel Keys arrived at the University in 1937 to teach anatomy and physiology to physical education students. He would soon open his legendary Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene beneath the bleachers of Memorial Stadium, and his studies of starvation and the relationship between cholesterol and heart disease would draw worldwide attention. By Tim Brady



ANCEL KEYS IN 1945

On March 16, 1937, University of Minnesota President Lotus Coffman began a slightly worried letter to the dean of the Medical School, Harold Diehl (M.D. '17):

My dear Dr. Diehl,
Mr. Frank G. McCormick [the athletic director at the U] called on me yesterday to discuss a problem relative to the teaching of anatomy and physiology to students in physical education. He states that for a number of years this instruction was given by a member of the staff of the Department of Anatomy. Later it was taken over by Dr. Cooke. Now that Dr. Cooke has retired, there is no one in the Department of Physical Education for Men competent to give this instruction. . . . The result is that Mr. McCormick has been searching for someone else to do the work. . . .

While this might sound like a dry note in the long history of University of Minnesota faculty appointments, it foretells the

beginning of one of the most distinguished medical science careers ever achieved at the University. It also signals the start of a world-renowned institution in Minnesota and informs a curious footnote in campus history.

The distinguished career belongs to Dr. Ancel Keys, who remains one of the giants of Minnesota science. The institution that he founded, initially called the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene (LPH), has evolved into the Division of Epidemiology within the School of Public Health. The curious footnote is the fact that for 50 years, first as the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene and then as "Epi," some of medical science's most important and pioneering studies in cardiovascular health were being conceived and conducted from beneath the bleachers of a Big Ten football stadium. A warren of lab rooms and offices behind Gate 27 near the visitors' locker room on the south side of Memorial Stadium was the unlikely home of groundbreaking scientific research from World War II until the structure was torn down in 1991.



ANCEL KEYS IN HIS MINNEAPOLIS HOME, FALL OF 2000

The force behind those studies—the man who would ultimately be hired to give those lectures in physiology—was born in 1904 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Ancel Keys now lives in retirement with Margaret, his wife of 61 years, in a condominium near Loring Park in Minneapolis. In 2000, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* named Keys as one of the 10 most influential scientists in the state's history, as well as one of its 150 most distinguished citizens.

It was only the most recent in a long list of honors, which include a cover of *Time* magazine (January 13, 1961). Keys's rise to fame began about 60 years ago, in the early days of World War II, when the War Department in Washington, D.C., asked him to devise a simple, compact, and nutritious field meal for army paratroopers. The tinned meal that he recommended became familiar to every G.I. in the war as K rations. The *K* is for "Keys."

Also with the backing of the War Department, Dr. Keys and others at the laboratory began a study of starvation that would become world famous. Begun in the latter stages of the conflict

when it became apparent that millions of starving people were going to emerge from the war, Keys's study was intended to fill in a large blank in the scientific literature. Namely, what is the most effective way to rehabilitate a semistarved population? The results of the study, published in two thick volumes in 1950 as *Biology of Human Starvation*, remain a seminal description of human physiological and psychological responses to starvation.

After the war, Dr. Keys and the laboratory turned to new studies that would have a profound effect on the future of public health. Keys was one of the first medical scientists to examine and describe the relationship between cholesterol and heart disease. He and others at the laboratory pioneered the study of cardiovascular epidemiology, most notably through a famed research project that became known as the Seven Countries Study. In it, Keys and colleagues examined populations in seven locales around the globe, comparing the frequency of cardiovascular disease in cultural context. Their research was the first to note rates of heart attack and stroke in contrasting cultures with varying diets, and, in the words of Keys's colleague, Dr. Henry Blackburn (M.S. '57), "led many in the field of health to think in terms of 'sick and well populations' as well as sick and well individuals." (The study continues today and this year will begin examining the relationship between dental disease and cardiovascular outcomes in the same seven countries.)

Keys retired from the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene in 1972 and was replaced by Blackburn, an LPH veteran, who organized a merger between the laboratory and the school of medicine's Division of Epidemiology. Blackburn became the first head of the combined units and led Epi into the modern era by expanding and diversifying the division's interests and establishing a series of ongoing community studies and programs that both studied epidemiological problems and promoted interventions in health problems.

Today the Division of Epidemiology, headed by Dr. Russell Luepker, is housed in a modern office building on the edge of the West Bank. It conducts research into the causes and prevention of a host of modern epidemics and public health concerns, including heart attacks, strokes, a variety of cancers, infectious diseases, alcohol abuse, smoking, and nutrition. More than 40 faculty members, 175 graduate students, and 300 staff members, including scientists, a variety of public health professionals, statisticians, and programmers, keep the wheels of the division turning. One of its most recent faculty appointees gives a sense of the breadth

Behind Gate 27

of the division's concerns: Hubert "Skip" Humphrey III, former Minnesota attorney general and legal adversary of the tobacco industry, was hired in 2000 to teach public policy issues at the Division of Epidemiology.

When Lotus Coffman wrote his March 1937 letter to Harold Diehl, Ancel Keys was not at the University, the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene had not yet been created, and Gate 27 was just another means to get to a Saturday afternoon Gopher game.

Coffman was hoping that Diehl could find someone from the Medical School's department of physiology to lecture Frank McCormick's physical education students. There was nothing momentous about the request, but the fact that Coffman was involved suggests that some interdepartmental delicacies needed to be observed. "It seems to me," he wrote to Diehl, "that it



Ancel Keys's rise to fame began in the early days of World War II, when the War Department asked him to devise a simple, compact, and nutritious field meal for army paratroopers.

would be a mistake to have persons teaching physiology to students in physical education who have no connection with the Department of Physiology."

At the time, physical education for men and the athletics department were a combined unit at the University, headed by McCormick. Physical education as a pursuit and study was about 40 years old on the campus. Its first director was another legendary figure at the University: Dr. Louis Cooke, the same Dr. Cooke whose lectures would ultimately be taken over by Ancel Keys.

"Doc" Cooke, as he was universally known, had arrived at the University in 1897, armed with a medical degree from the University of Vermont and experience running YMCA programs in Toledo, Ohio, and Minneapolis. In addition to his studies at Vermont, Cooke had spent time in the 1890s at the YMCA's famed training facility in Springfield, Massachusetts—at about the same time and at the same institute where another doctor, James Naismith, was inventing basketball. Perhaps not surprisingly, Doc Cooke brought the game to the U of M and served as the basketball team's head coach into the 1920s.

Physical education as a concept was a product of the 19th century, and the YMCA—along with a variety of other movements, most notably, the Turner's gymnastic clubs, which had been brought to this country by German immigrants—was a leader in

promoting the notion of physical exercise as a social, cultural, and moral good. The industrial revolution and an ever-increasing urban population were thought to be promoting a kind of flabbiness, both literal and figurative, in the body politic. Physical education was considered therapeutic, not just for sagging muscles, but for sagging minds and manners, as well.

Studies prevalent at the time searched for direct scientific correlation between "ideal" body types and "ideal" brains, and Doc Cooke conducted his own anthropometric studies at the U along these lines. Within University Archives today, in Doc Cooke's papers, are long, carefully noted lists of students named, noted by academic ability, and measured for height, weight, and ability to lift weights.

Health and science were considered a part of physical education from its earliest days, and pioneer directors of university phys-ed programs across the country tended to be medical doctors and students of physiology. This was true at the U of M too. Aside from Doc Cooke, notable leaders in physical edu-



BEFORE THE END OF WORLD WAR II, ANCEL KEYS CONDUCTED A STARVATION STUDY IN WHICH CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS VOLUNTEERED TO UNDERGO FOOD DEPRIVATION. KEYS AND HIS COLLEAGUES MONITORED FOOD INTAKE, PHYSIOLOGICAL CHANGES, AND PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE. THE PHOTOGRAPHS ON PAGES 28 AND 29 ARE FROM 1944.

cation such as J. Anna Norris, who headed the Department of Physical Education for Women, and Henry Williams, the football coach, were both M.D.s.

After the turn of the century, there came a philosophic backlash against the overly serious mission given physical education in its infancy. Reformers felt that the simple play involved in physical activity was its chief therapeutic value and play served its own social function. This sense of fun was echoed by what was happening on campuses throughout the country. During the 1910s and '20s, intramural sports boomed, as did the power and influence of intercollegiate athletics.

While the scientific and health-oriented missions of physical education—including physiological hygiene—were not diminished by this new sensibility, the many purposes of physical activity, physical education, and the needs of student hygiene at the University were thrust together for administration. J. Anna Norris, for instance, served as a health officer for University women, doing physicals and examining student lodging for sanitation purposes—along with serving as head of the women's physical education department.

As a consequence, the Department of Physical Education and Athletics became a sprawling concern, and issues regarding the definitions and management of physical education were still being worked out late in the 1930s. Which is one of the reasons Frank McCormick asked for President Lotus Coffman's help in finding someone to teach anatomy and physiology to his students. Coffman called upon Dean Diehl because it seemed sensible to him to have that someone come from the Medical School.

Diehl organized a meeting to address Coffman's letter. Attending, aside from Diehl, were Frank McCormick, his assistant ath-



Ancel Keys was one of the first medical scientists to examine and describe the relationship between cholesterol and heart disease.

letic director Louis Keller, Dr. C.M. Jackson of the Medical School's department of anatomy, and Dr. Maurice Visscher, the newly appointed head of the department of physiology (and another future giant in the history of U of M medicine). The letter they sent back to Coffman on April 27 has no ifs ands or buts about it:

There was complete agreement upon the most desirable course of procedure . . . we should have [a lecturer] connected jointly with these departments of the Medical School who is soundly trained in anatomy and physiology, has an interest in their applications to physical education and has a definite interest in and capacity for investigative work in these fields. . . . Mr. McCormick and Mr. Keller both feel that it would be preferable to have such a person associated with these scientific departments of the Medical School rather than more or less scientifically isolated in the Department of Physical Education. Mr. McCormick stated that the Department of Physical Education and Athletics will be glad to contribute as much as seems proper toward the salary and research activity of such a person.

In 1937, Ancel Keys was spending a dissatisfying year at the Mayo Clinic, alleviated by the fact that he met his wife, Margaret,

while working there. He had arrived in Minnesota from the Harvard faculty, where he'd held a low-level position in that college's Fatigue Laboratory. The Mayo Clinic had promised a higher salary and more prestigious post, but life in Rochester turned out to be a little staid for Keys.

Though he was born in Colorado, Dr. Keys grew up in the Bay area of California and had an adventure-filled youth, which included surviving the great 1906 earthquake and fire that devastated San Francisco. After the quake, Keys's family moved briefly to Los Angeles, where they stayed for a time with Keys's uncle, the actor Lon Chaney. Then it was back north to Berkeley, where Keys spent most of his childhood and wound up attending the University of California, where he took a bachelor's degree in economics after only two years of study. A postgraduate job painting furniture for Woolworth's convinced him that his future lay in other pursuits. He went back to Berkeley, and on the advice of a famed professor of zoology, Charles Atwood Kofoid, decided to study biology.

Keys got his master's degree in six months and his Ph.D. just two years after that. In 1930, he won a fellowship from the National Research Council to study with a Nobel laureate in physiology from Copenhagen, Dr. August Krogh. There he did research

on the physiology of eels, specifically the "eel problem," as Dr. Krogh called it: How can eels survive in both fresh and sea water?

Keys's dizzying ascent in the world of science continued. In 1931, a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship took him to Cambridge University in England, where he was awarded another Ph.D., from King's College. Then it was back to the United States and Harvard, where he joined the Fatigue Laboratory (where research was concerned with physiological adaptations of humans to adverse environmental conditions) and became interested in the physiological and biochemical effects of high altitudes on the human body. He led a team to the Andes, climbed to 20,000 feet, and spent 10 days at that height studying its effects on his body's ability to function.

Under the circumstances, Friday night bridge parties in Rochester, which is where he was a year later and how he was spending his weekend time, seemed a long way down the slope for Ancel Keys. He finished his report on his studies in the Andes at Mayo and did further physiological research, but at the end of the year he was more than happy to entertain an offer to do research and teach at the University of Minnesota.

Keys arrived on campus in 1937 and was given an office at Millard Hall. His duties, aside from teaching "physiology and the physiology of exercise courses to physical education students," included "direct research in physical education with emphasis on the physiology of exercise." And it was understood that his little room was inadequate and that space would be found eventually for a laboratory.

Keys reported to Maurice Visscher in the Medical School, but

his salary, and the funds for equipment and assistants to his studies, came from athletic department receipts. A little more space was found for Keys within Millard Hall, and he dubbed the area of his studies the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene after a similarly named laboratory at Harvard.

Keys began research on the physical differences between athletes and nonathletes at the U, looking specifically at comparisons of heart sizes and functions. But these studies were put on hold when, in 1940, Keys got his first request from the War Department. War had broken out in Europe, and it was looming for the United States. Would Dr. Keys be willing to devise a nutritious ration for army paratroopers? "I went down to a local grocery store," says Keys, "picked up some food that I thought might be good and nutritious and took them back to the lab."

The first K rations were tested by soldiers at Fort Snelling soon after. More extensive studies were done a few months later with paratroopers at Fort Benning, Georgia. The army was so impressed with the results that the rations ultimately became standard field issue to all G.I.s through the duration of the war.

The initial success prompted requests from the army for more studies, and Keys needed space to carry these out. Frank McCormick found some, beneath the south tower of Memorial Stadium, and in the summer of 1942, the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene moved behind Gate 27.

In its early days, the laboratory consisted of about 11,000 square feet with office space, five chemistry and physical measurement

School. That year, he asked that LPH be transferred into the School of Public Health. Keys says that he had never been thrilled about giving physiology lectures. They took too much time, and "I felt I was not very good at delivering them," he recalls.

"The current work of the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene," read the transfer request to the president, "is geared almost exclusively for experimental research in the field of biochemistry as it relates to normal human activities. The commitments of this laboratory are such . . . that it is very difficult to service the students in physical education and to meet their needs as is demanded in a modern program of physi-



TIME MAGAZINE FEATURED ANCEL KEYS ON ITS COVER JANUARY 13, 1961. FOR HIS SEVEN-COUNTRY STUDY, TIME REPORTED, KEYS "HAS LOGGED 500,000 MILES, SUFFERED INDESCRIBABLE DIGESTIVE INDIGINITIES, AND METICULOUSLY COLLECTED PHYSIOLOGICAL DATA ON THE HEALTH AND EATING HABITS OF 10,000 INDIVIDUALS."

When it became apparent that millions of starving people were going to emerge from the war, Dr. Keys and others at the laboratory began a study of starvation that would become world famous.

laboratories, four "special experiment" rooms, an X-ray room, and a metabolism room. Dormitories for the 36 subjects of the laboratory's starvation studies (conscientious objectors volunteered to undergo food deprivation) were added later in the war. Photos from a brochure created by LPH to describe those experiments give a sense of what was behind Gate 27 during the war. They show treadmills the size of Buicks, and subjects chugging along on their revolving belts. Lab-coated scientists hold stopwatches beside them.

The starvation study, which came on the heels of Keys's and the laboratory's work on nutrition for the army, pushed LPH further from its initial responsibilities to the physical education department. At the beginning of the nutritional work, it was understood, by both the dean of the Medical School and the director of the Department of Physical Education and Athletics that Keys's initial responsibilities, "to direct research in physical education" and teach physiology to phys-ed students, would resume after the war. As a consequence, Physical Education and Athletics continued to provide funds for the laboratory.

By 1946, however, it had become obvious that the Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene had morphed into something that belonged outside the Department of Physical Education and Athletics. Keys also wanted to escape the oversight of the Medical

cal education."

And so it was. The Laboratory of Physiological Hygiene moved into the School of Public Health, and Keys's interests shifted toward the study of cholesterol and its effects on the human heart. Renown would come to him and LPH through the next 25 years of research. Keys and his colleagues in the laboratory would travel to distant parts of the globe studying heart disease and its causes. World travelers would come to Gate 27, wondering why such important scientific study was being conducted in a football stadium. Henry Blackburn would succeed Ancel Keys, and LPH would eventually become the Division of Epidemiology and the laurels would continue. Epi would grow out of its quarters in Memorial Stadium, and the stadium itself would be torn down. The many research and public health programs of the division would continue in fine new quarters, and Epi would continue to expand its good works.

All grown from the University's need to find someone to take Doc Cooke's place lecturing physical education students. ■

Tim Brady is a freelance writer who lives in St. Paul. He thanks Dr. Ancel Keys and Dr. Henry Blackburn for providing background to the story, as well as for use of their respective memoirs, and Lois Hendrickson at University Archives for help in finding materials crucial to the story.

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The winning entry in *Minnesota* magazine's
second-annual fiction contest.
By Linda Norlander
Illustration by Gary Kelley



The Song of the Lake

I was seven years old when I heard the song of the lake. It happened the first summer of swimming lessons. Until then, I was terrified of water. The only way Mama could bathe me was to stand me up in the dry bathtub and sponge me down. She said my fear of water came from my grandfather, the Catholic priest.

She told me that long ago when my grandfather found out that my grandmother was going to have a baby, he ran to the edge of the lake to pray. The water called him in and held him like a mother would hold a baby. He disappeared into the lake and was never seen again. She told me my blue eye came from him because he was part of the sky and my brown eye came from my grandmother because she was part of the earth.

Mama and I lived above Andy's Bar in a little prairie farm town with one grocery store, one hardware store, two banks, and six bars. She cleaned the bar for Andy and had parties for "Andy's boys" when the checks came in. I never liked the parties because I had to stay out of the way, but after each one we could go grocery shopping and fill up the refrigerator. If it was a really good party, she would buy me a six-pack of 7-Up and I could have one bottle every Friday night.

Sometimes, when Mama and I walked down the street kids would point and shout, "Look at them dirty Injuns." Their mothers would shush them and tug them to the other side of the street. Mama would keep walking, her shoulders square and head held high. She said nothing. I learned to be silent too. Maybe that's why no one would sit by me on the swimming bus to the lake.

On the day the lake sang to me, I sat in my usual seat on the lumbering old bus that took us town kids the 15 miles across the prairie to Fish Lake. As usual, the seat next to me was empty except for a strip of gray tape holding the cracked upholstery together and my brown paper bag with my thin towel and a rubber swimming cap.

Mama told me that today I had to get my feet wet. I imagined the lake crawling up to my toes and grabbing them and sucking me in, holding me tight like my grandfather. I thought it might be like being flushed down the toilet.

Jeannie Grace sat ahead of me, her shoulder touching Leatrice Vogel's. They were both in my grade at school. Leatrice's father, Mr. Vogel, was the high school football coach and the summer swimming teacher. He was a big-chested man with short, bowed legs. His skin turned red over the summer, but never browned like the kids. He kept his nose covered with white salve but it still burned and peeled.

Often, Leatrice joined the rowdy boys in teasing me. Sometimes Mr. Vogel would yell at them to stop, sometimes he would watch with his arms folded and an amused smile on his face. Jeannie always walked away when this happened, returning only when they were done with their taunts. She never talked to me, but I considered her my only friend.

As the bus rolled by the neatly plowed fields, Jeannie and Leatrice played finger games with each other, giggling and bouncing on the seat.

"No, wait. It's 'itsy bitsy spider.'"

"You do it now."

Jeannie's long, brown hair spilled over the back of the bus seat, glistening as the sun streamed in the window. I patted my own short, coarse, black hair, then reached forward and touched hers. It had a smooth sun-warmed texture and smelled like perfume. Jeannie turned around for a moment and smiled. Leatrice hissed at her. "What's an Etta? What's an Etta? An Injun with funny eyes. An Injun with funny eyes."

Jeannie looked away until Leatrice stopped. They resumed their play and I rested my head against the window and worried about the lake.

Fish Lake lapped foamy brown against the shoreline. In the cool breeze, clusters of wet children stood on the sand and shivered under damp towels. I stood apart in my dry bathing suit trying to fight off the heaviness in my feet. If I could only touch the water with my toes I could go home.

Mr. Vogel looked at me with an irritated expression.

"Come on, Etta. The water won't bite."

I inched back from the water.

"If it does, I'll come and rescue you." He shouted. The children around him snickered.

I knew that Mr. Vogel was one of "Andy's boys" who partied with Mama. Whenever she had a party, I was put to bed early on a mattress in the hall closet. Mama always said, "Hush. The boys don't want you around." Sometimes when I heard strange noises from her bedroom, I'd peek through the crack between the closet door and its frame. Once I saw Mr. Vogel come out of her room. His white shirt was unbuttoned and contrasted with the deep red sunburn on his neck. He stumbled on his way out the door and nearly crashed into the wall opposite my closet sleeping space.

Mr. Vogel blew his whistle while I stood frozen within inches of the water. "Free time!" he bellowed.

The water became awash in noise and foam as everyone raced in. I turned toward the bathhouse to change clothes before everyone else. I hated to be in the dank, windowless building when all the wet, dripping girls came in to peel off their suits.

Behind me, a chorus of giggles and cackles swelled. "What's an Etta? What's an Etta? An Injun with funny eyes! An Injun with funny eyes!"

Suddenly, arms grabbed at me pulling me toward the lake. I tried to twist away but someone clutched a handful of my hair. My eyes filled with tears as my head was wrenched back. I stumbled. Several boys caught me and hoisted me in the air. They continued to chant, "What's an Etta? What's an Etta?"

I shrieked in terror as they hauled me toward the foaming waters of the lake. They carried me past Mr. Vogel, who stood planted near the edge of the water, his arms folded.

"Help me!" I cried to him. He looked at me with a wide grin before he turned away.

I bucked against the boys and managed to kick one foot loose. Leatrice came running out of the water squealing and grasped it.

"What's an Etta? What's an Etta?"

They grunted and chanted as they dragged my writhing body into the water.

"One . . . two . . . three . . ." I was thrown upward and let go.

I remember clearly that moment, suspended between the air and the water. To this day I can still see the line between the crystal blue sky and the muddy brown water of Fish Lake. When I dropped, the lake reached up and pressed itself around me.

The noise of the children became distant and metallic. The churning water held on to me as I fought to push myself up toward the blue sky. The lake spun me around and around until I didn't know the direction of the sky. I pushed at the water trying to clear a space to breathe. My hands touched the soft silt of the lake floor. Something brushed against my face. When I opened my eyes in the murky lake, an unblinking fish stared at me. Its eye was the yellowish color of the walls in the hallway closet.

I opened my mouth to scream and sucked in the lake. My lungs filled with hot ash. The fish stared, motionless, slowly fading to black.

The lake began to sing as the blackness surrounded me. It sang in the rhythms of the lapping water. It wrapped me in its warmth and I lay still. The lake cradled me, rocked me, and whispered its

song in my ears. My grandfather the priest caressed my cheek. The waters accepted me and I accepted the waters. I drifted to the soft cushioned lake bottom.

Suddenly the singing waters began to churn and boil. Grating, howling voices tugged at me from the sweet refrain of the lake. A hand reached out and grabbed my hair. I felt myself pulled out of my warm cradle into the harsh cold air. I struggled to get away from the hands that ripped me from the water.

"Etta! Can you hear me?"

I turned away from the sound. I wanted the lake, not the rasping, panicked voice of Mr. Vogel.

"Etta!" He shouted, his voice high like a child's.

I opened my eyes to the piercing sunlight and immediately squeezed them back shut. Air seared my lungs. I gasped and coughed and choked out the water from the lake.

"Turn her on her side." His voice trembled.

Sand grated against my cheek. My body shivered uncontrollably until someone wrapped me in a blanket.

Mr. Vogel leaned close to my face. I felt his warm breath on my cheek and smelled the lake water on his sweating face.

"It's best if you don't say anything. We don't want the kids to get in trouble, do we?" His eyes widened for just a moment to emphasize his words. I saw the sky blue in them, the same color as the eye my

grandfather the priest had given me. He squeezed my hand so hard I thought he might crush the bones. I held my breath for a moment and let my fear of the water flow into him.

Dr. Bachman gave me a teaspoon of sticky pink liquid that tasted bitter and syrupy sweet at the same time. I lay tucked into my little cot beside my mother's bed. My chest hurt when I tried to take in a full breath. The doctor patted me absently on the head before he stood up and closed his black leather bag.

"Have her take it easy for a couple of days," he told Mama. "She'll be just fine."

When he left, Mama sat down beside me. "What really happened?"

I thought about the kids and the taunts and the grin on Mr. Vogel's face as they swung me into the water. I thought about Mr. Vogel's fear and the blueness of his eyes. It meant nothing compared to the embrace of the lake.

"The lake sang to me," I said.

She gently kissed my forehead. Impulsively I added, "It never said, 'What's an Etta. What's an Etta.' It knew me, Mama. The lake knew me."

Mr. Vogel resigned as the swimming instructor the next week. I never saw him near the water again. Miss Dixie, the new teacher, guided me gently through the dead man's float and the dog paddle. I learned how to be in the lake and with the lake, and I learned how to swim that summer. ■

About the contest and its winner

Linda Norlander ('74, '98) received both her bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Minnesota. She is currently the director of the Minnesota Partnership to Improve End of Life Care, a grant-funded project to raise the standards of care for people who are dying. "The Song of the Lake" is part of a larger work in progress and was inspired by the author's years growing up on the prairie in western Minnesota.

Norlander has published fiction, humor, and nonfiction regionally and nationally. Her short story "Blizzard Ghost" won the 1999 *Futures* magazine "fire to fly" award, and "The Christmas Eve Service" won the 1999 SASE Winter Short Fiction Contest. In 2000, Norlander completed a writing residency at the Anderson Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Red Wing, Minnesota, and was honor-

able mention in the Loft Mentor Series program. Her short humor has been published in *Minnesota Monthly*, *Mpls.St.Paul Magazine*, and the *Star Tribune Sunday Magazine*. Her non-fiction book on advance care planning, about health-care decisions at the end of life (co-authored with Kerstin McSteen), will be published by Fairview Press in September 2001. Norlander lives in North St. Paul with her husband.

Minnesota magazine's annual fiction contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni. An experienced, independent judge selects the winner from a group of finalists culled by the editorial staff of *Minnesota*. The winning entry is published in the magazine and its author is awarded a cash prize. Watch future issues of *Minnesota* for guidelines for entering our next fiction contest.

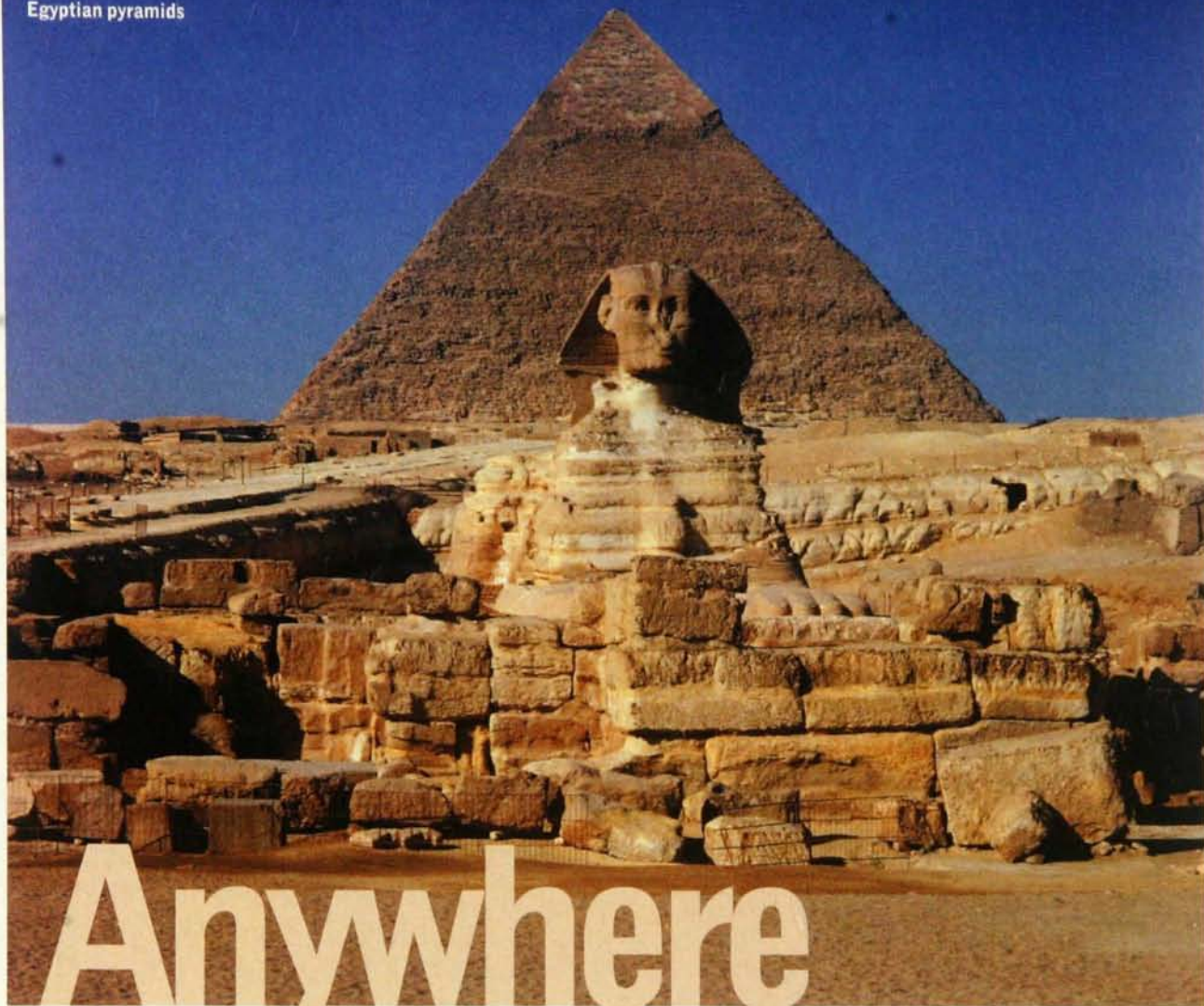
Authors! Authors!



Minnesota is collecting recently published books written by University alumni, faculty, staff, and current students for the magazine's summer books roundup.

This annual feature acknowledges the literary contributions of people affiliated with the University and includes a list of dozens of titles with summaries as well as excerpts from a selection of several novels, memoirs, essays, short stories, and collections of poems. The books section will appear in the July-August issue of *Minnesota*.

If you have written a nonscholarly book in 2000 or 2001, please send a review copy to Shelly Fling, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Or send a publication notice to the above address or to fling003@tc.umn.edu. The deadline is May 7, 2001.



Anywhere

but Here

Seeing the world has never been more popular for University alumni of all ages. And whether they seek thrilling adventures, educational excursions, or family fun, travelers have more tour and destination options than ever before. **BY BERIT THORKELSON**

Joel Spoonheim's idea of the perfect vacation involves getting off the beaten path, way off. Spoonheim, who earned his master's degree in urban planning from the University's Humphrey Institute in 1998, had once taken a three-day trip on a working banana barge into the Bolivian jungle, where he slept on wood floors under mosquito netting. The accommodations were hardly luxurious, but he'd gotten to see more of the Bolivian countryside and meet more of the local people than if he had taken the easy route.



More recently, Spoonheim, now a city planner for the city of St. Paul, traveled 36 hours by train from Beijing to southern China. His traveling companions were three Chinese men who had never before met a Westerner. Spoonheim says he knew a flight would have been faster and more comfortable but that the experience would have been very different.

"After the train, I hopped on a bus and kept going south to a small village," he recalls. "Every day I jumped on a bike and went a different direction. It was unbelievable." He stopped for a game of Ping-Pong with rice-field workers on a makeshift table made of concrete and wood. He set out to sea with a Chinese fisherman. He accompanied a local woman to her village deep in the Chinese countryside. He cycled through a mountain range whose towering peaks he'd marveled at years earlier at a Smithsonian photography exhibition.

While Spoonheim's ideal travel itinerary is a bit unconventional, it is the type of adventure-seeking that is growing in popularity for young travelers. But mature travelers are also seeking new ways to see the world—and not just from a bus window. And both groups are doing so with greater frequency.

The more the merrier

It is no wonder that U.S. airports are increasingly busy. In 1999, U.S. residents took more than a billion domestic trips, up approximately 5 percent from 1995, according to a study by the Travel Industry Association of America (TIA). And according to Tourism Industries, a U.S. government office that monitors trade and tourism, nearly 61 million U.S. residents traveled abroad in 1999, a 22 percent increase from five years earlier.

Baby boomers, those born between 1946 and 1964, took more than a quarter of the trips made by Americans in 1999—more than any other group, according to TIA. Closely behind the baby boomers are mature travelers—those 55 and older, many of whom are enjoying their retirement.

Group travel, such as trips offered by tour operators through the University of Minnesota Alumni Association and other organizations, is a mode of travel that appeals to both baby boomers and mature travelers. "They choose an Alumni Holiday [trip] because of the alumni association's sponsorship and their trust in that endorsement," says Joe Small, president of AHI International, which coordinates deluxe travel programs sponsored by college and university alumni associations.

Robert Wright (B.S. '70) agrees. He and his wife, Lloydien, took a trans-Panama Canal cruise offered by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association in 1997. For the Wrights, of Maple Lake, Minnesota, it was their first trip outside the United States, as well as their first trip with the alumni association. They felt comfortable in the group setting—so comfortable, in fact, that they've since taken two more alumni association trips: a Danube Passage excursion and another to Greece.

"Since we had never done any international travel, we really didn't have any idea about these places. [The tour coordinators] did a good job of knowing what they thought people would want to see," says Robert. "If we were going somewhere to sit on the beach for a week, that would be a whole different thing—then we certainly wouldn't be looking for a group. But [with alumni trav-

el], they find the places of interest and take care of everything, like baggage handling and reservations. You're just there to enjoy yourself."

During their stay in Greece, the Wrights spent most of their time on the island of Poros, taking jaunts to sites on the mainland. They then went island-hopping before their final vacation days in Athens. "We saw the ruins and had a lecture series that got a little more in depth about the country," says Robert. "One evening, we had some local people come in for a question-and-answer session. We liked that educational part of the trip."

Educational excursions

Educational travel is a steadily growing segment of the overall travel market, and alumni make up a large portion of travelers looking for educational trips. "College graduates are 2.5 times more likely to travel to Europe. They are also the primary focus for educational travel," explains Small, whose company offers Alumni College Abroad tour packages in which local experts give presentations on art, architecture, history, and other topics throughout the trip. "For our trips, these are the 50-plus travelers. For them, this type of travel is extremely popular. They are looking for an in-depth understanding of the regions they are visiting. They want to know the history, people, and culture that have impacted an area. . . . They also enjoy the aspect of interacting with the experts and locals."

Ron (B.A. '62) and Joyce Ruud, of Murrieta, California, still exchange Christmas cards with the banker in Zurich they met on an alumni association trip to Switzerland in 1998. The Swiss national was one of the many native lecturers on the trip. He and the Ruuds hit it off, and on a free day the couple ate lunch with the young banker and his fiancée.

The morning lectures that preceded the excursions each day rate high on the Ruuds' list of favorite things about their alumni trips to Switzerland and Norway. On the Norway tour, they loved the lesson on the differences between a lake and a fjord before setting out on a fjord cruise. And in Switzerland, they enjoyed hearing about the country's dairy industry before visiting a working dairy farm to observe the cheese-making process and then sample the products. They believe that these jaunts would have been almost impossible to arrange on their own.

"The people who organize the trip know where to go. They make all the arrangements for you. They do a lot of things you couldn't do or that would be difficult to do yourself," says Ron. "The trip is structured. Some people say they don't want a trip to be structured, but I think that at least for the first time you visit a country, there are great advantages to going with a group. And I particularly like the U of M because they make it educational as well."

What both the Ruuds and the Wrights most enjoyed about their alumni trips falls perfectly in line with the priorities of a typical AHI traveler. According to Small, his clientele looks for well-



Eiffel Tower in Paris

Adventure travel doesn't have to be dangerous. "It's something that [means you're] not sitting in front of a computer or parked on a freeway waiting for traffic to move."



researched, easy-to-experience excursions from a week to 12 days long. Other preferences include single-destination programs, low cost with high value, an educational aspect, and the opportunity to immerse themselves in the culture and meet local residents and experts.

In general, baby boomers and mature travelers want focused, affordable, intellectually challenging trips. But that doesn't mean younger tourists don't want the same thing. They often do. They just tend to go about it in a different way.

Ventures and adventures

Joel Spoonheim's trip through China on train, bus, and bicycle was intellectually challenging, low cost, and focused, but it also contained an element that exemplifies an emergent trend. More frequently than ever, travelers boomer age and younger are seeking independent, off-the-beaten path, adventurous travel.

Adventure travel is an outdoor excursion that calls on the traveler's mental and physical abilities. According to the Adventure Travel Society, adventure travel has grown 7 percent annually over the past eight years and is projected to continue to do so through 2020. Adventure travel doesn't have to be dangerous, however. "It's something that [means you're] not sitting in front of a computer or parked on a freeway waiting for traffic to move," says Jerry Mallett, president of the Adventure Travel Society. Hunting is on the decline, he says, but all sorts of adventure trips are on the rise, including hiking and sailing.

Adventure travel is split into two categories: soft and hard. Soft adventure can include anything outdoorsy, such as Spoonheim's bicycle trips through China's rice paddies. Hard adventure requires more experience and a higher level of physical and mental endurance, such as the canyoning trip in Austria that Brooke Darst (B.A. '97) and Mark Rice (B.M.E. '98), now married and living in Minneapolis, took in 1998.

Darst appreciates a physical challenge and Rice likes excitement. So when the two were vacationing in Europe, they decided to try canyoning. "It was a trip around a mountain following a river. You stumble upon these natural structures and then you have to figure out how to get around them—whether you have to jump off a cliff or rappel down the side of it. It took about three or four hours," says Darst, who pocketed a small rock from the canyon as a souvenir from the endeavor.

Darst, Rice, and Spoonheim are in the age group, 18 to 34 years old, most likely to take on adventure travel, according to a 1997 study by TIA. The same study found that half of all adults in the United States consider themselves adventure travelers.

Ecotourism, a close cousin of adventure travel, is environmentally responsible vacationing. Ecotourists observe a natural area without disturbing it. Ecotourism trips, such as birding in a Costa Rican rain forest or a photography safari in South Africa, may

be arranged independently. But tour operators can often offer experiences and destinations that travelers would be hard-pressed to arrange on their own.

Family vacations

Another growing tourism-industry segment is family travel. TIA reports that 46 percent of U.S. adults vacationed with their children in tow in the past five years. Entire families still pile into station wagons—or perhaps now sport-utility vehicles—with tents and sleeping bags for camping trips. But the tourism industry continues to add options that appeal to all ages. For example, tour operators offer whale-watching excursions off of Iceland featuring the star orca from the movie *Free Willy*. Disney launched a cruise line that caters to kids as much as adults. And New York City Plaza Hotel now offers the "Young Plaza Ambassadors" program for kids age 6 to 18. For a membership fee, they are invited to participate in a variety of entertainment and educational activities at favorite New York sites.

Even Las Vegas has gotten into the act. "The joke over the course of the last several years out in Las Vegas is that they've reinvented themselves as well," says Steve Loucks, spokesman for Carlson Wagonlit Travel. The desert destination is no longer only the sort of vacation spot where adults take a break from gambling by going to dazzling shows or snoozing by the pool. "You've got the

proliferation of gambling virtually everywhere around the country, so they needed to provide something that nobody else had."

Las Vegas is still popular for its casinos, but it has fostered a family-friendly aspect to its tourism industry. The tourism industry now promotes attractions such as Black Canyon River raft tours that begin at the Hoover Dam and indoor and outdoor amusement parks. "There's something for virtually everybody out in Las Vegas, and it's emblematic of what's happening with respect to family travel," Loucks says.

The development of a sophisticated family-travel niche—on top of the growing educational and adventure travel segments—illustrates how the tourism industry responds to the demands of an increasingly travel-savvy market. "We've seen growth in virtually every conceivable demographic or special interest group that you could possibly have," says Loucks.

But while the travel market is neatly divvied up into niches, the segments tend to overlap. Joel Spoonheim's trip to China, for example, was educational and adventurous. The Wrights' three alumni association-sponsored trips combined mature travel with an educational focus. And when retirees take their grandchildren on a camping trip, they combine mature, family, adventure, and educational travel.

Says Joe Small of AHI: "All travel is educational."

(See the trip-planning article on page 40.) ■



Berit Thorkelson is a freelance travel writer who lives in St. Paul.



rc de Triomphe in Paris



“College graduates are 2.5 times more likely to travel to Europe. They are also the primary focus for educational travel. These are the 50-plus travelers. . . . They are looking for an in-depth understanding of the regions they are visiting.”



Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania



Planning a Trip?

- Use the Internet to explore destinations and the best times to go; to purchase plane tickets and find hotel accommodations; and to learn about travel warnings to various countries and recommended vaccinations. No Internet access? Public libraries offer access—and they house stacks of travel books and magazines, as well as reference guides to travel industry associations.
- Watch your daily newspaper for travel ads and articles; start your own file. Some bookstores sell used travel books—a year or two old—at bargain prices.
- When seeking a travel agent, ask for referrals from friends and colleagues. Remember that a travel agent can make arrangements for nearly every leg of your trip, including reservations for bus and train travel, sea passage and cruises, and car rentals

abroad. Travel agents can create an individual itinerary just for you or find vacation packages or group tours.

- Ask your travel agent about travel insurance, visa requirements, currency exchange, and even the weather where you are heading. And take your travel agency's emergency phone number along with you in your travel documents.
- Travel packages come in all shapes and sizes. Some offer deals on airfare and lodging, but payment for activities and meals are up to you. Other packages are all-inclusive, and you pay only for souvenirs. Carefully read a travel package's fine print, including the wording for refunds and cancellations.
- When shopping for a vacation, deal with members of a professional association, such as the American Society of Travel Agents and the National Tour Association. Don't hesitate to check out a company with the Better Business Bureau office in the city in which the company is located.
- Do not do business with a company that asks you to send payment via overnight delivery or that insists on sending a courier to pick up payment. Before you buy, verify your arrangements and request the trip's complete details in writing, including the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the airlines and hotels you'll be using so that you can confirm your reservations before departure. And pay with a credit card. If you do not get what you paid for, you may be able to dispute the charges with the backing of your bank.
- Before you go, make two copies of your passport's identification page, airline tickets, driver's license, and credit cards you plan to take along. Leave one set of copies with someone at home, and pack the second set in a place separate from your other valuables.
- Even when traveling on a group tour, it is wise to be familiar with entry regulations and the local laws and customs, as well as to learn a few phrases of the country's language. Learn where the nearest U.S. embassy is located, and contact it if you get into trouble.
- For more information on a travel company, check with the following organizations: Better Business Bureau, call the bureau nearest the company in question or visit www.bbb.org/bureaus; American Society of Travel Agents, call 703-739-8739 or visit www.astanet.com; Federal Trade Commission, call 202-382-4357 or visit www.ftc.gov; National Tour Association, call 606-226-4444 or visit www.ntaonline.com; U.S. Tour Operators Association, call 212-599-6599 or visit www.ustoa.com.

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April-November

April-November

Out of the Rough

WHEN THE TIME CAME, IN THE SUMMER OF 1999, to hire a new head coach for the University of Minnesota women's golf team, women's athletics director Chris Voelz did her homework. As she called sources around the country, one name kept coming up: a young assistant at Washington State named Melissa Arthur.

Arthur had been a two-time all-conference golfer at Iowa State and had led the Washington State men's and women's teams as interim head coach for the final months of the 1997-98 season. "I kept hearing that she was an up-and-comer and a great recruiter," Voelz recalls. "I called some of her colleagues in the Pac Ten and they were very enthusiastic. If someone is really good, her competitors will be eager to get her out of their league."

Arthur, then 27 years old, was on her way home from a monthlong stint coaching a college all-star team in the Far East when she heard the University of Minnesota wanted to talk to her. "I wasn't home a day when I went to Minnesota for the interview," Arthur says. "The one thing in the back of my mind was my age, [but] I really felt I had the experience."

Voelz says she never gave a thought to age, relying on the recommendations and the face-to-face interview. "The only 'negative' I heard was that she really loved women's golf," Voelz says. (Unlike Minnesota, Washington State has a combined golf program with one head coach.) "But to me, that was exactly what I wanted. . . . We have high goals for our program and I wanted a coach whose energy and commitment matched our goals."

Energy might be the single word that best describes Arthur. Her enthusiastic, can-do attitude has, in little over a year, taken a talented and hard-working group of women (they've had the top grade-point average among University women's teams for the last four years) and produced the confidence they needed to become a nationally ranked squad. The Gopher women had strong finishes in several fall tournaments, winning one and rising as high as 13th in one national ranking, ending the fall in the top 30 in all three polls.

A young new coach for Gopher women's golf has taken a team of home-state honors students into the national rankings.

By Chris Coughlan-Smith

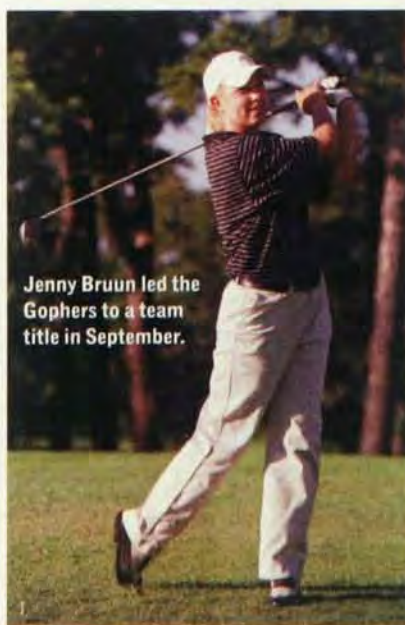
Senior Jenny Bruun of Crookston, Minnesota, won a tournament, while senior Katie Bakken of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, who won a tournament last spring, took third in another. Junior Cindy Cannon of Big Lake, Minnesota, grabbed fourth place in yet another tourney.

"When I came in here, I was really impressed with how well they hit the ball," Arthur says, referring mainly to tee shots and long fairway drives. "They were better ball-strikers than I was in college. . . . What I tried to bring first of all was an air of confidence."

At times in 1999-2000, the team showed flashes of potential but also a lack of confidence. In the Big Ten tournament, for example, the Gophers finished ninth, behind some teams they had beaten earlier. But throughout the first year, Arthur worked on their short games and on poise. She began writing down specific plans and things to focus on before each tournament. Sharing that with her team was a way to reinforce what she was teaching and saying—and a way to keep them from becoming overwhelmed. "We needed to focus on our goals and turn the mentality

toward what we needed to do rather than be intimidated by who we were golfing with," she explains.

"One thing [Coach Arthur] said that stuck with me was that we wouldn't be here in [an NCAA] Division I program if we weren't great players," Bruun recalls. "She told me I had the potential to be one of the best players in the Big Ten. I just had to realize that. I finally started to believe that I could shoot a 70 or even lower. Now, every time I think, 'I can win this tournament.'"



Jenny Bruun led the Gophers to a team title in September.



Coach Melissa Arthur (front) with golfers Katie Bakken (left), Karen Quintelier, Karyn Stordahl, and Kirstin Whalen.

Says Bakken: "Last year she did a really good job of convincing me that all I needed was to have confidence. I did and I had a really good spring season. . . . She wants you to just focus on the next shot and relax."

Arthur's success was exemplified at the Mary Fossum Invitational at Michigan State in late September. Heavy rain washed out the first day of the 15-team competition, giving the Gophers the chance to catch up on homework and just hang around. In a prior year, such a delay might have also given them ample time to worry about the course conditions and the fact that the whole tournament would be decided in one round. But when the clouds parted, the Gopher women went out relaxed and assured and won the tournament, beating six Big Ten foes.

Bruun found herself tied for the individual lead at 72, meaning she would face a play-off for the title. "I was happy with how I'd played," she says. "I'd made a few mistakes, but I wasn't going to dwell on them. Coach is always saying, 'Once a shot is over, you can't think about it anymore. Move on to the next one.'" Bruun and Arthur went to the putting green and practiced. "Coach just said, 'Do what you know you can do. Do what you've been doing all day. Hit the fairway, hit the green, and two-putt. You'll win.'" And that's exactly what happened.

ARTHUR'S WHOLE APPROACH—and her enthusiasm for the game—may have come about partly because of her late start in golf. A high school basketball star in the basketball crazy town of Bloomington, Indiana (home of Indiana University), Arthur never played golf until she was 16. But one round with her boyfriend (now her fiancé) and she was hooked. "I think I shot 125, but I really enjoyed it," she recalls. "I wanted to see how good I could get." Although still shooting in the 100s through that summer, Arthur's athletic ability and competitiveness kept her working. Within a year she was shooting 80, and then even lower. Still, it was late for college coaches to notice.

But she caught the eye of Julie Manning, coach at Iowa State. After hearing that Arthur had been playing only two years, Manning offered a last-minute scholarship. It proved a good decision. Arthur played in every tournament for the Cyclones for four years, earning two all-conference honors and being named to the all-region team her final season. Things were improving so much that Arthur decided to give pro golf a try. She lined up sponsors and hit the road on the Futures Tour, a proving ground for young pros. Unfortunately, financial reality caught up quickly. "I was golfing well, but the prize money is very small and the sponsors weren't coming through the way they said they would," she recalls. One top-15 finish earned her \$50, not even enough to pay her caddie. "I found myself using my own credit card all the time, and I realized I didn't want to live like that."

After a year coaching a high school program and teaching at a country club, Arthur started as an assistant coach at Washington State. The struggling program there found itself without a coach near the end of the season and Arthur took over. Although she didn't get the permanent post, she learned about recruiting players and the administrative details of run-

ning a program.

When she decided to apply to Minnesota, she was concerned about recruiting but knew she could use the winter to her advantage. At Iowa State, Manning has had seven academic all-Americans and Arthur adopted a piece of her former coach's recruiting philosophy. "I realized that if these are serious students, they'll welcome that time through the middle of the year when we have regular practices and they can focus on their studies." Her most recent recruit, Tai Kinney of Medford, Oregon, who will arrive in Minnesota next fall, is not only a top-60 junior golfer, but is a perfect 4.0 student and first in her class of 436.

The golfers already on the team appreciate the academic focus too. "Coach Arthur seems to understand the pressures of being in school and having to travel," Bakken says. "She's pretty in touch with why we're here." Four of the five golfers who played in every fall tournament—Bakken, Bruun, Cannon, and junior Megan Stier of Belle Plaine, Minnesota—are each academic all-Big Ten honorees. The fifth, sophomore Karyn Stordahl of Owatonna, Minnesota, didn't earn academic all-conference honors last year only because freshmen are not eligible.

"This is a team of real achievers," Arthur says. "They've been able to pick up things around the golf course really fast. . . . Sometimes some of them do think too much instead of relaxing and playing. You have so much time to get ready to hit the ball and one second when you are actually doing it. . . . But [the players] being smart and hard-working has been a big advantage."

With the Big Ten tournament set to be played at the University of Minnesota Les Bolstad Golf Course the last weekend of April, the Gophers are looking to be among the leaders. Arthur feels—and wants her players to feel—that the Gophers have as good a chance as anyone to win.

Some of the competition is taking notice.

"This fall, players from Purdue and Ohio State [the Big Ten's traditional powers] were saying, 'Wow, you guys have a really good team this year,'" Bruun says. "Well, it's pretty much the same team we had last year, just with more confidence. Now, to have Big Tens here this year, it couldn't have turned out better." ■

Chris Coughlan-Smith is associate editor for Minnesota.

2000-01 Women's Golf Schedule

September 11-12	Chip-N Club Invitational (Lincoln, Nebr.)
September 23-24	Mary Fossum Invitational (East Lansing, Mich.)
September 29-October 1	LADY NORTHERN
October 9-10	Shootout at the Legends (Franklin, Ind.)
October 23-24	Central District Classic (Parrish, Fla.)
February 23-24	Midwest Classic, hosted by Northwestern (Dallas)
March 27-28	Rainbow Wahine Invitational (Honolulu)
April 7-8	Indiana Women's Invitational
April 21-22	Lady Buckeye Invitational (Columbus, Ohio)
April 27-29	BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Women's home golf tournaments take place at the Les Bolstad Golf Course in St. Paul. For fall results, visit www.gophersports.com.

Sports Shorts

An overview
of the season's
Gopher sports
programs

By Chris Coughlan-Smith

Baseball

Over the past three years, the Gopher baseball team has averaged a .694 winning percentage, gone to three NCAA regional tournaments, and earned both a Big Ten regular season and a tournament title. Although seven starters and two top pitchers return, several players had minor surgeries or battled injuries in the off-season. "Health is going to be a premium for us this year," says 20-year head coach John Anderson. "Two of our biggest concerns are whether or not guys will be ready to play opening day and whether or not anyone will be hampered by their injuries. Aside from those, we have a strong lineup that should match or even better last year's."

Anderson has his six top run producers returning, including junior third baseman Jack Hannahan of St. Paul, who hit

2001 Baseball Schedule

February 5	PRO-ALUMNI GAME
February 11-12	CENTRAL MICHIGAN
February 16-18	Coca-Cola Classic (Mobile, Ala.)
February 23-25	at South Florida (Tampa)
March 2-4	HORMEL FOODS BASEBALL CLASSIC (Metrodome)
March 7	ST. CLOUD STATE
March 9-11	CONNECTICUT
March 16-18	at Oregon State (Corvallis)
March 23-25	at Purdue University (West Lafayette, Ind.)
March 27	at Butler University (Indianapolis) (3 p.m.)
March 28	at Ball State University (Muncie, Ind.) (3 p.m.)
March 30-April 1	at Indiana (Bloomington)
April 4	at Northern Iowa (Waterloo) (3 p.m.)
April 6-8	MICHIGAN STATE
April 11	MINNESOTA STATE, MANKATO (3 p.m.)
April 13-15	MICHIGAN
April 18	at Iowa State (Ames) (3 p.m.)
April 20-22	at Iowa (Iowa City)
April 24	SOUTHWEST STATE (4 p.m.)
April 25	IOWA STATE (6 p.m.)
April 27-29	at Ohio State
May 2	ST. SCHOLASTICA (6 p.m.)
May 9	ST. THOMAS (2 p.m.)
May 11-13	NORTHWESTERN

Baseball home games are played at Siebert Field.



.327 with eight home runs and 43 runs batted in last year. Senior first baseman Josh Holthaus of Monticello, Minnesota (.317, 10 HR, 51 RBI), and sophomore second baseman Luke Appert of Cottage Grove, Minnesota (.346, 9 HR, 41 RBI), also return to a formidable infield. Pitching could be a strength as well, with last year's top starters, senior left-hander Ben Birk of St. Paul and junior right-hander Mike Kobow of Hutchinson, Minnesota, returning. The team will play many road games this year, which means pitching will be even more important, Anderson says. "Without the last team at-bat, we will have to depend heavily on accomplished defense and quality pitching."

Solid outings from senior Ben Birk and the other pitchers will be key to winning on the road.



Sophomore Angie Recknor set school records for strikeouts, games, and innings pitched last year.

Softball

Just one year after a rebuilding season, the Gopher softball team is looking to regain its place among the Big Ten's best teams. "We have a goal of top three in the conference," says co-head coach Lisa Bernstein. "We want to make the Big Ten tournament and get in and out of an NCAA regional."

The confidence comes from a great pitching staff, which starts with sophomore Angie Recknor of Minnetonka, Minnesota, who last year set school records for strikeouts, games, and innings pitched and also threw the Gophers' second perfect game in history. "Angie gained about four years of experience last year," Bernstein says. "This year she's got a lot more help." Newcomer Piper Marten of Farmington, New Mexico, is a "riseball" pitcher who struck out the first 13 batters to face her in a fall game. Jessica Green of San Diego is the other freshman and brings an assortment of breaking balls to counter the two hard throwers. Freshman Hailee Nanchy of Ontario, California, and Recknor will share time at first base and supply enough power to make up for the loss of Jordanne Nygren, the school-record-setting home-run hitter, who is planning a redshirt year this season. A fast outfield is led by returning all-region center fielder Tammy Hays, a senior from Hastings, Minnesota, who hit .349 with 23 steals in 2000. "This is a really solid group and great team to coach," Bernstein says. "Everyone [in the Big Ten] has pitching this year, but if we can stay out of the training room, we'll be competitive."

2001 Softball Schedule

February 8-11	Metrodome Softball Tournament
February 15	at North Carolina
February 16-18	Triangle Classic (Raleigh, N.C.)
February 28	at San Diego State (1 p.m.)
March 2-4	Worth Invitational (Fullerton, Calif.)
March 9-11	Creighton Softball Spring Classic (Omaha)
March 24-25	Boilermaker Invitational (West Lafayette, Ind.)
March 27	at IUPUI (Indianapolis) (3 p.m.)
March 30	at Purdue (1 p.m.)
March 31-April 1	at Indiana (1 p.m., 12 p.m.)
April 3	CONCORDIA (4 p.m.)
April 6	at Northwestern (2 p.m.)
April 7-8	at Iowa (2 p.m., 1 p.m.)
April 11	WISCONSIN-GREEN BAY (4 p.m.)
April 13	MICHIGAN (2 p.m.)
April 14-15	MICHIGAN STATE (6 p.m., 1 p.m.)
April 17	NORTHERN IOWA (3 p.m.)
April 21-22	at Illinois (2 p.m., 1 p.m.)
April 25	DRAKE (4 p.m.)
April 27	PENN STATE (2 p.m.)
April 28-29	OHIO STATE (6 p.m., 1 p.m.)
May 1	at Wisconsin-Green Bay (1 p.m.)
May 5-6	WISCONSIN (6 p.m., 1 p.m.)
May 10-12	Big Ten Tournament (site of No. 1 seed)

Softball home games are played at the Jane Sage Cowles Stadium.

Men's Golf

What looked to be a rebuilding year is ending up as another national caliber season for the Gopher men's golf team. "I was hoping by the middle of the spring we would be where we already were during the fall," says head coach John Means of the team that ended the fall ranked 15th in the nation despite losing three of last year's five starters. "We have two really talented players who came into their own late last year and had great summers . . . and some guys who have been

2000-01 Men's Golf Schedule

September 18	PSINet Intercollegiate
September 23	Wolverine Invitational
October 2	Winton Memorial Classic
November 3	Golf World/Palmetto Dunes Invitational
February 25	Puerto Rico Classic
March 5	Southwestern Intercollegiate (Westlake Village, Calif.)
March 9	Las Vegas Intercollegiate
March 24	Dr. Pepper Intercollegiate (Sherman, Tex.)
April 14	The Intercollegiate (Cary, N.C.)
April 28	Fossum/Spartan Invitational (East Lansing, Mich.)
May 4	Big Ten Championships (Champaign, Ill.)
May 17	NCAA Regional Tournament (Stillwater, Okla.)
May 30	NCAA Championships (Durham, N.C.)

For full results, visit www.gophersports.com.

nice surprises.”

Sophomore Wilhelm Schauman of Djursholm, Sweden, played well in summer European tournaments and “came back to school knowing that he could play with anybody in the country,” Means says. He proved it by winning two of the four fall tournaments the Gophers played. Sophomore Ben Meyers of Frankston, Australia, won the Minnesota State Open title this summer to show what he could do. Putting up strong scores all fall were freshmen David Morgan of Rochester, Minnesota, and Justin Smith of Moon Township, Pennsylvania, along with sophomore Joe Affrunti of Crystal, Illinois. The young team may get even better as freshman Simon Nash of Queensland, Australia, and others push to make the starting lineup. “To be competitive nationally you need three really talented players—guys with the potential to win any tournament—and two more guys with the ability to shoot really low rounds,” Means says. “If we can develop the third consistent guy and have people pushing to be four and five, we’ll be very strong this spring.”

Sophomore Wilhelm Schauman won two of the four tournaments the Gophers played in this past fall.

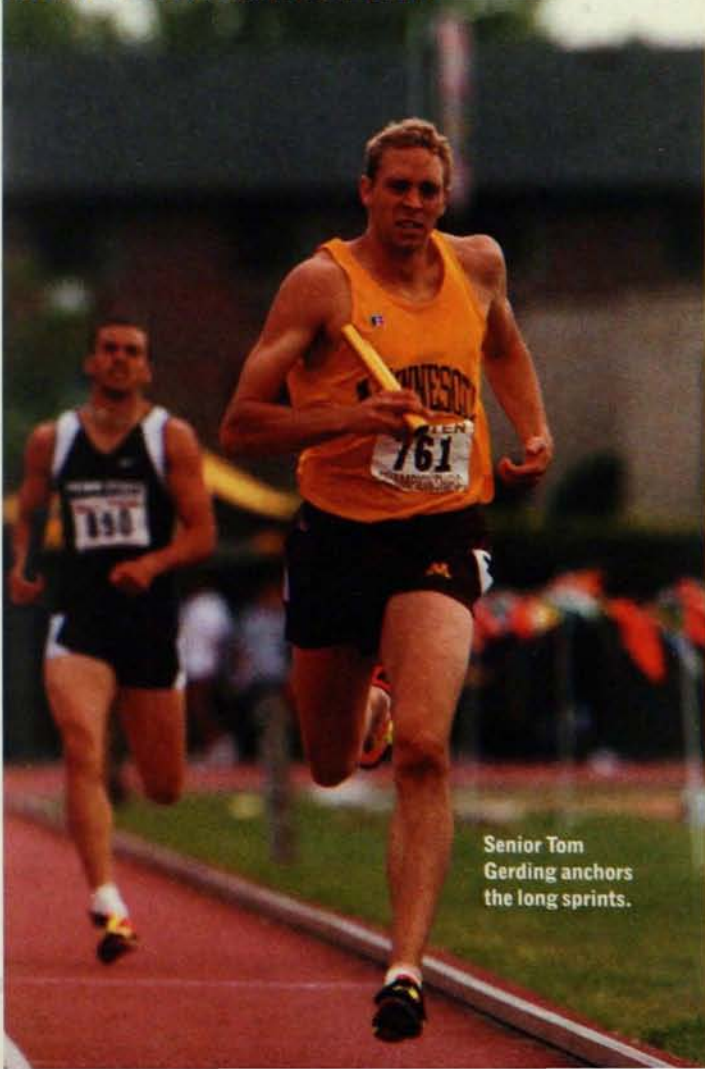


2001 Men's Track and Field Schedule

January 13	NORTHWEST OPEN
January 20	HOME MEET
January 27	MINNESOTA OPEN
February 1	Northern Iowa Classic (Cedar Falls)
February 9	Cyclone Classic (Ames, Iowa)
February 16	SNOWSHOE
February 24	Big Ten Championships (State College, Pa.)
March 2	NCAA Qualifying Meet (Ames, Iowa)
March 9	NCAA Indoor Championships (Fayetteville, Ark.)
March 17	Texas A&M Invitational (College Station, Tex.)
March 22	Mesa Community College (Mesa, Ariz.)
March 23	Baldy Castillo (Tempe, Ariz.)
March 30	Raleigh Relays (Durham, N.C.)
April 5	Austin Relays (Austin)
April 7	Hayward Relays (Eugene, Oreg.)
April 12	Sea Ray Relays (Knoxville, Tenn.)
April 14	Hamlane Quad (St. Paul)
April 20	Texas Team (Austin)
April 21	Mt. SAC Relays (Walnut, Calif.)
April 21	Carleton Relays (Northfield, Minn.)
April 25	Macalester (St. Paul)
April 27	Drake Relays (Des Moines, Iowa)
May 4	Cardinal Invitational (Palo Alto, Calif.)
May 4	at Hamlane (St. Paul)
May 5	Iowa Twilight Invitational (Iowa City)
May 12	HOME MEET (4 p.m.)
May 18-20	Big Ten Outdoor Championships (Bloomington, Ind.)
May 30	NCAA Outdoor Championship (Eugene, Oreg.)

Track and field home meets take place at the Bierman Track and Field Complex.

Men's Track and Field



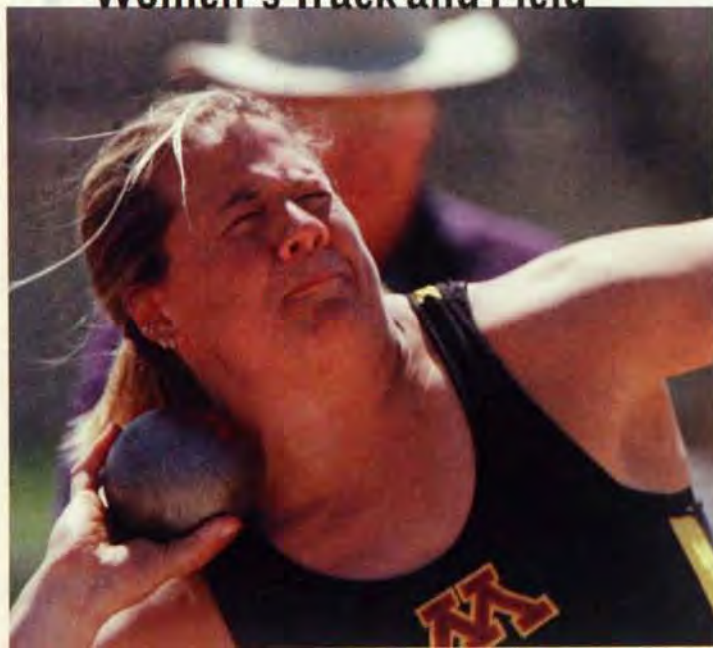
Senior Tom Gerding anchors the long sprints.

A few returning standouts and several excellent newcomers give the Gopher men's track and field squad a chance to stay among the Big Ten's top teams. "The youthful nature of the team makes it very unpredictable," says coach Phil Lundin, who has led the Gophers to two outdoor and one indoor title in the past three years. "If our veterans stay healthy and we get just normal progression from our young guys, we think we can fight for the Big Ten outdoor title."

This year's strength is on the track, with returning all-American Tom Gerding, a senior from Waconia, Minnesota, anchoring the long sprints, and junior Andy McKessock of Owens Sound, Ontario, who made the NCAA finals in the mile both indoors and outdoors in 2000, leading the middle

distances. Short sprints are led by senior Steve Burkholder of Superior, Wisconsin, the 100-meter school-record holder. Field events are led by senior Mark Fahey of Scandia, Minnesota, the 2000 Big Ten discus champ and school-record holder in the indoor weight throw, and senior Marc Johannsen of Miller, South Dakota, who cleared 7-3 in the high jump as a sophomore. The top freshmen to watch are Swedish national champions: decathlete Eric Svensson of Vaxjo and hurdler Mikael Jakobsson of Orebro. "Really, we're in a cycle of building the program back up to where we'll compete for the Big Ten title year after year," Lundin says. "We're redshirting some freshmen who might help us this year but who will be a lot better in four years for having a year to develop."

Women's Track and Field



The emergence of the women's track and field team into a Big Ten power has finally taken hold in the minds of the athletes, according to coach Gary Wilson. "In the past I've been telling them they are a top-caliber team," he says. "The last two years we've been in the top three in the Big Ten and they're saying, 'Hey, this old man knows what he's talking about.' Now they expect to be good and the conference respects them."

Three all-American throwers return: senior Aubrey Schmitt of Hastings, Minnesota, a three-time shot put honoree; senior Nicole Chimko of Aldersyde, Alberta, a 1999 discus and 1998 javelin all-American, and junior Linda Lindqvist of Aaland, Finland, a 1999 javelin all-American. Each has won Big Ten titles, as has senior Brenda Howard of North Branch, Minnesota, in the indoor weight throw. A

Senior Aubrey Schmitt, three-time all-American, dominates in shot put.

strong sprint corps is led by senior Shanraine Osbourne of New York City and freshman Tahesia Harrigan of Tallahassee, Florida, who set a school record at an early indoor meet. Distance runners include returning NCAA qualifier Corrine Nimtz, a senior from Eden Prairie, Minnesota, senior Elaine Eggleston of Roseville, Minnesota, and freshman Darja Vasiljeva of Jelgava, Latvia, who each were all-region cross-country runners. "We're a little thinner than the past few years," Wilson says. "But we have the talent to compete. This is setting up to be a very, very good club for the future." ■

Chris Coughlan-Smith is associate editor for Minnesota.

2001 Women's Track and Field Schedule

January 13	NORTHWEST OPEN
January 20	MINNESOTA OPEN
January 27	MINNESOTA CLASSIC
February 9	Butler Invitational (Indianapolis)
February 9-10	Arkansas Invitational
February 9-10	Iowa State Invitational (Ames)
February 17	PARENTS' DAY OPEN
February 24-25	Big Ten Championships (West Lafayette, Ind.)
March 2-3	Iowa State Qualifier (Ames)
March 9-10	NCAA Indoor Championships (Fayetteville, Ark.)
April 7	Texas Relays (Austin)
April 13-14	Sea Ray Relays (Knoxville, Tenn.)
April 20	Pomona Invitational (Calif.)
April 20-22	Mt. SAC Relays (Walnut, Calif.)
April 21	Long Beach Invitational (Calif.)
April 27-28	Drake Relays (Des Moines, Iowa)
April 27-28	Penn Relays (Philadelphia)
April 28	Macalester Invitational (St. Paul)
May 4	MINNESOTA OPEN (4 p.m.)
May 5	Iowa Invitational (Iowa City) (4 p.m.)
May 12	MINNESOTA QUALIFIER (11 a.m.)
May 18-20	Big Ten Outdoor Championships (Bloomington, Ind.)
May 30-June 2	NCAA Outdoor Championships (Eugene, Oreg.)

Track and field home meets take place at the Bierman Track and Field Complex.

For tickets to Gopher sports events, call 612-624-8080 or 800-U-GOPHER. For more information on Gopher sports programs, visit www.gophersports.com.

I am a member

Tracy Fallon ('96), has been a University of Minnesota Alumni Association member and volunteer since she was a student. Now she is active in the University Legislative Network. Started and managed by the UMAA, the network supports the U's legislative request at the state capitol.

"I am proud to advocate for the U of M through the Legislative Network," she says. "The University has served me well and I want it to remain a world-class institution for students and for Minnesota."

University of Minnesota Alumni Association members really do make a difference. We thank our 50,000 members for helping to build a stronger U.

Keep your membership current. Call us at 612-624-2323 or 1-800-UM-ALUMS, or visit our web site at www.uma.umn.edu.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Tracy Fallon ('96)
Member Since 1994

Building lifelong connections



Grassroots action on state funding becomes urgent

A wide gap between the University's biennial budget request and the funding recommendation of Governor Jesse Ventura makes volunteer efforts during the 2001 session of the Minnesota Legislature vital to the future of the University of Minnesota. "The question is, 'What kind of university do the people of Minnesota want?'" says University President Mark Yudof. "Do we want a world-class university that educates Minnesota's next generation of doctors, pharmacists, computer scientists, and entrepreneurs? If we do, we must share this vision with legislators and encourage them to fully fund our legislative request."

The University has requested a \$221.5 million increase for 2003 and 2004. Of that, \$150 million is earmarked for core operations, including meeting double-digit increases in health-care premium costs for employees, providing a cost-of-living increase in wages, and addressing an annual deficit in the Medical School. The remaining \$71.5 million would support targeted initiatives that fuel Minnesota's economy, including health-professional education, computer science and information technology, and the biological sciences.

Governor Ventura's budget recommends a \$56.6 million increase for the University for the biennium, approximately one-quarter of the University's request. It is the third lowest appropriation increase for the University in a nonrecession year since 1945.



Matt Clark, president of the Minnesota Student Association and vice chairman of the Student Legislative Coalition (standing to the right of University President Mark Yudof), and other University students turned out in force for the Legislative Briefing in January. At the briefing, held in the McNamara Alumni Center, University and alumni association officials explained the U's legislative request and advised volunteers on how to approach their legislators.

The University Legislative Network has already taken action, sending out alerts to its 3,000-plus volunteers, providing background facts about the request and tips on effectively contacting legislators. "More than ever, legislators are listening to see how much support there actually is for the University and for higher education," says Bob Burgett, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's associate executive director of outreach programs and a Legislative Network coordinator. "The network gives people the tools to express what they already want to say."

Network volunteers have helped the University get important funding increases in the past few years, which have led to strong basic improvements. Yudof says this year's request is vital to keep the University moving forward. According to Yudof, Ventura's proposal would require major retrenchment at the University, primarily in reductions in the number of instructors and other personnel. The proposal is "a personal disappointment and a major step backward," Yudof says. "All of the recent progress in undergraduate education will be at risk. . . . This budget [also] does not include one thin dime for economic development, and that's just irresponsible and shortsighted in today's knowledge economy."

The University's full request, along with links for visitors to find and contact their legislators, can be found on the Web at www.umn.edu/govrel. To find out more about the Legislative Network, visit www.umaa.umn.edu/legislative or call 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867).

Alumni center plaza awaits approval

Plans for the alumni center plaza, another piece of the development around the McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota Gateway, have taken a step forward. A plan that went before the Board of Regents in March calls for an open plaza with lawns and prairie grasses, a wide grove of trees, and a paved area for formal programs, all in the block directly south of the alumni center's granite and glass Memorial Hall. Special features include a raised water area that can be converted into a stage and fiber-optic lights beneath glass blocks in the pavement that will mirror the light emitted from the building's glass fissures. Other low-level lighting would keep the plaza illuminated around the clock.

A soaring monument is envisioned for the corner of Oak Street and Washington Avenue, although design and funding are not complete.

"This is a perfect use for the space," says Margaret Carlson, executive director of the alumni association, one of the alumni center's three owners. "Besides giving us a unique outdoor gathering place, it adds green space to a part of campus that really lacks it."

The area is now a parking lot, but lost spaces will be more than made up for when the University Avenue Ramp opens this spring just west of the alumni center. Tunnels now connect the alumni center to that ramp and to the Radisson Hotel Metrodome. The northwest edge of the plaza, out the west side of the alumni center's atrium, will connect to a planned Scholar's Walk that will tie the alumni center area back to Northrop Mall.

If the regents approve the plans, construction will begin in late spring and could be finished in the fall.

Alumni center wins top award for engineering excellence

Declared "a masterpiece," the engineering of the McNamara Alumni Center earned a Grand Award at the 2001 state Engineering Excellence Awards on February 9. Judges not only gave the building the highest point total of 32 entries, but also gushed about the achievement of Meyer, Borgman & Johnson (MBJ), the alumni center's structural engineers. "This is the first project in my 10 years as a judge that I have scored a 100," wrote one of the judges for the Consulting Engineers Council of Minnesota, the award sponsors. "I'm very impressed with this project." Judges cited innovative solutions to the complex project in their comments.

"The judges recognized that what set this apart from other projects was the nonrepetitiveness," says MBJ's Jerod Hoffman ('93, '94), who created computer and physical models of the Memorial Hall space. "Almost every beam was unique in either size, loads, length, or connections. The three-dimensional nature of the steel frame made load paths literally undeterminable by hand. We used a precise analytical computer model and added or deleted framing members and braces within the system until it worked properly."

Hoffman and other members of the design and building team nicknamed Memorial Hall the "geode" for its 17 irregular planes and the striking contrast of the structure's interior and exterior. The exterior is made up of some 2,200 blocks of granite crisscrossed by dramatic fissures of glass and large, irregular windows. Architect Antoine Predock's inspiration for the 85-foot-tall space was the cliffs along Lake Superior's North Shore. An intricate web of more than 500 steel beams and 800 connections supports the massive weight of the granite, steel, roofing, insulation, metal cleats, waterproofing materials, and more.

Turning Predock's vision into reality required a team enthusiastic about the challenge and the promise that the design presented. The team included Mortenson Construction, the building's general contractor; Korsunsky Krank Erickson, the executive architects; steel millers and detailers; and the granite and glass designers,



The beams support approximately 2,200 blocks of granite crisscrossed by glass fissures. The skeleton of the alumni center's "geode" consists of more than 500 steel beams and 800 connections.

makers, and installers. They succeeded in creating an inspiring public space for University events. The University community seems to agree, holding everything from new-employee orientations and departmental luncheons to commencement ceremonies and teaching award presentations in Memorial Hall.

The McNamara Alumni Center stands on the former Memorial Stadium site at 200 Oak Street Southeast on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. Funded entirely with donations and other private money, the structure houses the University of Minnesota Board of Regents and the three building owners: the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the Minnesota Medical Foundation. Several University units with significant outreach missions are also based in the alumni center.

Having a ball at the bowl

Approximately 450 alumni and friends traveled to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with the alumni association-hosted tour to the Micronpc.com Bowl in December. More than 1,000 Gopher football fans attended a pep rally with players, coaches, the University Marching Band, cheerleaders, University President Mark Yudof, and Men's Athletics Director Tom Moe. A high point of the rally was head coach Glen Mason leading the band in the "Minnesota Rouser." Despite a promising start with the Gophers leading 24-0, North Carolina State won 38-30.



PHOTOGRAPH BY TOM DE RANITZ



Minnesota Orchestra and fireworks highlight the 2001 annual celebration

The 2001 UMAA Annual Meeting and Celebration takes on added significance this year because it will also serve as the University's sesquicentennial grand finale and mark the return to campus of the Minnesota Orchestra. Set for Friday, June 29, the program will conclude with a fireworks show over Northrop Mall.

The Minnesota Orchestra began in 1903 as the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. With the opening of Northrop Auditorium in 1929, the orchestra entered into an agreement with the University that made Northrop its home for the next 45 years and allowed the Metropolitan Opera to stage numerous performances in the auditorium.

In a special appearance, renowned composer and conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski will lead the Minnesota Orchestra, as he did for its final years on campus and for several years in Orchestra Hall in downtown Minneapolis. The program is expected to include works with a University connection, including pieces that debuted here.

The evening will begin with an optional dinner in the McNamara Alumni Center in the early evening, followed by the



performance. Afterward, the yearlong celebration of the University's 150 years will conclude with fireworks.

For more information or to receive an invitation, call 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867) or visit www.uma.umn.edu.

UMAA Calendar

Upcoming alumni association events on campus and around the country. For more information, visit www.uma.umn.edu or call 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867) and ask to speak to the UMAA staff person listed after the event.

March

- 20 Swedish embassy event, 6 p.m., Washington, D.C.; contact Mark Allen
- 23 Sun Cities (Arizona) spring luncheon, details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 26 Student party starring "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, time TBA, Prairie Lakes Center, Worthington, Minnesota; contact Libby Tate

April

- 5 College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society spring awards reception, details TBA; contact Raleigh Kaminsky
- 7 Red Wing Chapter hosts Stephanie Ann Stephens in concert, time TBA, Sheldon Theater, Red Wing, Minnesota; contact Libby Tate
- 9 College of Liberal Arts dean's list celebration, details TBA; contact Kent Spaulding
- 10 Institute of Technology Alumni Society science and technology banquet, 6 p.m., Minneapolis Hilton Hotel; contact Kris

- Kosek
- 11 College of Natural Resources Alumni Society banquet, time TBA, Earle Brown Center, St. Paul campus; contact Phil Splett
- 11 College of Biological Sciences symposium with CBS alumni, details TBA; contact Paul Germscheid
- 12 Minn Royal agriculture alumni events on the St. Paul campus; contact Mary Buschette
- 16 University President Mark Yudof visits New Ulm and Mankato, Minnesota, details TBA; contact Libby Tate
- 17 College of Liberal Arts mentor wrap-up event, details TBA; contact Kent Spaulding
- 19 Institute of Technology mentor recognition ceremony, details TBA; contact Kris Kosek
- 20 "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, travels to Albuquerque/Santa Fe, New Mexico, details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 20 Dentistry Alumni Society dean's

- reception, time TBA, Saint Paul Hotel; contact Jack Stack
 - 21 "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, travels to the Bay Area (California), details TBA; contact Mark Allen
 - 22 "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, travels to Denver, details TBA; contact Chad Kono
 - 23 Distinguished teaching awards ceremony, 3:30 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center; contact Elizabeth Patty
 - 25 St. Paul colleges mentor wrap-up, details TBA; contact Mary Buschette (Agriculture), Paul Germscheid (Biological Sciences), or Lori Mollberg (Human Ecology)
 - 27 Journalism and Mass Communications Alumni Society renovation celebration at Murphy Hall; awards of excellence at McNamara Alumni Center, times TBA; contact Kent Spaulding
- May**
- 2 "Senior Sendoff" celebration for graduating students, 4 p.m., McNamara

Occasions to Celebrate

Over the past 150 years, alumni have earned an astonishing half-million degrees from the University of Minnesota—and it seems as if we have at least that many reasons to be proud of our alma mater's abundant contributions to the world.

For example, the University educates 70 percent of Minnesota's health-care professionals and more primary-care doctors than does any other university in the United States. It has more than 400 active technology licenses with private industry. It has developed more than 80 new crop varieties, wiped out many poultry and livestock diseases, invented life-saving devices such as the heart-lung machine and heart pacemaker, and offers more than

300 programs that serve children and youth. And these contributions don't even begin to measure the U's infinite artistic and cultural offerings through art galleries and museums, music and dance concerts, theater productions, lectures, and films.

All of these magnificent accomplishments are points of pride. So it's been wonderful to have had so many occasions over the past few months to show our maroon-and-gold spirit.

One such occasion was the Gopher football team's trip to the postseason Micronpc.com Bowl game in December. The festivities began when fans on the alumni association-sponsored tour gathered at the airport for the flight to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The party continued on the plane, where the flight crew got into the act in a contest to see which section of the cabin could cheer the loudest. On the ground at the pep rally,



Jean Fountain, '74 M.B.A.

even the palm trees were decked out in Gopher visors. It was pride and spirit at its best.

Another occasion to celebrate was Founders Week from February 18 through 25. This tribute to the U's sesquicentennial had more than something for everyone. It was a veritable panoply of tributes to the our alma mater, with jazz, symphonic, and wind ensemble concerts featuring University faculty, former faculty, alumni, and students. The Birthday at the Capitol celebration February 21 was attended by state and University officials and featured the U's glorious sesquicentennial traveling exhibit, whose hundreds of pictures and objects tell the story of the University's first 150 years.

The nonstop week included a research seminar, a University-hosted science fair for high school students, and a president's anniversary celebration with presidents from Minnesota's colleges and universities, Big Ten schools, and tribal colleges. The Bell Museum presented "A Blast from the Past," in which costumed performers took visitors back to the days of the U's founding.

Topping it all off was the statewide Maroon and Gold Day on February 23, when friends and alumni of the University around Minnesota wore maroon and gold all day, decorated their offices with Gopher banners, and joined in singing "Hail! Minnesota." Rumors are still circulating about some enthusiasts donning maroon-and-gold hair, fingernails, and temporary tattoos.

You can still catch the flavor of the sesquicentennial celebration by visiting the Weisman Art Museum any time through May 29 to see "Cabinets of Curiosities." This wonderful and unique exhibition features objects from University collections arranged in Renaissance-style cabinets, including rare books, a model of a human eye, Hubert Humphrey's hat, and even a hair ball from a cow's stomach. The display is broad and rich but is just a small representation of the contributions of the University's faculty and alumni.

And circle June 29 on your calendar for the 2001 UMAA Annual Meeting and Celebration, which will be the grand finale for the sesquicentennial year. See page 3 for details.

Around the U—and around the state—this year, alumni have had the chance not only to feel pride and spirit, but also to express those feelings in some very tangible, exciting, energizing, and thought-provoking ways. Thanks, University of Minnesota, for making the world a better place. Here's to another 150 years!



PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA COLLECTION FROM THE U OF M PERFORMING ARTS ARCHIVE

Left: Conductor Antal Dorati leads the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra (now the Minnesota Orchestra) during opening night in 1958. The orchestra attracted thousands to its annual concert series held in Northrop Auditorium from 1930 until 1974.

Above: Stanislaw Skrowaczewski was conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra (called the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra until 1968) from 1960 to 1978. He still makes many guest appearances and will lead the orchestra at the June 29 UMAA Annual Celebration in Northrop Auditorium in a return engagement.

Alumni Center; contact Elizabeth Patty

3-11 Alumni College on the Legendary Rhine River alumni tour; contact Jessica Almle

5 Nursing Alumni Society annual meeting, time TBA, Radisson Hotel Metrodome; contact Kate Hanson

5 Natural Resources Alumni Society commencement reception, time TBA, Northrop Auditorium; contact Phil Splett

10 Education and Human Development Alumni Society commencement reception, time TBA, McNamara Alumni Center; contact Raleigh Kaminsky

12 St. Croix Valley Chapter events at Norway Day Celebration in Hudson, Wisconsin; contact Libby Tate

12 "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, travels to Seattle, details TBA; contact Mark Allen

13 "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, travels to Portland, Oregon, details TBA; contact Mark Allen

14 Medical Technology Alumni Society banquet, details TBA; contact Billie Anne Juni

14 "John Sargent Pillsbury," founding father of the University, travels to Southern Willamette Valley, Oregon, details TBA; contact Mark Allen

30 Mentor Connection workshop for mentors, 5 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center; contact Judy Anderson

31 Medical School reunions, details TBA; contact Julie Crews Barger



4-H Makes a Lifelong Connection

An organization that provides many Minnesotans with their first connection to the University now has a way to offer a lifelong connection. Minnesota 4-H, a part of the University of Minnesota Extension Service, is a new special interest group of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association.

"4-H is really special," says Dean Ascherman (B.A. '75) of Rochester, Minnesota, a board member of the new alumni group. "The thing that inspired me the most was the leaders. They were practitioners who taught from that perspective and who were volunteer leaders throughout the community." From 8 through 18 years old, Ascherman was involved in the 4-H club in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, where he grew up on a farm. As a member of 4-H, he learned leadership skills that led him to head his local club, then to take a role in state leadership, and eventually to participate in the 4-H National Congress in Washington, D.C. "When I joined IBM [while still pursuing a business degree], I went quickly into management and I attribute that directly to what I learned in 4-H."

Minnesota 4-H, like the Extension Service, has its roots and traditions in agriculture, but the organization has grown to be much more. With participants in every Minnesota county, 4-H has developed programs—such as raising livestock, designing clothing, learning photography, and participating in the performing arts—that interest young people in all parts of the state. The common tie is helping Minnesota youth develop into successful adults. 4-H members participate in community-service programs, do public speaking, run meetings, and at the highest levels travel to state and national conferences with other youth leaders. "A lot of people have life-changing experiences in 4-H," says Deb Noll (B.A. '85, M.A. '92), executive director of the Minnesota 4-H Foundation. "[Unfortunately] we've

never collected names in a systematic way before." As Noll thought about how to do that, "partnering with the alumni association just made sense.

"It is clear that people who were in 4-H have strong positive feelings and want to stay connected," he continues. "We have a large cadre who either didn't go to college or went to another university but who feel a strong affinity for the University of Minnesota because of 4-H." Since alumni association membership is open to friends as well as alumni, "this will be a way for them to feel more connected to what they already consider to be their University."



Julia Bohnem (standing left), a wetland ecologist, and Stephan Carlson, an associate professor and extension educator, teach a field-based class about restoring wetlands to a group of 4-H members on the Spring Peepers Meadow boardwalk at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Two years earlier, this land had been a cornfield for approximately a century.

For more information about the 4-H Alumni Special Interest Group, call the 4-H Foundation at 612-624-2116 or 800-444-4238. For more on the UMAA, call 612-624-2323 or 800-862-5867. Information is also available at www.fourb.umn.edu/foundation or www.umaa.umn.edu.

Member thank-you specials extended

The thank-you week for alumni association members who helped the association reach its goal of 50,000 members in 2000 has been extended. "It was too limiting to try to do it all in one week," explains Elise Schadauer, UMAA associate executive director for marketing and membership. "We wanted to celebrate throughout the year and also give our members time to take advantage of the special deals."

Packets of coupons with expiration dates ranging from April 15 to December 30 are now being mailed to mem-

bers. The specials include a deal on an exclusive alumni sweatshirt from the University Bookstores, a discount on room rental at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome, a chance to win \$100 off the fee for a Personal Enrichment Program, an added discount on Gold Country merchandise, a discount on a Gopher cell-phone cover, and a two-for-one deal on three nights of University Theatre performances.

These discounts are in addition to the offers the UMAA's benefit partners make available only to UMAA members. To learn more about ongoing member benefits, visit www.umaa.umn.edu/memberbenefits or call 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867).

Mentors see their shadows



Carlson School of Management and Institute of Technology students visited Thermo King Corporation in Bloomington as part of the second annual Gopher Job Shadow Day on February 2. Eighty students from the two schools and the College of Human Ecology participated in the event (part of a national Groundhog Day Job Shadow), visiting one of four local companies—Target Corporation, 3M, Unisys, and Thermo King—to meet with alumni and their colleagues to learn about career opportunities. In addition, approximately 60 students from other University colleges shadowed their mentors in their workplaces for the day. Gopher Job Shadow Day is an alumni association-sponsored event.

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Big Ten Breakthroughs

In this sesquicentennial year, we've spent a lot of time celebrating the distinctive 150-year history of the University of Minnesota. But for much of our past, we've been part of a larger association: the Big Ten. I often find myself serving as a spokesperson for our Big Ten universities, and one of the most thrilling topics I like to discuss is Big Ten research.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,
Ph.D. '83

Life as we know it would be hard to imagine without some of the discoveries unearthed by researchers, scholars, and alumni from the Big Ten. If there were a contest for the most varied inventions—and I couldn't choose the University of Minnesota—my vote would go to the University of Iowa. Its alumnus George Gallup gave the world the Gallup poll, making Iowa the birthplace of modern opinion polling. Considering the role that polls played in our recent presidential election, it seems fitting that the University of Iowa also invented buffered aspirin and the world's first antacids.

Moviegoers, computer users, and dessert lovers can thank the University of Illinois. Researchers there developed the first talking motion picture in 1922. Nobel prizes in physics were awarded to the Illinois inventors who created the microchip and the transistor. In 1993, a student developed Mosaic—the world's first Web browser. And through a very fortunate accident, a researcher invented whipped cream during an attempt to keep cream from spoiling.

Modern medicine has advanced greatly as a result of Big Ten research. Michigan State developed two of the world's most successful and widely used anticancer drugs. University of Wisconsin researchers discovered vitamin A and its role in cancer prevention, vitamin B, and how vitamin D regulates calcium in the body. And Northwestern pioneered brain research that explores the nervous system's process of recovery.

Big Ten researchers also have given the world several common household items. An Ohio State alumnus produced what some would call the world's most slippery substance: Teflon. The University of Michigan's John Harvey Kellogg created the world's first dry breakfast cereal. Three Indiana University researchers discovered that stannous fluoride was protective against dental decay. And in the spirit of true academic collaboration, researchers from the University of Illinois and an Ohio State alumnus can all claim significant roles in the development of nylon.

Some Big Ten discoveries reach beyond our earthly boundaries. Penn State was the first to confirm the existence of planets

outside our solar system. The University of Iowa's professor James Van Allen discovered the Van Allen radiation belts. Purdue earned the moniker the "Mother of Astronauts" because 22 of its alumni had been chosen for space flight. Their astronaut-alumni can thank the University of Illinois for inventing the freeze-drying process for preserving food. To observe the heavens from space, the University of Wisconsin created the world's first true observatory in space: the Orbiting Astronomical Observatory.

Back at home, you might already know that the University of Minnesota has produced a number of noteworthy inventions, including the black-box airplane flight recorder, the retractable seat belt, drought-resistant wheat, and one of the earliest heart pacemakers. If the past is any indication of our future, we can expect some equally amazing discoveries around the corner.

In the past three years, the University of Minnesota has received more than 150 patents. In fiscal year 2000 alone, our faculty generated a record \$455 million in research funds and submitted proposals for \$1.18 billion in new research activities. Beyond the funds, the U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that 38 jobs are created in Minnesota for every \$1 million spent on research. In fiscal year 1999, that translated to 13,000 jobs.

"Our research programs are extremely diverse," says Chris Maziar, vice president for research and dean of the Graduate

School. "Some have the potential to provide immediate economic benefits. Other projects seek to expand our understanding of the world around us and of our societies and cultures. But all contribute to the intellectual capital of the state and the nation."

Some of those promising contributions include groundbreaking stem-cell research, the pursuit of ecologically friendly farm-

ing practices, and investigating the neurological development of small children and young adults. Many of today's efforts like these could capture tomorrow's headlines. Yet many members of our community don't fully understand the unprecedented role Big Ten universities play in the field of research.

This year, the University of Minnesota is asking the legislature for considerable financial support. At the same time, we're sending the message, "We're different from any other educational institution in the state. Without us, our community, our nation, and our world would not be the same." To me, the University's inventions—and those of our peer institutions—tell compelling stories and deliver our message quite well.

Research institutions change the planet in nearly every way. That's why I ask you to share this message with your state legislators during this critical legislative session—whether you live in Minnesota or in another state with a Big Ten institution. Without the innovations founded by the University of Minnesota and our Big Ten peers, this would be a very different world. ■

"We're different from any other educational institution in the state. Without us, our community, our nation, and our world would not be the same."

What do orphanages in Romania have to do with children in America?



Susan Parker, Ph.D. candidate in child psychology, is doing work that could prove groundbreaking, typifying one professor's comment. "A small fraction of people have the most new ideas and move the field forward. Sometimes you find this among your best graduate students."

Susan Parker's research on the impact of stress on child development has led to compelling work with adoptive children in Romania and the U.S. Her findings hold great promise for helping a wide range of children, including those with developmental disabilities or those who have been abused or neglected.

A fellowship was instrumental in Susan's selection of the U of M. "The U has so much more to offer—one of the best and largest child psychology departments in the country, an extremely high caliber faculty, and a remarkable degree of collaboration." Fellowships, which stem largely from private support, are a key priority for Campaign Minnesota, ensuring that we attract outstanding students for years to come. In short, there's no telling how far your gift will go.

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MINNESOTA

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writes and paints
about the
Holocaust,
love, and freedom



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Features

18 Q&A: Faith in Her Idea

Student Thasneem Ahmed hopes her board game spreads awareness about Islam.

By Andy Steiner

20 Unwilling . . . Unwilling . . . Unwilling . . .

Facing prostate cancer, a man begins healing in unexpected ways.

Essay by Jim Martin

22 High-tech Expectations

Undulations in the economy have left some alumni in high-tech fields without a sense of security—and in some cases without a job.

By Shelly Fling and Chris Coughlan-Smith

30 A Daily Struggle

The lingering fallout from last fall's decision by *Minnesota Daily* management to cut its arts and entertainment section might not be the newspaper's most turbulent time in history, but the move has drawn sharp criticism from faculty, students, and alumni and has raised questions about what kind of training ground the paper should be.

By Christina Schmitt

36 Voices: Painting the Past

For decades, Dr. Robert Fisch, professor of pediatrics at the University, felt his experience in the Holocaust was a private matter to be kept to himself. Now, he shares his feelings about love and freedom through words and art.

As told to Vicki Starvig

Columns and Departments

6 In Focus

A few examples of how forward-thinking professors have made a difference in the world.

8 Campus Digest

Integrating study abroad into more undergraduate programs; a crash course in starting a business; faculty research; and campus arts and events.

16 In Brief

University Law Building to be renamed Walter F. Mondale Hall; Board of Regents take no formal action on football stadium proposal; systemwide enrollment is up slightly.



page 40

40 Winning Ways

Every spring, *Minnesota* highlights the outstanding accomplishments of several student athletes during the previous school year. For this issue, we could not overlook two seniors who not only stood out in their sports but exemplified with their character and dedication what it means to be a student athlete. We also applaud two Gopher athletics programs: one that won its first NCAA championship and another that arrived as a Big Ten power.

By Tim Klobuchar and Chris Coughlan-Smith



page 8

48 UMAA Report

Minnesota Orchestra makes nostalgic return to Northrop; great teachers recognized; ad campaign celebrates grads; member profiles; and the UMAA calendar.

51 UMAA National President

Roy Wilkins once said he never considered going anywhere but the U. Many high-school students are saying the same.

56 Executive Director

The Gateway Plaza will be a beloved public square and a breath of fresh air.

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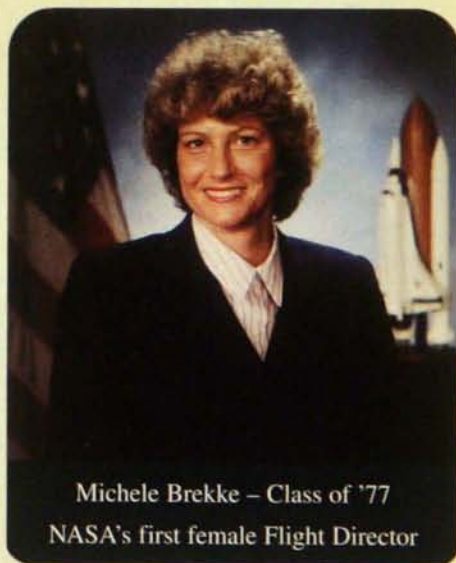
With 24 years of experience, Michele currently heads up NASA's Flight Integration division. No payloads fly on the Space Shuttle without her final approval. She oversees a team that coordinates the launch of multibillion-dollar satellites and scientific equipment.

Drawn to the U by its strong aerospace engineering program, Michele said, "I just fell in love with the campus. Everyone was so friendly and helpful to me." She especially enjoyed the one-on-one mentoring she received while working in the wind tunnel lab with Dr. Helmut Heinrich.

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In Focus

The Power of Ideas

Who was the greatest professor you ever had? Was it the one who caused you to think in new ways, to question conventional wisdom? Perhaps it was the teacher who believed in you when you didn't believe in yourself.

From a societal perspective, great faculty prod us to think beyond today, to what's coming next. In our culture of instant gratification, that's a difficult proposition. Law-makers, we've learned, want definable outcomes, measurable results, immediate economic impact. Students or lives *transformed*, on the other hand, seem mere intangibles, virtually impossible to quantify.

Yet there are countless examples of how University of Minnesota professors made and make a difference in our world, not just with their teaching, but with their forward thinking. Professor Catherine Verfaillie is right now daring to contemplate a world where stem cells could regenerate damaged organs, helping victims of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and strokes.



Tom Garrison

Even before the end of World War II, Professor Ancel Keys—whom we told you about in our March-April issue—was thinking ahead to the issue of how exactly to reintroduce a normal diet to the starving survivors of the Holocaust. This edition details the personal story of one of those concentration camp survivors: Dr. Robert Fisch, a retired University professor of pediatrics who had gone on to transform the lives of infants with previously untreatable diseases. Like many victims of horrific crimes against

humanity, Fisch has been reluctant to tell his story, but has found expression in both words and pictures (see "Painting the Past," page 36).

Unfortunately, there are modern-day holocausts too—everything from the killing fields of Cambodia to the beating, burning, maiming, or raping of people in places like Kosovo, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. While he couldn't eliminate such crimes, another forward-thinking University professor led Minnesota to establish the first treatment center for the victims of torture in the United States 16 years ago. International law professor David Weissbrodt even dared to suggest the radical idea that as many as 16,000 of those victims were already right here in our state. He was right. A simple idea embraced by good people unwilling to stand idly by has resulted in Minnesota doctors, lawyers, and counselors training other helping hands. Learning to recognize and treat torture victims has become an established part of the curriculum for University of Minnesota social work, psychology, and medical students. Since then, 23 other cities, including Boston, Chicago, and Denver, have established similar centers for torture victims.

Such refugees of horror are in our midst, according to Douglas A. Johnson, executive director for the Minnesota Center for Victims of Torture on the edge of the East Bank campus. There was the disheveled, depressed immigrant man found living in a garbage can who counselors later learned had endured electric shocks, beatings, and mock execution in the Middle East. Today, following help, he is a successful employer who owns several businesses in Minnesota.

Several people, including Rudy Perpich Jr. and his father, the late Governor Rudy Perpich Sr., and other University-affiliated individuals made the center a reality, but I thought you should know how it all began: with a professor and a powerful idea.

—The Executive Editor
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Campus Digest

Recipe for a Bake Sale

On occasion, Kent Rees (M.P.H. '76) walks across campus and is surprised by a bake sale—passersby picking over a table of homemade cookies, cakes, pies, and bars. "I'll stop by and ask for a copy of their food permit, and they'll look at me with a blank stare," says Rees, environmental hygiene officer for the University's Department of Environmental Health and Safety. Rees isn't likely to shut down the sale for unknowingly violating the U's bake-sale policy, but he'll ask the sale's organizers to obtain a permit from his office the next time they stage such a fund-raiser.

"The majority seem to be in the health-sciences complex. It'll be the therapy club or the nursing club or the neurology group," says Rees, who has worked in environmental health and safety at the U for 28 years.

The bake-sale policy limits groups to one sale per semester and includes the following requirements:

1. No food that requires refrigeration can be sold. This includes cream-filled pastries, eclairs, cream pies, and such.
2. Only bars, cookies, cakes, and doughnuts are acceptable bake-sale items.
3. No bake-sale items shall be sold that have frosting or other toppings that are applied after the baking process.
4. All bake-sale items shall be individually wrapped at the original point of preparation.
5. Preparation may be completed in a home-type kitchen, with the reminder that only bake-sale items shall be prepared at this time. Food for individual consumption should not be prepared at the same time.
6. Bake-sale items shall be transported in a covered, dust-proof container.
7. Individuals conducting the baking and/or wrapping or sale of food shall thoroughly wash their hands before handling the product.
8. A sign or placard stating "Homemade/Not Inspected" must be posted.

According to Rees, rule number three ("no bake-sale items shall be sold that have frosting or other toppings that are applied after the baking



process") poses the biggest problem. "For some folks that's just part of the tradition, such as brownies with chocolate frosting on top. But for public sale we're relying on the baking temperature to destroy all microorganisms that might cause problems," he says. "The bake-sale guidelines are basically to make people think. It's just not all fun and games when we serve food."

Policing bake sales on campus consumes only a small portion of Rees's time. In addition to all public health aspects for food codes on campus, he addresses pest control, smoking complaints, housing sanitation, swimming-pool codes, and vending-machine and microwave-oven safety. "Basically they're preventative programs," as is the bake-sale policy, he says, adding that he hasn't had "any confirmed food-borne illnesses in 25 years."

For more information about the Department of Environmental Health and Safety's policies and procedures, visit www.dehs.umn.edu.

A Peace Prize

The Peace Corps presented the University with a plaque in April to honor the approximately 1,200 University students and alumni who have served in the organization, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. The University ranks 18th in the "Top 25 Large Colleges and Universities" for number of students and alumni who have served.

According to Jacob Hughes, University campus representative for the Peace Corps, 46 alumni are currently serving in the Peace Corps and 12 graduating students are preparing to leave in the next few months.

In the past, University alumni in the Peace Corps often held agriculture degrees. Today, however, the Peace Corps counts among its volunteers University graduates with dozens of majors, including accounting, architecture, education, business administration, and social work.

Correction

The March–April issue of *Minnesota* mistakenly reported the year in which former University president Nils Hasselmo and his wife, Patricia, moved to Washington, D.C. The Hasselmos moved after 1997.

How Cells Get Their Assignments

The mystery of how a single cell grows into the human body is a step closer to being solved. University of Minnesota researchers studied the signaling system that guides how and when parts of the body develop from an embryo in fish, flies, and frogs. With the human genome now mapped, attention has increasingly focused on how the genes create the proteins that control cell growth and development. Early embryonic cells have the capacity to become any body system. It has been known that a protein called BMP directs embryonic cell development and that BMP comes from and is controlled by specific genes. The U of M team found that another protein, twisted gastrulation (Tsg), enhances the actions of the genes that code and create BMP. The University team found that manipulating the levels of Tsg would confuse cells, either preventing proper development or stimulating too much. Other teams of researchers reported similar findings in studies of frogs. Minnesota's research, however, allows the conclusion that Tsg serves the same function across different species. The Minnesota research team works within the Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development, a joint department of the Medical School and the College of Biological Sciences. The findings of the nine coauthors were published in the March 22, 2001, issue of *Nature* (www.nature.com).



Faculty Research

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

Microbe Fighters at the Ready

It has long been known that people who have had a virus are generally immune to reinfection. Now University of Minnesota research sheds some light on how that happens. The human body houses a small number of microbe fighting CD4 T cells in the lymph nodes and spleen. When an infection occurs, the cells multiply and fight it off. The new research shows that those cells then retain the memory of the infection and travel to other parts of the body, standing ready. If the microbe that caused the first infection should enter the body again, the cells attack at the point of entry and typically subdue the second infection so quickly that it is not even noticed. The new ground in this research is the discovery that the cells migrate and stay in other parts of the body rather than remaining in the lymph system. Understanding the role CD4 T cells in other major body systems play in fighting viruses could lead to more effective vaccines. The findings were made in animal studies and are now being investigated in humans. Graduate researcher Richard Reinhardt and microbiology professor Marc Jenkins coauthored the study, which was published in the March 1, 2001, issue of *Nature* (www.nature.com).

Knowledge of Yeast Rises

In a breakthrough that may lead to better treatment of yeast infections, University of Minnesota researchers have found a gene that is required for yeast to mutate into an infectious state. The infectious yeast, *Candida albicans*, grows filaments that invade human tissue, causing not only nuisance infections but sometimes fatal systemic infections in people with vulnerable immune systems. When researchers transferred the *Candida albicans* gene responsible for growing the filaments into ordinary baker's yeast, they discovered that the filament gene works only in the presence of another gene, called SLA2. Going back to *Candida albicans*, they found that if they disabled SLA2 through genetic manipulation, the filament-growing gene also became disabled. The SLA2 gene appears to provide a blueprint to activate a kind of protein that has no known counterpart in humans, meaning anti-SLA2 drugs would not likely interfere with necessary human proteins. Judith Berman, a professor of genetics, cell biology, and development and also of microbiology, led the team. The work was published in the February issue of the journal *Molecular and Cellular Biology* (mcb.asm.org).

"You can have the greatest technology in the world, but you have nothing if you can't sell it to investors," says Keith Mikkelson, a first-year M.B.A. student at the University of Minnesota. Mikkelson culled that bit of wisdom from participating in the Carlson School of Management's fourth annual Gopher the Gold Business Plan Competition this spring. He and his five teammates also walked away with the \$30,000 first-place prize to get Nanomedica, their business idea, off the ground.

Five judges—venture capitalists and members of the business and technology communities—acted as investors during presentations made by University entrepreneurs seeking seed-money prizes. The second- and third-place winners took away \$12,500 and \$2,500, respectively, in equity and services.

The competition, run by Carlson School students, gives entrepreneurs the opportunity to explore the viability of their business ideas. Any University students, staff, or faculty members may enter, but each team must have at least one enrolled student. This year, 18 teams submitted business plans describing their ventures, including potential customers, financing ideas, marketing strategies, and management methods.

In return, the entrants receive an education in business start-ups. The Carlson School's Center for Entrepreneurial Studies helps the teams find advisers and mentors, assists in networking, presents workshops, and directs them to sources in business research.

According to Doug Johnson, director for the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, the prizes for the first two years of the competition were made in cash, so the school hasn't always been able to follow the winners' progress in subsequent months and years. The past two years, however, the school has given prizes in the form of equity. As a stockholder, the school maintains an interest in these companies. One of last year's winners, Spinnaker Semiconductor in Minneapolis, has since raised \$1 million from investors and is in the process of raising a couple million more, says Johnson.

The idea behind Nanomedica is a technology developed by Distinguished McKnight Professor David Pui (B.S. '70, M.S. '73, Ph.D. '76), a leading researcher in aerosol science at the University, and Da-Ren Chen (M.S. '93, Ph.D. '96), a former student of his. Pui's patented device has the ability to create particles 10 nanometers in size; a nanometer is approximately 100,000 times smaller than a human hair.



The Nanomedica team (left to right): University students Keith Mikkelson and Derek Heinecke, Professor David Pui, and advisers Robert Hoerr and Karen Arnold. Da-Ren Chen is not pictured.

Reducing particles to the size of atoms changes the particles' properties, making them more useful in medicine.

"By taking a drug that has an onset of action of two hours and running that drug through this machine and creating those small particles, you can now have a drug that has an onset of action of within five minutes," says Mikkelson, who has a Ph.D. in pharmacy from North Dakota State University. "And not only does it change how quickly the drug acts, but it also can increase the likelihood of the drug actually getting into the body." He explains that only about half of a tablet ingested by a patient goes to work in the body; the rest passes through the patient's system. Furthermore, he says, 50 percent of all drugs discovered in labs never reach the marketing stage because they are not soluble in water and therefore incompatible with the human bloodstream.

In both cases, the Nanomedica device reformulates the drugs, making them more beneficial to patients. "The huge potential is in AIDS and cancer drugs," he says.

The Nanomedica device has wide potential in medical applications, including gene therapy and tissue regeneration. Tony Strauss, assistant vice president in the University's Office of Patents and Technology Marketing, helped Pui develop a prototype of the device and encouraged him and his two advisers—Karen Arnold and Robert Hoerr—to consider licensing the technology. Given the technology's potential, however, they opted to explore turning it into a company. The Carlson School's Johnson suggested they join up with M.B.A. students Mikkelson and Derek Heinecke (B.S. '97), who would conduct market research and assist in drawing up Nanomedica's business plan—and enter the Gopher the Gold competition. "We decided to enter the competition four weeks before the deadline," says Arnold. "Keith and Derek worked on research through spring break. It really was a crash course for them."

The next steps are to find a lab, wait for Food and Drug Administration approval, and continue to sell the idea to investors. According to Mikkelson, the judges declared the five finalists' business plans to be the highest quality they'd seen since the inception of the competition. "The other [teams] felt that a substantial market existed for all of their plans," he says, "so it was very rewarding to us to win, given the competition."

Broader Study Abroad Opportunities

For many University of Minnesota students, such as foreign language majors, courses taken while studying abroad meet the requirements of their degree programs and keep them on track for graduation. For others, such as students in the College of Human Ecology, participating in study abroad is not always a prudent option or means delaying progress toward earning a degree.

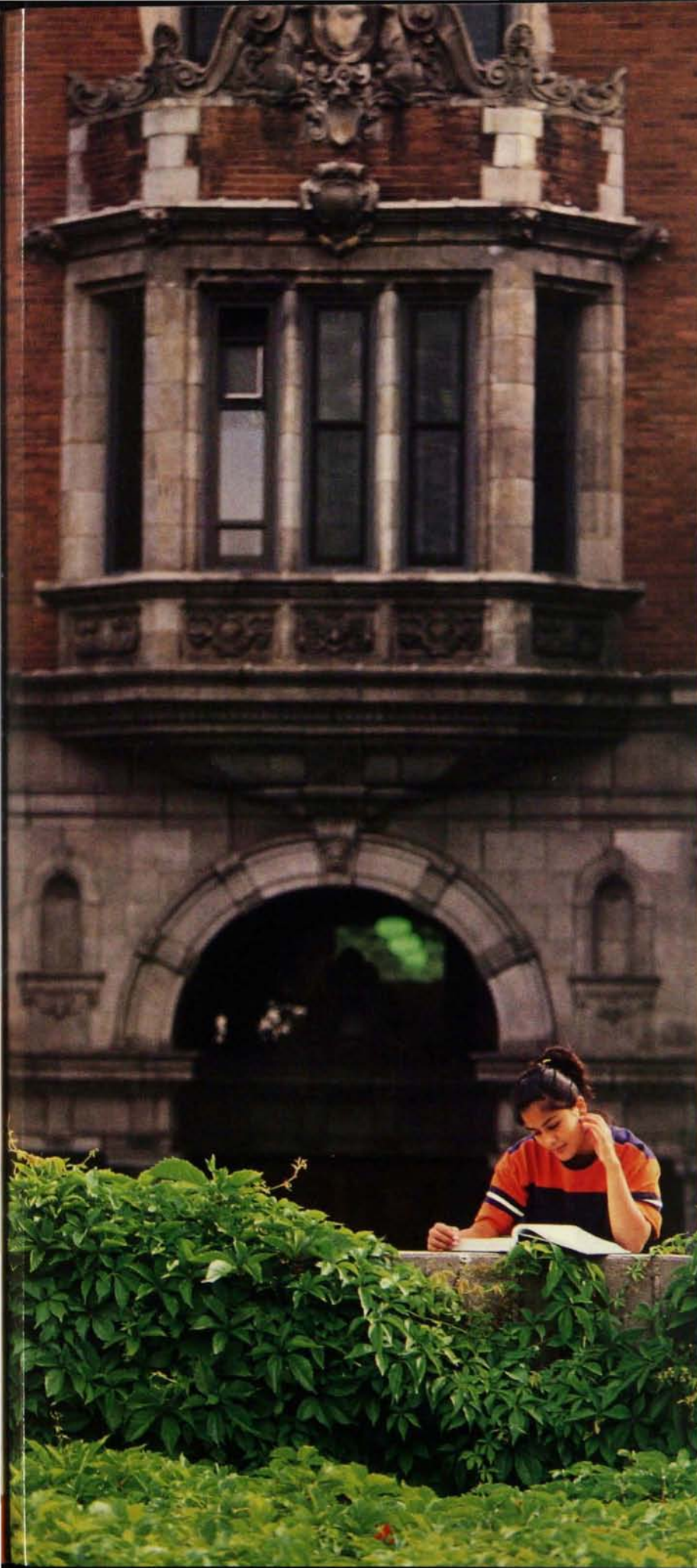
Beginning in fall 2001, that is going to change, and all University students will have greater opportunities to spend a semester studying abroad without delaying graduation. A recent Bush Foundation grant of \$900,000 to all four campuses is designed to integrate study abroad into undergraduate programs. In an increasingly global marketplace says C. Eugene Allen, executive director of the Office of International Programs, all students can benefit from studying overseas. "The most common feedback that we get from students who participated in study abroad is that it was their most powerful and transforming educational experience," he says.

Currently, approximately 1,000 students enrolled on the Twin Cities campus study abroad each academic year. The goal is to increase that number to 3,000 by 2005. The other campuses have set goals for similar increases. According to Allen, the Bush grant is com-

plemented by a commitment by Executive Vice President and Provost Robert Bruininks and the three chancellors to put more money into study abroad scholarships. "With a combination of cash and in-kind contributions, we are putting two or three times the commitment into this grant than the \$900,000," says Allen. "The big goal is to change the culture on our campus so that study abroad becomes an integral part of the undergraduate experience."

A recent example of how this will work concerns engineering students. Three years ago, only six engineering students participated in study abroad. Study abroad coordinators examined various overseas programs and conferred with engineering faculty on which courses would be accepted into the University's degree programs. "We now have 60-some students from the Institute of Technology involved in study abroad this year," says Allen. "A good example is the University of Melbourne in Australia. Students going there can take engineering courses that transfer into their engineering program here."

The new initiative to create more opportunities for students to study abroad will involve workshops with approximately 350 faculty and advisers across campus to integrate study abroad programs into degree curricula.



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Campus Arts and Events



At the Weisman

A Pear to Draw to, 2001, mezzotint, by Jayne Reid Jackson, part of "The Third Minnesota National Print Biennial" at the Weisman through June 24.



Plum Bob No. 2, lithograph, by David Morrison, part of "The Third Minnesota National Print Biennial" at the Weisman through June 24.



Nursery Crimes, 2000, etching, by Arthur Geisert, part of "The Third Minnesota National Print Biennial" at the Weisman through June 24.



Walking with Sweet Peas, 2000, digital print, by Pat Pilchard, part of "The Third Minnesota National Print Biennial" at the Weisman through June 24.

Down on the Farm, lithograph, by Faye Passow, part of "The Third Minnesota National Print Biennial" at the Weisman through June 24.



MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

BELL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

10 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, 612-624-7083. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 12-5 p.m.

Dioramas Revisited

Photographer Chris Faust and writer Lansing Shepard revisit the sites of three dioramas (elk, tundra swan, and sandhill cranes) made for the Bell Museum in the 1940s. This exhibit illustrates how and why the locations have changed over time. Shepard's essays illuminate a landscape in transition, while Faust's photographs provide dramatic "before and after" comparisons that put past and present in perspective. Ongoing.

Animal Eyes

This award-winning traveling exhibit explores the quest to understand what animals see. Divided into five hands-on areas, it answers questions about whether dogs and cats see as humans do, why some animals have good night vision, how a starfish sees, and how the location of an animal's eyes can help it to survive. June 1-September 2.

ELMER L. ANDERSEN LIBRARY GALLERY

222 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis, 612-624-3552. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Heroes and Legends: Book Illustrations

by Charles Mikolaycak
The University's Children's Literature Research Collection presents a traveling exhibit that features approximately 30 original drawings. The show demonstrates the stages in Charles Mikolaycak's working process, ranging from thumbnail sketches and preliminary figure studies through detailed oil-on-paper overlays and finished publications. Through May 25.

Variations on a Sherlockian Theme: Collectors, Collecting, and a Journey through the "Shaw One Hundred"

An exhibit focusing on the University's Sherlock Holmes Collections, which at 15,000 items constitute the world's largest gathering of material related to the fictional character and his creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. June 1-July 31.

FREDERICK R. WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

333 East River Road, Minneapolis, 612-625-9494. Hours: 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.

Cabinets of Curiosities

Artist Mark Dion, who creates intriguing installations that explore collecting, the conventions of museum display, and the role of the artist-investigator, is collaborating on this exhibition in conjunction with the University's sesquicentennial celebration. More than 600 objects from over

30 of the University's research collections are arranged in nine cabinets based on Renaissance ideas about how the world was structured. Through June 3.

The Third Minnesota National Print Biennial

Organized by the Weisman and the University's Department of Art, this national juried exhibition reveals the broad variety of technical and aesthetic interests of contemporary artists who make prints. The organizers received more than 800 entries from 400 artists from 47 states. The jurors selected 95 works by 88 artists, including 16 Minnesotans. Through June 24.

Voyager: An Installation by Nancy Randall with Elisa Carlson, Ken Chastain, and Steve Andersen

Minnesota artist Nancy Randall brings her newest body of work to the Weisman in an ensemble piece that incorporates her visual art with the work of composer Elisa Carlson, sound designer Ken Chastain, and master printer Steve Andersen. Randall's art concerns the transformation of myths through time and among cultures and asserts that nothing really has changed in spite of society's advancing technology. The installation spans generations and speaks to all people about their roots, histories, and the evolution of their lives. Through July 22.

GOLDSTEIN GALLERY

244 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, 612-624-7434. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Finland Forward

Part of a University-wide celebration of Finnish culture, this exhibition features the work of textile and clothing company Marimekko. In addition to apparel, the company's innovative approach to design and its business acumen are highlighted. June 3-August 26.

KATHERINE E. NASH GALLERY

On the West Bank in Willey Hall, 225 19th Ave. S., 612-624-7530. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is free.

Cast Metal Work from the 32nd Annual Iron Pour

June 12-29 in the Teaching Gallery

Space Available

June 12-July 20 in the Main Gallery

Voices of Experience: Student Work by Department of Art Senior Citizens
July 3-20 in the Teaching Gallery

MUSIC

MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA AT NORTHROP

The Minnesota Orchestra returns to campus June 29 for the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's Annual Celebration and Sesquicentennial Grand Finale. The evening begins with dinner at the McNamara Alumni Center at 5:30 p.m. The Minnesota

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Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest

Our third-annual 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 attending the University), phone number, and story title.
- To ensure anonymity, please do not put your name on the manuscript itself.
Each manuscript and its accompanying letter will be coded and separated before manuscripts are judged.
- If you would like notification that your submission has been received, please include your address on your cover sheet. If you would like your manuscript returned, please also include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The winner will receive a cash prize, and the winning story will be published in the March–April 2002 issue of *Minnesota* magazine.

Send submissions by December 3, 2001, to:

Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest, University of Minnesota Alumni Association, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE., Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

No phone calls, please.



At the Andersen Library

An illustration by Charles Mikolaycak from the U's Kerlan Collection has been made into a poster for "Heroes and Legends: Book Illustrations by Charles Mikolaycak," at the Elmer L. Andersen Library Gallery through May 25.

Mark Stillman presents "Paris Nights," the music of Edith Piaf and Parisian cafés, June 21 at noon on the Northrop Auditorium Plaza.



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Orchestra performance featuring conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski begins at 7:30 p.m. Fireworks over the Mississippi River (visible from Northrop Mall) immediately follow the concert at approximately 9:45 p.m. Tickets for the dinner and concert are \$45 for UMAA members, \$55 for nonmembers. Tickets for the concert only are \$30 for UMAA members, \$40 for nonmembers. For tickets, call 612-624-2345. For more information, visit www.umaa.umn.edu.

SUMMER AT NORTHROP OUTDOOR CONCERTS

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.

A tradition on the Minneapolis campus since 1954, noon outdoor concerts begin June 11 and continue into August with more than 20 eclectic musical performances on the newly renovated Northrop Auditorium Plaza. For the full schedule, call 612-624-2345 or visit www.northrop.umn.edu after June 1.

WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

333 East River Road, Minneapolis, 612-625-9495.

Groove Garden

Taking its name from a Saturday evening program on KFAI radio, this performance features a night of music by female deejays from the Twin Cities. June 8 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices TBA.

The Lonesome Organist

This one-man band is equal parts carnival, Italian soundtrack, and R&B-based rock 'n' roll. The Lonesome Organist, aka Jeremy Jacobson, plays organ, piano, drums, guitar, steel drums, toy piano, vibraphone, marimba, toy vibraphone, and harmonica—all at the same time! Euphone opens. June 23 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8, \$6 for Weisman members and students.

READINGS AND SPEAKERS

FIRST TUESDAY LECTURE SERIES

The Carlson School of Management presents lunch and a top-level executive as the keynote speaker the first Tuesday of every month, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome. The **June 5** speaker is Steven Sanger, chairman and CEO of General Mills. Due to the Fourth of July holiday, the July speaker will appear on the second Tuesday of the month at Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. The **July 10** speaker is Rick Roscitt, chairman and CEO of ADC Telecommunications. The cost of \$18 includes lunch and parking. Call 612-626-9634.

I am a member

Lawrence Que, UMAA member and U of M chemistry professor, has established a research training environment that ranks among the best in the world. His students commend his dynamic learning atmosphere. That's one of the reasons he was awarded a 2000 Distinguished Teaching Award.

The UMAA recognizes the difference professors like Que make in the lives of students. That's why we help fund the Distinguished Teaching Awards.

"I'm proud to be a part of the UMAA and to support their work on campus," Que says. "I see the difference they make through teaching awards, scholarships, and mentor programs."

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Que pictured with his Distinguished Teaching Award for Outstanding Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education.

Building lifelong connections

in Brief

The Board of Regents took no formal action on the Vikings stadium proposal after reviewing the facility design on April 5, but agreed to cooperate with any studies authorized by the state legislature, Vikings, or Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission that seek to meet the programmatic needs of the University and Gopher football. The proposal is a joint Vikings-Gophers football stadium built on campus.

"The board is united with [University] President [Mark] Yudof in our belief that a stadium must take second place to the genuine academic priorities of the U," said Regent Patricia Spence. "A stadium will not and must not in any way compromise or detract from securing the resources we need for academic programs."

The regents approved the schematic plans for the \$3 million Gateway Plaza adjacent to the McNamara Alumni Center, completing the front door to the Twin Cities campus. The plaza, located at Oak Street and Washington Avenue, will be constructed by the University Gateway Corporation at its expense and donated to the University. The plaza landscape will include reflecting and audible water features, mature coniferous and deciduous trees, and manicured lawns. Construction begins in May and is expected to be completed in November 2001.

The University Law Building was renamed Walter F. Mondale Hall following approval by the Board of Regents on March 9. Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter spoke at the dedication on May 17. The school received a \$1 million gift from Toyota Motor Corporation and a \$1.5 million commitment from Minneapolis law firm Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi LLP. The school is naming its new main street Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi Concourse. Mondale (B.A. '51, J.D. '56), a partner at Dorsey & Whitney in Minneapolis, served as Carter's vice president from 1977 to 1981, earned the Democratic nomination for president in 1984, and was U.S. ambassador to Japan from 1993 to 1996.

The Fairview Health Services and University of Minnesota affiliation has been vital to both organizations and should continue to move forward, according to an external review. The key recommendations include formulating a clearer vision for the relationship and role for Fairview-University as a teaching hospital, promoting more effective and consistent interorganizational behavior, and increasing funding to restore national prominence of the Medical School. The affiliation, which began in 1996, includ-

ed the acquisition of University Hospital by Fairview.

A cancer vaccine trial has begun at the University Medical School. "Our goal is to stimulate the immune system enough to induce remission in some types of cancer and potentially prevent them in the future," said Ian Okazaki, lead researcher. The study is the second phase of a new cancer therapy that uses a patient's own cancer cells to create a vaccine.

General College has won the John Champaign Memorial Award for Outstanding Developmental Education Program from the National Association of Developmental Educators. The college was evaluated on program quality as recognized by peers and campus administrators, quality of service to students, and demonstrated effectiveness.

The University's systemwide enrollment is 59,185 (up 989 students from fall 1999). The figure comprises 37,719 undergraduate, 10,528 graduate, 2,733 professional, and 8,205 non-degree-seeking students.

Gifts from 6,500 faculty and staff to Campaign Minnesota total \$36 million. The Law School has 100 percent faculty participation in contributions. The overall campaign contribution as of February 28 is \$1,060,200,000, which is 82 percent of the campaign goal. Gifts for endowed fellowships are strong among faculty, staff, and other donors because of the University's matching endowment program. So far, 129 new fellowships have been approved to be matched. According to President Yudof, while tuition and government assistance provide for the U's core operating needs, private financial support will be the difference in making the University a leader in the 21st century.

Gopher women's basketball coach Cheryl Littlejohn was terminated May 14 after a University investigation revealed deliberate NCAA rules violations in three categories: improper offers, inducements, or impermissible benefits; interference in a prior investigation; and violations of rules related to limits on practice time and evaluation of prospects. Together, the violations are likely to be considered a major infractions case by the NCAA. For more on the investigation report, visit www1.umn.edu/urelate/news.html.

In the 1999-2000 academic year, 99 percent of reviewed faculty successfully met or exceeded goals and expectations established by their academic units. The survey by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost indicated that 835 of the University's 2,313 tenured faculty had undergone the peer-driven process as of spring 2000. Faculty who had below par performances entered performance-improvement plans, received differentiated work assignments, or retired. ■

University students, faculty, and union workers rallied on the Washington Avenue Bridge May 1 demanding livable wages and affordable health care for U employees. They then marched into downtown Minneapolis, joining other demonstrators for the annual May Day international workers' holiday. Senior Caleb Shillander wore stamps protesting the labor practices of a U.S. corporation and carried a sign accusing pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline and the University of making money off of AIDS victims in developing countries. The University holds the patent rights to the AIDS drug Ziagen, partly developed by a professor at the U, but recently announced that it supports cutting the price of the drug in developing countries.



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pas-sion-ate (pash-on-nit) adj.

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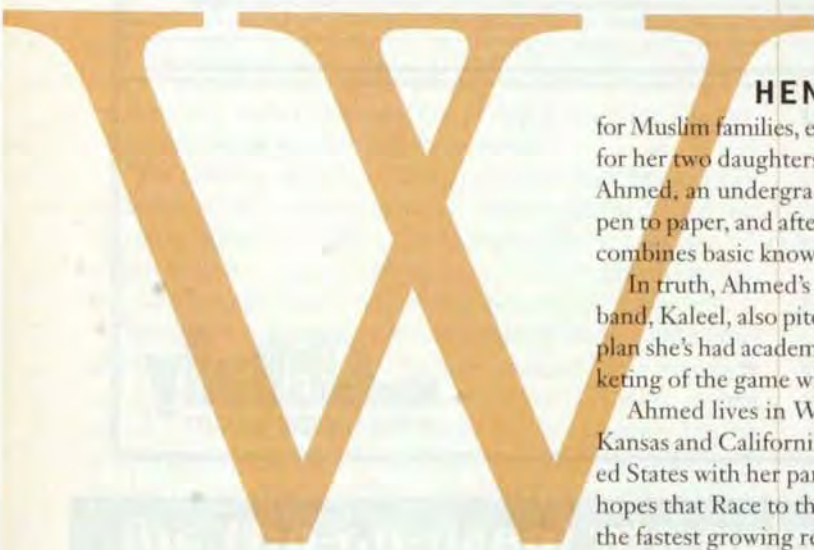
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Student **Thasneem Ahmed** hopes her board game spreads awareness about Islam

Faith in Her Idea



WHEN THASNEEM AHMED set out to create a board game for Muslim families, everybody told her it would never work. Everybody, that is, except for her two daughters, Sabrina, 7, and Shameem, 3. That was all the encouragement Ahmed, an undergraduate business economics major, needed. The 29-year-old put pen to paper, and after a few false starts, came up with *Race to the Kabah*, a game that combines basic knowledge of the Koran with good-natured family fun.

In truth, Ahmed's children weren't her only supporters. Her parents and her husband, Kaleel, also pitched in, and since she started pulling together a serious business plan she's had academic support as well. Reporting on the production, sales, and marketing of the game will help fulfill requirements for Ahmed's major.

Ahmed lives in Woodbury, Minnesota, but she spent the first part of her life in Kansas and California. The oldest child of Indian immigrants, she came to the United States with her parents when she was just 9 months old. She recently spoke of her hopes that *Race to the Kabah* will help spread awareness about Islam, believed to be the fastest growing religion in the United States.

Q: You actually came up with the idea for *Race to the Kabah* back in 1998. Why did it take so long for the game to become a reality?

A: Everyone I talked to told me that there wasn't a market for board games, that kids just liked video games these days. I didn't want to do something isolating like a video game. I wanted to create something for parents and kids to play together. But there was no interest. I gave up for a while, but then there were all those school shootings. They really affected me. I knew this is something that families need, and I decided to just go for it.

Q: How did you design the game?

A: I'm a big board-game player, so spent a lot of time looking over games I particularly like, like Monopoly and Scrabble and Sorry. Then I tried to take elements from those games, like sending people back in Sorry, or moving around the board in Monopoly. I eventually sketched up several different versions of the game, and then I went to a graphic designer. Throughout the process I was also showing the game to Muslim scholars, to make sure I was portraying the Koran appropriately. There really are no books out there to tell you how to design a game, so it was all trial and error and a lot of practicing on my kids. They didn't seem to mind.

Q: So how is *Race to the Kabah* played?

A: The game works like this: While players move around the board, their game pieces are circling the drawing of the Kabah. The Kabah is a real place in Mecca, and at some point in every Muslim's life, we must go there and circle it. At different points in the game, players draw cards and ask each other questions. Muslims believe there are 99 names for Allah, or God. The point of *Race to the Kabah* is for players to learn all 99 names and what they mean. So a card might read: "What is the meaning of Ar-Rahim?" The player should answer: "The most merciful." The 99 different names are also the 99 different attributes of God. By knowing these names, you are able to understand and truly appreciate God and his gifts to the world.

Q: How did you pay for the game's production?

A: Like I said, everybody was saying it wouldn't work, but eventually it came to a point where I just believed in this idea and I knew I was going to go for it no matter what. My husband and I talked about it and we decided to put our entire savings into it: \$20,000. Then I asked my parents, and they added another \$20,000. Then I convinced the factory to make just 2,500 copies of the game, which is much less than they normally do. Still, we need to sell 1,900 games just to break even. So far I'm optimistic. The first shipment arrived [in February], and we've already sold 140 games. This is without any advertising.

BY ANDY STEINER | PHOTOGRAPH BY DOUG KNUTSON



Q: Who's buying *Race to the Kabah* so far?

A: Primarily it's been friends and family, though I've been contacting mosques around the country. The bookstore at the Islamic Center in Fridley [Minnesota] is carrying it, and I've approached one of the catalog companies—a major vendor of Islamic products. They're reviewing the game now.

Q: Do you think non-Muslim families could be interested in your game?

A: Definitely. It's always been one of my goals to make this a game for *everybody*. I've had people from the Lutheran church who've told me they'd like to buy a copy of the game to help expose kids in their church to other faiths. Someone from the University of Minnesota contacted me about buying some copies for use in an Islamic studies course. I've spoken to buyers from a couple of mainstream game stores, but I've stepped back from retailing the game so far because I'm not sure I'm at that level yet. People keep telling me I need to approach the really big players, like Amazon.com or Toys R Us. That's the next step for me. I just want to make sure that I'm ready to handle the demand.

Q: Have you thought about selling the game anywhere besides the United States?

A: At first I was considering marketing the game in Malaysia as well as in other Muslim countries. But at this point I haven't looked

into the business ramifications of such a move. I know it would be popular overseas, but I think we're only just beginning to scratch the surface of the U.S. market. We're going to concentrate our efforts here for a while.

Q: You cover your hair with a scarf. Is this something you've done all your life?

A: It's called *bijab*, and it's something done by Muslim women around the world. Often a girl will start to wear *bijab* around the time of puberty, maybe at 12 or 13. While I've known about it all my life, I didn't actually start

covering my hair until just recently, in the last year and a half. Same with my mother and my sister. I never felt it was necessary until just recently when I started feeling more comfortable about myself, my faith, and my identity. It's really very liberating. When you wear *bijab*, people don't judge you for how you look or think of you as a sex object. Instead you are judged for your intellect and character. It is a way that women can break through the appearance barrier. While creating *Race to the Kabah* helped me focus on the practices of my faith, my decision to start wearing *bijab* was a completely separate one. They just happen to complement each other.

Q: What do you hope families will learn from playing your game?

A: Take time for your children. Play games with them. Talk to them. Enjoy each other's company. It shouldn't be a revolutionary idea, but I'm afraid that to some people it is. You have to make time for your kids. Playing games like mine is just one way to do it. Children are a gift from God. It's important that we treat them that way. ■

*Andy Steiner is senior editor for the Utne Reader. For more information about *Race to the Kabah*, which sells for \$40, call 651-739-3840 or e-mail crescentcreations@hotmail.com.*

Unwilling... Unwilling... Unwilling...

Facing prostate cancer, a man begins healing in unexpected ways. By Jim Martin

“WHAT’S A HEALTHY GUY like you doing getting cancer?”

This is what a guy at work asked me when he heard last summer I had prostate cancer. I had been wondering the same thing. I thought I was healthy. I didn’t eat meat. I biked to work and didn’t smoke. Just to see how healthy I really was, I had a physical last spring. I checked out fine.

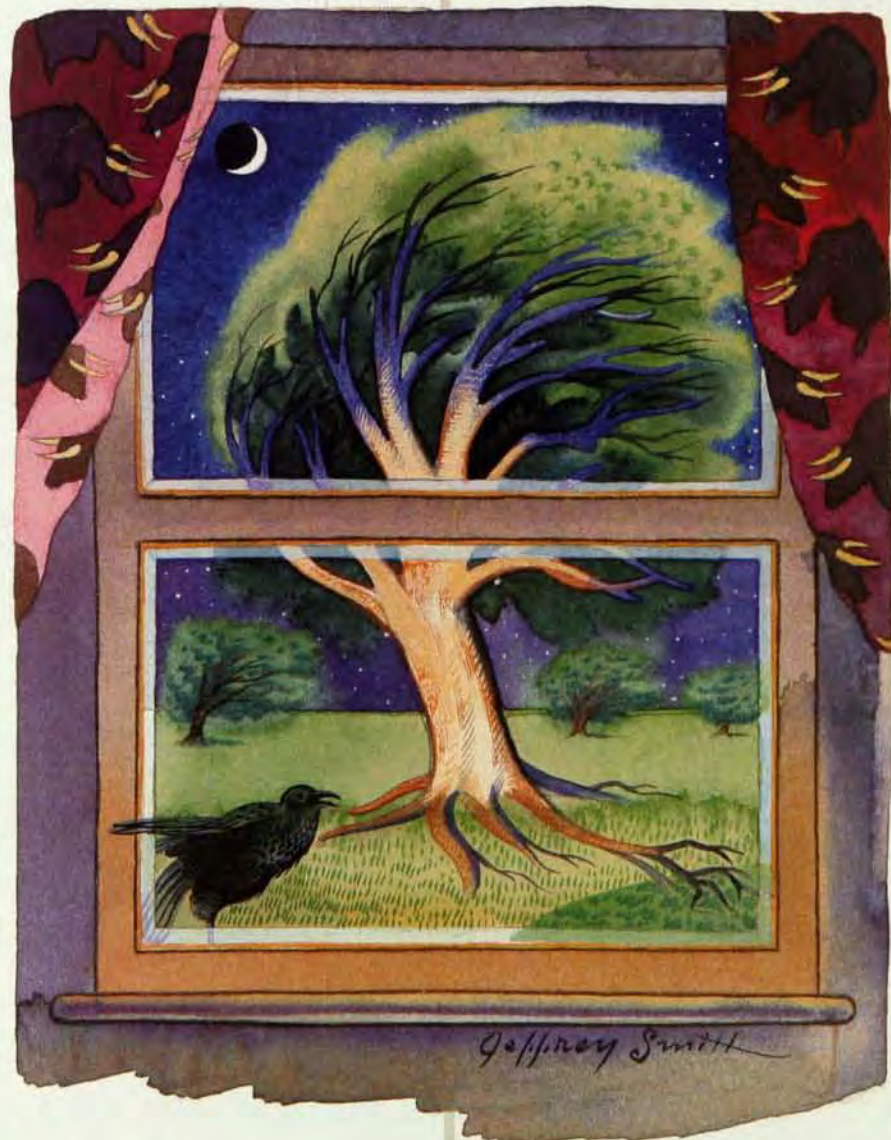
Then the doctor called a few days later to say my PSA count had doubled from what it was two years ago. PSA stands for “prostate specific antigen,” tiny biological warriors in the bloodstream that do battle against prostate infections. He said it’s probably due to an enlarged prostate, which a lot of guys my age, 60, have. He recommended I see a urologist. “What will he do?” I asked. “Oh, he’ll give you a rectal finger exam. It doesn’t hurt.”

One reason guys don’t flock to doctors more often is that finger exam. I wasn’t keen on it, but apparently women go through much worse. “Just do it, you coward,” I told myself.

Removing his rubber gloves after the rectal exam, the urologist said I better have a biopsy. Whoa, that startled me. I asked what that was like. Unpleasant, but not painful, he said.

Then I started to dream. One night I dreamt a wild bull was chasing a man in a cornfield. Probably me. Another night I dreamt I had to force myself to walk up a flight of stairs, despite a big raven at the top that kept saying, “unwilling . . . unwilling . . . unwilling . . .” I guess I’m part raven. In yet another dream, lab technicians got my healthy prostate mixed up with a bunch of malignant ones.

Four days before the biopsy, I came down with a bright red rash that nearly glowed in the dark. The good news was it



was strategically located to postpone the biopsy for a month.

But biopsy day arrived soon enough. Sitting in the waiting room, I wondered whatever happened to certainty. Nothing seemed for sure anymore, except maybe the sun, the earth, and the brief time I am

tethered to them. Then dread started building like water about to boil. I had a childish urge to spring from my chair and escape. Calm down, Jim, calm down. I took deep breaths, did small courage checks and discovered dark pools of fear. I tried to shame myself into composure by

My co-workers mounted a chocolate sendoff for me. They brought jars of chocolate chips, chocolate coins, chocolate kisses, and chocolate almond balls in the shape of little prostates. Chocolate was unanimously proclaimed a great cancer drug.

thinking of soldiers marching off to war.

The biopsy procedure was scientific but undignified. The urologist inserted an ultrasound probe into my rectum and slowly rotated it around my prostate. It captured images resembling distant galaxies photographed by the Hubble telescope. Once each minute, a needle jabbed my prostate like a robin pecking for a worm, taking eight tissue samples. "Good luck," the doctor said as I wobbled out the door.

Walking from the clinic, I felt strange. Leafy shadows on the sidewalk shimmered as if under water. Leaves in the breeze seemed to whisper that I was alive on a glorious planet spinning softly in a vast universe. I was just happy to get out of there.

Two days later, the urologist called to say I had an aggressive prostate cancer. The best treatment option, he said, was surgery.

Stunned, I tried three times to call my wife, Daisy, misdialing each time. I couldn't seem to get my brain around the news that I had cancer. When I reached her, she also was shocked. "I didn't expect this," she said softly. That night, on the brink of tears, I tell her how wonderful she is to stay by me. "We'll get through this," she said bravely.

The next week my immediate co-workers were called together. I was going to try to face cancer openly, demystify it, dissipate my fear, and avoid becoming a pariah. I started out breezily, saying I had bad news and good news. Then I choked up. "I have prostate cancer," I said, my throat tightening, "but they caught it early and I have a good chance of full recovery. There's a nine in 10 chance I'll be able to hold my urine, and a two in three chance I'll regain sexual potency. I'm pretty sure this isn't life threatening."

Stunned silence. I sensed that, like me a month earlier, they were clueless about prostates. "It's a little organ embedded down there in the plumbing the size of a walnut that has a lot to do with producing semen." More silence. Then one announced that they would be there for me. Then they approached me, patted me on the shoulder, gave thumbs up, or hugged me. One wept. I gripped hard on my emotions.

Messages began arriving the next day. On my chair I discovered the book *Healing and the Mind* by Bill Moyers. A Buddhist prayer was taped to my wall. Sympathy cards were propped on my keyboard. Their gestures touched me deeply. Healing had already begun.

Unexpectedly, my cancer began opening doors to other people. A colleague told me he had melanoma a few years ago and that he had cried a lot over it. Another, eyes wet, said her brother was dying of cancer. Another said he thought he was having a heart attack recently but wasn't. Unaccustomed to such intimacies, I felt touched by these confidences.

Dreams returned. In one I was cleaning out a mobile home and had to remove a live bomb disguised as an apple. I managed to place it some distance away, where it exploded harmlessly. Awake, I hoped my prostate, perhaps shaped like the evil apple, would do the same.

I called the doctor's office to find out my surgery date. Waiting on hold, I saw a small tree outside my window, bobbing and bending in a strong wind. The tree, its leaves trembling and branches bowing downwind, reminded me that fleeting time rules everything. The tree suddenly took on a profound beauty I hadn't noticed before, and I sensed that the two of us were sharing a common earthly journey. Suddenly I was filled with sadness at my mortality, at the prospect of no longer being here to see trees in the wind, or the sun and stars sliding across the heavens. Then a voice on the phone interrupted to say my surgery was in three weeks.

Days later, driving somewhere, I heard an Italian song about saying goodbye. Tears flooded my eyes and I had to pull over. Would I be saying goodbye to Daisy, never to see her again? Goodbye to my two sons, never to see them again? To my mother, to my father? Goodbye to the trees and their joyful birds? Another wave of sadness overwhelmed me.

My co-workers mounted a chocolate sendoff for me. They brought jars of chocolate chips, chocolate coins, chocolate kisses, and chocolate almond balls in the shape of little prostates. Chocolate

was unanimously proclaimed a great cancer drug that, if taken in big doses, would miraculously drop PSA counts to zero. I announced I was going on an all-chocolate diet and would call off the operation. Again, they touched me deeply.

The night before the operation, my Brazilian daughter-in-law asked if she could help. She moved the nub of an unlit candle around my body like a wand, extracting malignancy. Then she set the candle aflame and let it burn down to nothing, delivering me from evil. Feeling cleansed, I thanked her and promised myself that tomorrow would bring no fear. I would simply go to the operation in the hands of God.

On operation day, I woke to birds chirping and squirrels scampering on trees—giving themselves up to joy. While nature goes on forever, I thought, I am temporary.

I checked into the hospital. A nurse taped my wedding ring to my finger so it wouldn't slip off during the operation. I said goodbye to my family, feeling pulled away into a dark tunnel leading to the other side of a mountain. An anesthesiologist installed a needle in my vein. The hard edges and corners of the room softened and loosened and I felt lifted on the wings of a joyful wind.

I awoke in a bed. Daisy was there. My ring was there. My sons were there. Even I was there.

Tests show I am free of cancer so far, but it has left its mark. It has reminded me that I have been blessed with life, fickle though it may be. And blessed with wonderful family and friends. And for some unknown reason—like the whispering trees, chirping birds, and twinkling stars—I am still here. ■

Jim Martin (M.A. '70) is a writer and editor at the Metropolitan Council in St. Paul.

FIRST PERSON features personal essays written by alumni, faculty, students, or anyone with a University connection. To request writers' guidelines for First Person, write to Shelly Fling, Editor, *Minnesota Magazine*, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Or e-mail fling003@tc.umn.edu.

High-tech Expectations

Undulations in the economy have left some alumni in high-tech fields without a sense of security—and in some cases without a job. What makes industry watchers anxious, however, is an anticipated worker shortage.

By Shelly Fling | Photograph by Mark Luinenburg

“In many cases, we deserve exactly what we’re getting,” John Borowicz (B.S. ’80) says about downward turning tech stocks, company layoffs, and the faltering of the U.S. economy in recent months. “This had to happen. What I’m very shocked about is the degree to which it happened. The rug got pulled out from under everything simultaneously, and now we’re in this panic mode.”

Borowicz, 49, is not an economist or an analyst, but he has, over the years, worked for a variety of high-tech start-ups and turnarounds, helping to navigate them through economic twists and turns. He understands business cycles and business models.

“I was shocked by how most people couldn’t see that this was a house of cards—regardless of what Wall Street said or the talking heads on the news,” he says, referring to the rapid rise and fall of the dot-com companies, which preceded wider tech stock sell-offs. “You just can’t continue those kinds of growth patterns, especially when half of it didn’t have anything behind it. There was nothing tangible.”

What are tangible are the high-tech workers who have found themselves suddenly unemployed. Minnesota Department of Economic Security figures show that first-time unemployment compensation claims in high-tech industries in Minnesota are up more than 115 percent in the first quarter of 2001 from the first quarter of 2000. And unemployment claims for all sectors of Minnesota’s economy are up more than 31 percent over that same period.

“The economy is slowing down,” says David Reiter, a spokesman for the Minnesota Employers Association. “People seem to be laying off more or not moving to fill the vacancies that they have. Those who are hiring are few and far between right now.”

In truth, Borowicz, now the manager of interactive technology at Fallon advertising agency in Minneapo-

lis, isn’t panicking about his job or the economy. He doesn’t think the economic downturn will last, and neither do many others in the high-tech sector. Most agree that high-tech companies not only will bounce back but that they will continue to struggle to find enough workers.

“Minnesota’s economy will rebound,” says R. Jane Brown, president of the Minnesota High Tech Association. “We’re not as hard hit as other states with more e-commerce-based businesses. People are still hiring, but for those jobs with higher-end skills.”

“I think I’m in the right technical kind of field as far as being able to remain employed,” says Jerry Sosinske (B.S. ’78), who lost his job last December after



John Borowicz, manager of interactive technology at Fallon advertising agency

20 years with the same company.

"But I kind of lived in a bubble, and now that I've seen what it's like out in the rest of the world I realize that there isn't a lot of security out there."

Sosinske was laid off from Alliant Techsystems in Hopkins, Minnesota, originally a spin-off from Honeywell. He had watched the company shrink from 10,000 people 10 years ago to less than 2,000 people today. "It was very traumatic, of course, but really not unexpected having worked in the defense business for so long," he says.

After four months of looking, Sosinske, 45, a software quality engineer, took a position at medical products company Boston Scientific Scimed in Maple Grove, Minnesota, in early May. Despite the longer commute, he says, it was exactly the job he was looking for. "I truly think I would have gotten it a lot faster if it weren't for the downturn in the economy," he

says. "I'm in kind of a specialized field, and I was surprised to see very much competition at all. But the fact of the matter was that there were a lot of people out there competing for the same kind of jobs."

Sosinske, who holds a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Minnesota and is the current president of the Institute of Technology Alumni Society, believes that having been employed for a company that had undergone a series of layoffs worked in his favor. As dozens of former co-workers and colleagues took jobs in other companies around town, Sosinske's network stretched wider and deeper than he could have cast on his own. "I could hardly go anyplace and not find a former employee in the company," he says. "And that's basically what I did was a lot of networking with people that I knew who'd been laid off before me." Of Sosinske's eight or nine job interviews, most

were generated from that network.

Sosinske also took advantage of the outplacement service paid for by his former employer. The consultants at Drake Beam Morin, a career transition services provider in Bloomington, Minnesota, helped him put together his résumé, counseled him one-on-one, made office space and a phone available to him during his search, and created a networking group for him and other displaced high-tech workers. "Your best bet is to find contacts," he says. "That's how you're going to get a job as opposed to just sending out a lot of résumés. That's one of the hardest ways to find a job."

“When I was looking for a job I probably sent out 200 résumés and got six responses—and those were, 'Thank you, I received your résumé.' Out of those six, I got three inter-

"I kind of lived in a bubble," says Jerry Sosinske, "and now that I've seen what it's like out in the rest of the world I realize that there isn't a lot of security out there."

views," says Borowicz, who had studied music at the University and then returned to earn his degree in computer science in 1980.

Borowicz had found himself out of a job several times since the mid-'80s as the companies he worked for or helped start—including music software, geographic information systems, and telecommunications businesses—went through mergers or moved their headquarters. After working as a consultant since the mid-'90s, Borowicz sought the security of employment at a bigger company. He began his search in late 1999, before the high-tech sector began to show signs of uncertainty, but still shopped around for a year.

"I was not having any luck doing it on my own," he says, finally turning to a headhunter. Now in Fallon's three-year-old interactive media department, he is involved in producing five- or six-minute Web films by feature-film directors, such as Ang Lee (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*), for BMW and other clients. "Fallon was looking at the Web a little differently than other companies," Borowicz says, "and this was an opportunity to come in and help build a new software development group that would extend the user experience with the Web."

While Borowicz believes in the promise of the Web and says Fallon's Web films launch has been a huge success, he

wouldn't call his job secure. "Absolutely not," he says, adding that while employees' knowledge and experience are part of a company's asset base and should be worth keeping even in a bad economy, nothing is guaranteed. Many of his contemporaries have signed on for six-month or yearlong projects at high-tech companies as a way to get their foot in the door—and demonstrate the value of their experience. Sosinske's position at Boston Scientific, for example, is a one-year contract ("which is about as permanent as you can expect from any job these days," Sosinske says).

"The job searches are much longer," Borowicz says, "and I think that goes up with age."

Nilabh Narayan (M.S. '86, Ph.D. '89) agrees. "One thing I'm noticing is that most of the companies that I've talked to, they all seem to be less interested in hiring people with a lot of experience," says Narayan, who was laid off from the Tennant Company in Golden Valley, Minnesota, this spring after working there 10 years. "They're much more willing to hire fresh people, people with just a few years of experience," he says, adding that one reason might be fewer managerial-level spots overall.

Head of research at Tennant, Narayan, 41, was among about 60 people let go after the industrial and commercial floor clean-

Too Many Recruits

Some college recruiters find themselves on the opposite end of the hiring problem.

As recently as last fall, recruiters for high-tech companies landed on college campuses desperate for highly trained new graduates and prospects for paid internships. In addition to jobs in booming fields, they offered signing bonuses and other perks.

In some sectors, that changed dramatically over the winter. Many firms, especially in computer and telecommunications areas, ended up cutting jobs. Statistics from the Minnesota Department of Economic Security show a 115 percent increase in first-time jobless claims in high-technology and research-and-development fields from the first quarter of 2000 to the first quarter of 2001. Claims in the communications equipment field went from just 32 to 447, while computer and data processing services claims rose 112 percent to 1,248.

For college recruiters this presented a serious problem: Commitments made to students in fall were in jeopardy. "The last two years, I [figuratively] knelt in front of the students," says Woo Shik Kim, head of university relations and recruitment for Minnesota-based ADC Telecommunications. "Now I don't know what to do with all the résumés I'm getting."

Kim says ADC honored the 40 to 50 offers students had accepted in fall and that its aggressive restructuring plan has helped calm fears among those new employees. But bigger high-tech firms have not been so fortunate. For example, Cisco Systems, a San Jose, California, Internet networking company with almost 40,000 employees, signed on 2,000 new graduates—and then announced job cuts. Cisco began offering "reverse bonuses" or "apology bonuses": up to 90 days' pay and the services of an outplacement firm to new graduates who agreed, basically, never to show up for work. Computer chip and software manufacturer Intel offered similar "go away pay," as did other high-tech

firms like Nortel Networks and Dell Computers. Some are also offering thousands of dollars to new employees who agree to delay their start dates by several months.

Recruiters in other high-tech sectors have not been hit as hard but do expect the hiring heat to cool next fall. "I think it will be a bit leaner next year," says Kari Weitzel, who runs college relations for Boston Scientific Scimed, the Minnesota-based branch of the medical products firm. Scimed and similar firms hire primarily engineering graduates—mechanical, chemical, and biomedical. Although signing bonuses and starting salaries reached new highs last fall, Weitzel recently heard that a major competitor has instituted a hiring freeze. "You could see firms going to more interns and fewer permanent hires next year," she says. "But for the most part, technology fields are a good place to be."

Firms that had to revoke job offers compensated graduates in part to avoid damaging relationships with universities, according to a survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. Almost one-third of colleges responding to another NACE survey had had students with revoked offers, although only three students on average. College officials felt that firms "acted professionally and responsibly" if they kept students and colleges informed and then offered compensation.

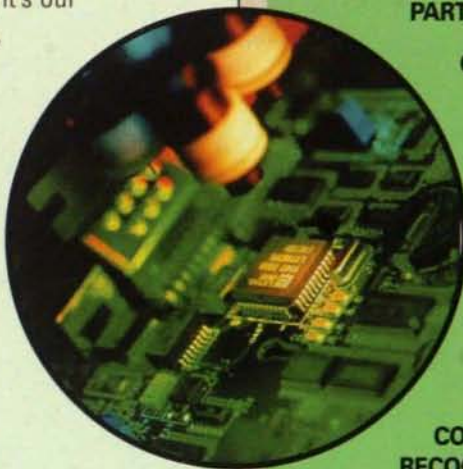
For similar reasons, firms like ADC will come back to campus in fall 2001, even if they have fewer positions to offer. They know that fortunes will likely reverse soon and good connections will be important in attracting the workers they will need. "One of my goals here at ADC is to put ourselves on the map in college relations and recruitment," Kim says. "For 2001–2002, our biggest worry is not to lose the alliances and relationships we've built over the last few years, especially at the University of Minnesota."

—Chris Coughlan-Smith

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“The only problem with the people who are laid off, particularly when there are large quantities of them, is that they all get to looking alike,” says Neil Clark.

ing equipment manufacturer reported lagging sales. Only a week after the layoffs, Narayan was already busy setting up informational interviews and conferring with others in professional associations who are in the same situation. Some have been searching for work for five or six months, others for a year. “The people that I have met so far, they are all optimistic that they will find something to their liking, but no one is thinking that they’ll find a good job fairly quickly,” he says.

Narayan, who holds degrees in engineering mechanics from the University, believes his skills are transferable to a number of technology applications, including medical-device manufacturing. Even so, “I expect it to take some time—a couple of months at least,” he says. “I also expect that jobs will be opening up after a month or so once the federal interest rate cuts are announced. Then companies will start expanding again.”

In the meantime, Narayan will use the services of outplacement firm Personnel Decisions International in Bloomington for up to five months and will continue working his network. “Most of the jobs I’ve learned of seem to be coming through networking contacts,” he says.

“Our business with high-tech individuals has increased dramatically over the past couple of months,” says Bob Gotwalt, managing consultant at Drake Beam Morin (DBM), which provides outplacement services to displaced workers. Companies that lay off workers often hire outplacement firms to help their former employees find other jobs. The services these firms provide can include large-group workshops or one-on-one career counseling.

Loss of employment can be a stressful and traumatic event, Gotwalt says, and his clients go through the same stages of grieving—shock, depression,

denial, and anger—that mark other major losses in life. The cure, Gotwalt says, is staying busy. “What we find is that once they get involved in their career search, it becomes similar to having a job,” he says. “Creating activity generally tends to lift people’s spirits a little bit. And once they get involved in doing informational interviews, networking effectively, and then moving into the actual interview process, spirits really rise.”

DBM helps clients create their résumés and develop an understanding of their accomplishments in order to target specific organizations that might value those kinds of results. The key factor in a job search, however, is networking, Gotwalt says. “We encourage people to make sure that they are building their network through professional associations or going back to alumni groups.”

Gotwalt recommends his clients spend several days a week in the DBM office since some of the best networking opportunities and job leads come from those in the thick of a search. Simply getting out of the house is also important, Gotwalt says. “Coming into the offices adds structure and discipline to the search—as well as avoids the ‘honey-do’ list. It’s amazing how many clients tell me, ‘I never realized that taking care of things around the house can take up so much time.’ That can become your full-time job versus looking for one.”

“What we do is make sure that the individuals use the tools that we provide for them with the most effective use they can,” he continues. “That includes thinking about the interim, perhaps doing some consulting. We’re finding with the [information technology] group that that’s often a good way for them to go.”

“We are getting a lot better candidates than we’ve gotten for the

last few years," says Neil Clark (B.S. '48), founder of Business Techpower, a temporary employment service in Edina, Minnesota, that specializes in engineers and computer programmers. "In the past, we've had to go to our customers and tell them that we knew what they wanted and that our candidate was the best we could find but that, in effect, he has shortcomings," he says. "But now we're getting some very, very good candidates."

Clark, who founded his company 30 years ago, is in the process of selling it to an employee but continues to stay involved in the operation. He says that Techpower is now calling on clients who had postponed projects months earlier. "We find that we are able to have the customer consider some of the projects that they have delayed because they just couldn't get the right people to do it," Clark says.

"I think one of the things we're very fortunate for in Minnesota is that we have a diverse economy and that we are not all tied up with dot-coms. When there are some downturns, it affects generally various sections of the economy but there are other sections that are hardly—well, they're cautious—but their business is still as good as it was. There's hardly ever a time that everybody is all down."

More than half of the engineers and programmers Techpower places end up taking permanent positions at client companies, which is OK with Clark. For the moment, he isn't worried about the supply of good candidates drying up.

"The only problem with the people who are laid off, particularly when there are large quantities of them, is that they all get to looking alike because they're all from the same company and they've all had a lot of the same experience. That does get to be a problem," he says. "But we still have areas where we are very desperately looking for people—for very leading-edge technologies. We never have enough people in those areas."

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"The faculty have a belief that they get the best graduate students in a recession," says Kim Stelson, professor of mechanical engineering at the University. But if grad school enrollment is an accurate economic indicator, then the economy is not necessarily headed toward a recession: None of the directors of graduate studies in the University's Institute of Technology report a noticeable increase in applications from U.S. students to its graduate degree programs (applications from foreign students are increasing, however).

Indeed, educators and industry watchers are quick to caution about making too much of recent layoffs and stock losses in high-tech companies. That is all short term, they say; in the long term, Minnesota is facing a shortage of high-tech workers. Kris Tufto, chairman of the Minnesota High Tech Association's workforce committee and president and CEO of Jasc Software, a maker of Windows-based graphics software, sees "big warning signs" for the future. "There are not near enough people with the specific skills Minnesota's economy will need," he says. "This problem is only going to get worse because an increasing majority of our jobs in the future will need to be knowledge workers."

Sharon Kurtt, director of career services at the Institute of Technology, advises students to think about their job searches as early as their sophomore year because recruiting by companies will only become more competitive. "There haven't been enough people born in the past 10 years to meet the demand," she says.

John Borowicz, who doesn't think the worker shortage will be as dramatic as some predict, is nonetheless doing his part to help meet the demand. When he talks about career choices with high school kids who say they dream of becoming professional athletes or entertainers, he points and says, "What about the person who created that neat little MP3 player that you're carrying on your belt? That was an engineer!" ■

Shelly Fling is editor of Minnesota.

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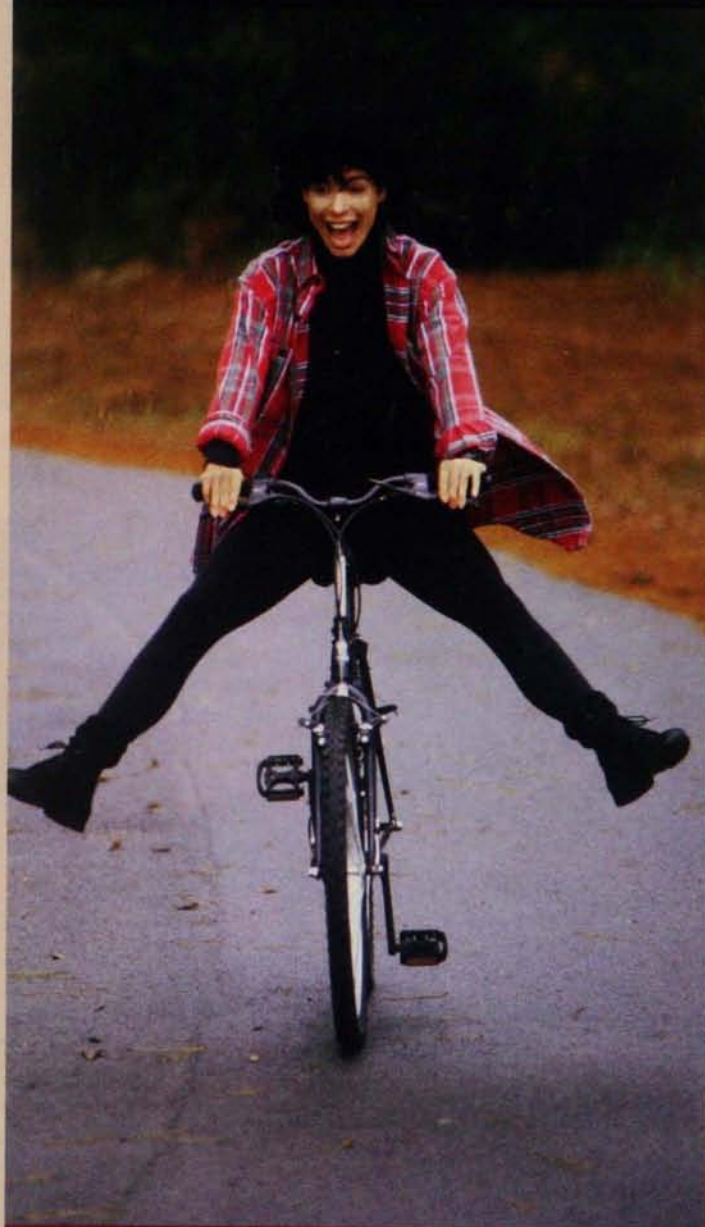
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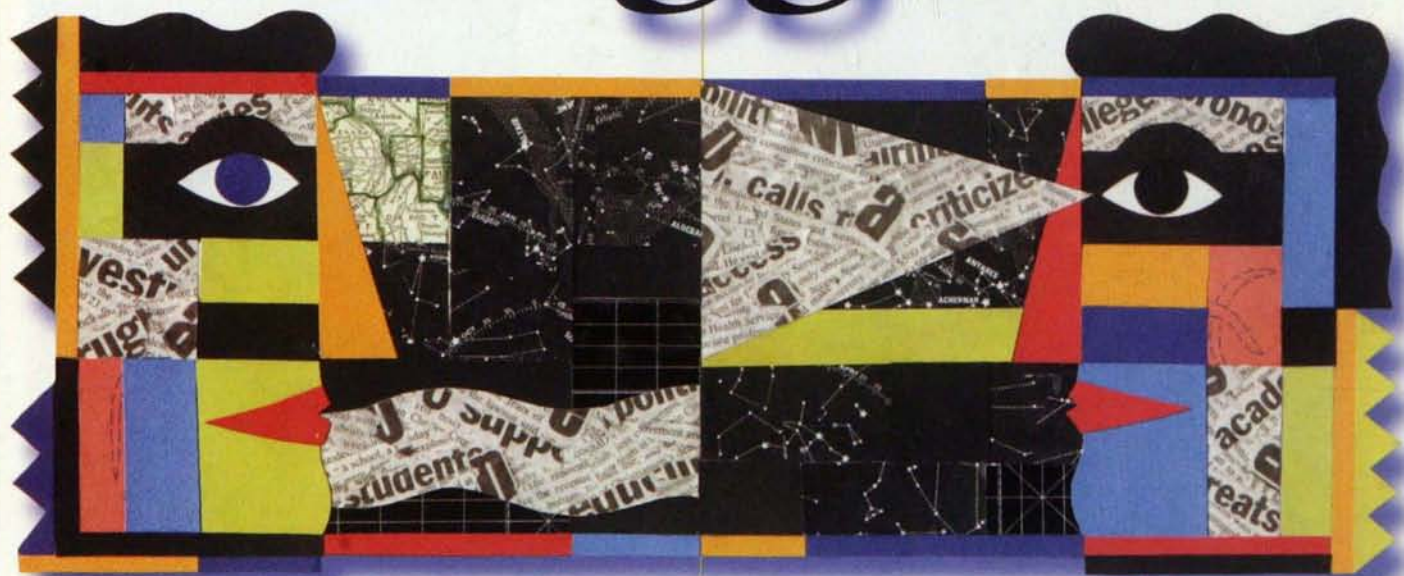
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a *Daily* Struggle



Last fall, the *Minnesota Daily's* management abruptly eliminated the newspaper's 34-year-old arts and entertainment section. The lingering fallout from the decision might not compare to other turbulent times in the student-run paper's 101-year history, but the move has drawn sharp criticism from alumni and has raised questions about what kind of training ground the *Daily* should be.

By Christina Schmitt | Illustration by David McLimans

On a recent April evening, several hours of work lie ahead to get out the next edition of the *Minnesota Daily*, sometime between 10 p.m. and midnight. But back in the *Daily's* newsroom—where 80 or so editors, reporters, and freelancers work during the week—a handful of students take a short break. One had written a humorous and scathing critique of the latest *Survivor* episode for that day's edition, which also carried an update of the University's investigation of alleged NCAA violations by Gopher women's basketball coach Cheryl Littlejohn—a story that has kept both the news and sports reporters busy of late. Now, however, three sports journalists tune the TV, which normally blasts sporting events, to the *Simpsons*.

Upstairs, the business section is winding down, mirroring the rest of the world's normal business hours. Still, a few staffers crunch away at sales figures and trend reports;

others catch up on homework or socializing. It's a typical night at the *Daily*, which promotes itself as the largest student-run college newspaper in the country. To many of its members, the *Daily* is not simply a job or an extracurricular activity. It is an on-campus home and a place to get their start in journalism.

Since 1993, a two-story building located on University Avenue on the edge of campus has housed this almost completely self-sufficient organization, which outsources only its printing and distribution. The *Daily's* 170-plus, all-student workforce publishes 31,000 papers every school day of the week (three editions a week in the summer). To fuel this behemoth task, the *Daily* has an operating budget of nearly \$2.8 million a year. "The *Daily* is definitely not a lab newspaper or a class project," says Julia Grant, the *Daily's* editor-in-chief in 2000-01. "It is a living, breathing organism that produces a paper by students who are incredibly talented."

Despite some turbulent times at the *Daily*—in decades past, its student staff has been at loggerheads with University presidents and the board of regents, been embroiled in First Amendment fights, and had its very existence threatened—the newspa-



The *Minnesota Daily* newsroom in 1929

19430

per has maintained its student-run status throughout its 101 years. In that time, the *Daily* has also garnered countless awards for excellence in reporting and trained numerous journalists, including several future Pulitzer Prize winners—Chris Ison (B.A. '83) and Harrison Salisbury (B.A. '30) to name two.

The *Daily* hit another spot of turbulence last fall, when its management abruptly discontinued the paper's A&E section—a weekly arts and entertainment supplement with a 34-year history—claiming that it was not pulling in ad dollars and not valued by readers. Arts coverage in the *Daily* is now integrated into a smaller daily section called the Lens. At first, altering how to cover the arts at a newspaper may sound like minor restructuring. But the decision by the *Daily*'s Office of the Publisher—made up of three students (the editor-in-chief, business manager, and president and chairman of the *Daily*'s 16-member board of directors)—to eliminate A&E back in October 2000 drew wide, passionate criticism.

While some defend the decision, few could have predicted the move's subsequent fallout. In addition to raising the ire of the 12 A&E staff members who lost their jobs, the *Daily* also heard an outcry from University faculty and alumni, the Twin Cities arts community and advertisers, and members of its readership (the *Daily* received approximately 150 e-mails and letters of protest). In the following weeks, the event was thoroughly reported locally in the *Star Tribune*, *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, *City Pages*, and *Minnesota Daily* itself and nationally this spring in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

"Firings—and threats of firings—are getting to be a pretty common thing around the offices of the *Minnesota Daily*," *Star Tribune* columnist Doug Grow wrote in November 2000, referring to the A&E firings and that three *Daily* editors were disciplined for reporting it. "Now the big question being debated is who's going to be in charge of what's printed in the paper," Grow wrote. "Will it be, as tradition dictates, aspiring journalists? Or will it be board members and student business types. . . ?"

Editor-in-chief Grant weathered intense scrutiny over the A&E decision, but some six months later speaks with confidence and optimism. "A hundred years is not going to be taken apart in one," she says. "This isn't the first ripple that the *Daily* has experienced, and I think that the institutional knowledge that comes with this place hopefully will be helpful to people in the future."

While the *Daily* is officially independent of the University and its School of Journalism and Mass Communications, the newspaper's mission—in addition to providing coverage of the University community and operating a fiscally responsible organization—is providing educational training in all areas of newspaper experience for University students. To many *Daily* alumni, the loss of arts coverage means straying from the paper's mission and a loss of its integrity.

Michele Ames (M.A. '98), *Daily* editor-in-chief in 1995–96, was among dozens of alumni who signed a letter to the editor published in the *Daily* protesting the cutting of the A&E section.



Minding the books has always been half the job at the *Minnesota Daily*. Photographed for the 1954 *Gopher* annual, *Daily* business staffers in 1954 crowd around to discuss the newspaper's financial statements.

Ames is remembered in the *Daily*'s 100th anniversary issue for her involvement "in one of the most important First Amendment cases in recent state history"—a case in which Ames refused to turn over unpublished negatives taken by a *Daily* photographer at a campus protest. A fight broke out during that event, and prosecutors in a subsequent case requested that the *Daily* turn over its photos as evidence. Ames refused on the grounds that police should not make journalists witnesses of choice but rather witnesses as a last resort. Even when threatened with jail time, Ames stood her ground and was backed by Twin Cities news organizations.

"I cannot stress enough that the *Daily* is a nonprofit training ground for individuals who want to get honest journalism experience," says Ames, now a staff writer for the *Rocky Mountain News* in Denver. "It is not a moneymaker. It is not a vehicle for people to remake in their own image. It is a newspaper that should reflect, to the best of its ability, the breadth and depth of the community it serves. That includes the arts community.

"I don't believe this is either an ebb or flow," she continues. "I think this is a crisis."

Back in the late 1960s, the *Daily*'s A&E became one of the first Twin Cities magazine-style newspaper publications dedicated solely to arts and entertainment coverage. A&E predated local alternative weeklies by a decade (the now-defunct *Twin Cities Reader* was a spin-off spearheaded by former A&E staff in the '70s), and boasts an impressive list of alumni, including Jim Walsh (B.A. '90) at the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, James Lileks and Jon Bream (B.A. '74) at the *Star Tribune*, and David Schimke (B.A. '92), Peter Scholtes (B.A. '99), and Burl Gilyard (B.A. '92) at *City Pages*. The section has run under several names during its history—including *d'Art* and the *Nightly*—predated by the *Ivory Tower*, a literary magazine published from 1953 to 1969 and whose masthead bore Garrison Keillor's (B.A. '66) name.

It's perhaps too soon to pass judgment on the success of the fledgling Lens section, but in comparison to last fall's A&E—and its intelligent, in-depth if sometimes thick cultural criticism—the one- to two-page daily Lens section currently leans toward shorter, straight-ahead, and sometimes thumbs-up/thumbs-down arts coverage.

As a weekly section inserted into the *Daily* on Thursdays, A&E was something like a cross between *City Pages* and a radical 'zine. "A&E was the only place where anyone could get training in long-form feature writing and magazine-style design and art direction in the Upper Midwest," says Steven Andersen (B.A. '97), A&E editor in the late 1990s, now a senior reporter for Chicago-based *Corporate Legal Times* and living in New York City.

Before the last issue this past October, the section was running 12 to 16 pages, as it had for most of the '90s, but had been operating under an ax for years. "A&E has periodically come under fire by editors who thought it was too highfalutin, who wanted

something more traditional," says Andersen. "I came in as A&E editor in the wake of the previous attempt to shut down the section in December of 1994. The scenario was very similar to what happened last fall. But in '94 we were allowed to at least make our case and were basically given a three-month stay of execution. The staff worked very hard to whip the arts weekly back into shape."

As late as a year ago, A&E appeared to stand on firm financial footing. "A&E began to break even and move away from the 'We budget to lose money on A&E' mentality that had been driven into all of our heads by the business department," Grant, who was the section's editor in 1999–2000, wrote in the *Daily's* 100-year anniversary issue. "And as amenities started to accumulate, it began to thrive."

That was A&E film editor Collier White's impression as well. According to White, one of the 12 fired, the paper frequently had enough ad sales to warrant increasing the section's size by four to eight pages to accommodate the ads. "We always considered that a success, financially," he says.

By October, however, A&E apparently could not be sustained. "Being A&E editor last year and having a very firm understanding of what was working and what was not working," Grant says, "I think that allowed me to take that information and try and put it in a format that would work, and work in the future. And I think it's been incredibly difficult, but I also think there are some incredibly talented people who are working on it with a lot of dedication, and it's really showing."

The *Daily's* Office of the Publisher—composed of Grant, president and chairman Kevin Nicholson, and business manager Sam Rosen, all of whom graduated this spring—cited low ad revenue and results from a recent marketing survey as reasons for ending A&E. (Nicholson says the *Daily* does not make revenue and marketing information available to the public.)

While expressing sympathy for the *Daily* staffers who lost their jobs, Nicholson stands firm in the decision to discontinue A&E. "The idea of a separate publication with arts content—whatever it was called throughout the years, whatever it was known as—the reality stayed the same," he says. "The *Daily* does not have the capacity to produce a separate publication. But we can produce quality arts coverage, better our paper, and do it all while helping the health of the *Daily* on a daily basis."

This past year has been a valuable "real world" lesson for *Daily* staffers, says Charlie Hoag (B.A. '62), vice president and director of sales at the *Star Tribune* and a *Daily* board member this year. "For young people who are faced with those sorts of decisions, it's tough," he says. "I'm very impressed with the people whom I've been exposed to while working on the board." A 40-year veteran of the newspaper business, Hoag says he has witnessed numerous products try and fail at the *Star Tribune* and isn't surprised that similar changes should be attempted at the *Daily*. "I would look at them no differently than any other nonprofit," says Hoag. "The Guthrie Theater is a nonprofit. The Minnesota Orchestra is

a nonprofit. But they also have to be very prudent in their business practices to run those entities."

By spring, the upset over A&E seemed to be behind the *Daily*. Nicholson and his colleagues had a more pressing concern: the quest for increased allotments of student services fees for the paper. Student services fees are charged to University students as part of their tuition. A dizzying series of subcommittee, committee, administration, and board of regents meetings helps determine how the fees are distributed to various campus organizations. The fees committee consists of University students, faculty, and staff.

The *Daily* currently generates about 85 percent of its \$2.8 million operating budget through ad sales. But the *Daily* is a free newspaper; it does not charge subscription fees. According to Nicholson, the funds that come from student services fees are, in essence, the *Daily's* subscription fees. For 2001–02, the *Daily* requested \$551,423 in funding, which means that \$8.63 of each student's fees per year would be allocated to the student newspaper (the *Daily* received \$398,879 from student fees, approximately \$6 per student, in 2000–01).

It's a reasonable request, Nicholson says, especially considering all the services the *Daily* provides to its community. "Any other newspaper that has tapped out its market and has a reasonable ad/content ratio will, at this point, when they are this low on funds and need to boost their reserves like we do, bump their subscription fees," he says. "Their consumers—their customers—will either choose to pay that or not. We're in a unique position: The fees committee has to do that for us; they're in charge of our subscription fees. Somewhere in the area of six years we haven't raised our subscription."

In February, the Student Services Fees Subcommittee held a meeting to hear the *Daily's* request. Before the meeting even opened, it must have been clear to all in attendance that the arts coverage issue was far from forgotten. Nearly two dozen A&E alumni and other supporters showed up and gathered in the back of the Institute of Technology classroom.

The *Daily* staff made a solid case, documenting well its need for increased funding. The *Daily* would need to meet rising printing and distribution costs, purchase a new computer billing system, and build up the newspaper's reserves. Midway through the presentation, *Star Tribune* editorial writer Kate Stanley arrived. Stanley is probably best remembered in *Daily* lore for her tenure as the paper's editor-in-chief in 1979–80. Just before she took the helm, the *Daily* published a finals week humor issue titled the *Daily Inquirer* with the headline "Christ Speaks!" The cover featured a photograph of dozens of "dead" students around a tub of punch on Northrop Mall. They held paper cups, mimicking the Jim Jones cult tragedy. The issue included an irreverent interview with Jesus Christ, who was quoted as endorsing sex and drugs. The



Ivory Tower staffers were dubbed "esoteric" in the 1955 *Gopher* annual. The *Ivory Tower* was a literary magazine published by the *Minnesota Daily* from 1953 to 1969. Garrison Keillor was a contributor while a University student.

public outcry led to the board of regents attempting to sever funding of the *Daily*. The *Daily* ultimately prevailed in *Stanley v. McGrath*. On this night, Stanley made a plea to the subcommittee to increase the *Daily's* funding. She gave a resounding testimony about the merits of the *Daily*, heralding it as the training ground for such famous alumni as Harry Reasoner and noting that the *Star Tribune* frequently looks to the *Daily* for recruits.

The fees panel queried the *Daily's* representatives about the paper's day-to-day finances, then took questions from the audience, specifically from the A&E supporters who contended that the *Daily* was being mismanaged. The fees subcommittee is not allowed to make funding recommendations based on the *Daily's* editorial content, however, so the only point the panel took an interest in concerned retroactive pay increases given to the members of the *Daily's* Office of the Publisher by the *Daily's* board of directors.

Alan Fine, a *Daily* board member and director of Undergraduate Entrepreneurial Studies at the U's Carlson School of Management, defends the \$5-an-hour raises, which put those officers' wages at \$19.80 an hour. "An intern coming out of the Carlson School with absolutely no experience, who's probably going to do Xerox copying, gets \$14.50 or \$15 or more per hour," says Fine. "[In the Office of the Publisher] are people who are managing hundreds of employees, who have tremendous fiscal responsibility." Fine feels that the Office of the Publisher was long overdue for raises, being passed up for them for several years. In addition, Fine hopes that a healthy hourly wage will attract a better crop of students to the *Daily*, perhaps even graduate-level students with actual business experience.

In the end, after a series of public forums, when the Student Services Fees Committee convened in mid-March, it recommended that the *Daily* receive essentially the same amount of money it did the previous year. It also withdrew an initial proposal to give the *Daily* a one-time stipend of \$76,272 to boost its reserves. The committee did not deduce that the paper's existence was threatened and stated: "The increase in wages, in light of increased printing costs and concerns over the level of the *Daily's* financial reserves, was a concern for the committee."

For Nicholson, however, the committee might not have the last word. He says he witnessed potentially unethical behavior in the fees process that may lead the *Daily* to pursue a lawsuit against the Student Services Fees Committee. "The controversy lies in the fact that the committee committed a number of potential ethical and legal violations," Nicholson says, "including possible First Amendment violations, in that they discussed the quality of our content and tied that back to our funding. That's a First Amendment issue, and the *Daily's* had to sue over that before."

In mid-April, Nicholson said that the conduct of the Student Services Fees Committee was under advisement by the *Daily's* legal counsel. "A&E was a big consideration," Nicholson says of the Student Service Fees Committee's decision. "And there are many people on that committee who tried to paint [the cutting

of A&E] as fiscally motivated, although it was fiscally *responsible*. But to say that everything we've done this year is fiscally *motivated* is inappropriate."

Pondering lawsuits might seem an unusual preoccupation for someone about to graduate and leave his post at the *Daily*. But Nicholson, in his own way, is concerned about preserving the future of the newspaper. "I know my limitations here," says Nicholson, whose plans include attending law school. "So does everyone else, and I also have a role to play in pointing out certain things when the *Daily* has been wronged. My recommendation to the board, if our attorney does come back with the feeling that something has been done illegally, would be to press ahead and make a case of it. But ultimately that will be up to the board and my successors."

The *Daily* is unique, modeling itself at once after several "real world" models—academic, nonprofit, and large metro daily newspapers—and due to the high turnover rates as students graduate, the personality of the place changes all the time. And even when morale sinks, a new batch of reporters, editors, and businesspeople stepping in is sure to cure that. "The *Daily* is a place that should be fun to work at," says Dan Sullivan, a teaching specialist in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications and an adviser to the *Daily's* board, "a place where people make mistakes and learn from their mistakes."

One thing *Daily* alumni and current and former staff do agree on is that the paper should keep its student-run status—even if they sometimes make errors. "There's always an opportunity for change here," editor-in-chief Grant says. "Because we have such

high turnover, there's always changing dynamics. We keep growing and learning from things that go awesome and things that don't go quite so well."

White, who is working with other former A&E staff members on a new nonprofit arts publication called *Object*, feels that while some sort of intervention might be necessary to keep the *Daily* from its current "corporate-minded" path, he, too, feels that the paper should remain student-run. "I think that's where its radical and revolutionary potential lies in good student leadership," White says.

Former A&E editor Andersen agrees that the *Daily* ought to remain autonomous. "As myopic and destructive as [the closing

of A&E] is, it shouldn't be an excuse for any outside meddling in the *Daily's* operations," he says. "As long as the *Daily* remains independent, the potential exists that more inspired—and more responsible—student journalists in the future can reinstitute a relevant and viable arts weekly."

As the *Daily* is taken up by new leadership, that just might happen. Looking back over the paper's history, it seems anything could. It is in the hands of students to decide. ■



Photographed for the 1963 *Gopher* annual, editor Beverly Kees gathers information for a story in the *Minnesota Daily*. Kees, who earned her journalism degree from the U in 1963, went on to become the executive editor of the *Fresno Bee* in California.

Christina Schmitt (B.A. '97) is a Minneapolis-based freelance writer. She was music editor for A&E in 1996-97.

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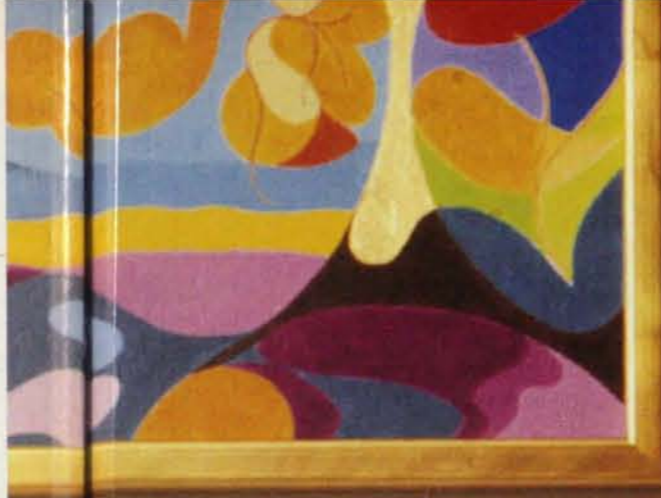
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For decades, Dr. Robert Fisch, professor of pediatrics at the University, felt his experience in the Holocaust was a private matter to be kept to himself. Now, he shares his feelings about love and freedom through words and art.

Painting the Past



his place—Minnesota and the University of Minnesota—has given me opportunity. Everything I ever dreamed about is here. This place is home.

I was born in Hungary in 1925 and lived in comfort. My parents were in the poultry business and worked very hard. From my mother, I learned determination, endurance, and responsibility. From my father, I learned compassion and laughter. Anna, the Catholic nurse who helped to raise me, provided me with unlimited love and kindness.

When I was 19, my life changed forever. I was sent to a Nazi concentration camp. In the dead of winter, we marched from dawn to sunset, sometimes going for days without food or water. If someone sat down, he was shot. An Austrian peasant brought a bag of apples and started to throw them toward us, but she paid a dear price; she was shot on sight. Yet some SS members sometimes surprised us with their actions. For instance, once during a march, an SS soldier broke the line and secretly handed out sandwiches.

When we arrived at the camp in Mauthausen, Austria, dead bodies were sprawled all over. Food ration for a day was a cup of black coffee and a quarter slice of bread covered with green fungus. The Russians were nearing the camp, so we started out on another march, this time to Gunzkirchen, another concentration camp, which took 20 days.

The Americans arrived on May 4, 1945. They were liberators, bringing freedom. But liberation is not freedom. Freedom is a metamorphosis. You cannot get away from the past. You always have fear tattooed inside you; you are marked.

When I arrived home in Budapest, I found my mother alive but my father and all of my other relatives had vanished. My father had starved to death in a concentra-

tion camp, as he gave his food to needier people. His death was the death of the world as I had known it.

I entered medical school and wanted to specialize in ophthalmology. But Hungary was being managed by Russia and I was anticommunist, so I was not allowed to be a specialist. When I finished medical school in 1951, the secretary of health sent me to be a general doctor in the country. A few years later, with the help of some friends, I began to work in a hospital for premature infants in Budapest.

The Hungarian Revolution against the Communists began October 23, 1956, when a crowd of students attempted to block the entrance of the main radio station, where the prime minister was supposed to give a speech. The secret police fired machine guns into the crowd. The revolution had begun, started by young people searching for freedom.

Some of my colleagues and I decided to help. We broke into a government garage and confiscated cars and drove wherever there was fighting to pick up the injured—Hungarian and Russian alike. We became the center of the revolution because we had the only mobile system in Budapest. When the freedom fighters discovered that some of their fellow patients were their Communist opponents and started to harass them, I said, "As far as I'm con-



AS TOLD TO VICKI STAVIG | PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK LUINENBURG

The Americans arrived on May 4, 1945. They were liberators, bringing freedom. But liberation is not freedom. Freedom is a metamorphosis.

cerned, anyone in this hospital is a patient." We saved 160 Russians.

I was later threatened with losing my job if I did not go back to the hospital for premature babies, so I walked across the border to Austria. All of a sudden, the whole world was open to me; I could go where I wanted to go. With the help of a Jewish organization, I boarded a ship for the United States and arrived in New York harbor on January 1, 1957. It was the beginning of a new year for all—and a new life for me.

I lived in a military camp in New Jersey while they screened us, then joined my brother, who was living in New York. I came to Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota in June of 1958 with a combination of fear and joy. I didn't know a single person here, but I was exhilarated because I was about to start a new life. I heard it was very cold here, so I went to Dayton's and asked if they had a storm coat I could buy. It was June, so they had to bring one up from the basement.

"Where are you going?" they asked.

"I'm not going; I'm staying!" I said. I have been here ever since. I became an intern at the University Hospital, which had great doctors like Walt Lillehei [known as the father of open-heart surgery] and Robert Good [who performed the first bone-marrow transplant in 1968]. They were incredible people; they were giants. It was a new world for me.

I became a pediatrician and a specialist in phenylketonuria [PKU], an inherited metabolic disease that results in severe retardation in babies born with the defect. We began to use a special diet a German doctor had discovered that helped to prevent mental retardation in these patients. It's not a cure—it's a treatment—but the diet produced amazing results. Today more than half of my patients with PKU graduate from high school and enter college. I don't work with PKU patients anymore, but I'm still very close to them and their families.

I became a professor of pediatrics at the University in 1979. I retired in 1997 but still practice medicine at the University part-time. It is very important to me to be part of the University and to be in contact with my colleagues and my patients.

I also am a kitchen painter; I paint in my kitchen. In 1989, I was asked to illustrate the cover of *Minnesota Medicine* magazine and to write about my experiences in the Nazi death camp. I had not talked to people about the Holocaust. It's not a subject to talk about, just as you don't talk about your disease. It was a private matter, but the impact of the article was astonishing. When it was published, people at the University hugged me and cried.

Then the principal of a school in Pine City, Minnesota, asked me to come and talk to her students about the Holocaust. Later, she said, "Why don't you write a book?" I thought about it as I drove home and decided to do it. The result was



From *Light from the Yellow Star: A Lesson of Love from the Holocaust* by Dr. Robert Fisch

Light from the Yellow Star: A Lesson of Love from the Holocaust, which was published in 1994. It was an incredible experience for me. My interest was not to tell what happened to me but, in order to learn, you must know the past. As a pediatrician, I am involved one-on-one, but with a book I reach thousands. It was a very rewarding thing for me. The 17 paintings from that book were exhibited at the Weisman Art Museum and also went to Germany, Austria, and Israel.

I continue to talk to students about the Holocaust. It is a great joy for me to do so. I tell them that people are not naturally good or bad; we have to make choices and learn to be civilized. It is like a shaman said, "There are two dogs inside each of us: one good, one bad. What happens depends on which one we feed more."

Last year, I wrote another book, *The Metamorphosis to Freedom*, in which I address freedom and the process of freedom. It is like the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly. I am writing another book called *Painting in the Dark*. The prologue reads, "And if I remain in only a single heart and mind, my life will have been worth living."

I also am working on a very large painting that Dr. Robert Blum, director of the General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health Program, asked me to do for the entrance to the division's suite in the McNamara Alumni Center. It is a black-and-white expression of creativity that has motion, that expresses how something is created and grows like a tornado. Dr. Blum also has established the Robert O. Fisch M.D. Fellowship in Pediatrics to help pediatric medical students care for children with chronic conditions. It is a great honor.

I have been recognized internationally for my work with PKU patients and last year I got a knightship in Hungary for my involvement in the revolution against the Communists, but my daughter, Rebecca Alexandria, is my greatest accomplishment. I married after I came to the United States, but it ended in divorce, which was very hard on me. I was alone for many years and thought that part of my life was finished. Then I met Karen Bachman and invited her to brunch; that was the beginning. We were married at the Weisman on February 4, which would have been my father's 110th birthday. My father gave me unconditional love. I have the same feeling for my daughter and now for Karen.

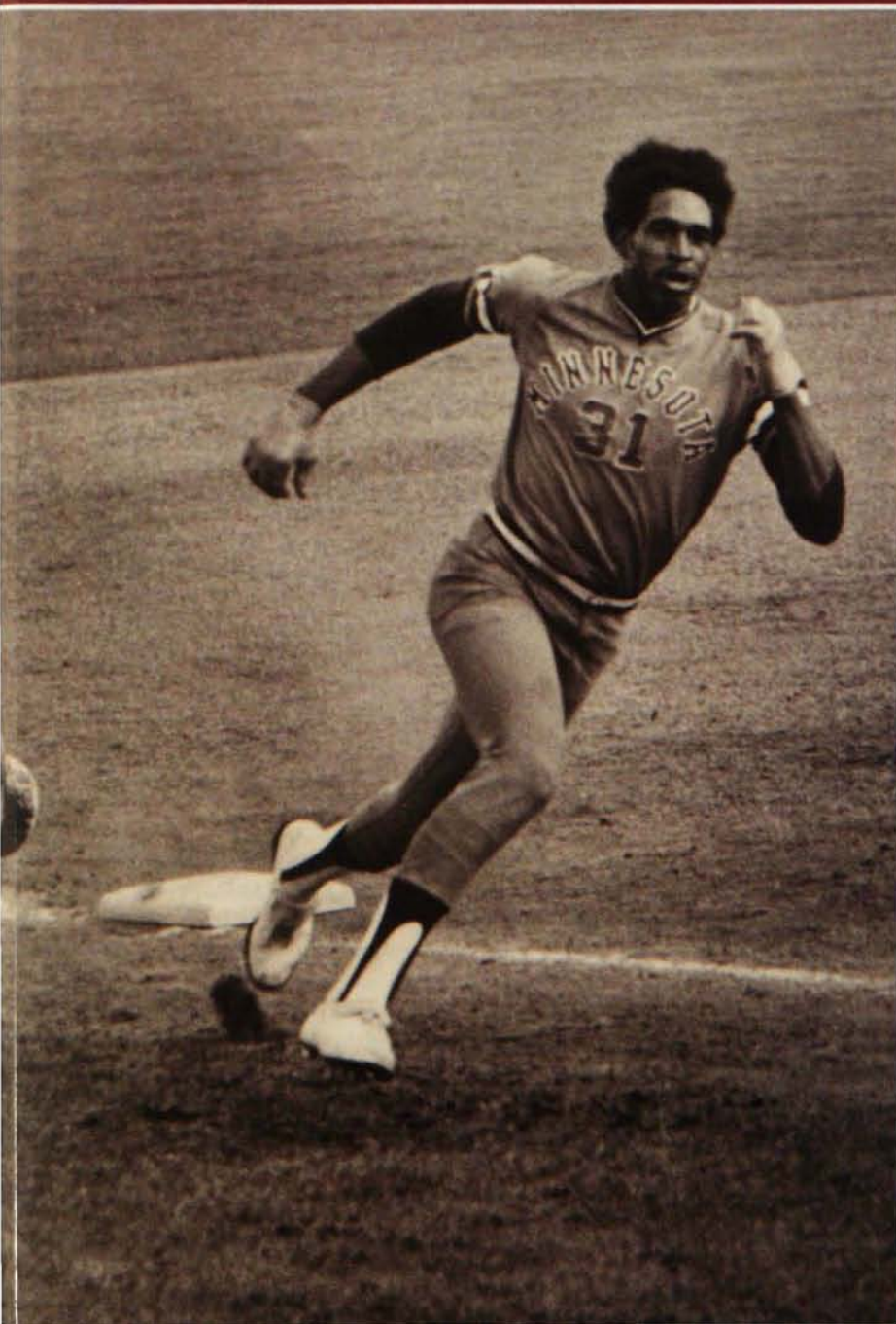
I don't know what the future holds. I will continue to practice medicine part-time, and I travel a great deal. And I will continue to talk to students about the Holocaust and freedom, to share with them what I have learned in my life, which is this: We must always remain human, toward everyone, in all circumstances, however brutal. ■

Vicki Stavig is a frequent contributor to *Minnesota*.



DOCTORS, LAWYERS, ENTREPRENEURS AND HALL OF FAMERS

Join alumni, coaches and friends in celebrating St. Paul native Dave Winfield and his brilliant career. Former U of M student, Golden Gopher, and 2001 National Baseball Hall Of Fame Elect, Dave Winfield will be honored on June 9th. Fans are encouraged to wear maroon and gold. Special alumni ticket packages are available.



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Winning Ways

Every spring, *Minnesota* highlights the outstanding accomplishments of several student athletes during the previous school year. For this issue, we could not overlook two seniors who not only stood out in their sports but exemplified with their character and dedication what it means to be a student athlete. We also applaud two Gopher athletics programs: one that won its first NCAA championship and another that arrived as a Big Ten power. By Tim Klobuchar and Chris Coughlan-Smith

Aubrey Schmitt |

Winner of numerous academic and athletic honors, including five Big Ten titles, the senior Gopher shot-putter delicately balances strength and skill, the shot and studies.

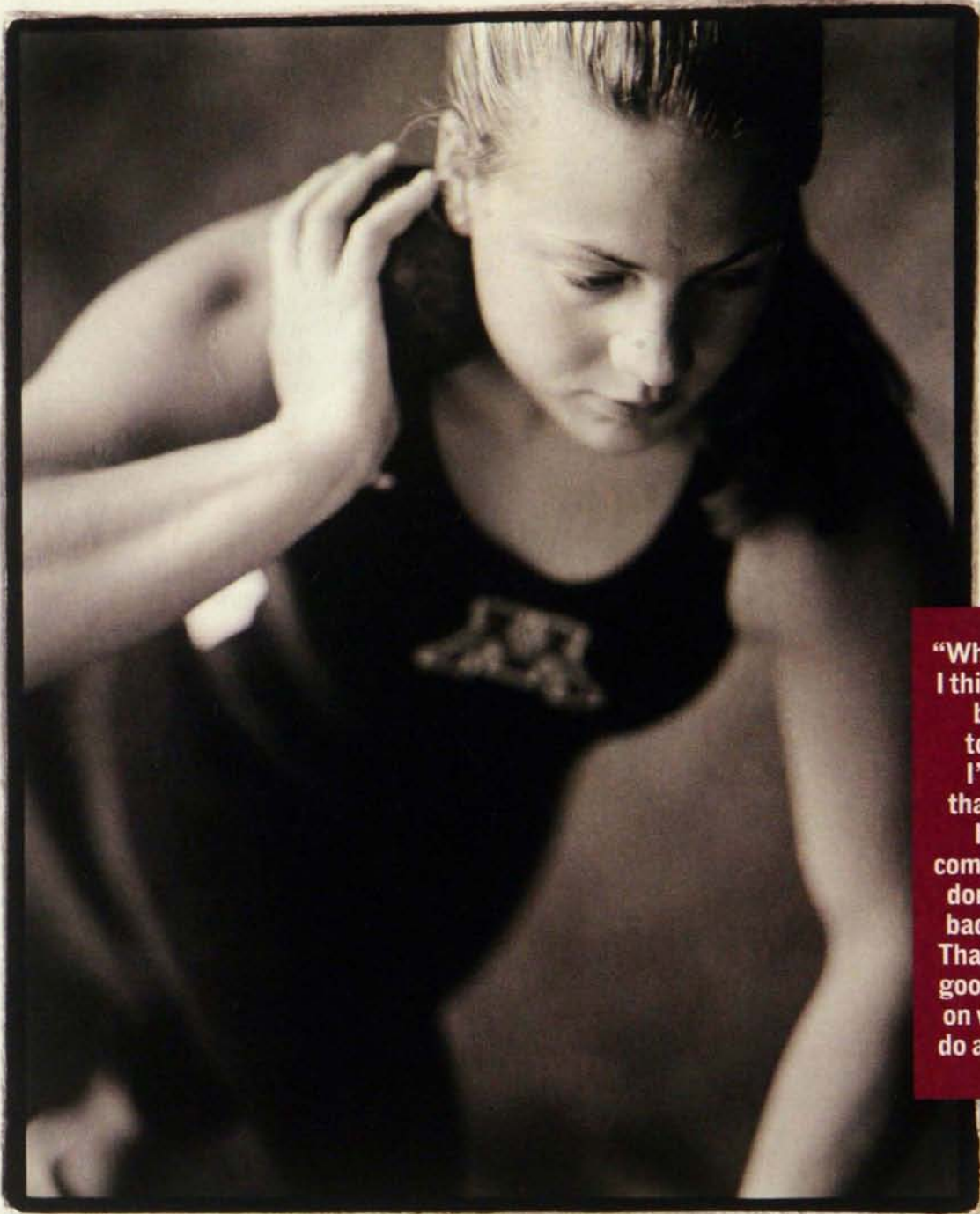
It's hard to believe, but Gopher senior Aubrey Schmitt, winner of five Big Ten titles and multiple all-American honors in the shot put, came close to playing a sport in which her powerful arms would have been virtually useless. When Schmitt was a senior at Hastings (Minnesota) High School, she accepted an offer to play soccer at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, an NCAA Division II school. She had registered for classes and her dorm room. Then the state track and field meet came around.

Schmitt had little interest in track and field until her junior year, when her friends convinced her to come out. She

ran the 100-, 200-, and 400-meter dashes that year. Three months before the state meet her senior year, she started throwing the shot and, a month later, the discus. She qualified for state in both, relying almost entirely on her extraordinary natural strength.

Lynne Anderson, the Gopher throws coach who recruited Schmitt after watching her throw at the state meet, recognized the untapped potential. "She had thrown a lot less than a lot of the others who had been throwing for two or three years, but her marks were what everyone else had done," she recalls.

Fortunately for the Gophers, Schmitt also enjoyed track



"When I'm traveling, I think about school, but when I get to the meet and I'm competing, that just shuts off. It's totally the competition until it's done, then I switch back to academics. That's one thing I'm good at . . . focusing on what you have to do at that moment."

and recognized her potential. "I thought, 'If I can do this in this short period of time, then I must be able to improve a lot more,'" Schmitt says. "Plus it was a Division I school."

It was a Division I school with a world-class coach. Anderson, the American record-holder in the discus from 1977 to '79, coached 15 Big Ten champions at Minnesota during the 1990s. By helping Schmitt hone her technique to go with her power, Anderson soon turned her into one of those champions and ended up helping her qualify for and compete in the U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials last summer. "That was basically for experience," Schmitt says. "Just to be there and experience the atmosphere on the field was what I was there

for." She finished 13th, one place out of the finals.

Her ultimate goal is to make the 2004 Olympic team, but before that she will put the finishing touches on her Minnesota career at the NCAA outdoor championships and on her undergraduate days with her biology degree. Her graduation day is May 12, and Schmitt wants to walk across the stage, but . . .

"Actually, we might have a meet that day, so we'll see," Schmitt says.

That the capstone of her academic career conflicts with her athletic career isn't surprising; it has been happening to Schmitt for four years. All student athletes have to deal with

that delicate balance, but her demanding biology major put an even greater strain on that act. "I've had to take tests on the road a lot of times," Schmitt says. "There have been plenty of times where the whole team's heading down to the [hotel] pool, and I'm back in the room taking a physics test."

Through it all, Schmitt has flourished. She's been an academic all-Big Ten and second-team academic all-American and has earned several academic scholarships. Her GPA has hovered around 3.5 her entire career. "When I'm traveling, I think about school, but when I get to the meet and I'm competing, that just shuts off," Schmitt says. "It's totally the competition until it's done, then I switch back to academics. That's one thing I'm good at . . . focusing on what you have to do at that moment. There's been some pretty crazy times, though, where it's been test, meet, test."

Strength and skill, athletics and academics—somehow,

Schmitt has always seemed to find that comfortable middle ground between opposite ends of the scale. She'll be continuing that balancing act in the coming years, as she tries to find time for work, starting veterinary school in 2002, and training for the Olympics.

Gary Wilson, head coach of women's track and field, believes that if anyone can maintain that balance, it is Schmitt. "She's upbeat, intelligent, driven, humble, she's got great values. . . . She is the epitome of a student athlete," he says. "If my daughter turns out to be half the woman she is, I will be extremely happy."

Schmitt is grateful she's worked as hard in school as in sports and didn't feel as though she had to make sacrifices. "I never felt like I wasn't having fun," she says. "I always made time for my friends. . . . No regrets."

—T.K.

Ben Hamilton |

The senior Gopher football center, a two-time all-American and a Gopher MVP, uses the pedestal he's been put on to make a difference in his community.

In addition to knowing that Ben Hamilton is arguably the best college center in the country, most Gopher football followers can recite two other traits: that he's always been considered too small to play football at the next level and that he has an unimpeachable sense of right and wrong.

Both those traits—along with Hamilton—were on display at the NFL scouting "combine" in Indianapolis in February. Hamilton was there along with hundreds of other prospects, trying to sway naysayers, again, who were skeptical of his physical attributes. The combine is infamous for dehumanizing its participants, and no one was more cognizant of this than Hamilton, a sensitive, articulate 23-year-old who graduates this spring with a degree in civil engineering. For most, the combine offers one last chance to impress pro scouts and perhaps rise a few places (and a few million dollars) in the NFL draft.

To Hamilton it was something else altogether. "It felt like a slave auction or something like that," he says. "They'd call us out one at a time, you'd get up there in just a pair of shorts, and you're up on a stage, actually. Coaches and scouts are just looking at your body and taking notes on your body. Then you'd turn around and they look at you from the side and the back. Then you step on a scale. They treat you like a piece of meat, pretty much. Someone yells out, 'Hamilton, 300 pounds!' You definitely don't feel like a person."

Hamilton, as you may know, has expressed his feelings on people being treated as objects before. In spring 2000, *Playboy* magazine informed him that he had been named to its pre-season all-American team, traditionally a prestigious honor. After conversations with those close to him and an examination of his faith, Hamilton, a strong Christian, declined the offer.

The ensuing reaction, which included thousands of e-mails and hundreds of letters of support—but also some ridicule—overwhelmed Hamilton. "I really was [surprised]," he says. "I made a decision about it, and I didn't think it was any big deal, and it kind of blew up. I was very surprised to see that. But I think the support that I got was something that was very encouraging to me and reinforced that I did make the right decision, because it was a very tough decision for me to make."

Suddenly Hamilton became known as the guy who shot down *Playboy*. But the fact that he played football well enough to have earned the opportunity to shoot down *Playboy* was almost forgotten. That changed during the fall, when Hamilton anchored a record-setting offense and was named a second-team all-American by the Associated Press after making the first team in 1999. He was also named the Gophers' MVP.

It's well known by now that few people—maybe not even Hamilton—saw all this coming. He was all-state as a senior at Wayzata (Minnesota) High School, but only 220 pounds. "He was awfully good," recalls Roger Lipelt, Hamilton's coach at Wayzata. "Truth be known, I was begging the U to take him, but they just didn't think he was big enough. I kept saying he would do exactly the same thing in college that he did in high school. He was phenomenal. He had such great technique, and he's such a good young man. I kept saying, 'He'll get bigger.'"

Hamilton got what might have been the last scholarship that year and proved Lipelt right. He was even better than in high school and worked his way up to 283 pounds by his senior year. When the season ended, he began a new diet regimen that has his weight up to an NFL-size 303 pounds. Even while working to prove people wrong on the football field, Hamilton never took the easy way out in the classroom. That



"My parents told me football was going to be there for a little while, but that can be taken away at any time. A college degree is something that can open doors down the road and give me opportunities."

would have gone against his own mantra—that everything he gets, he must earn. "My parents told me football was going to be there for a little while, but that can be taken away at any time," says Hamilton, a four-time academic all-Big Ten selection. "A college degree is something that can open doors down the road and give me opportunities. . . . It helped having a father who played professional football [and who] really knew that was true." Hamilton's father, Wes, played guard and tackle for the Vikings from 1976 to 1985. (The younger Hamilton was drafted by the Denver Broncos in April.)

Hamilton has used his success in other ways as well. He speaks at churches, he's helped out with the Special Olympics and building parks in the area, and he's spoken to many elementary classes about the importance of staying in school. "College athletes are put on this pedestal and are looked at by younger kids," he says. "So I've tried to take advantage of the opportunities I've had to talk to them, to help influence them for the best."

Says Lipelt: "You start and end with the word *character* with him."
—T.K.

Freshman Garrett Lowney pinned Dawid Rechul of Harvard three minutes and 14 seconds into the NCAA second-round match. Lowney, who earned a bronze medal in Greco-Roman wrestling at the 2000 Olympics, took third at the NCAA tournament.



Wrestling with Success

A perennial tournament contender, the Gopher wrestling team wins its first NCAA championship.

Going into the 2000–01 season, the Gopher wrestling team had one thing left to accomplish: win the NCAA title. Over the preceding four years the team had been second twice and third twice, won a Big Ten title, won the National Duals tournament, beaten the Iowa Hawkeyes on their home mat, and cemented itself as an exciting program with an aggressive style. But going into the new season, the Gophers did not have one of the elements that every national champ has had in the 70 years of NCAA wrestling tournaments: one or two dominating wrestlers who can run up big team points on the way to an individual national title.

But they had something else. After so many years of success, intrateam competition to be a starter had finally put them in a position to be what head coach J Robinson always believed: If you are good enough to wrestle for Minnesota, you should be an all-American.

Robinson and his staff approached the year preparing specifically for the national meet. "They told us all year that the national tournament is always decided on the third day," says

senior Brett Lawrence of Sandpoint, Idaho. "This year they would push us hard for three days before we'd get a day off."

"On the third day they'd have us get up and practice at 6:45 in the morning," recalls sophomore Luke Becker of Cambridge, Minnesota. "They put just about every situation we might face in front of us at practices."

The season dawned with five dual meet shutouts and near shutouts, ranging from a 45–0 win over Princeton to a 33–3 victory over Hofstra, and several strong successful tournament appearances. The Gophers rose to number one in several national polls. On January 7 they faced their first real test, going against second-ranked Oklahoma State at home. They lost 24–12. For some, that was the turning point of the season. "The coaches said some pretty harsh things about what we'd need to do to win," recalls Brett Lawrence. "The thing that put us over the top after that was that everyone wanted to practice as hard as we could every single day. It really started after we lost to Oklahoma State."

Two weeks later the Gophers got another chance. At the National Duals, a tournament where the best teams in the country wrestle a series of dual meets against each other, the

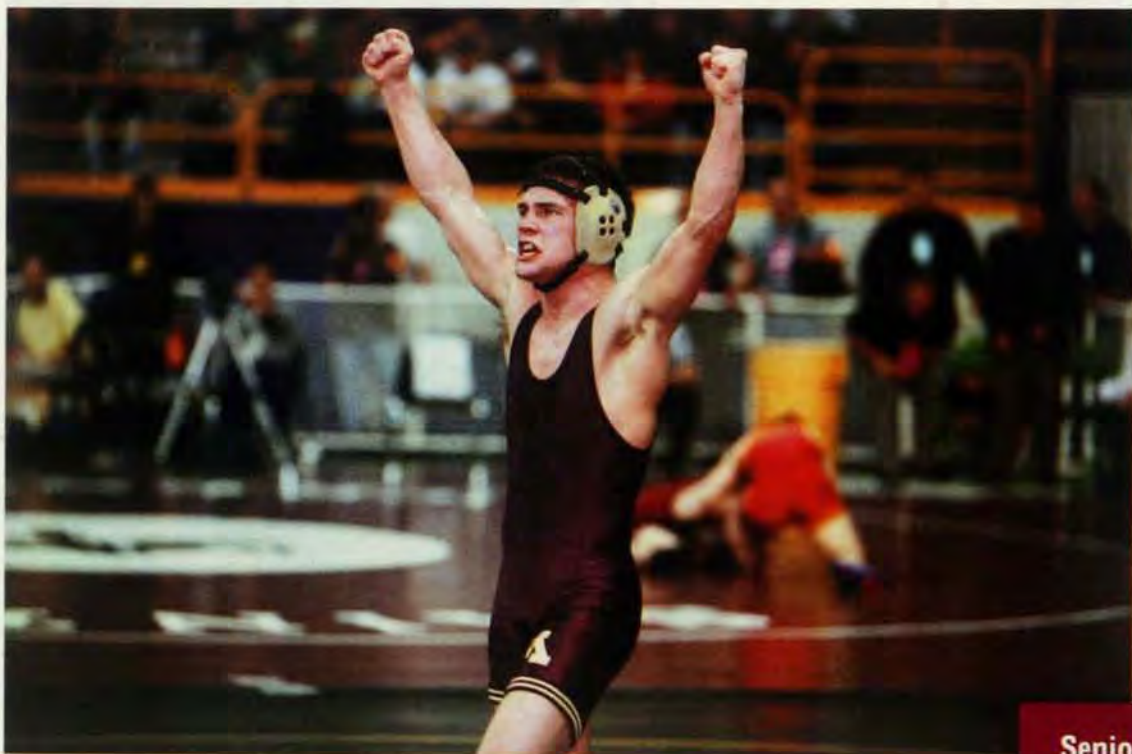
Gophers beat Iowa 20–17 in the semifinals and then got revenge on Oklahoma State, beating them 20–12.

Minnesota went on to sweep its Big Ten dual meets and regain the nation's number-one ranking. The Gophers easily won the Big Ten Wrestling Tournament, qualifying all 10 wrestlers for the NCAA Division I Wrestling Tournament.

But a strange thing happened. In one national poll, the Gophers fell from first to third. With no clear national number-one wrestlers, it appeared they simply didn't have the usual formula for winning a national title. "There's more than one way to win a national title," Robinson said publicly at the time. Brett Lawrence recalls more motivational words: "Robinson said, 'They still don't give you any respect. You

The Gophers' intense conditioning regimen has earned them the reputation of being stronger than the opponent the longer a match or a tournament goes on. At the NCAA tourney they proved it, running up enough wins and bonus points during the 9 a.m. consolation session that they essentially had put the title out of Iowa's reach before the finals began. "The coaches kept saying if we had 10 all-Americans, we would beat Iowa and all their power," Brett Lawrence says. "We knew we could do it, but at the same time it had never been done. . . . What if just one person had had a bad tournament? But it didn't happen."

Three Gophers took third place: junior Leroy Vega of Portage, Indiana, at 125 pounds; junior Owen Elzen of Eyota,



Upon winning a match against Kevin Black of Wisconsin at the NCAA tournament, senior Brett Lawrence was guaranteed all-American honors.

can win everything else, but the only way you'll get the respect is to win the national tournament."

The atmosphere was hostile at Carver-Hawkeye Arena in Iowa City, where the Iowa fans rightly knew Minnesota posed the main threat to the Hawkeyes, who had won nine of the last 10 NCAA titles. With all 10 Gophers winning opening matches, the Gophers took an early lead, but during the second day, the Hawkeyes came back. When the Gophers' Damion Hahn, a freshman from Lakewood, New Jersey, clinched at least an eighth-place finish, Gopher fans in attendance chanted "Ten!" to signify the unprecedented number of all-American honors the Gophers had landed. Shortly afterward, however, the Gophers lost all six of their semifinal matches, and the large Iowa contingent began chanting "Zero!" to signify the number of Minnesotans in the next evening's finals.

Becker admits the Gophers were "kind of down. We had come up short so many times. . . . But we decided that the next day we would clinch it even before the finals started."

Minnesota, at 197; and freshman heavyweight Garrett Lowney of Appleton, Wisconsin. Taking fourth were Becker at 157; senior Brad Pike of Brownsdale, Minnesota, at 165; and freshman Jacob Volkmann, of Henning, Minnesota, at 174. Hahn was fifth at 184 and sophomore Jared Lawrence, Brett's brother, took sixth at 149. In eighth were Brett Lawrence at 133 and junior Chad Erikson of Apple Valley, Minnesota, at 141.

The team win was Minnesota's first NCAA title since men's hockey in 1979. (The women's hockey 2000 national title was presented by the American Women's College Hockey Association; the NCAA held its first women's hockey championship this year.)

Senior wrestler Brett Lawrence recalls Coach Robinson's motivational words: "They still don't give you any respect. You can win everything else, but the only way you'll get the respect is to win the national tournament."

The Gophers certainly are poised for long-term success. Eight of the all-Americans will return next season; five are either freshmen or sophomores. The two wrestlers likely to compete for Pike's spot each have three Minnesota high school titles and a national junior title to their credit. Succeeding Brett Lawrence could be sophomore Ryan Lewis, a Division II all-American from Vernal, Utah, who transferred from North Dakota State.

Jared Lawrence said this year's team effort made the win even more worthwhile. "This year we didn't have any big stars; the whole team was equally up there," he says. "You could feel it was going to happen, though." But not winning any individual titles, he adds, is making "everyone work harder to win the team and individual titles next year."

The competition should consider that as notice served.
—C.C.S.

Delivering on a Promise

After years of building, the Gopher volleyball team has arrived as a force in the Big Ten.

When Mike Hebert came to the University of Minnesota after 13 years of volleyball success at Illinois, he vowed to make the Gophers a Big Ten power within five years. That was no small feat in what was turning into the country's best volleyball conference, thanks in part to his own success at Illinois, where he took teams to the NCAA tournament round of 16 six times, including two trips to the final four. Last summer, although the Gophers returned three all-conference players from a 1999 team that reached the NCAA "sweet 16," as that fifth season loomed, questions persisted.

One by one they were answered. First, Yvonne VanOort (formerly Wichert), a junior from Germany, returned to the team after having a baby—in shape and ready to play. "She had been our best passer for two years," Hebert explains. "She not only came back, but she did her best passing of her three years." Senior outside hitter Nicole Branagh of Orinda, California, a returning second-team all-American, picked up where she left off and eventually broke former Gopher Katrien DeDecker's Big Ten kill record. Junior Lindsey Berg of Honolulu stayed healthy in the setter position, where no real backup existed. Junior Stephanie Hagen of Minnetonka, Minnesota, provided blocking and accurate hitting that kept opponents from focusing on Branagh, whom she joined as a second-team all-American. Senior Charnette Fair of Huntington Beach, California, a key blocker, stayed in the lineup despite bad knees. Senior Lisa Aschenbrenner of Algonquin, Illinois, emerged to take control of a key defensive position opposite the opponent's best hitter. "Virtually everything fell our way in those questions," Hebert says. "We began



to realize that we were going to be OK."

Just as important, the team overcame the off-season death of beloved assistant coach Maurice Batie and learned to trust a new set of assistant coaches. To Hebert, that was a sign that something special had happened. "We reached the point this year where we were putting team ahead of personal issues," he says. "We became

Senior outside hitter Nicole Branagh, a two-time All-American, is the Big Ten's all-time leader in kills. She and senior blocker Charnette Fair have been selected to train with the U.S. national women's team.

reliable emotionally. We didn't get knocked off balance by conflicts."

To Branagh, after three years of improvement, a breakout season is exactly what she expected. "The year before, we were good but we had to come back a lot on teams," she said recently from Colorado Springs, Colorado, where she and Fair are training with the U.S. women's national team for a shot at competing in international matches and the Olympic Games. "This year we were more the team to beat. We expected to be good. And dealing with pressure and expectations—we did that really well. We never got out of control with our highs or our lows."

As Minnesota swept to an 11-0 record in nonconference matches—dropping only two games in those best-of-five-game matches and beating several top teams—the Gophers became reliably strong. "This was the most solid feeling I'd had since I've been here," Hebert says. "I became confident we were going to get a solid effort every time out."

After ending defending national champion Penn State's 83-match home winning streak, the Gophers knew they had arrived. They hung around the top of the Big Ten all season and ended up in second. They finished with their best conference record ever at 17-3. Their 30-4 record was by far the best in school history. They ranked in the top 10 in national polls all year and again reached the NCAA tournament's round of 16.

Fans turned out by the thousands. Minnesota's average of 2,557 fans per match was 400 more than the previous best attendance average and fourth in the country. "On the court and off the court, I feel like we delivered on our promise," Hebert says of his fifth season.

After such a successful season Hebert seems reluctant to mention one small thing that nags him about the season—but he clearly is still thinking about it. A share of the Big Ten title was so close for the Gophers, but they missed it by one-sixteenth of an inch.

At Ohio State on the last night of the Big Ten season, needing a win to secure a tie for the title, the Gophers faced a Buckeye team that had taken them to five games at Williams Arena a few months earlier. This night the stakes were higher. The Gophers went up by winning two close games, followed by the Buckeyes rallying to take the next two. In the final game, the score was tied 11 times. At 16-16, the Buckeyes blocked a Gopher kill attempt and served for the match. VanOort went up at the edge of the net after a Berg set and pounded what looked like a game-tying kill into an open space. But the referee was signaling something else. The ball had apparently brushed the antenna at the end of the net—brushed it too lightly for anyone but the referee, seated inches away, to see. "If we had that play over again, we wouldn't do anything differently. The dig, the set, the swing, it was all right there," Hebert says. "That was hard, missing a chance to keep playing for the conference title by one-sixteenth of an inch." Wisconsin won the Big Ten title, then went on to finish second in the NCAA tournament to Nebraska. The power in women's volleyball clearly has shifted away from the West Coast.

For next year, the Gophers will have to replace four starters

(VanOort has decided to end her college career and return to Europe), but their quarterback and emotional leader returns in Berg and a hitting and blocking star has emerged in Hagen. Several backups got game experience this season and four top recruits will have a chance to earn time on the court. Former all-Big 12 outside hitter Kathy Tilson of Austin, Texas, will transfer from Texas for her senior season, adding experience to a young squad. The Gophers also have a coach who won't allow inexperience to be an excuse. "We'll be younger and less predictable," he says. "We might drop a few games while we gain experience, but I'm not going to let youth become a self-fulfilling prophecy."

The Gophers also have that emotional maturity and team-first attitude that should carry on. "Chemistry is one of those things that comes from years of steady, sustained effort at cultivating personal skills in these young people," Hebert says. "We spend time working on how to deal with stress, conflict, managing your time. You hope you develop a critical mass at a certain point where everyone is pulling on the same end of the rope. We reached that this year. . . . Once you get there, your experienced players pass that along to the new players and I see that happening."

Branagh sees that happening too. "Things really got better in a lot of ways every year I was there," she says. "I'm glad I came to Minnesota and became part of building the team. You hope your senior year will be great, and it was." —C.C.S.

"This year we were more the team to beat," says senior Nicole Branagh. "We expected to be good. And dealing with pressure and expectations—we did that really well. We never got out of control with our highs or our lows."



First-round NCAA tournament games were hosted by the University of Minnesota. The Gophers, who finished second in the Big Ten, advanced to the NCAA "sweet 16."



Hats off to

Great Teachers

Any graduate of the University of Minnesota could probably name at least one professor who made a difference in his or her life, either by teaching an exceptional class, taking an interest in student research, or offering advice on career and academic decisions. Often, the students of such teachers go on to create an impact in their fields and in other people's lives. That's why the University of Minnesota Alumni Association is a financial supporter of the Distinguished Teaching Awards: the longstanding Horace T. Morse—University of Minnesota Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education and, in its third year, the Award for Outstanding Contributions to Postbaccalaureate, Graduate, and Professional Education.

This spring, 16 University teachers received the awards. A committee of faculty, students, and an alumni representative select the recipients based on their accomplishments in many areas, including teaching, advising, creating programs, and involvement in student research. The awards include a salary augmentation of \$3,000 a year for as long as the honoree remains at the University, plus a five-year award of \$1,500 annually for the recipient's department. Recipients also hold a five-year term on the Academy of Distinguished Teachers, a body that serves as mentors, advisers, and spokespersons for the University's teaching mission.

Morse-Alumni Award Recipients

Donna Zimmaro Bliss

Associate Professor
School of Nursing

"My classroom teaching about acute and critical care nursing is replete with patient cases from my own practice and research that make real to the student the interactive relationships between a nurse and patient."

William Durfee

Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering
Institute of Technology

"One learns design by doing design. . . . Building and testing a design provides immediate feedback on what works, and seeing what works reinforces understanding of the fundamental principles of engineering."

Murray Stowe Jensen

Associate Professor, Biological Sciences
General College

"Helping students develop a sense of empowerment as well as a basic knowledge of a subject is at the heart of developmental education, and it is a challenge I welcome in my work as a teacher."

Joan Karp

Professor, College of Education and Human Service Professions
University of Minnesota, Duluth

"Undergraduate students are a source of inspiration and delight to me. Their energy, fresh ideas, idealism, and enthusiasm are a constant source of my renewal. I hope that my contribution to them is to be a model teacher who provides a willing ear, an open door, comfort, inspiration, and challenge."

Daniel Kelliher

Associate Professor, Political Science
College of Liberal Arts

"I get the same wonderful jolt from an exceptional student as any teacher does. But I'm attracted most to the ones who have a tougher time. . . . It's just plain exhilarating to watch people discover how good they are."

Paul Magee

Professor, Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development
College of Biological Sciences

"The whole point of the life of the mind is to learn new ways to think and to help others do the same. Personally, I find that the intellectual excitement of research is exquisite, but the emotional rewards of teaching are unsurpassed."

Dwight Purdy

Professor, Division of Humanities
University of Minnesota, Morris

"My teaching and my research have been interdependent. . . . Through teaching the literature I love, I learn from students, and because of that learning I do research, and the research in its turn informs and renews my teaching."

Gary Thomas

Associate Professor, Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature
College of Liberal Arts

"It might be old-fashioned . . . but I still believe in 'relevance.' If I can't help students see that what we're studying is relevant . . . to who they are as people and what they hope to be in the world, then maybe it's not worth studying."



Donna Zimmaro Bliss



William Durfee



Murray Stowe Jensen



Joan Karp



Daniel Kelliher

Graduate and Professional Education Award Recipients

Ron Aminzade

Professor, Sociology
College of Liberal Arts

"I try to build trust with graduate students by showing them that . . . I have arrived where I am today through a difficult process of learning from my own mistakes."

Kenneth Brooks

Professor, Forest Resources
College of Natural Resources

"Graduate education is the glue that links together the research and educational missions of the University. . . . We must not lose sight of the role of the University in training graduate students—providing the scientists and professional leaders of tomorrow."

Edward Griffin

Professor, English
College of Liberal Arts

"I have tried to help my students professionally by picking topics . . . not the hot subject of the moment . . . but the subject I think will be hot in three years—when many students will choose dissertation subjects or look for teaching positions."

Chap Le

Professor, Biostatistics
School of Public Health

"Evaluation is more involved than just giving a grade. . . . It is important to distinguish those who learned from those who did not . . . letting them know where they are and how to do better."

Larry McKay

Professor, Food Science and Nutrition
College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences and College of Human Ecology

"I have been blessed with many superb graduate students, and it is their dedication that made scientific progress possible."

Patrick Schlievert

Professor, Microbiology
Medical School

"I think that one of my strengths as a teacher, based on my own very broad training and experience in medical microbiology and immunology, is the ability to provide bridges between basic science and clinical relevance."

Heinz Stefan

Professor, Civil Engineering
Institute of Technology

"In graduate education, I believe that students have to be selected not only because of their intellectual ability and knowledge, but also especially because of their demonstrated sense of curiosity."

Kathleen Watson

Associate Professor, Hematology/Internal Medicine
Medical School

"One of the paths to becoming a teacher and physician is to absorb the power of the ordinary events in one's life. . . . Doctoring, teaching, and motherhood are wellsprings of energy and inspiration for me."



Paul Magee



Dwight Purdy



Gary Thomas



Ron Aminzade



Kenneth Brooks



Edward Griffin



Chap Le



Larry McKay



Patrick Schlievert



Heinz Stefan



Kathleen Watson

Ads Celebrate Grads

There are big names in University alumni history—Nobel Prize winners and politicians, entertainers and journalists, medical pioneers and civil rights fighters. Many of those alumni were celebrated in the mid-1980s in a UMAA-sponsored ad campaign known as "Some of Our Graduates."

Last fall, the alumni association began gathering names with the thought of creating a new version of that campaign. "What we found was that there are many, many graduates out there who, while perhaps not well known outside their own fields, are right now making a big difference in the world," says Tom Garrison, UMAA associate executive director for communications. "It became clear that University alumni make a difference every day in many ways. Out of that grew our 'Changing the World' theme."

The first set of ads features three University graduates: Michelle Brekke ('77), a top-level flight director for NASA; award-winning playwright and educator Endesha Ida Mae Holland ('79, '84, '86); and Robert W. Gore ('61), inventor of the water-repellent fabric known as Gore-Tex. Ads featuring them began appearing in Twin Cities newspapers, including the Sunday editions of the *Star Tribune* and the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, in late April. The Twin Cities advertising agency Gabriel Diericks Razidlo provided creative direction for the ad campaign.

Margaret Carlson, UMAA executive director, says every alumnus is worth celebrating. "The University is really about changing the lives of the people who come here who then change the lives of the people around them," she says. "Research achievements are very important and sports get a lot of attention, but the real legacy of the University is people—those who are transformed by the University and then go forth to better the world."

The first ad in the "Changing the World" campaign appears on page 5 of this issue.



Aural History |

The Minnesota Orchestra makes a nostalgic return to Northrop Auditorium to mark the grand finale of the University's sesquicentennial.

For 44 years, the Minnesota Orchestra brought crowds and culture to the University of Minnesota campus, playing weekly concerts and inviting legendary composers and performers to Northrop Auditorium. That tradition will be celebrated on June 29 at the UMAA Annual Celebration—an event that this year is combined with the University's Sesquicentennial Grand Finale.

In 1929, the year Northrop opened, the economy crashed and the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, as it was then known, faced large debts and rising rents. A doubling of the rent for its rehearsal and performance space in downtown Minneapolis was "the blow that nearly killed the orchestra," longtime *Minneapolis Star* music critic John Sherman wrote in a book detailing the first 50 years of the orchestra. Since its founding in 1903, the group had built a national reputation under Emil Oberhoffer and Henri Verbruggen but had begun to suffer under the financial strain and Verbruggen's failing health. When the orchestra played one of three dedication concerts for Northrop in October 1929, the organization was at a turning point.

A groundbreaking agreement in the spring of 1930 allowed the orchestra to move into Northrop for office, rehearsal, and performance space. The University became a partner in the concerts, and the orchestra thrived in the academic atmosphere, the central location, and the reasonable terms of the agreement. Under the direction of Eugene Ormandy, Dimitri Mitropoulos, Antal Dorati, and Stanislaw Skrowaczewski (who will conduct the June 29 concert), the orchestra's reputation returned to one of greatness.

In those years on campus, the orchestra energized generations of concertgoers, students, and faculty. Dale Schatzlein, a backstage student worker some 30 years ago who is now direc-



Stanislaw Skrowaczewski was music director of the Minnesota Orchestra from 1960 to 1979. Now conductor emeritus, he will lead the orchestra at the Sesquicentennial Grand Finale on June 29 in Northrop Auditorium.

tor of concerts and lectures at Northrop, recalls that time: "The situation was that they would rehearse during the week. Then, as now, people walked through the building on cold days and you could hear [the orchestra] rehearsing. I know many times they would stop to listen for 10 minutes at the door." Occasionally a door might have been left open and students would slip into a back-row seat to watch for a time. "Obviously it did add something to campus that you never would have found otherwise," Schatzlein says.

Professor emeritus Dominick Argento, who eventually wrote several pieces for the orchestra, had more direct access. "At the time they were here the music department was housed in Scott Hall, about a hundred steps away," he says. "They rehearsed every morning from 10 to 12 and there were times they'd let me bring a group of composition students over when they had [visiting guests] Aaron Copland or Igor Stravinsky. For students to actually meet the great man and listen to the rehearsal was something you could never have duplicated" if the orchestra were not on campus. Other greats who came to campus with the orchestra included Sergei Rachmaninoff, Leonard Bernstein, Vladimir Horowitz, Arthur Rubinstein, and Isaac Stern, many through a special recital series called the University Artists Course. The Metropolitan Opera visited Northrop annually from 1945 to 1986, cosponsored by Northrop and the orchestra.

Argento enjoyed a special relationship with the orchestra both before and after its time on campus. Among the works he wrote for the orchestra is *A Ring of Time*, which debuted at Northrop in 1973 to mark the orchestra's 70th anniversary. "Spring," one of the movements from that work, will open the June 29 concert.

The orchestra moved to its own home, Orchestra Hall in

Conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski had his hands full with Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem*, played in Northrop Auditorium with orchestra, choruses, and soloists in 1964. Then two years old, the work commemorates the rebuilding of an English church destroyed by bombing in World War II.



National President

Stamp of Approval

As often as I have felt grateful for being a University of Minnesota alumna, no moment has quite compared to the intense pride I felt on January 24. On that day, in our very own Northrop Auditorium, the country honored alumnus Roy Wilkins by unveiling a commemorative U.S. postage stamp that bears his likeness.

Wilkins, who graduated with degrees in sociology and journalism from the University in 1923, is the 24th African American to be honored in the Postal Service's Black Heritage Commemorative Stamp Series, taking his place in the impressive company of giants like Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Jr., Scott Joplin, Sojourner Truth, and Malcolm X—and fellow University of Minnesota alumnus Whitney Moore Young (M.A. '47).



Jean Fountain, '74 M.B.A.

Several cities—including St. Louis, where Wilkins was born, and New York, where he led the NAACP—vied for the honor of being selected as the site where the Wilkins commemorative stamp would be unveiled. No wonder. This man, the grandson of a slave, campaigned for civil rights, helped organize the 1963 March on Washington where Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech, and, as head of the NAACP, conferred with presidents and fought for legislation that would erase segregation in this country. Wilkins was a man whom *Newsweek* described as among the last of a generation of civil rights leaders who "pulled and tugged and cajoled the nation through decades of change so profound that many

Americans cannot imagine, still less remember, what segregation was like."

That the moving ceremony on January 24 took place at Northrop speaks not only to the attachment Wilkins felt to the University of Minnesota, but also to the University's gratitude to him and the institution's determination to live up to the standards Wilkins embodied.

You don't have to look very far around campus to see that the University treasures the efforts and accomplishments of Roy Wilkins. There's the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice in the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. On the Humphrey Institute's second floor, the Roy Wilkins seminar room displays a collection of Wilkins memorabilia. An endowed chair bears his name, as does a residence hall.

As for his devotion to the University, Wilkins—who was raised from early childhood by an aunt and uncle in St. Paul—says in his autobiography, *Standing Fast*, that "Minnesotans are fiercely proud of their university and I never considered going anywhere else."

Although Wilkins wrote this about the U of the 1920s, many Minnesotans seem to be echoing his sentiments today. High school students are applying to our University in record numbers, according to University admissions director Wayne Sigler, with this year's numbers on track for a 20 percent increase in applications since fall 1997. And, says Sigler, the fall 2001 freshmen are even better prepared academically than last year's class.

"The improved undergraduate experience has made the University more attractive to Minnesota's brightest students," Sigler says. "High school students today are choosing the University because we offer a world-class undergraduate education."

New students are having positive experiences at the U, too. According to the Office of Student Development, 94.2 percent of first-year students surveyed report being "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with life in general at the University.

These trends are good news for Roy Wilkins's alma mater. And on January 24 as I listened to students from Franklin Middle School's Afrocentric Educational Academy pay tribute to Wilkins by reciting Maya Angelou's "And Still I Rise," I thought, it's just possible that the next Roy Wilkins, full of talent, promise, and commitment—and a degree from the U in 2010 or so—is in this auditorium. ■

downtown Minneapolis, in 1974. But the tie to the University remains. A dozen University instructors and several alumni are principal players with the orchestra, and they continue to commission work from University faculty. Another work on the June 29 program is "Echo's Shell" from former University professor Eric Stokes's Symphony No. 1, written in 1979. And Argento's favorite premiere ever was at Orchestra Hall when soprano Frederica von Stade performed an Argento work commissioned by Neville Mariner especially for her.

Those now with the orchestra and the alumni association note the appropriateness of having the orchestra help mark the end of the University's 150th year. "For 44 of its 97 years, the Minnesota Orchestra made its home at Northrop Auditorium to the great benefit of both," says David J. Hyslop, president of the Minnesota Orchestral Association. "The orchestra thrived as it enriched campus life. We've continued to partner with the University of Minnesota throughout our entire history and are now honored to perform at the grand finale of the University's sesquicentennial celebration."

UMAA executive director Margaret Carlson agrees. "In our 97 years of alumni association annual celebrations, we have often featured great names like Walter Cronkite, Garrison Keillor, and Doris Kearns Goodwin," she says. "But I can't think of any more appropriate name than the Minnesota Orchestra for this sesquicentennial-ending event."

—Chris Coughlan-Smith

UMAA Annual Celebration and Sesquicentennial Grand Finale

Date: Friday, June 29, 2001

Time: Dinner, McNamara Alumni Center, 5-7 p.m.; Minnesota Orchestra performance, 7:45 p.m.; fireworks over Mississippi River (visible from Northrop Mall), immediately following concert, approximately 10 p.m.

Concert details:

Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, conductor

Lydia Artymiw (U of M professor), piano

"Spring" from *A Ring of Time* by Dominick Argento (U of M professor emeritus)

"Echo's Shell" from Symphony No. 1 by Eric Stokes (former U of M professor)

Introduction and Allegro appassionato by Robert Schumann

(Intermission)

Symphony No. 2 by Johannes Brahms

Tickets: Dinner and concert: \$45 UMAA members, \$55 nonmembers. Concert only: \$30 UMAA members, \$40 nonmembers. Call the Northrop Ticket Office at 612-624-2345.

Major program sponsors: American Express Financial Advisers, Hubbard Broadcasting, U of M Sesquicentennial Committee



Member Spotlight | Claude Hills

As a freshman in college, Claude Hills did so poorly in his first track meet that he turned in his uniform the following Monday, abandoning his dream of track stardom. Little did he suspect that nearly four decades later he would begin an international track career that would net him more than 80 gold medals and induction into the U.S. Masters Track and Field Hall of Fame.

Hills, who earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Minnesota in 1937, was working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture at the Eastern Regional Research Lab in Philadelphia in 1969 when one of his employees mentioned that he was going to participate in a local track meet. Hills, who had just taken up jogging six months before at the age of 56, had retained his love of the sport and decided to go root the man on.

Paging through the program while sitting in the stands, Hills perked up when he noticed that a mile run for men 40 and over was scheduled to begin in an hour. He quickly found out that only two men had entered and that there were three trophies to be won. Seizing the moment, Hills persuaded a track official to scrounge up some running shorts and shoes in time for him to enter the race. He came in dead last but walked away with a nice trophy for his mantle.

He also left that meet with an entry form for the first Eastern U.S. Masters (40 and over) meet in New York City. He practiced with a discus he borrowed from a coach at a local high school and came in second in his age group, not at all discouraged by the fact that there were only two entries to begin with. He also came in last in the two-mile run, getting lapped three times.

With his passion for track reignited, Hills began a vigorous training regimen and soon found himself breaking records and piling up gold medals, primarily in the hurdles, long jump, sprints, and decathlon, which proved to be his best event. Hills captured his first gold medal in grand style, winning the 100-meter dash at the age of 60, ahead of an opponent who had won a bronze medal in the Olympics years earlier.

Hills, now 88, no longer participates in the sprints due to a nagging knee injury. But he continues to attend all the local meets to help officiate and compete in one or two events, usually the high jump, long jump, triple jump, discus, or javelin. "I still enjoy the companionship," he says. "At this age, the meets are not quite as cutthroat. In fact, a lot of us are just glad to see someone else out there who's healthy."

Although Hills enjoyed a stellar 36-year career at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, publishing 70 scientific papers



Claude Hills

Hills began a vigorous training regimen and soon found himself breaking records and piling up gold medals, primarily in the hurdles, long jump, sprints, and decathlon.

and receiving eight patents, he's perhaps most proud of his track accolades. "Sometimes I pinch myself and wonder if it's all true because I never expected so much success," he says.

After earning his Ph.D. and spending a year in industry,

Hills returned to the University of Minnesota in 1938 on a Hormel Fellowship and stayed two more years. One of his fondest memories of his days at the University was cheering on the football team headed by legendary coach Bernie Bierman, who led his team to the national title five times between 1934 and 1941.

"In 1940 I had just gotten a new job in Washington, D.C.," recalls Hills. "But I managed to postpone leaving the U by a couple weeks so I could see the final game of the season against Michigan. They were ranked number one and we were ranked number two in the nation, but we beat them 7-6. That was quite a game!"

—Phil Bolsta

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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Member Spotlight | Karen Magler Johnson

The daughter of a railroad worker, Karen Magler Johnson first tasted travel on train trips with her family. Later the St. Paul native became the first female student member of the Flying Gophers to obtain a pilot's license. With the Flying Gophers, a now-defunct University-sponsored aeronautics club, Johnson flew to intercollegiate competitions across the United States.

Johnson, who earned an associate of arts degree from the University of Minnesota's General College in 1962, eventually gave up flying because of the expense. She worked secretarial positions at health-care facilities until 1973, when it dawned on her to leverage her wanderlust. "I called around but was told I lacked the experience to be a travel agent," she says. "Finally, a travel agency hired me for a secretarial/ book-keeping position. Within the first week on the job, I knew I'd found my niche."

She quickly ascended through the agency's ranks, eventually becoming vice president and co-owner, and her abilities attracted broader attention. "In 1983 the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce asked me to chair a committee to assist Costa Rica with developing a tourism industry," Johnson says.

At that time, Central America was better known for political unrest than tourism, so she developed media trips to educate business leaders and the public. She advocated ecologically responsible travel long before the word *ecotourism* was coined. "I remember saying, 'Your gold and diamonds of the future are in preserving your natural resources because people need to connect with nature, not just go to another resort or another beach,'" she says. "Those were big words coming from a young woman, but I believed in them."

During the same period, Johnson's peers urged her to seek leadership roles in industry associations. "But I realized the Twin Cities were one of the only major metros without a women's travel association," she says. "After networking with other pioneering women in the region, the Minnesota Executive Women in Tourism was formed and I was elected as its first president."

In 1989, Johnson founded her own travel agency, Preferred Adventures, Ltd., which emphasizes ecotourism, and is now regularly called on to speak on the subject. Her St. Paul company serves travelers worldwide, including the grandchildren of some of her earliest customers.

"Our clients want to be challenged physically and mentally," she says. "So we provide experts—marine biologists,



Karen Magler Johnson

"Travelers can pitch in, such as by bringing school supplies to the villages they visit."

historians, geologists, naturalists, ornithologists—whatever is appropriate. Wherever we go, we contract only with individuals and hospitality companies who are leaders in supporting

sustainable development in their region. And we provide concrete suggestions for how our travelers can pitch in, such as by bringing school supplies to the villages they visit."

Although she speaks with certitude now, Johnson wasn't always clear on what direction to take. She enrolled in the U's College of Liberal Arts at age 16, having skipped the eighth grade, but performed poorly for two years. "I was kind of a scatterbrain," she says. "I had so many interests I never really thought ahead about any one of them."

Johnson credits the University and her mother for not giving up on her. "It was a blessing that there was a General College that I could fit into," she says. "And my mother was there in the background saying, 'Get the degree—even if it's only a two-year, it's an accomplishment.'"

Recently, Johnson answered another challenge, giving back to her school after learning of fellow General College alumnus Stanley S. Hubbard's \$1.5 million matching gift (donors' gifts to General College will be matched by Hubbard). "The more you travel, the more you realize how much we have," Johnson says. "I've always cautioned myself against taking this nation for granted. Accessible and affordable education is one of the backbones of our democracy; we couldn't be where we are without it." —Anne Rawland Gabriel

Upcoming alumni association events on campus and around the country. For more information, visit www.umaa.umn.edu or call 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867) and ask to speak to the UMAA staff person listed after the event.

May

- 17 School of Journalism and Mass Communications Alumni Society awards of excellence and honors banquet, 7 p.m., McNamara Alumni Center; contact Kent Spaulding
- 19 Baltimore Chapter picnic and baseball game, picnic 11:15 a.m., Federal Hill Park; Orioles vs. Twins 1:35 p.m., Camden Yards; contact Mark Allen
- 31- June 2 Medical School Alumni Society reunion weekend; contact Julie Crews Barger

June

- 3-11 Great Lakes cruise aboard Le Levant; contact Jessica Almlie
- 7 Education and Human Development Alumni Society post-baccalaureate picnic, 4:30 p.m., Nolte Courtyard; contact Raleigh Kaminsky
- 9 Fergus Falls Chapter in SummerFest Parade, details TBA; contact Libby Tate
- 9 Wildlife trek with Puget Sound Chapter, details TBA; contact Mark Allen

- 10 Baltimore Chapter Sunday sailing brunch, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Clipper City docked at the Inner Harbor; contact Mark Allen
- 13 St. Paul campus agriculture reunion, Cedar Lake Farms; contact Mary Buschette
- 17 Boston Chapter Big Ten Night at the Pops, 7:30 p.m.; contact Mark Allen
- 24- July 7 History of Food and Wine; contact Jessica Almlie
- 26- July 7 Treasures of the Seine; contact Jessica Almlie

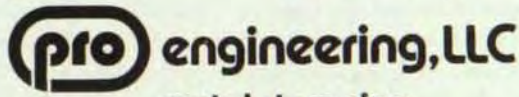
29 UMAA Annual Celebration and Sesquicentennial Grand Finale; see page ??

July

- 14 Puget Sound Chapter day at the races, 11:30 a.m., Auburn, Washington; contact Mark Allen
- 17-25 Alumni College in Provence; contact Jessica Almlie
- 19- Aug. 1 Voyage of the Goddess (French and Italian rivers); contact Jessica Almlie

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Gateway Plaza: A New Public Square

When it comes to campus improvements at the University of Minnesota, nothing surprises us anymore. Over the past several years, the University has undertaken unprecedented construction and renovation projects. Even so, one particular transformation underway is unlike anything we've seen in quite some time.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,
Ph.D. '83

In June, construction begins on the Gateway Plaza, an outdoor space on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus that will connect the University and the surrounding community like few other places on campus. This area of green space will occupy the block bounded by Oak Street, Washington Avenue, Walnut Street, and the McNamara Alumni Center. When completed in late fall 2001, the Gateway Plaza will establish a breathtaking new entrance to the Twin Cities campus.

The plaza's design palette includes a reflecting pool and audible water features, a dense grove of native trees, prairie grasses, and manicured lawns. The variety of environments in the plaza evokes the larger Minnesota landscape. In fact, even the trees on the plaza will be species found in every corner of the state.

The alumni association endorsed this "soft" landscape approach while participating in a series of design workshops for the plaza. But we also wanted to strike a balance with some "hardscape" elements, to offer something for as many people as possible. The result is that, throughout the plaza, visitors will find spots for sun and shade, grassy patches and pavers, and benches for resting and trails for strolling. Plans also include a monument, still in the concept phase, for the corner of Oak and Washington. Together, all of these features will allow for a variety of uses for students, visiting parents, alumni, people who work at the University, and members of neighboring communities alike. If there is one key element that has driven the plaza design, it is usage.

From the beginning, we've considered the Gateway Plaza to be an outdoor room for the University. Its flexible features confirm that concept. The large reflecting pool has a wide granite apron that will serve as a stage for outdoor events accommodating 1,200 people seated or up to 5,000 standing. For events that require power for sound or lighting, electrical infrastructure will be installed below the plaza. And for parking, visitors can now use the newly opened University Avenue ramp adjacent to the alumni center.

I imagine the Gateway Plaza as a public square—not just an important campus space but a contemporary public space. Picture this: On an average day, students might study in the shade between classes. Amateur musicians, such as violinists or flutists, might play for whomever cares to listen. Brown baggers will make it a favorite lunch spot. Frisbee enthusiasts will love the open spaces. But in a moment's notice, the plaza could accommodate thousands of students and Gopher sports fans for a pep rally. The plaza will be ideal for an assortment of events, such as commencement exercises, outdoor weddings, concerts, art fairs, dances, homecoming festivities. . . . The possibilities are endless.

As the seasons pass, the Gateway Plaza will mark the changes in spectacular fashion. I can imagine the fall leaves turning maroon and gold, welcoming students back to campus. The darker days of winter will be illuminated by twinkling lights woven throughout the trees. And in spring and summer, the budding and blooming trees and plants will add a colorful, fragrant breath of fresh air to this corner of campus.

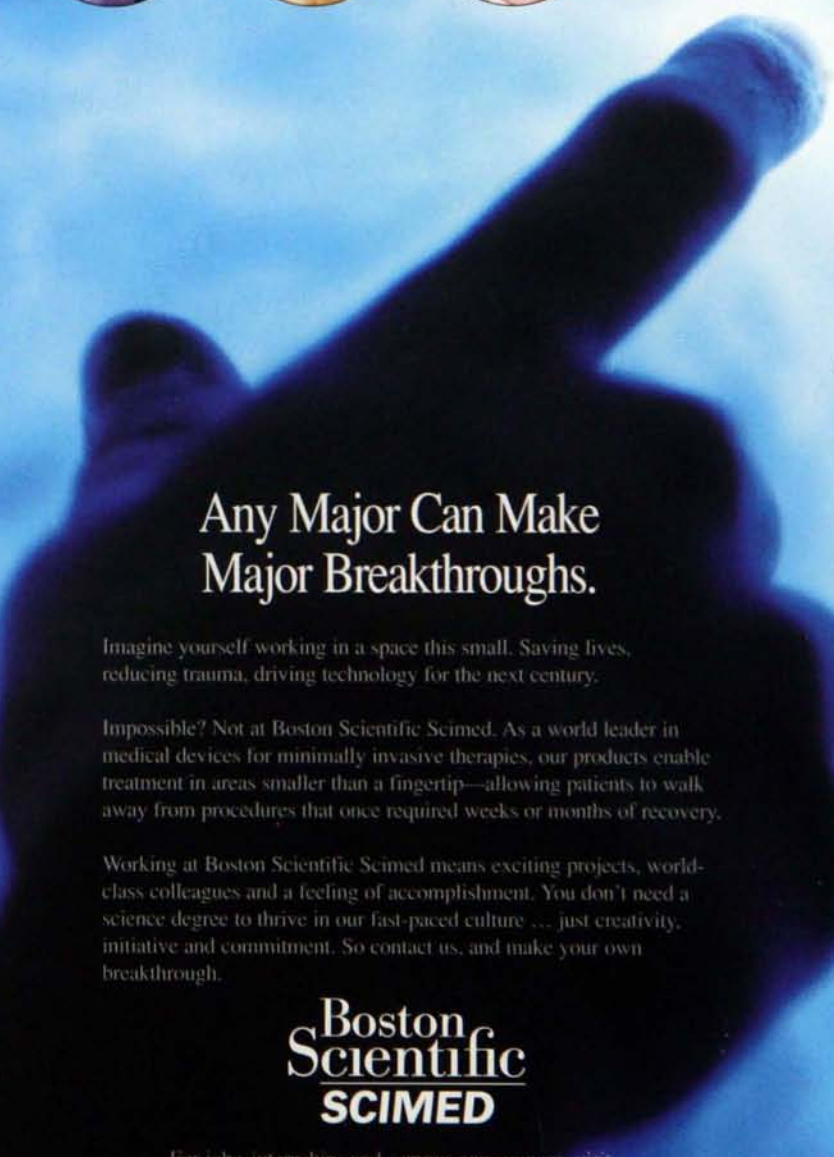
The Gateway Plaza will be funded by the University Gateway Corporation, which includes the alumni association, the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the University of Minnesota Medical Foundation. But the project is part of a larger University commitment to campus improvements. Almost daily, someone stops me and says, "I am just astounded at what's happening on campus!" And with good reason. We're nearing completion of a capital improvement plan to infuse \$1 billion into building construction and renovation around the University, and the campus landscapes have never looked better.

The Twin Cities campus features nine precincts, and each of these districts is characterized by integrated designs and green spaces. Together, the Gateway Plaza and the McNamara Alumni Center will serve as the key indoor and outdoor features located at the heart of the Gateway Precinct.

I expect the Gateway Plaza will soon become one of the University's most beloved and most visited destinations, joining the ranks of Northrop Mall, the Knoll, and the lawn and gardens of the St. Paul Mall. Urban campuses are hard-pressed to find acres of land amid the academic buildings and residence halls to offer some visual breathing room. That's why the Gateway Plaza will offer our community such a refreshing respite.

It has been decades since the Twin Cities campus has seen anything like this. Because its designers have painstakingly planned the space to be accommodating and welcoming, soon the Gateway Plaza will transform the University experience for anyone who visits. And, like many of the country's best urban plazas, the Gateway Plaza will benefit not only this end of campus, it will be a valuable addition for the entire Twin Cities community. ■

Urban campuses are hard-pressed to find acres of land amid the academic buildings and residence halls to offer some visual breathing room. The Gateway Plaza will offer our community a refreshing respite.



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