

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# MINNESOTA

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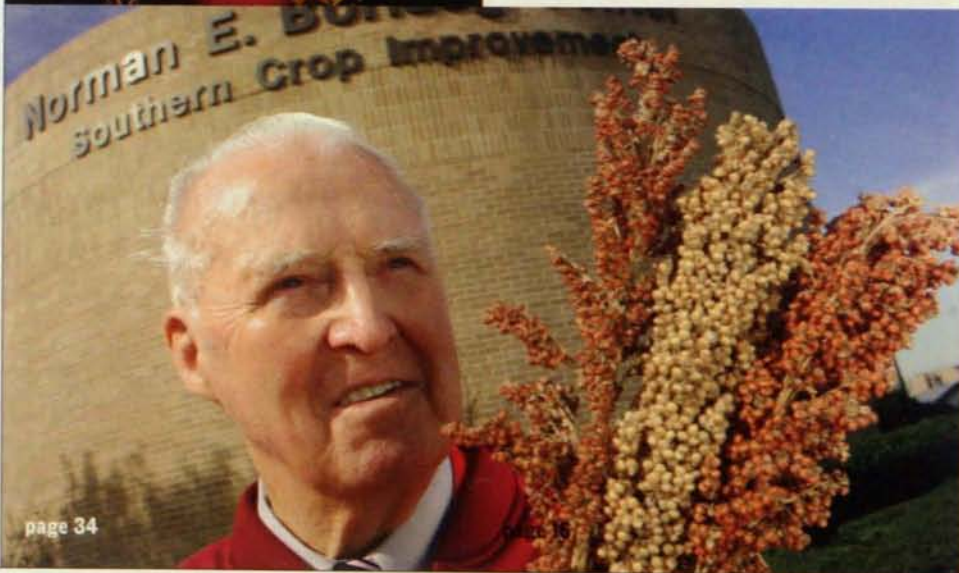
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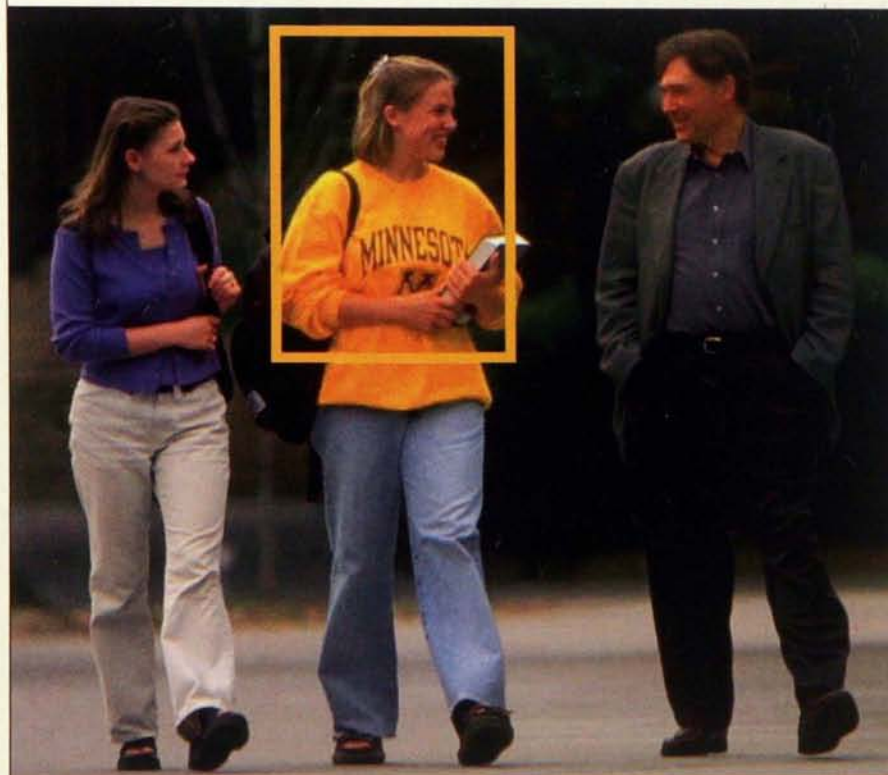
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## Editor's Note

### Opening the Box

**P**ulling this issue of *Minnesota* together, I made a trip to University Archives to search for historical photographs of Norman Borlaug (B.S. '37, M.S. '39, Ph.D. '42). Borlaug—photographed at Texas A&M for our cover—has lasting ties to the University of Minnesota and visits regularly. Borlaug Hall is located on the St. Paul campus, and he is often photographed there with devotees of all ages and nations.

I thumbed through the dozen or so images in the "Bor-" file, but I had seen most of them published many times before. I knew that there had to be more photos somewhere. Then one of the archivists came over to where I sat. "Did you know that Norman Borlaug has donated his personal papers to the University?" she asked and pointed to the cabinets behind me. "We have 40 boxes, and more are on the way."

For those unfamiliar with Borlaug, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for developing a hardy, high-yield wheat that has transformed farming in drought-ravaged countries, saving countless lives. Borlaug turns 90 this year but is hard to catch up



Shelly Fling

to. He continues to travel the world, working with scientists, farmers, and nations' leaders to end starvation. The boxes atop the cabinets and stacked on the floor likely contain 60 years of notes and artifacts; sorting through them will take a dedicated soul years. I had only an hour, so I hurriedly hoisted down a box.

Mindful not to rearrange the contents, I pulled out a few items for inspection: a yellowed program from a conference in Europe, a memento in a red box from Japan, a travel itinerary to China, snapshots of farmers in Africa standing beside a field of corn whose stalks reached eight feet high. I picked up one of several hardcover journals made in Mexico. The pages were filled, in careful hand, with notes about plants, currency exchange rates, and various countries' organization of government.

I paused to consider my mixed feelings about opening this box—and knowing that 39 others were waiting. I had thought I had learned everything necessary about the subject of our article before putting a writer on him. Finding background material had been a snap. (I typed "Norman Borlaug" into Google and more than 11,000 links surfaced.) Our story was already written, edited, and threatening to push past five magazine pages. I looked at my watch. Two hours had passed. I selected a few photos for our feature and concluded that Borlaug's story would be told again—by *Minnesota* one day, I was certain, and surely by many others. And I would know where to find the raw material.

As I prepared to leave, I had a lingering feeling that I'd taken liberties with someone else's possessions. "If I were to donate my personal history," I said, "I'd weed out a few things first."

The archivist, up to her elbow in another box, looked up and said, "If you lived as long as Norman Borlaug has, you wouldn't care what people found out about you."

That certainly is true for the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. We want people to find out everything possible about the UMAA. This issue of *Minnesota* plunges deep into the alumni association's past as we prepare to celebrate its 100th birthday on January 30. Nearly 250,000 University alumni are receiving this issue, and for UMAA members, the magazine is accompanied by *A Century of Memories*, the history of the association (the history will also be published on our Web site, at [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu), in late January).

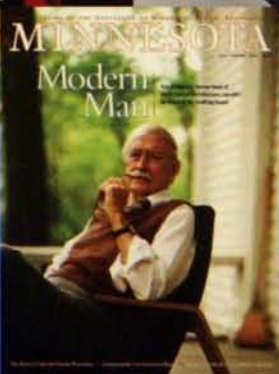
In anticipation of the 100th anniversary, *Minnesota* has been publishing historical articles about noteworthy chapters in alumni association history. In this issue, we look at the UMAA's legacy of advocacy for the University and have compiled a timeline of key moments in association history. But, as is often the case when digging into history, the more we uncovered, the more there is to learn. ■

*Shelly Fling may be reached at [fling003@umn.edu](mailto:fling003@umn.edu).*

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# Letters

### Truly a Bronko Myth

The letter by A.B. Savage ("More Bronko Lore," September–October 2003) created some untrue Bronko lore. Bronko Nagurski (Minnesota, 1927–29) and Red Grange (Illinois, 1923–25) could not have met as college players. They were teammates for the Chicago Bears in the early 1930s. However, Savage did recall an unfortunate occurrence.

As a Minnesota fan, I remember reading that the Gophers stopped Grange by running him out-of-bounds rather than trying to tackle him head-on. When I moved to Urbana, the story was that Bob Zuppke, the Illinois coach, refused to play Minnesota for the rest of his career after the game where Grange was apparently targeted and deliberately injured. A blot on the sportsmanship record for the Gophers.

Nagurski and Grange are reunited this year on stamps honoring football greats.

CURTIS WILSON (B.S. '48, M.S. '51)  
*Urbana, Illinois*

### Perfect Stadium Climate, No Dome Atmosphere

I moved to Minnesota in March 1992. I am originally from Arizona, where I used to have season tickets to Arizona State University football. The climate in Arizona is not good for playing football in the daytime, let alone outside. The home games were played at night, and the atmosphere of the on-campus stadium was great. Football should be played outside, and Minnesota has the perfect climate for football.

I was saddened to learn of the demise of Memorial Stadium. From the pictures I have seen, it looked like the classic brick stadium. I have attended many games at the Metrodome over the years. The latest was the Michigan–Minnesota game. My son and I sat next to several Michigan fans. They remarked how the Dome had no atmosphere and I had to agree. When I compare my experience from Arizona State's stadium to the Metrodome, Arizona State's is 100 percent better.



I really think the Golden Gopher football program can take that final step, winning a Big Ten championship, with an on-campus stadium. We have a great coach and a good football program, but a stadium on campus would really put the program over the top.

ERIC RUSSELL  
*Wyoming Township, Minnesota*

### A Creative Title

The U of M has an "associate professor of time and interactivity" ("Art Matters," November–December)? Wow. It's OK with me, but are you sure you want the general public to know?

PAUL NELSON (J.D. '77)  
*St. Paul*

### More Science, Less Art

From reading *Minnesota* magazine, a person would get the impression that the U of M is now dedicated almost entirely to the arts and only slightly to science and technology (e.g., agriculture production). It is science and technology that has been largely responsible for improvement in our quality of life and longevity.

Put more emphasis on what the U of M is doing to improve life by advances in science and technology. Good philosophers should be put ahead of modern artists. The U of M should not put much effort into programs whose product or effort cannot be measured by some yardstick of progress.

LLOYD HALVORSON (B.S. '39, Ph.D. '43)  
*Warrenton, Virginia*

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**Michelle Milanovich,**

**Director:** 98% of people could be in a relationship where their significant other **makes more money** than them, while only 2% would have a problem with it.



**Nancy Kirsch, Director:**

73% of people believe that 'having too much to drink' is the biggest **faux pas** on a first date. 10% think that dressing inappropriately is the worst mistake.



**Lisa Purdum, Director:**

51% think that the biggest **turn-off** on a first date is a person with bad manners. 34% don't enjoy it when their date talks only about themselves.

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## From the Man's Perspective



Ask yourself one (and only one) question at the end of a first date: **Did I enjoy myself sufficiently to see this person again? And when in doubt, go on a second date!**

The sole purpose of a first date is to determine whether or not you'd like to go on a second. First dates are not about wedding plans, commitment or gene pool probabilities. They are just an opportunity to decide about date number two!

**Don't talk about past relationships, ex-boyfriends or ex-husbands on a first date.**

It makes no difference whether you have good things to say or are completely bashing them. Neither creates a good impression. If you talk about how wonderful your ex was, your date may wonder why you're not still with him, or if he will always be compared to your ex. If you bash your ex on a first date, your date may have reservations about your involvement with someone you don't respect. Remember, every adult comes into a new relationship with some type of baggage, but the savvy single leaves their baggage in the closet.

Daniel Dolan, a Harvard Law School graduate and former partner at the international law firm Winston and Strawn, left his law career in 1997 to become CEO of It's Just Lunch!

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# Campus Digest

A compendium of news, research, events, happenings, and developments from around the University. \* Edited by Chris Coughlan-Smith

## Wandering Bulls

For more than two years, Professor F. Abel Ponce de Leon, head of the Department of Animal Science, has gazed out his office window in Haecker Hall and seen bulls. Giant bronze bulls—two installed in fall 2001, another a year later—adorn the lawn across the street. “It is a peaceful thing to see out my window, an interesting thing to see,” Ponce de Leon said during a recent snowstorm. “They constantly change. Right now they make an interesting piece of art, almost like a Picasso painting with the angles and contrast.”

Ponce de Leon enjoys watching people touching or climbing on the bulls, created by sculptor Peter Woytuk, located in a quiet corner of the St. Paul campus mall. But at least twice in 2003 he has arrived at his office and found a surprising scene: The 1,400-pound bulls had moved during the night. In spring, one had traveled about 100 yards; a few days later, it was turned to face the opposite direction. Early in the fall semester, all three bulls were tipped on their sides; it took six University workers and a forklift to right them.

While a few in his department were upset about the bulls’ nighttime wanderings, most took it in good humor, Ponce de Leon reports. “The public is bonding with the art,” he says. “The public owns the art. The bulls are so important to them that they get moved around. We knew they were touchable; now we see they are movable too.”

Shelly Willis, the U’s public art coordinator, while discon-

certed by the cost of moving the bulls back into place and by the potential for damage, also finds the moving and tumbling interesting. “The personality of the sculptures and surroundings changed as they were moved,” exactly as public art is intended to do, she says. Besides, she adds, “they looked so funny from different angles. Someone told me it was like they were rolling over to get their bellies scratched.”

While rearranging the bulls seems to have been good-natured pranks, albeit ones that took a dozen or so very strong people to pull off, Willis doesn’t want to take chances. She is currently finding money to affix the bulls to the ground. (She won’t give details so as not to tip off potential pranksters.) Willis encourages people to interact with the bulls, providing they leave them where they are. When the bulls were given their fall cleaning and waxing in October, she says, “you could see shiny spots where they were worn from people climbing on them. That’s a lovely part of the sculpture, that people feel compelled to interact with it.”



The much-beloved bronze bulls on the St. Paul campus have been the target of impressive pranks in recent months, having been moved and tipped. Although they weigh 1,400 pounds each, plans are under way to affix them to the ground.



U research findings



## OVERHEARD ON CAMPUS

"[Campaign finance reform] intrudes deeply into the political life of the nation. . . . Expenditures are at the core of freedom of speech."

—Kenneth Starr, in the U's annual Silha Lecture in November. Starr, best known as special prosecutor in the Whitewater and Monica Lewinsky investigations against President Bill Clinton, now represents U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) in his constitutional challenge of the 2002 Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act.

"We don't want to be overwhelmed by our mistakes, but we don't want to just concentrate on the happy facts, either. In the Pledge of Allegiance, it says 'liberty and justice for all.' But unless we have the liberty to express the fact that not everything is just—and the liberty to pursue justice—then we can't move forward."

—Michael Huerth (B.A. '73, B.S. '75), principal of Anishinabe Academy in Minneapolis, in the Star Tribune on the state's proposed educational history standards that omit any mention of the way American Indians were mistreated in Minnesota and throughout America.

"Our whole social construct of a lifetime was built 50 years ago. Why do we retire at 65? Well, that's when most people died."

—Dennis Ahlburg, labor economist and senior associate dean at the Carlson School of Management, on an expected worker shortage as baby boomers begin retiring without enough younger workers to replace them.

"If you can look at all of the evidence and not conclude that there was a conspiracy, you're either a disinformation agent with the CIA or mentally deficient."

—James Fetzer, philosophy professor at the University of Minnesota and leader of the "maximalist wing" of conspiracy theorists, contending that President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in a plot involving gunmen in at least four buildings and that the Zapruder film and much of the autopsy evidence were forged in a cover-up.

## Remedy for Herbs

Ingredients and dosage recommendations vary so widely in over-the-counter herbal products that consumers may not be getting what they think they are and doctors might have a difficult time giving their patients proper advice. Researchers at the University of Minnesota's schools of public health and pharmacy surveyed 880 products containing the 10 most popular herbs (from echinacea to valerian). In comparing labels with the latest textbook on herbs and herbal research, 37 percent of the products either varied widely from the book's recommended dosages or had labels that were indecipherable to a trained pharmacist. The federal Food and Drug Administration, at the direction of Congress, has been careful not to overregulate herbal products and limit their availability. However, the U researchers urged the FDA to consider tightening label standards to protect consumers. The research was printed in the October 27, 2003, issue of the *Archives of Internal Medicine*.

## Racial Profiling Report

Drivers in some minority groups are stopped and searched by local law enforcement at greater rates than whites, yet searches of white drivers typically yield more contraband items, according to research conducted by the University of Minnesota Law School's Institute on Race and Poverty for the nonprofit Council on Crime and Justice. According to a survey of one year's worth of traffic stops in 65 Minnesota jurisdictions, police and sheriff's officers stopped black and Latino drivers at much greater rates than whites when compared with the total driving population. (American Indians and Asian Americans were stopped slightly less frequently). Participating officers reported, however, that in about 90 percent of stops they could not tell the race of the driver until the vehicle was already stopped. All the minority groups except Asian Americans were subject to discretionary searches more frequently as well. But officers found drugs, weapons, or other illegal items in the vehicles of white drivers in 24 percent of searches, compared with 11 percent for blacks and 9 percent for Latinos. The research was conducted under a 2001 Minnesota law mandating a statewide racial profiling study. The full report, released September 24, 2003, is on-line at [www.umn.edu/irp](http://www.umn.edu/irp).

## Arts and Economies

A recent University of Minnesota study of 10 metropolitan areas finds that a thriving arts community contributes significantly to a strong regional economy, rather than being the consequence of an already strong economy. In addition to the economic impact of large arts events and large arts organizations, researchers at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs found that individual artists contribute by exporting their work or performing in touring shows, hiring assistants and support workers, purchasing supplies and studio space, influencing design and marketing, teaching, and in other ways. Artists also contribute to an area's quality of life, something many potential new residents and even businesses consider in relocating. Although the study could not firmly quantify the economic impact, the authors use census data to argue that the "artistic dividend" is larger and more stable than the impact asserted for a professional sports team. *The Artistic Dividend: The Arts' Hidden Contributions to Regional Development* is available at [www.hhh.umn.edu/projects/prie/artistic\\_dividend.pdf](http://www.hhh.umn.edu/projects/prie/artistic_dividend.pdf).

## Food Fighters

Another cancer-fighting food has been uncovered by University of Minnesota researchers. A substance called 6-gingerol, which gives ginger its flavor, inhibited the growth of colorectal cancer cells in mice with suppressed immune systems, reported Ann Bode, a researcher at the U's Hormel Institute in Austin, Minnesota. Ginger is a traditional Chinese remedy for stomach upset and has been studied for its apparent cholesterol-lowering and antioxidant properties. Bode presented the research before a meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Phoenix in October. Minnesota also recently reported on the cancer-fighting properties of green and black tea and aspirin. U researchers are widely credited with discovering the cancer-fighting properties of broccoli and other vegetables in the 1960s.

## Hmong Tradition with a Western Twist

The fifth annual Hmong Student Association Heritage Day took place on the St. Paul campus in November. About 500 people gathered for a day of skits, speakers, and fashion shows meant to honor cultural tradition, celebrate the success of Hmong college students, and highlight how notions of success change from generation to generation.



Clockwise from above: Sisters and University of Minnesota students (left to right) Shary, Seng, and Susie Vang modeled fashions that combined traditional Hmong needlework with Western items.

Mor Vue, a College of Liberal Arts sophomore, wore a traditional Hmong head wrap and other Hmong clothing during a fashion show.

Ann Vang, a College of Liberal Arts senior, showed off the Hmong tradition of intricate beadwork.

## Minority Report

Of the 2003 freshman class on the Twin Cities campus, 21 percent are students of color. Here are several statistics relevant to students of color.

Background	2003 Freshman Enrolled	Freshman credits 2001/2003	% attending college poverty*/overall	Poverty rate**
African American	333	13.64/14.59	28/46	22.7
American Indian	91	14.23/14.83	Sample too small	24.5
Asian/Pacific Amer.	714	14.44/15.27	78/78	10.2
Chicano/Latino	152	14.47/15.27	29/40	21.4
White	3985	14.99/15.56	40/64	7.8

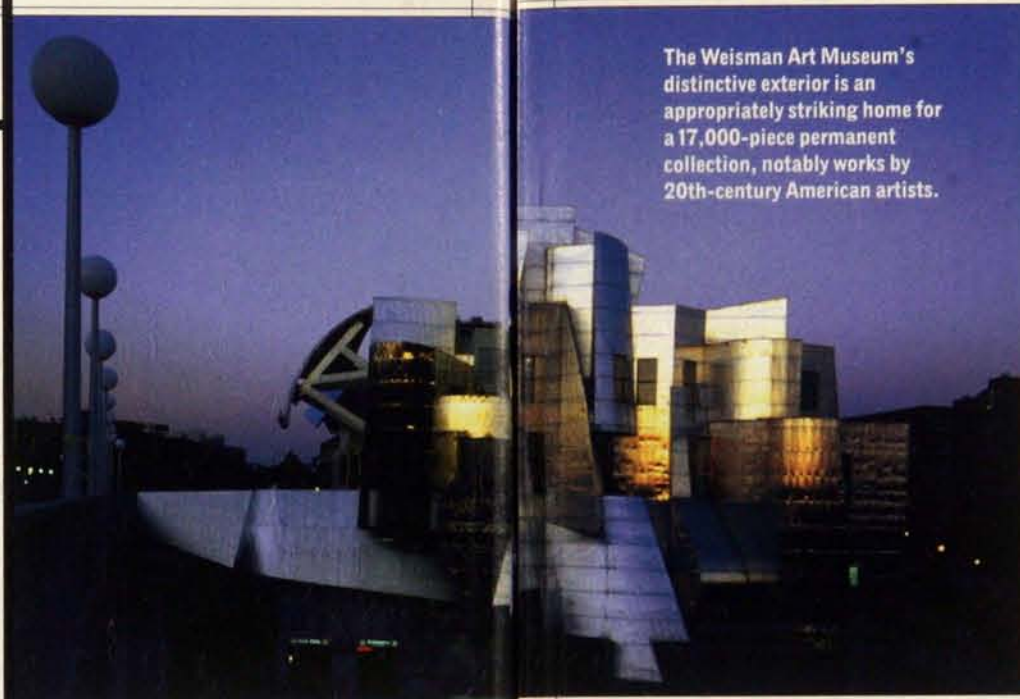
Source: Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs' "Friday Factoid."  
\*Poverty is defined as any family with annual income of less than \$25,000.  
\*\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2001 figures for United States as a whole; poverty defined as a family of four with less than \$18,104 in annual income.

## Ten on the Tenth

The Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum celebrated its 10th anniversary in November. In honor of the University's primary art museum, Minnesota presents 10 facts about the place sometimes called "The WAM" or "The Fred."

- 1 The Weisman has more than 17,000 works in its permanent collection, although only a fraction are on display at any given moment. Items are also frequently on the road at exhibits throughout the region.
- 2 The Weisman is known for its collection of works by early 20th-century Americans, as well as various ceramics and Korean furniture.
- 3 A University art museum was first established in 1934 in unused rooms on the third and fourth floors of Northrop Auditorium. The Weisman continues the original mission of educating students about art and making the visual arts an important part of their everyday experience.
- 4 Admission to the museum and most of its special events and exhibits is free and open to the general public. An estimated 95,000 visitors come each year.
- 5 The museum is named for Frederick R. Weisman, who donated \$3 million of the \$13 million construction budget, as well as numerous works of art. Weisman, a former U student, made his fortune in food packing, mining, banking, and auto distribution. He died in 1994.
- 6 The Weisman was designed by Frank Gehry, who was already one of the world's top architects when commissioned in 1990. He has since become world-famous for other steel-clad buildings: the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, (1997) and the Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles (2003).
- 7 The Weisman's exterior features panels of brushed steel, as well as brick surfaces.
- 8 Gehry's most famous quote on the Weisman was, "They told me not to build another brick lump." He later said his inspiration for the billowing west façade was sailing—specifically the "luff," the slight fluttering of a sail as it turns into the wind.
- 9 While building the Weisman, construction workers gave nicknames to different parts of the steel exterior, including the nose, the potato chip, and the upper and lower bellies.
- 10 Often lost in descriptions of the exterior is the well-planned interior. Airy and filled with natural light, the 11,000 square feet of gallery space has strategically placed pieces by artist like Georgia O'Keeffe and Andy Warhol. A 16-foot-tall Roy Lichtenstein painting greets visitors at the front desk.

The Weisman Art Museum's distinctive exterior is an appropriately striking home for a 17,000-piece permanent collection, notably works by 20th-century American artists.



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**"If it's green and slimy, it's biology. If it stinks, it's chemistry. And if it doesn't work, it's physics,"**

proclaims Physics Force team member Jon Barber as he fiddles with a recalcitrant slide projector in front of a captive audience of grade schoolers. These and six better-known natural laws are vividly demonstrated by Physics Force, an outreach program of the University of Minnesota's Institute of Technology.

## Fun with Physics

The six-member team pierces pop cans with ping-pong balls, slings eggs, blasts fire extinguishers, plays a sewer-pipe symphony, lies on a bed of nails, and jumps a mean double-Dutch, all designed to illustrate their mantra: Physics is interesting, understandable, and fun!

Taking physics on the road was the brainchild of the late Phil Johnson (B.S. '47), who managed a lab set up for demonstration experiments for the U's Department of Physics and Astronomy. "Phil was a genius," says U physics professor Dan Dahlberg, a member of Physics Force since 1986, a year after its founding. "He saw professors diddling around with this cool equipment and thought, 'Why implode a pop can in a little lab when you can implode a 55-gallon drum in Northrop?' And he thought professors talked too much—immobilizing a volunteer in an air-pressure straitjacket says all you need to know about that force." Never the showman himself, Johnson convinced high school physics teachers Jon Barber and Hank Ryan (M.Ed. '91) literally to pull the tablecloth out from under the pyramid of glasses.

Originally these gee-whiz demonstrations were meant to create a bridge between the University and high school science teachers and their science-leaning students. But they quickly realized they were preaching to the choir. An air-powered automatic toilet paper thrower will grab any junior high student by the attitude. "We realized the broad appeal of these demonstrations when, early on, we performed at a small elementary school," recalls Dahlberg. "We told the kids if they wanted to bring their parents back, we'd do another show in the evening. That night the auditorium was packed, and what was really neat was that the kids were explaining the demos to their parents." Physics Force now performs up to 45 shows a year, has appeared on television in the United States and Europe, and has taken the stage at Disney's Epcot Center.

Barber estimates Physics Force has 100 demonstrations in its repertoire, though they're always on the lookout for new ways to wow. "We get ideas at conferences and from books," Barber says. "We practice a new demo maybe a dozen times before we feel it's ready for a performance." Even though some involve Bunsen burners and high-speed projectiles, they've never had a disaster worse than a leaky bottle.

Outfitted onstage in black Physics Force T-shirts, headsets,



The Physics Force team has been wowing audiences for more than 18 years. Exciting demonstrations of the laws of physics are designed to make science fun and accessible to everyone. Clockwise from top: Hank Ryan, Dan Dahlberg, Fred Orsted, Jack Netland, Jon Barber.

and cargo pants, the group sports a winning amalgam of nerdiness, unbridled enthusiasm for physics, and camaraderie. "For us, it's a social thing," explains Hank Ryan after the show. "Some people golf together. We do physics demonstrations." The others, including high school teachers Jack Netland and Fred Orsted (B.S. '96, M.Ed. '99), nod in agreement. (High school teacher Aaron Pinski [B.S. '96, M.Ed. '99] was absent for this performance.)

As the ping-pong ball rips through the pop can at 617 miles per hour and the audience is suitably boggled, Physics Force demonstrates some ancillary laws: that it's possible to love what you do and to have fun legally past the age of 10.

Visit <http://groups.physics.umn.edu/pforce> for more information on Physics Force performances. —Sarah Barker

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# Arts & Events



(LEFT TO RIGHT) At the Humphrey Forum: U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy's hand on U.S. Senator Patty Murray's shoulder, part of "Changing the Face of Power: Women in the U.S. Senate," photographs by Melina Mara, at the Humphrey Forum through February 20. At the Weisman: *Rhino, 2000*, cibachrome print, by Catherine Chalmers, part of "Gene(sis): Contemporary Art Explores Human Genomics," at the Weisman Art Museum January 25–May 2. At Northrop: The Dance Theatre of Harlem concert includes *The Firebird* to music by Stravinsky, at Northrop Auditorium February 10–11.

## DANCE

### NORTHROP DANCE SEASON

All performances take place at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis. Call 612-624-2345 or visit [www.northrop.umn.edu](http://www.northrop.umn.edu).

#### Dance Theatre of Harlem

This company of 19 performs *South African Suite* to music of the Soweto String Quartet, *The Prodigal Son* to music by Prokofiev, and the company's signature work based on Russian fairytale *The Firebird* to music by Stravinsky. February 10–11, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$27–\$46.

#### Batsheva Dance Company

The 17-member Tel Aviv–based company performs *Deca Dance*, reshuffled excerpts of dances, with music ranging from classical to rock, created by Ohad Naharin. March 6, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$27–\$39.

### UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM SEASON

All events take place at the Barbara Barker Dance Center, 500 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. For tickets, call 612-624-5060 or visit [www.cla.umn.edu/theatre](http://www.cla.umn.edu/theatre).

#### Senior Show

January 23–24

#### On the Edge VI

February 19–22

## MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

### FREDERICK R. WEISMAN 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.

#### Gene(sis): Contemporary Art Explores Human Genomics

This exhibition presents some of the most powerful new work created by contemporary artists in response to the advances in human genomics. January 25–May 2.

#### Highlights under the Skylights

The museum will display highlights from its permanent collection, and the skylights will be opened to allow natural light to fill the galleries, presenting the treasures of the collection in a fresh new light. Through June 6.

### GOLDSTEIN GALLERY

244 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, 612-624-7434. Hours: 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. Admission is free.

#### Art and Artifact: Sweaters by Designer Solveig Hisdal

Fascinated by textile patterns and combinations of materials in old folk costumes, Norwegian knitwear designer Solveig Hisdal expresses her own personal vision of tradition in richly colored and patterned sweaters. January 25–March 28, 2004

### HUMPHREY FORUM

Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis. 612-624-1190.

Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Admission is free.

#### Changing the Face of Power: Women in the U.S. Senate

Photojournalist Melina Mara has assembled 38 of her photographs to document the unprecedented role of women in the U.S. Senate. Through February 20.

### KATHERINE E. NASH GALLERY

Located in the new Regis Center for Art, 405 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. 612-624-7530. Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is free.

#### The Fourth Minnesota Print Biennial

In the Main Gallery, January 13–February 19.

#### Persian Silver: Contemporary Photography from Iran

In the Main Gallery, February 24–April 8.

## MUSIC

### NORTHROP JAZZ SEASON

#### David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness

Clarinet master David Krakauer and his New York–based quintet joyfully fuse 400-year-old Eastern European Jewish music with elements of jazz, rock, experimental, classical, and funk. February 28, 8 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West Bank Campus. Tickets are \$25–\$32.

### UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Unless otherwise noted, admission to School of Music events is free. To confirm events, call 612-626-8742 or visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu). For tickets call 612-624-2345. The Ted Mann Concert Hall is at 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West

Bank Campus. The Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall is inside Ferguson Hall at 2106 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Northrop Auditorium is at 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis.

#### Glen Todd

Tenor Glen Todd performs arias by Mozart and Rossini, a Bach cantata, Rachmaninoff's music, and Neopolitan songs. January 30, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

#### Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Concert

The program includes University student and faculty performers as well as professional artists from the Twin Cities community. The lineup includes the Reginald Buckner Jazz Ensemble, a capella hip-hop group 7 Days, and One Voice Mixed Chorus with gospel soloist Robert Robinson. February 1, 4 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

#### InterPlay Series: Chanticleer

Acclaimed male chorus Chanticleer has earned international renown as "an orchestra of voices." The program will include a variety of vocal literature from Renaissance to jazz and from gospel to adventuresome new music. February 7, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$28–\$38.

#### InterPlay Series: Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Grammy Award–winning South African chorus Ladysmith Black Mambazo enchant listeners with what the *New York Times* called their "haunting, ethereal, dreamlike" singing. February 17, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$28–\$38.

#### Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Craig Kirchoff, conductor. Music by Mozart, Dvorak, and del Tredici. February 19, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

#### Symphony Orchestra

Akira Mori, conductor. Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and other music. February 21, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## READINGS AND SPEAKERS

### CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

#### Verlyn Klinkenborg

The popular nonfiction writer and *New Yorker* essayist will read February 16, 7:30 p.m., in the A.I. Johnson Great Room, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Minneapolis.

#### Andrea Barrett

The author of *Servants of the Map* will read

March 9, 7:30 p.m., at the Weisman Art Museum, 333 E. River Road, Minneapolis.

#### FIRST TUESDAY LUNCHEON SERIES

The Carlson School of Management presents lunch and a top-level executive as the keynote speaker from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. **February 3:** William Melton, president of Melton Research. **March 2:** Robert Kueppers, national managing partner of Deloitte. **April 6:** Roger Staubach, chairman and CEO of the Staubach Company, Radisson Hotel, 615 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis. Call 612-626-9634.

#### GREAT CONVERSATIONS

A discussion series that pairs University experts with national figures in their fields. All events take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West Bank Campus. Series tickets are \$110 (\$85 for University faculty, staff, and students and UMAA members). Individual event tickets are \$28 (\$23 for faculty, staff, and students and UMAA Members). Call 612-624-2345 or visit [www.cce.umn.edu/conversations](http://www.cce.umn.edu/conversations).

##### January 20

University President Robert Bruininks and Richard Florida, author of *The Rise of the Creative Class: How It's Transforming Work, Leisure, Community and Everyday Life*, discuss a city's viability and creativity.

##### February 25

Best-selling author Gail Sheehy (*Passages*) discusses the losses of 9/11 with Pauline Boss, University family social science professor and author of *Ambiguous Loss*.

##### March 23

Jeffrey Kahn, director of the university's Center for Biomedical Ethics, talks about ethics, policy and society with Harold Shapiro, president emeritus of Princeton University and former chairman of President Clinton's National Bioethics Advisory Commission.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

##### FOUNDERS DAY

Honoring the vision of early University supporters, this year's Founder's Day will be celebrated with an all-campus chili feed on the Northrop Mall, a Great Conversations special event, a concert by musicians in the School of Music, and other activities. February 25. Visit [www.umn.edu](http://www.umn.edu) in February for details.

#### THEATER

##### UNIVERSITY THEATRE SEASON

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at theaters in the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. For tickets, call 612-2345 or visit [www.cala.umn.edu/theatre](http://www.cala.umn.edu/theatre).

##### Macbeth

Deception, ambition, and prophecy pervade Macbeth's rise to power and Lady Macbeth's descent into insanity. Witchcraft and manipulation invade the University Theatre's retelling of Shakespeare's darkest tragedy. January 29–February 8, in the Stoll Thrust Theatre.

##### EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE SEASON

All student-run productions, events take place in the Charles Nolte Theatre at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Shows are free but reservations are required. Call 612-625-1876.

##### No Exit

By Jean-Paul Sartre, directed by Jeremy Catterton. February 27–29.



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Kathy Schlecht  
Mpls. St. Paul Magazine

*"The McNamara Alumni Center is a fantastic place to throw a party. The staff gave us the feeling that they cared as much about our daughter's wedding as we did."*

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## University faculty, staff, administrative, and department news \* By Pauline Oo

**A University of Minnesota study concludes that a new, on-campus stadium for Gopher football may be feasible.** "Bringing Gopher football back to campus is an exciting dream for many of us," said University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks. "An on-campus stadium could build pride, increase revenues, provide a venue for all-University events, and give a new generation of fans a true Big Ten football experience."

The study, released December 8 and based on an analysis of the local sports market, recommends a 50,000-seat, open-air stadium be built east of Williams and Mariucci arenas on the Twin Cities campus. The stadium later could be expanded to 80,000 seats under this plan. The projected cost is \$180 million for stadium construction, with another \$42 million needed for site preparation and infrastructure improvements, bringing the total project cost to an estimated \$222 million. In November, the Board of Regents approved principles that do not close the door on public funding but state that a stadium should be primarily privately funded. Still, Bruininks said, the University must be part of any discussions at the state Capitol about stadium projects (new stadiums are also being proposed for the Minnesota Twins and Vikings).

University officials stressed that the feasibility study is an important first step, but that a decision has not been made to build a new stadium. The University's lease at the Metrodome expires at the end of the 2011 football season. A new stadium could be open in time for the 2008 football season.

Regents will discuss the study at upcoming meetings. Meanwhile, University officials will seek comment from groups on campus, as well as neighbors, businesses, and elected officials. For the feasibility study and more information, visit [www.umn.edu/stadium](http://www.umn.edu/stadium).

**The University received its largest scholarship gift ever—\$10 million—from Nancy (B.A. '45) and Larry (B.S. '43) Bentson in November.** The Bentson Family Scholarships will provide students with at least \$5,000 a year for four years and eventually will support about 100 students a year. The scholarships will be awarded to promising incoming students with a financial need, with a preference given to students of Jewish faith. "This extraordinary gift from the Bentsons couldn't have come at a better time, given increased competition among colleges and universities for top

students and increases in the cost of higher education," Bruininks said. "[It] will make it possible for us to attract many more talented students every year and keep the doors of opportunity open for future generations."

**Faculty from the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture will design low-income housing in St. Paul** under a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The college, along with co-recipients Amherst H. Wilder Foundation and Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation, hopes to build affordable and energy-efficient housing models that can be copied across the state.

**On December 5, Bruininks announced the creation of the Minnesota Commission on Out-of-School Time** to study the role that time away from school has on a young person's development. The commission—which will include parents, researchers, and community members who plan youth activities—will meet five times during the year. It will craft strategies to ensure that Minnesota's youth (ages 8 to 18) have engaging opportunities to learn and develop outside of school. The U's Center for 4-H Youth Development will



### Shedding Their Winter Coats

The Winter Warmth from U clothing drive succeeded in filling a circulator bus and then some with donated winter wear. The December 3 "Fill the Bus" clothing drive was the final event in the U's Month of Kindness, a series of activities that included blood drives, food collections, and lectures and discussions on tolerance.

guide and support the commission's work with funding from the McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

**The School of Nursing will address the state's nursing shortage with a new mentor program** thanks to a \$226,000 first-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Nursing graduates hired at one of the school's five health care partners—Mercy Hospital in Moose Lake, Dakota County Public Health Department, Fairview University Medical Center in Minneapolis, Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, and North Memorial Medical Center in Robbinsdale—will be paired with senior nurses in a residency program. The program would improve the retention rates for nurses by helping them in the first few months of their professional lives, Jones said.

**The University has established a minor in Asian American studies, making it the only school in Minnesota to offer this program.** The program, begun in fall 2003, is under the Department of American Studies and focuses on the history, politics, and culture of Americans of Asian descent.

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

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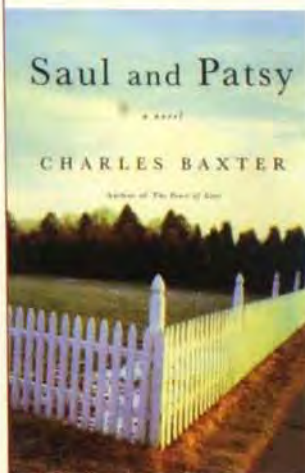
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# Off the Shelf

Reviews and views of books with a University of Minnesota connection.



**SAUL AND PATSY: A NOVEL**  
By Charles Baxter  
Pantheon Books, 2003

## A Lot Like Life

*Saul and Patsy*, the eponymous married couple of Charles Baxter's new novel, have moved to a subdivision in Five Oaks, Michigan, one of those "dusty, luckless midwestern cities tucked away inside the folds of the map"—a setting familiar from previous Baxter stories. Appropriately, the tale set against this mundane backdrop unfolds with typical Midwestern subtlety, in an understated tone, at a pace so unhurried it sometimes borders on uneventful.

Though the plot turns on an act of violence, *Saul and Patsy* contains little high drama. Indeed, the violence itself prompts more bewilderment than horror, and another flare of tension near the end comes off as somewhat improbable. In place of roller-coaster thrills, Baxter offers the quieter attractions of carefully drawn characters and sharp, often funny, observations.

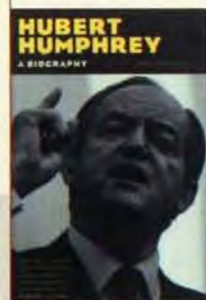
The even-keeled Patsy is already at home in their new community, but Saul, a well-educated, Jewish high-school teacher from Baltimore, feels out of place. He distances himself from students and neighbors, suspects anti-

Semitism everywhere, analyzes the community with the wry cynicism of a middle-aged curmudgeon (although Saul and Patsy are in their 20s). "Why can't the rest of the world be more like Patsy?" Saul wonders. "The rest of the world—especially where they had found themselves, here in the Midwest—presented itself as both bland and coarse. Intelligence and attention were wasted on it, he thought."

Saul develops a brief habit of spying morosely on the home of a younger, working-class, seemingly happy couple. His behavior is strangely echoed later, when a disturbed student named Gordy—another misfit—takes to lurking outside Saul and Patsy's house. That image, of a spooky figure haunting a yard, keeps reappearing. Early on, Saul catches auspicious glimpses of an albino deer. And after Gordy dies, the young man's memory lingers like a ghost, leading to yet another frightening intrusion and another burst of violence.

Between these episodes of youthful alienation and suburban angst lies a story about the gradual maturation of a marriage. *Saul and Patsy* follows the couple for several years, as their relationship ripens from a syrupy newlywed devotion to a subdued but satisfying mutual reliance. The shift reveals itself through rambling interior monologues, as when Patsy realizes that "this was what their marriage had come to: they depended almost blindly upon each other to get each other out of trouble; they were easing each other through this life."

Baxter, adjunct professor of English at the University of Minnesota and best known for *The Feast of Love*, his 2000 novel of



**HUBERT HUMPHREY: A BIOGRAPHY**  
By Carl Solberg  
Borealis Books, 2003

## Bookmarks

### HUBERT HUMPHREY: A BIOGRAPHY

This engrossing and thorough biography of Hubert Humphrey (B.A. '39), Minnesota's most famous politician, is reprinted in paperback for the first time. The book was first printed in 1984 and hailed as a major achievement, the best biography published of the University of Minnesota graduate who became famous as a senator and vice president, crusaded for civil rights, and narrowly lost the 1968 presidential election to Richard Nixon.

over the decades. Some of the names and locations are famous or familiar, others largely unknown. But all of the them knew something worth remembering and retelling.

### A MATCH MADE IN HELL

In 1943, Morris Goldner's family was chased from their farm in Southern Poland by the Nazis. Later wounded and left for dead, Goldner was rescued by a notorious criminal. Through a series of hideouts and adventures, the teenage Goldner became his accomplice, but as his skill and daring grew, Goldner found himself a key member of the underground Polish resistance. Stillman's journalism training makes this story a taut, compelling narrative.

### TRACTOR IN THE PASTURE

Klancher spent four years traveling the

United States and three continents to find and photograph the most alluring, rusted tractors abandoned in farm fields. What he didn't anticipate was the effect these settings would have on him. He found himself lingering and contemplating the present and the past, his family and the lives of those who once depended on the machines since given up to the elements. The result is a collection of 140 photographs of old farms and farm machinery accompanied by essays—the thoughts these scenes turned over.

### 75 MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN MINNESOTA SPORTS

Rippel, a sports reporter for more than 20 years, has researched and recounted the most unforgettable—if sometimes regrettable—moments in Minnesota sports history. Though beginning and ending with great baseball moments—the arrival of the sport in Minnesota in 1857 and the Twins winning the division



**A KNACK FOR KNOWING THINGS: STORIES FROM ST. PAUL NEIGHBORHOODS AND BEYOND**  
By Don Boxmeyer (B.A. '66)  
Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2003

For 36 years, Boxmeyer wrote about St. Paul and Minnesota as a reporter and columnist for St. Paul daily newspapers. In this book, he has collected favorite columns about the people, characters, communities, and places that he visited



playfully intertwined stories, refuses to confine his characters to neat shapes or standard expectations. Saul is a bundle of incongruities—he's devoted but self-centered, intelligent though not always rational, endearing if a little annoying—that merge in a vividly recognizable whole.

Patsy, despite sharing the book's title, is a slighter and blander presence, a former dancer whose thoughts revolve a little too complacently around her husband. But she, too, has her grumpy and ungenerous moments. Also allowed to be convincingly ambiguous are several minor characters.

The prose is full of loose ends, apparent contradictions, minor events blown way out of proportion—but in a charming way. Baxter is happy to venture off his narrative path for colorful little ruminations, as when a teenage girl's thoughts wander from "the end of the world" to why some negative adjectives—"unruly," "unkempt," "disgruntled"—lack positive counterparts.

*Saul and Patsy* alternates between lovely, disturbing, and aimlessly ordinary. In that way, it's a lot like life.

—Katy Read

in 2002 after being threatened with contraction—the book also recalls headline stories in boxing, golf, girls and women's sports, and more. And what would a compendium of great sports moments be without a couple dozen Gopher sports feats?

**RETIREMENT STRAIGHT TALK:  
STORIES AND WISDOM FROM EDUCATORS**

By Donald Draayer (B.S. '57)  
The Scarecrow Press, 2003

Through stories, vignettes, and straight advice, Draayer, a retired school superintendent, describes all stages of retirement. Starting at the initial private "whispers in the mind," he describes the raw emotions of life change and the challenges and potential that surround the second half of life. Draayer has culled the best from more than 300 educators who shared their innermost feelings with him to come up with a book for those approaching retirement or who are already there.

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# Finding One's Inner Dog

Even cats—aloof, finicky loners who dread social situations—can learn the value of joining the party.

**M**y in-laws are dogs.

They're an enormous Irish Catholic family that loves large gatherings—graduation parties, holidays, birthdays, reunion picnics. They laugh and sing and argue and then they start all over again. At Christmas, nearly three-dozen young cousins bound toward the tree and open presents in one wild, 30-second orgy of flying gift wrap. In my family we took turns, then passed each gift around for quiet admiration. My in-laws are the kind of people who bring musical instruments to wedding receptions. When a cousin on my English Presbyterian side of the family recently announced her engagement to be married, I asked what kind of dance band they planned to have. "We do not," she informed me, "dance at weddings."

You might have guessed that I was raised as a cat. I'm often slow to warm up in social situations, can come off as aloof, and can't help but come running when I hear the can opener. I tend to hang on to my grudges and can be finicky, a loner, and—especially when tired—prone to hissing. While these are not necessarily things I like about myself, I never found them to be much of a problem.

Then I had kids.

Every one of my four children is a puppy. The genetic odds of this happening bewilder me. But there they are: boisterous, ener-

getic, spontaneous. They wrestle with each other and their parents. And like all pups, they need to be led, shaped, shown the value of those dog-like qualities of loyalty and trust. They need an alpha wolf.

The thing is, I'd always felt that dogs were overrated. My boyhood friend Robby had a big brown mutt named George. George was noisy and needy and seriously lacking in personal hygiene, deportment, and self-respect. He slobbered on us and whatever ball we were playing with. When we came up to the plate in kickball, George would race in to sniff us (if you know what I mean) right in front of the girls. Inside Robby's house, I'd seen George do worse.

I took to cats as a preschooler, when a big, orange vagabond tomcat took up with us for a few years before moving on. Over the years I've owned four cats (although who can say they've ever

By Chris Coughlan-Smith | Illustration by Julie Delton

really owned a cat?), the last one, Spike, exhibiting some fairly dog-like qualities.

Violating the first rule of cats—that when encountering your so-called owner on the street, the proper response is a cool, “Do I know you?”—Spike would follow me around outdoors. He would wait with me at the bus stop until I boarded and then trot home. Living in a house full of men trying to finish college (that’s another essay), Spike became accustomed to loud gatherings and poker games and would position himself square in the middle of the action. He had a gentle nature, but I just got the feeling that, if there were ever trouble, I could count on Spike to be right there with me, tooth and claw. Spike had an inner dog.

Thanks to my kids, I’ve found that I, too, have an inner dog. I’d already realized that there are things about dogs I admire. They’re loyal, guileless, and pretty content if treated right. If trained (unlike George), they can even attain a certain level of dignity. And their enthusiasm for pretty much any activity is commendable. Like my in-laws, they seem to enjoy just being alive. Dogs are party people; cats stay home.

One Halloween, when my two oldest kids were still preschoolers, I found my inner dog. We were at one of those well-intentioned, understaffed Halloween events designed to keep us city-dwellers off the dark and freezing sidewalks. Full of hope and expectation, I led my little Tigger and Luke Skywalker by the hand toward the gymnasium. But instead of the calm little group of cute preschoolers and doting parents I had anticipated, the place was a boiling sea of insanity. There was screaming, heat, bright costumes in motion, running, pushing, falling, and parents yelling, “Who’s in charge here?!” Young event volunteers were trapped behind their games, each tiny fortress in danger of being overrun by sugared-up kids demanding more.

I edged us toward an open space along the back wall. A skeleton loomed up and

ran off. Dracula raced by, baring his fangs. Ninjas swam by with swords flashing, swarms of witches and mummies appeared, even a poor kid in a Barney suit snarled menacingly. I stood as if paralyzed, a grown man wishing his mommy would come lift him by the nape and carry him away from this nightmare.

**I've played bongos at a wedding reception. I dress up for Halloween. I've even found myself barking—figuratively, so far—at skittish cat people whose fondest desire is for children to be neither seen nor heard. I can't believe I was once one of them.**

But through the pounding inside my head (was that my heart or enemy drums?) I was aware that there were choices to be made. We could flee to safety and live forever with my cowardice and the memory of that one lame, candleless Halloween. Or I could find my inner dog. I looked down. My son, Merritt, stoic in his brown Jedi cape, still gamely swinging his plastic pumpkin—his empty plastic pumpkin—while his little sister, Rose, bounced against my legs, chewing her Tigger tail. They were eager. But they needed their alpha wolf.

Merritt looked up at me. “Well?” he mouthed. I tightened my grip on their hands and shouted, “Let’s play some games!” I growled as we pressed through the perimeter of parents and into the fray. Yes, we warmed up on the less besieged activities like tossing

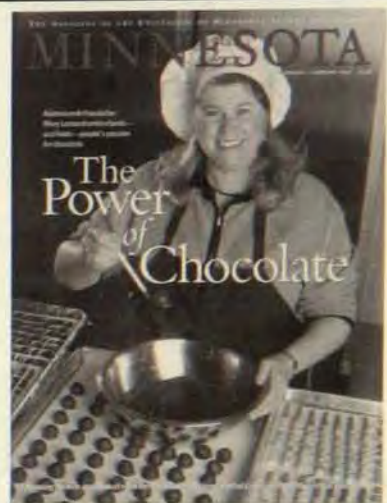
bean bags, but soon we were in there fighting for space at the front of the balloon-and-dart game and hitting tennis balls into a clown’s mouth. We could do this. I could do this. This was . . . kind of fun.

Don’t get me wrong, I’ll never entirely become a dog. I still sometimes need to step outside “for some air” at family gatherings. I still like solitary pursuits like reading and running. But I can call up my inner dog when I need it now. I’ve played bongos at a wedding reception. I dress up for Halloween. I’ve even found myself barking—figuratively, so far—at skittish cat people whose fondest desire is for children to be neither seen nor heard. I can’t believe I was once one of them.

A few years ago, at an event sponsored by a local cat shelter, I found quite a few of these types. I had brought the kids across

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the street after church hoping to see a few cats. There were displays and videos and products for sale, but the room with animals available for adoption was guarded more tightly than the Oval Office. Sharp-eyed volunteers were on the lookout for children, a nervous cat's worst enemy.

"You can't go in there," a volunteer told us as we angled toward the door. "Unless," she added, looking coolly down at the children, "you're here to adopt." I didn't want to lie, at least not in front of the kids and having just come out of church, so we veered away. I spied a kind-looking volunteer near one of the doors and approached her. "We're not going to adopt today," I admitted. "But someday we will. Is there any chance you could just let us in there so my kids can see how nice cats are?"

It worked. We entered the adoption area to alarmed stares and whispers, but our ally proceeded to show us a few of the calmer animals. She lifted a fluffy gray cat out of its carrier and held it so the kids could touch him. My little Clara, who has learned how not to be ignored, pushed her way to the front. This set off some jostling and I growled to restore calm. The cat took it in stride, but it was too late. One of the pricklier attendants confronted us. "The cats are not here for your amusement," he smirked. "They've been through a lot already." My inner dog snarled. I've never been quick-witted, so the best I could come up with was, "You cat people need to lighten up."

The Beatrix Potter character Tabitha Twitchit is an anxious parent—a cat, of course. Trying to maintain her dignity in the face of her misbehaving kittens, she whines to her uptight Cousin Ribby, "What a thing it is to have an unruly family!" Yes, but if you lighten up and find your inner dog when you need it, it is a blessed thing. If the kittens must grow into cats, let them be like Spike.

As a matter of fact, I'm thinking of getting a dog. ■

*Chris Coughlan-Smith is senior editor of Minnesota.*

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@umn.edu](mailto:fling003@umn.edu).

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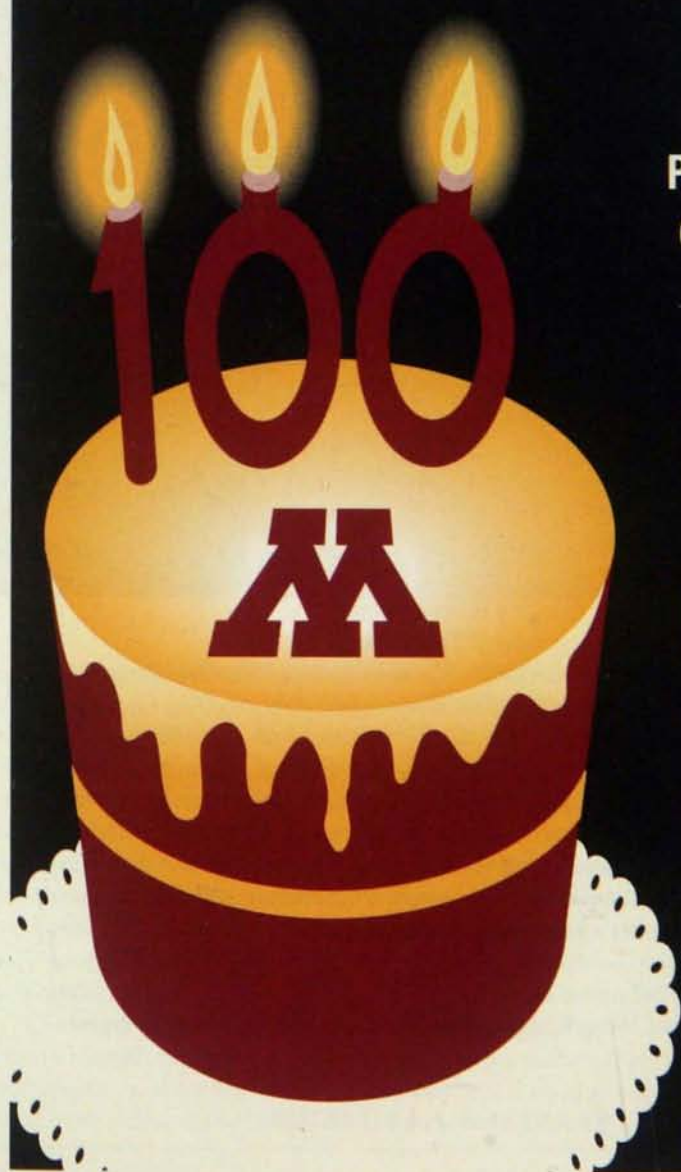
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**Fanny Cheung** (Ph.D. '75), who has forwarded her field of psychology and championed victims of discrimination and violence in Hong Kong, is among the recipients of a new University award for distinguished international leaders.

# Changing Minds

**U**NTIL ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO, a female job-seeker in Hong Kong could have picked up the classified ads and found that women need not apply to managerial positions. Or, if she was disabled, almost any position at all.

A lot has changed since then. And much of the credit goes to one woman: Fanny Cheung (Ph.D. '75), chair of the psychology department at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Cheung's research into the dimensions of personality and her contributions to Hong Kong's women, disabled, and victims of discrimination and rape have brought her worldwide renown.

Now she is one of nine recipients of the first-ever University of Minnesota Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals. Created by the U's Office of International Programs, the award recognizes the outstanding achievements of international alumni and friends of the University.

"International pacesetters" is how Gene Allen, executive director for the Office of International Programs, characterizes the recipients, who are rising young professionals or established in their fields. "The common thread across all of these is they are closely affiliated with the U and have done incredible things not only in their countries but on the international scene," Allen says.

Cheung entered the University's psychology department in 1970, with a bachelor's degree from the University of California-Berkeley. Professor James Butcher was her doctoral adviser at the University of Minnesota. What drew Cheung to the Twin Cities was the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI), one of the most widely used personality tests in the United States, which the University developed in the 1940s. With its hundreds of yes-no questions, the MMPI helps researchers evaluate individuals' thoughts, emotions, attitudes, and the behavioral traits that comprise personality. The inventory is often used, with other clinical tests, to assess cognitive functioning and to screen for personality disorders.

Five years later, Cheung returned to her native Hong Kong with a Ph.D., a research focus, and a question. As she writes in an e-mail from Hong Kong, "I was wondering, 'What would be the rel-



evance of a question like "I liked *Alice in Wonderland*" back home?"

Not surprising, Alice's adventures, which are included in questions in the MMPI, and other cultural references geared toward American and European subjects, don't translate to other cultures. "When I left Minnesota, I thought I might not be using the MMPI after all," Cheung says. But Cheung found that Hong Kong researchers were indeed using the MMPI on their subjects. Psychologists had to "translate the items on the spot when they were administering the test, and did not have local norms for their reference," Cheung says. And the same was true for their counterparts in China.

Cheung saw an opportunity. Working with Butcher, she developed a measurement tool as scientifically rigorous as the MMPI but adapted in every way to an Asian cultural context. The work took more than a decade to produce. Butcher and Cheung, who

was still one of the few Asian women in academia, introduced their inventory in Beijing. Four years later, by the mid-1990s, Chinese journals had published 40 articles on or using the new scale. "It just mushroomed," Butcher recalls.

At first, the new personality measure was named the Chinese Personality Assessment Inventory. But that tag didn't reflect its broader utility. "Subsequent research with cross-cultural samples, including Koreans, Japanese, Asian Americans, and European Americans, convinced us that what we originally thought to be indigenous personality domains [of Chinese culture] might also be relevant to other cultures," Cheung writes. The tool is now the Cross-cultural Personality Assessment Inventory (CPAI).

Like its Minnesota predecessor, the CPAI consists of scales that cover universal personality characteristics, such as extroversion and responsibility. But it also identifies traits that are partic-

BY DIANE RICHARD | PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW J. LOITERTON

## Distinguished Internationals

ular to Asian personality descriptions, "such as the preference for harmony, family orientation, or the tendency to present somatic complaints instead of expressing their psychological distress," Cheung says, for example, complaining of a toothache when the problem is a broken heart.

Through the CPAI, Cheung also identified a new personality characteristic. "Interpersonal relatedness" describes an individual's need for close relationships, avoidance of conflict, and adherence to norms and tradition, all of them strongly associated with Asian cultures.

But Cheung says research shows that what was "useful to the study of the Chinese personality in a range of social behavior, including filial piety, interpersonal trust, conflict resolution, self-esteem, coping, as well as life satisfaction," also applies to Asian American and white American college students. (Consider the universal dynamics surrounding shared bathrooms in dorms and other communal dwellings.)

This new dimension, rooted in Asian traditions, could help Western scientists better understand their own society. "What were considered as 'indigenous' constructs in Asia may inform the blind spot in Western trait measures of personality," Cheung says.

**CHEUNG GREW UP** in a mansion in Hong Kong, where she lived in a "traditional extended Chinese family," comprising her parents, who were merchants with little formal education, and her uncles and aunts and cousins. "While it was quite patriarchal, and gender roles were distinct, education was valued for both boys and girls," she says.

It might be a leap to say that Cheung's access to schooling later led her to fight for equal opportunities for others, but it probably played a role. First, though, she had to establish her own footing as one of few female professors on campus and, entering academia at age 28, a young one as well.

Over the past quarter century, Cheung has helped build the psychology department at the Chinese University of Hong Kong from a fledgling unit to one employing 19 faculty members. And in 2000, in what one colleague calls a "palace revolution," Cheung became chair of the department.

"Fanny works for unity and out of unity—as much as unity is possible in human affairs," Michael Bond, a psychology professor and



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In addition to Fanny Cheung, eight other alumni and friends of the University have been recognized with Distinguished Leadership Awards by the U's Office of International Programs for outstanding achievements in their professions.

**Munirathna Anandakrishnan (M.S. '57, Ph.D. '60)**  
India

Anandakrishnan is chair of the All-India Board of Undergraduate Studies and adviser to Tamil Nadu state in India on information technology and e-governance. He received a prestigious national award in 2002 for his work in improving technical education in India and other developing countries and improving information technology throughout Indian education.

**Myrza Karimov (M.A. '97)**  
Kyrgyzstan

Karimov is leading radical education reform designed to help Kyrgyzstan become competitive in global capitalist markets. He is working to make his nation's curricula more international and to create educational links to the United States and nations in Southeast Asia.

**Rozina Karmaliani (M.S. '94, M.S. '97, Ph.D. '00)**  
Pakistan

A public health and nursing graduate, Karmaliani was a pioneer in community health projects for squatter settlements and for women in and around Pakistan's capital, Karachi. Now a faculty member at Aga Khan University, she has worked to prove that women and nurses play a vital role in improving the health of all Pakistanis.

**Bon Ho Koo (Ph.D. '67)**  
South Korea

Former president of the Korean Development Institute, Koo was responsible for proposing many of the economic and government reforms that have helped South Korea continue to prosper for decades. He has also been a university president, led an institute that helped bring the country through an energy crisis in the early 1980s, and served on national commissions reforming education and working on reunification.

**Abdelaziz Lagnaoui (M.S. '90, Ph.D. '91)**  
Morocco

Lagnaoui is a global leader in pest management, contributing to food security and economically sustainable development in poor nations. He is now with a unit of the World Bank, helping develop collaborations between public, private, and nonprofit sectors to promote sustainable development.

**Dr. Claus Solberg (postdoctoral work, 1969-70)**  
Norway

An infectious disease specialist, Solberg has published more than 250 articles and books on host defenses in those diseases. A professor emeritus at Bergen University Hospital, he has also been a leading educator and is on editorial boards for several journals and involved in major international societies.

**Sylvia Tamale (Ph.D. '97)**  
Uganda

Tamale is a senior lecturer in law at Makerere University in Kampala and an advocate in the Courts of Judicature in Uganda. Tamale's book on gender and politics in Uganda has made her a leading commentator and advocate in East Africa in areas of women's rights, gay rights, and other social justice issues.

**Dr. Xi-Ru Wu (research fellow, 1979-82)**  
China

Wu was a longtime director of First Hospital at Beijing Medical University and is currently honorary president of the Chinese Pediatrics Society, a group she chaired for four years. A leading researcher and teacher, she has been a pioneer in pediatric neurology and in developing ties with other nations to further train Chinese pediatricians.

For more information on the awards and the 2003 recipients, visit [www.international.umn.edu/awards/leader/leader.html](http://www.international.umn.edu/awards/leader/leader.html). The nomination deadline for the 2004 awards is February 16.



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colleague of Cheung's in Hong Kong, writes in an e-mail. Facing a directive to cut her departmental budget by 10 percent, for instance, Cheung assembled the faculty at a retreat and instructed them to "make the hard staffing calls, to decide how to enlarge our job descriptions and delivery, and to generate creative approaches to generating income," Bond recalls. "Unity first!"

Says Butcher, her University of Minnesota colleague, "She always knows the right thing to do."

In the late 1990s, Cheung took on prejudicial behavior in Hong Kong. "Discriminatory and stereotypic attitudes were very common," she says. "It is against this backdrop that the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) was established."

It was 1996, and Cheung herself founded the EOC during a three-year leave from teaching. In time, the commission, fighting "resistance, trivialization, and skepticism" all the way, lobbied for and won Hong Kong's first three antidiscrimination laws. But laws could go only so far, so

Cheung and her colleagues designed a public education campaign and then surveyed its impact. They produced TV and radio commercials, a docudrama on prime-time television, newspaper columns, a Web site, newsletters, and training manuals, all to raise public awareness of the EOC and the inequality and discrimination that spurred its formation, as well as to provide guidelines for compliance.

Soon, teachers began learning to include girls and children with disabilities equally in classroom activities. Corporate executives learned about sexual harassment and equity pay. City councils learned to accommodate untraditional families in their midst.

Cheung acknowledges that stereotypes are slow to fade. But the data have shown promise. "When the EOC was first established, 33 percent of newspaper recruitment advertisement specified sex or lack of disabilities and were discriminatory in nature," she says. "Within six months after we educated the advertisers about the requirements of the law, sent them warning letters as well as samples of good practice, and then brought a number of blatant cases to court, there are no longer such advertisements found in the newspapers." Still, the hard work continues, as it has throughout Cheung's career.

Cheung led a War on Rape campaign in the late 1970s and, in the early 1980s, developed Hong Kong's first community-based women's center, which provides support services to rape survivors. In 2000, she established the Gender Research Center, an academic program at the Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies whose reach extends into mainland China. Among other book credits, she co-edited a 1999 collection of essays titled *Breaking the Silence: Violence against Women in Asia*, which argued that violence and discrimination against women are human rights issues. And she was awarded the honor of Officer of the British Empire in 1997.

Cheung has been called a pioneer in gender research and equity in Hong Kong. But, she explains, "The way I see it, the 'pioneer' position came as a result of my willingness to take up initiatives to speak up and do things that need to be done." ■

*Diane Richard is a freelance writer in Minneapolis.*

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**Nobel Laureate Norman Borlaug** (B.S. '37, M.S. '39, Ph.D. '42) discusses his life's work to end world hunger—which breeds crime, unrest, and war—by breeding better wheat and corn.

AS TOLD TO VICKI STAVIG | PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILL VAN OVERBEEK

# Bread and Peace

I want to die with my boots on. I will be 90 years old March 25 and am still fighting world hunger by helping farmers in several countries to increase their production. Some people say I've saved more lives than any other person in the world, but I take that with moderation. A lot of people have been saved, but my main contribution has been teaching. It was the teamwork of all these young scientists I've worked with that made the difference.

I won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970, for developing a high-yielding, drought-resistant variety of wheat. When I first heard about it I thought someone was playing a trick on me. I was out in the fields in Toluca Valley in Mexico, harvesting with five scientists from Romania, Brazil, and Mexico, when my wife, Margaret, drove out to find me. She said, "Someone from a newspaper in Oslo called right after you left this morning and said he urgently needed to talk to you. He said you've won the Nobel Peace Prize!"



Two hours later, here comes a car and out climb a cameraman for NBC and a writer for the *Christian Science Monitor*. They were in Mexico for the Pan American Press Conference and said they saw the news about me come over the wire. They interviewed me and left. Then here come two carloads of Mexican press people. They were mad because the first two guys had paid some kids to give them the wrong directions to where I was.

I gave my Nobel Lecture the day after the award ceremony at the University of Oslo. In essence, I said there is no magic in the variety of wheat alone, but that if economic policies would take care of adjusting credit and fertilizer, it would ensure there would be enough production until the year 2000. It turned out I was about right in my estimate. There are two aspects of food and hunger. One is to produce enough food for people in a country and the other is equitability of distribution. In India, for example, you still see large numbers of people who are badly nourished, but there is an abundance of food in government storehouses because there is a lack of purchasing power.

Today I wear three hats. I am a Distinguished Professor of International Agriculture at Texas A&M in College Station; president of the Sasakawa Africa Association, which is working to increase farm production in Africa; and senior consultant to the director general of the International Maize and Wheat Center in Mexico. I also lecture at universities all over the world.

**I grew up on a farm near Cresco, Iowa,** 10 miles from the Minnesota border. Originally, my ambition was to be a high school science teacher and athletics coach. I was captain of the high school football team, was on the wrestling team, and played baseball. After high school, I didn't have enough money for college, so I stayed in Iowa, but there were no jobs except during the peak harvest seasons.

In February 1933, I entered a Midwest AAU [Amateur Athletic Union] tournament in Cresco. Most of the other entrants were university wrestlers. I hadn't wrestled for a year but got into the finals and wrestled a person from Iowa State Teachers College. He beat me in overtime. As I was leaving, the Iowa coach said, "You should come to Iowa State Teachers College." There



Back home in the United States, some of our worst critics said nothing could be done in India with the population and lack of education there. There were predictions of doom and gloom. The Pakistan-India war in 1960 also caused some problems for us. **At two different points, I was the only contact between those two countries.**

for three years and at the end of my sophomore year I had a good record. I think I won nine out of 11 bouts.

I was instrumental in bringing Dave Bartelma, my former high school wrestling coach, to the University of Minnesota. He would put me and another wrestler on a bus and send us to parent/teacher meetings at Minnesota schools to demonstrate wrestling. Eventually the sport caught on in high schools. Later, when I was in graduate school at the University, I was the freshman wrestling coach and I refereed the first Minnesota State High School Wrestling Tournament in 1938. I was inducted into the National Collegiate Hall of Fame in 1992, and in 1994 I was inducted into the University of Minnesota National M Club Lifetime Achievement Hall of Fame.

I didn't have money, so occasionally I dropped out of school to work. There were all sorts of emergency programs under President Franklin Roosevelt. I worked for the U.S. Forestry Service off and on from 1935 to 1938. The University gave me a good,

were no athletics scholarships at that time, but the coach said he would get me a job.

Shortly before I was to leave for Iowa, George Champlin (B.A. '34), a football player for the University of Minnesota who lived in Cresco, drove up. He said, "My dad said you should be at the University of Minnesota. I'm going to early football practice tomorrow. Come and ride along. You can hitchhike back if you don't like it there." I went and never came back.

I had a good high school academic record, but when I came to Minnesota they said, "You're short a year of credits." At that time Minnesota didn't count ninth grade as high school, so they said I had to take a special exam. I took it and flunked it and figured, hell, I'm a complete washout. But George took me to see Fred Hovde (B.S. '29), dean of the General College, which was just starting. George told him what had happened and Hovde said I should start in General College. I spent fall and winter quarters there and had very good grades, so Hovde said I could transfer to any of the University's colleges. I went to the forestry college.

I started out playing baseball and wrestling at the University. I wrestled at 145 pounds and at heavy-weight. I had to drop out of baseball because our lab classes were in the afternoon, but in wrestling you could work out anytime. I wrestled

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Borlaug—pictured left to right in Africa (fifth from left), in India (center in garlands), and in Mexico (far right in hat)—is celebrated around the world, not only for helping farmers produce more food on the same amount of land, but also for saving millions of acres from being stripped for agriculture.

Hunger and peace are interrelated. Have you ever been hungry—hungry for three or four days? One needs to have that experience. When people are hungry, it disrupts everything. If you were hungry and your children were starving, you would breach the laws pretty easily. **You would steal for those children.**

broad foundation. I also met my wife, Margaret, at the University, where she was studying education, and we married in September 1937. Her brother, George Gibson (B.A. '30, Ph.D. '34), was captain of the football team and is now 98 years old.

One day I saw a notice on the bulletin board about a talk by University plant pathologist E.C. Stakman. I went and was very impressed and said, "If I ever have a chance to go to graduate school, I would like to study under him." When I heard him speak, it changed my life, my whole career.

I got my degree in forestry in 1937 and was scheduled to go on a permanent assignment with the forestry service on January 1, 1938. But I got a letter from them asking me to delay it until the first of June. So I studied under Stakman, and that changed everything. I got my master's degree in plant pathology in 1939 and my doctorate in 1942. The University had a good, active breeding program for flax, and I worked on that with J.J. Christensen, who was my major professor in the doctorate program.

In 1942, I accepted a job as a microbiologist with the DuPont de Nemours Foundation. I was supposed to work on agriculture chemicals, but war broke out so we worked on evaluating and testing a variety of materials that were used by the armed forces in the tropics. Then in September 1943, the Rockefeller Foundation came to me and said, "We hear you have the background of experience and training we need to start a program with the Mexican government to develop technology for food-deficient countries and to train their scientists." This was a new program that was funded by the Rockefeller Foundation to assist poor farmers in Mexico and to help them increase their wheat production.

So I moved to Mexico. Other than a couple of days in Canada, I had never been out of the country. We lived in Mexico City, because there were English-speaking schools there. When we moved, my daughter, Jean, was a year old. My son, Bill, was born in Mexico. When he was growing up, I helped to organize Little

League baseball and spent a lot of time on it. I would leave the experiment station Friday afternoon and drive 300 miles home on miserable roads. I would get home at one or two in the morning, and we would have games on Saturday and Sunday. Then I would drive back to the station.

Initially there were language problems, bad working conditions, and bad food because of the lack of refrigeration. Several times I wished I were back at DuPont. I thought I had made the wrong choice, but then the doom and gloom began to lift—and I'm still there. I go to Mexico the second week of January and stay until the end of August each year.

That program evolved into the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, an international research and training institute with 16 independent centers that are scattered around the world. I was put in charge of coordinating all the research going into wheat, and I worked on soil fertility too. Some of the soils in Mexico had been cultivated since long before the Spaniards came to Mexico, so they were at a low level of fertility and we developed methods of fertilizing that soil.

We trained Mexican agriculture scientists and bred high-yield dwarf wheat that resisted a variety of plant pests and diseases and that yielded two to three times more grain than traditional varieties. That wheat sparked what came to be known as the Green Revolution, the idea that plant breeding could end world hunger.

Mexico became self-sufficient in wheat production in 1956, but no longer is because it had 22 million people when I first went and now has more than 100 million people. In 1959, I turned the Mexico program over to the Mexican government. Then the Rockefeller Foundation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations sent me to several countries—including Egypt and other African countries, Iran, Iraq, India, and Pakistan—to see if there was a need for what we had learned in Mexico. I said, "Pick the best people getting degrees from universities in these countries and send them to me in Mexico. I would like to

Siehl Prize for  
EXCELLENCE *in* AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



*Sculpture by Thomas Rose*

## *A Visionary's Dream*

Eldon Siehl had a dream: a prize that would recognize the outstanding efforts of people who dedicate their lives to feeding the world.

The Siehl Prize pays tribute to true excellence in agriculture and

serves as a reminder of our connection to the land. We invite you to learn more about the Siehl Prize and to consider nominating a deserving candidate.

Once a livestock salesman, Eldon Siehl went on to found a successful optical company. His gifts extended well beyond his accomplished business career, spilling over into a lifelong fascination with production agriculture.

Before his death in 1982, Eldon Siehl searched for a unique way to draw attention to professional, humanitarian, and academic accomplishments in agriculture — to loudly and proudly



celebrate the men and women who feed the world.

Siehl believed a high-profile recognition program was sorely needed. Although surrounded by an abundance of food, Siehl saw Americans growing more and more distant from their agrarian roots. He envisioned the Siehl Prize as a reminder of our connection to the land. Thus was born the Siehl Prize for Excellence in Agriculture.

As Eldon Siehl intended, the presentation of each prize is a salute to those special people who have turned their love for the land into a lifetime of exemplary work. By honoring excellence, the Siehl Prize enlightens public awareness and knowledge of agriculture, and

encourages accomplished professionals to extend their leadership throughout the world.

Virtually everyone walking the earth derives sustenance from those who contend for the Siehl Prize, whether it is food on a plate or food for thought. Eldon Siehl felt it was important that we all come to learn the names of those people — to put a face on agricultural achievements.

The Siehl Prize for Excellence in Agriculture pays tribute to the irrepressible spirit of agriculture. It applauds those stewards of the land who each day promote conscientious study, enhance production, and advance methods of distributing food and knowledge.

## 2004 SIEHL LAUREATES

# Call for Nominations

### WHO *is* ELIGIBLE to be NOMINATED?

The nominee must currently reside OR must have resided in Minnesota for a period of at least five years OR hold a degree from the University of Minnesota.

### WHO *may* NOMINATE?

Citizens of all nations are invited to nominate living individuals who exemplify excellence in agriculture and who meet the above eligibility requirements. Universities and associations may make nominations.

Nominations of outstanding, highly deserving candidates who are meritorious because of their achievements are encouraged.

### HOW *do I* NOMINATE SOMEONE?

Nomination forms for the 2004 award year are now available with a deadline of May 1, 2004. Related credentials, supporting materials and letters of reference must be received by the deadline. Self-nominations and nominations of relatives will not be accepted.

### HOW *is the* PRIZE AWARDED?

The new recipients and Siehl Prize laureates will participate in an award ceremony in November 2004 which, in accordance with Eldon Siehl's wishes, will be dignified, visible and educational and stimulate national and international attention to the discipline of agriculture. The three laureates receive a monetary award of \$50,000 each and a Siehl Prize sculpture.

### WHERE *can I* get MORE INFORMATION?

Visit our website, [www.coafes.umn.edu/siehlprize](http://www.coafes.umn.edu/siehlprize), or email [siehlprz@umn.edu](mailto:siehlprz@umn.edu) with your request.

Siehl Prize for EXCELLENCE in AGRICULTURE *Laureates*

1994



BERT G. ENESTVEDT  
*Production Agriculture*

Enestvedt has served in key roles for the Minnesota Soybean Growers and the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association.

1996



BOB BERGLAND  
*Production Agriculture*

A former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Bergland won acclaim from crop improvement associations as a certified bluegrass seed producer.

1999



WILLIS E. ANTHONY  
*Production Agriculture*

Anthony has impressively blended public service and private enterprise with careers in agricultural economics, education and farming.

2002



LEONARD WULF  
*(1926-2003)*  
*Production Agriculture*

Wulf founded one of the best known registered Limousin breeding operations in the nation.



ALDRICH C. BLOOMQUIST  
*Agribusiness*

Bloomquist proposed the cooperative that saved the sugar beet industry in Minnesota's Red River Valley.



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EARL B. OLSON  
*Agribusiness*

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PETER POSS  
*Agribusiness*

As a veterinarian, agribusiness executive and poultry farmer, Poss overcame some of the biggest challenges imaginable to produce turkeys in Minnesota.



WILLIAM E. LARSON  
*Academic*

Larson's work to develop measures for soil quality and degradation had an international impact on soil conservation.



DONALD C. RASMUSON  
*Academic*

Rasmuson's teaching, research and outreach in barley production at the University of Minnesota has touched the lives of millions around the world.



BENJAMIN S. POMEROY  
*Academic*

Pomeroy's work at the University of Minnesota's avian disease program helped change the face of avian production.



STANLEY SAHLSTROM  
*Academic*

Sahlstrom's attentiveness to the changing needs of education and training in agriculture and food sciences is unparalleled.



# Siehl Fellows

The Siehl Graduate Fellowships were initiated in 2002 to attract and reward truly outstanding graduate students. In this way, the Siehl Endowment addresses the need for worldwide understanding of the importance of agriculture by awarding this prestigious title and encouraging future leadership. These students are known as the Siehl Fellows.

The first Siehl Fellow is Latha Nagarajan. From southern India, Nagarajan obtained her bachelor and master degrees in agricultural science from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in 1993. She entered the PhD program in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota in September, 1998. Following her interests she worked in Egypt with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and is



now engaged in field work in India for her dissertation research on *Managing Millet Diversity: Farmers Choices, Seed Systems and Genetic Resource Policies*.



High school juniors and seniors are invited to submit an essay on some aspect of Nobel Peace Prize laureate and University of Minnesota

# Siehl Scholars

alumnus Norman Borlaug's life or career. Based on their essays, up to eight Siehl Scholars are selected to receive scholarships to attend the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences. These scholarships encourage talented, motivated youth to consider life-long commitments to the solutions of world food problems and to enhance opportunities to effect changes in the production,

processing, marketing, and consumption of safe, healthy food.

2002 SCHOLARS ARE:  
(shown from left to right)

Lisa Sackreiter, *St. Charles*  
 Jessica Miller, *Lake Crystal*  
 Katie Becker, *Sebeke*  
 Justin Reeck, *Paynesville*  
 Dawn Luhmann, *Rushford*  
 Shelly Macziewski, *Montevideo*  
 Matt Rosenfeld, *Arlington*  
 Debbie Landwehr, *Cedar (not pictured)*



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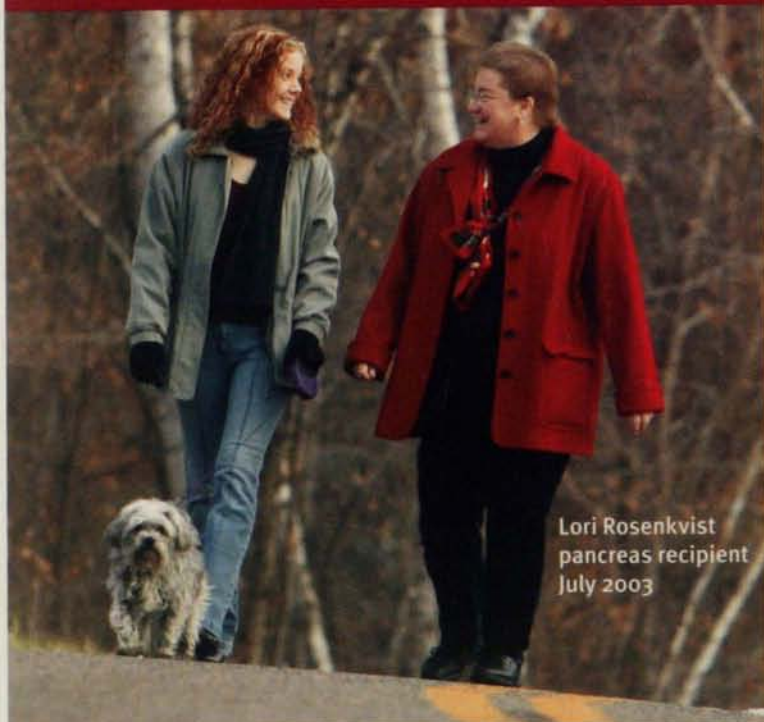
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 Dave Phillips  
 Per Pinstrup-Andersen  
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### **THE LOSS OF 9/11: TWO PERSPECTIVES**

Wednesday 2-25-04 7:30 p.m.  
Pauline Boss & Gail Sheehy



### **BIOETHICS IN THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT**

Tuesday 3-23-04 7:30 p.m.  
Jeffrey Kahn & Harold Shapiro



### **PREDICTING THE WORLD'S ECOLOGICAL FUTURE**

Tuesday 4-13-04 7:30 p.m.  
G. David Tilman & Jared Diamond



### **POPULISM IN THE HEARTLAND**

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Borlaug moved to Mexico in 1943 to train farmers to increase wheat production. He continues to spend seven months a year based in Mexico.

train them for a couple years."

In 1960 we expanded the program and began to teach farmers in Pakistan and India to cultivate the new wheat. I also told the young scientists there, "I don't want to teach you to be rebels in your scientific approach. Don't try to change everything all at once." You have to be sensitive to the politics of the country.

There was criticism about what we were doing. Back home in the United States, some of our worst critics said nothing could be done in India with the population and lack of education there. There were predictions of doom and gloom. The Pakistan-India war in 1960 also caused some problems for us. At two different points, I was the only contact between those two countries.

Pakistan's scientists started coming to Mexico for training in 1960, and in 1968 Pakistan became self-sufficient in wheat production. Pakistan increased its wheat production from 4.6 million tons in 1965 to 8.4 million tons in 1970. In 2000, it produced 21 million tons of wheat. India became self-sufficient in wheat and rice in 1972 and by 1982 even became a modest exporter. Wheat production in India increased from 12 million tons in 1965 to 72 million tons in 2002.

The use of high-yield technology has helped farmers produce higher yields on less land and has saved millions of acres of forests and wildlife habitats. In 1960, the world's grain output was 692 million tons. Four decades later it was 1.9 billion tons. That's a threefold increase using the same amount of land. Had you tried to increase

that production using the technology of 1960, you would have had to cut down an additional 1.1 million hectares—a hectare equals 2.5 acres—so what was saved was 1.1 million times 2.5.

I never promise much when I go into a new country. I say, "Let's see if we have technology that will fit." It takes two or three years to get a feel for it, to see if it will work. If that technology will only increase yields by 10 or 15 percent, that would be a lot for U.S. farmers because they produce so much, but if

you're near starvation, it's nothing.

I retired in 1979 and was going to be a visiting professor at the University of Minnesota. I taught for one fall quarter and worked the rest of the year in forest genetics for Weyerhaeuser Timber Company. Then, in 1981 my successor at the International Maize and Wheat Center in Mexico died, so I returned to run that program. I continue to work there as a consultant to the director general.

In 1984, I got a call from Ryoichi Sasakawa, chairman of the Sasakawa Foundation of Japan. He wanted to know if the Green Revolution's agricultural methods could be applied to parts of Africa that were suffering from drought and famine. I said I was too old to start something new. I said, "I've never heard of those countries," and hung up.

The next morning, he called me back. "Young man," he said, "I'm 15 years older than you are. We should have started his project yesterday, but let's get started tomorrow." I accepted. Ryoichi Sasakawa died five years ago, but I'm still president of the Sasakawa Africa Association, which is working to spread the Green Revolution to Sub-Saharan Africa. We have projects in 10 African countries. This is the toughest part of the world because it doesn't have an infrastructure. It had tremendous corn crops in the upper elevations, but people were starving in the lower elevations because there was no way to get the corn to them. There were no roads, no railroads. We could double or

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triple production in some areas, but the cost of bringing in fertilizer is three to four times what U.S. farmers pay.

Lack of roads is a major obstacle. It hinders agriculture, education, and development. Roads bring schools and public health workers, break down cultural barriers, and reduce fear. If you build a road that crosses tribal groups, those people begin to see others and realize that they are not so different from each other.

Over the years, I've learned much about agriculture. I've also learned much about people. Some of it I didn't want to know. I learned there is a fear of change, whether it's in agriculture or anything else. Especially as you move upward in income, there seems to be an innate fear in some people that someone might tip over their canoes—and those canoes are pretty comfortable. This is widespread, and it's dangerous. In developing countries, people in power will say it's too risky to change things because they've struggled to get their positions and, if change fails, they will be held responsible. You have to have courageous leaders.

Hunger and peace are interrelated. Have you ever been hungry—hungry for three or four days? One needs to have that experience. When people are hungry, it disrupts everything. If you were hungry and your children were starving, you would breach the laws pretty easily. You would steal for those children. When you have poverty, hunger, and misery, it's easy to plant terrorism and all other kinds of "isms." The world has shrunk. We can't ignore these problems.

I have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and have received honorary degrees and achievement awards from many universities around the world, but I am most proud of training young scientists to attack these problems in food production and to have seen some big changes.

But millions of people still are undernourished in the world today. Predictions are that the world population will reach about 8.3 billion by 2025. In order to feed those people, I calculate that we will need 1 billion more tons of grain. That means more tons per hectare are needed. There is much work that still needs to be done. ■

*Vicki Stavig is a freelance writer living in Bloomington, Minnesota.*

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The science of manipulating atoms to build new structures and devices was once a dream. But today, **nanotechnology is a force** at the University of Minnesota and beyond **that is revolutionizing manufacturing, computing, pharmaceuticals, and more.**

# Small World

**A**tom-sized **genetic bullets** glide between human cells seeking their targets. Tiny chips built out of DNA, the molecular building block of life, run a computer exponentially more powerful than anything available today. Microscopic structures are formed into a synthetic diamond dust, starting a booming new industry in a small Minnesota town. These are not the fantastic imaginings of Hollywood scriptwriters. University of Minnesota faculty members and alumni are pushing to make each vision real in the near future. Nanotechnology, the broad science of building structures at the molecular level from atomic particles, is here. Forget the big picture: The future belongs to the small-minded.

A nanotech revolution is under way in fields as diverse as oil production, drug making, clothing manufacture, and building materials. Already, Toyota has introduced a car bumper made of nanocomposites that is lighter and more dent-resistant than traditional metal bumpers, while Eddie Bauer uses nanoparticles to make its khakis stain repellent. But advocates see that as just the tip of the nanotech iceberg; the head of a National Science Foundation (NSF) task force estimates nanotechnology products and services will generate \$1 trillion in sales by 2015 and require 2 million workers to support.

The term *nano* is derived from the Greek word for "dwarf" and correlates to one-billionth. Thus, a nanometer equals one-billionth of a meter, about the width of 10 hydrogen atoms. The diameter of a blood cell is several thousand nanometers, and a human hair is 80,000 nanometers wide.

Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman advanced nanotechnology as an intriguing but improbable idea as early as 1959. In recent

years, however, technology has caught up, allowing scientists to manipulate atoms, changing their properties. Tantalizing early results promise new materials, devices, and systems expected to transform industries and lives. President Bush has asked Congress to spend \$849 million on nanotechnology research in fiscal 2004.

The University of Minnesota took an early lead in nanotechnology, hosting a conference on the subject in March 2000, the first research university to do so. The state commissioned a study on nanotechnology, and two University-led groups—the Organization for Minnesota Nanotechnology Initiatives and the Molecular Nanoscience Alliance for Interdisciplinary Studies and Activities—were formed. But an economic downturn began shortly after the March conference. State funds dried up and wary venture capitalists did not step forward. Federal dollars flowed to New York and California; the U of M ranks roughly 20th on the list of state universities receiving federal nanotech funds.

In December, however, University nanotech

By Joel Hoekstra | Photographs by Dan Marshall



Professor David Pui

boosters did receive some good news: The U will be part of the NSF's National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network. Minnesota will receive about \$700,000 a year to be part of the 13-university network. The U's role is to provide researchers around the Upper Midwest with access to state-of-the-art nanotechnology facilities.

U researchers continue to work and make breakthroughs in nanotechnology, hoping more dollars will follow. Current advances are just the beginning, according to Richard Kiehl, a professor of electrical and computer engineering and a leader in getting U researchers to work together on nanotechnology across disciplines: "I don't see any particular industry that has fully made use of nanotech. Industry really isn't drawing on the nanotechnology scale at this point." David Pui (B.S. '70, M.S. '73, Ph.D. '76),

a professor of mechanical engineering who organized the U's nanotech conference, wants the feds to fund a center for nanotech at the U and has applied for dollars to do just that. U alumnus Kevin

**"THERE ARE MANY STATE INITIATIVES ON NANOTECHNOLOGY, BUT MINNESOTA HAS YET TO DEVELOP ONE," SAYS MECHANICAL ENGINEERING PROFESSOR DAVID PUI. "WE NEED TO BOOST OUR VISIBILITY. THE GOVERNOR HAS TALKED A LOT ABOUT HIS BIOSCIENCE INITIATIVE. BUT NANOTECH SHOULD BE ELEVATED TO THE SAME LEVEL."**



**ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING**  
**PROFESSOR RICHARD KIEHL BELIEVES THE U NEEDS**  
**A PHYSICAL CENTER TO HOUSE ITS NANOTECHNOLOGY**  
**EFFORTS: "FACULTY DON'T WORK IN COLLABORATIONS**  
**AS OFTEN AS YOU MIGHT THINK. WITHOUT A CENTER,**  
**THERE'S NOT REALLY A FOCUS. A CENTER WOULD**  
**SANCTION NANOTECH AND GIVE IT A HOME."**

"gun" that can precisely spray genes into cells. It began with a chance visit to the U's agronomy department in the late 1990s. Pui was squiring an alum around the St. Paul campus when agronomy professor Ron Phillips (Ph.D. '66) showed the pair a device used to transfer new genes into plant cells, a process known as gene transfection.

The "gene gun" fascinated Pui. Invented at Cornell in the late 1980s, it used bullet-like projectiles, coated with gold particles that acted as gene carriers, to puncture a cell's membrane and release the implanted genes. But the technology also had flaws:

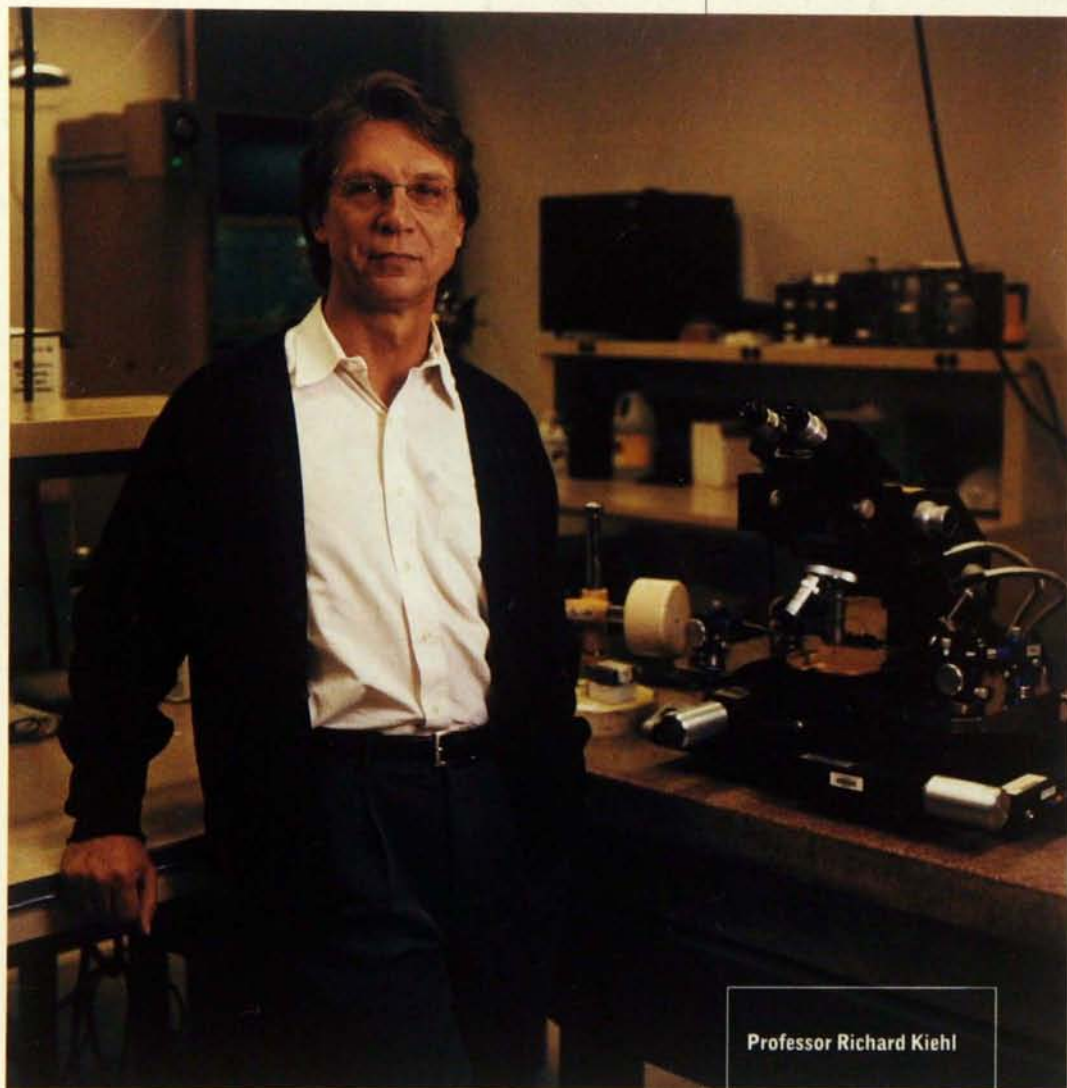
The gold particles sometimes stuck together and crushed the cell. And the process of reloading and firing the single-shot device was laborious. "It was like using a shotgun when you needed a semiautomatic," Pui says. "I thought to myself, 'I can do better than that.'"

Working with Chen, a fellow expert in aerosol technologies, Pui drew up plans for a gun capable of transfecting genes continuously. Using an electrical field to control the release, genes or gene-coated nanoparticles are fired from a capillary, a tiny elongated tube. The highly charged particles repel each other, creating enough velocity to penetrate the membranes of the targeted cells. The process is effective and efficient. "We've run this process for weeks without stopping," Pui says.

As work on the device was drawing to a close, Pui met Christine Wendt (B.S. '82, M.D. '86), a medical school professor. Wendt immediately saw that the gun could be used to transfect genes to mammal cells, replacing

expensive chemical methods and other less reliable means. Experiments on African green monkey cells and human lung-cancer cells proved successful, giving the researchers confidence that the device could be used for gene transfection on other types of cells as well.

But the potential applications for the technology may be even wider. The device's ability to generate and spray nanoparticles of a uniform nature has already spawned one Minnesota startup interested in using it to produce extremely small, precisely shaped drug particles. Nanocopeia, a company Pui helped launch two years ago and where he remains an adviser, has licensed the technology from the U of M and has lab space in the Biodale facility



Professor Richard Kiehl

Klungtvedt, meanwhile, sees economic-development opportunities for small towns that embrace nanotechnology.

These fledgling efforts are likely to expand dramatically in the coming decade if the experts are right. But as much will depend on initiative and funding as on good ideas.

#### **THE GENE GUN**

U.S. patent No. 6,093,557 is proof that nanotechnology is inherently multidisciplinary. Granted, to Pui, who is also director of the U's Particle Technology Laboratory, and Da-Ren Chen (M.S. '93, Ph.D. '96), a mechanical-engineering professor who recently left for Washington University in St. Louis, the patent is for a

on the St. Paul campus. "The space between cells is 23 to 30 nanometers," Pui explains. "It's possible that if you make something smaller than that, it can slip right between the cells and be absorbed almost instantly through the membrane of [a patient's] mouth. It doesn't have to go through the stomach or intestine. You can create very rapid onset-acting drugs."

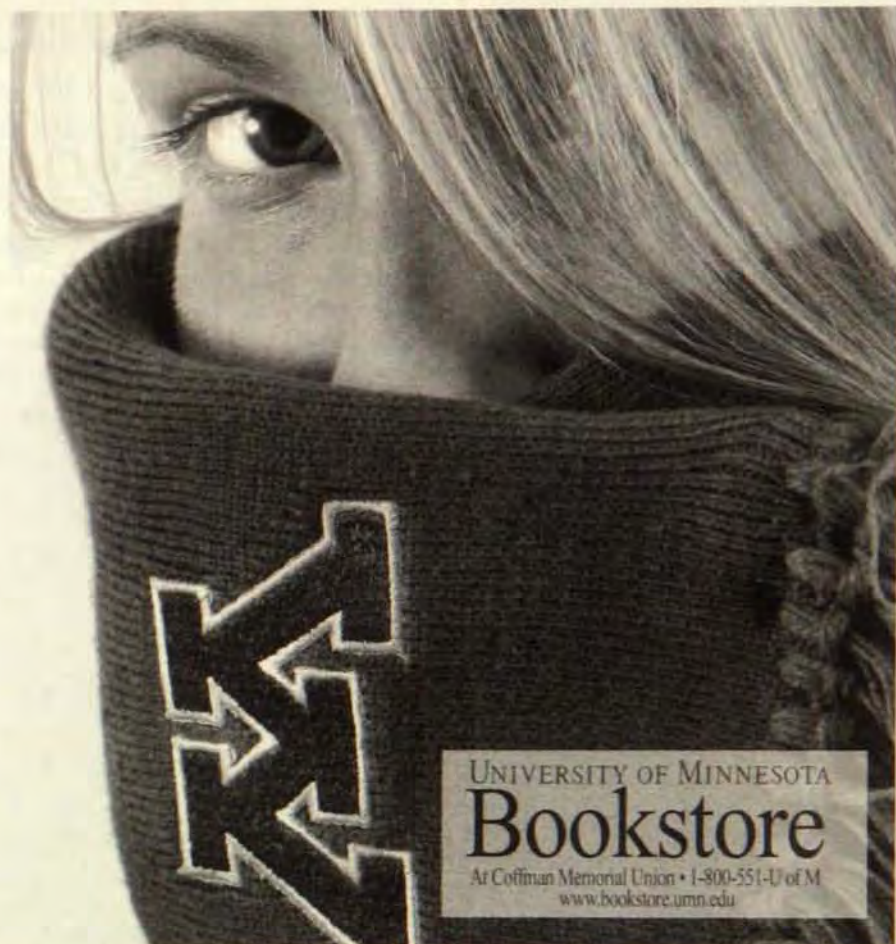
Reducing the particle size also increases the overall surface area and boosts solubility, potentially resulting in better and faster absorption (think of a spoonful of sugar compared to a jawbreaker). Many drugs currently used as treatment for cancer, HIV, and other diseases lack enough solubility to be delivered effectively.

"Minnesota is considered a center of excellence in the development of tools that allow us to classify and measure nanoparticles," Pui says. "We have a number of faculty at the U that have developed instruments in this area." If the state and the U hope to be on the forefront of this revolutionary field, he argues, a better job attracting federal funds is part of the solution. But state and private funds must begin to back nanotechnology work as well. "There are many state initiatives on nanotechnology, but Minnesota has yet to develop one," Pui continues. "We need to boost our visibility. The governor has talked a lot about his bioscience initiative. But nanotech should be elevated to the same level."

#### NO ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

In the early 1970s, Minnesota earned a reputation as the birthplace of supercomputing—only to see its luster vanish with the proliferation of desktop PCs a decade later. But if Richard Kiehl and fellow researchers at the U of M succeed, the state may soon become the locus for the next revolution in computing.

Kiehl, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, is interested in constructing nanoscale electronic circuitry with the help of DNA molecules. Such circuitry has the potential to far surpass the limits of current technology. Today's fast, powerful desktop computers are the direct result of packing more and more metal oxide circuits onto the small silicon chips that serve as their engines. In recent years, the lithographic tools used to build those circuits have shrunk considerably. But there's a point of diminishing returns, and



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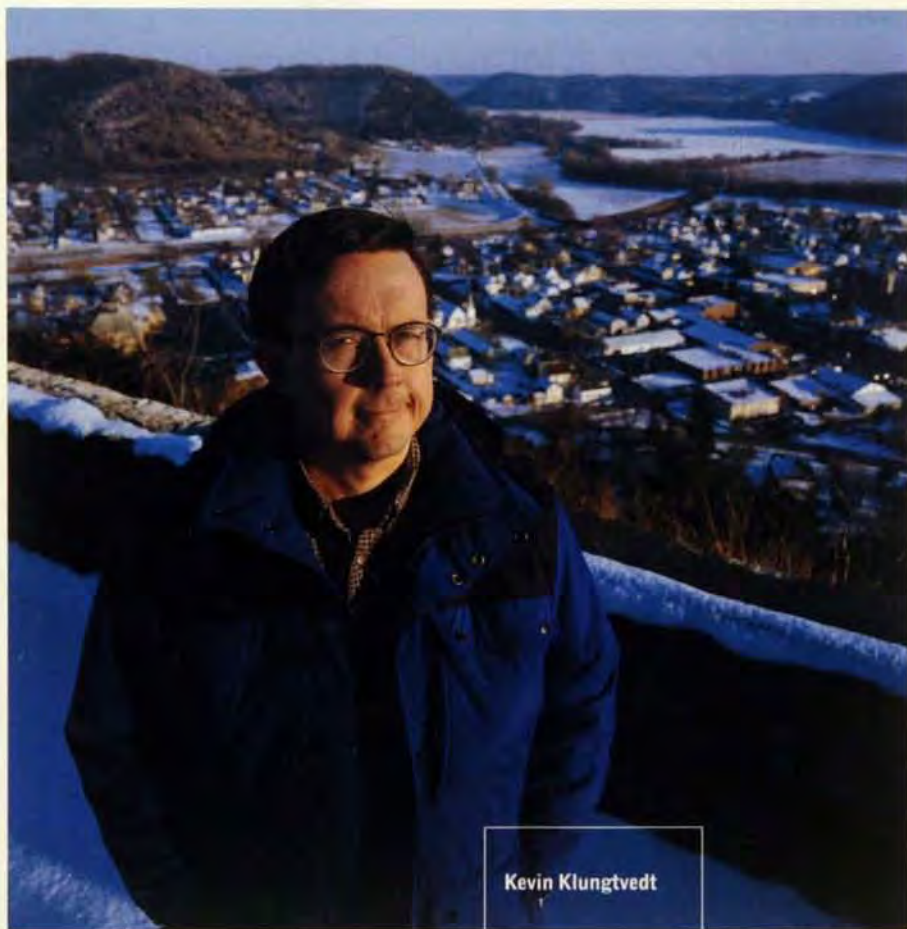
As President-elect of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, *she and her staff congratulate the Alumni Association on its 100 years of service in advocating educational excellence, building pride, spirit and community.*

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**"WE MAKE THE BOLD ASSUMPTION THAT ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE IN NANOTECHNOLOGY CAN BE DONE IN A PLACE LIKE RUSHFORD," SAYS KEVIN KLUNGTVEDT, A RESIDENT OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA TOWN THAT IS HOME TO THE NONPROFIT RUSHFORD INSTITUTE FOR NANOTECHNOLOGY.**



Kevin Klungvedt

Kiehl and others foresee the day when the chisel simply can't get any tinier.

Searching for a solution, Kiehl has looked beyond the bounds of his discipline—and found a promising line of inquiry. What if circuits, he asked, were not manufactured but "grown"? After all, nature, using DNA as its blueprint, is forever assembling atoms into myriad types of molecules. "There are things that biological systems do well," Kiehl says, "and if we have a shot at replicating those systems, we may be able to improve our approach to creating inorganic materials."

So the engineer teamed with a chemist, U of M professor Karin Musier-Forsyth, in an effort to harness the power of DNA for assembling nano-sized structures similar to those found in circuits. Building on

the work of Nadrian Seeman, a researcher at New York University, the pair created a DNA scaffold for arranging metallic particles. Blending 1.4-nanometer gold particles with a DNA solution in a beaker resulted in countless nanosized tiles, cross-hatches of synthetic DNA to which the gold particles bonded. Just like DNA molecules, which combine in consistent and predictable patterns, the gold particles formed a perfect grid pattern.

Next, the team hopes to demonstrate electron transfer through such a grid—proving its viability as a nanosized circuit, and as computer chips become exponentially smaller than the current variety. That would potentially shrink the size of any device that currently relies on such chips and create much denser circuitry that could

hold 100 times the information of conventional chips and perform much more complex functions.

Kiehl points out that rapid advances in computing power and smaller electronics with more features is reaching the limits of the current technology. The progress "will slow to a crawl in the coming years unless new nanoscale electronics technologies can be developed," he says. "DNA scaffolding could provide a fabrication technology needed to continue this advancement of electronics far into the future." At the same time, he argues, new processing methods made possible by nanoscale electronics "could lead to computers that are more like humans in their capability for performing such complex tasks as instantly recognizing a face in a crowd or controlling mechanical systems to produce the acrobatic movements of a ballet dancer, an athlete, or a bird."

Kiehl acknowledges his debt to other U researchers and has led the development of an organization that encourages interdisciplinary work in nanotechnology. The Molecular Nanoscience Alliance for Interdisciplinary Studies and Activities has brought together researchers from nearly a dozen departments. But Kiehl believes the U still needs a physical center to house its efforts, although there are currently no plans to fund one. "Faculty don't work in collaborations as often as you might think," he says. "Without a center, there's not really a focus. A center would sanction nanotech and give it a home."

#### MINNESOTA'S NANOTOWN

If small is the new big, then America's tiniest towns might benefit hugely from nanotechnology. That's the view of Kevin Klungtvedt (B.S. '83), a resident of Rushford, a community of 1,728 people in southeastern Minnesota's Fillmore County. Klungtvedt, who currently works as a manufacturing engineer at TRW Automotive, Inc., wants to make his city a dynamic hub for nanotechnology research and businesses. In addition to tourism and agriculture, Rushford has a history of firms manufacturing industrial composites, an area likely to incorporate nanotechnology. "We make the bold assumption that anything that can be done in nanotechnology can be done in a place like Rushford," he says.

In 2001 Klungtvedt and several civic

leaders founded the Rushford Institute for NanoTechnology, a nonprofit aimed at identifying and attracting nanotech ventures that might serve to boost the local business climate. The group hopes to build a 6,000-square-foot research and development business incubator for nanotechnology in Rushford. Last spring, the state legislature turned down Klungtvedt's request for \$4 million in startup funds, but Congressman Gil Gutknecht (R-Rochester) has taken an interest in the institute's efforts. He has introduced Rushford's nanotechnology boosters to U.S.

Department of Commerce officials interested in the city's efforts, although Rushford has yet to court federal funds.

Klungtvedt hatched the idea of turning Rushford into Nanoville in the spring of 2000, after attending the U of M's Nanotechnology Summit. As expert after expert talked about the future of pharmaceuticals, fuels, electronics, and other major industries, the potential impact of nanotechnology was undeniable. "Our conservative guess was that 20 to 40 percent of the kinds of businesses they were talking about could be done in a small

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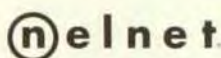
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town," Klungvedt says.

Adds Rushford's city administrator, Larry Bartelson: "Why not Rushford? There's no reason to exclude a small town like Rushford because of its location or size."

In fact, the town already has a verbal commitment from one nanotech company interested in constructing a plant in Rushford. Aveka, Inc., a Woodbury-based firm with plants in two small towns in Iowa, currently processes microparticles for industrial use. A subsidiary, which has yet to break ground in Rushford, is expected to take the concept to the next level: Cima NanoTech, Inc., will produce nano-sized carbon particles for industrial diamonds used for grinding and polishing items from lenses to automobile exteriors. Aveka president Willie Hendrickson predicts that the potential market for such nanoparticles will swell to \$1.2 billion within the next five years.

Harlan Jacobs, a Twin Cities-based business consultant who helped woo Aveka to Rushford, says the city has multiple assets that make it attractive to startups: good workers, high quality of life, proximity to regional airports at Rochester and LaCrosse, Wisconsin, ties to Winona State University and the U of M, and its success in developing industrial composites. "We see a marriage," Jacobs says. "Just like the med-device industry is going to rely on biomaterials to make its devices even better, I can see a similar situation in which nanoparticles will be incorporated into the fabrics and fibers used by the composites industry to make better heat shields, better bulletproof vests, better products in general."

Meanwhile, Rushford residents are working hard to signal their welcome for nanotech. Local science teachers have developed nanotechnology curricula. Klungvedt has briefed business groups and women's clubs on the topic. Signs soon will go up at the city limits touting Rushford as a "nanotech-friendly" place.

"If you stop and talk to six people on the street here, at least three of them will know about nanotechnology," Klungvedt says. "They may not know everything about it, but they understand the basic concept. I challenge you to find that in any other city." ■

*Joel Hoekstra is a Minneapolis freelance writer.*



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# Loyalty Must Stand First

To mark the 100th anniversary year of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, *Minnesota* presents a series of articles spanning the alumni association's rich history, including a recount of the association advocating for the University, despite times of war, economic hard times, or even U administrators' wish that it would not.

BY TIM BRADY

In February 1916, some 425 alumni sat down to dinner at the 13th annual gathering of the General Alumni Association (GAA) of the University of Minnesota. They were feasting in the dining room of the agriculture department on campus and guests were serenaded through appetizers by the senior agriculture quartet. The evening's festivities ended with a skit starring Minnesota football hero Johnnie McGovern playing a dimwitted ag student opposite the dean of the agriculture school. The dean couldn't quite make

McGovern's character see the difference between the ag school's definition of *graft*, as in a type of a plant surgery, and *graft* in its illicit connotation, as an under-the-table payment. According to a report in the meeting minutes, this revue was accompanied by both "sallies" and "paroxysms" of laughter.

All fun and good times aside, some serious and lasting business was being taken care of by the GAA at that meeting.

It had been a relatively tumultuous year at the U, particularly for its Board of Regents. There was controversy involving a project that would link the University and the Mayo Foundation in Rochester, Minnesota, in a joint teaching and research initiative. There was also a hiccup in University relations with the state legislature. A generous 1913 legislative session had turned stingy in the spring of 1915, cutting back on building funds and adding nothing to staff funding. Not only that, alumni had been frustrated in their efforts to do anything about it. The Board of Regents had let the GAA know after the 1913 session "that it was not the wish of the University administration that the alumni should take an active part in support of the legislative program put forward by the Regents."

*The Minnesota Alumni Weekly*  
Volume 26 JANUARY 15, 1927 Number 14

*How We Fare In Comparison With Our Neighbors*

Illinois appropriated	\$21,894,339.00
Iowa appropriated	26,255,095.01
Michigan appropriated	25,482,806.00
Ohio appropriated	22,173,135.94
Minnesota appropriated	17,733,173.00

*Why \$7,516,446 is Asked of Legislature*  
\$3,755,723 for 1927-28 and \$3,760,723 for 1929-30 needed for Instruction—A Crisis Exists

REALIZING that the University of Minnesota must go forward to progress because standing still means regression, President L. D. Coffman and the boards of regents of the University of Minnesota "Needs for the Biennium 1927-1929" by President Coffman, Governor Theodore Christianson ('06, '09L.) in his message to the state legislature voiced his disapproval of granting further increases to the Univer-

*The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* asked readers "to stand in readiness to aid their alma mater" in an emergency appeal to the legislature to restore cut financing to the University. The alumni association helped the U restore some funding in 1927, but the budget battles would continue.

Soon after the opening of the 1915 legislative session, however, it became evident to the GAA that alumni support for the University “was needed and the necessity for such support became more and more evident as the session continued.” The alumni association put out a special issue of *The Minnesota Alumni Weekly*, calling on its members to contact the legislature in support of the University appropriation. But it was too late in the session to be an effective tool, according to *The Weekly* in a later report. Its efforts “could accomplish little” before the session adjourned.

The founders of the GAA—men like its first president, Henry Nachtrieb (1882) and its first executive director, E.B. Johnson (1888)—envisioned an alumni organization that would complement the University’s administration and Board of Regents in their dealings with the state. At the same time, the founders promised to be unafraid of tackling the hardest issues of the day at the University and advocating for what they believed to be in the best interest of the school. Since Nachtrieb, Johnson, and virtually all of the founders were still around in 1916 and holding office on the alumni board, it’s easy to imagine how they felt about holding their tongues during that last legislative session.

This was the same group that had noted the association’s 10th anniversary, a few years before, by listing its proudest achievements, almost all of which involved advocacy: “[The GAA] was the dominant factor in the campaign that secured the release of the University from the board of control supervision. It initiated the movement for the greater campus and helped secure the necessary appropriations. It . . . was the chief factor in securing appropriations for putting salaries of the faculty on an approximately fair basis.” And it successfully fought the proposition to raise the Northern Pacific tracks on campus, a prospect “which would have done incalculable harm to the University.”

In a nutshell, the GAA, from its infancy, was a group that liked to play in the political arena and puffed out its chest about its accomplishments there. At that 1916 gathering, between the glee singers and Johnnie McGovern, the alumni board made its feelings known to the assembly in the form of a resolution:

**“Teachers, not buildings make a school. Not proud piles of brick and mortar, but earnest, devoted men and women,” said Minnesota Governor Theodore Christianson, in his 1927 budget message to the legislature, admonishing the University for asking for increases when economic troubles loomed.**



If the alumni are to be really useful and serve the University to the best of their ability, if they are to do what all good citizens have a right to expect of them, they must maintain their independence and their right to express themselves fully, freely and directly, upon any matter connected with the University.

It is inevitable that at times they should differ from the Board of Regents. If the past history of the association teaches anything it teaches that the alumni have been wise in maintaining their independence. Some of the greatest services which the alumni have rendered the University have been rendered without the support of any considerable portion of the Board of Regents.

If our association is to mean anything in the life of the University, it must stand for what its members feel to be right regardless of all else. Loyalty to the University must stand first.



In the years that followed that thunderous 1916 resolution, the alumni association was not always so bold or determined in the political arena. The strength of the organization's role as an advocate waxed and waned from that early organization to the present one. It was sometimes influenced by large historical forces like war and economic depression, sometimes governed by its relationship with the University, and sometimes steered in other directions by the predilections of its members.

Through the years, University budgets and the pros and cons of lobbying on behalf of the U at the legislature caused recurring debate within the alumni association. When the 1923 legislature cut University appropriations by \$700,000, the alumni association decided it needed to adopt a more "militant policy" toward legislators, but many in the organization were obviously ambivalent about the work involved. "We are not lobbyists," wrote E.B. Pierce, the executive director of the GAA, in his annual report that year. "Lobbying is an undignified and obnoxious method of securing the results desired." Still, Pierce reminded the members, there was work to be done at the Capitol and "it may become necessary to obtain commitments from candidates for House and Senate concerning their attitude towards the University before election time."

A few years later, University budget problems had less to do with the legislature than with Governor Theodore Christianson (it should be noted that Christianson was a leader in the state Senate in 1923). In his 1927 budget message to the legislature, the governor chided the University for asking for increases in a time of looming economic troubles. In particular, he was adamantly opposed to new construction on campus. "Teachers, not buildings make a school. Not proud piles of brick and mortar, but earnest, devoted men and women." That said, the governor wasn't offering much incentive to teachers, either, a fact pointed out in *The Alumni Weekly* in January 1927. Unabashed by the governor's lecture, the alumni journal asked its readers "to stand in readiness to aid their alma mater" in an emergency appeal to the state legislature to restore cut financing to the U.

The alumni association helped the University restore some funding through the legislature that year, but the budget battles with Christianson would continue. During the next session the legislature, in contrast to the governor, "was not unfriendly" to the University, according to the minutes of a 1929 GAA board meeting. To help grease this amicability, however, it was suggested to alumni "that members of the Legislature appreciated little courtesies from those for whom they were expected to do things." Complimentary football tickets were particularly welcome in the House and Senate.

By 1933, even this brand of politicking was fruitless. The depths



Henry Nachtrieb (1882), the first president of the General Alumni Association, envisioned an organization that would complement the University and the Board of Regents in their dealings with the state. Though the degree to which the alumni association stepped up waxed and waned, it is again a forceful advocate for the U.

of the Great Depression caused a shrinking of all budgets, including the University's, a fact accepted by the alumni board with the comment, "It might have been worse."

The alumni association's legislative program seems to have gone through a

period of decline from the Depression through the 1940s, and an attempt to stimulate alumni efforts in the early '50s was met with some ambivalence. While members of the Minnesota Alumni Association's executive committee felt "that the establishment of a contact program with Legislators on important committees was essential," the University was not wild about MAA involvement. (The association changed its name to the Minnesota Alumni Association in 1948.)

The postwar era had arrived at the University and at the statehouse. Budgets were larger and more complex. There was a growing sense that professional expertise was needed

**TO HELP GREASE THE AMICABILITY OF THE 1929 STATE LEGISLATURE, IT WAS SUGGESTED TO ALUMNI "THAT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE APPRECIATED LITTLE COURTESIES FROM THOSE FOR WHOM THEY WERE EXPECTED TO DO THINGS." COMPLIMENTARY FOOTBALL TICKETS WERE PARTICULARLY WELCOME IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE.**

to understand the intricacies of the process, so please don't send novices to lobby in St. Paul. A meeting with University President James Morrill produced the impression "that the University didn't particularly want the alumni to help except in a very minor way." Still, in the spring of 1955, the MAA organized a letter-writing campaign to legislators from 700 alumni in support of the University's biennial budget request.

Fiscal politics were not the only legislative matters of interest to the alumni association. The earliest alumni association boards, at least back to 1908, were also very interested in the composition of the Board of Regents, and lobbied for a board that would have "the majority of the appointed members . . . be chosen from the graduates of the University." In 1910, the GAA sent a list of recommended candidates to the governor's office to fill a vacant

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**THE POSTWAR ERA HAD ARRIVED AT THE UNIVERSITY AND AT THE STATEHOUSE. BUDGETS WERE LARGER AND MORE COMPLEX. THERE WAS A GROWING SENSE THAT PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE WAS NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND THE INTRICACIES OF THE PROCESS, SO PLEASE DON'T SEND NOVICES TO LOBBY IN ST. PAUL.**

seat on the board and added a note reminding him again "that other things being equal an alumnus of the University is more likely to render devoted service on the Board of Regents than one who is not an alumnus."

As with fiscal politics, advocacy in the composition of the Board of Regents has not always been a top priority with the alumni association. In 1931, five seats were open on the regency, but the board of directors of the GAA were not particularly interested. "It was the decided opinion of members present that the alumni association should take no action with regard to the election of regents. If the alumni in the various districts care to unite in securing the election of any individual, they are, of course, free to do so."

But in 1950, MAA board of directors spent a good deal of time creating a policy statement regarding the selection of University regents. The objective was to maintain a list of persons who would be qualified to serve as regents for the state and University. Nominees would come from alumni in congressional districts across the state and be screened by the MAA board, which would then draw up a list of three qualified candidates per district. The list would be made available to the governor and legislators as well as members of the MAA.

Like the pioneering alumni associations, the modern alumni association's passion for advocacy was fueled in part by a rebuff from the University. In 1984, when the U was searching for a new president it said thanks, but no thanks, when the MAA asked if it could help in the process. That rejection helped spur the determination of incoming alumni president Penny Winton (B.A. '74) and the MAA's new executive director, Margaret Carlson (Ph.D. '83), to make the alumni association more of a player in University politics.

The regent selection process turned out to be the best avenue for that participation. Many observers at the University and in state government thought the process had grown too partisan over the

years. In 1985, the MAA decided to create an independent task force to review the selection process. It advised that an ongoing committee be established to set criteria and help identify quality candidates. Alumni wrote a bill to this effect and lobbied for its passage. By 1988, the recommendations of this group had been codified into state law and a Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) had been established to screen qualified applicants for the Board of Regents.

In 1986, the MAA revived its legislative program through the Legislative Network. This volunteer cadre of alumni, students, faculty, and friends of the University all enlisted to advocate on behalf of the U at the Capitol. The network would become the chief lobbying tool of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (the organization took this name in 1990) in legislative matters to come, including funding battles in 1992, '98, '02, and '03. The 1998 legislative campaign, nicknamed "249" to symbolize the \$249 million requested for building projects, was a particularly fruitful effort for the network. The UMAA was able to mobilize more than 2,600 volunteers for the effort, which ultimately garnered \$200 million in bonding and \$36 million in supplemental support for the U.

The modern alumni association, with its emphasis on advocacy and a legislative program, has a great deal of resemblance to the early organization. However, the association's founders would be stunned by what has become of what they started. The Legislative Network has recently grown to 10,000 alumni and friends. That was near the total number of living alumni of the University of Minnesota in 1916.

The modern network is no doubt a potent force in the politics of higher education in the state of Minnesota. But it still owes a debt to the tenaciousness of that earlier, smaller group of alumni association pioneers who marked a well-worn path to the state Capitol in St. Paul. ■

*Tim Brady is a St. Paul freelance writer.*

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# A Long Look Back

From removing railroad tracks that crossed campus to putting up money for a new on-campus stadium, the alumni association has been a strong voice and an unflappable force at the University for 100 years. Here is a timeline of notable moments in the association's history.

BY EVELYN COTTLE RAEDLER AND YVONNE HUNDSHAMER



## Alumni at a Loss for Words

*The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* reported that a 1922 alumni association dinner for alumni in Milwaukee opened with "Hail! Minnesota"—"the popular version, as the New York unit has it, which runs something like this:

"Minnesota, hail to thee  
Hail to thee, our College dear.  
Thy light shall ever be  
A beacon bright and clear.  
Ah—de da da mmm de de  
De de de la la la  
We will da la da  
Deda de !!!!!???????"

## 1904

The General Alumni Association (GAA) was founded on January 30 when 350 alumni and faculty met in the University's Armory to approve a constitution for an organization that would "weld graduates into a single unit of influence." Many were members of existing college alumni groups, some of which had been meeting since 1877. The first slate of officers was elected to the board with Henry Francis Nachtrieb ('82), professor of animal biology, as president. Annual membership dues were 50 cents; life memberships of \$10 would be invested in a permanent fund.

## 1907

During its early years, the GAA successfully advocated for an increase in University salaries, the acquisition of land for campus expansion, removal through legislative action of a state agency called the Board of Control, and removal of the Northern Pacific railroad tracks, which crossed the Minneapolis campus.

## 1909

The alumni board of directors approved the publication of *Forty Years of the University of Minnesota*, edited by E.B. Johnson, editor of *The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* and GAA alumni secretary. The book captured the early history of the University, including a comprehensive list of faculty and graduates.

## 1911

George Vincent addressed the annual meeting on the eve of his appointment as third president of the University: "While alumni have done much for the institution, they must do still more in the days that are to come. . . . They must exemplify in their lives the very best things for which the institution stands."

## 1918

Sixteen members of the alumni board of directors met with seven regents to discuss issues including improving the care of University grounds, buildings, and equipment; improving student life at the institution; the constant danger of

## College Spirit Requires Few Words

In 1915, *The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* announced a contest to arouse interest in, and intelligent discussion of, the important matter of college spirit. A \$5 prize would go to the student with the best definition, using not more than 50 words. The winner was David Bergen ('16), who wrote: "College spirit is a loyalty to a higher institute of learning, which unites its members in living up to the traditions of the institution and to the ideals of its best representatives." The contest garnered 14 entries. However, a prize of \$10 for the best paper of not more than 1,500 words on the same subject received not a single entry.

losing good faculty; the need for faculty salary increases; the reconstruction of the educational system; and the influx of students returning from war in Europe.

## 1920

The GAA began receiving financial subsidies from the University, thereby becoming an integral part of the University. • E. B. Pierce became executive secretary of the GAA and would serve for 28 years.

## 1921

A resolution stated that the GAA should quickly take the necessary action to use alumni funds to build memorials on campus for alumni and students who had served in the Great War. Soon after, a committee was formed and the Greater University Corporation was created to raise \$2 million for a stadium and an auditorium. Within one month, in 1922, students and faculty had donated \$665,000, the most ever generated by a campus campaign in the United States. Alumni raised \$1 million in 1923. The Gophers hosted their first football game at Memorial Stadium in 1924. Northrop Auditorium was dedicated to former University president Cyrus Northrop in 1929.

## 1927

An open letter to alumni on the issue of state legislation that would prohibit the teaching of evolution stated: "You will render a real service to the University and to education in general if you will see personally, telephone, telegraph, or write your representatives . . . urging them to kill these bills . . . it is important that you act at once." The bill was killed in the Senate 55-7.



Henry Francis Nachtrieb, first president of the GAA



## Should the U Bar Communists?

In 1949, the alumni association joined the fray over communism in education. "We, as alumni, have an obligation to be informed on this matter so that we may be ready to take a stand if and when the time should rise," wrote Ed Haislet (Ed. '31), director of alumni relations.

Those against Communists being allowed to teach contended that communism is a criminal conspiracy, and Communists, lacking high ethical character and standards of professional responsibility, are unfit to teach. Those against barring Communists from teaching argued that communism is recognized as a legal political party, and membership shouldn't deprive one of the legal right to hold a teaching certificate. If Communists can be barred from teaching, they argued, why not bar Democrats, Republicans, Jews, Catholics, etc.?

Using the words of University President James Morrill, Haislet urged alumni to allow "our University only the opportunity to face the issue in the spirit of the University itself—with good will and good faith, committed and unpressured, in the attitude of objective inquiry, in the climate of intellectual freedom."

## 1928

The class of 1903 celebrated its 25th anniversary with a campaign to raise \$5,000 as a nest egg for a building on campus to be known as Alumni Hall.

## 1936

The American Alumni Council (AAC) judged *The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* first among 150 entries for covering news dealing with activities of the University.

## 1939

Alumni clubs around the country sponsored a series of public golf exhibitions featuring "America's greatest golfer," Patty Berg (B.A. '51). Proceeds went to the Coffman Memorial Union building fund.

## 1942

A GAA mailing urged alumni to ascertain the attitudes toward higher education and the University of candidates for the Minnesota House and Senate: "If where necessary or proper, each candidate were interviewed, he would realize at the start that influential people in the community are actively interested in the University's welfare. If the candidate's attitude were adverse, a few salient points about the University might change his opinion decidedly."

## 1943

*The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* became a monthly, requiring the first name change in 42 years, to

*Minnesota Alumnus*. The magazine would undergo several more name changes until 1978, when it became *Minnesota*.

## 1947

The Greater University Fund, through which alumni and friends could make gifts to the University,



E.B. Johnson, editor of *The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* and GAA alumni secretary

## [ WHY THE UMAA MATTERS ]

In the UMAA's 100th year, alumni association life members explain why staying connected to and advocating for the University is important to them.

Given a chance to help, most people will rise to the occasion for the causes they believe in. But, first, they have to know about the issues, the challenges, and the remedies. They have to be informed. When it comes to the University of Minnesota, the UMAA gives its members the opportunity to help by providing the knowledge that becomes the power to drive positive change.

John A. Foley, Jr.  
(B.S. '71, M.S. '73, Ph.D. '78)  
Plymouth, Minnesota

The UMAA is a great booster for the image of the University. This is important so that everyone realizes the vast impact this institution has on the quality of life of everyone in the state of Minnesota. The University produces the people who represent our future and who will keep our state strong and vibrant. It needs and deserves the support of its alumni, all residents of the state, and of our state legislature.

Bonnie Litton (B.A. '64)  
Golden Valley, Minnesota

## [ WHY THE UMAA MATTERS ]

I've always thought that people from Minnesota are unique, and our Puget Sound UMAA chapter proves that. Friendships made through our chapter are enduring and uplifting. It's been such a benefit that I've given a life membership to my nephew and plan to give life memberships to other nieces and nephews as they graduate from the University. They would probably prefer the immediate cash, but I know that in the years to come their connection to the University will be a legacy from me that will be much appreciated.

Andy Wangstad (B.S.B. '69)  
Kent, Washington

My own legal career began with my education at the University. My oldest daughter, Jennifer, graduated summa cum laude from the College of Biological Sciences last spring and started medical school at the U this fall. My twin daughters, Katie and Kelly, recently received their letters of admission to the College of Liberal Arts for fall semester 2004. All of them will use their education to help our fellow citizens and to continue the proud, progressive tradition that Minnesota represents. The UMAA can help ensure that our legislators will look at the long-term benefit to our children and to our state of investing in the University.

Michael W. McNabb  
(B.A. '71, J.D. '74)  
Burnsville, Minnesota

As the University goes, so will the state—its quality of life and its economy—maybe not immediately, but certainly eventually. If the UMAA and other U boosters do not advocate forcefully, consistently, and collegially, how can the citizens of this state recognize and value the U's importance—and how will the body politic be willing to fund the vital needs of the University?

Dennis McGrath (B.A. '63)  
St. Paul

The UMAA provides a very easy way to stay in contact with the University. *Minnesota* magazine provides insights into what takes place at the University and provides a terrific way for alumni to catch up on contributions by faculty, students, and alumni.

At a personal level, my favorite

was established with a first-year goal of \$50,000.

### 1948

The GAA took the name Minnesota Alumni Association (MAA), became a partner with the University in the support of alumni services, and the dream of an alumni center began again. • Ed Haislet (B.S. '31) was hired as director of alumni relations and executive director of the MAA.

### 1951

The MAA had nearly 13,000 members. • Through gifts from Minnesota alumni to the Greater University Fund, \$10,000 in scholarships was awarded to 38 students for the 1950–51 school year.

### 1954

College constituent groups (the 17 alumni associations of colleges and academic units within the University) became actively associated with the MAA.

### 1959

In speaking about the state of higher education and University requests for funds from the legislature, President James Morrill said: "We have a real need of mobilization of outside support and the alumni association will have to assist in this particular aspect."



Alumni, students, and faculty gave generously to build Memorial Stadium (1924) and Northrop Auditorium (1929).



E.B. Pierce, executive secretary from 1920 to 1948

### 1960

Six alumni received the first Alumni Service Awards for service to the University, its schools, colleges, departments, faculty, and the alumni association.

### 1961

An increase of 1,000 new members brought membership to 17,000.

### 1962

The University of Minnesota Foundation was established to seek major gifts from alumni and friends of the University to fund projects for which tax money was not available. • The MAA was the first Big Ten association to offer life insurance to alumni. A \$10,000 policy had an annual premium of only \$26.

### 1963

The Alumni Club opened in the

Sheraton-Ritz Hotel in Minneapolis as a place for alumni to meet for lunch and dinner. Within a year it had 1,800 members.

### 1965

The annual Horace T. Morse-Amoco Distinguished Teaching Award was established to recognize exceptional scholar-teachers for their outstanding contributions to undergraduate education. Named for the first dean of the General College (1934–60), the award was funded by the Amoco Foundation.

### 1969

The MAA broadened its role in shaping University policy when President Malcolm Moos requested the appointment of 10 alumni to serve on five University Senate and Assembly committees: social welfare, community education, military, athletics, and student affairs.

### 1971

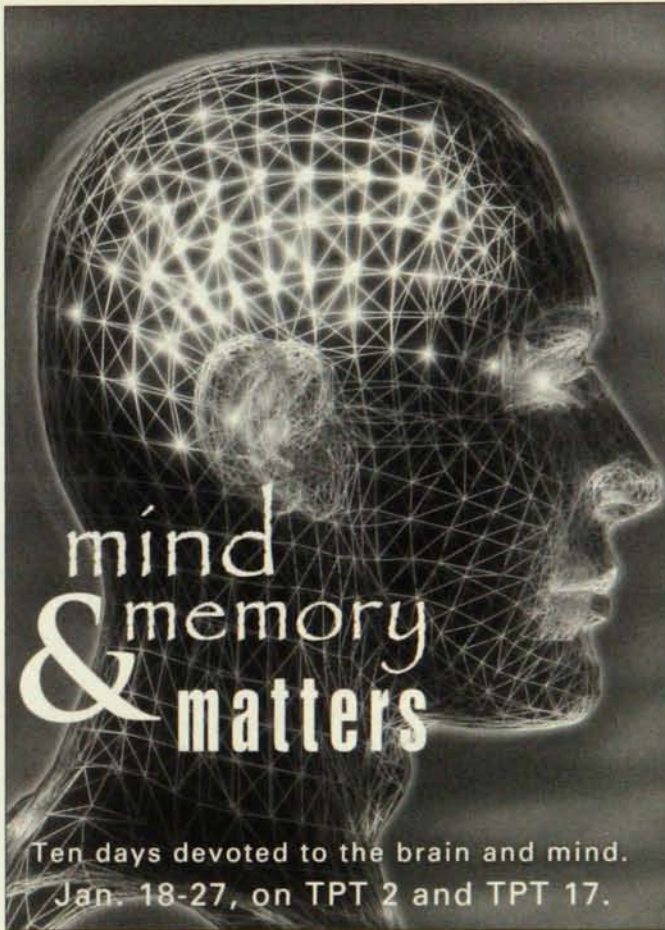
The alumni association had 55 alumni chapters in Minnesota and 44 out-of-state chapters—most with well-developed programs encompassing scholarships, recruitment of top students, and legislative support.

### 1973

The MAA took an active role in selecting President Malcolm Moos's successor—from helping to build a list of possible

## Alumni Stack the Capitol

In 1957, 82 Minnesota lawmakers were University of Minnesota alumni, including Governor Orville Freeman (B.A. '40, J.D. '46), Attorney General Miles Lord (J.D. '48), and State Representatives Donald Fraser (B.A. '44, J.D. '48) and Elmer Andersen (B.B.A. '31).



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nominees to participating in the screening process to meeting with the three major candidates. C. Peter Magrath was inaugurated as the 11th president of the University in 1974.

### 1974

The Alumni Club, closed since 1971, reopened on the 50th floor of the IDS Tower in Minneapolis. Some 2,000 MAA members attended an open house, and memberships were sold out before the club opened.

### 1975

MAA membership reached a milestone, going over the 25,000 mark for the first time.

### 1976

Vince Bilotta, former director of the University of Kansas Alumni Association, was named executive director.

### 1977

M. Elizabeth Craig (B.A. '43, M.D. '45) was the first woman elected MAA national board president.

### 1979

Steve Roszell, former executive director of the University of Missouri Alumni Association, was hired as MAA executive director. At the annual meeting, he outlined his goals and observed that "the University has one primary ingredient for success: distinguished and dedicated alumni."

### 1980

The University Student Alumni Association was formed to involve alumni and students in a continuing relationship with the University.

### 1983

The National Volunteer of the

Year Award was created to recognize graduates who have made a significant contribution to the alumni association and the University.

### 1985

Margaret Sughrue Carlson (Ph.D. '83), was named executive director of the MAA—the first woman to hold the position in the Big Ten. • The MAA conducted an opinion poll to determine alumni views on University investment in U.S. companies operating in South Africa. A significant percentage opposed divestiture, but were also opposed to the University buying additional stock in these companies.

### 1986

The annual meeting was revitalized as a major all-University celebration, giving alumni a reason to come back to campus. Art Buchwald, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and syndicated columnist, spoke to an audience of 860. • "Some of Our Graduates," a newspaper advertising campaign created by alumni volunteers, featured notable alumni Hubert Humphrey (B.A. '39), Linda Kelsey, Eric Sevareid (B.A. '35), Donald "Deke" Slayton (B.S. '49), and Roy Wilkins (B.A. '23). • The Alumni Legislative Network was revitalized as a volunteer effort of alumni, students, faculty, and friends to advocate on behalf of the University and to establish a presence at the state Capitol.

### 1987

The MAA and the University took over the funding and administration of the Undergraduate Teaching Award and changed its name to the Horace T. Morse-Alumni



Golfer Patty Berg helped raise funds for a student union.

Association Distinguished Teaching Award. • The Donald R. Zander Award, named for a highly respected vice president for Student Affairs, was initiated by the MAA and presented each year to one female and one male student leader judged on academic achievement, personal character, leadership, and service.

### 1988

MAA membership grew to 35,000. • Following the controversial resignation of University President Kenneth Keller, more than 2,500 alumni from all across Minnesota and the United States testified before the Board of Regents, called their legislators, wrote letters to the editors of their local papers, and worked to return the focus to the real issues: support of outstanding education and service to the state of Minnesota. • Legislation creating the Regent Candidate Advisory Council (RCAC) was passed. Comprised of 24 community leaders, the RCAC screens applications for regent, interviews finalists, and recommends candidates to the legislature. The MAA was instrumental in developing the bill.

### What Matters Most 50 Years Later

At the golden anniversary of the class of 1900, prizes were awarded for various outstanding accomplishments, including for having the most hair, for being the youngest-looking and most active man, and for being the youngest- and best-looking woman.

### 1989

The MAA passed a policy position stating its intent to achieve an excellent and diverse administration, faculty, and student body. "A diverse University . . . sends a powerful message to potential faculty and prospective students. This message will be even more important in the increasingly competitive future." • The Oak Street and Washington Avenue location for an alumni center was approved by the national alumni board, which also authorized initial plans and elected to call the center the "Gateway."

### 1990

An ambitious reorganization plan streamlined the alumni association governance and volunteer structures and focused on three areas: collegiate alumni societies, geographical alumni chapters, and alumni affiliates. The name of the organization was officially changed to University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA).

### 1992

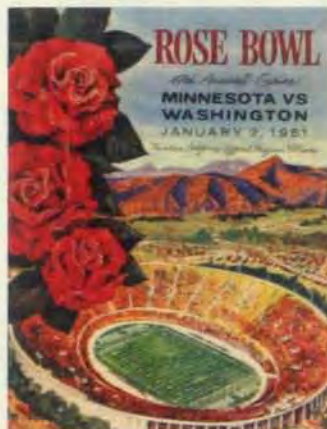
Memorial Stadium was demolished. The UMAA sponsored a commemoration ceremony and a sale of salvaged bricks. Proceeds netted more than \$52,000, which was donated to the University's general scholarship fund. • More than 400 alumni members of the Legislative Network helped restore \$23 million in vetoed funding to the budget by sending messages to their legislators supporting the University and asking that the U be treated fairly in difficult economic times.



When it formed in 1949, the Minnesota Alumni Band Association became the first constituent association of the MAA. The new group loudly introduced itself to students and alumni at a Minnesota-Wisconsin football game at Memorial Stadium. A 75-piece "old timers" band was led by five drum majors from five decades of band history.

## The Habits of Alumni

In 1971, the Minnesota Alumni Association joined seven other Big Ten alumni associations in a survey of their alumni. Surveyors learned that 75 percent of alumni vacationed annually, and 95 percent owned cars and more than 50 percent own two or more cars. While smoking was on a sharp decline, that was not the case with alumni alcohol consumption—83 percent drinking to some degree, compared with 48 percent of total U.S. households. Offsetting the calories from the alcohol, 56 percent of alumni claimed to be watching their diet, compared with 30 percent nationally. The survey also showed that Big Ten alumni are far above average in buying power compared with average U.S. households, and the Big Ten alumni magazine audience was comparable in buying habits and demographic characteristics to readers of *The New Yorker*, *Harpers*, *Atlantic*, *New York Times Magazine*, *Fortune*, *Esquire*, *VIP*, and *Playboy*.



The MAA planned alumni trips to the Rose Bowl in 1961 and 1962.

### 1994

To support the University's efforts to recruit top high school seniors, the UMAA established two scholarship funds—one merit-based and the other need-based—to recognize incoming freshmen with demonstrated leadership skills. Approximately \$30,000 in scholarships is awarded each year.

### 1995

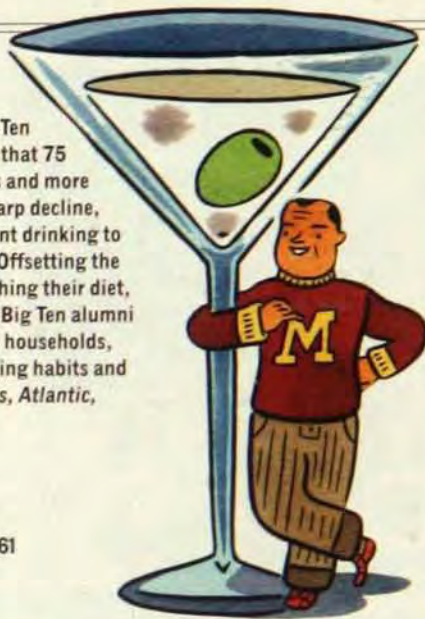
The national alumni board made building the Gateway one of the UMAA's five-year goals and began planning for the financing, fund-raising, and architect selection. • The policy/advocacy role with the University regents and administration was expanded to include UMAA sponsorship of the first Regent Candidate Forum, giving the public an opportunity to meet finalists for open seats on the Board of Regents and to hear what each candidate would bring to the role.

### 1996

Fifteen past national alumni board presidents signed a letter to the Board of Regents urging an end to the bitter dispute with faculty over proposed reform of the faculty tenure code: "We implore you to seek a sensible solution to this crisis that is tearing the University apart." They noted the impact on recruitment of a new president, the University's legislative funding request, and a loss of academic stature and reputation.

### 1997

Ceremonial groundbreaking for the Gateway took place in November; construction began in March 1998.



## [ WHY THE UMAA MATTERS ]

UMAA benefit is the discount I receive each time I play a round of golf at the Les Bolstad University Golf Course!

Gary Winter (M.A. '80)  
Minneapolis

I love being able to support the leadership of the University of Minnesota and alumni and their dreams for our beloved land-grant University. The Ridder women's ice hockey arena could not have happened without the determination of former women's athletics director Chris Voelz. The men's gymnastics team, as well as men's and women's golf, would have been toast if Brad Pries, 2001 president of the gymnastics booster club, had not stepped forward to initiate "Save Gopher Sports." I am proud of the UMAA's acknowledgment and support of these outstanding U of M achievements in our athletics programs, because we all know that our Gopher athletes will know how to fight for the University's nonrevenue programs, such as English or history, when the chips are down.

Mary Williams (B.A. '79)  
Minneapolis

The UMAA needs to be the heart and soul of all support for the U of M—financially, politically, promotionally, and in all ways that strive to keep the U of M as one of the state's most valuable assets. If it doesn't lead, no one will.

Charley Mencil (B.A. '55)  
Minnetonka, Minnesota

Advocating for the University through the UMAA is critical to the health and welfare of the state of Minnesota. Minnesota can only maintain its reputation as a progressive state that supports a vibrant citizenry with excellent public education. The University of Minnesota is the pinnacle of our state's educational system and should represent all we seek to achieve to better humankind.

Lori Pommerenke (Ph.D. '00)  
Arlington, Virginia

The alumni publications keep me updated on current and future directions of the U of M. My grown children get memos from Mom with clipped articles from the U of M publications that I think will help them professionally and personally. They tell me that they

### 1993

The UMAA and the U of M Foundation assisted the class of 1942 in raising \$200,000 for the preservation of the Memorial Stadium Arch and its incorporation into the design of the Gateway project.



Ed Haislet, MAA executive director from 1948 to 1976, outside the IDS Tower, home of the Alumni Club beginning in 1974. It later moved to the Minneapolis Athletic Club before closing in the mid-1990s.

### 1998

UMAA membership hit 40,000. • More than 2,600 Alumni Legislative Network volunteers were mobilized for the "249" campaign to support the University's request for \$249 million in state funding for building projects and \$38 million for the supplemental budget fund. The campaign resulted in legislative approval of \$200 million for bonding and \$36 million in supplemental support. • The Student Alumni Leaders program was reestablished to prepare student volunteers to be effective alumni leaders at the local and national levels.



M. Elizabeth Craig, the first woman elected MAA president, in 1977

### 1999

The University of Minnesota Gateway was officially opened and renamed the McNamara Alumni Center for donor Richard "Pinky" McNamara (B.A. '56). Primary owners are the UMAA, the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the Minnesota Medical Foundation. • The

## [ WHY THE UMAA MATTERS ]

read what I send them (they know I'll quiz them later). It is important to me that the U of M remain strong academically in relation to other public universities. As a side note, I appreciate that Bob Bruininks and his charming wife, Susan Hagstrum, have supported alumni organizations with their presence and energy. They help to keep alumni stay connected by showing they care.

Ann Birt  
Eden Prairie, Minnesota

The most important thing the UMAA has done is keep my wife and me connected to the University—even when we were in Iowa for 19 years! After our remarkable experiences at the U, we feel strongly about helping in whatever small way we can to expand the role of the U in the lives of college-bound students. Alumni membership makes us feel like we are connected to not only the past years, but to current and future students at the U of M. I truly feel that I had the best preparation possible at the U for my career, and I passionately believe that the U can give that same unforgettable experience to our best high school graduates.

Paul Wigley (B.S. '77)  
Lakeville, Minnesota

The University of Minnesota has been a very important part of my life by giving me an education to move on to a rewarding career working with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Therefore, I feel that I have to stay connected to such an important part of my life.

Dale Kennen (B.S. '64, M.A. '70)  
White Bear Lake, Minnesota

I live in southern California now (where I grew up), but it makes me feel truly at home when I get an invitation from local alumni to attend a Gopher game locally or join in a local event tied to the U of M. I miss Minnesota, so this is one way to stay connected and be a Minnesotan again vicariously.

My decision to attend the U of M was very purposeful and, believe me, excruciatingly researched. Indeed, it was the best decision I ever made. So I want to be sure the qualities and opportunities I found there continue on.

Gary North (B.A. '75)  
Alta Loma, California



Hubert Humphrey was among several great grads featured in a 1986 MAA ad campaign.



By the end of 2003, the Legislative Network had 10,000 members.

UMAA expanded its support of the Horace T. Morse-Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award to include an award for academic contributions to graduate and professional instruction. All recipients of the two awards become lifelong members of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

### 2000

The UMAA hosted the grand opening of the McNamara Alumni Center, and the unveiling of the Heritage Gallery and Memorial Hall, featuring the reconstructed Memorial Stadium Arch. More than 10,000 alumni, friends, and members of the University community attended the celebration events. • A record-high membership of 54,000 was achieved.

### 2001

Minnesota magazine celebrated its 100th anniversary on September 14, 2001. • An advertising/public relations campaign titled "Changing the World

One Graduate at a Time" was launched. A series of ads, featuring alumni who have distinguished themselves in their fields, appeared in Twin Cities and national publications.

### 2002

A record high membership of 58,000 was achieved. • The UMAA was the first organization to go on record supporting the return of Gopher football to the University campus. • The UMAA's annual celebration served as the grand opening of the Gateway Plaza, a public green space outside the McNamara Alumni Center given back to the University as a gift.

### 2003

The UMAA passed a resolution to contribute \$1.5 million to scholarships and a new on-campus stadium complex as a



Writer and radio personality Garrison Keillor (B.A. '66) addressed a crowd of 1,600 at the 1992 annual meeting: "I take fierce and unreasonable pride in being a product of Minnesota public education," he said. "Minnesota will never accept that its University be anything but great. . . . And now, in our University's hour of great danger and need, we should do the right thing and stand by her."

lasting legacy and continuation of its 100-year tradition of supporting student scholarship and campus construction projects. • The Legislative Network grew to 10,000 University alumni and friends.

### 2004

The UMAA celebrates its 100th year at the Birthday Party of the Century at the McNamara Alumni Center.

*Evelyn Cottle Raedler is editor of A Century of Memories, the history of the UMAA. Yvonne Hundsbanner of St. Paul-based Blue Grotto, Inc., provided organizational research.*



The copper and granite McNamara Alumni Center opened in 1999.

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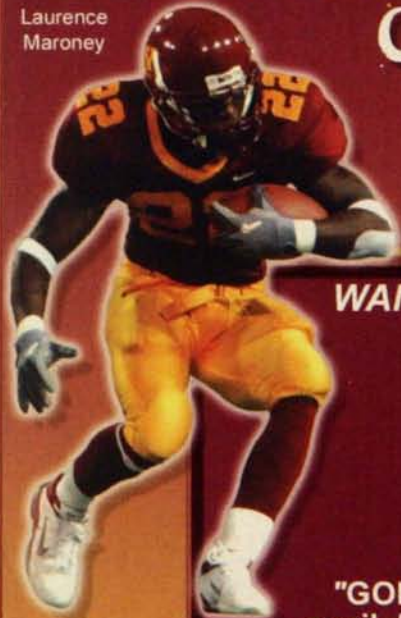
Go to [www.alumni.umn.edu/expo](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/expo) for more information about the companies and tips on how to prepare for the Expo. Or call 612-626-0425.

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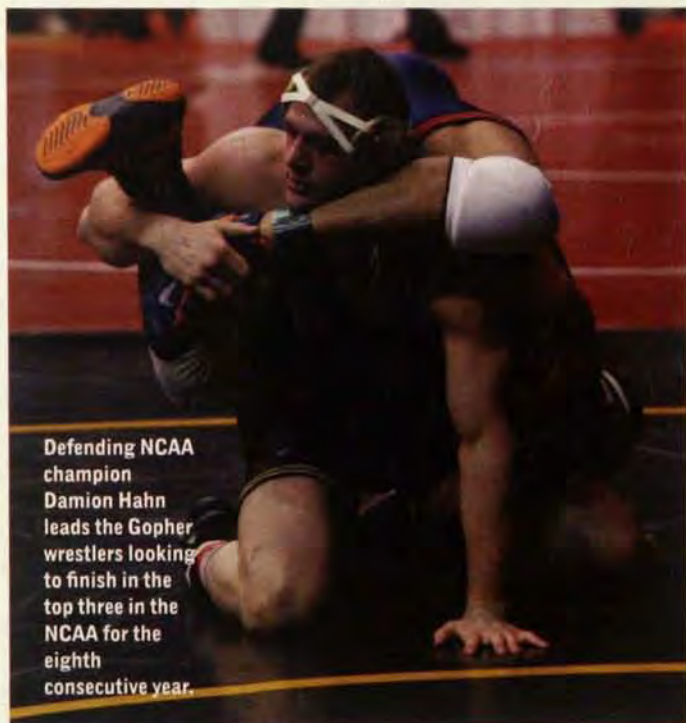
# SPORTS NOTEBOOK

## Wrestling

>>>> Minnesota opened the 2003-04 campaign in an unaccustomed spot: somewhere other than number one. Third-ranked Minnesota, winner of the last three Big Ten titles and two of the last three NCAA titles, has eight of its 10 wrestlers ranked in the top 20 in the nation. Three returning All-Americans are in the top five: Defending national champ Damion Hahn, a senior from Lakewood, New Jersey, is first at 197 pounds; senior Jacob Volkmann of Henning, Minnesota, is ranked second at 165; and junior Bobbe Lowe of Oak Grove, Missouri, is fifth at 125.

While there is experience at almost every other weight class for a team that has finished in the NCAA's top three for each of the last seven years, a pair of transfers and some of the 14 freshmen (a group ranked as the best recruiting class in the nation) are expected to compete for the other seven spots in the starting lineup.

Gopher coaches used three early invitational meets as a chance to see how their wrestlers fared in competition. While the lineup may remain unsettled for a time, the Gophers kick off a stretch of eight Big Ten dual meets in late January. Included among those is a home match against Iowa on February 15. They then wrestle at top-ranked Oklahoma State on February 22 before moving on to the conference and NCAA tournaments in March.



Defending NCAA champion Damion Hahn leads the Gopher wrestlers looking to finish in the top three in the NCAA for the eighth consecutive year.



Angela Buergis

## Women's Tennis

<<<< Coming off the first Big Ten title in team history, coach Tyler Thomson's team will sport a largely new cast of players. Last year's number-one player, Angela Buergis, a junior from Frauenfeld, Switzerland, was 9-1 in Big Ten matches last year and leads the team. The other returning player, sophomore Nischella Reddy from Hyderabad, India, is joined by first-year player Lindsay Risebrough of Edina, Minnesota. Because of graduation and a handful of defections, Minnesota will defend its conference title with a group of walk-on athletes filling the final three singles and doubles spots.

The Gophers open the spring season by hosting the Minnesota Court Classic at the U's Baseline Tennis Center January 31 and February 1.

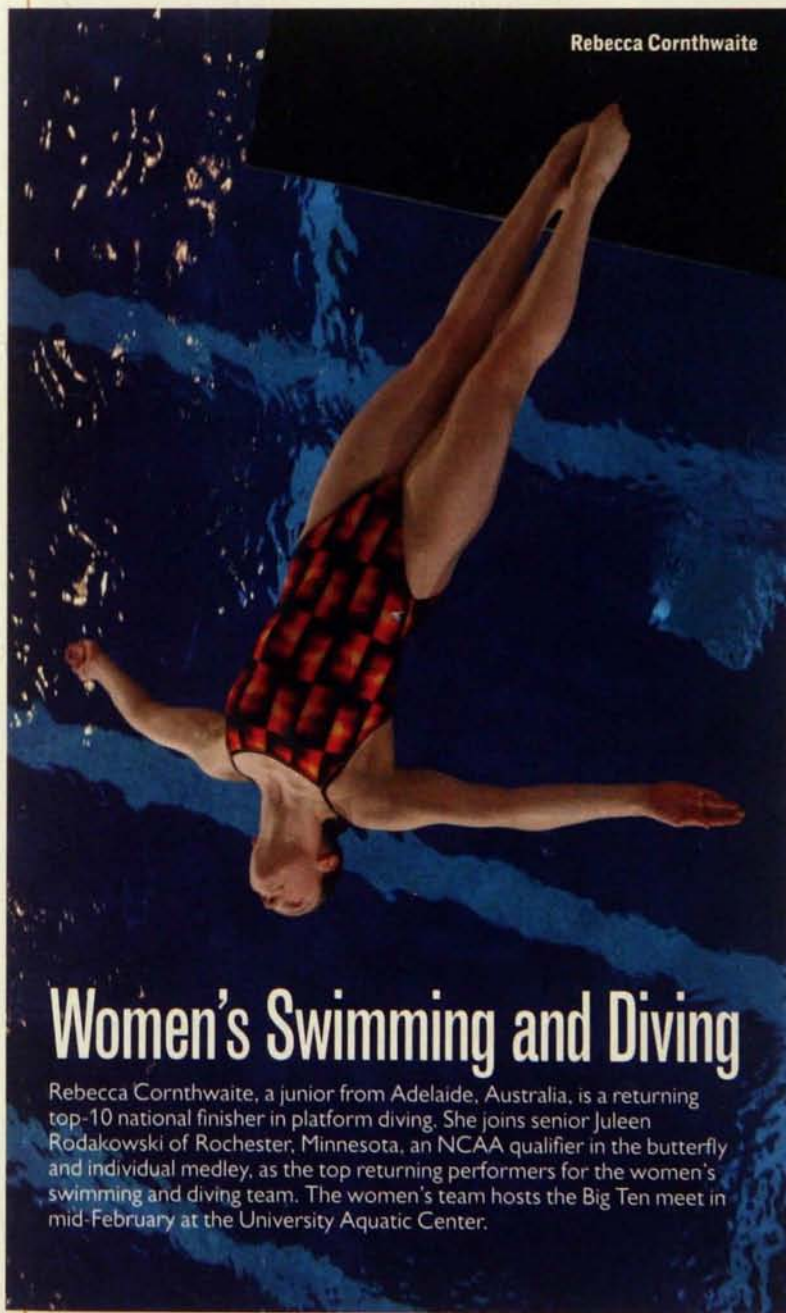
## Men's Tennis

>>> A strong lineup returns for a team that ended last year ranked among the NCAA's top 10. That squad ended up 21-6 and earned a spot in the NCAA tournament for the 10th consecutive year. Two seniors lead the squad: Chris Wettengel of Bettonville, Arkansas, who won the 2003 Big Ten individual singles title in November, and Aleksey Zharinov of Novosibirsk, Russia, ranked among the best college players in the United States. Junior Avery Ticer of Amarillo, Texas, was 8-1 in Big Ten matches last year and was named outstanding player on the collegiate summer circuit. Senior Clay Estes, also of Amarillo, and freshman Brian Lipinski of Winona, Minnesota, also played well in fall tournaments.

The spring team season gets under way in late January with a meet against Northwestern and Virginia at the U's Baseline Tennis Center. The Gophers will take on the Big Ten's top team, defending national champ Illinois, on March 13 at Baseline.



Chris Wettengel



Rebecca Cornthwaite

## Women's Swimming and Diving

Rebecca Cornthwaite, a junior from Adelaide, Australia, is a returning top-10 national finisher in platform diving. She joins senior Juleen Rodakowski of Rochester, Minnesota, an NCAA qualifier in the butterfly and individual medley, as the top returning performers for the women's swimming and diving team. The women's team hosts the Big Ten meet in mid-February at the University Aquatic Center.



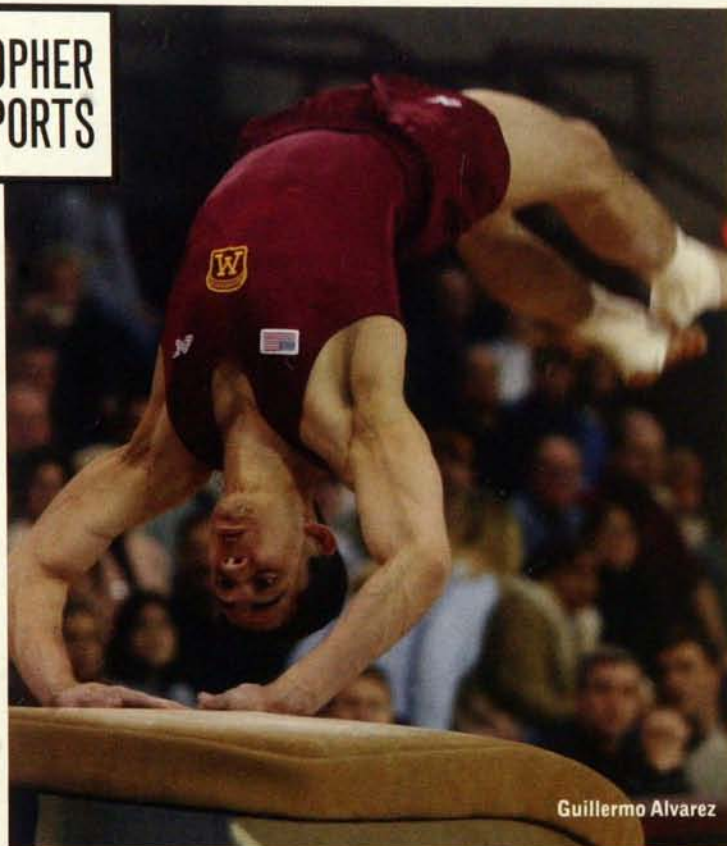
Terry Silkatis

## Men's Swimming and Diving

▲ Losing six All-Americans might lead some coaches to fret, but not Dennis Dale, coach of the men's swimming and diving program, which has finished in the top 10 in the NCAA meet for four consecutive years and just missed a third-straight Big Ten title in 2003. "This gives our youngsters and other swimmers a chance to rise to the limelight," he says. "So far, they show every indication of rising to the challenge."

Junior Terry Silkatis of Skokie, Illinois, was the 2003 Big Ten Swimmer of the Year and picked up right where he left off in early meets this season. One of those rising to the occasion in the fall was sophomore Adam Mitchell of Des Moines, Iowa, who posted fast times in winning backstroke races. "We think that we have a good team, but whether it is a great team and can win Big Tens remains to be seen," Dale says. "We're not quite as strong as last year, but neither is Michigan, our main competition."

Although he thinks his team can again make the top 10 in the NCAA, Dale is certainly looking forward to next season. Not only will the Gophers return most of their top swimmers, but two who are taking a break to train for the Olympic Games also plan to return and a U.S. national junior champion has signed for 2004. Also, the Gophers recently learned that they have earned the right to host the 2005 NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving Championships.



Guillermo Alvarez



Mary Skokut

## Men's Gymnastics

<<<< Guillermo Alvarez, a junior from Denver, Colorado, highlights the Gopher men's Gymnastics team. A two-time all-Big Ten performer in the all-around, he also qualified for the NCAA finals in the all-around.

### Quotebook

"I don't think there's anything more significant that affects the morale of a team, or a department, than a paycheck. And it's not just reflected in the head coaches' salaries. I think when you look at the assistant coaches, across the board there's even more inequity."

—University of Minnesota baseball coach John Anderson, quoted in the Star Tribune.

Anderson makes \$87,550 while his top assistant makes \$41,582. Head football coach Glen Mason makes \$1.137 million (25th highest in the nation among college football coaches) and his full-time assistants average \$106,000 each.

The average salary for a University of Minnesota faculty member is \$84,000.

"You can't fix it by yourself, or you lose. You can't be principled and say, 'I'm going to pay my football coach \$250,000—that's enough, that's a good salary.' I'm not going to have a football coach very long before he goes somewhere else. You can't do it on an island. That's the challenge."

—University of Minnesota Athletics Director Joel Maturi quoted in the Star Tribune.

## Women's Gymnastics

<<<< The Gopher women gymnasts return three all-Big Ten team members to a squad that finished fourth in the conference last year. Senior Mary Skokut of Carmel, Indiana, is an all-around competitor who specializes in the bars and balance beam. Skokut was first-team all-Big Ten last year. Second-team all-Big Ten performers were sophomore Laura Johnson of Albuquerque, also an all-arounder, and junior Carolyn Yernberg of Blaine, Minnesota, who scored four of the team's five best scores in the vault and also consistently placed in the floor exercise.

Minnesota hosts the Big Ten championship meet at the Sports Pavilion March 20.

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



# Report

University alumni and friends as well as the entire community are invited to help the UMAA celebrate its 100th birthday party on Friday, January 30. The centerpiece of the Birthday Party of the Century is an open house with free lunch, including birthday cake, giveaways, and the debut of the winning musical cheer. The open house runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street Southeast, on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. The Gateway Plaza, outside the alumni center, will be decorated with lights and an ice sculpture. The first public performance of the new musical cheer, performed by the University of Minnesota pep band, takes place at 12:30 p.m.

## The Party of the Century

For more information on the alumni association and the Birthday Party of the Century, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu). And watch the Web site and *Minnesota* for details on the 100th anniversary finale this spring.

### Homecoming in Pictures



## Homecoming Food and Fun

Feeding thousands for breakfast and raising thousands for scholarships, the UMAA held two big events for Homecoming 2003, held October 31 and November 1. Friday evening's Spirit Night Auction earned more than \$27,000 in pledges for scholarships while the annual homecoming breakfast brought more than 1,300 people to campus Saturday morning. The homecoming parade and football game followed. Minnesota earned a 55-7 win over Indiana on their way to a 9-3 regular season, a top-25 ranking, and a Sun Bowl berth.



## A Spirited Cheer

A church choir, kids banging pots and pans, cheerleaders arranged on porch steps, office workers popping out of cubicles—the judges for the University of Minnesota Alumni Association musical cheer contest have seen them all. "What was fun about judging the entries was how diverse the entries were, very endearing," says Linda Mona (B.S. '67), one of the judges who reviewed the three dozen entries. Entries came in on audiotapes, videocassettes, compact discs, and other formats, some accompanied by music and others simply sung into a microphone.

"There were some very cute ones," agrees Stan Freese (B.S. '67). "Every one of them had some really valid qualities. It was interesting to see how people interpreted school spirit."

The winning entry in the contest, held as part of the UMAA's 100th anniversary celebration, will have its public debut at the Birthday Party of the Century Friday, January 30.

"The entries were a cross-section of what you might find at a university, and some had so much heart," adds Mona, a former UMAA national president and owner of Creative Endeavors and a Field of Dreams store. "You just smiled and said 'Oh, that is so cool.' Some had great talent and some had just an idea and a desire to participate, but they all had an esprit de corps, a love of the U, and were having fun."

In the end, the judges had to look past the production quality, Mona says, and focus on the words and the notes and think about what would work with a marching band and a stadium full of fans. In November, the U of M band recorded a version of the winning cheer and will perform it during the birthday party.

Freese, who directs hiring and booking performers for Disneyland in Anaheim, California, and is an accomplished musician himself, extended a vacation for two days in order to participate in the judging this fall. "I was glad to do it," he says. "There was great camaraderie among the judges. I'd love to come back and hear it performed for the first time."

In addition to Freese and Mona, judges were Beth Frees (B.A. '96), former cheerleader and current coach of Gopher spirit squads; Jerry Luckhardt, marching band director at the University; Jim Mitchell, former drum major who sings "Hail! Minnesota" at home football games; Jim Waters (B.A. '72, M.A. '75), senior vice president for production and producer for Vee Corporation; and UMAA executive director Margaret Carlson (Ph.D. '83).

To hear the musical cheer online, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/cheer](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/cheer) after January 30.

GO! WRITE!  
WIN! \$2,500

## Taking Care of What We Have

Departing from traditional bonding requests that emphasize new buildings, the Board of Regents in September approved a legislative request that focuses on "Taking Care of What We Have." Almost half the request is strictly for long-term maintenance needs, such as replacing windows and roofs, addressing safety and health concerns, and upgrading utilities. Another 39 percent of the request is for renovating existing buildings.

The request asks for \$155.5 million in state bonding funds, with the University bonding for or contributing another \$33.2 million.

About 48 percent (\$90 million) is for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement

funds, the money that tackles major deferred maintenance projects. About two-thirds of the buildings throughout the U system are more than 30 years old, with one-quarter older than 70. While buildings are kept clean and well maintained, like older homes they reach a point where major upgrades and costly maintenance projects simply can't be put off.

Four buildings would get extensive renovations under the proposal, helping the U compete for major research grants and keeping a University of Minnesota education among the best available. The U would cover one-third of the cost of those projects. Kolthoff Hall on Minneapolis's East Bank would get an overhaul to turn it into a chemistry classroom building under a \$24 million proposal. The old Mineral Resource and Research Center, just upriver from Kolthoff, would receive a \$20 million renovation to become an Educational Sciences Center. Another \$16 million is requested to upgrade Academic Health Center classrooms, and \$14 million is requested to upgrade the life science building on the Duluth campus. Only two portions of the request are for new construction: a \$12 million expansion of the recreation center on the Duluth campus and, on the Morris campus, an \$8 million addition to the heating plant and a new football stadium to be shared with the Morris Area Public School District.

Learn more about the request and how to get involved at the UMAA Legislative Briefing, which takes place January 22, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., in the McNamara Alumni Center. Register on-line for the event at [www.supporttheU.umn.edu](http://www.supporttheU.umn.edu).

### LEGISLATIVE NETWORK

educate motivate advocate

## Lobby for the U

Getting involved and supporting the University by contacting your elected officials is easy:

- Take action by calling, writing, or visiting your legislators. Tips and contact information are available at the Legislative Network's on-line Action Center at [www.umn.edu/groots](http://www.umn.edu/groots).
- Join the U's Legislative Network, a group of 10,000 alumni, friends, students, faculty, and staff committed to educating elected officials and the community about the importance of the University of Minnesota to the state. Members get periodic updates on legislation and tips on how and when to make effective contacts.
- Become a district team member and work with others in your local area to support higher education in Minnesota and to educate your elected officials about the importance of the University to your legislative district.
- Attend Lobby Day on February 18, a time for U supporters to turn out in force at the state Capitol.

All these ways to get involved can be found at [www.supporttheU.umn.edu](http://www.supporttheU.umn.edu). For more information, call 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867) or 612-626-0913 or send an e-mail to [legnet@umn.edu](mailto:legnet@umn.edu).

## UMAA Calendar

Upcoming alumni events on campus and around the country. For more information, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.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.

### January

- 22 Legislative Briefing, 5:30 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center; contact Michael Dean
- 24 Bay Area Chapter at San Jose Sharks vs. Minnesota Wild hockey game, 7:30 p.m. at HP Pavilion; contact Mark Allen
- 26 Southwest Florida Chapter UMAA 100th Birthday Celebration, 7 p.m., place TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 30 Arizona West Valley Chapter Annual Meeting, 4 p.m. at Luke Air Force Base; contact Chad Kono
- 30 UMAA 100th Birthday Party; 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in and around the McNamara Alumni Center; contact Amy Hyatt
- 30 Puget Sound Chapter UMAA Birthday Party and Wine Tasting, 6 to 8 p.m. at private residence; contact Mark Allen

### February

- 2 Puget Sound Chapter Social, 5:30 p.m. at the Pyramid Alehouse in Seattle; contact Mark Allen
- 3 St. Croix Valley Chapter Issues in Aging seminar "Aging in Place Design," 7 p.m. at Boutwell's Landing in Oak Park Heights; contact Chad Kono

- 7 Great Conversations on the Road in Seattle; details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 9 New York Chapter Minnesota Orchestra performance; Carnegie Hall, time TBA; contact Mark Allen
- 15 Southwest Florida Chapter Valentines dinner with the Barbary Coast Dixieland Band; 6:30 p.m. at Naples Country Club; contact Chad Kono
- 19 Phoenix Chapter meeting with U of M journalism professor Gary Schwitzer; details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 21 Tucson Chapter meeting with U of M journalism professor Gary Schwitzer; details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 22 Southwest Minnesota Chapter bus to Minnesota vs. Northwestern women's basketball; tipoff 2 p.m. at Williams Arena; contact Chad Kono
- 27 College of Biological Sciences Career and Internship Fair; 11 a.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center; contact Emily Johnston at 612-624-4770
- 28 Denver Chapter at Minnesota vs. Denver men's hockey; face-off 7:05 p.m. at Magness Arena; contact Mark Allen

### March

- 2 St. Croix Valley Chapter Issues in Aging seminar on tax planning, 7 p.m. at Boutwell's Landing in Oak Park Heights; contact Chad Kono
- 4 Minnesota Employment Expo, 1-7 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome; contact Bridget Kenadjian
- 4 Big Ten Women's Basketball
- 8 Tournament events; details TBA, Indianapolis, Indiana; contact Mark Allen
- 6 Great Conversations on the Road in Naples, Florida; time TBA, Naples Beach Hotel; contact Chad Kono
- 6 New York City Chapter meeting with photographer and artist Paula Ross; details TBA; contact Mark Allen
- 8 Alumni College in Orvieto; contact Becky VonDissen
- 16 Big Ten Men's Basketball
- 14 Tournament events; details TBA, Indianapolis, Indiana; contact Mark Allen
- 12 WCHA Women's Hockey Final
- 14 Five events; details TBA, Ridder Arena in Minneapolis; contact Mark Allen
- 18 WCHA Men's Hockey Final
- 20 Five events; details TBA, Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul; contact Mark Allen

- 25 Arizona West Valley Chapter Spring Dinner Dance, 4 p.m. at Luke Air Force Base; contact Chad Kono

### PLAN AHEAD

#### April

- 4 U of M President Bob Bruininks in Washington, D.C.; details TBA
- 10- Antebellum South Along the
- 17 Intracoastal Waterway alumni tour; contact Becky VonDissen
- 24 Nursing Alumni Society Annual Reunion and Spring Celebration; details TBA; contact Kate Hanson at 612-624-9494

#### May

- 16- Italian Opera Greats alumni
- 24 tour; contact Becky VonDissen
- 24- Cruise the Imperial Passage; June 8 contact Becky VonDissen
- 25- Alumni College in Provence; June 2 contact Becky VonDissen

#### June

- 14- Alumni College in the Italian
- 22 Lakes District; contact Becky VonDissen
- 18- Alumni College in Greece; 27 contact Becky VonDissen
- 30- Alumni College in Ireland; July 8 contact Becky VonDissen

## Conversations Go on the Road

The popular "Great Conversations on the Road" series is under way again, bringing U experts in important and timely fields to alumni around the country. Each event features two speakers and typically features some audience discussion.

### This year's "Conversations" features:

- **Will Hueston**, a professor of veterinary medicine and director of the Center for Animal Health and Food Safety, who speaks on food-borne illnesses and threats to the food supply;
- **Patricia Hampl** (B.A. '68) Regents Professor of English and a noted memoirist; and
- **Jane Kirtley**, Silha Professor of Media Ethics and Law and an often-quoted observer on journalistic ethics and trends.

The series began in mid-January in San Diego and Palm Springs, California, with Hueston and Kirtley. It continues on February 7 in Seattle with Hueston and Hampl, and concludes March 6 in Naples, Florida, with the speakers to be determined.

For more on the "Great Conversations on the Road" series, call Chad Kono at 612-624-2323 or 800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867).

## National President

# Celebrate Our Successes

If you're like most people, you've spent some time at the turn of the year reflecting—on your life, your family, and the world around you. We at the UMAA have been in full-on reflection mode as well. Our focus, however, has been not just on the past year, but the past 100 years.

During that span, the UMAA has raised funds and support for scholarships, facilities, and myriad campus initiatives. The UMAA has been a strong, tireless advocate for the University and has helped solidify this institution's place in the community, the state, and the world. It has helped build and maintain pride in the University, and it's been instrumental in igniting and sustaining so many lifelong relationships among those of us in the University community, both past and present.

All this and more will be celebrated at the Birthday Party of the Century. The festivities are set for January 30, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the McNamara Alumni Center. As I write this, the party details are still being finalized, but I'll tell you what I know at this point. Cake, for example—there will be a lot of cake. We'll have games (anyone up for pin the tail on Goldy?) and giveaways (how does a pair of tickets to a University sporting or entertainment event sound?). And, if you're not already a card-carrying UMAA member, we'll be offering historic deals on UMAA memberships.



Jerry Noyce, B.S. '67

You'll also be among the first to learn the new Gopher musical cheer, which was selected from dozens of entries in the UMAA's 100th anniversary musical cheer contest. (Did you know the "Minnesota Rouser" was composed for a similar contest in 1909?) The Gopher pep band will turn in what promises to be a rousing debut performance of the new cheer,

which we hope will emerge as a maroon-and-gold rallying cry at sporting events for decades to come.

As a matter of fact, I can't think of a better way to cap off our century-ending celebration than to start a new tradition. The way I see it, the UMAA Birthday Party of the Century will be as much about where we're going as where we've been. No doubt, the UMAA has been a key contributor to the growth, success, and prosperity of the University of Minnesota. But there's so much more to be done.

The good news is that momentum is most definitely on our side. In 2002 the University of Minnesota ranked fourth among all public universities for voluntary private support. Just a few months back, the UMAA pledged its financial commitment to new scholarships and a new on-campus football stadium. And the UMAA is on track to surpass 60,000 members, who collectively will have the might to drive advocacy efforts like never before.

So let's take some time to reflect and feel good about what the association has accomplished thus far. Then let's get back to work. Let's make sure our campus gets the magnificent football stadium it deserves to reinforce a sense of community on campus. Let's continue to help nudge the University higher up the list of voluntary private support. Let's create more and stronger connections with our alumni—encourage them to join in the important work the UMAA is doing on behalf of the U. And let's continue to help build a strong, diverse, dynamic University that attracts the best and brightest students from the across state—and throughout the world.

One hundred years from now, what will our successors celebrate about the UMAA? Our future is in our hands—and the time to start building it is now.

To learn more about the UMAA Birthday Party of the Century, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu). ■

## [MEMBER SPOTLIGHT]

## Dr. Stephen England

As an orderly working overnight shifts at St. Paul–Ramsey Hospital in his late teens and early 20s, Stephen England (B.A. '82) watched surgeons operating as often as he could, deciding as a college freshman that orthopedic surgery fascinated him most. A little more than a decade later, after internships, residencies, and fellowships in Honolulu, New York City, Atlanta—and a stint in Ecuador—England joined the orthopedic surgery staff at a hospital on the same campus, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. Some of the nurses recognized him when he returned as a physician, recalls England. Now, a decade after that return, he's chief of staff, overseeing about 50 doctors.

England, 43, roams the halls like a second home, greeting everyone he passes in the cafeteria or elevators, from nurses to the guy restocking the beverage refrigerator. Often, he's leading potential surgeons. Since 1993, England has mentored students from the University of Minnesota's College of Biological Sciences and College of Liberal Arts, who shadow him in his office, lab, and clinics. It's just one example of a career marked by giving back, by leading through example. For the soft-spoken England, it's the best way to learn and teach. "If you have an inkling toward medicine and you can spend time with people actually doing it, it demystifies it," England says.

England grew up in St. Paul in a family of doctors. His father, Rodney England, recently retired as an internist at St. Paul's HealthEast Clinic, and his older brother, Michael England—from whom he inherited the orderly job—is a general surgeon at Minnesota Surgical Associates in St. Paul. Perhaps that's one reason England gravitates naturally toward learning and leading by example. "There was never anything formal about saying, 'You should go into medicine,'" he says. "But being raised with it, you do what you see as a kid."

In 1998, England took a year's leave of absence from surgery to be a White House Fellow, working on adolescent violence and substance abuse issues as an assistant to the Secretary of Education. In 2001, England again led by example, parlaying his Washington experience into creating the Leadership Fellowship Program for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, a program he still chairs. "We noticed there was a generational gap between the baby boomers, who are very involved in the public and private sector, and the generation that's coming up now,"



Dr. Stephen England  
with Katie Jensen,  
U of M pre-med senior

England says. "We wondered, in 10 years, what's orthopedics going to be like if we don't hone leaders?"

England is also a surgeon for St. Paul–based Pediatric Orthopaedic Associates and is an assistant professor of orthopedic surgery at the University of Minnesota. But he always makes time for community service. From 1991 through 2002, England served as a board member or chair of 12 community organizations dealing with children and health issues, from the March of Dimes to the Ramsey County Medical Society Community Health Committee.

Today, being around young people and their energy is one of the things England enjoys about continuing to mentor college students. One of his students, for example, volunteers her spare time at Gillette with children undergoing physical therapy. That reminds him of why he tries to make time for volunteering: "You don't feel busy if you're enjoying it—it doesn't feel like work."  
—Sara Aase

## [EVENT SPOTLIGHT]

## Minnesota Employment Expo

Top Minnesota companies looking for professionals and interns in all career fields will mix with highly educated job seekers at the Minnesota Employment Expo on March 4, 2004. Information sessions on job search strategies, networking, and how to use career expos to your advantage also are scheduled.

The Minnesota Employment Expo runs from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome, 615 Washington Avenue Southeast, on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. It is free and open to alumni and current students from all five University of Minnesota campuses and to degree-holding members of the public.

The event is sponsored by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, the College of Continuing Education, and career services offices from the Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, and Twin Cities campuses.

To learn more, including information on early-registration discounts for employers, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/expo](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/expo).



More than 2,500 University seniors and alumni met with representatives from 28 companies at the Minnesota Employment Expo last year. This year's expo, on March 4, promises to be even larger.



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## Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest



Watch the March-April issue of *Minnesota* for the winning story in our fifth-annual fiction contest

The contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni. The winner receives a cash prize, and the winning story is published in *Minnesota*. For rules on entering next year's contest or to read last year's winning story, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/fiction](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/fiction)

Contest rules will also appear in upcoming issues of *Minnesota*.

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## A History That Inspires

Back in the mid-1980s, when the alumni association began to re-establish its advocacy role by changing the process by which the University's Board of Regents were selected, I was giving a talk on the difficulties we faced. A past president of the association, Franklin Gray (B.A. '25), came up to me afterward with some advice. Mr. Gray was by that time an elderly gentleman.

His father, W.I. Gray, had served as second president of the General Alumni Association of the University of Minnesota, from 1916 to 1919. If you think changing the regent selection process is an uphill battle, Franklin Gray told me, you should check the minutes of the early meetings of the alumni association. There I would find controversies galore, he promised.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,  
Ph.D. '83

It wasn't long before I made a trip to our archives and sat down with the minutes. I quickly discovered that Mr. Gray had not exaggerated. That founding alumni association battled the state legislature over faculty salaries; it advocated for the enlargement of campus; it, too, wanted a voice in the regent selection process—and was not shy about expressing itself. For the first 15 years of its existence, the General Alumni Association was immersed in and struggling through one political issue after the next.

Franklin Gray's advice was some of the best I've ever received as executive director: In order to understand what an organization is and what it stands for, one must take a careful look at its history. The principles that guide us have been formed through the trials and experiences of generations of alumni. And their great courage and commitment serve as a shining example for the present generation as we tackle new challenges.

Time and again, I've looked at the alumni association's past with the hope that it will help inform the present and future. The history of this organization has rarely disappointed me.

In 1921, the state legislature cut the funding of the University. If that sounds familiar, so might the response of the alumni. They began a campaign that would help build Memorial Stadium in just two short years, without any state funding. And for good measure, they privately funded the construction of Northrop Auditorium in the same campaign.

Just this past year, we experienced déjà vu. The University was handed a \$185 million cut from the legislature—and also found itself in need of a stadium. Once again, alumni were undaunted. They are meeting the challenges by rallying behind a new on-campus stadium. Why? Because it's the right thing to do for the University, and alumni will not be deterred.

Sometimes it hasn't been so easy to rally support around a great idea. As early as 1919, alumni expressed a desire to erect a home on campus. Time and again over the next 80 years the issue was raised, and time and again alumni were told the building could not happen. There were always a hundred reasons why the time wasn't right. But the UMAA kept fighting. And in 2000 the McNamara Alumni Center was proudly opened. Is there a better example of the conviction and strength of the organization? The UMAA just wouldn't let this great idea die, no matter how many roadblocks it faced.

That dogged perseverance is evident in our historical role as legislative advocates too. At the 1907 annual meeting, alumni were encouraged to become interested in public affairs and to run for the legislature "in order that the University might claim more sympathetic treatment." From these humble beginnings, the network is now 10,000 strong and growing. A threat to our alma mater has always rallied the troops.

For the past 100 years, the UMAA has risen to challenge after challenge and has written a brilliant history in the process. It's a story that continues to inspire us, with all its struggles and triumphs, hard work and high aspirations.

**The story of the alumni association is mixed into the bricks and mortar across campus. It echoes in the halls of the legislature. It's alive in the spirit that fuels Gopher sporting events. It's rooted in the camaraderie at alumni gatherings from Tampa to Taiwan.**

This is not a history that's confined to the UMAA archives. The story of the alumni association is mixed into the bricks and mortar across campus. It echoes in the halls of the legislature. It's alive in the spirit that fuels Gopher sporting events. It's rooted in the camaraderie at alumni gatherings from Tampa to Taiwan. It's etched in the hearts of alumni no matter where they live.

These affiliations, these memories, this commitment to the past, present, and

future of the University are what continue to inspire our efforts. Over the next few months, as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the UMAA, you're going to hear a lot about the history of this organization. There is a purpose to this storytelling that goes beyond sentimentality and a simple desire to reminisce.

Franklin Gray wanted to remind me years ago that knowing the history of this organization is necessary to understanding its present. I couldn't agree more.

Our history is there to teach us, to guide us, to inspire us toward a bright future. My hope is that in the coming years, alumni will take a look at the history we're making today and continue to be guided by the ideals, courage, hope, and perseverance that have helped steer us so successfully for 100 years. ■



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THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# MINNESOTA

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believes planning for a  
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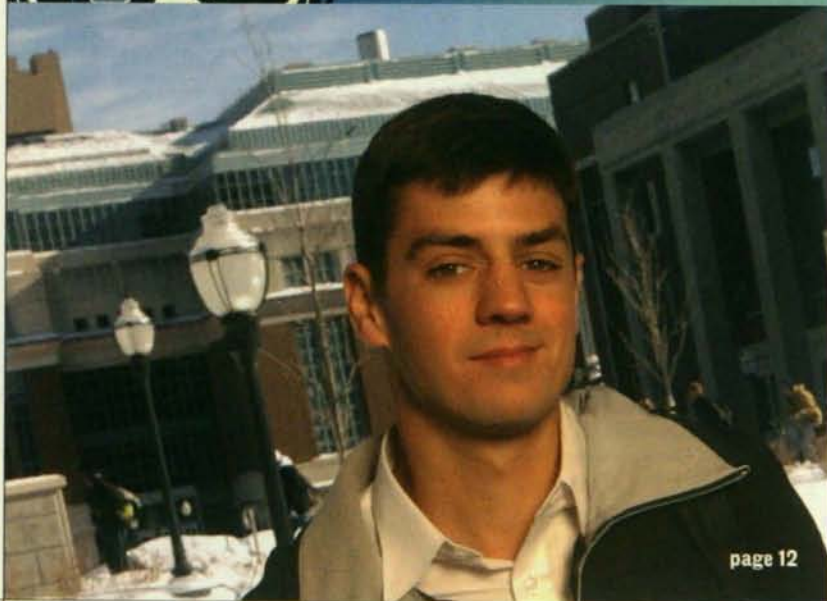
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UNIVERSITY of MINNESOTA PHYSICIANS

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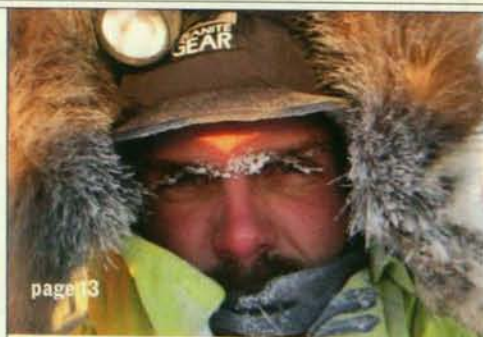
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The UMAA has a long history of getting things done.



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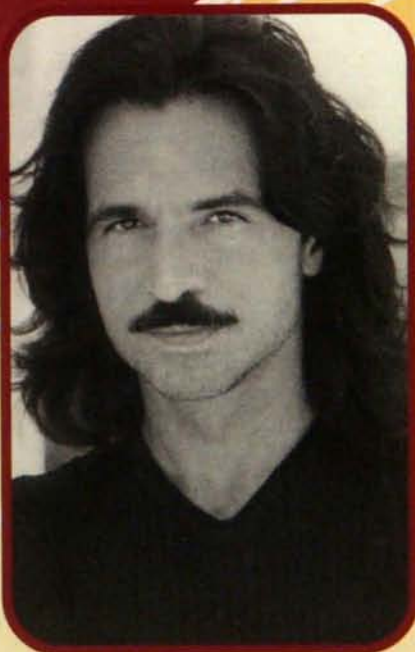


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## Editor's Note

### Great Openers

When we were young, a friend and I would read aloud the first lines of great novels and quiz each other on their titles and authors. We did this for fun; it was not a punishment handed down by an overzealous English teacher.

The fun was not in guessing the correct answers—we usually didn't—it was in savoring these sentences that were so essential they were put first. Surely these authors spent hours on the first lines of their stories and novels—over weeks or months, revisiting and revising the opening line. Most likely, I figured, the last thing an author did to a manuscript was polish the first line.

Today when I browse bookstore shelves, I pick up volumes and test first lines before buying. The best ones engage several of the senses, as if I'm dozing in the window seat of a bus and a large man who has worked hard all day in the heat squeezes in next to me and begins talking about the oddest thing that just happened to him. . . . In the stories I bother to pick up, I want the unexpected, freshness, authenticity, precision, and weightiness. I want to feel trapped by them. If it is too easy to move past them, I will.



Shelly Fling

Of course, deeper into a story I insist that the author deliver a believable plot, three-dimensional characters, and artistry—and I'll abandon a book 50 pages from the end if the writer fails me. But perhaps those early exercises taught me to appreciate the first line of a story most.

When I sat down in front of the thick stack of entries submitted for this year's fiction contest, I confess that I read ahead of myself, flipping through the pages and skimming those first lines—like running my fingers along the fabric of shirtsleeves on a store rack to get an idea of what the garments might feel like on. Voices rose and fell around me, as if I'd opened a door to a crowded room.

"I begged Sammy to go faster, though his '48 Chevy was already hurtling down the graveled road like a jet, trailing a dusty rooster tail a quarter-mile long." When I read that opening line to "Peeling Popple," this year's winning story, by Robert O. Harder (B.A. '66), I was transported to a place, time, and life I would experience no other way. My skin itched and my eyes stung as I journeyed into the hot, insect-infested woods with this nameless teenager trying to become a man (page 34).

Crafting a winning piece of fiction cannot be more difficult than choosing just one from a pool of engaging entries. To clarify: Not a one is a loser; each piece has its merits. And as one of the three judges, I felt privileged to read each one. Some were executed more skillfully than others; some were more memorable for their characters, voice, or turns of phrase; and, yes, some opening lines trapped me. While we don't choose runners-up for our contest, I would like to acknowledge that there were several contenders—and to share a few favorite first lines:

"I had been trying for hours to make Dwayne's face and hands look right when my secretary knocked on the prep room door." From "Winter Burial," by John Zdrzil (B.S. '66).


"I hoped the waiter would pour the hot coffee all over me, burning away all the bad feelings and leaving me only slightly scarred." From "Cassiopeia," by Robin Rozanski (B.A. '00).

"Sylvie lifted her arms so that her hands worked behind her neck to pull her hair into a ponytail. Strange wings, she thought, catching a glimpse of herself in the mirror, elbows jutting out." From "Good Men," by Jane St. Anthony (B.A. '73).

"A photograph would freeze this: From where the three women are sitting, the men in wheelchairs, being pushed by the young girls so slowly by the creek, seem to be floating on water." From "Women with Hair," by Karin Johnson (B.A. '66).

Congratulations to our contest winner, but thank you to all who entered their stories this year. ■

Shelly Fling may be reached at [fling003@umn.edu](mailto:fling003@umn.edu).




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
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# Letters

## Borlaug Is Not Forgotten

My thanks and congratulations for the informative and uniquely told story about Norman Borlaug [B.S. '37, M.S. '39, Ph.D. '42] ["Bread and Peace," January–February]. This renewed recognition for him is indeed welcome.

Some of us had come to feel that the *Atlantic Monthly* definitely got it right entitling its 1997 article about Borlaug the "Forgotten Benefactor of Humanity." Even at the highest levels of his own alma mater, recent chapters of the Borlaug story had been all too little known. Until this last year, many had been unaware he was still continuing his tireless battle against famine and that his cumulative achievements were now being credited with saving more lives than any in history!

You do a great service by reacquainting and updating us about this remarkable alumnus. Your readers may also be interested to know that the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences has provided a comprehensive overview of Borlaug's life and career at [www.coafes.umn.edu/borlaug](http://www.coafes.umn.edu/borlaug). Further, after initially being omitted, Borlaug's achievements are now included in the final draft of Minnesota's new educational standards for K–12.

DON HENRY (B.A. '65, Ph.D. '71)  
St. Paul

## Great Person, Wrong Message

Norman Borlaug's life's work of feeding the world's hungry is, by any measure, a testament to the man. However, the article mischaracterized his views, neglected the awesome negative consequences of the Green Revolution, and avoided the core dilemma: overpopulation.

Professor Borlaug understood the short-



comings of the food approach earlier, saying the success of the Green Revolution was predicated on arresting population growth. The Green Revolution was a temporary expedient and dependent on increasingly scarce resources: fertilizers and water. The Green Revolution was meant to buy the time necessary to stop population growth. That should have been the message of the article.

Water is and has been a critical item. Fertilizer primarily means nitrogen, and nitrogen is made from natural gas. Canada's production peaked two years ago, the United States' last year. Explaining the summertime electricity brownouts and gyrating natural gas prices, production is now falling, never to be increased.

The notion that distribution is the problem has yet another complication: oil. The world's oil production is now peaking. The short of it is that fertilizer will become increasingly expensive to produce and apply and much less available, and, due to economics, transporting crops will soon be reduced to a local matter.

## Corrections

In the article "Fun with Physics" (January–February), the degree information of one of the Physics Force founders was incorrectly reported. The late Phil Johnson earned his bachelor's degree in education in 1976.

In *A Century of Memories*, the UMAA history publication mailed with the January–February issue of *Minnesota*, a person in a photograph was misidentified. The caption on page 23 should have read that Jim Watson (1942), alumni board president in 1969–70, presents the Outstanding Alumni Chapter Award to Hugh Morris (1947), of the Owatonna Chapter.

The editors regret the errors.

There's more. The energy output as food compared to the energy used to grow crops has steadily fallen since the 1940s. This implies an alarming race pitting constant improvements in the food production of hybrids against the resources required to grow the crops.

The race is almost over. Despite the Green Revolution, the world's per capita food production peaked in 1997. Grain reserves are at multidecade lows, and the probability is that, given normal weather, food reserves will fall to zero in about four years. The world will then return to pre-Green Revolution days living hand-to-mouth—while populations are growing relentlessly. Four decades of denial. With energy resources necessary to grow food diminishing, the timelines are being drawn ever closer.

With its massive immigration-driven population, the United States is next in line.

WENDELL ERIKSSON (B.S.B. '74)  
Minneapolis

## Evolution Debate Isn't History

I received the November–December issue of the alumni association magazine. I was not pleased with the Tim Brady article on the teaching of evolution ["The Fight for Academic Freedom," November–December]. There are a large number of graduates who don't support evolution. If a balanced presentation is given I have no issue because I believe in freedom too. I trust you understand where I and others are coming from.

LOREN BUTTERFIELD (B.S. '45)  
Maple Plain, Minnesota

## The Animal in Us

Chris Coughlan-Smith's essay, "Finding One's Inner Dog" [November–December], was such a delight. The tone and message stayed with me for a long time. From now on, I'll have difficulty resisting the urge to categorize people as cat or dog people by their behavior. And then, of course, there are the ambiverts, like me, who could be labeled as both.

Reading this fresh and funny article motivated me to read the drier, more serious articles. I haven't paid much attention

to your magazine before, but now I'll look forward to its arrival.

MARY JO STRAUB (M.Ed. '92)  
Edina, Minnesota

### Students Are Too Coddled

In your November–December issue, you published a report and I would like to add to it ["Changing the World You Live in," excerpts from the speech Harvey Mackay (B.A. '54) gave at the 2003 UMAA Annual Celebration]. The author cites statistics about tuition changes through the years. But there has not been a great increase as the author states. Rather, I would say a modified increase due to all the advantages today's students have in finding funding. In 1940, the hourly wage of a student was 50 cents. This would require 172 hours of work to earn tuition of \$86. In 1980, at a rate of \$6 per hour, a student would work 188 hours to earn tuition of \$1,132. In 2003, with a rate of \$10 per hour, to earn \$6,280 would require 628 hours. But now many students are given grants, loans, and stipends that were not available in early years. I conclude that today students have advantages.

Further, there seems to be a race to graduate students in a specific time period. To me, if a student is serious and without funds, work full time for a year and save money. No need to have the best stereo, a good car, and other material goods. Today, students are coddled too much. If they are serious, they will finish their degree.

ELEANOR EDWARDSON STEEN (B.A. '47)  
Vienna, Virginia

### Recalling School Days

Thank you for the stories on Karal Ann Marling and Dinkytown in the November–December issue. I took two classes from Marling in the mid-1980s, during my second go-around at the U. I consider them to be among the most interesting courses that I took at the University. She is a down-to-earth professor and loves her subject. For a nontraditional student, her enthusiasm was infectious.

I also enjoyed the story about Dinkytown by Burl Gilyard. I was a freshman and sophomore at the University during the 1960s and fondly remember Perine's book-

store, Bridgeman's, Gray's Drug, Vescio's (where my husband took me on our second date, after a Gopher basketball game), and other landmarks of that era. The story was a nice reminder of those days.

LAURI LILLESTOL WINTERS (B.A. '85)

### Don't Thank Us, Thank Them

I just finished reading the *A Century of Memories* supplement to the recent *Minnesota* magazine, and I wanted all of the contributors to know that I thoroughly

enjoyed it. Certainly, all of us more remote alumni will get a much better appreciation of everything that our forefathers went through to accomplish the feats that have brought us to where we, and the University, are today.

Can there be a better calling than promoting the welfare of the University and stimulating the interest of all graduates of the University?

CHARLES CASS (B.S. '67)  
Troy, Ohio

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# Campus Digest

A compendium of news, research, events, happenings, and developments from around the University. ✱ Edited by Chris Coughlan-Smith

## Stadium Update

The potential for a win-win-win situation has led to a formal proposal to build a football stadium on the northeastern edge of the University of Minnesota's East Bank campus. In presenting a feasibility study for the stadium, University President Bob Bruininks said the proposed stadium would return color and excitement to campus, improve finances for athletics, and possibly even add to the U's academic mission.

"We still have a lot of work to do, and this may turn out to be a bridge too far," Bruininks said at a December 8 news conference. "But I don't want to look back five or 10 years from now [and realize] the University of Minnesota didn't have the guts to try this."

Among the specifics in the feasibility study:

- The proposed location is on what are now parking lots just northeast of the site of old Memorial Stadium.
- The open-air stadium would hold 50,000 people, but be expandable up to 80,000.
- The estimated cost is \$222 million: \$180 million for construction and \$42 million for land, site preparation, and infrastructure costs.
- Regents are committed to raising a "substantial portion" of the money privately but did not rule out asking for public money to help finish the project or to cover costs like site cleanup and road building.
- Student fees, ticket surcharges, and parking revenues are among possible additional funding sources mentioned.
- Under a business plan analysis, the stadium would bring in between \$1.8 million and \$3.3 million in added revenue to the

athletics department in the first year of operation alone.

- Surrounding parking lots would be reconfigured and expanded to replace the lost spaces on the stadium site. Additional game-day parking would be on the St. Paul campus with free shuttles along the U's transitway.
- Construction could begin in mid-2006, with completion as early as August 2008.

Bruininks said the University would not go ahead with the project until all the funding was committed. "We don't start projects and not finish them," he said. To do otherwise would place the University in financial danger, he added. In September, T. Denny Sanford (B.A. '56) had offered \$35 million but was not able to come to an agreement with the University on terms of the donation.

Since 1982, the Gophers have played in the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in downtown Minneapolis, several blocks west of the West Bank campus. They share that facility with the Minnesota Vikings and Minnesota Twins. A proposal for a joint Vikings-Gophers stadium studied last year found that the campus space was too small for a large professional stadium, while the Gophers do not want to move further from campus.

A stadium would be "a center of campus life," Bruininks said, providing a place for large campus events, recreational sports, and a home for the marching band. "We are one of the only campuses across the country that doesn't have a place like this. I think it's the right thing to do for the University."

U planners have been discussing the feasibility study with campus groups and others, as well as pursuing funding options. No public fund-raising plan has been discussed yet. The next major step in the study's timeline is formation of a project team by this summer. To see the report and other stadium background, visit [www.umn.edu/stadium](http://www.umn.edu/stadium).



A Gopher football stadium is proposed for a campus site just east of Williams and Mariucci arenas.

## STADIUM STATEMENTS

- "What I've told the University is they can raise most of the money themselves, [but if] they just need a little help to get over the finish line with an on-campus, Gopher-only stadium, I would certainly be willing to consider that. But if the gap is huge, and they can't really pay for most of it through private fund-raising, then I think we've got to reconsider getting them back in a partnership with the Vikings, or it wouldn't make sense with two football stadiums."

—Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty  
(B.A. '83, J.D. '86)

- "We expect an on-campus Gopher-only project could attract large sums of private funding that simply wouldn't come to the University but for a stadium project."

—U Chief Financial Officer Richard Pfitzenreuter, arguing that donations for a stadium would not detract from other fund-raising needs.

- "A big problem with student morale is that we're paying so much in student tuition and fees. I don't think the happiness of going to a game is going to offset that. . . . I think we all learned with Coffman Union. It went way over budget and we're all paying for that, and we'll continue to pay for that for years."

—Kris Houlton, a first-year graduate student and University Senate representative, on the prospect of student fees going towards stadium construction.

- "I think students should be open-minded. The benefits . . . could far outweigh the negatives. [But] what we need, as students, is a number."

—Minnesota Student Association President Eric Dyer, a stadium advocate, on his only reservations about using student fees to help with construction.

- "No one wants to think of the Gophers rattling around in the big Metrodome all by themselves. University officials [told us they] believe they can raise 60 percent of the money by themselves. We'd like to see that happen, and then help them out after they have the money."

—Annette Meeks, member of a state stadium screening committee appointed by Governor Pawlenty to sort through various proposals to build professional stadiums.

- "This stadium has to advance the academic mission of the University. We will err on the side of proposals that advance the University's mission the most."

—Regent Peter Bell

- "You're not going to find any business that's not going to be in favor of a stadium."

—Todd DuPont, co-owner of the Big 10, a bar and restaurant that has been on Washington Avenue since the 1940s, on the possibility of surrounding businesses contributing money to a stadium drive.

# Discoveries

## U research findings

### Milk and Sun

If you ache all over, a little milk and sunshine might be all you need. A University of Minnesota study found that 93 percent of subjects with muscle or bone pain that did not have a clear origin were also vitamin D deficient. Vitamin D is most readily available through exposure to sunlight, although it is also found in a few fortified foods, primarily milk. A link between unexplained pain and vitamin D was suspected because of the clear increase in those symptoms during winter months. A separate study found that 37 percent of physician visits are for symptoms that have no known cause, most frequently back, head, and leg pain. Minnesota researchers tested 150 subjects with unexplained pain; all of those under 30 and over 60 were vitamin D deficient, as were all the African American, East African, American Indian, and Hispanic subjects. Southeast Asian patients were deficient 88 percent and whites 82 percent of the time. Vitamin D is vital for calcium absorption and the control of numerous cell functions; deficiency is linked to osteoporosis, diabetes, hypertension, and numerous cancers. The study was published in December issue of *Mayo Clinical Proceedings*.



### Get Fit, Stay Fit

Developing good fitness habits in early adulthood pays big benefits later in life, according to researchers at the University of Minnesota and elsewhere. A study tested fitness in 4,487 men and women who were between 18 and 30 in 1985, then followed up with them until 2001. Those in the bottom 20 percent on initial fitness tests were three to six times more likely to develop high blood pressure, Type-II diabetes, and a condition related to excess abdominal fat called metabolic syndrome. The correlation was also directly related to weight. Improved fitness lowered the risks, although researchers could not be sure whether fitness or weight reduction was of primary importance in that finding. Nearly 13 million Americans have heart disease and nearly 17 million have diabetes. Heart disease and stroke are the first and third leading causes of death in Americans. The study was published in the December 15 edition of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

### Smoky Hazard

Nonsmokers who visit smoke-filled public places have more than double the level of a tobacco-specific carcinogen in their systems after a four-hour visit, according to a University of Minnesota study. Researchers tested 18 individuals before and after a visit to a casino. Participants reported spending an average of 4.25 hours in the building, mostly in smoking areas. Post-visit urine tests found an average 112 percent increase in a metabolized form of the carcinogen NNK, which has no known source other than exposure to tobacco products. This is the first study to measure carcinogens in nonsmokers after tobacco smoke exposure in a public place. A previous U study found significantly higher levels of NNK in women living with smokers. Lead researcher Kristin Anderson, an associate professor in the School of Public Health, urged further studies to examine long-term health effects of smoke exposure on both employees and patrons of public places where smoking is allowed. The study appeared in the journal *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers and Prevention* on December 22.

#### SELF-DESCRIBED POLITICS OF 2002 FRESHMEN NATIONWIDE

Far left:	2.5 percent
Liberal:	25.3
Middle of the road:	50.8
Conservative:	20.0
Far right:	1.3

Source: U of M Office of Multicultural and Academic Affairs, citing the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 29, 2003

## A Student All-Star

**Ireland, beware!** Zachery Keplinger Coelius is about to take the country by storm. If his University of Minnesota career is any indication of his no-holds-barred approach to life, Coelius' year as a George J. Mitchell Scholar at the University of Limerick is going to be a whirlwind of study and involvement.

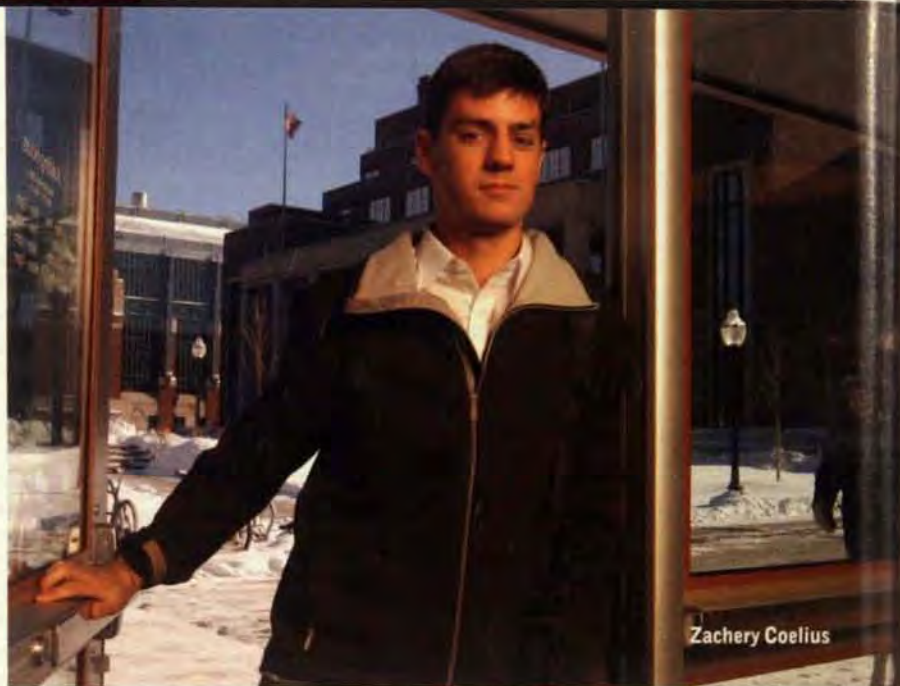
Coelius, 24, who will graduate this spring with a degree in political science and history, co-founded Votes for Students, an e-mail-based nonpartisan initiative that encourages voting among college students; is co-president of the U's Parliamentary Debate Society; and belongs to the U's sailing race club.

Votes for Students alone would have been enough to keep any student busy. It sends e-mails and information to 500,000 college students across the United States, prompting them to participate in the political process and to vote. The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at the University of Maryland granted VFS \$100,000 to continue its efforts during the 2004 election.

The honor student makes time for schoolwork too. *USA Today* recently named Coelius to its All-USA Academic Team as one of the nation's top 40 college students. How does he have time for it all? "One of my personality traits is that I need to be involved in everything. If I see something cool going on, I have to do it," he says. "Every one of these activities has expanded my understanding of the world in different ways."

Coelius, whose enthusiasm for life is apparent in his mile-a-minute banter, is a budding businessman as well. After riding his bike from Stillwater, Minnesota, to the 1992 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, at age 16, he started trading and selling collectible pins from various companies—and made money doing it. He also traveled to the Olympics in Sydney and in Salt Lake City to continue his entrepreneurial venture.

The Mitchell Scholarship honors 10 of America's top students for their academic excellence, leadership, and community service. Students receive one year of study in Ireland or Northern Ireland. Coelius,



Zachery Coelius

the first Twin Cities campus student to earn the award, will spend his year earning a master's degree in international studies from the University of Limerick. "It's going to be awesome," Coelius says. "Being able to study in a different country and being exposed to people who think differently than I do and have different opinions and morals and values is going to force me to test a lot of the things I believe now."

This won't be the first time Coelius has lived in another country. After graduating from Stillwater Area Senior High School, Coelius backpacked around Europe, then lived in France and Austria for two years. After being persuaded by his older roommate in Austria to attend college, he decided to start at Minnesota and then transfer elsewhere. But he fell in love with the U and all it offered. "There is an amazing opportunity here, where you are surrounded by the smartest people. You have world-class professors who are really available to students and willing to help you in a million ways," he says. "It's worked out amazingly well for me here." The U feels the same way.

—Suzy Frisch

## Overheard on Campus

"This is not even a wink and a nod. It's just publicly acknowledged, talked about, and, apparently, accepted."

—U of M political science professor Lawrence Jacobs on the phenomenon of lobbyists who write proposed laws for friendly legislators to introduce

"This is the perfect storm. The only question now is: Will this set of circumstances be sufficient to push the microbial genetics over the edge and create a new strain of influenza virus that rivals past pandemic strains?"

—Michael Osterholm, director of the U's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, on Asian bird flu.

"[T]he switch in sizes will not inhibit readers' ability to fold the paper and covertly do the crossword in class."

—From a note by *Minnesota Daily* editor Shane Hofer announcing that the student newspaper would switch formats from tabloid to broadsheet (like most daily newspapers) on February 16.

"Very likely, but no proof."

—Former U of M professor Ancel Keys, 100, when asked whether the Mediterranean diet he popularized in the 1960s had anything to do with his longevity. Keys also invented the World War II Rations and conducted pioneering starvation experiments in a lab under Memorial Stadium.

"He had a job to do and he did it efficiently and with compassion and gave us all a kind of level of commitment that we needed, because it wasn't an easy experience. We were all starving."

—Max Kampelman (M.A. '46, Ph.D. '51) on being a subject for starvation experiments run by former U professor Ancel Keys.

## Tracking Sled Dogs On-line



Two days into a six-month arctic exploration, Aaron Doering (Ph.D. '99), an instructor in the College of Education and Human Development, felt his dogsled breaking through the ice of Great Slave Lake in Canada's Northwest Territories. As the back end of the sled started sinking, Doering leaped forward onto firm ice where the sled dogs were already safe. His fellow team members, including famed musher Will



Aaron Doering, an instructor in the College of Education and Human Development, spent time bonding with the sled dogs at a training camp while preparing for Arctic Transect 2004. The dogs will be Doering's companions for six months in the frozen Canadian north. Doering and others, including adventurer Will Steger, are sending reports via satellite to thousands of schoolchildren who are following the expedition on-line.

Steger, pulled sleeping bags, food packs, and other gear to safety then helped the dogs pull the sled from the icy water. Thousands of schoolchildren breathed a sigh of relief.

Arctic Transect 2004, a 3,000-mile dogsled-driven classroom through the Canadian territory of Nunavut, above the Northwest Territories, is being followed on-line by students around the world. Six explorer-educators are currently in the midst of crossing Nunavut, a territory three times the size of Texas but with only 28,000 residents. They are stopping at small Inuit villages along the way, taking scientific measurements of possible global warming indicators for groups such as NASA and Environmental Canada, and communicating regularly, via the Internet and instant messaging, with tens of thousands of students on five continents.

Kids in places like Japan, Australia, Denmark, and Russia—as well as Nunavut—are talking to each other and to the expedition members on-line. They share information on experiments they've done in their classrooms in connection with their study of the Arctic, discuss Inuit culture, and post photos of their own dogs. Doering, along with others, developed free curriculum to go along with the interactive expedition.

The expedition began at the end of December in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, and will end in June after traversing barren tundra, sea ice, coastal mountains, and massive ice caps and visiting at least nine Inuit villages.

For more on Arctic Transect 2004, to download free curriculum materials, or to sponsor one of the polar huskies, visit [www.polarhusky.com](http://www.polarhusky.com). —Peggy Rader

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## 2004 Travel Program

London, England  
August 20-28, 2004



Many of London's famous landmarks are within walking distance of our hotel, such as the elegant stores of Kensington and Knightsbridge. Choose from a variety of exciting optional excursions, including Windsor Castle, Stratford-Upon-Avon, and, of course, a popular West End theatre production.

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August 2-10, 2004



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Adult \$2,095 - Child \$1,495

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# Campus Digest

[FACULTY PROFILE]

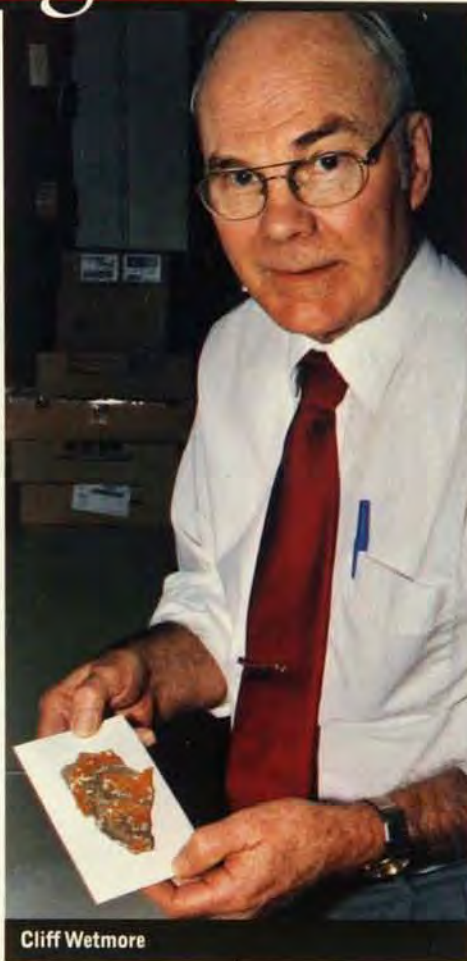
## Cliff Wetmore

In his scientific fieldwork, Cliff Wetmore uses some seemingly unconventional tools: a hammer, a chisel, and paper bags. He tromps through thick woods and over stony shores, looking for specimens on trees, rocks, and wherever they grow. He gathers stringy, crusty, or fuzzy samples of rust-colored, pale green, or chartreuse lichens.

One of the world's leading lichenologists, Wetmore, a professor of plant biology, has studied lichens since 1957 when he became interested in the field as an ecology graduate student at Michigan State. "There was so little known about them," he says. "They're interesting to collect." A symbiotic union of algae and fungus, lichens are ancient and ubiquitous. They thrive in unpolluted areas, surviving for decades in harsh and barren climates. They might eat rock, soil, or deadwood and break these down into organic matter, preparing the habitat for other life forms.

Lichens are consumed as tea or as a delicacy in Asia, and once were used in dyes and in medicines to cure lung disease and rabies. Today, scientists often study them to monitor air pollution. Lichens also reflect biodiversity and the integrity of old-growth forests; some are already extinct due to extensive logging.

Wetmore has studied air quality for the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and many other organizations using lichens. Lichens are particularly sensitive to sulfur dioxide, produced by fire, Wetmore says, as well as mercury, lead, and other airborne pollutants. "Anything going through the air, lichens pick up and accumulate," he says.



Cliff Wetmore

About 20,000 species have been identified, and each year hundreds more are discovered. Wetmore has collected them in every state but Alaska and abroad from Antarctica to New Zealand. In the upper Great Lakes region, Wetmore has identified threatened and endangered lichen species. Of about 550 species in Minnesota, more than a dozen are at risk. "He's been critically important" in keeping the list current, said Rich Baker, a zoologist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. "He's the expert on lichens in Minnesota."

In Wetmore's lab, hundreds of pressed and preserved specimens fill files and boxes on shelves and in cabinets. A few fresh samples from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area sit in grocery bags. Down the hall, the internationally recognized University of Minnesota Lichen Herbarium houses 140,000 more specimens, most of which Wetmore has accumulated since he joined the University of Minnesota in 1970. "He's really amassed quite a wonderful collection," said Ed Cushing, a colleague in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior.

A handful of lichens have colorful names: Old Man's Beard, found draping from trees; British Soldiers, tiny stalks topped with red caps; and Reindeer Moss, a vital winter food source for reindeer, caribou, and related animals, are a few that have moved beyond their scientific monikers. Over the past 20 years,

Wetmore has studied and catalogued varieties of the *Caloplaca* genus lichens, which range from bright orange to chartreuse and typically form crusty layers on rocks and other surfaces. Other lichens can be leafy or have stalks. "I'm not half done yet," he says. "I'm just doing North and Central America. I can't do the whole world. It would take a lifetime."

—Maureen M. Smith (M.A. '97)

## Cheer Champs

If competitive cheerleading catches on as a varsity sport, the University of Minnesota will have a new NCAA contender on its hands. The U's dance team won its second consecutive national title in January at the Universal Cheerleading Association and Universal Dance Association Cheer and Dance National Championships in Orlando, Florida. Minnesota topped 21 semifinalists, including Big Ten teams Michigan, Wisconsin, and Penn State, to win the Division 1A title.

Three other teams from the U's spirit squad competed in the final rounds. Goldy Gopher took sixth place in the mascot division, a U team finished fifth in the partner stunt division, and the Gopher cheerleaders ended up in 12th place. A handful of schools, most recently the University of Maryland this fall, have made competitive cheerleading a varsity sport, complete with scholarships.

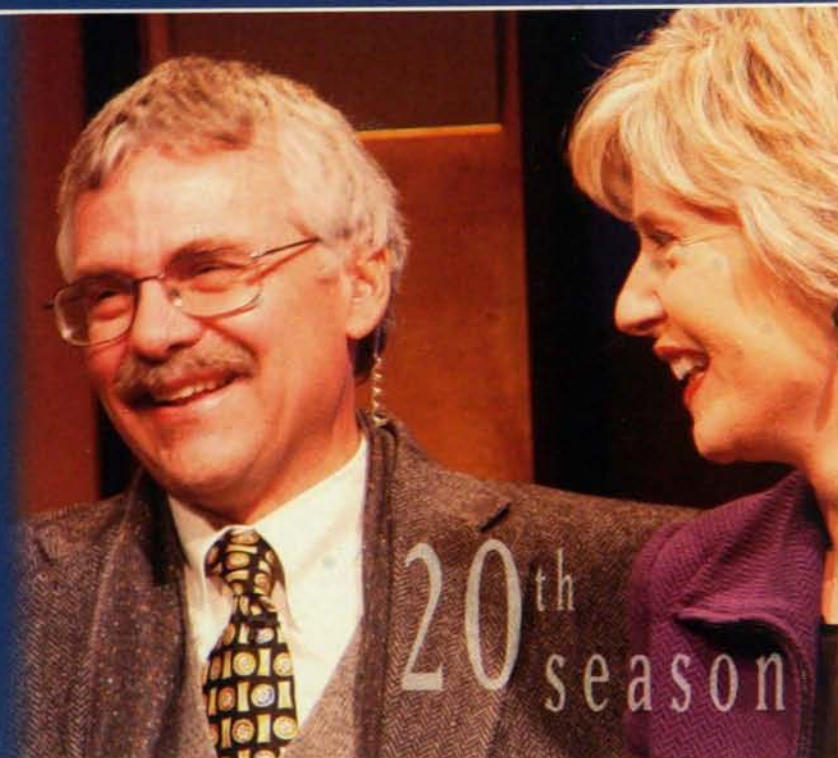


# Almanac

Join co-hosts Eric Eskola and Cathy Wurzer to celebrate 20 years of Minnesota's best political news show - with more than a few oddball moments along the way.

Fridays at 7pm (live)  
Sundays at 9:30am on **tpt 2**

Saturdays at 8pm on **tpt 17**



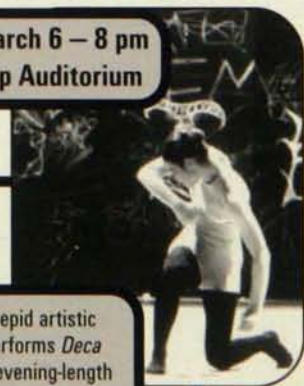
## Dance & Jazz

# NORTHROP AUDITORIUM

Northrop Dance Season presents

## BATSHEVA DANCE COMPANY

Sat., March 6 - 8 pm  
Northrop Auditorium



Israel's intrepid artistic treasure performs *Deca Dance*, an evening-length remix of excerpts from Ohad Naharin's dances of the last decade. Music for this bracingly fresh mosaic ranges from classical to rock.

\$39, \$36, \$31, \$27

Northrop Dance Season presents

## Nederlands Dans Theater

Tue., Wed., March 16, 17 - 7:30 pm  
Northrop Auditorium



In the hands of Europe's preeminent choreographer Jiri Kylián, ballet swirls with buoyant, modern expressiveness. This 32-member Dutch company dances a trio of his latest works including *27'52"* that opens amusingly and ends in a gripping duet (partial nudity).

\$46, \$43, \$34, \$27

Northrop Jazz Season presents

## Regina Carter Quintet

Thu., April 15 - 8 pm  
Ted Mann Concert Hall



Having absorbed the rich classical, jazz, and pop influences of her native Detroit, violinist/bandleader Regina Carter is now dazzling the jazz world with the magnitude of her originality and extraordinary talent.

\$32, \$25

612-624-2345

www.northrop.umn.edu

# Arts & Events



(LEFT TO RIGHT) At Ted Mann: Regina Carter and the Regina Carter Quintet, at the Ted Mann Concert Hall April 15. At the Nash Gallery: *Recent Work, 2003*, by Bahman Jalali, part of "Persian Silver: Contemporary Photography from Iran," at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery through April 8. At the Weisman: *World's Fair Mural, 1964*, oil on plywood, by Roy Lichtenstein, part of "Highlights under the Skylights," at the Weisman Art Museum through June 6. At Ted Mann: Anonymous 4, internationally acclaimed female vocal quartet, at the Ted Mann Concert Hall April 23.

## DANCE

### NORTHROP DANCE SEASON

All performances take place at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis. Call 612-624-2345 or visit [www.northrop.umn.edu](http://www.northrop.umn.edu).

#### Nederlands Dans Theater

This Dutch company's 32 dancers will perform a trio of the newest works by Prague-born choreographer Jiri Kylián, who is revered for intricate partnering and whirlwind propulsion. March 16–17, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$27–\$46.

#### Eifman Ballet

St. Petersburg's Boris Eifman presents *Tchaikovsky*, a haunting, two-act portrait of the composer's life and art. Eifman's choreographic imagination hinges on vividly expressive dancers who absorb the lives of their characters as if the fates were their own. April 6–7, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$27–\$46.

### UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM SEASON

All events take place at the Barbara Barker Dance Center, 500 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. For tickets, call 612-624-5060 or visit [www.cla.umn.edu/theatre](http://www.cla.umn.edu/theatre).

#### Student Dance Concert

April 30–May 1, 8 p.m.

#### End of Year Showings

May 5, 4 p.m.; May 6, 3:30 p.m.

## FAMILY FUN

### 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. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$3 for children 3–16 and seniors; and free for members, children under 3, U students, faculty, and staff, and on Sundays.

#### Biodiversity 911: Saving Life on Earth

Explore a coral reef. Peer at the layers of life in a giant tropical tree. Stroll through a fish market. Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth—from ants to orchids to savannas. Learn what biodiversity is, why it's declining, and how we can help to protect it. The centerpiece of the exhibit is a biodiversity theater, which features an entertaining film by Aardman Animations, the Academy Award-winning creators of the Wallace and Gromit animated films. Through May 2.

## FILM

### UNIVERSITY FILM SOCIETY

The 22nd annual Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival takes place in seven metro area cinemas April 2–17. For a schedule of screenings, call 612-627-4430 or visit [www.ufilm.org](http://www.ufilm.org).

## MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

### 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.

#### Gene(sis): Contemporary Art Explores Human Genomics

This exhibition presents some of the most powerful new work created by contemporary artists in response to the advances in human genomics. Through May 2.

#### Highlights under the Skylights

The museum will display highlights from its permanent collection, and the skylights will be opened to allow natural light to fill the galleries, presenting the treasures of the collection in a fresh new light. Through June 6.

### GOLDSTEIN GALLERY

244 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, 612-624-7434. Hours: 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. Admission is free.

#### Art and Artifact: Sweaters by Designer Solveig Hisdal

Fascinated by textile patterns and combinations of materials in old folk costumes, Norwegian knitwear designer Solveig Hisdal expresses her own personal vision of tradition in richly colored and patterned sweaters. Through March 28.

#### 2004 Senior Student Show

April 25–May 12

#### Minnesota Motorcycles

A visual history of motorcycle design and manufacture in Minnesota from the early 1900s to the present includes cycles, clothing, and product design. One component focuses on the contributions local industry has made to the safety of motorcycling. May 30–August 29.

### KATHERINE E. NASH GALLERY

Located in the new Regis Center for Art, 405 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. 612-624-7530. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission is free.

#### Persian Silver: Contemporary Photography from Iran

In the Main Gallery, through April 8

#### Master of Fine Arts Exhibitions

Public spaces, April 13–May 6

#### Master of Fine Arts Exhibitions

Public spaces, May 11–June 4

### PAUL W. LARSON GALLERY

Located in the lower level of the St. Paul Student Center, 2017 Buford Ave., St. Paul, 612-625-0214. Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

#### GLBT Student Art Show: Art of the Experience

March 25–April 16

#### Crime Victims' Exhibit

April 22–May 14

## MUSIC

### NORTHROP JAZZ SEASON

#### Regina Carter Quintet

A prodigy who was writing her own music at age 4, Regina Carter absorbed classical, jazz, and pop influences growing up in Detroit. Last year she was the first nonclassical musician invited to play composer Niccolò Paganini's 250-year-old violin. In this concert Carter performs with Werner "Vana" Gierig, piano; Chris Lightcap, bass; Alvester Garnett, drums; and Mayra Casales, percussion. April 15, 8 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West Bank Campus. Tickets are \$25–\$32.

### UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Unless otherwise noted, admission to School of Music events is free. To confirm events, call 612-626-8742 or visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu). For tickets call 612-624-2345. The Ted Mann Concert Hall is at 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West Bank campus. The Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall is inside Ferguson Hall at 2106 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Northrop Auditorium is at 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis.

# Farewell Performance

## Side-by-Side Concert

Students from the University Symphony and musicians from the Minnesota Orchestra perform classical chamber music. March 22, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

## The Tales of Hoffman

The University Opera Theatre performs composer Jacques Offenbach's final work. David Walsh, director. April 1-3, 7:30 p.m.; April 4, 1:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$13-\$15.

## University Symphonic Wind Ensemble

Craig Kirshhoff, conductor. April 6, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## Nanae Mimura

A concert by one of the most exciting marimba virtuosos of her generation, receiving tremendous praise for both her technical mastery and depth of expression. April 19, 7 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

## Interplay: Anonymous 4

Internationally acclaimed female vocal quartet Anonymous 4 presents "American Angels," featuring songs from the 18th century. Southern shape-note singing, spirituals, and gospel hymns. This performance is part of the group's final touring season after 17 years together. April 23, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Tickets are \$28-\$38.

## University Concert Choir and Men's Chorus

Sacred music from the 19th century by Mendelssohn, Bruckner, and Rheinberger, plus music by Britten and popular songs from around the world. Kathy Saltzman Romey, conductor. April 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## University Percussion Ensemble

Contemporary repertoire for mallet and percussion instruments with a variety of styles ranging from ragtime and ethnic music to the avant garde. Fernando Meza, conductor. April 24, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

## University Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Symphonic Band

Music by Persichetti, Stoke, and others. April 28, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## University Band

Tim Diem, conductor. April 29, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## Women's Chorus with the University Dance Program

Featuring "The Ballerina and the Clown," alumna Libby Larsen's choral setting of Hans Christian Andersen's tale. April 30, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## Gospel Choir

Sanford Moore, director. May 2, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## First Mondays Series

University professor Jean Del Santo, soprano, performs music by Debussy, Strauss, Quilter, and others. May 3, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

## University Jazz Ensembles I and II

Dean Sorenson, director. May 3, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## Campus Orchestra

Mussorgsky's "Night on Bald Mountain" and other music. May 5, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

## University Choral Union and Symphony Orchestra

Program includes Stravinsky's Symphony of Psalms. Kathy Saltzman Romey and Akira Mori, conductors. May 6, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

**One of the world's most celebrated pianists, School of Music professor Margo Garrett specializes in collaborative piano, performing and recording as an accompanist with artists like Kathleen Battle and Dawn Upshaw. Since 1992, Garrett has taught U of M pianists how to follow in her footsteps.**

**But this spring will be a farewell of sorts for Garrett—her April 5 recital will be her last as a full-time member of the faculty. Garrett leaves the University this spring for New York City, where she will continue teaching and performing part-time.**

**Garrett will play alongside clarinetist and U professor John Anderson. They and oboist Valerie Anderson will perform the American premieres of contemporary works by composers Randall Davidson and Margaret Griebing-Haigh and the Minnesota premiere of a new piece by U professor Judith Lang Zaimont. April 5, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall. Admission is free. For more information, call 612-626-8742 or visit [www.music.umn.edu](http://www.music.umn.edu).**



Margo Garrett

## READINGS AND SPEAKERS

### CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

*The Ted Mann Concert Hall is located at 2128 Fourth St. S. on the West Bank campus. The Weisman Art Museum is located at 333 East River Road on the East Bank campus. All events are free and open to the public. Call 612-625-3363.*

#### A.S. Byatt

Among the first women admitted to Cambridge, A.S. Byatt was already a formidable literary figure in England when she achieved best-seller status in the United States with her 1990 novel, *Possession: A Romance*, a story about a clandestine love affair between two Victorian writers and the two modern-day academics who unearth their secret. Her novella *Morpho Eugenia*, in which she examines the similarities between anthills and 19th century manor households, was made into the film *Angels and Insects* in 1995. April 17, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

#### Judy Blunt

Judy Blunt spent 30 years on wheat and cattle farms in Montana before she fled with her three children, leaving behind a confused husband and the only life she'd ever known. She details her hardscrabble upbringing in her gritty and lyrical memoir, *Breaking Clean*. The book won the 1997 PEN/Jerard Fund Award and earned Blunt a Whiting Writers' Award. April 20, 7:30 p.m., at the Weisman Art Museum.

#### The Green Light at the End of the Dock: A Festival of Romantic Writing

Garrison Keillor hosts an evening of romantic writing on Mother's Day. Leading up to the event, University of Minnesota students will be invited to submit poems, short fiction, and

songs to Keillor, who will winnow out the finalists and then gather them together to perform their works onstage. Winners will be chosen by audience participation and a panel of local celebrities. May 9, 7 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

### FIRST TUESDAY LUNCHEON SERIES

The Carlson School of Management presents lunch and a top-level executive as the keynote speaker from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. **April 6:** Roger Staubach, chairman and CEO of the Staubach Company. **May 4:** To be announced. **June 1:** Janice Aune, president and CEO of Onvoy. Radisson Hotel, 615 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis. Call 612-626-9634.

### GREAT CONVERSATIONS

A discussion series that pairs University experts with national figures in their fields. All events take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., on the West Bank campus. Series tickets are \$110 (\$85 for University faculty, staff, and students and UMAA members). Individual event tickets are \$28 (\$23 for faculty, staff, and students and UMAA members). Call 612-624-2345 or visit [www.cce.umn.edu/conversations](http://www.cce.umn.edu/conversations).

#### Bioethics in the National Spotlight

A March 23 conversation with Jeffrey Kahn, director of the University's Center for Biomedical Ethics, and Harold Shapiro, president emeritus of Princeton University and former chairman of President Clinton's National Bioethics Advisory Commission.

#### Predicting the World's Ecological Future

An April 13 conversation with David Tilman, Distinguished McKnight and Regents Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, and Jared Diamond, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning book *Guns, Germs and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* and recipient of the National Medal of Science, the nation's highest scientific honor. April 13.

#### Populism in the Heartland

A May 11 conversation with Catherine Liu, professor of cultural studies and comparative literature and author of three books, and Thomas Frank, editor-in-chief of *Baffler* magazine and author of several books on the commodification of culture, including *The Conquest of Cool: Business Culture, Counterculture, and the Rise of Hip Consumerism*.

## THEATER

### UNIVERSITY THEATRE SEASON

#### The Rocky Horror Show

This '70s cult classic—where a stormy night at Dr. Frank-n-Furter's castle has everyone doing the "Time Warp"—is making its University Theatre debut. Theatergoers are invited to dress the part. April 16-May 1, in the Stoll Thrust Theatre at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. For tickets, call 612-2345 or visit [www.cla.umn.edu/theatre](http://www.cla.umn.edu/theatre).

### XPERIMENTAL THEATRE SEASON

All student-run productions, events take place in the Charles Nolte Theatre at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Shows are free but reservations are required. Call 612-625-1876.

#### Untitled Dance Piece

Created by Kari Mosel and Megan Jenkins March 26-28

#### The Rehearsal

By George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, directed by Rob Shimko April 16-18

**The University of Minnesota presented its 2004 capital request to the state legislature in February.** The University is seeking \$155 million in state funding for numerous facility renovations, upgrades, and two building additions. "Maintaining our infrastructure, modernizing classrooms, and taking care of this great public university is a wise and prudent investment for the state," said University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks. The University has more than 800 buildings—65 percent of which are more than 30 years old, and 25 percent of which are more than 70 years old.

In his capital budget proposal, Governor Tim Pawlenty (B.A. '83, J.D. '86) recommends that the state give the University \$76.6 million, less than half of what it requested. For information about the University's 2004 capital request, see [www.umn.edu/govrel](http://www.umn.edu/govrel). To read more about what legislators are saying and how you can help, see pages 48-49.

**The University's 2003 annual report details how it has reshaped the way it operates and explains why the University continues to be a valuable investment.** "We took one of the larger cuts in state appropriations of any public university in the nation, but we are forging ahead, working to ensure excellence and vitality of the University for our students and for the people of Minnesota in a time of fiscal austerity," said Bruininks. The annual report has real stories of cost savings and productivity initiatives, as well as an independent auditor's report, financial statements, and a management's analysis. The report is available on-line at [http://process.umn.edu/groups/controller/documents/main/controller\\_home.html](http://process.umn.edu/groups/controller/documents/main/controller_home.html).

**Four University and Mayo Clinic research projects will share \$3 million awarded by the Minnesota Partnership for Biotechnology and Medical Genomics,** a collaboration among the University of Minnesota, Mayo Clinic, and the state of Minnesota aimed at making Minnesota a world leader in bioscience. The selected projects, which have teams of University and Mayo Clinic researchers working together, will focus on cardiovascular disease, prostate cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and obesity. "The doctors at Mayo believe that medicine and science are advanced far more by teamwork than by individuals working alone," said Hugh Smith, M.D., chair of Mayo Clinic's Board of Governors.

**The University of Minnesota Stem Cell Institute announced in February that it will begin research on embryonic stem cells.** The institute, already a leader in adult stem cell research, would conduct embryonic stem cell research with private grant money. Embryonic stem cell research is controversial because it requires the use of donated human embryos. Stem cells have the potential to turn into any of the body's cells and could rebuild damaged or diseased tissue. U researchers have said they want to study both



Anna Russell, 10, of Minneapolis hoisted a dinosaur bone at the Bell Museum of Natural History in January. The bone helped illustrate extinction of animals at Biodiversity Family Day, the opening of the Bell's "Biodiversity 911: Saving Life on Earth" exhibit, which runs through May 2.

adult stem cells and embryonic stem cells to determine which will yield more effective treatments for specific disorders.

**The new Center for the Study of Politics in the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs will bring in political leaders—such as former U.S. senators—to engage students in discussions,** in addition to offering information about campaign fund-raising and voter trends. The center was launched in January to raise public understanding of politics and serve as a resource for citizens and the media on important policy issues. The center's first big undertaking is the 2004 Elections Project, which provides election coverage of politics in the Upper Midwest. The project Web site ([www.hbb.umn.edu/centers/csp/elections](http://www.hbb.umn.edu/centers/csp/elections)) offers timely nonpartisan commentary and analysis on this year's elections.

**Carlson School of Management researchers are hoping to find the keys to success for "spinouts,"** or businesses that form to commercialize technologies developed by university researchers. The three-year study, funded by a \$360,000 National Science Foundation grant, will include interviews with representatives from 25 entrepreneurial teams and research into the management strategies of 100 spinout ventures from major universities. The Association of University Technology Managers estimates that licensed university-based technologies generated more than \$40 billion of economic activity and 270,000 jobs in 1999.

**Researchers at the College of Education and Human Development will use a recent \$4.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop monitoring systems to help students with special needs advance in class.** The researchers will work with Minnesota teachers and their special education students who are integrated in general language, math, and science curriculums. Progress monitoring, also called curriculum-based measurement, was developed at the college in the late 1970s by special education professor Stan Deno.

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



# Split Rock Arts Program *Summer Workshops*

## Make This Your Summer For Creative Discovery!

Split Rock is the University's summer series of weeklong workshops in creative writing, visual art, design, and creativity enhancement. Held on the Twin Cities campus, workshops begin each Sunday from July 4-August 14, 2004. Split Rock also offers retreats at the University's Cloquet Forestry Center.

Choose from over 45 workshops led by renowned, practicing writers and visual artists from around the world. Bead, draw, paint, quilt, weave, write, or explore collage, illustration, fabric and fashion design, book and fiber arts, and more!

No prerequisites are required. Graduate/undergraduate credit, scholarships, and high-amenity on-campus housing are available. Special 10% discount for UMAA members!

Join us for *Split Rock Soirées* and the *Convergence/Divergence* Lecture Series.

Workshop Registration opens in late February.

To receive a catalog call 612-625-8100 or e-mail [srap@cce.umn.edu](mailto:srap@cce.umn.edu).

[www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts](http://www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts)

A program of the College of Continuing Education. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



**THE BELL  
MUSEUM OF  
NATURAL  
HISTORY**

## BELL MUSEUM EXHIBITS & EVENTS

### Biodiversity 911: Saving Life on Earth

*On exhibit through May 2*

Fun, hands-on exhibit demonstrating the variety of life on Earth and how you can help protect it. Featuring animated film by Aardman, the creators of *Chicken Run*.

### "Rediscovering and Restoring the North American Prairie" Slide Lecture by Stephen Jones *Thursday, April 1 at 7 p.m.*

Jones, co-author of Peterson Field Guides' new prairie guide book, will discuss the status of prairies and profile U.S. prairie preserves. Signed copies of his book will be available for purchase.



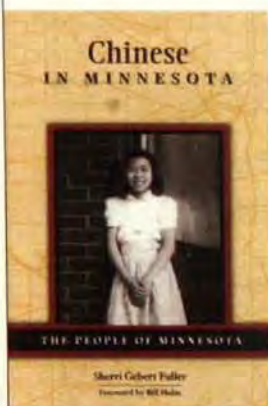
Stephen Jones

College of  
**Natural Resources**  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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# Off the Shelf

Reviews and views of books with a University of Minnesota connection.



## CHINESE IN MINNESOTA

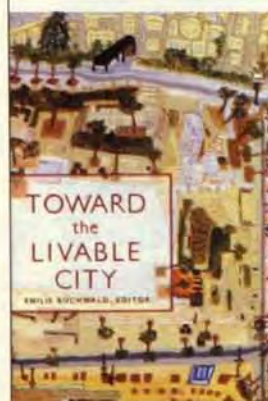
By Sherri Gebert Fuller  
Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2004

The latest book in "The People of Minnesota" series—a collection of histories of various ethnic groups in the state—tells the story of Chinese settlers in Minnesota and the news they would make over the next century. Chinese history in Minnesota is, of course, interwoven with University history. The book notes the long connection the U has had with China, students from China and Taiwan, and Chinese groups.

## DOG TAGS YAPPING

By M.D. Elevitch (B.A. '49, M.A. '50)  
Southern Illinois University Press, 2003

This account of World War II is told entirely through the author's letters to his divorced parents and younger brother from October 1943 through December 1945. Many of the notes were accompanied by sketches and cartoons that made it past the censors. A combat G.I., Elevitch writes about the mundane days of training, fierce battles, and being wounded and hospitalized. The letters are full of wit, keen observations, humor, passion, and life. His art is equally gripping and insightful.



## ONCE UPON A WORD

By Rob Kyff (M.A. '74)  
Tapestry Press, 2003

Kyff, who dubs himself "the word guy," has compiled a volume of quirky but factual historical notes about the origins of common words and phrases. He delves into the derivations of such terms as *sawbuck*, *bikini*, *caucus*, and *three sheets in the wind* and interjects plenty of humor and editorial commentary.

## TOWARD THE LIVABLE CITY

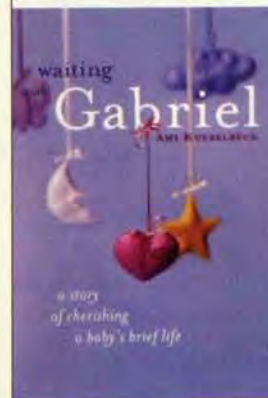
Emilie Buchwald (Ed.D. '71)  
Milkweek Editions, 2003

Buchwald has edited a collection of writings—firsthand accounts and a range of perspectives—about creating successful, livable cities. Examples from around the world cover smart growth, traffic calming, pedestrian rights, regional planning, riverfront redevelopment, and architecture. University professors Judith Martin and Myron Orfield are among the contributors.

## THE TRUTH ABOUT STEPFAMILIES

By Anne O'Connor  
Marlowe & Company, 2003

Anne O'Connor, who studied journalism at the University, writes about a very common but unique system: stepfamilies. Members from eight stepfamilies around the United States describe the joys and hardships of their family arrangements, and O'Connor, a stepmother of eight years, adds her own seasoned advice on the issues combined families struggle with, including who disciplines the children.



## The U's Reading List

U Reads is back for a second year with 10 book recommendations for 2004. The College of Continuing Education has asked some of the U's leading minds to share the book that had the most impact on their thinking. For more information on U Reads, visit [www.cce.umn.edu/ureads](http://www.cce.umn.edu/ureads).

**THE CONTROL OF NATURE** by John McPhee. Recommended by Judith Martin, urban studies professor:

"[Three] seemingly disparate locales illustrate the book's theme: the creative, energetic, unending, and questionable energy that human beings invest in physically altering whatever landscape we encounter. The sheer scale and cost of these interventions is daunting."

**DINO: LIVING HIGH IN THE DIRTY BUSINESS OF DREAMS** by Nick Tosces. Recommended by Karal Ann Marling, professor of art history and American studies:

"Tosces cannot account for much in

Dean Martin's life, despite a mountain of evidence. There was, he concludes, an emptiness at the core, a staggering unknowability. . . . Increasingly, if one is not writing to edify or to smear, modern lives have become great voids."

**EVERYDAY ZEN: LOVE & WORK** by Charlotte Joko Beck. Recommended by Michael Dennis Browne, professor of English and creative writing:

"Filled with brilliantly sane and perceptive advice about how to get through the days (and nights) and years by practicing seeing reality as it is rather than as what our often tumultuous thoughts, feeling, projections, and paranoias keep trying to tell us that it is."

**GAUDY NIGHT** by Dorothy L. Sayers. Recommended by Anna Katharine Mansfield, enology (wine grapes) project leader:

"Gaudy Night provides an instructive

view of the academic life of women in an era when they were just beginning to assert themselves as scholars."

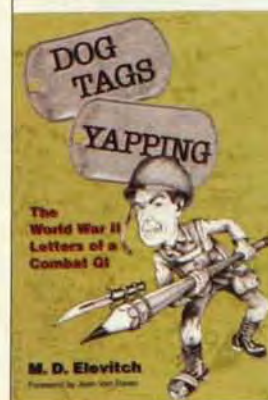
**IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE** by Sinclair Lewis. Recommended by Christine Maziar, executive vice president and provost:

"[A] cautionary tale . . . of an America reeling through a depression and a population willing to trade away civil liberties for promises of a more secure material future."

**THE LIVES OF A CELL: NOTES OF A BIOLOGY WATCHER** by Lewis Thomas. Recommended by Dr. John Najarian, professor of surgery:

"Easy to read, it will steer the young toward a career in biology and all of us to a further appreciation of the miracle of life."

**ORIENTALISM** by Edward Said. Recommended by Imed Labidi, graduate student and instructor of cultural studies and comparative literature:



**WAITING WITH GABRIEL**

By Amy Kuebelbeck (M.A. '91)  
Loyola Press, 2003

When the author, pregnant at five and a half months, learned that her unborn baby had a fatal condition, a malformed heart, she was faced with a terrible decision. With courage and candor, Kuebelbeck takes readers along on her journey, touching on medical and ethical issues, the meaning of death, and celebrating life.

**WRITING INDIAN NATIONS: NATIVE INTELLECTUALS AND THE POLITICS OF HISTORIOGRAPHY, 1827-1863**

By Maureen Konkle (Ph.D. '97)  
The University of North Carolina Press, 2004

In the early 19th century, when the U.S. government used coerced treaties to remove Native peoples from their land, a group of Cherokee, Pequot, Ojibwe, Tuscarora, and Seneca writers spoke out, countering the widespread misrepresentations about Native peoples. Konkle describes the struggles over the U.S.-Native treaties and how they led to the emergence of the first substantial body of Native writing in English.

"[T]he book unveils Said's exceptional talent as a scholar, a critic, a philosopher, an artist, and most importantly a humanist."

**THE POLAR EXPRESS** by Chris Van Allsburg.  
Recommended by Dr. Michael Osterholm, director, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy:

"[T]his has been my favorite book since I first read it to my children on Christmas Eve [in 1985]. The book reminds me of what is really important in life and what life is really all about."

**WHEN PRIDE STILL MATTERED: A LIFE OF VINCE LOMBARDI** by David Maraniss.  
Recommended by Pam Borton, women's basketball coach:

"I really got inspired on what to do as a coach in my sport and what not to do as a person in neglecting family."

**THE WUMP WORLD** by Bill Peet. Recommended by Dan Gilchrist, president's speechwriter:

"[T]he book carries a powerful message about preserving the natural world and the possibility of environmental renewal."



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# A Very Early Retirement

**One afternoon** last summer, my boss called me into his office to meet with him and the company president. I took a seat between them, only to realize they formed a human vise, one designed to squeeze me ever so gently into not quitting my job. I was flattered. Most employers call security when you give notice; as you're escorted outside, somebody drops your desk files from 14 floors up. *And stay out!*

But these guys genuinely wanted me to stick around. I already had a good job with good pay, writing for a weekly newspaper in Cleveland. Now they dangled assorted sweeteners: a raise, a promotion, a chance to work on special projects.

Temptation, that sultry siren, purred in my ear. "More money," she cooed, her breath warm on my skin. "Job security. Career advancement. How about it, sugar?"

Even the weather seemed to weigh in on my puny existential plight. Eight days out of 10, the sun works union hours in Cleveland—it's Seattle minus the mountains, ocean, and pulse. But on this day, waves of natural light cascaded through the office's ceiling-to-floor windows. Lake Erie glimmered with the promise of dreams, not the residue of pathogens. *Maybe*, I thought, *maybe Ohio isn't a four-letter word after all.*

Then I reminded myself that, too often, Temptation is just Timidity with an extreme makeover.

Pragmatic careerism—or what a friend calls "the slow rise to the middle"—had ruled my life since graduating from the University of Minnesota in 1991. Time and again, seduced by a steady paycheck and the prospect of a step upward, I chose a job or a promotion over grander ambitions, the sure thing over the unknown. I could justify my cowardice breezily enough: When I slipped into bed at night, I wanted the roof overhead to be mine—rather than, say, the Salvation Army's.

Many jobs later, however, I'd learned that an excess of compromise can snuff the spirit. The quick thrill of a raise, like the crystal blue sky over Cleveland, would soon dissolve, replaced by the same old gray. I turned my eyes from the window and smiled. "Thanks for the offer," I told my bosses, "but I gotta take the leap."

**It's tempting to suggest that I flipped the switch on my career change straight away, in the bold tradition of Cat Stevens and Rod Grams. In truth, an unseen dimmer knob controlled my courage, turning it up bit by bit.**

They showed mercy, releasing me without spite or dialing security. A few weeks later, I exited the office for good and entered a brand-new future, having decided, at the unripe age of 35, to retire. I don't mean retire altogether—I still prefer my own bed to a cot at the Y. I mean retire from a conventional career in hopes of reigniting my creative mojo.

During college I wrote for *The Minnesota Daily*, whose then-subterranean digs boasted a scruffy, yellowing sofa as soft as a grandmother's hug. It was a couch made for reverie, and in my musings I foresaw writing books for a living, with journalism serving as the Sherpa that helped me reach the summit. As it happened, like most people who settle for less than their dream job, I deserted my fantasy while caving to career fear. My story echoed that of the CPA who pines to don tights and join the ballet, the pipe fitter who would be a pastry chef: The longer I stayed at base camp, the more daunting it became to consider scaling the mountain. I'd acclimated to being a reporter and, as my résumé matured, the words "starting over" sounded as fraught with peril as "nude rappelling." Both

endeavors, I surmised, would end in naked disgrace.

Instead of chancing a free fall, I slowly slid into brittle denial. By last summer, I felt like I was 35 going on Methuselah. A dozen years slogging away in cube farms had left me stooped and doughy. Life moved at the brain-numbing pace of a metronome click-clacking in 2/4 time, better known as the Working Stiff's Beat. Long hours at the office, late nights hunched over my home PC. Toiling on weekends, missing social events. Constant stress, scant time off. Click-clack, click-clack, click-clack. . . .

You can never predict when or where you'll experience an epiphany. Mine occurred one morning as I kneeled over the toilet. I'd pulled yet another all-nighter to meet deadline, and once I e-mailed the story to the office, fatigue hit. Dry heaves followed. This sort of intestinal flamenco had struck before, so I paid little

By Martin Kuz | Illustration by Sara Fanelli



mind. Until I saw blood in the bowl. Only a few bright globs, maybe three teaspoonfuls, but enough to inspire a vision of my epitaph were I to keel right then. It read, simply, "Chickens—t."

Message received. My conscience, the twangy Dr. Phil within, was demanding that I junk the day job to pursue my literary urges. Or else. Unnerved as ever by the idea, I nonetheless had to agree it trumped the alternative of growing old and bloated with regret. I might go broke trying to publish a book, sure. Then again, at least I wouldn't be retching my guts out.

It's tempting to suggest that, rising from the bathroom tile, I flipped the switch on my career change straight away, in the bold tradition of Cat Stevens and Rod Grams. In truth, an unseen dimmer knob controlled my courage, turning it up bit by bit. Bracing for such a seismic lifestyle shift, I've come to understand, one needs time to steel one's nerves. And to persuade one's fiancée.

Rare is the woman who swoons when a man says, "I'm thinking about quitting my job to chase a pipe dream, but don't worry, I'll chip in with the bills by working part-time at Home Depot." Or when he adds, with cocked eyebrow, "Chicks dig a guy in a smock."

Luckily, two factors tilted in my favor. One was a desire to move to Tucson, Arizona—may as well start afresh where it's warm, I figured. The other: I'm engaged to a Cleveland native who shares the belief that Ohio invented the cloud and, minutes later, the yawn.

So last November, fleeing before Jack Frost stumbled in like the town drunk, we pointed our wagon west, stuffing everything we owned into a moving truck, save for a renewed sense of optimism. That we carried ourselves, hoping it would bloom under the desert sun.

Has it ever.

In fact, at the risk of being mistaken for one of those Buddha-hawking, chakra-chanting New Age hipsters common to Arizona, the last time the future sparkled with this much potential I was in college. Which is why I'm approaching the next couple of years as my own form of grad school—without the debt, I pray. Two or three days a week, I work on freelance articles that so far have helped keep us solvent and me smockless. Meanwhile, I scribble to my muse's content as I begin my long deferred attempt to ascend Mount Novel. Though certain that my early efforts have reached an artistic altitude no loftier than a baseball box score, I'm cheered by another result. Between finally unearthing a buried passion and living with the woman beyond my dreams, I feel like I'm 35 going on Apollo.

Stray doubts still wander in, of course. Sometimes I wonder if I've embarked on history's lamest midlife crisis or where I might be had I remained a reporter. But those are isolated thoughts, vestiges of a career anxiety that belongs to the past. In the end, it matters little whether I wind up a published author, returning to newspapers, or donning tights to join the ballet.

More important is recognizing that anyone can start over. Now I greet the sunrise with a fire in my belly—and know it's not the onset of an ulcer.

*Martin Kutz (B.A. '91) is a freelance writer living in Tucson, Arizona.*

FIRST PERSON features personal essays written by alumni, faculty, students, or anyone with a University connection. To request writers' guidelines, write to Shelly Fling, *Minnesota Magazine*, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455; e-mail [fling003@umn.edu](mailto:fling003@umn.edu), or visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota)

# [ What If ]

University alumnus and political analyst Norm Ornstein (B.A. '67) discusses the continuity of government: ensuring that the government will function in the event of a catastrophic terrorist attack in Washington, D.C.

By Richard Broderick | Photo collage by Kay Chernush



**T**he smoke hadn't cleared from the rubble at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center when Norm Ornstein (B.A. '67) turned his fertile mind to a disastrous series of "what ifs" triggered by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

What if Flight 93—the fourth hijacked plane—hadn't been delayed 15 minutes in its scheduled departure from Newark that fateful morning? What if the delay hadn't allowed those passengers to learn about the earlier hijackings and given them time to thwart the terrorists' intent to pilot the aircraft into the White House or the U.S. Capitol dome? What if, in the ensuing crash, hundreds of U.S. senators and representatives had been killed or incapacitated? What if terrorists smuggled a nuclear weapon into a presidential inauguration, killing most of the officers of the executive and judicial branches of the federal government? Who would rise—and how—to lead the nation in the chaotic times that followed?

As a student of government, Ornstein—resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research and one of the most respected analysts of U.S. political institutions in the country—knew that issues of succession are hardly settled law. Among other dire possibilities, he could foresee a moment when, after the above-mentioned nuclear explosion, a half-dozen surviving members of the House of Representative might declare themselves a quorum, elect a new Speaker of the House, who would then automatically become president—and be in a position to appoint a whole new U.S. Supreme Court.

Out of these nightmarish scenarios, Ornstein immediately issued a ringing call to action in the column he writes for *Roll Call*, the ultimate insider government publication, and began working to form a blue-ribbon commission to look into possible solutions. The Continuity of Government Commission,

created largely because of Ornstein's efforts, is composed of a who's who of American politics, including such notables as Newt Gingrich, Donna Shalala, Kweisi Mfume, and Leon Panetta. In spring 2003, the commission issued its first report, which called for a brief constitutional amendment delegating to Congress the power to redress the issue of succession. The commission is now working on reports covering the executive and judicial arms of the federal government.

Born in 1948, Ornstein spent his early years in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, before moving with his family to the Twin Cities. After his parents moved to Canada, he returned to the Twin Cities to attend the University of Minnesota, where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science. In addition to his column in *Roll Call*, Ornstein is a regular contributor to numerous other publications, including *USA Today*,

where he is on the board of contributors, and has served as an election analyst for both CBS News and cable television's Comedy Central. He is the founder and director of the Campaign Finance Reform Group and was instrumental in refining the McCain-Feingold bill, making it possible for this landmark legislation to withstand its recent Supreme Court review. He is also currently a Distinguished Visiting Fellow with the Humphrey Institute's Center for the Study of Politics.

**Q: The Continuity of Government Commission is calling for a constitutional amendment to address the issue of congressional succession—and will do the same in its reports on the presidency and the Supreme Court. Is something radically wrong with the current rules governing succession?**

**A:** Although we might never have been jogged into thinking we had a problem if it weren't for 9/11, it's clear that throughout the history of the American republic we've gone through gaps in time when there's been a real lack of governing continuity and it's often taken a crisis to move us enough to try to fix them.

Take just one example: Woodrow Wilson ended up comatose for many months at the end of his presidency. We know now from ample documentation that during this period his wife ran the country because there was nothing in the constitution to deal with presidential incapacitation. We didn't get around to fixing that problem until the 26th amendment was ratified following the Kennedy assassination.

At other times following presidential assassinations or when a president has died in office of natural causes, we've gone through periods when, because the vice president has succeeded the president, we had no vice president in office. The fact is, we don't

► **I thought the biggest problem we'd face would be overcoming inertia and the same kind of reluctance people feel about writing a will—coming to grips with your own mortality. I've been taken aback by the strong opposition we've faced from some members of Congress.**

have a real history of doing things to rectify these kinds of problems quickly or with much forethought. What we've ended up with now is a series of holes in the constitution and succession laws that weren't necessarily going to be apparent to the framers of the constitution or their successors until the age of terrorism suddenly made them apparent.

Now, during the Cold War we did recognize that there was a threat to the continuity of Congress and the presidency, but this was focused on the possibility of a nuclear attack resulting from our confrontation with the Soviet Union. In response to that threat we created a secret underground bunker for Congress located about a two-hour drive south of Washington. For security reasons, most members of Congress didn't even know the bunker existed.

The thesis behind this bunker was clear. In the case of a nuclear attack, we'd have between a half-hour and an hour to evacuate members of Congress and move most of them to safety. At the same time, we created a series of underground bunkers for the president and the cabinet. We also initiated a fail-safe plan, in which the vice president or some senior cabinet member does not attend events like the State of the Union address.

But what 9/11 told us was that, one, we live in a world where mass destruction or incapacitation of people can take place without any notice and, two, the weapons potentially available to terrorists could take out the better part of a city.

**Q: How long after 9/11 did it take before these problems became apparent to you?**

**A:** When it turned out that the fourth plane was indeed involved in a terrorist attack and my gut instinct told me that it might be headed for the Capitol dome, several things went through my head that very morning. In rapid succession it came to me that we had no plan in place to fill Congress if it dropped below a quorum because of deaths or because you had a lot of senators and representatives in burn units or receiving care because they'd been exposed to anthrax spores. Later on I began to focus on the gaps in the laws of succession as they relate to the White House and Supreme Court.

**Q: How were the commission's co-chairs—Alan Simpson, former Republican senator from Wyoming and minority whip, and Lloyd Cutler, who served as counsel to presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton—chosen?**

**A:** We wanted to choose people with influence and prestige who covered the political and ideological waterfront, not just people whose conclusions on this issue we knew in advance. Tom Mann of the Brookings Institution sat down with John Fortier, my colleague at the American Enterprise Institute and me, and we made up lists. Most of the kinds of people you'd want for this kind of thing are way overextended. Once we settled on Simpson and Cutler it was easy. Cutler had actually contacted me after my initial article in *Roll Call* and asked, "What can we do?" He and I sat

down to brainstorm a blue-ribbon commission. And Simpson I'd come to know during his time in the Senate as a thoughtful institutionalist. Once we had the two of them, it just took several calls to enlist the other [commission] members.

**Q: Was there initial agreement about proposing a constitutional amendment or did that take some discussion?**

**A:** When we first started out, a lot of members were skeptical of a constitutional amendment. But by the time we went through a series of hearings and heard some testimony and began working through some options, everybody came around to the inescapable conclusion that there were only a couple of options. One, hope you never face a terrorist attack on government. Two, create a mechanism for an emergency appointment process for both houses of Congress or we potentially end up with a major problem.

Once we came to that conclusion we were left with the task of determining what kind of amendment we would propose. One with less detail could leave open the possibility of manipulation by politicians, but more detail would clutter the constitution and potentially create other problems simply because it isn't possible to anticipate every contingency.

The last thing you want to do is put a lot of detail into a constitutional amendment, find out after its passage that parts of it don't work, and find yourself in a situation where the only way you can fix the problem is to pass another amendment. We con-

cluded that the best way to deal with this was to write a brief amendment delegating the power to address the succession problem to Congress while also coming up with concrete proposals ready to go if and when an amendment is passed (see page 28). Part of the reason we opted for this approach is because it parallels the path chosen by the framers of the constitution who delegated the question of presidential succession to Congress.

► **The war of ideas is an integral part of the political wars, and coming up with ideas is very much a part of political struggle. Here, as in Europe, most people who are public intellectuals have very strong ideological and political views. I try as best I can to avoid this.**

**Q: The commission includes people from a wide ideological range. How did you manage to reach consensus?**

**A:** It was actually much easier than I expected. I thought we'd have a clear majority but not unanimity. It wasn't easy to get that unanimity but in the end I was pleasantly surprised, even a little stunned, that everybody went along.

At the same time that probably made me feel more comfortable than it should have about getting consensus in Congress. I thought the biggest problem we'd face would be overcoming inertia and the same kind of reluctance people feel about writing a will—coming to grips with your own mortality. I've been taken aback by the strong opposition we've faced from some members of Congress.

My initial frustration with Congress came after my first article about the issue in *Roll Call* when it took months and months for it to set up its own working group. Still, I thought once the issue got rolling we'd get some leadership from the Speaker [of the House, Dennis Hastert (R-Illinois)], but I was just stunned and disappointed that Speaker Hastert—who likes to call himself an institutionalist and who has described himself sitting in his office on 9/11 and seeing smoke rise from the Pentagon and thinking, "There but for the grace of God..."—did nothing, didn't act, didn't try to delegate the issue and for two years basically sidestepped the whole question.

The other big disappointment is David Dreier [R-California], chair of the House Rules Committee. I've worked with him for 25 years on reform issues. He's a very thoughtful guy, but he has been a vociferous opponent on this on the grounds that the House should be an elected body. Period. But I thought once they saw that the choice was between something like this [a constitutional amendment] and having no Congress—between this and martial law—they would change their thinking. But that hasn't happened.

At the same time, people on both sides of the aisle in the House have stepped up to the plate, and we are getting real movement in the Senate on this and also on presidential succession from people like Trent Lott [R-Mississippi] and Chris Dodd [D-Connecticut], so there is good news there. But it's hard to get an amendment going if you have a Speaker who isn't engaged.



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## Political Will

### Planning for the emergency succession of U.S. representatives and senators, in the event that large numbers are killed in a terrorist attack.

The first report of the Continuity of Government Commission—aimed at preserving Congress in the event of a catastrophic terrorist attack on the nation's capitol—recommends a constitutional amendment and makes succession proposals. The U.S. Constitution states that vacant House seats are to be filled by special election. But those elections historically don't take place until between two and nine months after a seat is vacated—much too long if a large number of House members are killed in an attack. In the Senate, vacant seats are temporarily filled by gubernatorial appointment, as governed by the Seventeenth Amendment.

The commission determined that the only way to quickly fill mass vacancies in the House and Senate while ensuring a balance of power and representation is with a constitutional amendment. The recommended amendment is simple. It would give Congress the power to provide by legislation for the appointment of temporary replacements to fill vacant seats in the House of Representatives after a catastrophic attack and to temporarily fill seats in the House and Senate held by members who have become incapacitated.

The commission recommends that such an amendment adhere to several principles, including that temporary replacements be made immediately and that the appointments be made by governors or selected from a succession list drawn up in advance by the member who holds the seat. In addition, the commission suggests Congress consider additional measures that do not involve a constitutional amendment. These include changing congressional rules so that Congress could effectively reconvene in a new meeting place and without chamber leaders if they are killed or incapacitated; revising the practices on inauguration day, such as keeping several designated members away from the ceremony; and considering ways to confirm noncontroversial cabinet appointments of a new president almost immediately following his or her swearing in to ensure that the line of succession is preserved.

The commission makes one final recommendation—that the states speedily ratify such an amendment, giving them two years to do so instead of the traditional seven.

"It is our hope that such an emergency provision of the Constitution will never be utilized, but it is our best insurance against the chaotic aftermath of an attack," the report concludes. "It serves as a warning to those who would seek to topple the United States that our institutions are stronger than those who would try to destroy them."



local newspapers and watch all the local news and, during campaign season, I will spend time in my room flipping through the TV channels reviewing political ads. Travel really does give you perspective. In Washington you can have a dispute going on over some cabinet member or a bill that people talk about constantly but then you go around the country and realize that it isn't even on people's radar.

**Q: You seem to be an American version of a public intellectual, a role that, in Europe, has traditionally been filled by thinkers on the outside of the political system. In the United States, on the other hand, there is a marked overlap between public intellectuals, political institutions, and the national media—look at Richard Perle, a fellow resident scholar at AEI, a frequent guest commentator on TV, and a close adviser to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, among other high-ranking officials. Would you comment on this?**

**A:** It is different here than in Europe, partly because of TV and the rise of think tanks, many of which aren't really think tanks at all but lobbying organizations. Now we are seeing Europe fall in behind us, and I expect that in 10 or 15 years we will see the same kind of thing on the Continent as a lot more think tanks spring up there as well. And there will be much more of a revolving door between government and think tanks. What's clear is that the war of ideas is an integral part of the political wars, and coming up with ideas is very much a part of political struggle.

Here, as in Europe, most people who are public intellectuals have very strong ideological and political views. I try as best I can to avoid this. Mostly you see those kinds of things on cable TV shows with people shouting at each other. I did *Crossfire* a couple of times and *Hannity & Colmes* once. But generally I don't do that stuff.

As a result, folks like Richard Perle have lots of access to policy makers, but I do, too—and maybe to a broader bipartisan group of policymakers, because they don't see me as having an axe to grind. That makes it easier for me. I think it's why when the McCain-Feingold bill foundered [Senator] Olympia Snowe [R-Maine] called me up and asked me to work out refinements to the law that just passed muster with the Supreme Court.

**Q: What was it in your formative years that pointed you in the direction you've taken?**

**A:** When I came to the University I was really inspired by one of my political science professors, Gene Eidenberg. He'd been a Congressional Fellow, and when he told us about that, I decided that was something I wanted to do too. Which I did, in the 1970s, working with Don Fraser (B.A. '44, J.D. '48) and other people in Congress. It was a great experience.

But even before that, my maternal grandfather, Rubin Latz, was a major figure in the labor movement in Minneapolis and was part of Hubert Humphrey's Kitchen Cabinet that persuaded him to run for mayor and then later for the Senate. My grandfather died before I was born, but I grew up hearing about Humphrey (B.A. '39) and even got to know him a little, so I guess you could say that an interest in politics runs in my family. ■

*Richard Broderick is a St. Paul freelance writer. For more information on the Continuity of Government Commission and its first report, visit [www.continuityofgovernment.org](http://www.continuityofgovernment.org).*

**Q: I'd like to switch topics from the political to the personal. It's a long way from Grand Rapids to the D.C. Beltway. What, if anything, do you do to maintain an "outside the Beltway" perspective?**

**A:** I travel a lot, giving speeches, attending conferences, visiting campuses. I have found this extremely valuable for me. I have a kind of M.O. I use when I go out on the road, which is: I read all the

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# “What is our war job?”

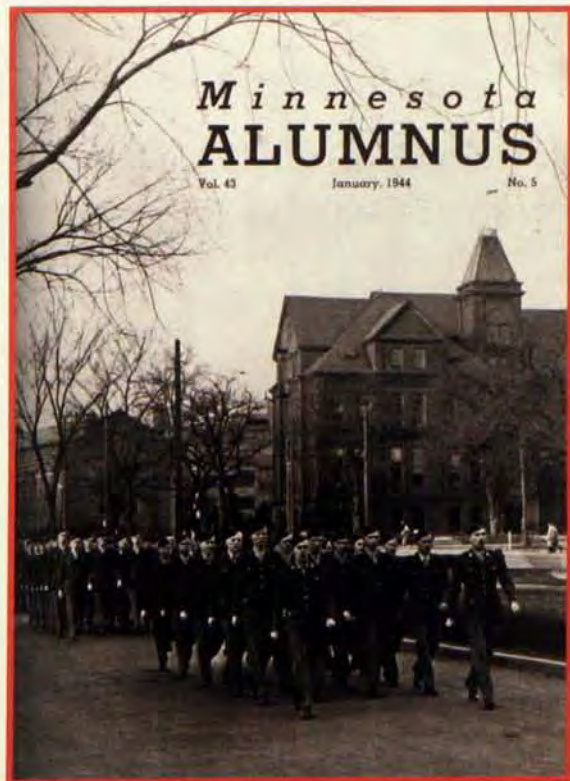
To mark the 100th anniversary year of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, *Minnesota* presents a series of articles spanning the alumni association's rich history, including a look at its role during World War II.

BY TIM BRADY

The events of December 7, 1941, changed lives everywhere. When Japanese forces swept down upon Pearl Harbor, all remnants of the nation's isolation ended. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was soon speaking before Congress of “a day that will live in infamy,” and the United States was suddenly and irrevocably at war.

Just what being at war would mean to Americans, however, would take time to become apparent; and immediately after the declaration of war, there were more questions than answers about what should be done and how lives were about to be changed by war.

Like many other organizations, the University of Minnesota's General Alumni Association (GAA) was casting about for an appropriate role. Less than two months after Pearl Harbor, Ben Palmer ('11, '13), the president of the alumni association, began to define what purpose the GAA would serve in the coming conflict. “What is our war job?” he asked rhetorically of alumni in an editorial in *The Minnesota Alumni Weekly* (January 24, 1942). “In this war, as never before, universities are recognized as mighty arsenals of ideas, trained personnel and research laboratories staffed by specialists in all fields.” The U of M would be a national leader in this role, and as such, Palmer wrote, “The University is now laboring under a dual responsibility. While making available its trained personnel and its facilities to the program of national war effort it must also maintain, as completely as possible, its normal educational function and its special services to the state.”



< The January 1944 cover of the *Minnesota Alumnus* shows University students in service training units marching across campus between classes, barracks, and mess halls.



**Deaths in Service**

*Ann Dingle Woodward* '43Ed, American Red Cross staff assistant, was killed April 20 in a navy plane crash at Perth, West Australia, as she and four other Red Cross staff assistants started on a mission to the Southwest Pacific war zone. Before joining the Red Cross in January, 1944, Miss Woodward was recreational director for Northwest Airlines. She formerly taught physical education at Macalester College, St. Paul. Impressive funeral rites were given in Perth by Australian Red Cross leaders and hundreds of citizens attended. Miss Woodward is the second Minnesota alumna to die in the service of her country. Lt. Mildred Goldish '33N, died in June, 1943, at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, while in army nurses corps training.

Lt. *Harold E. Beckman*, Institute 1939-41, previously reported missing in a Flying Fortress over the Baltic Sea on April 11, 1944, now is presumed dead.

Pfc. *Peter H. Bellson*, Education 1943, was killed December 18 in Germany and was buried in France. He first joined the engineering corps from which he was sent to the army special training course at Clemson University, North Carolina. On the



Lt. Robert D. Irwin, Institute 1946-41, Arts 1941-42, was killed February 28 while piloting a Marauder bomber over France.

G. *Grisen*, Arts 1943-44, were held April 28 in Minneapolis. Pfc. *Grisen* was killed in action in France on February 6. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Grisen (Adele W. Grant '21Ex), live at 1205 Monroe Street N. E., Minneapolis.

Pvt. *Wallace L. Hansen*, General 1942-43, was killed in action April 7 in Germany. He had been overseas four months. His brother, Pvt. Ray R. Hansen, was wounded in a tank battle on Okinawa within one day of

mission assigned to the recognition of buildings of special architectural merit. He stayed near the front with commanding officers and advised about buildings to bombard and which to preserve. He also supervised the most effective way to destroy buildings.

Lt. *Robert J. Jacobi* '42Ed, was killed in action March 15 in Germany. He participated in campaigns in Africa, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany. On December 17, 1944, he was wounded in France and on his recovery rejoined his anti-aircraft company as they moved into Germany. He enlisted in June, 1942, and went overseas that October. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Jacobi, have received his Purple Heart award given for wounds received in France.

Lt. *Donald C. Johnson*, General 1939-40, who was with the artillery unit which fired the first shell on continental Europe from Sicily, was killed in Italy on March 21. Lt. Johnson was a veteran of more than 500 days of combat action in Italy, 306 of which were consecutive. He saw action at Salerno, Cassino and the Po Valley. He entered service in March, 1941, and went overseas two years ago. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Johnson, live in Princeton, Minnesota.

Under the circumstances, the alumni association needed to continue doing the things it did well, said Palmer. It needed "to mobilize alumni and alumni opinion for effective action in the best interests of the University." Further, it should "make a contribution to the total war effort through a greater alertness to the problems and needs of the institution and assure the administration of our unified interest and support."

In the next few editions of the *Weekly*, the alumni association began to show that support by highlighting what the University was doing to aid the war effort. A special edition of the magazine published in May 1942 described research efforts, pilot training and ROTC programs, the newly instituted Key Center of War Information and Training at the U, and a War Conservation Program. The alumni magazine also offered its pages to University President Walter C. Coffey, who began writing a regular column on war efforts and programs at the University. Alumni Day in June of that first year of war was given over to "acquainting [alumni] with the current problems of the institution" and reminding them that "opportunities for service to the University call for no great sacrifice on the part of the individual alumnus."

As things turned out, however, the alumni association would play a critical role in one particular area, where a pressing need soon emerged.

"I am writing to inquire if the alumni office is taking any systematic steps to gather the names of former students and graduates who may have died in service," wrote Malcolm Willey, dean of the University, to E.B. Pierce, executive secretary of the GAA, on August 31, 1942. Edmund Williamson, dean of students, was in the process of creating a record file of enrolled students who were casualties of the war, Willey informed Pierce. Similarly, "President Coffey would like to know the names of former students and alumni who have died

< The alumni journal regularly published "Minnesota's Roll of Honor," a column listing the names of the war dead. By February 1946, the *Minnesota Alumnus* had recorded 619 University students and alumni who had died while serving in the armed forces during World War II.

in order that he may write their families."

It was a sensitive but crucial matter. Every day, more University students, faculty, and alumni were enlisting in the armed services. By the end of the 1942 school year, the University estimated that 620 students had left campus to join the Army and Navy and untold numbers of alumni had also joined the armed services. They were traveling to camps and bases all over the world. More ominously, by the time of the May 23 cap and gown convocation, 15 former students of the University had already been killed during the war, including two victims at Pearl Harbor, Ensigns Ira Weil Jeffery ('39) and Walter Willis (class of '39). Shouldn't someone be keeping track of the service records of U of M students and alumni?

As it turned out, the alumni office was already on top of things. In fact, it had gone beyond simply compiling a list of the casualties of war and had begun a card file with approximately 2,000 entries, detailing the service record of all the U alumni it could locate. "Our sources of information are many and varied," Pierce wrote to Willey. "Deans' offices, newspapers, alumni themselves, and a special service set up by the American Alumni Council which gives us the camp location of Minnesota men at the time of entering service, but does not follow them through their changes." Notice of casualties were printed in the *Weekly*, as was an ever-expanding section on "Minnesotans in the Armed Forces."

This was only the start of a long labor. For the next three and a half years, the alumni office and the *Alumni Weekly* (which would soon become a monthly, published under the name the *Minnesota Alumnus*) were dedicated to the task of collecting and disseminating an ever-increasing mountain of information from and for its alumni members. From every corner of the globe came word of the men and women of the University of Minnesota who were serving the nation. And this information—sometimes sensitive; sometimes joyful; too-often

**Minnesotans in Uniform**

Lt. Col. *George W. Peterson* '29A, has been named commanding officer at Rosecrans Field, training base of the ferrying division, air transport command, near St. Joseph, Missouri. Previously he was commanding officer at the ferrying division base at Brownsville, Texas.

Lt. Comm. *Norman L. Mistachkin* '31MA, is serving in the dispensary of the naval air technical training corps near Memphis, Tennessee. He has served in several places in the South Pacific. Present address: Co. N.A.T.T.C., Memphis 15, Tennessee.

Lt. (j.g.) *Richard Carlson* '33A, '34MA, is assigned to writing, producing and directing of training films for the navy. He is still under contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures and will return to acting after the war.

Lt. *John W. Harty* '33E, has been in the South Pacific area for seven months. Before entering service in 1943, he was county engineer of Grand Forks county, North Dakota.

Lt. *Kenneth D. Ruble* '33Ex, former reporter and columnist on the Minneapolis Tribune and the Minneapolis Daily Times, is ordnance officer of his marine squadron overseas. His brother, Major Earl H. Ruble '33ChemE, '37MS, is in charge of the troop movements division of G4.



Lt. Rudy Gaitzer '41, Navy pilot in former Gyrfalcon ballcock, was credited recently with assists in the sinking two Japanese submarines near I. Hukaya, Ialanda. He made the 8th bombing run over the submarine as other pilots followed to finish the job.

Lt. *Clarence T. Johnson* '38Chem of Hibbing, Minnesota, is assistant chief with an infantry division of the First Army.

Lt. *Philip Petersen* '38Ex, of 3 Humboldt Avenue North, Minoes, Minn., has been in service nearly 1 1/2 years. He served with the combat warfare division in Africa, Sicily and Italy. He now is in South France and recently had a rec-

< A column titled "Minnesotans in Uniform" noted recent enlistments, stationings and transfers of University students and alumni in the armed services.

## News of Missing Pilot

It was a pleasure to receive the following letter with its message from Mrs. Marvin D. Sacks (Florence Klingberg), of Minneapolis, Minnesota, whose husband, Lt. Marvin D. Sacks '45A, was reported as missing in action in the October issue of the *Alumnus*.

I noticed in your October issue of the *MINNESOTA ALUMNIUS* a picture of my husband, and also the item saying that he was missing in



LT. MARVIN D. SACKS '45

the European area. I thought perhaps you might like to know that he has been reported a prisoner of war of Germany as of August 17, 1944.

Marvin was a copilot on a B-24 Liberator and went overseas in May, 1944. Their plane was shot down over Germany on July 12, 1944, while they were participating in their fifth mission over enemy territory. Through the Red Cross we heard that he was a prisoner. On October 5, 1944, he broadcast over short waves from Berlin from his prison camp. This, of course, was an enemy propaganda broadcast.

Marvin enjoyed his work at the University very much and perhaps after the war will return and finish his course. I want to thank you very much for the interest shown in your part in keeping track of so many former students as possible. May the war soon be over, so the young men and women may again return to their families, positions and schools, and to a normal American life.

## Alumni Rescued from Enemy Prisons

AT THE news of the release of prisoners at Santo Tomas prison camp in the Philippines came word that many former Minnesotans were among the rescued. Dr. Dan C. Berley '36MD, former Minneapolis doctor, was among the 5,000 liberated there. He owned a plantation in the Philippines and made his home in the islands for 30 years. A son is serving in the Navy. Others released there include Harry N. Splet '19A, his wife and daughter who were captured in Manila. Two other children still are unaccounted for. Doris F. Carlson '31MEd, Miss Carlson went to Peking, China, in 1940 to study the Chinese language preparatory to doing missionary work. Next year the school was moved to Baguio in the Philippines and she was captured there when the islands fell. Thomas C. Erickson '37AEng, He was Manila representative of Pan-American Airways. Mrs. Elizabeth H. Birch '34B) lives in Alameda, California. Mrs. Philip K. Strong, the former Irene J. Kobust '36N; '36Ed, and her four-year-old son, Theodore, are believed to be released at Santo Tomas also. Her husband, a former mining engineer in Cuba, was interned as a soldier on Corregidor.

Also liberated in the Philippines are Mrs. George Hazelwood and her daughter, Mary Elaine. Another daughter, Betty '45E, now Mrs. Edward How, lives in Richmond, California. Lt. George W. Hazelwood '23Minom, died on Corregidor of malaria. Before joining the Army, Lt. Hazelwood was a mining engineer at Baguio. Ruth E. Gilbertson '37-38Eg, missionary in China for 16 years, was released at Baguio. Just after Pearl Harbor she was evacuated by American troops, first to Hongkong, then to the Philippines where she was captured. Mrs. Andrew S. Mackenzie (Josephine Hamilton '25Ed), her husband and their two children, Mary E. and Donald, 3½, have been liberated from Bilibid prison. Mrs. Mackenzie met her British husband on a trip to the Philippines where he was employed as an accountant with a mining firm. Mrs. Mackenzie's parents live in St. Paul.

Major Joseph F. Peters '34Md, of Orono, Minnesota, regular Army doctor in the Philippines since 1939, was released. He was captured on Batavia in April, 1942. His wife and two children were with him until the summer of 1941 when they returned to the States. Lt. James W. Daley '40E, who was rescued from a Luzon prison camp, is in St. Paul with his parents. He entered service in July, 1940, and was captured at the fall of Batavia.

In quite another theater of war other Minnesotans were released from prison camps also. This time by the Russian armies driving westward. Lt. Warren Nord '39Ag, taken captive in Belgium, and Lt. Hy S. Schmeissner '38E, were rescued from a German prison camp in Poland.

## Since Pearl Harbor

Since December 7, 1941, the following graduates and former students of the University of Minnesota have died while serving in the armed forces of the nation. The total is 315.

1900—Col. R. S. Kent Nelson.  
1911—Brig. Gen. Cecylie Wash.  
1919—David H. Grimes.  
1926—Lt. Karl P. Buevill.  
1921—Lt. James Melton.  
1924—Lt. John B. Daly. Lt. C. Milford Olson.  
1928—Pvt. Sheldon E. Tronstad.  
1938—Hajjadar Emil Feivinsid '33MA, A. Robert Heller.  
1931—Lt. (j.g.) Irwin B. Malakowsky.  
1932—Pvt. Russell E. Johnson '36MA, Burton S. James. Lt. Kenneth Simpson.  
1933—Sgt. Maynard O. Enevold. Lt. Mildred Goldish. Lt. Stanley A. Johnson.  
1934—Lt. Jack Andren, Capt. Ferris Kravon, Lt. George L. Ludolph, Frederic Meyer, Lt. Thomas M. Brown, Lt. Jack L. Schuch, Pvt. Melvin M. Swick.  
1935—Major Frank C. Andrus, Lt. Douglas Carroll Dahlberg, Lt. Milo B. Evans, Lt. Corwin B. Fin, Lt. (j.g.) Thomas B. McIntyre, Lt. Wil-

lard V. Olshaus, T/Sgt. Gilbert W. O'Halloran, Gerald M. Simons, Lt. Frank L. Thorndike, Jr., Cpl. Elford E. Wolf.

1936—Lt. Barrett L. Baker, Sgt. William Crawhall, Lt. Donald R. Dakgren, Lt. John H. Richardson, Lt. Robert D. Stevens, Lt. Stuart Swanson, Lt. Kay Todd, Jr., Lt. John A. Wells.

1937—Lt. Robert L. Goudy, Sgt. Maynard C. Johnson, Lt. Emory M. Nowell, Capt. James A. Swabodsky, Maj. Marvin E. Walcott.

1938—Capt. Hollister Boudy, Lt. Robert D. Conner, T/Sgt. Richard D. Conklin, Cpl. Lawrence Gregg, Lt. George M. Fiedle, Pfc. Donald L. Hoeb, William S. Hahn, Earl V. Johnson, Lt. Edward Kafka, Pfc. Daniel O'Grady, Lt. Charles O'Grady, A/C. James A. Peters, Maj. James E. Tucker, Lt. Edwin J. White, Ensign William P. West.

1939—Lt. Kenneth M. Anderson, Ensign Donald W. Bergeson, Sgt. Ver-

< The alumni magazine won an award of excellence from the American Alumni Council in 1944 for its work reporting the war as experienced by the University and its graduates.

heartbreaking—was dutifully recorded by a newly created branch of the Alumni Records Office at the GAA, the Alumni War Records Office, and then published in the *Alumnus* to be sent out to grateful readers of the magazine.

The logistics of collecting stories of the whereabouts and well-being of thousands of Minnesotans in a world war were time-consuming and fraught with difficulties. Copies of each issue of the magazine were sent to the libraries and reading rooms of service camps and stations across the United States. Subscribers had their copies of the magazine delivered through armed services mail to wherever they were stationed. Each month, the magazine printed pleas for its readers to send information, and by early 1943, the magazine included a handy preprinted form that service people could clip and return to the Alumni War Records Office. This would provide the name, rank, U of M class, service address, and any additional information the writer might want to supply.

"Never before have so many Minnesota alumni moved so far, so fast and so often," reported the *Alumnus* in September 1943. "And never before have they written so many letters to the editor. This has helped us to keep track of their whereabouts and their activities but we need also the assistance of relatives and friends in completing our service records of alumni in uniform. The number of alumni in the armed forces or in related war work must now be near the 10,000 mark . . . we are anxious to have news of assignments, training, promotions, awards and other information in these permanent University records."

Note the increase of 8,000 service men and women in one year's time. That number would continue to climb as the war progressed. Coverage of the doings of these U of M grads began to dominate the pages of the magazine. "Minnesotans in Uniform" featured notices of recent enlistments, stationings, and transfers. A column called "Letters from Here and There" contained missives from all over the world.

"Received the June *Minnesota Alumnus* here yesterday (August 5, 1943) which I always read with interest," wrote Colonel Abner Zehm (M.D. '28) from Sicily, where he was serving as a surgeon with an armored division. "After a brief Mediterranean cruise, I

**THE LOGISTICS OF COLLECTING STORIES OF THE WHEREABOUTS AND WELL-BEING OF THOUSANDS OF MINNESOTANS IN A WORLD WAR WERE TIME-CONSUMING AND FRAUGHT WITH DIFFICULTIES. COPIES OF EACH ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE WERE SENT TO THE LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS OF SERVICE CAMPS AND STATIONS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.**

landed in the Gela section of Sicily on July 10, the day of our invasion of the island. I can assure you the cruise was not exactly a pleasure trip. . . ."

Lieutenant Ralph Britigan wrote from New Guinea in that same issue of the magazine: "I have enjoyed very much the issues of the *Alumni Weekly* and now the *Minnesota Alumnus* that I have received to date. . . . I enjoy the different photographs of the campus and the sections telling of alumni in service and in civilian life and their whereabouts and what they are doing. Would enjoy very much hearing from any Minnesota alumni situated in this part of the world."

There was chatty news in the February 1944 edition of the magazine about a joint gathering of U of M and Notre Dame alumni in London: "So pleasant was the occasion that it was suggested that the Minnesota and Notre Dame alumni get together again and there was a feeling that an ideal place for the next meeting would be Berlin."

There were important clarifications made in the magazine as well. Florence Sacks, the wife of Lieutenant Marvin D. Sacks ('45), wrote in December 1944: "I noticed in your October issue of the *Minnesota Alumnus* a picture of my husband, and also the item saying he was missing in the European area. I thought perhaps you might like to know that he has been reported a prisoner of war of Germany as of August 17, 1944. . . ."

The most heart-rending news came in a monthly column called "Minnesota's Roll of Honor." Here were published the names of the war dead, as they arrived at the Alumni War Records Office. Each listing would typically give the name, class, rank, and branch of service of the victim; describe the action in which he was killed;

and list a home address and the names of parents in Minnesota.

Occasionally, the magazine would offer more details. "With one brother killed in service and another a prisoner of war in Japan, Sgt. Robert H. Brain [class of '42], is being returned to the United States for permanent duty. . . . Sgt. Brain has been overseas 32 months and his latest assignment has been an air service unit in Rome. Lt. Stanley Brain [class of '40], Liberator bomber was killed January 16 [1945] at Harlingen, Texas. Cpl. Philip S. Brain (B.A. '39), was taken prisoner at the fall of Bataan. For a time he was interned at Luzon, but since has been transferred to Tokyo."

These were the sons of Philip Brain Sr., the University tennis coach and long a friend of the alumni association. Phil Brain had filmed Golden Gopher football games through the 1930s and put together the first highlight reels for viewing. These hugely popular movies were presented at alumni gatherings throughout the state.

The magazine used more photographs in its war issues than it ever had before. There were many service portraits: handsome men and women, smiling beneath their military caps; some caught forever young on the pages of the "Roll of Honor."

There were 15 war dead listed at the alumni office in May 1942. By June 1944, that number had jumped to 193. In the last year of the war, the numbers rose dramatically. In December, the total was listed as 315. It was 520 in June 1945; 568 in December 1945; and, finally, 619 listed in the February 1946 edition of the *Alumnus*.

In all, the Alumni War Records Office kept more than 12,000

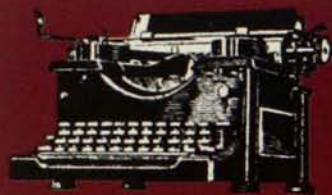
**THE MAGAZINE USED MORE PHOTOGRAPHS IN ITS WAR ISSUES THAN IT EVER HAD BEFORE. THERE WERE MANY SERVICE PORTRAITS: HANDSOME MEN AND WOMEN, SMILING BENEATH THEIR MILITARY CAPS; SOME CAUGHT FOREVER YOUNG ON THE PAGES OF THE "ROLL OF HONOR."**

individual records of Minnesotans serving in the armed forces during World War II. The magazine was sent all over the world, keeping homesick and weary U of M military personnel apprised of each other and the doings on campus. For all its good work reporting the war as it was experienced by the University of Minnesota and its graduates, the *Minnesota Alumnus* won a national "award of excellence" from the American Alumni Council in 1944.

"On behalf of my husband, Capt. Tobe S. Eberley (M.D. '42), who is in England with the Army air forces," wrote Marjorie Eberley to the magazine in June 1944, "I should like to tell you how much we appreciate reading the *Minnesota Alumnus*. I send each copy to him and he, together with several other Minnesotans, reads it from cover to cover. I'm sure the memories of happy days at Minnesota are greatly stimulated by your fine magazine."

As it turned out, the greatest service performed by the alumni association during the war was just letting University graduates know that the home fires were still burning. ■

*Tim Brady is a St. Paul freelance writer.*



## Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest

Our sixth-annual fiction contest is open to all U of M alumni.

### How to enter:

- Submit a double-spaced, typed manuscript, 2,500 words or fewer. Submissions must not have been previously published. Past winners of this contest must wait two years before entering again.
- Include a cover sheet that bears your name, year of graduation (or years of attending the University), phone number, address, story title, and word count of the manuscript. 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 your manuscript returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Manuscripts whose envelopes do not bear proper postage will not be returned.

The winner will receive a cash prize, and the winning story will be published in the March–April 2005 issue of *Minnesota* magazine.

Send submissions by December 6, 2004, to:

Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest, U of M Alumni Association, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040. No phone calls, please.

# PEELING POPPLE



I begged Sammy to go faster, though his '48 Chevy was already hurtling down the graveled road like a jet, trailing a dusty rooster tail a quarter-mile long. His casual, one-handed hold on the steering knob turned to a death grip when the front wheel caught a soft sand shoulder, nearly dragging us into the ditch. With a whoop, he floored the gas and deftly manipulated the knob until the car weaved back into the fat of the road.

The Chevy didn't have a muffler and the engine knocked savagely; Sammy was forever scrimping on store-bought gas, scrounging whatever volatiles he found lying around. We ignored the racket and continued to swap lies about who could peel the most sticks, who was the strongest, the best athlete, better shot, fisherman, or trapper. We jabbered without letup until reaching the top of Shofner Hill, a tall sugar-sand moraine overlooking our logging camp.

At that moment, we could have been mistaken for convicts getting their first glimpse at the Devil's Island penal colony. It was as if the Almighty had thrown a switch and the world suddenly dimmed. Stories were bit off in mid-sentence, lips closed into thin lines, thoughts evaporated into the ether.

Sammy switched off the Chevy's ignition key at the hill's apex; a procedure he was convinced saved a cup of fuel per day. For an instant, the auto hung motionless on the mount, trapped in a tug-of-war between drag and momentum. Imperceptibly at first, then with gathering assurance, Newtonian laws prevailed. The dead machine nosed over the hill and barreled down the slope like a kamikaze soap box racer, swerving dangerously into a small meadow at the bottom before coasting to a stop.



Morosely silent, we climbed out of the car and trudged to the trunk for our gear. The tall timothy grass was heavy with dew and our boots and blue jean cuffs turned black-wet after just a few steps. The air hummed with insects but we barely noticed them; road-side bugs were dilettantes compared to the real artists waiting in the deep woods.

Sammy was closest to the trail and took the lead. We followed him Indian-style, while behind us a pickup load of Finns pulled in, yakking away incomprehensibly. Without glancing back at them, we lowered our heads and melted into the forest.

The sawyers were already hard at work—the woods echoed with the sounds of bawling chain saws, shouting men, and the snap-crack of trees as they broke from their stumps and



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crashed to earth. Now and again each saw would calm to a put-put-put while the sawyer walked to the next tree, and then he'd give her the gun again. At least one or two machines were continuously wah-wahhning, a steady melody to the full chorus of two dozen men peeling popple in the woods.

We joined in without ceremony. The first man dropped off at the first tree, the second at the next, and so on. I stopped beside a downed popple and leaned the peeling kit against its stump, pulling back the left sleeve of my flannel shirt to glance at my Timex wristwatch.

It was nine and a half hours until walk-out.

I took a deep breath and, like a dull, plodding ox, gave myself up to the trees.

The object of our labor was the northern aspen, called popples by the men who harvested them for paper and fiberboard mills at Grand Rapids, Cloquet, and International Falls in northern Minnesota. Despised as "weed trees" by the white pine lumberjacks of two generations earlier, the lowly but plentiful poplar had now risen to king of the forest.

My grandfather was a pinery boy and I had always been envious of him. This was not due to romantic notions of majestic conifers, river drives, cook shanty meals, or Paul Bunyan tales, but because his were lumber trees, and the logging was done in the winter.

The forest was a very different place during the arctic months. Trees, shrubs, and brush were but scraggly skeletons sticking up through ice and snow, an agreeable condition yielding a cleaner, firmer woodlands more easily traversed by man, beast, and machinery. Tree sap was frozen and wood submitted willingly to axe and

saw, the cold, crisp air encouraging human endurance. Lumber trees required no peeling, thus the work was more "manly."

Most important, in the winter, there were no bugs.

I stood up from a finished tree and brushed away a mosquito. So far, the popples were cooperating, holding mostly to the sappy, smooth-peeling yellows. A quick calculation determined I had a chance at limbing, measuring, and peeling 180 eight-foot-long sticks. At a nickel a stick that figured to nine dollars—some real money for a change.

I was ruminating over whether to save or spend the dough when another peeler, a new fellow, stumbled past me and commenced working a short distance away. I had to chuckle. The guy was still lugging around his Zenith transistor radio. It was one of the new portable jobs, a reddish, coat pocket-sized item that looked like something a girl would keep in her boudoir. During morning coffee, one of us pointed at the plastic box and called the man a

"fairy." He turned the same color as his radio and stalked off. The old Finns cackled so hard one fell off his log and a couple others nearly choked on their cheese sandwiches.

Although I had laughed along with all the rest, I couldn't help keeping an ear cocked towards the guy's squawk box—anything to keep my mind off the hard work and discomfort. After a time, he finished peeling his tree and Elvis and the "Hound Dog" faded away.

All the entertainment lightened my mood and I decided to take a break. After watering the lilies, I dug a tin of Copenhagen snuff from my jean pocket, slit the seal with a fingernail, and drew out a pinch, wedging it between my gum and cheek. I didn't much care for snooze but couldn't stop using it without the Finns needling me to death. I never let on I only chewed in the woods and usually took just enough to keep a steady dribble at the corner of my mouth.

While leaning against a tree and working the wad, I had myself a proper look around, like some feudal lord taking in his realm. The spring had been uncommonly wet and warm, and the trees were in full bloom; every leaf, bush, and blade of grass appeared to have been hand-colored with its own shade of green Crayola. The mingled fragrances of wild roses, daisies, tiger lilies, honeysuckle, and a hundred other flowers lingered in the air. Sun rays radiated down through the forest canopy in wide golden bands, spotlighting everything they touched. A short distance away a small creek bubbled, still swollen from snow-melt runoff.

A sudden, cooling breeze wafted through the trees, driving the bugs into the grass. I became pleasantly aware it was the first moment since getting out of Sammy's car that something wasn't chewing on me.

As if the gods were further at my pleasure, the outfit's chain saws abruptly quieted. I could hear songbirds twittering in the scrub oaks, busily competing with darting chipmunks and tail-lashing gray squirrels for food and nesting materials. The snowshoe rabbits had turned dark and were hard to see, but I knew they were around, quietly nibbling on tender shoots emerging from the dank soil. Nearby a pair of crows quarreled noisily and overhead, a hawk sailed to and fro, hunting for mice.

I scowled when a puffy cumulus cloud drifted across the sun, killing the breeze. Seizing the chance, a mosquito rose from the grass and drilled me on the cheek. I smashed it with my hand, swearing profoundly. Another bit me on the neck and I screeched like a lunatic.

Crazed by the attack, I spied a large, black beetle sunning itself atop a mushroom. I spat a glob of tobacco juice at it, missed, cursed vehemently, tried to squash the bug with my foot, missed again when it scurried under a log, kicked the log four or five times, hurt my foot—then unleashed a string of oaths worthy of an old-time bullwhacker before finally running out of breath.

Break over.

My next popple was a smooth-barked, thin-limbed yellow, and I settled down. Wielding a hand axe, I started at the butt and one-armed my way up the tree, hacking off branch after branch. Using the hundred-inch measuring pole, I marked the sticks off with notched Vs, grunting with satisfaction at squeezing out an exceptional six pieces.

Starting again at the butt-end, I adzed out a narrow strip of bark along its full length. Returning to the tree's butt, I pulled the peeling iron out of my belt and dropped to my knees. Before beginning, I checked myself for exposed skin, thinking once more of my winter-logging grandfather and what it would be like without the summer insects.

Without them, the hot and muggy days, long hours, poor pay, and hard, dangerous work would be a trifle, ho-hummed away

The man was standing on his tiptoes, peering at the next felled tree as if he were looking over the rim of a canyon.

He glanced burglar-like from side to side, not realizing I was watching. A fresh waterfall of perspiration tumbled into my eyes, momentarily blurring my vision. When I looked back up, he was gone.

with the wave of a hand. Without the bugs, the job could be sneered into submission, reduced to a task no more onerous than sharpening pencils. Without the scourge of winged, female invertebrates and their blood-sucking cousins, the world would be a candle-lit dinner with a beautiful woman, soft music, and the soothing sound of water gurgling from a fountain. With them, it was jackals and hyenas devouring carrion down by the river.

The mosquitoes attacked first, their overhead, droning armadas whining down like German Stukas. White-mottled deerflies and green-headed horseflies preferred flanking maneuvers, relentlessly seeking out gaps between shirt, pants, gloves, and socks

where they could sink their poisoned daggers into soft, blood-rich flesh. Chiggers chewed around the eyes, and only later would puffy lids betray their presence. Wood ticks formed the terrestrial guard, and those left undiscovered had usually bloated up to the size of a quarter by bedtime. Sometimes hydrogen peroxide dousings wouldn't convince the ugly slugs to let go and we had to break them off, leaving their festering beaks still in our hides.

Heavy clothing helped, but was killingly hot. Bug dope was useless, sweating off immediately. Some loggers attempted to brazen their way through, competing with one another as to who could best absorb the torment without flinching. A handful insisted the bugs never bothered them, and those who pulled that fiction off were greatly admired.

I was not one of them.

I grasped the peeling iron with both hands, nestling the blunt end in my right palm. With stinging sweat-salt pouring down my forehead, I slipped the concave-shaped tool under the bark along the adze strip and curled it around the tree's juicy flesh. Stopping midway, I reversed the tool and worked the iron back the opposite direction until a two-foot chunk of bark popped off.

I made my way up the popple—rip-pop, rip-pop, rip-popping away the rolls. The gelatinous sap bled on my canvas gloves so profusely I couldn't hold onto the iron and, periodically, I had to strop the goo away on the grass. Yet the tree yielded to me with such abandon it was nearly pleasurable, and I almost didn't notice another peeler walk by.

It was the radio guy and he was acting peculiar. An inner voice told me to keep an eye on him.

The man was standing on his tiptoes, peering at the next felled tree as if he were looking over the rim of a canyon. He glanced burglar-like from side to side, not realizing I was watching. A



fresh waterfall of perspiration tumbled into my eyes, momentarily blurring my vision. When I looked back up, he was gone.

I sat back on my heels, mouth open, not believing the fellow had just "jumped" a popple.

It was a white, a fat, dry brute with heavy limbs and knotty carbuncles its full length. The more loathsome of them took three times longer to peel than a yellow—if indeed the job could be cleanly done at all. Piecework loggers like me had been known to quit on the spot if the whites ran too heavy. Their presence was so significant, they were responsible for the one unbreakable rule of the woods: A peeler always takes the first tree encountered.

The full dimension of the transgression dawned on me. As the next in line, I would have to skin the rejected monster.

Enraged, I flung my iron to the ground and flew after the criminal, tackling him from behind. We sailed through a clump of alder and splashed into a marshy depression—cursing, punching, scratching, gouging, and biting. Soaked, muddied, bloodied, and sapped by the heat, the fight ended quickly. We were on our knees, panting and snarling like cornered wolverines, when the boss and crew came running up.

With much finger pointing and invective, we pleaded our cases. I was admonished for fighting, but the tree jumper proved as poor a liar as he was a man and was fired on the spot. I snickered in triumph, only to send fresh slivers of pain shooting through my already throbbing nose. I struggled mightily not to show the hurt, and was greatly relieved when the others tired of the fun and drifted back to work. I sleeved my sopping face, retrieved my gear, and shuffled off to the next tree.

I have no memory of how long I stood over that white popple, a specimen even uglier than the tree jumper's. My legs grew rubbery, my head felt light, I became nauseated. I staggered away from the hideous apparition, swaying and snuffling.

Pulling a swamp-smelly handkerchief from my back pocket, I dabbed at the cut on my trembling lower lip, then emptied my nose in the cloth. I heard a humming noise and looked up through a mist. Attracted by the smell of fresh blood, a black cloud of mosquitoes was forming above me.

Still clutching my peeling iron, I pulled back my shirt-sleeve and looked at my Timex. I stared hard at it, blinking rapidly, deter-

mined not to sob, not to act like a 15-year-old kid.

The two hands on the watch face destroyed my adolescent resolve; raindrop-size tears burst from my eyes. My head lolled on my breastbone, my arms flapped helplessly. The iron slipped from my grip and stuck in the muck with a soft thunk.

It was still six hours until walk-out. ■

### About the Contest and Its Winner

Robert O. Harder (B.A. '66) earned degrees in geography and political science from the University of Minnesota—Duluth and was an Air Force ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate at the U, commissioned in 1966. He saw nearly five years of military service and flew 145 combat missions during the Vietnam War as a B-52 navigator-bombardier. He is a commercial pilot and certificated flight instructor. Harder capped a long retailing career as a vice president at Montgomery Ward in Chicago. Since that time, he has been involved in real estate investment and management and is pursuing a writing career. A direct descendent of Algonquian medicine woman Matoaka, or Pocahontas, Harder has published a four-volume history of north central Minnesota, *A Minnesota Remembrance*, and a novel, *The Devil's Holiday*. Harder and his wife, Dee Dee, live in Chicago and at their summer home on Big Sandy Lake, Minnesota.

*Minnesota* magazine's annual fiction contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni. An independent judge selects the winner from a group of finalists culled by the editorial staff. The winning entry is published in the magazine and its author is awarded a cash prize. Watch *Minnesota* for guidelines for next year's contest, or visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/fiction](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/fiction).



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- Silver for Best Feature Article



# Gold Mettle

Gopher sprinters **Mitch Potter and Adam Steele** earned gold at the world track championships in 2003. This year, they are striding even farther.

By Chris Coughlan-Smith

**M**itch Potter and Adam Steele share many things: a Minnesota upbringing, a close friendship, intense competitiveness, and world championship gold medals in a most unlikely event. The 23-year-old Gopher seniors were on the USA 4x400-meter relay squad that won the title at last summer's World Track and Field Championships in Paris.

It was a stunning accomplishment. For decades, African Americans, West Africans, and runners from the Caribbean and West Indies have dominated the sprint events. Although both Steele and Potter had earned All-American citations in their freshman and sophomore seasons, their junior year "created literally a worldwide buzz," says Minnesota track coach Phil Lundin. "People were saying, 'What's going on?'"

Potter, who grew up in St. Michael, was named outstanding athlete of the Big Ten meet in May. Steele, of Eden Prairie, won the NCAA 400 title in June. Then Potter took gold in the 400 at the Pan-American Games in the Dominican Republic in July, beating many of the top runners in the Western Hemisphere. They also finished fifth and sixth at the U.S. championships, cementing their spot on the world team for the relay. At one point, they had the first and third fastest times



Mitch Potter took the baton from Adam Steele at last spring's Big Ten track championships.

in the world for 400 meters—at 44.57 and 44.58 seconds. “What makes it special is that they’re Minnesota kids,” Lundin says, “the kinds of kids people don’t think can run like this.”

Because the NCAA finals and the U.S. championships were scheduled on consecutive weekends, Potter and Steele had to run eight races in nine days to make the relay team for the world meet. “The critics said no college sprinter, especially the two white guys from Minnesota, would be able to make the U.S. team after all those rounds of races,” Potter recalls. “That was just fuel for us.”

Potter is stockier, betraying his high school football and wrestling days. His blue eyes flash with intensity and his emotions show plainly. He is quick to laugh and quick to give himself competitive ultimatums. On the track, he rockets off the starting line. “I always knew I was fast,” he says. “I know I am capable of doing anything I want to do, period. That’s just the way I’ve always been. . . . But there are always a million variables that could knock me down or injure me.”

Potter suffered injuries his first year that forced him, like Steele, to take a redshirt year. Then Potter set lofty goals for his first competitive season and told Lundin he would quit the team if he did not achieve them. He did, setting school records indoors and out in the 400. “Mitch is wound about three turns tighter than Adam,” Lundin jokes. Potter has posted impressive times each season, and has earned four individual and five relay All-American honors. But he has been plagued by injuries. Lundin, the national college track coach of the year in 2003, often has to adjust Potter’s workouts to accommodate what he can handle from week to week.

Steele is thinner, looking more like the state distance running champion he was in high school. He is quieter and intensely watchful. Steele insists that while growing up he never had an inkling he was that much faster than others. “I had good coaches in high school and again in college who pulled me aside at the right times and helped me find the talent I had no idea I had,” he says. In a race, Steele usually starts a little slower but runs down fading opponents in the home stretch.

Although Steele won two Big Ten titles and earned three All-American citations in the 4x400, he had advanced more slowly—until a breakthrough this spring. He could handle a large amount of training but needed to work on his sheer all-out speed. “The kid never thought he could run under 22.5 [seconds for 200 meters],” Potter says. “Then he came out at [a meet last May] and ran 21.12. It was a huge breakthrough and I think that’s what convinced him he could race with people at the national level.”

For Steele, it also had to do with getting into the right competitive circumstances. “Every week we’re racing and Mitch is a second ahead of me and the next guy is a second behind me, so where’s the motivation to really dig down?” says Steele. For an elite 400 runner, a second is almost 10 meters—far too much ground to make up at the end of a race. But as the pair advanced to NCAA regional competition, as many as three or four people filled that 10-meter gap, giving

**Their junior year “created literally a worldwide buzz,” says Minnesota track coach Phil Lundin. “People were saying, ‘What’s going on?’”**

Steele a realistic challenge. Having never broken 46 seconds in the 400, he did it twice at regionals and three times at the NCAA meet.

“It just clicked for him,” Potter says. “He took six-tenths [of a second] off one day, another four-tenths off the next. Now that you’ve run that fast, you’re never going back.”

Although confident and competitive, Potter and Steele do not exude the cockiness that marks some sprinters, who are known to trash talk before races and to celebrate success with grandiose displays afterwards. “We get to a meet, we don’t talk to anyone, we don’t look at anyone, we keep our mouths shut,” Potter says.



While Adam Steele (left) and Mitch Potter are proud of their 2003 gold medals, they hope to push each other to Olympic gold in 2004.

and blue on to represent our country instead of the olive drab. We thought about that a lot while we were over there. We really wanted to represent the U.S. well and be humble about it.” Potter and Steele were given a chance to race in the relay preliminaries, and they came through, running the two fastest legs—at 44.3 and 44.7, respectively. But they ended up being left off the squad for the final.

“The other athletes had their coaches and agents there pleading their cases,” Potter says. “There’s a lot of politics in the selection, and we learned from this experience.” Instead of a spot in the finals—and on the medals stand before 70,000 people—Potter and Steele were handed their medals later, without ceremony.

This year, they have a pair of goals: winning the NCAA 4x400 title (Minnesota was fourth indoors and second outdoors in 2003 and returns a third member of the squad, senior Mikael Jakobsson of Orebro, Sweden) and making the U.S. team for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. “Ever since I was a little kid I’ve dreamed about running in the Olympics,” Potter says. “Every year I’ve counted down, getting myself ready. Now this is the year to do it.”

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about the duo, who never raced each other in high school because they were in separate competitive classes, is the joy they take in each others’ success. “They’re so happy

for each other when they win,” says longtime Minnesota track coach Roy Griak, now an administrator in the track office. “They’re like brothers, only they don’t fight.”

Lundin concurs. “To share what they did last year helped them get through the pressure. I think they really leaned on each other,” he says. “They really feed off each other” in training and racing.

Steele and Potter agree, knowing that they have pushed each other to become better racers. But they credit Lundin with molding them: shaping workouts to take advantage of their natural strengths, to work around injuries and improve their weak areas, and to improve the way they think about the race. But Lundin deflects the praise. “I’m just fortunate to be here while these guys are here,” he says. “You won’t see this kind of thing too often.”

Steele agrees: “We let the race speak for itself.”

And the race is grueling. The lungs and heart struggle to provide oxygen to muscles that are going at almost a full sprint; after 30 seconds the supply is far behind the demand. Arms, legs, and lungs begin to burn with oxygen debt. As a result, the race sometimes goes to whoever slows the least over the last 150 meters. Potter, as a pure sprinter, tries to get far ahead early, demoralize the competition, and hang on. Normally, he’s successful. Steele charges hard at the end, as he did when he beat Potter by .01 seconds at the NCAA meet, still the only championship-level race where he’s beaten Potter. At the Pan-Am meet, where Steele was fourth, Potter’s first 200 meters were close to world-record pace. Although he slowed, he had enough to win by .02 seconds over Cuba’s top runner.

In August, they went to Paris wearing the colors of Team USA. “I have a brother serving in the military in Korea,” Steele says. “So I was pretty happy to be able to put the red, white,

*Cbris Coughlan-Smith (B.A. '86) is senior editor of Minnesota.*

A PREVIEW OF THE  
SEASON'S GOPHER  
SPORTS PROGRAMS AND  
OTHER NEWS AND NOTES.  
BY CHRIS COUGHLAN-SMITH

# SPORTS NOTEBOOK



## Rowing

▲ The Golden Gophers return 16 letter-winning rowers from last year, including five to the first varsity eight boat and all four from the first varsity four. Leading the pack is second-team All-American Melissa Roche, a senior from Albert Lea, Minnesota. Senior captain Heidi Rose of St. Paul, a second-team All-Big Ten performer, also returns.

The team finished fall on a high note, winning both varsity races at the Head of the Iowa Regatta, a meet that featured some of the best teams from the upper Midwest, including Big Ten power Wisconsin. The Gophers will race locally once this spring, on April 24 at Lake Phalen in St. Paul, their final tune-up before Big Ten and NCAA competitions.



## Baseball

◀◀◀ One of the few northern teams to crack the preseason top-25 national rankings, Minnesota looks to vie for a third consecutive Big Ten regular season baseball title. The Gophers are led by a pair of preseason All-Americans: sophomore pitcher Glen Perkins of Stillwater, Minnesota, and senior center fielder Sam Steidl of Alexandria, Minnesota. Perkins had a school-record 117 strikeouts and went 8-0 in Big Ten starts. Steidl led the Big Ten in hits last year, while earning his third All-Big Ten award.

Although the Gophers have to replace most of their infield, they lose only one pitching regular from a team that went 40-22, including a school record 24-6 in Big Ten play. Minnesota will play its first home Big Ten series against Penn State April 16-18. For the second straight season, Minnesota wraps up Big Ten conference play at home against Ohio State, the team that has been the Gophers' top conference challenger, May 21-23.

Sam Steidl

## Women's Track

Alean Frawley, a senior from Spring Lake Park, Minnesota, set a school record in the shot put last year and is a leader on this season's women's track and field team. The only chance to see the Gophers in home action comes May 7 at the Minnesota Qualifier, a week before the Big Ten meet.



## Women's Basketball Draws a Crowd

The biggest crowd of the season to see a basketball game in Williams Arena was counted on February 8. The 14,363 people in attendance watched the Gopher women's basketball team beat Penn State. The women's team improved to 18-3 (6-3 in the Big Ten) with the win. Earlier that day, the men's team fell to 8-12 (0-9 in the Big Ten) in losing to Illinois at Williams before a crowd of 13,404.

## Softball

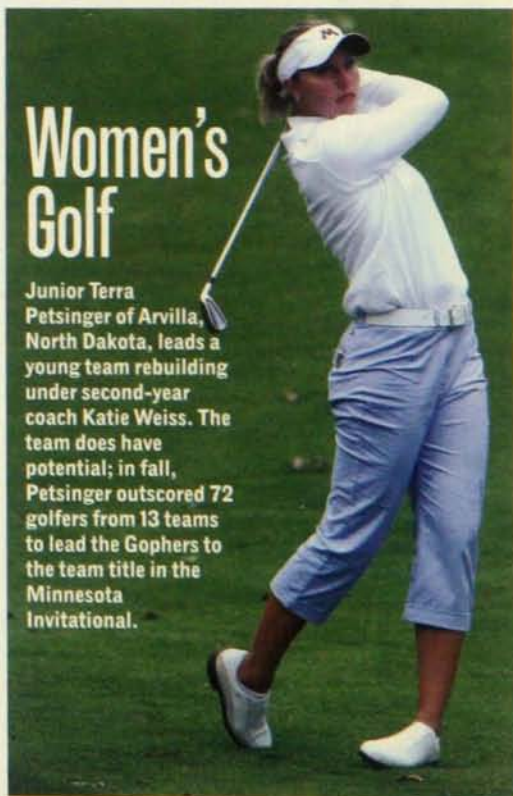
◀◀◀ The 2003 edition of Minnesota softball posted a 37-21-1 overall record (12-8 in the Big Ten) and advanced to an NCAA regional tournament for the second year in a row. Although they graduated six seniors, the Gophers do have some experience at most positions and return record-setting pitcher Piper Marten, a senior from Farmington, New Mexico. Marten struck out 311 batters in 2003 to break her own school record and now owns a career record of 67-38 going into her final season. Minnesota opens Big Ten play at home April 16-18 against Purdue.



Piper Marten

## Women's Golf

Junior Terra Petsinger of Arvilla, North Dakota, leads a young team rebuilding under second-year coach Katie Weiss. The team does have potential; in fall, Petsinger outscored 72 golfers from 13 teams to lead the Gophers to the team title in the Minnesota Invitational.



## GOPHER SPORTS



## A Sunny Thriller

The Gopher football team pulled out a thrilling 31-30 victory over Oregon at the Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas, on December 31. The team finished 10-3 and earned top-20 rankings in both major polls, Minnesota's best season since 1967.



## First Final Four

The Gopher volleyball team, led by All-American senior Cassie Busse of Prior Lake, Minnesota, reached its first NCAA Final Four in December. After a rough start (they lost their first four games and later their first two Big Ten contests), they ended the year at 26-11, second in the Big Ten, and ran off four wins in the NCAA tournament before falling to eventual national champion USC.

## Men's Golf

The men's golf squad took a tough fall schedule and ripped through it, winning three of their four tournaments. "This is a young team, but we have very good leadership from our seniors," says coach Brad James. "This is a fun team to be around. They're very dedicated on and off the course."

Senior Justin Smith of Moon Township, Pennsylvania, leads the two-time defending Big Ten champions as he has since he earned All-American honors at the 2002 NCAA tournament, where the Gophers won the team title. Smith won individual titles in two of the four fall tournaments. "The younger players are getting good experience and learning what it takes to win," James says. "Now we just need to keep working hard and not think we can coast."

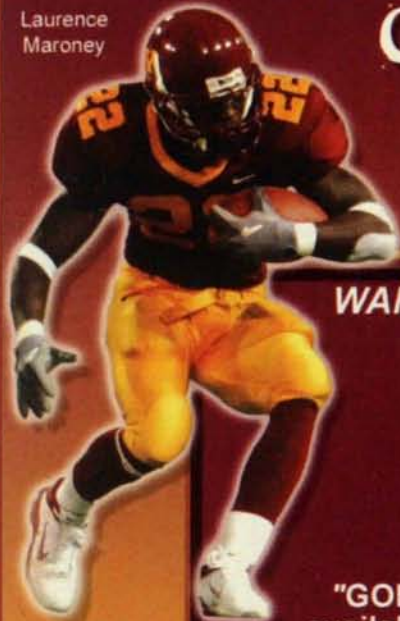
James has another reason to be pleased: The program's full complement of 4.5 scholarships is now fully endowed thanks to the continuing efforts of the Save Gopher Sports campaign, which began in response to threats to eliminate golf and men's gymnastics due to financial concerns. The golf team's success has come with a majority of Minnesota players; there are seven on this season's 11-man roster. "We always have to recruit against the weather," James says. "But we use the weather as a positive. We get indoors in winter and work on technical aspects of the game. It helps a lot more than hitting long drives every day."



Justin Smith

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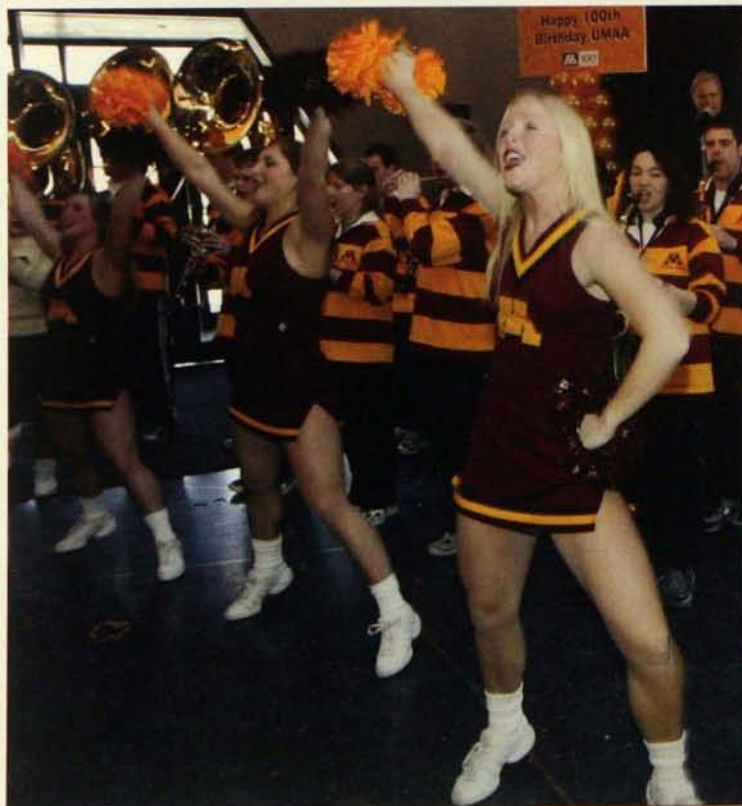
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The University of Minnesota Alumni Association celebrated its 100th birthday January 30 with party games, cake, and the unveiling of a new Minnesota cheer. Nearly 1,500 University students, faculty, alumni, and friends attended a lunchtime party, enjoying pizza and cupcakes, playing Pin the Tail on Goldy and Goldy Says, and learning the words to "Go Minnesota!"—with the help of Gopher cheerleaders and the pep band. (The cheer was the winning entrant in a contest held by the UMAA. See page 48.) That evening, 400 UMAA volunteer leaders and other guests toasted the UMAA

## The Birthday Party of the Century

and were treated to performances by the University Men's Choir and the pep band. And there was, of course, more cake and plenty of cheers. Both events took place in Memorial Hall at the McNamara Alumni Center and were featured prominently on local newscasts and in area newspapers.

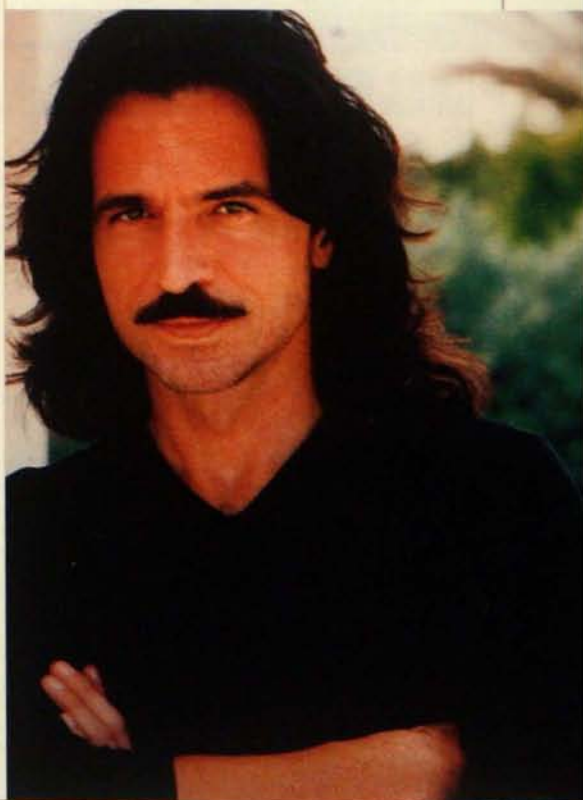
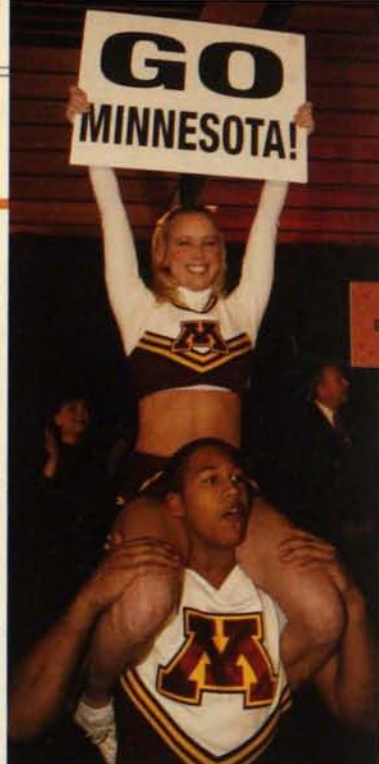


## Yanni to Be Honored at 100th Finale

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association will wrap up its centennial year May 6 by featuring Yanni, a best-selling contemporary instrumental composer, at the 2004 Annual Celebration. The event will include an international-theme dinner followed by a program in Northrop Auditorium. Yanni will deliver remarks and be awarded an honorary doctorate. Student musicians will perform, and outstanding students will be recognized during the program.

Yanni Chryssomallis earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University in 1976. A self-taught musician, Yanni has released several best-selling instrumental albums, including *Live at the Acropolis* and his most recent, *Ethnicity*. In addition to the Acropolis, he has played concerts at the Taj Mahal and in Beijing's Forbidden City. His autobiography, *Yanni in Words*, was released in 2003.

For more information, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/annualcelebration](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/annualcelebration) or call 612-624-2323. Individual tickets go on sale March 22 through the Northrop Ticket Office at 624-2345.





## A Winning Cheer

**Brad Stokes** (B.S. '84) found himself thinking about what a new University musical cheer might sound like one day as he drove to pick up his son, Christian, from football practice. Waiting for practice to end, Stokes thought back to the jazzy cheers he grew up with in Gainesville, near the University of Florida. "I thought it would be fun and different to have something like that for Minnesota," he says. Stokes, who writes short musical pieces for a living, began formulating what the cheer should be: simple and upbeat, a musical call with a vocal response. "Within minutes I had a melody line worked out and words with the right beat," he recalls. "Before my son even got in the car I had called [my wife], Heidi, and sung the first six measures."

That musical cheer, "Go Minnesota!," was unveiled at the alumni association's 100th birthday party on January 30 with a pep band, cheerleaders, and hundreds of alumni and friends. It has already become part of the pep band's rotation for Gopher basketball and hockey games. The association sponsored the contest for the new cheer to help mark its 100th anniversary.

Stokes, along with Heidi Stokes and business partner Phil Aaron, owns Aaron/Stokes Music, a firm that writes short musical pieces for pro sports teams, national corporations, and others. For Stokes, his business brings together three subjects that were each, at one point, his major in college—music, electrical engineering, and business (in which he earned his degree). "What Brad brought to this when he got started was an understanding of both how to record and how to make music," Heidi explains. "A lot of the early tech people were just that—techies. They didn't really have musical understanding."

Stokes creates the engineering and recording systems for the firm, scores some of the music, and reviews the business figures he turns over to their accountant. His desk includes three textbooks from his days at the University: *Fundamentals of Musical Acoustics*, *Materials and Structures of Music*, and *Accounting and Management Actions*. "I am one person who uses his college education every day," he says. "I'm very proud of my degree and of my alma mater."

To hear the new musical cheer, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu).



**Brad Stokes (right)** hands the score to "Go Minnesota!" to hockey pep band director **Skeeter Burroughs**.

## Fighting for Funding

**ALUMNI AND FRIENDS BELIEVE THE UNIVERSITY SHOULD RECEIVE ITS FULL BONDING REQUEST.**

**Despite Governor Tim Pawlenty** (B.A. '83, J.D. '86) recommending that the University receive less than half its requested \$155.5 million in state bonding, alumni are not giving up. The University's Legislative Network, a group of more than 10,000 alumni and friends, is working to make sure legislators know that the University is vitally important and deserves more funding.

The U request, dubbed "Preserving What We Have," asked for funds largely for long-term maintenance and improvements to aging buildings as well as classroom upgrades in the Academic Health Center and a handful of major renovations. "This is a workhorse, not a show horse, proposal," University President Bob Bruininks told a House Higher Education Finance Committee meeting in February. "The governor's proposal is not enough to maintain the University, let alone move it forward."

The legislative session—dedicated in even-numbered years to funding state-backed building projects—began February 2 and should run into early May. The Legislative Network provides tips on easy and effective ways to communicate with legislators in support of the U. For more information, visit [www.supporttheu.umn.edu](http://www.supporttheu.umn.edu) or call 612-624-2323.

## UMAA Calendar

Upcoming alumni events on campus and around the country. For more information, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.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

- 22 South Central Minnesota Chapter Annual Meeting with drug pricing expert and U professor Stephen Schondelmeyer, 7–8:30 p.m., location TBA in Mankato; contact Chad Kono
- 25 Arizona West Valley Chapter Spring Dinner Dance, 4 p.m. at Luke Air Force Base; contact Chad Kono
- 28 San Diego Chapter train trip to Los Angeles, departs 9:30 a.m. at the Solana Beach Station; contact Mark Allen

### April

- 1 College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society annual awards banquet, 4–6 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center; contact Raleigh Kaminsky at 612-626-1601
- 3 College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences Alumni Society Classes Without Quizzes, all morning in Borlaug Hall; contact Mary Buschette 612-624-1745

- 13 Mentor Appreciation Event, 5:30 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center; contact Bridget Kenadjian
- 14 Glacial Ridge Chapter annual meeting featuring Humphrey Institute Dean Brian Atwood, 7–8:30 p.m. at Ridgewater College in Willmar; contact Chad Kono
- 14 Institute of Technology's Science and Technology Banquet with Charles McQuery, 5:30–8:30 p.m. at the Minneapolis Hilton; contact Kris Kosek at 612-626-8282.
- 17 Minnesota Royal Alumni Day, various locations on the St. Paul campus; contact Mary Buschette at 612-624-1745.
- 21 Washington, D.C., Chapter at the Finnish Embassy with U President Bob Bruininks; time TBA; contact Mark Allen
- 23 Dentistry Alumni Society Dean's Reception, 5:30 p.m. at the St. Paul Hotel; contact Marie Baudek at 612-625-9439

- 24 Nursing Alumni Society Annual Reunion and Spring Celebration; details TBA; contact Kate Hanson at 612-624-9494
- 26 Distinguished Teaching Awards Ceremony and Reception, 4–6 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center; contact Michelle Lian-Anderson
- 27 Natural Resources Alumni Society Spring Banquet, 5 p.m. at the Campus Club; contact Bill Ganzlin at 612-624-3047

### May

- 4 Puget Sound Chapter meeting with Professor Mary Jo Kane, director of the Tucker Center for the Study of Girls and Women in Sport; contact Mark Allen
- 6 UMAA Annual Celebration and 100th Anniversary Grand Finale, 6 p.m. at Northrop Auditorium; contact Michelle Lian-Anderson
- 7 College of Biological Sciences End-of-Year Picnic, noon on the Snyder Hall Lawn; contact Emily Johnston at 612-624-4770

- 16–24 Italian Opera Greats alumni tour; call 612-624-9658
- 24– June 8 Cruise the Imperial Passage; call 612-624-9658
- 25– June 2 Alumni College in Provence; call 612-624-9658

### PLAN AHEAD

#### June

- 18–27 Alumni College in Greece; call 612-624-9658
- 30– July 8 Alumni College in Ireland; call 612-624-9658

#### July

- 25–31 Berlin alumni tour; call 612-624-9658
- 29– Aug. 10 Passage of Peter the Great alumni tour; call 612-624-9658

#### August

- 2–10 Alumni College for Families in Scandinavia; call 612-624-9658
- 20–28 London alumni tour; call 612-624-9658
- 23–31 Alumni College in Normandy; call 612-624-9658

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT FUNDING THE U

- "After the devastating budget reductions the University experienced last year, I am deeply disappointed in this recommendation. We put forth a responsible, modest plan to address long-term infrastructure needs and take care of our classrooms, laboratories, and other educational and research facilities. We cannot provide a 21st-century education in 20th-century facilities."

—University of Minnesota President  
Bob Bruininks

- "Enhancing Minnesota's future means preserving what we have and making strategic, prudent decisions on what's going to most impact our first-in-the-nation quality of life. We've worked to keep the proposal affordable and responsible."

—Governor Tim Pawlenty  
(B.A. '83, J.D. '86)

- "We currently have a shortage of 3,000 nurses in the work force and it's predicted to rise to 6,000 in the future. Institutions are turning away nursing students because of inadequate facilities. . . . If [the governor] wants to end this session anytime soon, he'll be giving more money to higher education."

—Senator Keith Langseth  
(D-Glyndon), chair of the Senate  
Higher Education Division

- "There are a number of legislators who represent the education system around the state. I think it's very appropriate to invest more money in higher education."

—Representative Erik Paulsen  
(R-Eden Prairie),  
House Majority Leader

- "Our jobs commitment is to fully support the University of Minnesota because that's the engine for new companies and the new high-tech jobs we need. Companies like Medtronic and a lot of our high-tech jobs were created by the U of M, and it's short-sighted not to support that."

—Representative Matt Entenza  
(D-St. Paul, J.D. '90),  
House Minority Leader

## Appreciating Life Members

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is only as strong as its membership, and no one makes a bigger commitment than life members. During its 100th anniversary year, the UMAA is showing its appreciation by sending each life member a special bronze membership card. Anyone who joins as a life member before May 7 will also receive the bronze card.

Each life member was also entered into a random drawing for a free cruise courtesy of Alumni Holidays. The winners are John (B.S. '53, M.S. '55) and Ardyce Moy of Eagan, Minnesota.

## National President

# The Meaning of Membership

**M**y life has been influenced by a vast assortment of individuals. Among them is my former next-door neighbor. I met him shortly after my wife and I bought our first house—a tiny little place in Edina. He bought the tiny little house next door. He'd just graduated from the law school at the University of Michigan, so we broke the ice by sharing stories about our recent college experiences and discussing our plans.

"I can't wait to make something of myself," my neighbor told me, "so I can give back to my university." I remember looking at that guy in disbelief. I thought, "Wouldn't it be something special to be that passionate about your school—to feel that kind of loyalty and commitment to it, that kind of desire to give something back?"

Though I might not have been aware of it then, I soon realized that I did, in fact, share that same passion for my alma mater, and that I could and would give back to it. I was reminded of that passion a few months ago. In El Paso, Texas, surrounded by legions of alumni, students, and parents, I cheered the gridiron Gophers to a thrilling, hard-earned victory over Oregon in the Sun Bowl. The game punctuated an unforgettable few days of pregame festivities hosted by the UMAA, which also sponsored the official bowl tour. Decked out in maroon and gold, total strangers and longtime friends—young, old, and every age in between—laughed and cheered together.



Jerry Noyce, B.S. '67

It was so much fun to be among this incredibly diverse and vibrant collection of people. It gave me an opportunity to consider, yet again, how important my association membership is in supporting these kinds of community-building activities.

Keep in mind, however, that our membership dues do so much more than help finance bowl-game parties and 100th anniversary celebrations. Day in and day out the UMAA attends to some very serious business. We lobby on behalf of critical University initiatives, we develop enriching mentor relationships between alumni and students, we create student scholarships and recognize distinguished teachers, and so much more. Your membership dollars are critical to these efforts, and without a robust base of alumni and their financial support, UMAA staff and alumni volunteers would be hard-pressed to fulfill the UMAA's mission.

Consider the Legislative Network, a roughly 10,000-member group of University alumni and friends. These folks are committed to educating our elected officials about the irreplaceable role the U plays in maintaining the health and well-being of the state.

Given the current condition of the state's economy, it's more important than ever to support the ongoing effort to keep the University at the forefront of our legislators' minds. As alumni, it is our responsibility to safeguard the future of our University.

Most of you reading this currently are UMAA members. So my question to you is this: Can you increase your commitment to the UMAA? If you're a one-year member, why not consider a three-year membership? Now's the time to do it. In honor of our 100th anniversary year, the UMAA is offering a three-year membership for \$96 (compare this to \$40 for a one-year membership). If you've been renewing your one- or three-year membership loyally for years, perhaps it is time to become a life member. Would becoming a life member reflect your commitment to the University?

Here's the bottom line: Membership is a powerful statement of support for your University. By committing our hearts, our minds, and our funds to the UMAA, we can help the University continue to grow and thrive in its role as the educational and economic centerpiece of our state.

And here is where I hope to become an influential person in your life: Think about the level of your passion for the University and then think about how you can show that in your level of commitment.

For more information about UMAA membership options, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu).

## [MEMBER SPOTLIGHT]

## Deborah Karasov

*A River Runs Through It* could be the title of Deborah Karasov's life story. Karasov (Ph.D. '89) grew up a block from the Mississippi River in St. Paul. The wide water, the curve of the banks, the boats and people plying up and down became imprinted on her soul. Now she flows like a river, constantly on the move, picking up knowledge, serving as a medium for ideas, fluidly moving between art and nature, her two passions. And, as executive director of Great River Greening, she's trying to give other urban dwellers a personal connection with the rivers that flow through the Twin Cities.

Great River Greening is a nonprofit organization devoted to involving people in the Twin Cities' vast network of river greenways, watersheds, and natural features in their community. Begun in 1995 as a program of the St. Paul Foundation, the organization seeks to integrate businesses, community members, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and University of Minnesota experts in its projects. That's how the group first came to contact Karasov in the mid-1990s, when she was director of the now-defunct Center for Landscape Studies at the U. "I was impressed with Great River Greening's commitment to community involvement," she says.

During Karasov's initial consulting work with the organization, Greening organized a massive volunteer effort to replant the Mississippi River banks near downtown St. Paul and effectively kicked off the downtown riverfront renaissance. "There is a long-running debate about whether corporations or individuals really make a difference to their environment," she says. "I think this event showed that individuals can have an impact." To date, Great River Greening has involved more than 12,000 volunteers in planting, conservation, and reclamation projects.

Karasov studied cultural geography—a field she describes as "the relationship between nature and people"—as an undergraduate at Macalester College and a doctoral student at the University of Minnesota, with a master's degree in landscape architecture from Harvard sandwiched in between. "I sought out the University for my doctorate because the geography department at the U is well-respected," Karasov says, "and I was anxious to get back to my roots here in the Midwest."

Pulling out maps, as she is wont to do as a geographer, Karasov



Deborah Karasov

traces the major river corridors that define the Twin Cities and then taps meaningfully on certain landlocked urban communities. "Look at how far they are from a river or greenway. The average person in that community is completely disconnected from her natural environment," Karasov says with the intensity of someone who has personally experienced an inspiring connection to nature. Thus her goals for Great River Greening: provide as many individuals as possible with a personal connection to a park, riverfront, or greenway—the kind of connection that comes from planting a tree or clearing nonnative buckthorn. She hopes to build maturing, ongoing relationships with volunteers, offering training for people who want to become leaders, monitors, and advocates for their natural community.

As to what's around the next bend in the river for her, Karasov wants to find ways to combine art and the environment, such as at the Franconia Sculpture Park north of the Twin Cities, where she's a board member. "I want to do things," she says, "concrete things." She's speaking figuratively, of course.

—Sarah Barker

[EVENT SPOTLIGHT]

## Lego League Leaders

Michelle Blocker (bottom left) and Jenny Koski of Cherry High School in northern Minnesota watched their Lego Mars rover perform tasks at February's Minnesota FIRST Lego League high school state tournament in Coffman Memorial Union. The event was sponsored by the Institute of Technology Alumni Society, which also provided a dozen volunteer coaches, mentors, and judges, as well as financial support for some teams. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology—a joint corporate-government effort to encourage science and technology activities in schools) Lego League is a competition for teams of students in elementary and high schools led by an adult coach. Teams across the United States, Europe, and Asia design, construct, and program a specially created Lego robot to perform specific tasks. This year's theme was Mission to Mars and robots performed tasks similar to those of the NASA Mars rovers. Christopher Geis (top left) and Collin Morley of Trinity School at River Ridge in Bloomington and their "Team Project Overlord" won two categories and was runner-up for the overall grand prize. To volunteer for next year's FIRST Lego League, contact Kris Kosek at 612-626-8282 or [kosek@itdean.umn.edu](mailto:kosek@itdean.umn.edu).



## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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

(reflects December 2003 - January 2004)

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Jennifer Anderson  | Thomas Krail           |
| Jerald Anderson    | Duane Kvittum          |
| Michael Annexstad  | Carol Kvittum          |
| Gerald Baerg       | Barry Lazarus          |
| Bernadine Barker   | Dorothy Leitner        |
| Marja-Leena Bodin  | Michael Leitner        |
| Leroy Boyer        | Beth Levy              |
| Barbara Klug Boyer | R Celdon Lewis         |
| Robert Brandjord   | Albert Linck           |
| Kristin Bruns      | Vandora Linck          |
| Robert Buck        | Joe Lineweaver         |
| Cheryl Quinn       | Morris Link            |
| Michael Catania    | Mary Loecken           |
| Taoqu Chen         | Terry Luettinger       |
| Alden Clausen      | C Lund                 |
| Bo Crabo           | David Madson           |
| Clarence Cumming   | Mark Mahowald          |
| Sarah Cumming      | Ronald Mangelsdorf     |
| Judith Daleki      | Robert Martin          |
| Todd Distad        | William Mc Graw        |
| Nicole Distad      | Barbara Ann Melzer     |
| Patricia Dorsey    | Leon Meuwissen         |
| George Dorsey      | Christopher Mitchell   |
| Diane Eidam        | Lorraine Neuger        |
| Paul Engstrom      | Peter Noll             |
| Robert Fering      | Patrick Oberembt       |
| Martha Flynn       | Sandra Oberembt        |
| Albert Garcia      | Mary Olsovsky          |
| Ronald Gilbert     | Nell Ray               |
| Arthur Goebel      | W Harmon Ray           |
| Wayne Graner       | Frederick Requa        |
| Dianne Graner      | Lois Freeberg Requa    |
| John Grondahl      | John Roesler           |
| Mark Halvorsen     | Inell Rosario          |
| Victoria Buchholz  | David Rubis            |
| Joseph Haubenhofer | Larry Schulz           |
| Louise Hendricks   | Dennis Senneseth       |
| Arthur Herman      | Barbara Senneseth      |
| Barbara Herman     | Hugh Silkensen         |
| William Hiatt      | Scott Stursa           |
| Phyllis Hostager   | Lois Swanson           |
| Keith Jacob        | Margaret Taylor        |
| Hilda Jacob        | Peter Thoreen          |
| Samson Jenekhe     | Janet Marshall-Thoreen |
| Elaine Johnson     | Joan Threet            |
| Paul Jungquist     | Frank Tycast           |
| Ramdev Kanapady    | Vienna Volante         |
| Judith Kereakos    | Eileen Wahldick        |
| A Steve Kereakos   | Roger Wahldick         |
| William Klerokoper | Thomas Webb            |
| Karen Knoll        | Cindy Witkin           |
| Robert Knoll       | Perry Witkin           |
| Joel Kostick       |                        |

**Become a life member today!  
Use the enclosed envelope.**

## Alumni Get Results

In the midst of celebrating the alumni association's 100th birthday, during the last week of January, I hosted a legislative conversation in my home with State Representative Alice Seagren. A dozen alumni and friends of the University who live in west Edina joined us. Our purpose was simple: to let Representative Seagren know how strongly we feel about legislative support for the state's flagship institution.

Seagren is a new face to most of us because of legislative redistricting last year. She's not a U grad, and she chairs the committee responsible for funding K-12 educational institutions. We wondered how this evening would go.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,  
Ph.D. '83

To say that a lot is on the line this legislative session is an understatement. Last year, the legislature made permanent cuts of \$185 million, 15 percent of the U's operating money. This year is a bonding year, which means the legislature appropriates money for buildings. The U's request for \$155.5 million was modest, but the governor's recommendation came back at just \$76.6 million. How many steps backward can the University be expected to take before serious damage is done to the phenomenal momentum of the past decade?

Sitting around my living room, every participant voiced thoughtful, impassioned comments and observations about the University. Bruce Nelson (B.S. '80), a senior vice president with Marshall Field's, said that now is the ideal time for the state to fund needed repairs on historic buildings. Interest rates are unbelievably low, and doing so would help stimulate the economy.

Jerry Sosinske (B.S. '78), an engineer at Boston Scientific medical device company, said that many outstate legislators don't want to support the U because it isn't in their district, but U research and programs have worldwide reach. He grew up in Stewartville in southern Minnesota and decided to stay in Minnesota because this is where he earned his degree.

"People don't hear the good things," said Corinne Ellingham (M.S. '71), a retired associate professor in physical therapy. "One thing they don't begin to understand is the amount of money raised by research grants [approximately \$500 million a year]. And it takes up-to-date buildings to do up-to-date research."

Richard "Pinky" McNamara (B.A. '54), owner of Activar holding company and a University regent, spoke about the progress that has been made at the U in recent years and the need to keep the momentum going.

Phil Tonnison, a retired educator from St. Cloud State University, spoke to the importance of the University providing graduate and professional education for those who graduate from other institutions.

Kathleen Tonnison (B.A. '86, M.A. '90), an elementary schoolteacher in Minnetonka, said that she views the U through the eyes

of her second-graders. "All the girls want to be basketball stars like Lindsay Whalen," she said. As a result, "they are having an early, positive experience with the U, which will probably affect their choice of a higher educational institution."

What each of these loyal U advocates said, in their own words, is that the future of the state and the future of the University of Minnesota are intertwined. Their voices were bolstered in a wonderful editorial—under the headline, "U' alumni: 100 years of results"—that appeared in the *Star Tribune* that very morning: "Time and again, the Alumni Association has made a difference for the institution to which it is passionately loyal. . . . That influence has been brought to bear through the years on administrators, boards of regents, legislatures, governors, the federal government, the NCAA—all of whom would likely attest that the Minnesota alumni know how to get results. . . . When such a group resolves that the Legislature will fund more University of Minnesota building projects than the governor endorsed, who can say they will be denied?"

In a follow-up letter a week later, Representative Seagren told me that she would be speaking to House leadership at a bonding meeting that week about the importance of supporting the University. I am encouraged by her promise to support the U's entire request, but she is only one of 201 elected decision makers at the

capitol. We need our alumni advocates to carry our message to all of her colleagues.

As you read this, it is likely that the legislature will be considering the U's bonding request in conference committee—the last step in the appropriation process. A few minutes of your time will make a world of difference to the future of the U. Here's what you can do to help:

**How many steps backward can the University be expected to take before serious damage is done to the phenomenal momentum of the past decade?**

- Read about our legislative request on page 48, or go to [www.supporttheu.umn.edu](http://www.supporttheu.umn.edu) for more information about the request, to find the contact information for your elected officials, or to join the U's Legislative Network.
- Call or e-mail your legislators this week and tell them that you support full funding of the University's bonding bill.
- Follow up with a personal, handwritten note briefly telling your elected officials about how the U changed your life.
- If you feel your legislators are your voice at the capitol and are doing a good job, remember to thank and support them.

Let's live up to the kudos in the *Star Tribune* editorial, which said, "Parties, old-school songs and Ski-U-Mah boosterism are as much a part of the 100-year tradition of the university's alumni group as that of any similar group in the country. But from the first, this association of 58,000 dues-paying members has had a more serious purpose. It has been a potent advocacy force, working for a stronger University of Minnesota." ■



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