

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MINNESOTA

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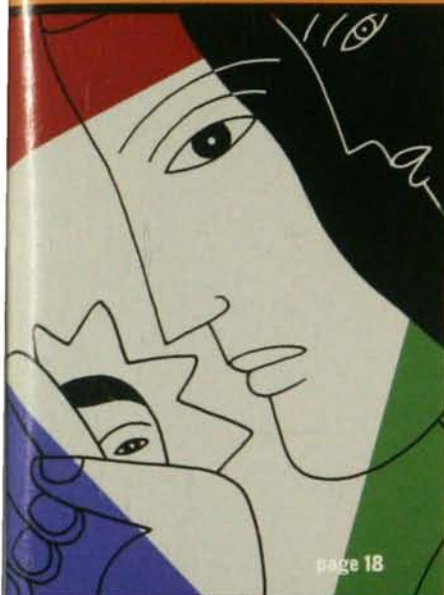
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THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Editor's Note

Ten Things I Didn't Know

I recently learned that physical education for women at the University of Minnesota can be traced back to 1888, to a group of female students who weren't satisfied simply to have equal access to academic courses as their male counterparts. They wanted their own military drill team, just as the University men enjoyed.

To the surprise of many, University women came out in droves to learn military drill, and Company Q was formed. And, as happens to most women who step outside accepted social boundaries, these women were initially ridiculed.

A verse from a poem titled "To My Military Girl," printed in the 1890 *Gopher* annual, summarizes how many University men viewed Company Q:



Shelly Fling

*Once you were sweetly dressed,
And the ground scarcely pressed
As you walked.
Ah, delusions must fall,
Your feet are not so small
As I thought.*

I hadn't heard of Company Q—or what its existence would mean for the generations of U women who followed—before writer Tim Brady brought it to my attention (page 40). But then, every story we publish in *Minnesota* teaches me a little more about the University and beyond. For example, from this issue alone I've learned that:

- Negro spirituals and Native American music influenced the work of Bohemian composer Antonin Dvorak, who visited the United States in the 1890s. Our cover subject, alumnus Lester Monts (Ph.D. '80), explains the significance of this and other kinds of diversity (page 24).
- According to an exhibit opening at the Bell Museum of History this fall, lions with dark manes have a better chance of survival than lions with light-colored manes. Testing their theories in the Serengeti, U lion expert Craig Packer and a graduate student found that a long, dark mane is attractive to females but intimidating to other males (page 32).
- The percentage of new graduates with educational loan debt of \$20,000 or more has jumped in the past two years. A survey by the Office of Student Affairs found that of the 2004 seniors, 22.7 percent left school with at least \$20,000 in educational loans, while in 2002, just 13.3 percent carried that amount of debt (page 11).
- Education is an issue of greater importance in the presidential election for voters in Minnesota than for those in Iowa or Wisconsin, although voters in all three states tend to rank the economy, Iraq, health care, and terrorism above education (page 14).
- Lynx kittens are quite possibly the cutest creatures in the animal kingdom (page 12), and I yearn to have a sighting of my own on my next trip to the North Shore.
- Former Minnesota Governor Elmer L. Andersen (B.A. '31, hon. Ph.D. '83) is quite possibly the most admired, thoughtful, and articulate figure in the state. This is substantiated by reading excerpts from his latest book, *I Trust to Be Believed* (page 21).
- If you're a Gopher volleyball player and Paula Gentil, the intense competitor who fills the new libero position for the Gophers, goes after every ball on the court, you're just going to have to accept that (page 44).
- Not a month passes that we don't learn of another medical breakthrough at the University, including reports this summer of new discoveries in HIV and AIDS resistance and hope for finding ways to block breast tumor growth (page 11).
- And, finally, it is more fun to live on a beach drawing cartoons than it is to put on a suit and go to an office every day, according to alumnus Bob Thaves (B.A. '49, M.A. '50), creator of *Frank & Ernest* (page 52). I had always worried this was true but hoped I'd never have to find out for certain.

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

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JUDGE DICKSON, ATTORNEY
B.A. '62, J.D. '65

The first year Judge Dickson received a scholarship, many African Americans weren't even accepted at schools because of race. Not only did he excel academically, leading to a career with IBM, he was a running back on the Gopher team that won the Rose Bowl in 1961.

A few years ago, Dickson decided to return the favor by creating a scholarship in honor

of friend and former teammate, Sandy Stephens.

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Letters



Two Who Need to Get Priorities Straight

Remember the days when Minnesota had leaders who believed in the University of Minnesota? Most recent, Governor Arne Carlson understood that the state's citizens deserved the best in research and education. And he was vocal about it. If it took a law degree to grasp that simple concept—that as the University goes, so goes the state—we wouldn't be in this mess, with the legislature starving the University, and the University in turn raising tuition again.

But remember, too, the days when students went off to college with a suitcase in one hand, a typewriter in the other, and a bus ticket in the pocket? Today's college-bound students require moving trucks for their stereos, televisions, furniture, and accessories. Then they wail about not being able to afford tuition.

The day was when the opportunity to attend college was a privilege that my siblings and I worked like mad to achieve. I was happy to own just one pair of shoes and two pairs of pants for almost four years. But even so, we could not have attended this great school if it had not been made affordable.

Once you understand what's important

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and have your priorities straight, you find very little to complain about.

JAY WESTERMAN (B.S. '41)
Minneapolis

Is It Ethical to Obstruct Stem Cell Research?

I did not attend the University but many in my family did, and I follow it closely.

Thank you for your article about ethical quandaries raised by scientific discoveries at research universities ["Where Research Meets Ethics," July-August]. Your writer described very well some complicated and fascinating issues confronting researchers and those who shape public policy.

But who is shaping the policymakers?

I would also have liked to have heard University experts expand on the ethical issues raised by governmental interference in academic discovery. I'm referring specifically to stem cell research. Stem cells—embryonic stem cells in particular—have shown tremendous potential for leading to a cure for devastating diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and diabetes, as well as spinal cord injuries.

The federal government—responding to religious and social activist groups—has restricted federally funded stem cell research to certain lines of cells. It is lawful, however, for researchers to develop new lines of stem cells with private sources of funding. But now the Minnesota legislature is considering a bill that would forbid the University of Minnesota to use funds even from private sources to conduct non-federally-approved stem cell research.

How ethical is that?

LINDA SORENSON
Minneapolis

Taught by U Greats

As a proud grad from the late 1940s (with a B.S. in speech pathology from the College of Education), I was completely delighted to visit my beloved alma mater this past April. I visited the arts-speech-music areas of the campus and was overwhelmed by the new buildings and the lovely campus!

It was a very nostalgic moment to tour the functional building now housing

speech and drama offices and auditoriums. As a few current students showed me around to the [Frank] Rarig Center, the Frank Whiting theater, and more, they couldn't believe that I knew those two professors personally, having studied under both of them in several classes (probably the students couldn't believe someone who

knew and studied with those professors could still be alive!).

Needless to say, I was indeed so pleased—and moved—to visit many familiar buildings, walks, and other sites. I will always be thankful to the U and always be proud.

DOROTHY BALCH (B.S. '47)
Seattle

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* Edited by Chris Coughlan-Smith

[FACULTY PROFILE] Petra Mertens

Peggy Rupp came to Petra Mertens last year out of a sense of desperation. Her cat was refusing to use the litter box, causing odor—and stress—throughout the house. “If we could not have solved the problem, we would have had to seriously think about getting rid of the cat, and I just love my cat,” Rupp says. Her veterinarian had ruled out a bladder infection, but told Rupp about Mertens, an applied animal behaviorist and assistant professor of small animal clinical sciences on the University’s St. Paul campus.

Mertens met with Rupp and her cat, to observe the cat’s temperament and to discuss what had been going on in the house. Mertens can order medical tests to get to the root of the problem, even prescribing antidepressants or other medications when necessary. But Rupp’s situation was simpler: A new puppy frightening the cat while it used the litter box was deemed the likely cause. Mertens gave Rupp concrete, simple advice on how to move the box to a new location the puppy could not reach, make the cat feel safe using it, and then slowly return it to its former place. “I had heard of this, but was a bit skeptical,” Rupp now says. “I just wasn’t sure cats could be retrained. I was afraid she’d tell me to get rid of the puppy.” But that single visit, and Mertens’ advice, solved the problem without having to remove either pet.

Monica Murphy (D.V.M. ’01), Mertens’ former student and now a veterinarian in Seattle, describes pet owners’ relief when Mertens cracks an overwhelming problem with a pet and presents solutions in her caring but no-nonsense manner. “It’s like throwing a raft to them in the sea,” Murphy says. “I think they like the clarity of her explanation and the unswervingness of her whole demeanor.”

Mertens knows that, in addition to offering relief to pet owners, she often saves animals’ lives. Behavior problems are the primary reason pets are abandoned or euthanized in this country, she says. The most common misbehavior for dogs is aggression; for cats, it is a failure to use the litter box. Mertens says treating behavior problems has become more common only in the last decade. “We’re more aware of their suffering, and as a veterinary profession we’ve become more competent at dealing with a variety of issues that an animal has.”

Mertens was studying to be a veterinarian in her native Germany a decade ago when she added a Ph.D. in animal behavior and animal welfare. She did a residency at Tufts University in Massachusetts, seeing more than 500 cases before becoming a certified animal behaviorist by the American College of Veterinary Behavior. She came to the University in 1999. Now, Mertens and a half-time behaviorist comprise the U’s Animal Behavior Service; with 500 clients a year they have one of the busiest such practices in the country.

Mertens often brings her two dogs to work, where they nap in her office and occasionally receive treats from staff members. The



Petra Mertens consults with two well-behaved animals, Lorelei, left, and Rocket, the pets of one of her colleagues.

dogs also attend class now and then. Every first-year veterinary student is required to take Mertens’ class on animal behavior, and her pets serve as models when she demonstrates how to interpret their body language.

Mertens is fully devoted to her work, whether teaching a class, examining an animal, or talking with a pet owner. Rupp says Mertens spent more than 90 minutes with her and the cat, then followed up with e-mails and calls to check on the progress and offer ongoing advice. “It was a miracle really,” says Rupp, the former skeptic. But, she adds, “I still get a lot of ribbing about ‘how’s the cat’s psychiatrist?’”

—Elizabeth O’Sullivan

Survey of Graduating Seniors

Each spring, the University's Office of Student Affairs surveys graduating seniors about their experiences and activities while at the University of Minnesota. The data collected is intended to help the U improve student satisfaction and success. Here are a few statistics about the class of 2004 compared with the class of 2002.



Overall satisfaction with the U:

	2002	2004
Very or moderately satisfied	77.5%	81.0%

Choosing the U if they could start college over:

	2002	2004
Definitely or probably yes	70.0%	74.3%

Staying in Minnesota after graduation:

	2002	2004
Yes	52.8%	61.1%
No	19.7%	20.2%
Not sure	27.5%	18.7%

Amount of educational loan debt:

	2002	2004
None	37.3%	35.7%
Under \$10,000	23.4%	16.3%
\$10,000-\$19,999	26.1%	25.2%
\$20,000 or more	13.3%	22.7%

Motivations for choosing a major: (class of 2004 only)

Passionate interest in the subject	45.9%
Possibilities for future employment	12.2%
Desire to help others	10.3%
Experiences in college courses	9.1%
Good at this subject	7.2%
Experiences with high school courses	4.6%
Other	4.6%
Desire to pursue graduate studies	3.6%
Potential salary for graduates	2.5%

(1,931 students, 53.6 percent of those invited, completed the survey.)

Discoveries

U research findings

HIV Resistance

University scientists have identified a cellular protein that might help the body ward off HIV and AIDS. The protein, called APOBEC3F, resists HIV and appears to work independently but alongside an already discovered protein that also battles the virus and may help explain why some people are more resistant to HIV. The two proteins, called retroviral restrictors, work to mutate HIV after it enters cells and reduces the virus's ability to use the cells to keep spreading. But HIV has evolved a counter-defense protein called viral infectivity factor (VIF); more research is needed to determine whether retroviral restrictors in some people are able to evade VIF and why, as well as whether any potential therapies might result from the discoveries. The study was published June 24 in the on-line journal *Current Biology*.



Blocking Breast Tumors

University researchers have identified a "major hub" for breast tumor growth activity that, if inhibited, blocks tumor growth. Translation factor 4F is part of a cell's protein synthesis machinery and vital to cell life and growth. Certain proteins have been associated with tumor growth, but this is the first study that identifies a "key chokepoint" to prevent those proteins from giving off cancerous signals. U researchers are already working on drugs that will regulate 4F's functions and could begin lab testing within a year. The study was published June 14 in the journal *Cancer Cell*.

Homesick Immigrants

Immigrants to North America are at high risk for contracting disease when they return to their native countries to visit, a University review of travel and medical data has found. Approximately 10 percent of the population in the United States was born outside the borders, but that group makes up 40 percent of the international travelers. Researchers have learned that immigrants tend to lack pre-travel care, have incomplete vaccinations, and can lose some of their immunity to native diseases over time. Immigrants also tend to stay in higher-risk locations and visit for longer periods than other travelers. Upon returning to North America, their diseases are often improperly diagnosed by physicians. The researchers urged that doctors take full travel histories from North American immigrants and offer full pre-travel health information. The review was published June 16 in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Surrogates for PKU Mothers

Women with the genetic disease phenylketonuria (PKU) can still have healthy babies by using surrogate mothers, a University study has found. Although PKU, an inability to properly synthesize protein that can lead to mental retardation and neurological disorders, can be managed through a strict diet, women with the disease have high rates of spontaneous abortions and fetal abnormalities. A surrogate mother carried a PKU mother's fertilized egg, and the baby has shown normal development for more than a year since birth. The researchers urge physicians to discuss the surrogate mother alternative with PKU women who wish to have children. The study was published June 3 in the journal *Molecular Genetics and Metabolism*.

Campus Digest

Finding the Missing Lynx

Of the animals that roam northern Minnesota, the Canada lynx is the most mysterious. It's a gray ghost that seems to appear everywhere one year and nowhere the next.

University of Minnesota researchers—working with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other agencies—are attempting to answer the most puzzling questions about the lynx in Minnesota. How abundant is it? What kind of cover does it need? Do any survive during lean times?

"The big question is the persistence issue," says Gerald Niemi (B.S. '74, M.S. '78 UMD), on the faculty of the University of Minnesota's Conservation Biology Program on the St. Paul campus and a biology professor at the U's Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) on the Duluth campus. "Do they all come down from Canada, or is there a permanent population in Minnesota? If they're permanent, then there are management issues to deal with to keep it here."

The lynx, twice the weight of the typical tabby, lives in the coniferous forests of Canada and the far northern United States. Big feet help it to run through deep snow in pursuit of its chief prey, snowshoe hares. The lynx, recognized by its ear tufts and black-tipped tail, has been a periodic resident in Minnesota for well over a century. Fur-trapping records show peaks and valleys in the number of lynx pelts, corresponding to 10-year cycles in the hare population. Partly because of the lynx's occasional scarcity, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designated it a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 2000.

That designation has been controversial, however. Some biologists maintain that Minnesota's lynx are spillovers from Canada, dispersing south when hare are abundant and dying out or returning north when food is scarce. A permanent Minnesota lynx population is neither natural nor possible, they argue. Some see the movement to protect the lynx as an attempt to forward a broader conservation plan and restrict logging.

To determine the lynx's status once and for all, Niemi and his colleagues have begun tracking several radio-collared cats through Superior National Forest. Chris Burdett, a conservation biology Ph.D. candidate at the University, has been chief tracker, baiting box traps with frozen hares and road-killed deer to capture and collar 15 lynx. The animals are tranquilized, measured, collared, and then released



Two dens of lynx kittens were discovered in northern Minnesota this spring.

as soon as they regain consciousness.

Researchers with radio receivers fly routes over northeastern Minnesota to locate collared lynx. When the batteries run low, the collars drop off and emit a signal so they can be recovered and the data retrieved.

Already Burdett sees patterns in the location and habits of Minnesota's lynx: "They have to go where the hares go." In winter that means thickets of young spruce and fir, either natural or planted after logging. Lynx also require patches of older forest, denning beneath the trunks of blowdowns. This spring, researchers found two dens of kittens—the first ever found in Minnesota. This find is important because it documents that lynx have in fact successfully reproduced in Minnesota.

Questions about the lynx's permanence in Minnesota will require tracking through the low swing in the cycle. "It will take at least ten years to get a handle on," says Niemi.

But when questions about the lynx are finally answered, conservation agencies will have solid information for management decisions on logging and reforestation. Says Ron Moen (M.S. '88, Ph.D. '95), an NRRI biologist, "We're putting numbers instead of speculation into the decision-making process."

To learn more about lynx or to report a sighting in Minnesota, visit www.nrri.umn.edu/lynx.

—Greg Breining (B.A. '74)

Overheard on Campus

"It took me 45 minutes and I had 289 pages of information. And I knew what I was doing."

—University pharmacy professor Steve Schondelmeyer on his experience using the Medicare Web site to figure out which drug discount card would be best for his mother. Schondelmeyer is also director of the U's PRIME Institute, which studies pharmaceutical and public policy.

"It seemed like just yesterday tuition increases were only 13 percent (sarcasm). I am graduating from here without ever knowing a mere single-digit tuition increase."

—Eric Dyer, outgoing student body president for the University's Twin Cities campus, in a *Star Tribune* opinion piece in which he chastises the Minnesota legislature for not adequately funding the University.

"We wanted to do something that no one had ever done before. Everyone's stuck in the mold of doing a solid concrete canoe."

—U of M concrete canoe team member Patrick Johnson on this year's design, which won the innovative design award at the 2004 National Concrete Canoe Competition in Washington, D.C. The U canoe had a double hull, with panes cut out of the inner hull to reduce weight; at 105 pounds, the Minnesota team's was the lightest of the competition.

Fake Quakes

WHAT: Multi-Axial Subassemblage Testing (MAST) Laboratory, part of the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation, a system of 17 major laboratories around the United States linked by a high-speed computer system. The network is designed so that each facility has unique abilities and so that similar structures can be simultaneously tested at multiple sites, with results from one lab affecting tests at another.

WHO: MAST is part of the U's Department of Civil Engineering, with participation from the departments of computer science and engineering and electrical and computer engineering. The facility is open on a contract basis for outside researchers.

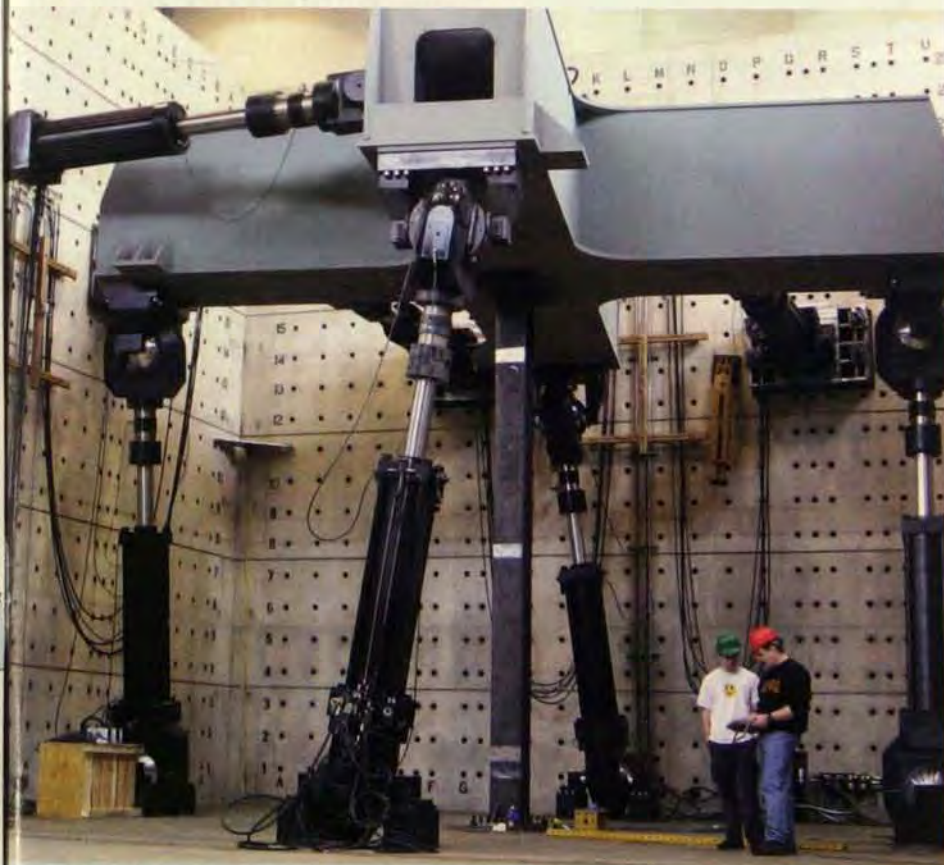
WHERE: The MAST lab is on the eastern edge of the Minneapolis campus's East Bank, at 2525 Fourth St. SE.

HOW: An enormous crosshead of four-foot-thick steel with eight hydraulic arms can move to precise instructions. Structures and large components are bolted between the crosshead and the floor (a five-inch-thick steel plate over several feet of concrete) and pushed, pulled, twisted, and squashed over weeks of testing. In essence, MAST allows researchers in the network to test their designs and structures up to 28 feet tall in simulated earthquakes, high winds, and other stressful situations. MAST is by far the largest and most sophisticated lab of its type in the world.

WHEN: A grand opening ceremony is set for September 24. The lab will open for research work on October 1.

WHY MINNESOTA: The expertise of the U's civil engineering faculty, particularly lab director Catherine French (B.S. '79) and co-investigators Carol Shield and Jerome Hajjar, convinced the National Science Foundation to award the University \$6.5 million to build the facility and \$900,000 a year to operate it for 10 years. The U spent \$2.2 million to design the lab and prepare the site. "We have some of the best people in the country in seismic testing here at Minnesota," Shield says. The computer network makes physical location irrelevant. "Why build it in California?" Shield jokes. "An earthquake could destroy it."

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit www.mast.umn.edu.



MAST Laboratory operations director Steve Olson (right) and civil engineering student Dan Brellenthin inspect the lab's 6,000-square-foot testing bay. Structures can be placed between the floor and the crosshead and pushed, pulled, twisted, and squashed under simulated earthquakes, high winds, and other stressful situations.

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A Coherent Vision

E. THOMAS SULLIVAN became the University's new senior vice president for academic affairs and provost this July. As the U's chief academic officer, Sullivan takes a position that is as wide as campus and as deep as its population of students and scholars.

In simple terms, the mission of the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost is to help the University achieve its goals for academic excellence while judiciously allocating the resources that support the U's teaching, research, and outreach obligations. Second in rank to President Bob Bruininks, Sullivan has direct responsibility for the academic planning and budgetary affairs for all colleges and academic units on the Twin Cities campus except for the Academic Health Center. He also oversees central support units and student affairs and provides leadership on issues related to faculty promotion and tenure, academic policy, and graduate and professional education. Here is more about Sullivan as he steps into his new role:

WHO: E. Thomas Sullivan

WHAT: Senior vice president for academic affairs and provost

EDUCATION: B.A. '70, Drake University, political science and history; J.D. '73 (magna cum laude), Indiana University.

BRIEF RÉSUMÉ, 1973-95: Law clerk for a federal district judge in Miami; trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice and a senior associate at a Washington, D.C., law firm; professor at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and Washington University in St. Louis; visiting scholar at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., Cambridge University in England, and the University of California, Berkeley; dean of the University of Arizona College of Law.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXPERIENCE: Dean of the Law School, 1995-2002; full-time teacher and researcher and the Irving Younger Professor of Law, 2002-04.

FIRST TASK AS PROVOST: "The president has asked me to chair a University-wide committee, which we call 'Strategic Directions,' that is designed to look very carefully at the fundamentals of our mission, of our goals and aspirations, of our values. And once those principles have been reaffirmed or identified, to move forward with a strategic plan to implement those in a way that we align our resources, be they public or private, with our academic and intellectual priorities.

"We hope to have a coherent vision and those framing principles in place by late fall for discussion before the Board of Regents."

WHAT ALUMNI SHOULD KNOW: "We need to hear from our alumni about where they see the strengths and the priorities of the University, and second, for them to know that [rethinking the strategic directions of the University] is a process that has now begun and it's an important process, and President Bruininks' agenda for the University, both short term and long term, is that we really do build excellence through a coherent vision."



Provost E. Thomas Sullivan

What's on Voters' Minds

The results are in, and registered voters in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa tend to think that President George W. Bush is stubborn and that Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry is caring. The 2004 Elections Project, directed by University political science professor Larry Jacobs, released a survey in July that analyzes voter perceptions in the swing states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa but that also delves deeply into the issues that concern them, including their opinions on third parties, foreign affairs, and the trustworthiness of the government.

Below are some findings from "The Humphrey Survey: The Upper Midwest Battleground." For the full report, visit www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/csp/elections/HumphreySurvey1final.pdf.

The 2004 Elections Project, located in the University's Center for the Study of Politics at the Humphrey Institute, provides timely, non-partisan information about the 2004 elections.

Single Most Important Issue in Presidential Vote

	Minnesota	Wisconsin	Iowa
Economy	24.8%	26.9%	26.7%
Iraq	19.6%	17.2%	17.5%
Health Care	12.8%	14.7%	13.4%
Terrorism	12.3%	13.4%	10.5%
Education	10.4%	5.6%	7.9%
Medicare	4.8%	7.5%	9.2%
Gay Marriage	5.9%	8.6%	7.1%
Other	6.9%	4.9%	5.2%
Don't Know	2.6%	1.3%	2.6%

Single Most Important Issue in 2004 Vote for President in the Upper Midwest

	Urban	Inner-ring suburb	Outer-ring suburb
Economy	20.4%	27.5%	24.7%
Iraq	23.6%	13.5%	17.9%
Health Care	15.3%	13.5%	11.2%
Terrorism	14.0%	13.5%	17.0%
Education	7.6%	13.5%	8.5%
Medicare	5.1%	4.1%	6.3%
Gay Marriage	7.0%	5.9%	5.4%
Other	7.0%	7.2%	6.3%
Don't Know	0.0%	1.4%	2.6%

Rant and Engrossed

Gabriel Dreisbach watched as younger brother Simon tried to attract the attention of a bald eagle during the U of M Raptor Center's Raptor Grossology event in late July. Attendees learned about raptor regurgitation and other gross matters. The evening was part of a series of free weekly events designed to draw families to the center for education and fun.

TV and Death

The relationship between television viewing and personal attitudes has reached a new depth: Watching a show set in a mortuary made viewers more fearful of death and less able to avoid thinking about their own mortality.



In a study led by Edward Schiappa, professor of communication studies at the University, 174 students watched 10 episodes of the HBO

television series *Six Feet Under* over five weeks. Each episode begins with an unexpected death and typically includes grieving friends and family interacting with mortuary workers and shows the way bodies are handled before burial.

After viewing the episodes, subjects experienced increased fear of death, feelings that death is a personal threat, and the desire not to think about death, as well as a decrease in neutral feelings about death.

The researchers contend that the study affirms the power of television on personal attitudes. Schiappa points out that earlier studies have shown that sympathetic portrayals of gay characters correlates to less hostility toward gays, and exposure to violent programs leads to viewers overestimating crime rates and risks to personal safety.



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Microsoft will give the University \$2.5 million in cash and \$2.5 million in general purpose vouchers for technology enhancements. The donation is a good-faith gesture of sorts from Microsoft, which has agreed to pay \$241.4 million to settle a Minnesota class-action antitrust lawsuit alleging that the company had a monopoly on Microsoft Windows, Word, and Excel software and overcharged for those products. As a consumer, the University may be eligible to request additional funds or vouchers as part of the settlement as well. "These funds will provide vital support for the U's technology education, research, and infrastructure," said H. Ted Davis, dean of the Institute of Technology. A group will be convened to determine how to spend the money on the University's high-priority needs.

U faculty member Pauline Boss was honored for her work with families and coworkers of September 11 victims. Boss and U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton (D-New York) were recognized for their work at a Manhattan fund-raiser sponsored by the U and two labor unions in July. The dinner raised money to help endow a faculty chair in family stress and resilience. Boss is a faculty member in the College of Human Ecology and an expert in "ambiguous loss," the unresolved grief people experience when there is no verification of a missing person's status as alive or dead. Boss volunteered to go to New York, at the request of service workers' unions, the day after the terrorist attacks.

The Weisman Art Museum has had to cancel an exhibit of Cuban conceptual art. The exhibit, which was to open in January 2005 and had been four years in the making, was canceled when it became apparent that the artists would not be able to secure visas to travel to the United States. Artists were to oversee installation of their work and perhaps create new works for the exhibit. Although they were to be paid only for their expenses, Weisman director Lyndel King said a U.S. State Department worker told her that under the current trade embargo, Cuban artists are forbidden from earning money in the United States. In place of the Cuban art show, the Weisman will run an exhibition of paintings by American modernist Alfred Maurer from its collection.

Minnesota political expert Wy Spano will direct University of Min-

nesota-Duluth's new Center for Advocacy and Political Leadership. The center's first program is a master's degree in Advocacy and Political Leadership. The degree is designed for people in Minnesota and western Wisconsin who are, or wish to be, local community leaders, labor leaders, government relations specialists, and nonprofit executives. The program's goal is "to teach people how to make policy and political systems deliver the kind of world our students hope for," said Spano, co-editor of *Politics in Minnesota*. The program will be organized on the cohort model, in which 20 to 30 students will proceed together through the two years required to complete the degree. Classes will begin this September.

More than 220 people gathered at Coffman Memorial Union this summer for the University's 2004 Children's Summit, which is part of the President's Initiative on Children, Youth, and Families. The initiative focuses University faculty expertise and research on issues facing children, youth, and families in partnership with community-based groups. The summit, second in a series of three, dealt with issues relating to the middle childhood years, ages 5 to 13.



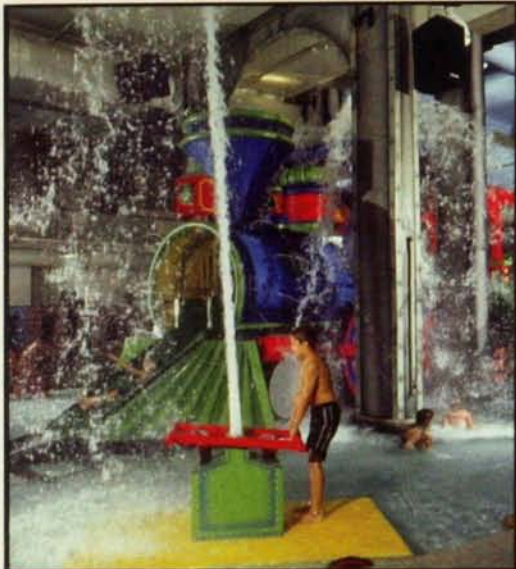
A Safe Food Supply

Vivek Kapur, director of the U's Biomedical Genomics Center, demonstrated some of his work for visitors at an event in July that officially kicked off the U's Center for Food Protection and Defense. Looking on were, from left, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, U.S. Representatives Mark Kennedy and Martin Sabo, Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty (B.A. '83, J.D. '86), U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, U.S. Representative Betty McCollum, Board of Regents chair David Metzger (B.A. '64, Ed.D. '73), journalist Barry Casselman, and University President Bob Bruininks. The University received a \$15 million federal grant for research and education on protecting the U.S. food supply against intentional contamination.

"We're finding that a lot of behaviors we attribute to later adolescence start in middle childhood, and if we don't identify and address them early on, it's harder to change their course later," said W. Andrew Collins, chairman of the summit. For example, drug use is growing much more rapidly in this age group than in adolescents, he says. And children are beginning violent and criminal behavior earlier. To view a Web broadcast of the event, go to www.childrensummit.umn.edu/streaming.html.

On August 5, the University received the Employer of the Year award from the Minnesota Developmental Achievement Center Association. The award recognizes the University's commitment to employing adults with developmental disabilities to work in its Plant Growth Facilities on the Twin Cities campus. Currently, the seven clients are responsible for cleaning containers and flowerpots, weeding, moving soil bags, sweeping, wiping tables in classrooms, and "anything else the custodial staff may miss," said Roger Meissner, University greenhouse manager. Since July 1994, the University has hired this support staff through Merrick, Inc./AlbiTech Enterprises, a nonprofit organization that provides job placement services and vocational support to adults with developmental disabilities. ■

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



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Dream Crusher

Sorting out what's real, what's not, and what matters.

It's a warm summer morning and Martin is in my office again talking about his motorcycle. "It's made of cardboard," he tells me, "even the engine." I nod, acknowledging that I've heard him. But I don't say anything so he continues, telling me how he's been working on the bike for nearly two years and that it's almost finished.

Martin knows that I know all of this. He even knows what I am eventually going to say. Yet several times a week he knocks on my office door, sits down in the chair beside me, and tells me this same story. "When it's done, I'm going to ride it up and down University Avenue in front of Porky's drive-in," he says.

As if on cue I tell him, "You can't ride a cardboard motorcycle. For one thing," I say, "there's no way that a cardboard engine is going to actually work." Before I can finish, Martin is out of his chair, standing over me. He's frowning and his eyes are heavy and sad. "It only needs to run for two seconds," he yells, pointing a finger at me before jerking the door open and stomping out.

These conversations took place more than five years ago, but they are as vivid as if they happened just last week. I was working as a mental health counselor at a Minneapolis day treatment center for people with serious mental illness, usually schizophrenia. About 40 clients attended the center each weekday. A handful came by city bus. But most arrived in vans dispatched to shuttle them from their group homes to various appointments.

Martin was clear-headed enough to navigate the bus system, and he was one of the fortunate ones who lived with family instead of in a group home or nursing home. He liked to sleep late, so his dad or his cousin would drop him off in the morning wearing a rumpled T-shirt and jeans he'd clearly slept in. "Good morning," he would call in a booming voice as he ambled into the common room where everyone was gathered for morning check-in.

We started each day with check-in. Seven staff members and all of the clients pulled chairs into a circle around which we would pass an object, maybe a mitten or somebody's keys. When the object reached you, it was your turn to say how you were doing or tell a joke, sing a song, read a poem, or whatever you felt like. It was a way for everyone to receive a bit of undivided attention and for the counselors to get a quick read on how each client was doing.

Martin usually had a hard time sitting still in his chair. At well over six feet tall and close to 300 pounds, he looked imposing but

had the demeanor of a friendly cartoon bear. It was rare to see him without a Mountain Dew in one hand and a bag of potato chips in the other, and he happily shared his bounty with whoever was sitting next to him.

Other clients liked him. But they couldn't relate to him. His excited chatter about the video games he played with his cousin and the dinners he'd enjoyed with his dad at a neighborhood steakhouse were as foreign to them as their experiences were to him.

While counselors and clients worked together to convince Sue to stop wearing a nun's habit and telepathically communicating with the Pope, Martin did as she asked and deferentially referred to her as "Sister." And when Jim struck himself in the ears until they bled in an attempt to quiet the voice of the devil, Martin would cringe, asking aloud how Jim could possibly think the devil was in his head. The others understood exactly how someone could think such a thing. Almost everyone had heard voices at one time or another.

Martin experienced none of these things. His case file was three inches thick and filled with differing diagnoses by a host of doctors dating back to when Martin was a toddler and didn't seem to be bonding with his parents. Autism, Asperger's syndrome, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, no one was sure what the problem was. But it was obvious something was wrong.

Building a motorcycle out of cardboard was just one of Martin's delusional thoughts. A talented pianist with a passion for George Gershwin, he often rushed over to the piano in one of our group rooms and burst into song. The tune was always easily recognizable as Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," but the lyrics were unfamiliar.

By Meleah Maynard | Illustration by Anthony Russo



"Gershwin wrote these words but he preferred the instrumental version," Martin told us, grinning as he sang. Occasionally, the tune would produce a wave of emotion that forced him to his knees. Eyes on the floor, he would wail, "I'm a failure! I'm 36 years old and I've never built a piano!"

As day treatment counselors, we helped clients cope with and manage their illnesses. The disturbing thoughts and hurtful voices might never go away, but if they could learn to live with them they could perhaps enjoy a better quality of life. A standard tactic for accomplishing this was the "reality check," during which counselors and clients would often work together to try to help someone sort out what's real and what's delusional.

Most of the time, reality checking seemed to give people some

relief from their illnesses. But the strategy did nothing for Martin. Probably because he seemed fairly unscathed by his version of reality. In fact, he quite liked it. We could point out that "constructing a piano was no easy feat; in fact, most people will never build one" all we wanted to. Martin would listen, but when we were through he'd go right on believing what he believed.

After several months of trying to set him straight on the cardboard motorcycle, the piano, and a number of other delusions, I began to question the value of reality checking. I was never all that comfortable with being the arbiter of what is real and what is not, and Martin's presence at the center only intensified my discomfort with that role.

Some days I worried that I was losing it. I began to wonder

what was real. And more than that, I questioned whether always adhering to reality was so gravely important. Martin seemed pretty happy in his own world. Who was I to mess with that?

I wasn't the only one with such questions. After work, over a beer or on a walk around the lake, many of my colleagues spilled stories of similar struggles. Spend your days interacting with people who are seriously mentally ill and you will eventually begin

to question lots of things in life. Even the consulting psychiatrist at the center once remarked that it was uncanny how many mentally ill people believe they are religious figures, usually Jesus, sent to Earth to help us find our way. "Doesn't it make you wonder sometimes," he said in a low voice, "if they all really do know something we don't?"

I wanted to grab the doctor's arm and shriek, "Yes! I wonder about stuff like that all the time!" But I didn't. I also didn't tell

him that I was having doubts about the term "counselor" and was considering a more accurate job title for myself.

In the end, it was Martin who gave me a new title. He was sitting in my office telling me about his desire to have plastic surgery so he could look like Brooke Shields. Unshaven and dressed in a grimy T-shirt and baggy shorts, Martin unfolded and handed me a tattered copy of *People* magazine, pointing out the actress's photograph. Gesturing with one hand, Martin gently outlined his cheekbones. "Don't you see a resemblance?" he asked.

I genuinely wanted to just give in and say, "Why, yes, now that you mention it, I do see the resemblance."

But I did my job and firmly explained that plastic surgery to look like Brooke Shields was just not realistic. Martin scowled at me and snatched the magazine from my hand, slamming my office door behind him as he left. I was about to follow him when he opened the door again. "Dream crusher!" He shouted. "Your job is to crush people's dreams!"

I make my living as a writer now, but I think about my former job all the time. Working with people with mental illness put an end to my tendency to think of things always in black-and-white terms.

Martin and I eventually agreed to disagree on the Brooke Shields thing and went on to work together for several years. But a few weeks before I quit working at the center, Martin walked in one morning and announced, "People don't realize this, but Gershwin had several alternate endings for 'Rhapsody in Blue.' I would be happy to play them for anyone who would like to join me at the piano downstairs during lunch."

When the noon bell rang, I grabbed my cheese sandwich and headed for the music room. I've always liked Gershwin. ■

Meleah Maynard (B.A. '91) is a Minneapolis freelance writer. People's names in this essay have been changed.

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Off the Shelf

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



Josie Johnson greeted former governor Elmer L. Andersen at his 95th birthday celebration in June. Johnson served with Andersen on the U's Board of Regents in the 1970s but first came to know him in the early 1960s, when as a legislative aide she successfully implored the then-governor to back a fair housing bill. Andersen's birthday bash, held in the library that bears his name, celebrated two of his greatest passions: books and the University of Minnesota.

For the Love of Books

"I've had a busy life, but I've always loved buying books," former Minnesota governor Elmer L. Andersen (B.A. '31, hon. Ph.D. '83) told a 95th birthday gathering. "When a catalog would arrive and I saw a book I liked and I didn't have time to see if I already owned it, I'd buy it. This led to some duplication. There was one book I must have really liked, because we found seven copies [in my personal library]."

Andersen's continuing legacy was celebrated June 18 in an appropriate place: the Elmer L. Andersen Library on the University's West Bank campus. Andersen's lifelong love of books was the central reason the library was named for him—he and his wife of 72 years, Eleanor (B.A. '37), donated their collection of 12,500 books, including many rare volumes, in 1999, the year before the library opened. The Andersen Library brought together for the first time many of the U's special collections in a climate-controlled facility dug into the river bluff just north of the Washington Avenue Bridge. (A portion of the Andersen's donation is housed at the Andersen Horticultural Library at the U's Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen.)

"Books are the mirror of society and culture. They are the outpost and ultimate treasure of what came before," said Andersen, who, after serving as governor from 1961 to 1963, served long terms on the U's Board of Regents, the University of Minnesota Foundation Board of Trustees, and numerous other civic boards. He also rose to be head

Excerpts from *I Trust to Be Believed*

FROM THE INTRODUCTION TO ANDERSEN'S 1961 INAUGURAL ADDRESS:

"The highlight of my inaugural period may have been the Tournament of Roses parade and Rose Bowl game in Pasadena, California, on January 2 [1961]....The Gophers made a return trip to the Rose Bowl in 1962. A Minnesota team hasn't been back to the Rose Bowl since. I always say that it only goes to show what a good governor can do for the University!"

FROM THE INTRODUCTION TO A 1960 CAMPAIGN SPEECH:

"Industrial development is built around education and investment in people, not tax cuts. Anyone who knows business knows that taxes are really not the issue that decides where firms locate. The crucial issue, after consideration of market, is the adequacy of the available workforce.... Firms that choose low-tax states are those that can tolerate poor education because they rely on low-wage, unskilled labor. Desirable industries, those that pay high wages... need a fine workforce of healthy, well-educated people."

FROM A 1950 SPEECH TO THE ALTRUSA CLUB,
A WOMEN'S SERVICE CLUB:

"It is customary to use the word 'man' in a generic sense to mean men and women. To even things up a bit, we would like to use the word 'woman' meaning men and women.

"To aid her way in the physical world, natural woman is endowed with five senses.... It seems that the woman of understanding needs five additional senses—five social senses—to aid her in living significantly in the social world. We might name these a sense of history, a sense of dignity, a sense of divinity, a sense of awareness, and a sense of responsibility."

FROM A 2001 SPEECH TO THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE:

"This is the time to invest in the future. I used to think and I still think and I still say to anybody who will listen, that in my view the dollars that people in our state have spent in taxes have brought them the best return of any money they've spent.... The people of Minnesota would rather see their university restored and the needs of the people met, rather than to have a rebate that slips away without having much of any impact. The secret of democracy is each contributing something. That way, the whole amounts to a great deal."

"Be careful of the tenants in the building," Faina's mother tells her. "They'll try to trick you with their questions. I don't want them to know you're my daughter. . . . Let them guess. Families deserve their privacy."



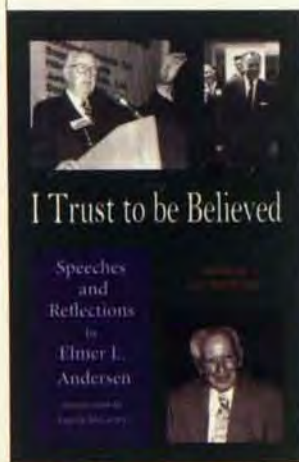
of H.B. Fuller Company and built a chain of community newspapers in east-central Minnesota.

The crowd of about 200 well-wishers squeezed into a large conference room, alternately laughing and applauding Andersen's lengthy stories of book collecting as well as political reflections. "I'm in a wheelchair. I can't see very well. I can't hear very well. But I can still talk," he said. His extemporaneous oratory left the crowd eager to collect copies of his just published book, *I Trust to Be Believed*, a collection of his speeches with newly dictated reflections. His collaborator, Capitol journalist and *Star Tribune* columnist Lori Sturdevant, served as a moderator for the event.

As a surprise, University President Bob Bruininks announced the creation of a new position called the Elmer L. Andersen Director of Archives and Special Collections at the University Library. The new director will be responsible for maintaining, expanding, and increasing access to the University's unmatched special holdings, including the Givens Collection of African American Literature and the Kerlan Collection of Children's Literature.

Andersen expressed his gratitude for the honor and hoped it would lead to greater understanding of the remarkable insights available through special collections at university libraries. "The University has always had three prime functions: teaching, research, and service," Andersen said. "I've long felt there should be a fourth service: to be an archive."

—Chris Coughlan-Smith



**I TRUST TO BE BELIEVED:
SPEECHES AND REFLECTIONS**

By Elmer L. Andersen
(B.A. '31, hon. Ph.D. '83)
Nodin Press, 2004

Lies and Survival

In Faina McCoy's world, there's family, and then there's everybody else. There are stories, and then there are family stories. And there are lies, and then there are family lies.

Faina—the central character in *Where No Gods Came*, a new novel by Sheila O'Connor (B.A. '82)—has lived with her father in San Diego since her parents split up when she was a baby. Her mother stayed in Minnesota with Faina's sister, and her father took Faina to California. That's all Faina knows about her family history, and even that little bit isn't entirely true.

When Faina's father falls into debt from gambling, he takes a job on an oil rig off the Australian coast and sends Faina back to Minnesota to live with the mother and sister she's never met. It's no coincidence that all of this happens right at Faina's 13th birthday; the move from sunny California to gritty Minneapolis clearly marks the end of Faina's childhood and the harsh beginning of adolescence.

Nothing in Minnesota is as Faina had thought it would be. Her mother, it turns out, is an alcoholic—frail, reclusive, and

semi-bedridden. Her older sister, Cammy, is nowhere to be found. The big beautiful Lake of the Isles house that Faina had heard about doesn't exist; her mother lives in a rough inner-city neighborhood upstairs from a bakery.

Faina proves remarkably adaptable, learning quickly how to get along in this strange new world. She takes care of her mother, and she tries not to make waves. She straddles the realities of the outside world with the rules of the apartment. She learns to keep secrets, even when she's not entirely clear on what purpose the secrets serve. She learns how to lie.

"Be careful of the tenants in the building," Faina's mother tells her, early on. "They'll try to trick you with their questions. I don't want them to know you're my daughter. . . . It's none of their damn business. . . . Let them guess. Families deserve their privacy."

Under that guise of "family privacy," Faina picks her way through the world, walling her life off from everyone else—Lenore in the downstairs bakery, Hank the landlord, other children, the nuns at school. Some of them pry out of concern and some out of suspicion, but Faina keeps them all at arm's length.

Faina is a remarkable character—tough, observant, and smart, yet vulnerable and a little awkward. She isn't good at the lying game, and she makes mistakes that come back to haunt her—telling the other girls at school that she's dating a sailor in New Zealand, for instance (this earns her the girls' brief respect, which is quickly replaced by the reputation as a slut) and covering up her impossible home life with grandiose stories of a globe-trotting sister, a multitude of relatives, and expensive trips out of town.

When Cammy suddenly reappears, the dynamics change again. Cammy is beautiful, street smart, and tough, and at first she and Faina clash. As their mother grows increasingly frail, though, the sisters bond. They are an unlikely pair: Cammy, older and sophisticated, introduces Faina to her world, taking her downtown to shoplift and to bars to dance with older boys. She despairs of Faina's innocence, which she thinks leaves Faina vulnerable.

And Faina looks out for her sister, too, inventing fond stories that she says their father used to tell about Cammy.

"My dad told you all those stories?"

"Sure. He talked about you constantly. He used to tell me stories about you every night before I went to sleep."

If reduced only to plot, *Where No Gods Came* could be seen as harsh, even depressing. But told through O'Connor's transparent prose, with her honesty and insight, it comes to mean much more. Life is a compromise, she says. If you want to survive, you have to learn to adapt. And family ties are stronger than we understand.

Where No Gods Came is the winner of the Michigan Literary Fiction Award and a Minnesota Book Award.

—Laurie Hertzell



where
no gods came
Sheila O'Connor

WHERE NO GODS CAME
By Sheila O'Connor (B.A. '82)
University of Michigan Press,
2003

Bookmarks

THE BIG HOUSE: LIFE INSIDE A SUPERMAX SECURITY PRISON

By James H. Bruton (A.A. '66, B.S. '68)
Voyageur Press, 2004

For five years, Bruton was warden at the Minnesota Correctional Facility—Oak Park Heights, the prison housing the state's most dangerous inmates. Sometimes shocking, sometimes numbingly depressing, *The Big House* tells real stories from Bruton's stint as warden and the 35 years he spent working in corrections.

BORGES' TRAVEL, HEMINGWAY'S GARAGE

By Mark Axelrod (Ph.D. '88)
FC2, 2004

In a tongue-in-cheek look at businesses that capitalize on the names of cultural greats (Camus Cognac in Paris, Fellini's Restaurant in Rome), Axelrod invents great historical moments, such as the alchemical baking rivalry that led to both the Fig Newton and Choco Leibniz. A professor of English at California's Chapman University,

Axelrod has authored two other books of short stories as well as four novels and several screenplays. Like the best parody, these manufactured histories of real products sound almost plausible and are always funny.

HOW TO

By William Reichard (B.A. '86, M.A. '91, Ph.D. '97)
Mid-List Press, 2004

In his second collection of poetry, Reichard does not tell people how to do anything. Rather, he says, he hopes readers will "celebrate what's to be celebrated, mourn what's to be mourned," and recognize both the old and the new in things as they change. In lovely and lyrical language, these poems lay out that hope in both poignant metaphors and straightforward longing.

WAITING FOR WHITE HORSES

By Nathan Jorgenson (D.D.S. '79)
Flat Rock Publishing, 2004

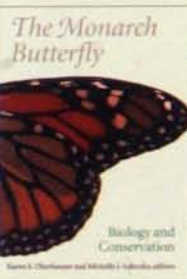
In a novel that earned him the Ben Franklin Award for Best New Voice in Fiction at the 2004 Chicago Book

Expo, Jorgenson intertwines love and loss, hunting and politics, friendship and conflict. Set in northern Minnesota, *Waiting for White Horses* crosses numerous genres in telling the tale of Grant Thorson and his U of M dentistry school classmate Will Campbell. With Campbell's help, Thorson faces numerous trials as he assesses the physical and emotional costs of chasing his dreams.

THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY: BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

By Karen Oberhauser (Ph.D. '89) and Michelle Solensky (Ph.D. '03)
Cornell University Press, 2004

Oberhauser, a U faculty member and renowned monarch butterfly researcher, and research associate Solensky lay out all current knowledge about the insect called "a delicate international treasure." The book also covers important recent developments in monarch conservation, such as the establishment of protected sites in Mexico where monarchs winter and the effects of genetically modified corn on the butterflies.



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.

University alumnus **Lester Monts**, a key figure in shaping the University of Michigan's U.S. Supreme Court case for affirmative action in college admissions, explains why diversity in higher education is so critical.

Defending Diversity

"I've been teaching ethnomusicology for many years," says Lester Monts (Ph.D. '80), senior vice provost for academic affairs, senior counselor to the president, and professor of music at the University of Michigan, "and diversity is the whole point of that discipline." Ethnomusicology, Monts explains, is the study of music in the broad domain of culture and society but with the primary focus being on the folk and traditional cultures of the world.

Monts, an accomplished orchestral trumpeter, hums a classical melody to illustrate his point. "If you want to know how powerful diversity can be in music," he says, "just listen to Dvorak's *New World Symphony*, where he introduces themes influenced by the Negro spirituals he'd heard while in the United States in the 1890s. If you listen to the Second Movement of that symphony, you'll hear the famous 'Going Home' melody played by the English horn. That section of the symphony owes its style and melodic content to the spirituals, yet it finds its way into one of the most well-known compositions in the symphonic repertoire."

BY TOM NUGENT | PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVE KRIEGER



Now Monts raps on his office table and hums the parts of the violas and cellos. "All at once, you're getting a very American sound from Dvorak, and it's extremely powerful because it contains all these different indigenous elements—such as the African American spirituals, Native American musical elements, and also some of the influences derived from his east European homeland and transplanted in the Czech-Bohemian immigrant com-

munities in Iowa."

Monts says that many of the great classical composers employed this kind of musical diversity. "Think of the folk elements in Tchaikovsky, in Rimsky-Korsakov, in Chopin and Liszt and even in J.S. Bach," he says. "Can you see why I tell my students that diversity is such an integral part of their education? . . . Diversity isn't just a moral or political issue—it's an *intellectual* issue."

But diversity is also a political and legal issue. And Monts played a key role in preparing the University of Michigan's recent affirmative action case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The controversial 5-4 decision (June 23, 2003) in two five-year-old equal-access cases involving admissions procedures at Michigan was a complex exercise in jurisprudence, say legal analysts, but the bottom line was straightforward. According to the majority on the court, considering race among the criteria in selecting applicants for admission to U.S. colleges and universities is constitutionally acceptable, although the court also ruled that schools would be prohibited from awarding specific race-based "admissions points."

(The University of Minnesota does not use race-based points in its admissions process but does consider an applicant's race along with such factors as leadership experiences and musical or athletic ability. Academic qualifications are the primary consideration for all applicants to the University.)

For colleges and universities nationwide, the ruling meant that devising special admissions procedures in order to ensure equal access to higher education for traditionally underrepresented minority candidates was legally sanctioned.

Reacting to the court's decision, University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman described the ruling as a victory for her university as well as for all of higher education. "This is a resounding affirmation that will be heard across the land," Coleman said,

“I’m convinced that the best argument for affirmative action in higher education is the intellectual argument,” says Monts.

“I don’t think there’s any doubt we can all learn more if we guarantee equal access to colleges and universities for everyone, regardless of race, religion, or color.”

“and I believe these rulings in support of affirmative action will go down in history as among the great landmark decisions of the Supreme Court.”

The Supreme Court ruling was especially rewarding for Monts. As senior vice provost, Monts had spent much of the previous decade designing and implementing strategies aimed at boosting diversity on campus, and his efforts had paid off. By the end of the 2002–03 school year, more than one-fourth of the undergraduate students at his university consisted of African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, or Native Americans—a soaring rate that has helped make Michigan a model of diversity in higher education.

“We were absolutely thrilled that the court agreed with us about the importance of diversity on campus,” Monts says, “and I think a key factor was that we were able to show that granting equal access to the university isn’t just about equity and justice. It’s also about quality of education—about the fact that students simply learn better in an environment that includes a diverse group of people from diverse backgrounds.

“I’m convinced that the best argument for affirmative action in higher education is the intellectual argument,” adds Monts. “I don’t think there’s any doubt we can all learn more if we guarantee equal access to colleges and universities for everyone, regardless of race, religion, or color.”

The Supreme Court Decision **One Year Later**

One year after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the legality of affirmative action as a strategy for increasing racial diversity at the University of Michigan, the impact of the historic ruling is only beginning to be felt on college campuses around the nation.

While some universities—including Connecticut, North Carolina, and Texas A&M—have seen a surge in minority enrollment for the 2004–05 school year, the number of minority-student applications actually decreased slightly at the University of Michigan during the past 12 months.

“Our minority enrollment will be about 13 percent lower in this [2004] freshman class compared to the year before, and the Supreme Court decision probably contributed somewhat to the decrease,” says Lester Monts, senior vice provost for academic affairs at Michigan. “There’s no doubt that the media attention we received during the five-year case tended to have a ‘chilling effect’ on some minority applicants, who may have decided that they didn’t want to come to a campus where they might be perceived as having been admitted because of their minority status rather than on the basis of merit.

Monts also points to other factors that might be responsible for the decline. “For one thing, our overall applications for this year’s freshman class were down by about 18 percent,” he says. “Because of the timing of the Supreme Court decision, we were required to quickly revise our applications procedure last summer [in 2003]. As a result, we ran about a month late in getting our applications out, which may have also contributed to the decline.” However, Monts says, the overall quality of applicants was greater than in past years and the university will admit nearly 6,000 new freshmen this fall, the largest class in the school’s history.

Another “chilling effect” during the past year, says Monts,

emerged from the specific requirements of the Supreme Court ruling, which prohibited the university from assigning specific “admissions points” based on race. Instead of awarding points, Michigan administrators asked all applicants to write essays describing what their diverse talents, experiences, opinions, and cultural backgrounds would bring to the campus.

Explains Monts: “Unlike the standard essays that can accompany any college application, our applicants were instructed to write essays for Michigan that addressed a specific set of questions, and that requirement probably discouraged some of them from applying here.”

Like Monts, who’s convinced that the slight dip in enrollments at Michigan represents only a “momentary blip on the radar screen,” most of the participants in the landmark Supreme Court case believe the decision will have a positive effect on diversity in higher education long into the future.

“I expect the University of Michigan to be just as diverse as it was before,” says Curt Levey, the former legal director of the Center for Individual Rights, who orchestrated the case against affirmative action in opposition to the University of Michigan. “But in the future [after the decision], it’s going to have to achieve that in a way that doesn’t automatically give you points for your skin color.”

Elise Boddie, director of education for the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, which had filed a separate petition in the affirmative action suit, describes the ruling as a “major victory” for advocates of affirmative action in higher education but warns that the battle for racial diversity on campus was far from won.

“The struggle for racial equality will be with us for some time,” said Boddie. “Unfortunately for all of us, race still matters in higher education.”

—T.N.

Monts's childhood was shaped by the issue of equal access to education. He grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, and says he can't forget the racial violence he witnessed almost daily in 1957, after President Dwight Eisenhower sent troops to Arkansas to protect nine black students—known as “The Little Rock Nine”—who would integrate the all-white Central High.

Monts was 10 years old that fall, an eager fourth-grader whose world changed overnight, he says, with the arrival of federal troops—and with the fiery, defiant speeches from segregationist Governor Orval Faubus. “Suddenly we were getting bomb threats at my elementary school,” Monts recalls, “and night riders were roaming through the black neighborhoods after dark. A great deal of violence was being perpetrated against black people, day in and day out.”

Monts knew most of the families of the Little Rock Nine and remembers standing on the playground at recess watching transport planes from the 101st Airborne fly in with soldiers. Every morning, troops escorted his neighbor, Carlotta Walls, one of the nine, to high school. “It was pretty thrilling to hear every night at the dinner table how black people were asserting themselves politically, something that was rare in the South in those days,” he says.

Inspired by those nine students, Monts vowed that he would follow in their footsteps. He enrolled at mostly white Arkansas Polytechnic College, where he soon became the first black student to live in the campus dorms. Although occasionally jeered by other students, he held onto his dream of a college education, even after a group of students squirted lighter fluid under his door and set it afire.

“That was a painful incident,” says Monts, “but it only made me more determined to succeed. I was hungry for an education, hungry to learn the trumpet. And I’ve always been proud of the



Lester Monts holds a sanza, often called a thumb piano, from Liberia, where the ethnomusicologist has studied musical culture for decades.

fact that it was right around the time of that incident when I became the principal trumpet in our college symphonic band.”

After graduating from Arkansas Tech with a bachelor's degree in music education in 1970 and then his master's in music from the University of Nebraska two years later, Monts signed on for his first college teaching post, at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. He loved teaching, he says, but he also loved performing—and when he saw a chance to study the trumpet under a “truly great teacher” on the faculty at the University of Minnesota, he jumped at it.

Monts arrived in the Twin Cities in the fall of 1975 and quickly began refining his talent under the tutelage of Charles Schlueter, principal trumpet for the Minnesota Orchestra (formerly the Minneapolis Symphony). At about the same time, Monts began working toward his Ph.D. in ethnomusicology, studying African musical and cultural traditions.

Challenged as never before, Monts shuttled between trumpet performances and his academic work. “Lester was a remarkably dedicated student,” recalls his major professor, now-retired ethnomusicology professor Alan Kagan, “and he was one of the very few students I ever saw who could manage the transition between musical performance and musical scholarship. It's very difficult to go from performing to research, but Lester had the determination to make it happen.”

Schlueter remembers Monts as a trumpet player who had “tremendous facility on the instrument and tremendous dedication as a student. He also had terrific range. Lester was the only student I ever had who could play the *Trumpet Concerto* by Michael Haydn—it was like he *owned* that piece,” Schlueter says.

“I loved studying with Charlie Schlueter,” says Monts of his former teacher, now the principal trumpet for the Boston Symphony. “He taught me a whole range of new techniques, but most of all he taught me self-confidence as a performer. Charlie helped

“When I arrived at the rehearsal, I was amazed to find Copland himself standing on the podium,” says Monts.

“For me, that was one of those defining moments, when you realize how far you've come. There I was, a kid in my late 20s from way down in Arkansas, rehearsing onstage with Aaron Copland. Wow!”

all his students land gigs around Minneapolis and St. Paul, and he introduced me to some unforgettable experiences.

"I remember Charlie setting me up for a gig with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra to perform a piece by Aaron Copland—and when I arrived at the rehearsal, I was amazed to find Copland himself standing on the podium. I could hardly believe it. And at one point, he even chewed me out: 'First trumpeter, you played a B-flat instead of a B-natural!' I showed him the music, and he laughed: 'You're right—it's a manuscript error!'"

"For me, that was one of those defining moments, when you realize how far you've come. There I was, a kid in my late 20s from way down in Arkansas, rehearsing onstage with Aaron Copland. Wow!"

Specializing in music of the Baroque era, Monts has in his career also performed with the Omaha Symphony, the Erie Philharmonic, the Santa Barbara Symphony, the Santa Barbara Chamber Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony, among others.

On the academic side, Monts moved on to the University of California at Santa Barbara, where he became dean of undergraduate affairs, and spent one year as a visiting professor at Case Western Reserve University. In 1993 he was tapped to become professor of music and an academic administrator in Ann Arbor. By then, Monts would be well-known to ethnomusicologists for his research on the musical culture of the Vai people of Liberia, which had formed the centerpiece

of his Ph.D. dissertation at Minnesota.

In addition to studying Vai traditional music for more than 25 years in Liberia, Monts and his wife, Jeanne, created a foundation that works to preserve Liberian traditional culture. Monts spent years observing and recording traditional Vai music, notably that associated with two secret societies—Sande (for women) and Poro (for men)—and the music of Islam. Today, many of these materials are published as CDs and video documentaries by Folkways Records and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Referring not only to music but to all academic pursuits, Monts says, "If you aren't exposed to other cultures, you won't be able to fully understand your own."

One year after the Supreme Court decision on affirmative action, Michigan has seen its number of minority applicants decrease slightly (see article on page 26). But Monts does not anticipate this will be a trend. On the contrary, he is certain the court's ruling—as with the integration of schools in his hometown of Little Rock—will enhance higher education in the United States far into the future.

"I'm a hopeful man, and I'm an optimistic man," Monts says. "Just in my lifetime, I've seen our world change almost beyond recognition. There's nothing that we can't do—if we can just keep on educating our young people and keep on fighting the forces of ignorance." ■

Tom Nugent, an alumnus of the University of Michigan, is a freelance writer in Hastings, Michigan.

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YOU can make a difference this election season. Pledge to vote November 2. Show your support for the U. Choose leaders who will make the U a capital priority!

Your pledge will show state and federal candidates that Minnesotans value the U.

Pledge to vote online at: www.votefortheU.umn.edu

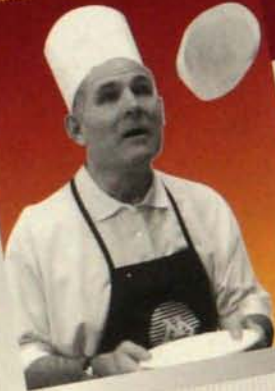


UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Join the UMAA for

HOME COMING 2004!

Athletic Director Joel Maturi



Homecoming Breakfast

Saturday, October 23, 7:30 to 10 a.m.,
Sports Pavilion, University Avenue

Tickets sold at the door: \$6 UMAA members;
\$8 non-members; \$3 kids ages 3-10. Pancake
breakfast; family entertainment; COAFES
"Foods for Health;" and appearances by U of M
celebrities, athletes, and Goldy Gopher.

President Robert Bruininks



Homecoming Parade

Saturday, October 23, about
10:30 a.m., Sports Pavilion,
University Avenue

You'll have a "front-row" view as
University celebrities march, float,
and drive by.



The Gophers vs Illinois

Homecoming Game

Saturday, October 23, 1 p.m.,
Metrodome (game time subject to change*)
Cheer the Gophers on to victory!



www.alumni.umn.edu/homecoming

Check the Web site for the latest information on
all UMAA events or call 612-624-2323.

Alternate Schedule Alert!

If the Twins advance to the World Series, Game #1 will be played at the Metrodome on Saturday, Oct. 23. Our Homecoming game would move to Friday evening, Oct. 22. If the Bonfire would move to Thursday, Oct. 21. The change will not affect the Homecoming Breakfast or Parade, which will be held Saturday morning as scheduled.

Don't Miss
the Annual Bonfire
and Pep Fest Friday
Night!

Spotlight on the Arts

A guide to music, dance, theater, art exhibitions, and other events taking place at the University of Minnesota this fall.

✦ By Christy DeSmith

* Not Your Average Dance Season

For 34 years the Northrop Dance Season has brought the world's premier dance companies to Minnesota. A typical season balances the work of centuries-old companies and their legendary choreographers with that of transcendent emerging artists.

"Because we have a history of bringing in high-quality performers, people will trust our vision," says Dale Schatzlein, the season's longtime curator.

Schatzlein kicks off the 2004–05 season with the Lyon Opera Ballet, a French company less known to popular audiences but well-respected by dance enthusiasts the world over. The company's October 9 and 10 performances will be a triple-bill of ballet superstars, showcasing what Schatzlein calls "the hottest ballet choreographers in Europe." Although each piece was created independently, they are thread with a common approach to contemporary European ballet that recognizes traditional forms and techniques yet offers greater flexibility in movement.

Russia's 227-year-old Bolshoi Ballet, one of the dance world's best-known names, follows with a run October 22 through 24. Schatzlein credits the fall of communism for nudging the Bolshoi to take more creative risks, and the company—famous for skillful choreography and execution that rigidly adheres to traditional ballet forms—has a surprise in the works for its Minneapolis visit.

On October 22, the Bolshoi presents its contemporary telling of *Romeo & Juliet*, a show that will, as Schatzlein puts it, "make sure American audiences know Bolshoi is not stuck in the 19th century." The company entrusted the retelling of this story to an Englishman, renowned theater director Declan Donnellan, who in turn enlisted the help of a young Bolshoi dancer to choreograph. The production has already achieved worldwide recognition for



The Jean-Pierre Perreault Company's *JOE*, at Northrop Auditorium November 13.

being uncharacteristically bold, a virtue only amplified by the Bolshoi orchestra's rendering of Sergei Prokofiev's score for *Romeo & Juliet*.

Bolshoi returns to its roots on October 23 and 24 with *Don Quixote*, part of the Bolshoi repertoire since 1869. This promises to be a beautifully classic and historic staging, replete with recreations of costumes from a 1903 production. Bolshoi shows what it's made of, composing the show with impeccable choreography, nonstop movement, and *Don Quixote*'s requisite Spanish flair.

The Northrop Dance Season takes a twist on November 13 with *JOE*, a worldwide sensation overdue for a Minnesota visit. In the world of dance, *JOE* is a rare example of a work that pointedly begs a sociological question: Are we all average Joes? Or are we truly distinct from one another? *JOE* animates the debate. At the top of the show, 32 dancers move in perfect unison, gradually falling out-of-step as the piece progresses. Canada's Jean-Pierre Perreault Company has toured extensively with *JOE* since its namesake and late artistic director premiered it in 1983. All along, *JOE* gained momentum by being resonant and direct. "I think it's going to become one of those crowd movers," says Schatzlein, "It gets people thinking about unison movement and the counterpoint of individualism." *JOE* is co-presented by Walker Art Center.

All performances take place at Northrop Auditorium. See the dance listing below for full Northrop Dance Season information.

Dance

NORTHROP DANCE SEASON

All performances take place at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis. Tickets are \$29.50 to \$52. Call 612-624-2345 or visit www.northrop.umn.edu.

Lyon Opera Ballet

A triple bill of ballets by Europe's major choreographic forces. October 9, 8 p.m.; October 10, 3 p.m.

Bolshoi Ballet

Russia's legendary troupe presents *Don Quixote*, part of the Bolshoi's repertory for 135 years, October 23, 8 p.m.; October 24, 1 and 7

p.m. Also, an imaginative production of *Romeo and Juliet*, October 22, 8 p.m. Both shows are with full orchestra.

Jean-Pierre Perreault's *JOE*

The Canadian choreographer's hit sociological masterpiece is anything but average. November 13, 8 p.m.

Mark Morris Dance Group

The contemporary choreographer makes music come alive with artistic dance images and wit. January 22, 8 p.m.

Alonzo King's *Lines Ballet*

Classical ballet shimmers with

innovation, staccato pointework, sculptured shapes, and sweeping body lines. Jazz saxophonist/composer Pharoah Sanders accompanies. February 11–12, 8 p.m.

Moiseyev Dance Company

The world's first and foremost folkloric dance company features rocketing leaps, flying barrel rolls, and more. February 17, 7:30 p.m.

Australian Dance Theatre

This clever remake of *Swan Lake* fuses contemporary and classical with hip-hop, acrobatics, and yoga. April 22, 8 p.m.

UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM

University Dance Theatre

Students of the University Dance Program along with Cowles Chair Guest Artists unite for this annual concert event featuring multiple imaginative and provocative works of physical beauty and artistry. December 10–11, 8 p.m.; December 12, 2 p.m., at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$12 for general public. Call 612-624-2345 or visit www.cla.umn.edu/theatre.

The Transformative Power of Theater

If you think the United States' history is full of drama, consider Australia's. Founded in the late 18th century as a British penal colony,

the vast island was inhabited by criminals and social castoffs, as well as native peoples. Kenneth Noel Mitchell, an adjunct professor and director of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie B.F.A. Actor Training Program, finds Australia's sketchy beginnings fascinating. "This is amazing that these people transformed themselves to find the greater good in themselves," Mitchell says.

Mitchell's interest in Australian history was piqued by the play he selected to launch the University Theatre's new season. *Our Country's Good*, an award-winning play by Australian playwright Timberlake Wertenbaker, is set in 1789. Driven by both boredom and idealism, a young lieutenant embarks on a mission to produce the penal colony's first play. It's an undertaking almost destined for failure, what with a cast of convicts, including a leading lady facing certain execution and a crew of mean-spirited officers dogging the production's every move. Undeterred, the lieutenant and criminals conspire, working diligently toward opening night.

"We all can transform ourselves," says Mitchell of the work's prominent theme. "These people were looked upon as misfits and outcasts of England. . . . In the end they come together to prove that they have something valuable to give back."

Mitchell is equally interested in a parallel idea in the piece—that theater has healing powers. This message is particularly resonant with Mitchell, who has cerebral palsy but forged a meaningful theater career nonetheless. Despite having what may seem like a profound disability, especially for a performer, Mitchell is long past dwelling on his differences. "Very early in my career it was an obstacle," he says. "Later it served to make me different and give me something different to offer. Many doors closed; many others opened."

There are other, more practical reasons why Mitchell chose *Our Country's Good*. Namely, the B.F.A. program concerns itself primarily with classic texts as part of its mission to prepare young performers for the text-centric American stage. Mitchell chooses



Kenneth Noel Mitchell, head of the University/Guthrie B.F.A. Actor Training Program, directs the University Theatre's first production in the 2004–05 season, *Our Country's Good*, October 15–24.

scripts that provide detailed clues about each character in the plays so that he can guide each student in shaping his or her part. Thick with rich language and character development, *Our Country's Good* fits

neatly within these parameters.

Technicalities aside, Mitchell hopes that as he and his students immerse themselves in the insular rehearsal process, much as the characters in *Our Country's Good* do, they will emerge with a deeper connection to one another and the themes shaping this work. "We as a society have become less forgiving, more judgmental about criminals," says Mitchell, who hopes the production can prompt both performers and theatergoers to "look beneath the surface, look beyond our own prejudices."

Our Country's Good runs October 15–24 at the Rarig Center. See below for University Theatre season details.

Theater

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

All shows take place at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$12 for general public. Call 612-624-2345 or visit www.cla.umn.edu/theatre.

Our Country's Good

Set in 1789, a young lieutenant directs the rehearsals of a new Restoration comedy to be staged within a Sydney penal colony with a cast of convicts. By Timberlake Wertenbaker. October 15–24.

Black Comedy

It's British comedy at its bloody best when a Kensington apartment is turned topsy-turvy as the dark becomes light and light becomes

dark. By Peter Shaffer. November 12–21.

Evening of Puppetry One Acts

Master puppeteer Michael Sommers and University fine arts students collaborate to take their creative efforts from the lab to the Xperimental Theatre stage. February 11–27, 2005.

The Laramie Project

Life abruptly changed in Laramie, Wyoming, when news broke that a gay college student was beaten and left to die on a rural fence post. The cast reconstructs parts of more than 200 interviews led by playwright Moisés Kaufman in the wake of this tragedy. April 8–17, 2005.

XPERIMENTAL THEATRE COMPANY

University theater students select, direct, and produce all shows, staged in various theaters at the Rarig Center, 330 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. All shows are free, but reservations are required. Call 612-625-1876 or visit www.cla.umn.edu/theatre/xperimental.

Red, Black and Ignorant: The War Plays

By Edward Bond. October 22–24.

Free Hummus

A workshop collaboration. October 28–29.

Portrait of Dora

By Helene Cixous. November 12–14.

The Mockery

A new musical written and directed by Christina Akers. December 3–5.

24-Hour Theatre

Audience interactive improv produce a show in 24 hours. January 21–22, 2005.

Religious Pretense

Audience interactive improv dramedy. February 18–20, 2005.

Silence

A collaborative dance piece. April 1–3, 2005.

As It Is in Heaven

By Arlene Hutton. April 29–May 1, 2005.

Spotlight on the Arts

* Fun Grows on Trees

Wandering along the trails and through the gardens, visitors to the Minnesota Landscape

Arboretum happen upon intriguing architectural and poetic structures incorporated into the wooded grounds. The "Totally Terrific TreeHouses" exhibit features 12 tree house designs, each honoring the beautiful trees that populate the arboretum.

Local landscape architects and designers were invited to dress up their favorite trees with artistic expressions of tree houses. Some designed utilitarian houses, some created tree house metaphors, others reflected upon the playfulness they associate with their fondest tree house memories. The most fantastical tree house, titled *Sugar Maple Ship*, was created by landscape architect and University alumnus James Robin (B.A. '70). Tucked into a heavily wooded corner of the arboretum, the best way to spot this tree house is to keep your eyes to the treetops. Robin's piece looks like a majestic ship somehow lodged high in the branches of a sugar maple. "It's pure fantasy," he explains. "But if you've ever been in a tree house when the wind is blowing, you know there is a lot of noise, a lot of motion. It's not unlike sailing."

While Robin's tree house is too far above the ground to be physically accessed, most of the other tree houses can be entered. One such house is called *Tree Scarves*, an installation of 15-foot scarves hanging from the branches of a white oak, creating a sensory experience of rustling "leaves" and flowing color. Another tree house invites adventurers to walk through the skeleton of a friendly giant who wraps his protective arms around a great bur oak.

While most of the tree house designs emphasize physical expression, two in the collection use language to illustrate their meaning. *Arms of an Elm* incorporates Joyce Kilmer's famous poem that concludes with the line: "Only God can make a tree." Hugged tightly to the sides of a large elm, this tree house carries climbers into the tree's canopy via a circular staircase. Kilmer's words along



the spiraling railing draw climbers to the top, which offers a view of the arboretum's treescape.

The Poetry of Trees, less a tree house than a meditation on tree climbing, is the most literary work in the exhibit. Using salvaged lumber, the designers built a free-standing house that reaches skyward. An original poem is etched into the exterior and leads onlookers around and around as they read the poem. "The poetry is really about how trees reach up," says Janet Dray, a senior designer with the Cunningham Group, the firm that created the project. "When you're inside the tree house, it's internally focused. But when you look up and outwards, you see the world around you." Reflecting her personal memories of climbing high into the trees, Dray's verse reads: "as one climbs to the heights inside/ there is a connection to nature/ the experience becomes external."

"Totally Terrific TreeHouses" is open through October 10, when fall colors will be peaking.

A House of Trees was designed by Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle Architects, at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum through October 10.

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. Visit www.bellmuseum.org.

The Lion's Mane: Science in the Serengeti

Through a series of ingenious and sometimes humorous

experiments, University of Minnesota researchers Craig Packer and Peyton West finally discovered the answer to the age-old question of why lions have manes. The exhibit includes videos of lions, sounds of the Serengeti, and interactive displays, including an animatronic lion and an actual lion dummy Packer and West used in their field experiments. September 18–November 28.

MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM

The Arboretum is located nine miles west of Interstate 494 on Highway 5 in Chanhassen. Admission is \$7, free for those 15 and under and for arboretum members. Call 952-443-1400 or visit www.arboretum.umn.edu.

Fall Festival

The annual fall harvest celebration includes apple dumplings and other apple treats, a pie-eating

contest, pumpkin decorating, treasure hunts in a hay pit, and live entertainment. Fall Fest coincides with the "Totally Terrific TreeHouses" exhibit, which is open through October 10. Most activities are free with gate admission. October 2, 9–3 p.m.

2004-05

NORTHROP AUDITORIUM

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DANCE SEASON

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DANCE GROUP Jan. 22
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THE 2004:05 MAINSTAGE SEASON

OCTOBER 15-24

OUR
COUNTRY'S
GOOD

By Timberlake Wertenbaker
Directed by Kenneth Mitchell

NOVEMBER 12-21

BLACK
COMEDY

By Peter Shaffer
Directed by Joel Sass
with Luverne Seifert

DECEMBER 10-12

University
Dance
Theatre

With choreography
by Cowles Guest Artists

FEBRUARY 11-27

EVENING OF
PUPPETRY
ONE ACTS:

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APRIL 8-17

The
Laramie
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Directed by Bonnie Schock

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Spotlight on the Arts

* Artists Interplay with Media

This fall, artists and academics will gather in the Twin Cities to wrestle with the blurring lines between traditional media forms. A hallmark of this conference is the "Interplay" exhibition at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery, a juried selection of artworks by 13 University of Minnesota alumni artists. "The broad theme is 'interplay,' and within that the most obvious would be

interplay between media," says Jan Estep, a University art professor and coordinator of the exhibit. But, as exhibit-goers will discover, these emerging artists mix some unexpected media. Estep promises a gallery packed with mixed-media painting and sculpture as well as photography, graphics, and public art.

One such selection straddles the boundaries between public art and graffiti. Ruthann Godollei (M.F.A. '83), an art professor at Macalester College, returns to her alma mater to display the renegade placards she created for slapping onto newspaper boxes. "I was really concerned about the censorship of the news in the interest of [national] security," Godollei explains. "So I decided to comment on things in the front page." Godollei originally got the inspiration for this work in the early 1990s during the Gulf War, when she noticed that the violent, inflammatory content on page one—often images of bloodied bodies and bombing aftermaths—



Bird (left) by Katherine Turczan and Skates (right) by Celeste Nelms are part of an exhibit of photos by McKnight Photography Fellows, at the Nash Gallery through September 30.

generally appeared without context, assaulting passersby from a perch in the box's window.

Godollei "interplays" in two ways. First, she contrasts the mainstream media news with personal, critical commentary on what she sees.

"This also sets up interplay between real life, how the news mediates it, and art," she says. At first glance, Godollei's placards appear to be part of the newspaper boxes or marketing messages from the

vendor. But upon closer inspection one sees they are pointed criticisms of how news is presented. "What's very strange about this exhibit is that it's sort of outing me as a graffiti artist," Godollei says. "You could call them graffiti except they're not meant to stay up. They're meant to be a very public form of address."

An installation by Scott Stulen (M.F.A. '04) similarly draws upon graffiti influences but has radically different results. Stulen's piece is "a large wall drawing that plays with existing architecture." Using colored pencils, ink pens, and inexpensive craft materials, such as felt, Stulen covers walls and other surfaces in the Nash Gallery with many smaller images that culminate into one cohesive experience. "It's a buildup of small, little images that make a lot of space," he says. "A lot of designs will be intertwined so it looks like wallpaper."

Stulen's interplay is on the theme of childhood memories. He

Museums and Galleries

BELL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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

Birds in Art

An exhibit of original bird art includes paintings, drawings, mixed media, and sculpture created by artists from around the world. The range covers work so lifelike that it truly looks like photography, as well as depictions of birds in a variety of media. December 5–February 6.

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. Visit www.weisman.umn.edu.

Alfred Maurer: The First American Modern

This exhibition examines this underappreciated artist through the single largest public collection of his work. Maurer was an active member of the American avant-garde in the early 20th century. February 5–April 24, 2005.

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.

Color across the Collections

The exploration of the formal, cultural, and historic properties of color will be explored through the Goldstein's permanent collections of costume, decorative arts, textiles, and graphic design. October 3–January 9.

Hip Art That's Square

The innovative design of vinyl record covers is highlighted in this exhibition. January 30–April 3, 2005.

HUMPHREY INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In the Humphrey Center atrium, 309 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, 612-624-1190.

Forty Years and Forever

An exhibit commemorating the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act includes documents, artifacts, photographs,

and sound and video recordings representing the debate surrounding conservation and use of America's wilderness, beginning more than a century ago. September 17–December 15.

KATHERINE E. NASH GALLERY

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

New Photography/McKnight Fellows

The winners of the 2003–04 McKnight Photography Fellowships—Terry Gydesen, Celeste Nelms, Xavier Tavera, and Katherine Turczan—exhibit their work. Through September 30.

Interplay

The work of University alumni artists who work in mixed media. October 5–November 11.

Ask the Experts

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Jane says: You can double the impact of your gift by taking advantage of either the new President's Scholarship Match or the 21st Century Graduate Fellowship Endowment. When you establish an endowed fund (\$25,000+), the U of M matches the annual payout (about 5 percent) of the fund's market value. Your gift may be paid over five years and can include cash, stock, or real estate. At age 59½, you have the added option of using money from your IRA.

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Above: Detail from *The Crunchy Snow on the Other Side of the Basement*; ink, glow-in-the-dark acrylic fabric paint, colored pencil, and marker (2004); by Scott Stulen. Above right: *Big Deal/We Kill People*, inkjet print on newspaper box (2004), by Ruthann Godollei. Both artists will show their work in "Interplay," an exhibition of work by alumni artists, at the Nash Gallery October 5–November 11.

composes his piece with spiral-graph drawings, which have a decorative, floral quality, as well as pop graffiti and sketches and doodles inspired by the notebook of a typical seventh-grader. These disparate images are tied together with an original audio composition, which he says "binds" together many foggy memories. "Each viewer brings a different reading to my work based on their own childhood and pop cultural memories," he says.

The Interplay exhibit runs October 5 through November 11.

Spotlight on the Arts

* A Choral Odyssey

The University's School of Music—whose faculty members, students, and visiting artists perform concerts for the public throughout the school year—also presents a series that brings the world's finest choral groups to campus.

Now in its third year, InterPlay (not related to the "Interplay" art exhibit featured on page 34) delivers local audiences an eclectic blend of music by diverse international choruses. "It really is designed to [explore] the interactions of various cultures and various music," says Craig Carnahan, manager of the Ted Mann Concert Hall and founder of the series. Furthermore, says Carnahan, the series gives the University an opportunity to showcase the marvelous acoustics of the Ted Mann Concert Hall, a treasure for orchestral and choral music groups.

The King's Singers opens the InterPlay series on November 9 with a concert that blends classical favorites with the group's signature playfulness. Hailing from Cambridge University's renowned King's College in England, the King's Singers is a men's vocal ensemble comprised of graduates of the



Bobby McFerrin performs at the Ted Mann Concert Hall February 1, 2005.

college's prestigious music program. These singers have gone on to establish a postgraduate tradition that is regarded as one of the most innovative in the world.

"They're known for being really gregarious showmen," Carnahan says of the King's Singers. Six male singers—two countertenors, a tenor, two baritones, and a bass—are the core of the ensemble. Together they sing closely knit a cappella harmonies, covering up to five full octaves between them. And although they long ago pledged their allegiance to the formal English choral form, their work is anything but rigid. They turn tradition on its ear by experimenting with everything from international folk songs to choral remakes of Beatles classics.

The Vienna Boys' Choir appears on the Ted Mann stage on November 20. More than any other choir, the Vienna Boys' Choir is steeped in lore. Prepubescent male sopranos are handpicked from throughout Europe to converge at a Vienna boarding school where they devote themselves to the rigid lifestyle of constant rehearsals and tours required to maintain the finest boys' choir in the world. The fruit of their labors is a rich musical tradition best known for



Top: The Sixteen performs at the Ted Mann April 10, 2005.

Bottom: Soweto Gospel Choir performs at the Ted Mann March 1, 2005.

consistency and precision in difficult classical works. The choir has earned the respect of generations of the world's finest composers and musicians. "They literally trace their heritage five centuries all the way back to Mozart and Haydn,"

says Carnahan. "To have that musical history is simply unparalleled in the world." As such, the Vienna Boys' Choir will perform music spanning the choir's long history, from well-known classics to contemporary classical arrangements.

The InterPlay series continues this winter and spring with concerts by South Africa's Soweto Gospel Choir on March 1 and England's the Sixteen on April 10. InterPlay subscribers also have first picks at tickets for special concerts by the inventive gay men's choir Chanticleer on October 15 and renowned vocal improviser Bobby McFerrin on February 1. Call 612-624-2345 for tickets.

Music

NORTHROP JAZZ SEASON

Call 612-624-2345 or visit www.northrop.umn.edu.

Mark O'Conner's Hot Swing Trio
November 3, 8 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. SE, Minneapolis.

Directions in Music: A Celebration of Miles Davis and John Coltrane
Featuring Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker, and Roy Hargrove.
February 27, 2005, 7 p.m., at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis.

Ornette Coleman Quartet
Co-presented by Walker Art Center. April 22, 2005, 8 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. SE, Minneapolis.

Jason Moran and the Bandwagon
The world premiere of "Milestone." Co-presented by Walker Art Center. May 20-21, 2005, 8 p.m., at the Walker, 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis.

Pharoah Sanders

The trio accompanies Alonzo King's Lines Ballet. February 11-12, 8 p.m., at Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE, Minneapolis.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Events are free unless otherwise noted. To confirm events visit www.music.umn.edu or call 612-626-8742. All venues are in Minneapolis: the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S.; the Lloyd Ultan Recital, Ferguson Hall, 2106 Fourth St. S.; Northrop Auditorium, 84 Church St. SE; the Regis Center for Art, 405 21st Ave. S.

Symphony Orchestra
October 3, 2 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Stravinsky's Le Renard
October 4-5, 7:30 p.m.; October 8, 5 p.m., at the Regis Center for Art.

Wind Ensemble
October 12, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Jazz Ensemble I

October 14, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Zagreb Saxophone Quartet
October 15, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

Symphonic Band
October 20, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

University Band and Campus Orchestra
October 21, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Homecoming Collage Concert
An annual favorite, this extravaganza features over 500 student and faculty performers.
October 23, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

University Opera Theatre
Poulenc's *La Voix Humaine* and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*. October 28-30, 7:30 p.m.; October 31, 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall. Call 612-624-2345 for tickets.

Bergen Woodwind Quintet

November 4, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Percussion Extravaganza
November 6, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Jazz Ensemble II and III
November 8, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Concert Choir and Chamber Singers
November 14, 3 p.m., Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Livewire Electronic Music Concert
November 19, 7:30 p.m., in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall.

Marching Band Indoor Concerts
November 20, 7 p.m.; November 21, 3 p.m., at Northrop Auditorium. Call 612-624-2345 for tickets.

Sounds of the Season: Women's and Men's Choruses
December 3, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

Gospel Choir
December 13, 7 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall.

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CARMEN Georges Bizet, April 16-24, 2005
NIXON IN CHINA John Adams, May 14-22, 2005

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Spotlight on the Arts

* Great Minds, Great Conversations

University faculty with national or international figures in discussions about some of the most pressing issues that affect our community and world. Although they take place on the Ted Mann Concert Hall stage, these "Great Conversations" are intimate and informal, and audience members are invited to follow up with their own questions.

The fall 2004 "Great Conversations" series kicks off on October 11 with a discussion about the state of women's sports. Mary Jo Kane, professor in the Department of Kinesiology and director of the University's Tucker Center for the Study of Women and Girls in Sport, will sit down with guest Donna Lopiano, softball hall-of-famer and executive director of the New York-based Women's Sports Foundation. "The discussion will be framed around Title IX," says Kane, who trumpets its success. "In one generation we've gone from girls hoping there will be a team to girls hoping they will *make* the team."

Nothing illuminates a stage and an audience quite like two great minds sharing ideas. The College of Continuing Education's "Great Conversations" series pairs

University faculty with national or international figures in discussions about some of the most pressing issues that affect our community and world. Although they take place on the Ted Mann Concert Hall stage, these "Great Conversations" are intimate and informal, and audience members are invited to follow up with their own questions.

On November 10, J. Brian Atwood, dean of the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, sits down with Clare Short, a

former member of the British Parliament, to consider "An International Perspective on Politics." Short, who may be best known for resigning in protest of her nation's participation in the Iraq war, is also admired as a political watchdog, a reputation she solidified when she openly criticized her government for its illegal surveillance of the offices of United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan. "She's probably one of the most popular politicians in the U.K.," says Atwood. "Even Tories [conservatives] like her because she is very straightforward in the way she addresses the issues."

Atwood and Short's conversation falls just one week following the U.S. presidential election, and Atwood plans to solicit Short's perspective on the results. He says he also would like to explore her thoughts about Great Britain's political landscape, especially concerning Tony Blair's political future.

Atwood says his conversation with Short might be a bit one-sided, as he is eager for Minnesotans to get to know her and appreciate her place on the international political stage. But Atwood, never short of opinions on the national and international political scene, does promise to hold up his end and weigh in on the presidential election. "We'll be following the election very closely from the Humphrey Institute."

See the listing below for complete "Great Conversations" information.



Humphrey Institute dean J. Brian Atwood and former British Parliament member Clare Short (left) discuss "An International Perspective on Politics" on November 10.



Readings and Speakers

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

Author reading and book-signing events are free. Call 612-625-6366.

Gerald Stern

The author of 12 books of poetry and a collection of personal essays, *What I Can't Bear Losing: Notes from a Life*. September 20, 7:30 p.m., in the Coffman Theater, at Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis.

Linda Gregerson

The author of three books of poetry, including *Waterborne*. October 20, 7:30 p.m., at the Bell Museum of History, 10 Church St. SE, Minneapolis.

Lan Samantha Chang

The author of *Inheritance and Hunger: A Novella and Stories*. November 16, 7:30 p.m., in the A.I. Johnson Great Room, at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Minneapolis.

FIRST TUESDAY LUNCHEON SERIES

Jim Cracchiolo

The president of Global Financial Services at American Express speaks on "Values Creating Value: Responsibility Beyond the Bottom Line," hosted by the Carlson School of Management. October 5, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Radisson Hotel, 615 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis. Call 612-626-9634.

GREAT CONVERSATIONS

The College of Continuing Education presents a series of discussions in which University experts pair up with national and international experts to shed light on political, social, environmental, and other pressing issues. All conversations take place at the Ted Mann Concert Hall, 2128 Fourth St. S., Minneapolis. Tickets are \$28.50 each or \$115 for the series (\$23.50 each and \$95 for the series for UMAA members). Call 612-624-2345.

A Revolution in Women's Sports,

with Mary Jo Kane, director of the U's Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport, and Donna Lopiano, director of the Women's Sports Foundation. October 11.

An International Perspective on Politics, with Humphrey Institute dean J. Brian Atwood and Clare Short, former member of British Parliament. November 10.

Gender and Race in Medical Treatment, with U cardiology professor Anne Taylor and Vivian Pinn, director of the Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health, February 8, 2005.

The Way Things Work, with U librarian Wendy Pradt Lougee and Henry Petroski, civil engineering and history professor at Duke University. March 9, 2005.

The Struggle and Hope for Southern Africa, with U history professor Allan Isaacman and Graca Machel,

former first lady of Mozambique. April 19, 2005.

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

The University Bookstore brings authors to campus for readings and book-signings. Coffman Memorial Union, 300 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis. Visit www.bookstores.umn.edu/genref.

- Peter Sheridan, September 21, 2 p.m.
- Amy Cypra Olive, September 22, 2 p.m.
- David Domke, September 23, 2 p.m.
- Nick Flynn, September 27, 7 p.m.
- Dave Dempsey, September 29, 2 p.m.
- Thomas Frank, October 13, 2 p.m.
- Jessica Hagedorn, October 14, 2 p.m.
- Augusten Burroughs, October 22, 6:30 p.m.
- Kimberly Zisk Marten, November 23, noon.

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The



Company Q,

an all-women's military drill unit established at the University in 1888, endured months of snickering only to win over its critics. **BY TIM BRADY**

Broom Brigade

From the day it reopened after the Civil War, in 1867, the University of Minnesota enrolled women in its classes. Only the third state college to admit women, the sexes shared classrooms and college experiences. But they also maintained separate spheres dictated by gender and the Victorian mores of the time. Men at the University could play football, join the debate club, and enjoy the liberties of youth; women at the U were given "a room of their own," in the form of a ladies' lounge in Old Main, that was strictly off-limits to men.

Most at the U of M were proud of its coeducation and felt it signified a progressive, "Western" view of higher education. One of the 11 women in the 1888 class of 35 graduates was Ima Winchell. In an essay in the campus journal *Ariel*, she wrote: "What a revolution! The opening of the higher institutions of learning to women has marked an era in history. Young women began to desire a college education and to appreciate the powers that they possessed, only needing development in order to place them where they could do their part in the world's work. This higher education spread before women many fields of work, and opened to her pursuits hitherto unknown."

Of course, not all fields were open to her in the Victorian era. In fact, just a few months after Ima Winchell's graduation, the women of the University would band together and knock firmly on a door that had been closed to them since the U's inception. What followed brought no earth-shattering change to the University of Minnesota, but it was probably the first collective action by female students of the U, and turned out to be the seminal link in a chain that would lead all the way to the present.

A brief note tucked in with some other campus announcements in the back pages of the October 31, 1888, *Ariel* signaled the coming turn of events: "Lieutenant Edwin Glenn has a battalion of about one hundred and seventy-five volunteers, whom he instructs in military science and tactics every day in the Coliseum," it read. "The ladies of the University have also petitioned for military drill, which will be granted them as soon as the nec-

essary arrangements can be made."

While it might seem odd that the Victorian-era women of the University of Minnesota would be eager to tote rifles and promenade, this request for equal opportunity made perfect sense to the women of the class of '89. Military drill was a popular form of exercise in the post-Civil War era, and judged drill competitions between rival college battalions was a familiar entertainment.

It wasn't so much the chance to play with guns that inspired the coeds as the chance to move their feet and stretch their muscles. Gratia Countryman, who would later become a guiding force in the Minneapolis Public Library system, was one of lieutenant Glenn's petitioners. Years after the events, she would recall the genesis of the women's drill squad: "As I remember, the girls of my day had no provision for physical development or exercise. The boys had football and baseball. They had bicycles long before there were any provided for women. I cannot recall that there were tennis courts or any provision for anything in which women could participate. So when Lieutenant Glenn was engaged to give military drill to the boys, the girls felt that we deserved some attention, too."

A lot of "girls" felt they deserved the attention. Countryman hints that because the faculty, which received the petition, and Glenn, who would be instructing, were doubtful about the seriousness of the women on campus, they were quick to grant permission.

But the coeds came out in droves, and before the University



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C. L. Jacoby

knew what had hit it, there was a company of women doing military drill on campus. They quickly designed a uniform and gave themselves a name: Company Q. The Q, according to some, stood for "queens," though company members never revealed its precise meaning to the public.

Meanwhile, campus "kings" were left a little open-mouthed by all of this. The all-male staff of the *Ariel* gave a tongue-in-cheek description of Company Q's first meeting: "One morning near the close of the fall term the young ladies were made happy by the announcement that Lieutenant Glenn would be in the parlor after chapel to meet those of them who wished to receive military instruction. The girls flew down stairs, increasing the cadence to two hundred and forty steps a minute, and before the Lieutenant could enunciate a preparatory command he was surrounded by about a hundred raw recruits, all doing their best to throw him into confusion."

Actually, the number of women who signed up for the company was closer to 50, including elected officers: captain Ada Smith, first lieutenant Gratia Countryman, second lieutenant Louise Montgomery, and first sergeant Clara Baldwin. Their uniforms were made of the same gray-blue broadcloth as the men's



MONTHS OF SECRETIVE TRAINING LED TO GREAT ANTICIPATION—AND TEASING—BEFORE COMPANY Q'S TRIUMPHANT DEBUT. AMONG THE MEMBERS WERE (ABOVE, FRONT LEFT) CAPTAIN ADA SMITH, STAFF LIEUTENANT EDWIN GLENN, AND FIRST LIEUTENANT GRATIA COUNTRYMAN (ALSO PICTURED AT LEFT).

uniforms. Black stripes lined the floor-length skirts and crisscrossed the blouses. Wooden guns were issued instead of the real things, but according to Countryman, they "served perfectly well."

Two squads were formed and the women drilled daily through the winter months of 1888–89, behind closed doors in the Coliseum. They used their wooden guns to practice the manual of arms, and learned a standard set of drills and marches that included step, double step, common time, quick time, back and side steps, marching in line and column, and by the flank and to the rear. They learned to

oblique, turn, and wheel, on both fixed and moveable points. They also did "sundry calisthenics and other gymnastics," according to Countryman.

Maybe it was the closed doors of the Coliseum; maybe it was the mystery of the company's name, or the general secretiveness of its operations; maybe it was the "sub-bass war-whoops" passers-by heard coming from inside; but a certain mystique gathered around the women who were drilling, evident in a march-step poem that eventually appeared in the pages of *Ariel*:



MEMBERS OF COMPANY Q STRUCK A MENACING POSE, ALTHOUGH THEIR RIFLES WERE ONLY WOODEN PROPS. THE POPULARITY OF THE DRILL UNIT LED TO THE CREATION OF A DEPARTMENT FOR WOMEN'S PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

"Q? Q? Q? Q?"

What is Company 'Q'?

A troop of girls,

A troop well known as the pride of the U,

A troop deserving of homage, too

Maids who dress in black and blue,

Maids whose cheeks are ruddy in hue,

Maids who are blithe and bonny and true—

Such a troop is Company 'Q.'"

Word of these happenings at the U spread beyond the campus, but not everyone who heard the legend of Company Q was as charmed as the poet. The *Minneapolis Tribune* was brutal in its assessment: "The girls [at the University] should be taught to sweep, dust, sew, promenade the floor with twenty-five bundles, build kitchen fires, and other domestic feats, instead of being initiated into the mysteries of military tactics," it published in a December 1888 editorial.

Back on campus, the editors at *Ariel* took a more sophisticated stance on the matter—and dipped it in sarcasm:

"In spite of all statements to the contrary, and in spite of the fact that the women of our day practice law and medicine, edit newspapers, engage in politics and even teach school, we assert that the equality of the sexes is far from established, even in the advanced civilization which is supposed to permeate the University. If it were, we should not have to record the unjust discrimination which was exercised against the ladies in the matter of military instruction. Of course the ladies are entitled to the advantages of military drill and we are glad that they have made known their wishes to the faculty. A 'broom brigade' will doubtless add materially to the value of the University as an educational center."

The "broom brigade" made its first public appearance in March 1889 for a photo-taking session for the *Gopher* yearbook. *Ariel*, which kept up the persistent snickering, was quick to note the wooden guns and the fact that the officers of Company Q had to borrow swords for the occasion. It also described a crowd disappointed with the fact that Q did not perform an exhibition drill after its photo session.

Those clamoring to see the women in action had to wait until commencement week for the opportunity, but they would not be disappointed. Before a large, Saturday night crowd gathered for a pre-graduation ceremony and ball at the coliseum, the women

of Company Q took the floor. They proceeded to go through their setting up exercises, the manual of arms, and their numerous marching movements "with scarcely a break." By the time they'd finished, the audience was on its feet, whooping.

"We were never accused of complimenting the ladies, or repeating to them those of others, but the truth must be told," wrote the editors of *Ariel*, "Company Q has been a brilliant success."

So brilliant, in fact, that by the start of the next school year the University decided to make drill a requirement for freshmen coeds. There were now so many young women under Glenn's command that he was forced to create a second company, which was dubbed "Q-Prime."

Gratia Countryman remained a loyal soldier through the next year, her last at the University. She recalled the growing expertise of Q in her reminiscence of the company: "The second year, Miss Baldwin was Captain and a splendid one. We were giving an exhibition with the galleries packed. The Company was marching in fours and seemed to be marching straight into a wall, from which we saw no escape, when she suddenly gave an order to wheel, and we made a beautiful turn with less than a yard to spare. We were greeted with explosions of applause."

Company Q remained a campus institution for just three more years. In the summer of 1892, the University of Minnesota hired Louise Kiehle to head a newly created Department of Physical Culture for women on campus, obviating the need for the exercise that came with military drill. A more conventional regimen of physical fitness was established for coeds, including a tennis program, calisthenics, and by 1897, basketball. In time, the department would change and grow into several sub-groups, including the department of Women's Intercollegiate Athletics, now merged with men's athletics into a single unit.

Though it would take many years for these humble beginnings to blossom into the Gopher women's sports teams we know today, here was the seed. Long gone are the wooden guns and the blue and black broadcloth uniforms. Long gone is Q. But it's fair to say that echoes of the 1889 whoops can still be heard after every display of women's athleticism at the U, from a free throw in the humblest of intramural games to a driving layup by Janelle McCarville in a tournament game at Williams Arena. ■

Tim Brady is a St. Paul freelance writer.



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Fans easily pick out **Paula Gentil** because her uniform is a different color than those of her Gopher volleyball teammates. But it's her talent, competitiveness, and instincts that make her really stand out.

She's Everywhere

TWO YEARS AGO Gopher volleyball fans got a treat: A new player at a new position darted on and off the court outside the normal substitution rules, subbing for any back row player, providing her team exceptional defense and a competitive spark. That new position was the libero, a back-row defender who wears a jersey a different color from her teammates. That new player was Brazilian Paula Gentil, Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year in her first two years and a second-team all-American last year as a sophomore.

Given her ball-handling prowess, Gentil (pronounced zhen-SHOE) has Gopher coach Mike Hebert's blessing to play the backcourt like a center fielder, taking any ball she wants. Her defense, combined with the setting of senior Lindsey Taatjes of Prinsburg, Minnesota, and the attacking of former Gopher Cassie Busse of Prior Lake, Minnesota, led the Gophers to the 2002 Big Ten title and to the NCAA Final Four in 2003, when Gentil set a Big Ten record for digs in a season.

"People like Paula come along once in a blue moon," Hebert says. "She has tremendous instincts in anticipating. She can read the entire court and be in the right place at the right time way better than anyone else on our team. That's experience and it's also a gift. I've talked to her and asked, 'What do you see?' She says, 'Oh, I just go there.' To Paula, it's obvious where the ball's going to be. Her instincts, her reading ability, her anticipation are just way beyond the normal player. Not only that, she has great technique."

Gentil provokes plenty of oohs and aahs with deft digs, pinpoint serve reception, and seamless coverage of the back court, where she plays daringly far forward of the back line. "I don't want the ball to go down, because I don't want that hitter to look good," she says. "I don't want her to get a kill because, that kill might make the momentum of the game turn around."

BY JULIE JENSEN | PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAN MARSHALL



Hebert gives Gentil free rein simply because she is so good. "What you want is to have your best players contacting the ball as many times as possible," he says. "She's extremely good at ball control from almost any position on the court. And so Paula has the green light to take every ball she can touch. In the beginning, some of the players felt offended and I had to straighten that out and say, 'When you start passing at her average, you can take that many balls, too, but you're not as good as she is.'"

Her emotional and expansive style took a little getting used to, say her coach, teammates, and Gentil herself. But now, her talent and the team's success have made everyone more comfortable. "We're both really intense," says senior outside hitter

Erin Martin, "so it's nice to have someone else like me out there. We all knew the position, but we had to adjust to her being everywhere on the court."

In playing shallow, Gentil sometimes passes the ball like a soccer goalie knocking the ball away from the goal: Her forearms up, her wrists together just above her forehead, she deflects the rocketing ball to a Gopher setter. Other times she lurks behind two blockers and, squatting, softly taps the ball up. In serve reception, she waits, swaying slightly, for 50-miles-per-hour serves. Once the ball hits Gentil's forearms, it gracefully changes speed, direction, and spin, landing softly on Taatjes's fingertips.

Despite her intensity, Hebert says Gentil is remarkably con-

trolled on the court. "I've never had to rein her in or pump her up," he says. "She's very much in control of her emotions. She knows when to let it out, when to get excited. The mistakes that Paula makes are rarely due to being out of control emotionally. She's a low-maintenance player. She understands competing. She doesn't dwell on mistakes."

That controlled competitiveness is what then-Gopher assistant Brian Heffernan noticed in the spring of 2002 while scouting a different athlete at a tournament in Florida. "On the other side of the net was Paula," recalls Heffernan, now head coach at Washington State. "It was clear that back row was a passion for her. This was an athlete who was so gifted, so special, she was a player who could make a difference. She's unshakable. Paula wants the ball all the time. She can have an off night, but it's never because she's scared or nervous. Paula is a fierce, fierce competitor."

At 17, Gentil had left her family, which includes an older sister and younger brother, in Fortaleaza Ceará, Brazil, to live for two years in Orlando, Florida. She describes her hometown volleyball as under-respected by the rest of Brazil and she came to the United States with something to prove. While finishing high school and playing for a Florida club team, the 5-foot-9 then-outside hitter attracted colleges' attention. At the time, international-level volleyball had the libero position but the college game did not, so although defensive specialists were sometimes rewarded with scholarship assistance after proving their worth, they were not recruited.

But Hebert had a hunch. "I felt there was a strong chance that the libero rule was going to be implemented in her freshman year," he recalls. "I saw enough on tape for me to understand that she was a very special player. I made the decision—we're going to offer a scholarship to a back-row player. She wanted to become a libero. She wanted to be here. The rule was passed. Everything fell into place very nicely."

Gentil said she chose Minnesota on her first visit to the Sports Pavilion. "For some reason, I just walked in this gym and I had goose bumps," she recalls. "I called my mom in Brazil and told her she should start buying some winter clothes."

"One of the reasons I came here is that Mike is pretty flexible," Gentil continues. "All he wants is that I put the ball up. He doesn't care how."

Hebert says that's true but concedes he's had to swallow hard a few times. "She plays very shallow on the court, way more shallow than anybody I've ever coached," Hebert says. "I tried to change her at first but then I realized, that's her style. She likes to do this a lot [play the ball above her head with her forearms]. But she gets the ball to the setter a lot so I'm not going to change anything."

Last December, the Gophers' dream run ended in the national semifinals against the University of Southern California. Thanks to superior height and talent, the eventual national champions were able to hit away from Gentil. That still rankles her and she worked in the off-season to develop even more mobility. "Sometimes a dig can turn the game around, but they didn't let that happen," Gentil says. "Of course, I want to get back there. That's the ultimate goal, the dream, to be in the Final Four."

Off the court, Gentil is working toward a demanding dual degree in genetics and cell biology and in child psychology. A stay-at-home sort who spends her spare time watching TV or rented movies, she regularly checks in with her family and fiancé in Brazil. Her dad has seen her play for the Gophers, and this fall her mom will make her first visit to the Sports Pavilion.

That's not all Gentil is looking forward to this season. Starting this fall, the NCAA will allow a libero to serve in place of one teammate. "Now it's the perfect position. Those are the two things I like to do—defense and serve," Gentil says. Hebert fights off a smile. "Paula's a terrific server, so things are working out even better than we'd hoped." ■

Julie Jensen (B.A. '79) is a freelance writer in St. Paul.

An Unconventional Offense

LAST YEAR'S FOURTH-RANKED Gopher volleyball team made the national championship semifinals for the first time in school history. This season, 11 of 14 letter-winners, including five seniors, return. But Gopher coach Mike Hebert, *Volleyball Magazine* 2003 National Coach of the Year, decided that losing Cassie Busse and her 1,502 kills (sixth on Minnesota's all-time list) called for a makeover.

This fall, Hebert plans to try an unconventional offense with two setters—Lindsey Taatjes, a 5-foot-10 senior from Prinsburg, Minnesota, and 5-11 sophomore Kelly Bowman of Maple Grove, Minnesota. "Two of our very best volleyball players are our two setters," Hebert says. "Three of our best players with all-around skills and knowledge of the game are our libero and defensive specialists. So those five people need to be on the court. It's a matter of how we get to 30 before the other team: by putting the best people on the court, I think."

The three defenders—junior libero Paula Gentil of Fortaleaza Ceará, Brazil; senior Lisa Reinhart of White Bear Lake, Minnesota; and sophomore Marci Peniata of Plymouth, Minnesota, were dominant in spring season games, Hebert says. Returning senior left-side hitters Erin Martin (1,123 kills) of Ames, Iowa, and Trisha Bradford (934 kills) of Reseda, California, join returning middle blockers Jessica Byrnes (194 blocks), a junior from Minnetonka, Minnesota, and Meredith Nelson (168 blocks), a sophomore from St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, to give the Gophers plenty of depth and experience. "This year we'll be relying on all the pieces working together more than we did last year," says Hebert. "We're going to live and die by our serving and back-row defense this year."

Penn State's Russ Rose believes the Gophers are more likely to live than die this season. "I predict Minnesota will win the conference but I also predict that there are going to be many tough matches," says Rose, coach of the 2003 Big Ten champs.

The Gophers start Big Ten play September 24 and 25 at home against Michigan State and Michigan. Minnesota will host one of the four NCAA regional finals December 7 and 8.

—J.J.

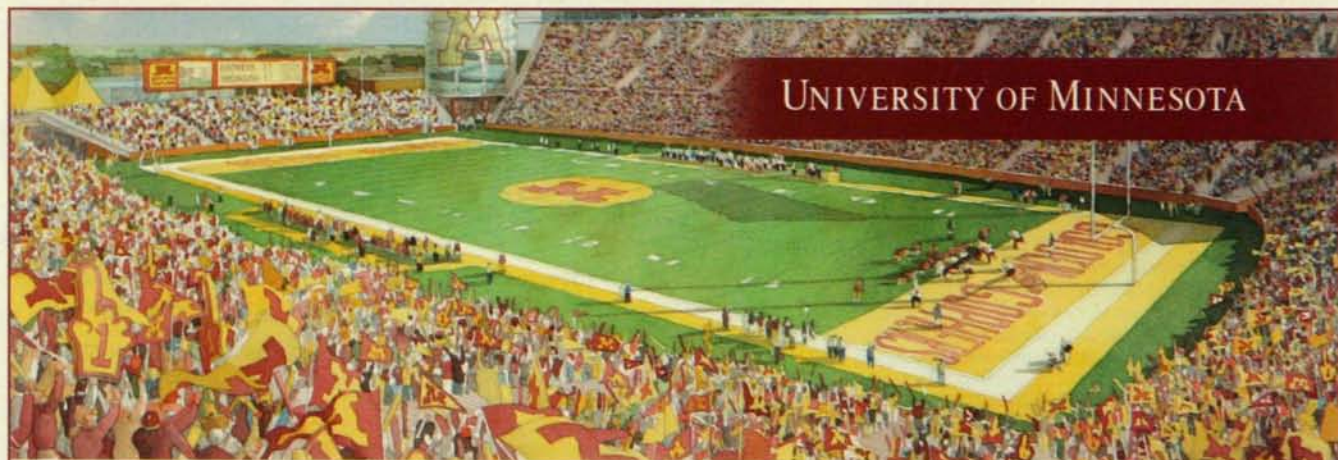
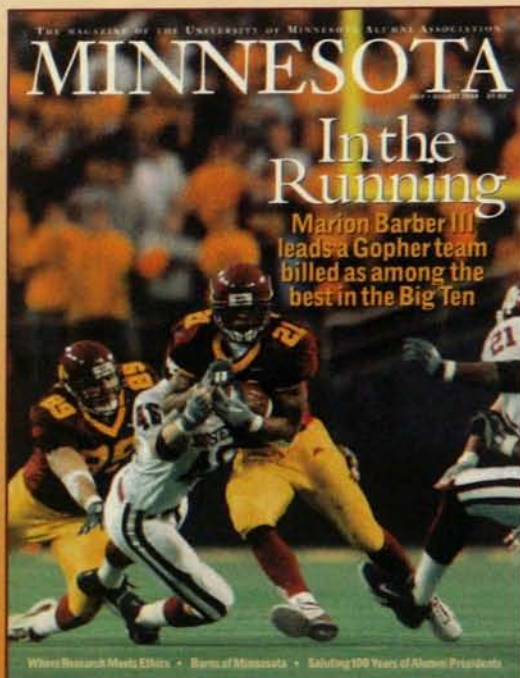
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SPORTS NOTEBOOK



The U's Olympic Contingent

Lindsey Berg (B.S. '01) is one of the University's newest Olympians. Berg was one of 12 members of the U.S. Olympic women's volleyball team, which finished play in late August, after this issue had gone to press.

Berg, a native of Honolulu, was one of two setters on the U.S. Olympic team. At Minnesota, she was named the Big Ten's best setter three times and stands second on the school list for service aces and third in assists.

Garrett Lowney, a 2000 Olympic bronze medalist in Sydney, represented the United States in Greco-Roman wrestling. The Appleton, Wisconsin, native was a 2001 and 2002 Gopher wrestling all-American.

Mike Wherley (B.A. '95) competed in the U.S. four-man boat in the rowing competition. Wherley, who grew up in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and rowed for the U's club rowing team for five years, competed in the 2000 Olympic Games in the four-man boat.

A handful of current and former Gopher swimmers were set to compete for their home countries. Sophomores Igor Cerensek and Mario Delac competed for Croatia, former Gophers Mike Brown for Canada, Martin Gustavsson for Sweden, and Allen Ong (B.S. '03) for Malaysia.

Meet Mikki

Mikki Denney Wright (B.A. '97) remembers when Minnesota had the best women's soccer team in the Upper Midwest. Minnesota won a Big Ten title and made two NCAA appearances in her three years as a player, then went on to make three more NCAA tournaments and win another conference title under head coach Sue Montagne, who moved on to Georgia after the 1999 season.

Wright was hired as Minnesota's women's soccer coach in January, after four consecutive losing seasons for the Gophers. A native of Omaha, Nebraska, Wright was an assistant at Nebraska-

Omaha and Missouri before returning to Minnesota.

Q: What needs to happen for the team to return to the chemistry and success it once had?

A: We're trying to build a whole culture of excellence. It can't just be one or two players, it has to be the whole program. That was the number one reason I came here [as a player]. I know we can have that again by working as hard as we can and creating an intense and competitive training atmosphere. I wish it would happen

tomorrow, but realistically it will take a few years. We're building a new foundation.

Second, we have to get the best players to come here, keep the top Minnesota players at home. [To do that] we have to heal relationships within the soccer community, with the coaches and young players out there.

Q: The last few years, Minnesota has struggled to score goals. What will look different to fans this season?

A: We'll have an entirely different style of play. It'll be possession-oriented soccer with [pushing for] attacking chances. We want to be the most competitive, attacking team in the Big Ten. . . . We've worked a lot on some technical skills and we're also doing finishing [scoring] drills almost every practice.

Q: Did you always know you wanted to be a coach?

A: My dad has been the wrestling coach at Nebraska-Omaha for 25 years, and I told him there was no way I wanted to be a coach. I could see how much time and energy it took. But when I was working on my master's degree [at the University of Denver] I coached a high-level juniors team and really enjoyed it. Once I decided I wanted to coach after all, I knew I had to get to the highest level. My dad was able to give me a lot of advice then.

[Now that I'm here] I find the biggest difference between being an assistant and being a head coach is that there is not one single moment you aren't thinking about the program and how to improve it.

New Gopher soccer Coach Mikki Denney Wright plans to return the program to where it was when she played—the top of the Big Ten.

Touchdown on Campus

Although an on-campus Gopher football stadium is at least four years away, some at the University are working to rebuild part of the on-campus game-day experience this fall. Several U units including the University Senate, the U of M Bookstores, and University Dining Services are cooperating to offer Touchdown on Campus, a set of pregame activities outside Coffman Memorial Union before each home game. Festivities will include music, food, games, and cheers. Game tickets will be sold at the events.

Touchdown on Campus begins two hours before kickoff. Ticketholders can ride a free shuttle to the Metrodome, where

more pregame activities take place. Parking in the East River Road Ramp behind Coffman is \$5 for the entire day.

Inside the Metrodome, athletics officials are working this fall to make the game feel more collegiate and less like a professional sporting event. The focus this year will be on renewing Gopher traditions, the marching band, the fans, and the game itself, rather than electronics and prerecorded music.

Minnesota begins its Big Ten home schedule against Northwestern on Saturday, September 28 with an 8 p.m. kickoff. For more, visit www.gophersports.com.

Trial Run >>>

schools: The nation's biggest early-season cross country meet is held every year in their own backyard.

The Roy Griak Invitational is run in late September every year on the U's Les Bolstad Golf Course next to the St. Paul campus. The winding, hilly course (eight kilometers for college men, six for college women, and five for high school boys and girls) attracts thousands of the nation's best young runners and thousands of spectators as well. "It's a good chance to run against top competition without having to travel," says men's coach Steve Plasencia (B.S. '79). Plasencia adds that part of the attraction is that college and high school teams can earn points toward at-large berths in their national championship races beginning the weekend of the Griak meet.

This year's meet, the 19th annual, is September 25, with races beginning at 9 a.m. with the women's Division III college race and concluding at 3 p.m. with the high school girls' race.

The Gopher men, who have made seven consecutive trips to the NCAA meet, race at noon. The squad returns all but one runner from last year and regains senior Andrew Carlson of Fargo, North Dakota, a 2002 all-American who sat out 2003 with an injury. Plasencia believes Minnesota may improve on its best-ever NCAA finish of 15th this year. The women's squad, which has raced in five of the last seven NCAA meets and returns an impressive group of sophomores and juniors, sets out at 1 p.m.

For more, visit www.gophersports.com.

The Gopher men's and women's cross country teams battle weather and urban terrain in their efforts to be among the best in the country. But they do have one big advantage over most other



With hundreds in each twisting, hilly race, runners in the Roy Griak Invitational are advised to get to the front early. The meet, run each year at the Les Bolstad Golf Course in St. Paul, is the biggest early-season cross country race in the country.



Carl Eller Inducted into Pro Hall of Fame

In 1963, Minnesota's Carl Eller, right, with Jerry Pelletier, was one of the biggest players in college football. After a stellar career with the Minnesota Vikings, Eller entered the Pro Football Hall of Fame in August. This photograph appeared in the October 1963 *Minnesota Alumni News*.



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▶ Two New Marks on the Landscape Will Honor Scholars and Alumni



The names of the University's Outstanding Achievement Award winners will be engraved on a landmark now under construction at the corner of Oak and Washington. The landmark and first part of the Scholars' Walk are expected to be dedicated at homecoming in October.

A LANDMARK WORK OF ART and the Scholars' Walk will soon grace the Minneapolis campus near the McNamara Alumni Center. Construction on the landmark at the southeastern corner of the Gateway Plaza got under way in July, while work on the first part of the Scholars' Walk began in early August. A dedication ceremony is expected to be part of homecoming festivities on Saturday, October 23.

The plaza landmark will honor the University's founding and be a place to note great alumni. Designed by McNamara Alumni Center architect Antoine Predock, the monument will extend from Washington Avenue for more than 200 feet along Oak Street toward the McNamara Alumni Center entrance. The exterior will be an oxidized steel similar in color to the copper that covers much of the alumni center. Angled sides will rise to more than 20 feet near the center of the structure. The landmark will include space for the names of alumni who have earned the University's Outstanding Achievement Award.

Approximately 2,000 tiny lights in the steel will create an artistic representation of the night sky as it appeared on February 25, 1851, the date of the University's charter. The landmark will also include a "day chamber," a viewing space with an overhanging roof. Tiny holes in the steel roof will direct sunlight onto an angled stain-

less steel panel below, creating an impression of constellations.

"This landmark not only finishes framing out the plaza, but the hope is this will be something that people want to go see," says Tom LaSalle, owner's representative for the Gateway Corporation, the nonprofit group overseeing construction and fund-raising. "I don't think you're going to find anything like this elsewhere."

The other part of the project, the Scholars' Walk, will run west from the McNamara Alumni Center and feature monuments to the U's Nobel Prize winners and recipients of other prestigious academic awards. The first phase will extend west from the alumni center several hundred feet to Union Street and is slated for completion in the spring of 2005. Eventually the walk will bisect the entire Minneapolis campus, covering some 2,000 feet and crossing Northrop Mall to Appleby Hall.

The UMAA, the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the Minnesota Medical Foundation own the Gateway Corporation. The corporation has already built the McNamara Alumni Center and the Gateway Plaza without using public funds and is doing the same with the new additions.

For updates on the landmark and the Scholars' Walk, visit www.alumni.umn.edu.

Heritage Gallery Mounts New Exhibits

THIS FALL, visitors passing through the reconstructed Memorial Stadium arch and into the Heritage Gallery inside the McNamara Alumni Center will be transported back to the days when the brick stadium itself stood on that spot. Several new exhibits, including an extensive history of Memorial Stadium, are being mounted in the multimedia museum. The Heritage Gallery celebrates the accomplishments of University alumni, faculty, and students and preserves pieces of U legend and lore.

The stadium exhibit utilizes photos, quotes, and memorabilia to take visitors back to the planning and building of the stadium in the early 1920s and through its demolition in the early 1990s. The exhibit also highlights the stadium's place in the life of the campus and its students. One feature of the exhibit is a pair of mannequins,

each dressed in period stadium-going garb on loan from the University's Goldstein Gallery. The stadium exhibit officially opens September 13 and is expected to remain up through the academic year.

The Heritage Gallery is also installing a permanent exhibit on campus mascots and their history, a yearbook reading area with chairs designed by former architecture dean Ralph Rapson, and a place for visitors to write down their University memories.

The additions are part of a four- to five-year plan to overhaul parts of the gallery to attract new and repeat visitors, as well as strengthen the sense of the University's history and contributions to the world. "I want to overwhelm visitors with a sense of, 'Wow, what a university,'" says Steve Boyd-Smith, the gallery's curator.

The long-term plan includes brightening the gallery to make it more inviting, revamping the historical timeline that stretches along one wall of the gallery, creating a new video with lights programmed to spotlight various objects in the gallery, and a freestanding cabinet to display fascinating individual items that might not fit into broader exhibits.

"This is along the lines of a cabinet of curiosities," Boyd-Smith says. "I want undergrads who come through to go back to the dorm and say, 'Man, you have *got* to go see that giant hairball.' Once they're here they'll look around and pick up a lot more about the University."

The Curtis L. and Arleen M. Carlson Heritage Gallery

WHAT: Photographs, videos, artifacts, inventions, and interactive kiosks that honor the accomplishments of University students, alumni, and faculty and preserve the history of the University.

WHERE: Off of Memorial Hall inside the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE on the Minneapolis campus.

WHEN: Open weekdays until 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit www.alumnicenter.umn.edu or call 612-624-9831.





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Report

[MEMBER SPOTLIGHT]

Bob Thaves

CARTOONIST BOB THAVES (B.A. '49, M.A. '50) doesn't think his story is all that significant. "I just don't regard myself as being notable," Thaves says with a laugh. "Someone who invents a machine that saves people's lives or changes the way the world works is, to me, making a notable achievement. Someone who draws funny pictures is not."

Yet there's no denying that Thaves has created two of the most notable—and enduring—American comic-strip characters to date. He introduced the stars and namesakes of his syndicated strip, *Frank & Ernest*, 32 years ago. Today, the strip is carried in 1,300 publications nationwide and has a robust roster of Internet subscribers. And it's a safe bet that many *Frank & Ernest* enthusiasts would say they extract more from the strip than mere amusement. Thaves' irony-laden, one-liner brand of observational humor is often inspired by the common man's interactions with perplexing cultural, political, legal, and theological questions.

The strip has earned several honors, including the Reuben Award—the cartoonists' Oscar, bestowed by colleagues—for best single panel cartoon three times in the 1980s. Thaves was named Punster of the Year by the International Save the Pun Society in 1990 and won the Free Press Association's Mencken Award, which honors work encouraging free speech, in 1985.



Bob Thaves's self-portrait

Thaves, however, insists that he's simply trying to make people laugh. "I'm not out to preach to people. I'm certainly not smart enough to know all the answers, and I'm not arrogant enough to assume that I should tell people how to live their lives," he says. "I see myself as an entertainer. I do things that amuse me, and I hope that they will amuse other people."

For Thaves, a native Iowan who turns 80 in October, drawing came naturally. "I started drawing practically as soon as I could hold a pencil," he says. Although cartooning has always been his passion, it didn't turn into a career until Thaves was almost 50. Thaves earned both undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University in psychol-

[EVENT SPOTLIGHT]

Fall Fest and Homecoming

ALTHOUGH THE HOMECOMING football game is set for Saturday, October 23, homecoming week starts six days earlier with a new event of interest to all alumni and friends. The St. Paul campus colleges will open their doors for Fall Fest, a day of discovery, learning, and fun, on Sunday, October 17. Seminars, tours, and hands-on activities are free and open to the public. The traditional Harvest Bowl Farmer's Share Brunch will take place that morning as well. Advance registration is requested by visiting www.umn.edu/fallfest or by calling Emily Johnston at 612-624-4770.

The UMAA will offer its traditional homecoming breakfast buffet from 7:30 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 23, inside the Sports Pavilion. The homecoming parade is expected to start at 10 a.m. and pass the pavilion at about 10:30. Breakfast-goers will have access to special seating. Dedication of the Gateway Plaza landmark is expected to occur Saturday morning as well.

Although the football game could be moved to Friday night if the Minnesota Twins reach the World Series, Fall Fest, the UMAA breakfast, and the parade would not change. For the latest information, visit www.alumni.umn.edu.



Bob Bruininks has upped the ante for University presidents in the homecoming parade by riding a horse with his wife, Susan Hagstrum.

A New Golden Era

ogy after serving in the infantry in World War II. In 1950, he migrated to California with a group of University friends, among them his future wife, Katie (B.S. '48), to whom he's been married 50 years. In California, Thaves embarked on a career consulting for companies on recruitment and workplace issues.

But Thaves, who had contributed drawings to campus publications while a student, continued to "moonlight" as a cartoonist. His work eventually found its way into such high-profile national magazines as the *Saturday Evening Post* and *True*. In fact, a *True* editor became an admirer of a pair of Thaves' recurring characters and encouraged the artist to develop the promising duo. "That's basically how Frank and Ernest were born," says Thaves, who named the characters after the co-hosts of his favorite call-in radio show. "I finally decided that it might be more fun to stay at home, live on the beach, wear sandals, and draw cartoons than to put on a necktie and go consult with people," he says. "And I was lucky. *Frank & Ernest* was an instant success."

Three decades later, Thaves is recognized as an innovator and industry pioneer. "*Frank & Ernest* broke a lot of the existing rules," says Thaves, who was the first cartoonist to render a comic panel, or "single-frame" comic, in a horizontal format. He also was the first to vary his characters' roles (Frank and Ernest are prolific shape-shifters and time travelers) and the first to use comic book-style digital coloring for his Sunday installments. And then there are all those awards and loyal readers. These are certainly notable achievements for "someone who draws funny pictures."

—Andrew Baskai

I'll never forget that fall day in 1961 when I made my way across the University of Minnesota campus to my first class. Wide-eyed, I knew that this could be a huge opportunity for me, a working-class Northeast Minneapolis girl who was not only a first-generation American, but potentially the first person in my family to graduate from college. I also knew that it would be a huge challenge. I wondered how I could ever make a difference on this campus of more than 30,000 students.

But I started by simply getting involved—in a variety of campus organizations and activities. And I've been fortunate, all these years later, to continue that involvement, first as a proud alum, then as a member of the UMAA board of directors, and now as UMAA president.



Andrea Hjelm, B.S. '65

As I'm sure was the case with you, attending the University was a tremendous experience for me. I remember those thrilling football Saturdays, when my friend Gail (Dahlvang) Russ (B.S. '65) and I would fall in with the crowd that trailed the marching band and cheerleaders down University Avenue. We were members of the Rooter Club and sat in the "card" section. At designated times during the game we all lifted the appropriate card above our heads to create a giant word or letter, including, of course, the Gopher "M," which always ignited a rousing ovation. The games were exciting and the teams—including our 1962 Rose Bowl winner—were fabulous.

I love our football Gophers indoors or out, however, so I'm as eager as ever to venture inside to cheer the team on to a homecoming victory against Illinois on October 23. It's just that I envision the rebirth of that Memorial Stadium experience—that very special time on Saturday, when 60,000 students, alumni, and fans of all ages united in one place on campus. Parents brought their children. Grandparents brought their grandchildren. And they all took part in a priceless University experience.

That's why the U's proposal for a new on-campus stadium is about so much more than celebrating touchdowns. It's about bringing our young people to campus, sharing our traditions with them, teaching them about the greatness of this institution, and helping ensure that the best and brightest will attend the U. We must continue to lobby our state legislators for support, not only for the stadium proposal, but also for the capital request to renovate and upgrade our aging buildings. It's essential that the University receive the funds necessary to maintain its place among the top-ranked public research universities in the nation. Otherwise, our college-bound students will go elsewhere and Minnesota will lose its greatest asset: the next generation of leaders.

I offer my own experience as an example. For the past 23 years, I've owned and operated a small business—Moore Creative Talent in Minneapolis. There's no doubt that if the University had not been an affordable, accessible option for me, I would not have the confidence and training to be a small-business owner contributing to the state's tax base.

The good news is that I can visualize a bright future, and I see it getting closer every day! Last spring, I sat in committee hearings and listened to our legislators reminisce about the "golden" Gopher days in Memorial Stadium. They expressed their desire to help build a bridge from that golden era to a new one. And I believe they recognize that our stadium plan is extremely practical and well within our reach.

Like me, you might be asking yourself, "How can I make a difference?" The best way to start is by simply getting involved. Call or write your legislators and tell them you support the efforts to restore community on campus and the high-quality facilities our students deserve. In the meantime, share this upcoming homecoming with the young people in your life. Give them a preview of the campus experience that changed your life—and that could change their lives too.

Goldy's Journey



Now kids everywhere can join Goldy Gopher as he walks the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis campus and heads to the Metrodome for a Gopher football game. The newly published *Hello Goldy!* features, in colorful illustrations, the campus mascot

passing Coffman Union, Northrop Auditorium, the Armory, and other familiar buildings, being greeted by students, alumni, and others. He even meets football coach Glen Mason at the game.

The hardcover book retails for \$19.95, but UMAA members receive a \$2 discount. To order, or for more information, visit www.mascotbooks.com or call 703-437-3584.

Fall colors along the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's Three-Mile Drive highlight the ever-changing landscape of the grounds' public gardens. UMAA members now receive a discount on arboretum membership.

[BENEFIT SPOTLIGHT] Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

UMAA MEMBERS now save some green on visits to one of the Twin Cities' most idyllic spots. The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum offers alumni association members \$5 off an arboretum membership, which includes free admission to the arboretum's 1,000 acres of woods, prairies, wetlands, and formal gardens; discounts on merchandise and classes; and free advice from the U's Yard and Garden Line.

The arboretum is located in Chanhassen, about 25 miles west of the Twin Cities campus. The

arboretum's mission is to be an information resource; to undertake research and public education; to develop and evaluate plants and gardening practices for cold climates; and to inspire and delight all visitors with quality plants in well-designed and maintained displays, collections, model landscapes, and conservation areas. A research library, tea room, gift shop, and conservatory are added attractions. Special events, like the "Totally Terrific TreeHouses" exhibit, running through October 10, add to the arboretum's draw.

But it is the gardens, with new plants on display and old favorites placed in interesting settings and combinations, that draw both experienced gar-

deners looking for ideas and non-gardeners just seeking the beauty of nature and open space. Miles of trails are open for hiking in summer and cross country skiing in winter. A guided tram tour around a three-mile drive and free volunteer-guided walking tours are offered as well.

The arboretum is part of the U's Department of Horticultural Science. Over the years, researchers at the arboretum's Horticultural Research Center have introduced numerous apples, grapes, and other fruits, as well as new varieties of hardy plants like azaleas, forsythia, and chrysanthemums.

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

UMAA Calendar

Upcoming alumni events on campus and around the country. For more information, visit 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.

September

- 25 Glacial Ridge (Minnesota) Chapter bus trip to Gophers vs. Northwestern football game, details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 25 New Mexico Chapter Picnic and All-Minnesota Day, noon at Santa Fe Ski Basin; contact Chad Kono
- 26 Southern Willamette Valley (Oregon) Chapter fall gathering, 1:30 p.m. at Belknap Resort and Hot Springs; contact Mark Allen

October

- 3 College of Human Ecology Alumni Society Learning for Living event, details TBA; contact Lori Mollberg at 612-625-8796

- 11 Pharmacy Alumni Society Annual Meeting, details TBA; contact Amy Olson at 612-624-4671

- 17 Fall Fest, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. on the St. Paul campus; contact Emily Johnston at 612-624-4770

- 20 Glacial Ridge Chapter event with prescription drug pricing expert Stephen Schondelmeyer, 1 p.m., location TBA in Willmar; contact Chad Kono

- 23 Portland Chapter football game-watching party at Damon's Grill in Portland, time TBA; contact Mark Allen

- 23 Homecoming football game, breakfast, and parade. See Event Spotlight on page 52.

- 30 College of Education and Human Development Alumni College, all morning on Minneapolis campus; contact Raleigh Kaminsky at 612-626-1601

November

- 2–10 Prague/Budapest Escapade alumni tour; contact Cheryl Jones
- 14 Southwest Florida Welcome Back Celebration, 5:30 p.m. at the Tarpon Cove Yacht and Racquet Club in Naples; contact Chad Kono

- 16 St. Croix Valley Chapter bioterrorism lecture by Michael Osterholm, details TBA; contact Chad Kono

PLAN AHEAD

December

- 1–9 Austria's Holiday Markets alumni tour; contact Cheryl Jones
- 5–12 Exploring Florida's Keys and Gold Coast alumni cruise with optional golf package; contact Cheryl Jones

January 2005

- 15–26 Panama Canal alumni cruise; contact Cheryl Jones

February 2005

- 5–14 Sicily's Cultural Season alumni tour; contact Cheryl Jones



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Hound Your Legislative Candidates

Nobody likes to be a pest, but I believe that certain times call for a little pestering. This is one of those times.

Thanks to punishing funding cuts enacted during the last two legislative sessions, the University of Minnesota is experiencing one of the biggest budget challenges in the institution's history. This shortfall—our budget was cut by \$180 million last year alone—threatens to affect every single person associated with the University. We're talking faculty, staff, current and future students, alumni, as well as every citizen of Minnesota—even those far from home.

Last month, when several community and business leaders and I accompanied Governor Tim Pawlenty (B.A. '83, J.D. '86) on a mission to visit Minnesota troops stationed in Kosovo, I was struck once again by the University's reach. When I had a chance to speak with enlisted men and women from Minnesota, I asked them how they felt about their state's only public research university. Most soldiers I spoke with had a direct connection to the U—they were alumni, current students, planning to attend the University, had alumni in their family, or simply were Gopher fans. Simply put, they were proud to be associated with the state's premier higher education institution.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,
Ph.D. '83

Finding these strong U connections so far away drove home the point that when the University suffers, we all follow suit. But the University's influence goes well beyond our armed forces. Did you know that nearly two-thirds of all doctors, dentists, pharmacists, veterinarians, advanced practice nurses, and public health professionals in the state are trained at the University? That U alumni have founded 1,500 technology companies in Minnesota, employing 100,000 Minnesotans and adding \$30 billion annually to the state's economy? That of the approximately 11,000 students the U graduates every year, 70 percent stay in Minnesota to pursue their careers and add to the tax base? As alumni, you have good reason to be proud of the U. But you also have good reason to be worried.

We all faced hard times last year. Just about every institution in the state suffered budget cuts. So when the governor announced that the U was also on the chopping block, we straightened our shoulders and took it on the chin. But if we care about our university and what it means for the state, we can't continue to play the fall guy. If the University's budget is slashed again next session, if needed upgrades to the medical school, chemistry labs, and other facilities are abandoned, I'm afraid that Minnesotans will be left with a state landmark that is nothing but an anemic shadow of its former robust glory.

Here's some perspective. Just what does \$180 million in funding cuts look like? When you factor in inflation, we are working with

a budget the likes of which we haven't seen since 1986! Looked at another way, in 1971 funding for the University was 8.3 percent of the state's budget. In 2005 it will be just 3.9 percent.

When state support plunges like this, everyone associated with the University feels the pain. Record double-digit tuition hikes year after year threaten the dreams of a college education for many of our state's brightest students. Budget cuts delay the much-needed health and safety upgrades to the University's heavily used classrooms and labs. Cuts in departments across campus mean that faculty salaries remain among the worst compared with research universities nationwide—and recruiting and retaining top faculty only gets tougher. Don't forget that it's the University's star faculty who land hundreds of millions of dollars in grants every year. This money not only fuels the research that leads to the medical, technological, agricultural, and other breakthroughs that save lives around the world, it creates jobs and start-up businesses and adds to the state's tax base, benefiting everyone in Minnesota.

Any one of these funding challenges is bad enough. With all of them together, the situation is unacceptable.

Now, you're probably wondering what you can do to help the U. What I've come to realize is that one person can't carry a banner alone. We all need to carry the banner for the U together. I've also come to realize that we need to make some noise—that without some serious pestering, U funding will be slashed again. Hound your legislators. Be a dog at the door. Pester your elected officials. The time has come for us—the University's hundreds of thousands of alumni—to take care of our school.

Contact the legislative candidates running for seats in your district and ask them point-blank whether they will pledge to stand behind the U next session. If they won't, tell them you're voting for the candidate who will.

If you love the University as much as I do, if you are proud to be associated with one of the state's greatest resources, give just an hour of your time to make your voice heard. Contact the legislative candidates running for seats in your district and ask them point-blank

whether they will pledge to stand behind the U next session. If they won't, tell them you're voting for the candidate who will. And then do so.

The University's Legislative Network's "Vote for the U" campaign is a good place to start. Go to www.votefortheU.umn.edu and pledge to vote in the upcoming election. You'll show state and federal candidates that Minnesotans value the University (see the ad on page 28). You'll also learn how best to contact your legislators and the details about the U's budget needs, as well as how to help your legislators understand them. If you don't live in Minnesota, you can still help the University. Make a copy of this column and send it to friends and relatives who still live here.

And now I'll pester you about one last thing. Circle Tuesday, November 2, on your calendar. Remember to vote—and vote for the U!

IT'S ALL DOWNSTREAM FROM HERE



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