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(left) and
Robert Elde
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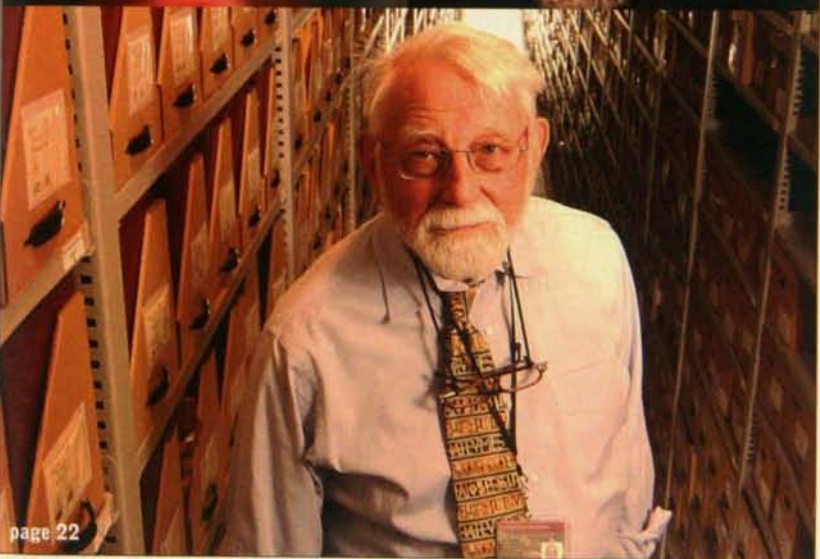
FAIRVIEW-UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER together with UNIVERSITY of MINNESOTA PHYSICIANS



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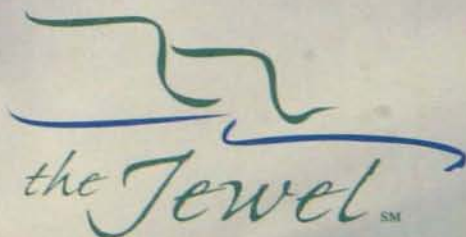
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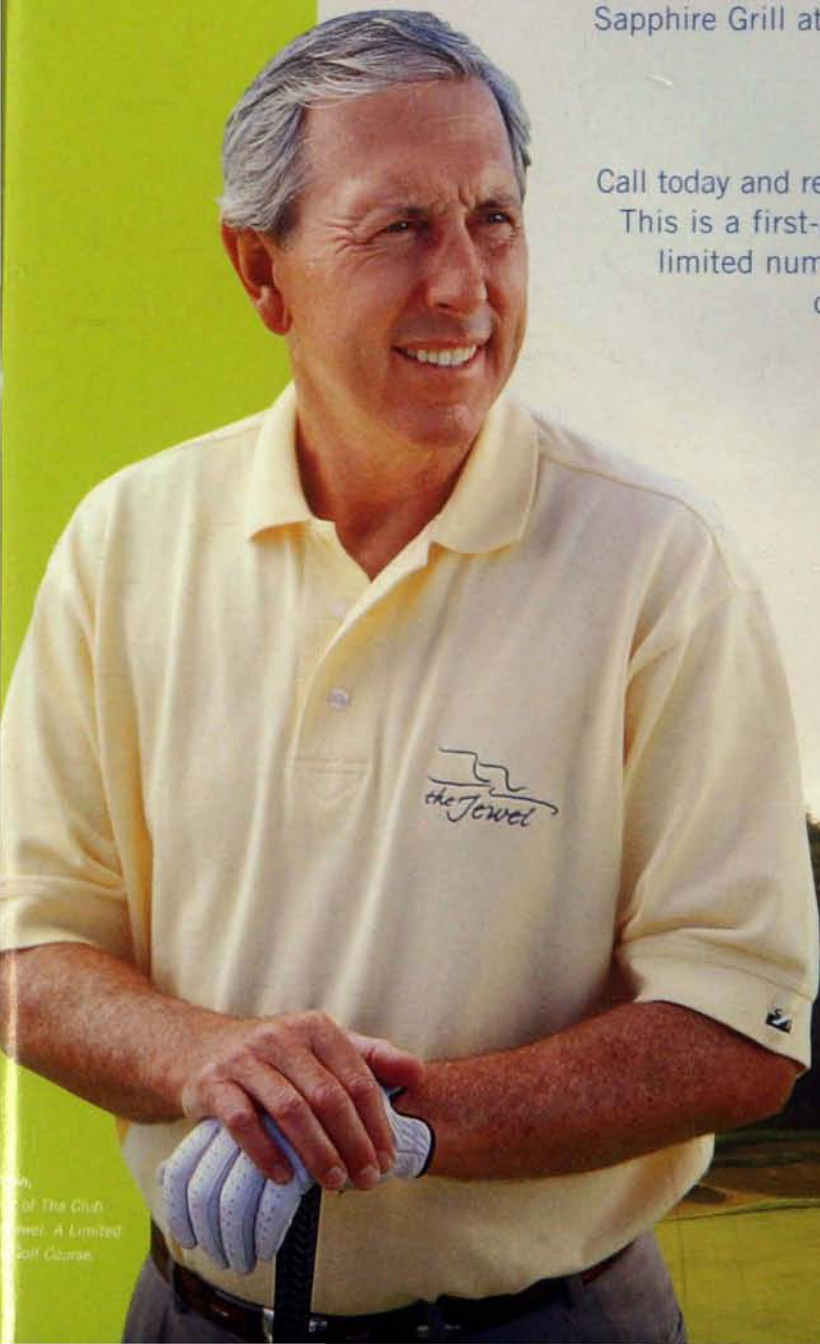
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Tom Lehman, B.S. '82
Professional Golfer

Golfer Tom Lehman never planned on attending the U of M. "I had been accepted at St. John's in Collegeville," says Lehman. "But at the eleventh hour I got a call from the U golf coach inviting me to join the team." Lehman received scholarships for three years and turned pro after graduating. And he still finds time for the U, including speaking on behalf of

scholarships and contributing to an endowed scholarship fund created in his name. You can ensure that students are at the top of their game by contributing to the U of M Scholarship Drive, the goal of which is to increase the number of students we assist by 50 percent. And now you can double the impact of an endowment gift. Call 612-624-3333 or visit www.giving.umn.edu



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Sue Diekman

Editor
Shelly Fling

Senior Editor
Chris Coughlan-Smith

Copy Editor
Susan Maas

Contributing Writers
Andrew Bacskai, Tim Brady,
Phil Davies, Cheryl Jones,
Patricia Kelly, Danny LaChance,
Meleah Maynard, Pauline Oo,
Erin Peterson, John Rosengren,
Lindsay Shen, Andy Steiner

Design
Barbara Koster Design

Advertising
Represented by Gregg Felsen
MSP Communications

Minnesota (ISSN 0164-9450) is published
bimonthly by the University of Minnesota
Alumni Association for its members.

Copyright ©2005 by the
University of Minnesota
Alumni Association
McNamara Alumni Center
University of Minnesota Gateway
200 Oak Street SE, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040;
612-624-2323,
800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867);
fax 612-626-8167;
www.alumni.umn.edu.

For advertising rates and information
call 612-313-1775;
fax 612-339-5806;
e-mail gfelsen@mspmag.com

Periodicals postage paid at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and
additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address
corrections to *Minnesota*, McNamara Alumni Center,
200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040.



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Editor's Note

Teachers I Never Thanked

A few months out of college, I had occasion to visit my old elementary school. It was primary election day, and after casting my ballot I roamed the halls looking for anything familiar; I hadn't been back in 10 years.

I walked into an empty classroom and wandered over to a bulletin board filled with newspaper clippings. My fifth-grade teacher had maintained a similar current events board. She encouraged us to bring newspaper articles—about politics, weather, gas prices, whatever—from home and then we'd discuss what was going on in the world and what we thought about it. In particular, I remember the Patty Hearst stories. Day after day, someone brought the latest news about her kidnapping and crimes. They were startling reports and photos and we couldn't help but want to know how something like that happens and whether it could happen to us—if someone could brainwash us to be bank-robbing zombies.



Shelly Fling

Our teacher said it was doubtful, which relieved our anxiety a tiny bit. But more important, she told us to keep reading. "Read all you can," she said. "The more you learn about something the less frightening it will be."

Years later, I entered Mr. V's high school English class. Mr. V was cool. Every day he would scrawl across the blackboard words from Bob Dylan or some other great thinker. We copied these gems into our notebooks, not because there would be a quiz, but because they got us thinking about things we hadn't considered before.

One assignment was to read Machiavelli's *The Prince*. I became increasingly angry and appalled the deeper I read and anticipated the day we would discuss it in class, certain Mr. V would slam Machiavelli. When he asked what we thought of the book my hand shot up. I sputtered that Machiavelli was cruel and inhumane, and I waited for confirmation that I had grasped the force behind this famous work. But Mr. V argued that cruelty was a matter of perspective. "Aren't the feeble a detriment?" he asked. "Wouldn't it be a waste of energy and money to take care of those who only weaken a society?"

I was astonished by what I was hearing. I knew he was wrong and I was right but I struggled to find the words. "The old and the mentally disabled have rights!" I said. "What usefulness do they have?" he asked. "They just do!" I said, fumbling for proof.

Mr. V pointed to another student, who agreed with Mr. V that a society needed to be mighty and to squash elements—from within and without—that might be a threat. I felt like a rabbit in a cage of snakes. But Mr. V attacked that idea too. "Aren't the greatest threats fear and ignorance?" he asked. He took one position and then another until the hour passed and the class didn't know what to think.

"Don't think what anyone—or a book or a quote on a blackboard—tells you to think," Mr. V said before dismissing us. "You have to think for yourself."

In college I took speech, which I figured would require only the courage to stand up in front of a large group and not much else. Instead I got my money's worth. I closed the library on many nights after poring over volumes and microfiche for sources for my topic and recording the points on stacks of notecards. And that was all for my first speech, on why I believed the Catholic church should ordain women into the priesthood.

When the day to give my speech arrived, the professor called me to the podium while she took a seat in the back to observe. She asked if I was ready to begin and then said wait, there was one change. "Instead of arguing for it, I want you to argue against it. And be convincing." I was speechless and a few classmates groaned.

Then she spoke to the entire class. "How can you know what you think about something unless you've studied all sides of it?"

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Then she spoke to the entire class. "How can you know what you think about something unless you've studied all sides of it?"

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

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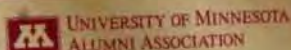
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Letters



Perhaps You Can Trust the Government

The "headline" ["You Can't Trust the Government," March–April] on the front cover of *Minnesota* magazine—the opinion of one person—was inappropriate for this magazine. Read your mission statement on page 2: "The University of Minnesota Alumni Association connects alumni to the University, advocating and supporting excellence in education and building pride, spirit, and community." The front cover missed on many if not most of what you say you are trying to achieve.

If I want editorial opinions, I'll read them in the newspaper where they are listed as such. I don't need to see them headlining the front cover of *Minnesota* magazine as if it were fact.

JIM LICARI (B.S. '65, M.S. '67, Ph.D. '70)
Rochester, Minnesota

Liberal Bias Leveled

I agree with much of what Jane Kirtley had to say about the First Amendment ["Democracy at Stake," March–April], but she couldn't do so without tripping over her liberal bias. I noticed her [being] critical of the Bush administration. Did she have any problems with the Clinton administration, the Carter administration or the Johnson administration?

That's one reason I changed my major from journalism some 30 years ago. Her

obvious bias makes me concerned about the education that the University provides college students, including my daughter.

Are students allowed to disagree with a professor's own views? Will the student's opposing view affect her grade in that class?

GARY HAMMER

Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Low Expectations

I have to take issue with several items mentioned in the article "Democracy at Stake."

First, I found it interesting that [Professor Jane Kirtley] seems to think the Bush administration was and is exploiting the 9/11 mentality and, furthermore, that they have "brought secrecy to an art form." And that "Republican administrations have tended to be more secretive than Democratic ones." Of course she fails to give any proof or examples.

Then there are the blogs or "openly partisan news sites." The danger of these, apparently, is that "we are becoming much more self-selective of what we pay attention to. Instead of everybody watching CBS News, we're now surfing the Net and reading only the things I want to read." This is a problem? This is perhaps the greatest example of free press; the rest of us aren't subjected *only* to an openly partisan CBS. Exactly how in her mind does this mean we *lose* the "big marketplace of ideas" when there are *more* ideas and *easier access* to them? It's precisely the opposite; we lose the monopoly of ideas the press used to have, something I would think she would support.

She also cites CBS's own statement about what happened as proof they did nothing wrong. In their haste to publish a story unverifiable at best and deliberately misleading, false, and partisan at worst, they ran it against the advice of their own handwriting experts and others. When caught red-handed by bloggers, they had to backtrack and issue a statement, carefully worded for damage control. That is the beauty of this open marketplace of ideas; someone can call CBS to the mat instead of the professor's ideal where "everybody watch[es] CBS news."

Not surprising that a journalism and

Please write to: Letter to the Editor, *Minnesota*, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Or e-mail to: fling003@umn.edu. Letters may be edited for style, length, and clarity.

law professor at a university leans left. I would expect nothing less.

KOREN BOWERS (B.S. '91)
Fairfield, Ohio

Provide Funding, Get Physical

I am responding to some recent articles in the University's alumni publications. "Weighty Matters" by Shelly Fling in the March-April issue of *Minnesota* got my attention. Also, Erin Peterson's "A Pound of Prevention" was very complete and informative. The new Obesity Prevention Center will be instrumental in providing research and direction for improving the nutrition and health of everyone in the state, especially the young people.

It was the article in the winter 2004 issue of *M* [a quarterly tabloid published by University Relations and sent to all alumni] written by editor Martha Coventry that I was particularly interested in. In it she supported the National Association of Sport and Physical Education's national standards for physical education. Many school districts are cutting back on their requirements for physical education. It is important that school boards, legislators, and the governor provide the necessary funding to keep these programs active and productive.

WALT WEST (M.Ed. '59)
Wayzata, Minnesota

High Praise for Low-Profile Doctor

It is refreshing to see that people who really make a difference in people's lives are reported [in *Minnesota*]. I am referring to your faculty profile of "Doc" Hamlar [January-February]. Colonel David Hamlar is so very much loved and respected by all of our 1,200 members of the 133rd Airlift Wing. I was fortunate enough to accompany him during the two humanitarian missions to Ecuador and Belize. The article was very, very good and probably could have been 10 times longer to fit all the great things that he does for many, many people in diverse walks of life.

Please extend a heartfelt thank-you for the profile of one of the most honorable, energetic, caring, and humble persons I have ever met.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT
STEVE CAMPOS

Minnesota Air National Guard

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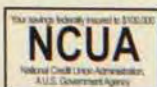
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* Edited by Chris Coughlan-Smith

TCF Kicks Off Stadium Funding

THE AROMA OF POPCORN AND BRATWURSTS and the buzz of football filled the air this spring when the effort to bring Gopher football back to campus got a big boost. TCF Financial Corporation agreed to a \$35 million sponsorship deal for the proposed on-campus stadium in late March, the day after a Minnesota Senate committee approved a proposal to fund 40 percent of the stadium's construction cost, provided the University can raise the rest of the money privately (a House committee followed suit in early April).

The TCF agreement will secure naming rights to TCF Bank Stadium for 25 years. The total stadium cost is estimated at \$235 million, and University president Bob Bruininks says he hopes 10 more major sponsors will agree to buy rights to name various portions of the facility. "An anchor gift sends a message," he said at a festive announcement held under the restored Memorial Stadium Processional Arch in the McNamara Alumni Center. "There are many other conversations that are ongoing." (The other major donation in hand is \$1 million from the University of Minnesota Alumni Association.)

Governor Tim Pawlenty (B.A. '83, J.D. '86) sent an encouraging note read at the announcement, and Bruininks added that a statewide public fund drive could begin in fall. The Minnesota Student Association's elected representatives voted last year to support using student fees in building a stadium as well; although that vote was nonbinding, Bruininks reasserted his commitment that fees would be no more than \$50 per semester. Parking and other game-day revenue would also help pay for the stadium.

TCF Bank Stadium is proposed for an area of surface parking lots northeast of the old Memorial Stadium site and just east of Williams and Mariucci arenas on the East Bank of the Minneapolis campus. Environmental review of the site is already under way. If

fund-raising is successful, the 50,000-seat open-air stadium could be finished in time for the 2008 football season. Minnesota's home games are currently played in the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome under a 30-year lease that expires in 2011.

A 2003 analysis estimated that the new stadium could generate as much as \$3.5 million in extra net revenue each year from a half-dozen Gopher football games compared with what the Metrodome would provide.

TCF Bank Stadium would also be used for recreational sports programs and graduation ceremonies and other large events—and provide a home for the University of Minnesota Marching Band, Bruininks said the facility could be used for high school football playoffs, professional soccer games, and perhaps as a temporary home for pro sports teams as other stadiums are built.

The TCF agreement allows the bank to offer debit and gift cards to U alumni and supporters, students, and faculty and staff; to continue current offerings and programs on campus; and to open a branch outlet in Coffman Memorial Union. Those extra sponsorship agreements could produce more than \$60 million in royalties and fees for the University, which would be used primarily for academic needs.

During the announcement and the press conference that followed, Bruininks emphasized that the stadium will enhance the academic mission of the University and that its financing is separate from academic priorities. "The stadium will serve as a center for campus life," he said. "This stadium is about much more than football: It's about community. . . . Bringing Gopher football back to campus is the right thing to do and this is the right time to do it."

For the updates on the stadium project, visit www.umn.edu/stadium.



Gopher football fans filled Memorial Hall to hear the news about the stadium deal.



Miles of Smiles

Second-year dentistry student Steve Peterson was among the many School of Dentistry faculty and students who gave 138 kids a brighter smile this February. The annual free clinic was held on campus as part of Give Kids a Smile Day, a national event calling attention to the growing number of children whose families can't afford dental care. Third- and fourth-year students treated patients under faculty supervision while dental hygiene and early dental students assisted.

Admission Tradition

Of the University of Minnesota's fall 2003 freshman class, 41 percent (2,123 students) reported that at least one of their parents attended the University. Whether an applicant has family members who are U alumni is sometimes considered in admissions decisions.

By college	have a parent who is an alum
College of Human Ecology	28%
Carlson School of Management	35%
College of Liberal Arts	38%
College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences	40%
College of Natural Resources	44%
General College	45%
Institute of Technology	47%
College of Biological Sciences	48%

By racial identification	have a parent who is an alum
African American	19%
American Indian	23%
Asian American	23%
Chicano/Latino	44%
White/other	45%

Source: U of M Institutional Research and Reporting

Overheard on Campus

"If anyone's going to get a second act, it's Martha Stewart. She's an extremely competent human being who's not going to fold like a cheap suit. . . . I'm all in favor of Martha. She's a 'Good Thing.'"

—Karyl Ann Marling, professor of art history and American studies at the University of Minnesota, who wrote the 1999 scholarly paper "The Revenge of Mrs. Santa Claus, or Martha Stewart Does Christmas."

Discoveries

U research findings



Colon Cancer and Calcium

A University of Minnesota Cancer Center team found that women consuming the recommended daily allowance of 1,200 milligrams of calcium each day—about 800 from supplements and 400 through regular diet—reduced their risk of colorectal cancer by as much as 46 percent compared with women who took in fewer than 412 milligrams a day from all sources. A 26 percent reduction in risk of colorectal cancer occurred in those getting 800 milligrams a day from either their diet or through supplements. More than 45,000 women participated in the study over an average of 8.5 years. The mechanism of how calcium promotes colon health is still under investigation. The results appeared in the January issue of *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention*.

Beating Bulimia

A small clinical trial by the University of Minnesota's Neuroscience Research Group offers hope for reversing the physiological changes that occur in severe bulimia and helping people overcome the disease. In bulimia, repeated binge eating and vomiting changes the vagus nerve, which controls information between the stomach and brain. When people with bulimia try to modify their behavior, the vagus nerve will sometimes malfunction and continue to send signals to vomit. An earlier U trial discovered the changes in the vagus nerve and found a drug therapy that helped some patients. The new treatment, called vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) therapy, involves electrical stimulation via an implanted device to the vagus nerve, dampening its activity. The six patients in the trial had no success with the drug treatment but all experienced "dramatic results" with VNS therapy, according to lead researcher Patricia Faris. VNS therapy was initially developed to treat drug-resistant epilepsy. Researchers hope to run larger trials on patients with bulimia to confirm the results. A National Institutes of Health grant funded the study, which was announced on campus in early March.

Diabetes and Islet Cell Survival

A breakthrough in treating the most serious cases of type 1 diabetes may be on the horizon, thanks to a University of Minnesota clinical trial. In diabetes sufferers, the islet cells do not produce enough insulin to control blood sugar levels, which leads to a host of complications. Islet cells, found in the pancreas, sense blood sugar and, in healthy people, regulate it by producing insulin. Until now, islet cell transplants have required two or three donated organs because a large number of islet cells do not survive the transplant. This has been a significant obstacle given the shortage of organ donors. (Islet cells are removed from a pancreas after the donor dies, and are injected into the diabetes patient.) The U team used anti-inflammatory arthritis drugs to help the islet cells survive. In a trial with eight patients who each received islet cells from single donors, five did not require insulin injections for an entire year. An estimated one million people in the United States have type 1 diabetes, sometimes called juvenile diabetes. The trial was reported in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* in February.

▶ The U Aims to Be in the Top Three

AN "ASPIRATIONAL, BOLD, AND INSPIRATIONAL" GOAL—to become one of the top three public research universities in the world within 10 years—may lead to a major restructuring of the University of Minnesota. The University's Board of Regents will vote in June on several recommendations to realign the U's structure with that goal in mind. Among the proposals are closing and splitting up two Twin Cities campus colleges and putting in place programs to attract the most qualified students.

The recommendations were released March 30 after months of public meetings and task force deliberations on what has been called "strategic positioning." In April and early May, University president Bob Bruininks was to field comments on the proposals before delivering his final set of recommendations to the regents.

Repositioning the University has become necessary, Bruininks told regents in February, because of several factors: declining state support as a percentage of expenses, duplications with programs in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, and the state's changing research and economic needs. "We can't continue to do all the things we do" given the current declines in state funding, Bruininks said. "If we want the University to thrive, we must make bold and effective choices."

The U is currently ranked among the 10 best public research institutions in the nation in most measures, but it falls short in test scores for incoming freshmen and graduation rates. The U is already taking steps to improve graduation by requiring full credit loads for most students and offering tuition breaks for taking extra classes.

"Excellence builds on excellence," Provost Tom Sullivan said in presenting a report to the regents in February. Admitting more top students will convince excellent professors to remain at or to come to the U, he explained, while top professors will convince better and better students to come to the U. That report set out the goal, criteria for evaluating the U's academic and administrative units, and five broad actions for reaching the goal: recruiting outstanding students, recruiting outstanding faculty, being responsive to change, effectively using resources, and communicating clearly and being engaged with the public.

While other recent efforts to refine the University system—including a late 1980s plan called Commitment to Focus and a late 1990s plan called U 2000—lost momentum, Bruininks told regents

in March that this time the process has been more transparent and collaborative and that having a clear goal to work toward will inspire people inside and outside the U. "We think that the U is at a truly important and exciting crossroads."

For more on the process and the recommendations, visit www.umn.edu/systemwide/strategic_positioning.

Major Recommendations

Among the 31 recommendations for academic changes:

- General College, a unit that accepts underprepared students with the goal of transferring them to a degree-granting program, would become a developmental education department in the College of Education and Human Development and would no longer admit students.
- The College of Human Ecology would cease to exist and its current offerings would be divided between the College of Education and Human Development and a new College of Design.
- The College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture would be renamed the College of Design and incorporate the current design, housing, and apparel department of the College of Human Ecology.
- An undergraduate writing initiative would provide comprehensive writing instruction and require graduating students to demonstrate an effective command of written English.
- A University Honors College would admit about 300 students per year and offer honors courses on issues that span the breadth of the University. Although students would earn degrees through other colleges, they might be housed together or be offered guaranteed admission to the U's professional schools.
- Task forces would look at the structure of the College of Liberal Arts and at how to reconfigure current science, agriculture, natural resources, and engineering programs in several colleges and make recommendations by the end of 2005.

An additional 28 recommendations for administrative improvements were made that would centralize some functions, reduce regulation, and focus on supporting students and faculty.

▶ What People Are Saying

"President [Bob] Bruininks is guiding this great university through a realignment process that I think, in the long haul, is going to serve our state very well."

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

"I can't find an alignment between where the University wants to position itself as a world-class institution and the threat that this college poses. . . . To take a nationally known program of this sort and to reduce it to a shell is not becoming of this University."

—David Taylor (B.A. '67, Ph.D. '77), dean of General College

"In the long run, it's not going to hurt students. . . . It just means [underprepared students] may have to be at a different site and, with improvements in their academic standing, eventually come back to the University."

—State Representative Bud Nornes, R-Fergus Falls

"[U]ltimately, a more prestigious reputation will increase the value of a degree from this institution and put us on par with other flagship universities in the country."

—From a *Minnesota Daily* editorial

"It's important to stay focused on the fact that nothing is merging; we're creating something new."

—Shirley Baugher, dean of the College of Human Ecology



Dave Stephens

Impulsiveness Is for the Birds

"YOU MIGHT WANT TO COVER YOUR EARS," says Dave Stephens, professor of ecology, evolution, and behavior at the University of Minnesota, as he opens a door to a cacophony of 35 complaining eastern blue jays. "I'm pretty deaf, so it doesn't bother me." The tiny room in the basement of the Ecology Building on the St. Paul campus is ringed by rows of simple wire cages in which the jays bob, hop from perch to perch, and screech mightily. It's hard to imagine hard science going on in such a setting. But by watching these birds work their way through a series of food-choice experiments, Stephens and his colleagues believe they may have insight into why humans and other mammals are impulsive, why sudden desires so often overwhelm common sense.

Stephens's "ecological rationality hypothesis" flies in the face of the currently accepted explanation of why lab animals repeatedly prefer a small immediate meal to waiting a few moments for a larger one. The current theory, "discounting," maintains that we place extra value on immediacy—that \$100 today is worth more to us than \$101 or even \$105 next Saturday. But, in reviewing past studies with pigeons and rats and by watching his own flock, Stephens found the discounting impulse is so strong "that it makes them look really stupid. They were discounting up to 50 percent in one second," he says, meaning that an animal would rather have one food unit now than twice as much if it waited just one second longer. "It just doesn't make sense. How could natural selection favor such stupid behavior?"

In impulse experiments, animals are trained to recognize that when certain lights flash, a small food reward will appear. The animals also observe that if they leave the food untouched, a larger one will follow. Yet over as many as 1,000 repetitions, the animals

don't learn—or they simply refuse—to wait for the bigger reward. But Stephens, who is as quiet and thoughtful as his blue jays are loud and impulsive, was bothered by drawing a conclusion from such a simple experiment.

"In nature, the choices are more fuzzy," Stephens explains. "An animal is never guaranteed anything." In Stephens' experiments, the jays could either wait for the bigger reward or snatch the small one and move on to another small one in a different place, and another, and so on. By "skimming the cream," Stephens says, the birds showed they could actually get more food than if they had waited for the larger reward. Stephens sums up his hypothesis in a sentence: "In a natural setting, you can actually do quite well in the long run by being impulsive."

Observations in the field support his hypothesis, first described in *The Proceedings of the Royal Society* in November 2004. A bird that eats the easily accessible seeds in a pinecone and then moves on to the next one, for example, does better than a bird that works at the pinecone hoping to find a bigger cache of seeds inside. "Our guess is that human brains have evolved in a similar way," Stephens says. But modern society forces people to make either-or decisions about delayed benefits such as from education, investment, and marriage, so the impulsive rules that work well for foragers do more harm than good to people in these situations.

His next series of experiments, with Japanese quail, involves selecting birds for extreme impulsiveness and looking for physical or chemical differences in the brain as a step toward understanding addiction and other dangerous impulsive behavior. "Humans are not as impulsive as animals, but we're still more impulsive than economists think we ought to be."

By watching these birds, Stephens and his colleagues believe they may have insight into why humans and other mammals are impulsive.



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Campus Digest

[FACULTY PROFILE] William Doherty

WILLIAM DOHERTY spends a lot of time talking about moral responsibility. It's a dicey topic in the current political environment, where the term "family values" has taken on a decidedly conservative connotation. But the kind of moral behavior Doherty, director of the University of Minnesota's marriage and family therapy program, focuses on isn't all that radical: supporting two-parent families, promoting healthy marriages, and working to reduce family violence. It's a version of morality that encourages serious thought about our responsibilities as parents, children, spouses, and members of a community.

Doherty began to describe his ideas about morality in his writing, including his influential—and controversial—1995 book *Soul Searching: Why Psychotherapy Must Promote Moral Responsibility*. "It became my challenge to show therapists that having a moral sense in one's work is not the same thing as telling your clients what to do or blaming or shaming them for their misdeeds," he says. Instead, therapists can and should talk to their clients about how their actions have affected others. And it's acceptable to suggest ways for clients to make amends for past actions.

Discussions of morality come naturally to Doherty, a former Catholic seminarian in the early 1960s who eventually married and then earned his Ph.D. in family studies from the University of Connecticut in 1978. "I grew up in an Irish Catholic family where the highest calling was to be a priest," Doherty jokes. "If I wasn't going to be a priest, then I thought I'd be a psychologist. I figured I'd save souls or save minds." He taught at the University of Iowa and the University of Oklahoma before coming to Minnesota in 1986.

Doherty brings a fervor to his work, putting himself forward as an advocate for and frequent media source on the needs of modern families. His recent books, including *Take Back Your Marriage: Sticking Together in a World that Pulls Us Apart* (2001) and *Take Back Your Kids: Confident Parenting in Turbulent Times* (2000), are directed at lay



William Doherty

readers more than therapists and further his take on moral behavior in modern times.

A self-described "publicly engaged faculty member," Doherty has lately turned his interest in supporting healthy families into action. The Minnesota Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative is a five-year, \$1.5 million project designed to encourage stable family formation among unmarried new parents in the Twin Cities metro area. The project, funded in part by a grant from the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, will focus on about 100 couples who want to raise their child together and have the goal of getting married. Participants will have access to a number of related resources, including parent education, employment services, mentoring from successful married couples, and premarital counseling.

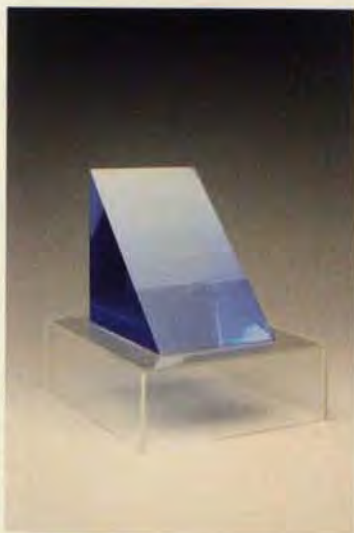
Doherty dismisses those who suggest his interest in promoting marriage carries a hidden political agenda. "It's not about politics," he says. "What I'm interested in is not telling people how to live, but rather opening a discussion about our moral responsibility to improve our communities, our families, our world." —Andy Steiner

Museum Hopping [ART EXHIBITIONS TAKING PLACE ACROSS CAMPUS THIS SPRING AND SUMMER]

Henry's Fork, photograph, by Charles Lindsay, at the Bell Museum



Children of Eurynome 2, woodblock print, by Eugene Larkin, at the Weisman



Untitled (wedge), cast polyester resin, by Peter Alexander, at the Weisman



Photograph of a young weaver from San Antonio Palopo, by Richard Nelson, at the Goldstein

Bell Museum of Natural History

Photographer Charles Lindsay captures the grace and solitude of fly fishing in a series of large photo prints featured in "Upstream: Fly Fishing in the American West." Through July 3 at the Bell Museum, 10 Church St. SE, Minneapolis, 612-624-7083, www.bellmuseum.org. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and seniors, and free for kids under 3, members, and for all visitors on Sundays.

Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum

"An Artist's Odyssey" highlights recent works by Eugene Larkin that contemplate gardens. Larkin's career spans more than 60 years, including work as a design professor at the University of Minnesota. The printmaker has works in the Museum of Modern Art and the National Gallery, as well as the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and Walker Art Center. Through June 1.

"WEST! Frank Gehry and the Artists of Venice Beach, 1962-1978" features the works of 17 artists whose work in Venice, California, in the 1960s and '70s drew from or influenced the early development of Frank Gehry's architectural career. The Venice artists—including Edward Ruscha, Peter Alexander, and Robert Irwin—explored light, space, and the use of industrial materials in their work, all elements Gehry incorporated in his architecture, including the Weisman Art Museum. May 14-September 11.

The Weisman is at 333 E. River Road, Minneapolis, 612-625-9494, www.weisman.umn.edu. Admission is free. 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.

Goldstein Museum of Design

"Maya Textiles from the Guatemalan Highlands" features textiles and clothing—from traditional and ceremonial to modern—from the collection of photographer Richard Nelson. Weaving is an ancient tradition among the Mayan people, but the exhibit also shows how political situations and climate have influenced designs and materials. The exhibit includes Nelson's photographs and looms. June 5-September 11 at the Goldstein, 244 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Ave., St. Paul, 612-624-7434, <http://goldstein.che.umn.edu>. Admission is free. Hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Katherine E. Nash Gallery

"Modern Chinese Art: The Collection of Pat Hui" opens June 14 and runs through July 28 at the Nash Gallery, Regis Center for Art, 405 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis, 612-624-7530. Details to be announced; visit <http://artdept.umn.edu>.

The University of Minnesota has received \$5 million from Microsoft Corporation that will fund a new Consortium for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology. The payment (\$2.5 million in cash and \$2.5 million in product vouchers) comes from an April 2004 settlement of an antitrust lawsuit brought by the state against Microsoft. The consortium will be headquartered in the University's Digital Technology Center in Walter Library. Bioinformatics is the science of creating databases and algorithms to synthesize huge amounts of biological data, such as gene sequences, to aid and simplify research.

In March, the University and TCF Financial Corporation announced a \$35 million, 25-year corporate sponsorship for a new stadium. The deal, which reenergized the campaign to bring Gopher football back to campus, provides TCF with exclusive naming rights for the stadium (to be called TCF Bank Stadium). The stadium adds to a long-running relationship between TCF and the University. Since 1995, TCF has been the exclusive provider of banking services tied to a campus card—called the "U Card"—at the University's Twin Cities and Duluth campuses.

"This agreement serves everyone well," said University athletics director Joel Maturi. "The Gophers are on their way to getting our much-needed football home, TCF receives a highly visible and popular way to demonstrate its support for the University and Minnesota, and Gopher fans once again will have the wonderful experience of an on-campus football stadium." To learn more about the proposed stadium, see page 10.

The Minnesota Legislature has elected four members to the University's Board of Regents. Dallas Bohnsack (B.S. '60) was reappointed for the 2nd Congressional District, David Larson (B.A. '66) was appointed for the 3rd Congressional District, Anthony Baraga (M.D. '65) was reappointed for the 8th Congressional District, and Steven Hunter (B.A. '73) was appointed to an at-large seat. Each regent will serve a six-year term. Larson and Hunter are first-timers on the board, replacing Maureen Reed (B.S. '75, M.D. '79) and William Hogan.

The University of Minnesota Population Center now occupies 18,000 square feet of new space in Willey Hall on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus. Founded in 2000, the center has become one of the world's largest population research facilities and is a leading developer of historical and international census data. The center distributes about 450 gigabytes of data per month to more than 14,000 researchers through its Web-based systems.

"Today, the state of the University is strong," University president Bob Bruininks said in his State of the University address in February. In addition to listing recent achievements in enrollment and sponsored research funding, Bruininks introduced the new Founders Opportunity Scholarship for first-year students, described increased support for graduate and professional students, and discussed how the University's strategic positioning process will help the University meet the challenges faced by public research universities today. The speech is available at www.umn.edu/pres/02_speeches.html.

Graduation and retention rates on the Twin Cities campus con-



Rally in the Rotunda

Hundreds of University of Minnesota students, alumni, and faculty and staff from around the state descended on St. Paul February 23 for Maroon and Gold Day at the Capitol. A rally in the rotunda was followed by meetings with state legislators where University advocates explained to elected officials why the U needs adequate funding. For information about how to advocate for the U, visit www.supporttheU.umn.edu or call 612-624-2323 or 800-862-5867.

tinue to rise, according to the 2004-05 University Plan, Performance, and Accountability Report. The five-year graduation rate saw a substantial gain, up to 56 percent for students entering in 1999 compared to 50.4 percent in the previous year. In 2002, the University implemented a new policy that gives students free tuition beyond 13 credits per semester and requires students to take a full load or obtain a waiver.

The first-year retention rate of 86.3 percent (for students entering in 2003) is up from 85.8 percent the previous year and is the highest since the University began measuring retention rates. To read the full report, visit www.academic.umn.edu/accountability.

Design and landscape architects have been chosen for the Bell Museum of Natural History's new building, to be built on 12 acres in the southwest corner of Larpenteur and Cleveland avenues near the St. Paul campus. Fifty percent of the project's \$32 million cost will come from private donations, grants, and federal appropriations. The other half will be from state bonding funds to be requested in 2006.

The University of Minnesota ranked fifth among public universities in private giving in fiscal year 2004, according to a survey released by Council for Aid to Education (CAE) in March. Minnesota had ranked seventh in 2003. Among all universities, public or private, the U of M ranked 15th in 2004 with \$245.6 million in private support. The University of Minnesota Foundation also reported that through February 2005, \$62 million has been raised in the Promise of Tomorrow Scholarship drive, bringing it to more than 40 percent of the total \$150 million goal. ■

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

- 5:56 hit snooze
- 6:09 soap in eyes
- 6:15 forecast; blue skies
- 6:31 put on alumni hat
- 6:46 pack cooler
- 6:50 gopher pride

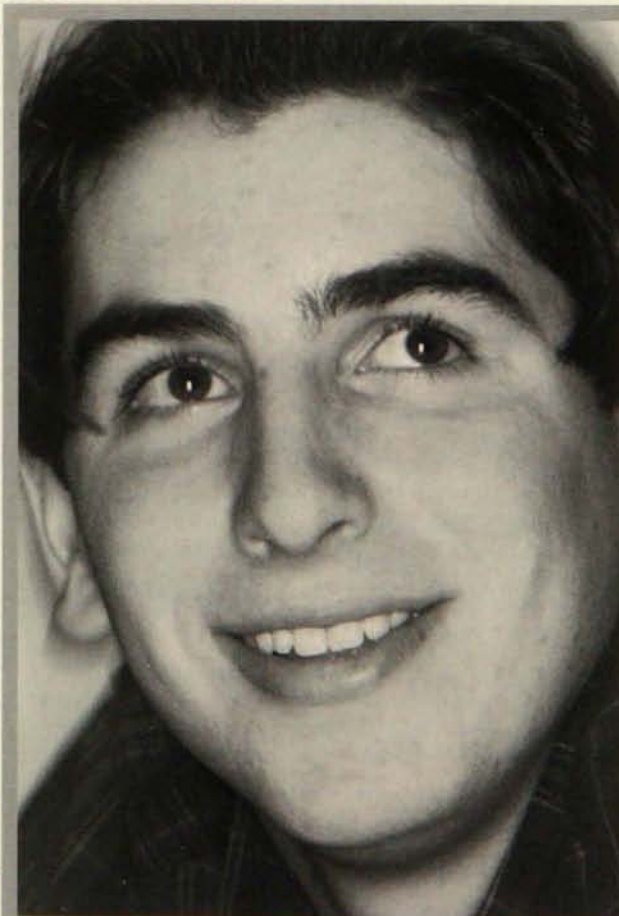


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Folk Hero of the Lost World

Poet Todd Temkin's unobvious choices have led to unanticipated acclaim.

Todd Temkin (B.A. '88, M.A. '92) sits in Coffman Memorial Union, reading from his bilingual book of poetry, *Crazy Denizens of the Lost World*. He's jet-lagged, overwhelmed by nostalgia for campus, and trying to describe how he became "the gringo folk hero" of Valparaiso, Chile.

Temkin founded an organization called Fundación Valparaiso, which is revitalizing the once-thriving seaport. "It's the most extraordinary city you could ever imagine," he says. "It lived a spectacular golden age from 1848, when the California gold rush caused a mushrooming of intercontinental shipping, until 1914, when the Panama Canal was opened." Expatriate communities put an unmistakably European stamp on Valparaiso's architecture and city design, on its great cultural tradition, and on the seven universities that still exist there. But for 80 years, the city of 280,000 people had been gradually sliding into disrepair. "When I arrived there, Valparaiso was a poor, decadent, forgotten place," Temkin explains. "But it had all this character and oozed charm. The 20th century just sort of jumped over Valparaiso. Somebody had to do something."

Temkin's route from suburban Milwaukee to Valparaiso resulted from a "long history of making unobvious choices," he says. Temkin began college at Indiana but quit a semester short of a degree in English to work in a foundry in Sedona, Arizona. Attracted by the Twin Cities' progressive reputation, he came to Minnesota in 1987 to finish his degree. A master's in poetry followed. In 1992, Temkin moved to Chile to teach English. A hilly, west coast port city in the southern hemisphere, "Valparaiso has been called an inverted San Francisco," Temkin explains. "Moving to San Francisco would have been the obvious choice [for a poet], so I moved to Valparaiso."

Temkin spent a few years teaching and writing while falling in love with Valparaiso. The idea of creating an organization to promote a cultural revival in Valparaiso was already brewing in his mind. Temkin's break came when teaching English to business students at the prestigious Universidad Adolfo Ibañez. "I was so excited about this idea that I got my students and some of my colleagues excited," he recalls, "and they taught me how to put together a business plan."

At the time, charitable giving was rare in Chile, in part because of well-founded concerns that the government controlled most nonprofits. So Temkin declared the foundation "an ideology-free zone," and convinced a supermarket mogul to give him \$500,000 to start the organization in 1998. International grants and corporate gifts followed. The foundation publishes a tourist newspaper; broadcasts a weekly radio show called *Dissidents' Cemetery* (after an actual graveyard in Valparaiso) that debates all sides of cultural, development, and current affairs; and organizes cultural festivals: film, jazz, opera, ethnic music, and more.

By the time the foundation had completed its first major revitalization project (restoring 23 homes and three public spaces in a historic neighborhood in 2001) the Chilean media had latched onto Temkin. "I became famous as the gringo who began to bring money into Valparaiso," he says. In 2003, central Valparaiso was named a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and became the de facto cultural capitol of Chile when the new national Ministry of Culture was established there.

And tourism has boomed, especially among Chileans. "People from Santiago [90 minutes away by car] say to me, 'We've been spend-



Todd Temkin

ing money to go to Europe all these years and we could have just been coming to Valparaiso."

But with all the successes (Temkin has twice been nominated Person of the Year in Valparaiso by the newspaper *El Mercurio de Valparaiso*), running the foundation has, at times, been as much burden as joy. "The foundation has become this huge holding company that has 20 smaller companies," he says. "It's way beyond the ken of an M.A. in poetry. . . . I had a lot of personal projects I'd put on hold. I started to realize things were getting out of control personally."

Last year, Temkin decided the Chilean government was sufficiently dedicated to revitalizing Valparaiso, and he took a step back to spend more time with his wife, Pilar Silva, a native of Chile, and their two young children. He also finished *Crazy Denizens*, his first book of poetry, working with a colleague to translate the poems in a collaborative fashion that held to the English meaning while capturing the "authenticity, cadence, and music" of Spanish.

Michael Dennis Browne, a University English professor Temkin credits with discovering his poetic gift, introduced Temkin at the Coffman reading. The book has "several worlds layered," Browne said. There is a hint of the Latin American "intensity and range and ferocity. But there's also a plainer quality in there of someone born and raised in Milwaukee."

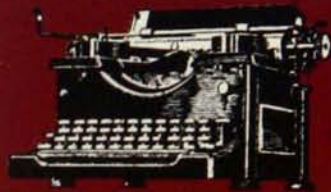
The works in *Crazy Denizens* are at times autobiographical, at times profound, and sometimes wholly unexpected (such as a poem about his dog's breath). From "The Capital of Nothing":

My life could be summed up
the day the city paved over my favorite creek:
it's about good drainage and waste removal, little lives
that dare to step out of their silent shelter and
into the light. . . .

Copernicus was right: it is better to be starry-eyed
and insignificant, a dot in an infinite field, the capital
of nothing, than to cling tenaciously to our own delusions
whose deaths will go unnoticed by the stars.

"Poetry is the foundation of everything," Temkin said after the reading. "Poetry is the art of seeing what's not there. I don't think the foundation could have existed had the poet not existed first."

—Chris Coughlan-Smith (B.A. '86)



Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest

Our seventh-annual fiction contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni and students.

How to enter:

Submit a double-spaced, typed manuscript, 3,000 words or fewer. Submissions must not have been previously published. Past winners of this contest must wait two years before entering again. Poetry, children's stories, plays, and screenplays are not eligible.

Include a cover sheet that bears your name, year of graduation (or years of attending the University), day and evening phone numbers, address, story title, and word count of the manuscript. To ensure anonymity, please do not put your name on the manuscript itself. Manuscripts will not be returned.

The winner will receive \$1,500, and the winning story will be published in the March-April 2006 issue of *Minnesota* magazine and on the magazine's Web site. The author of the winning entry will be notified in early January but won't be announced until publication.

Submissions must be postmarked by December 5, 2005. Send to:

Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest, U of M Alumni Association, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040.

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Learning to Tell the Time

Precious time is squandered when we incessantly measure what may be accomplished in it.



Cedar waxwings seem to be modestly brown-colored birds, blending with the monochromes of a raw December morning before the first snowfall. But a cloud of cedar waxwings can be startled into a sweep of canary yellow formed by the tips of their tail feathers. My 2-year-old son and I discover this as our chatter disturbs a flock feasting on cedar berries at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. They ascend in a single yellow arc to the top branches of a nearby oak, their soft high whistle chiding us to move onward. My son, of course, cares nothing for their disapproval and waits with the patience of a cat until the bravest sweep down to resume feeding. He claps and the cycle begins again, and this time we notice the flicker of red wing tips. Over and over, stillness and motion, laughter and whistling, the flash of black bandit-like masks below jaunty crests, the blur of soft, rosy belly feathers.

Gains and losses accumulate on both sides of the equation. There is, most evidently for many of us, the financial pinch, the resumption of frugalities perfected in graduate school. I am aware, though, of my fortune in having a supportive spouse, a situation that makes choice possible. In my first weeks at home I chafe at my contracting world; for stretches of days I speak only to my husband and child. I miss the conviviality of the workplace, creative collaborations. My son is an unpredictable companion; he has the countenance of the skies of my childhood in Scotland where scudding clouds off the Atlantic can suddenly obliterate the sunshine. He can make me cry in the supermarket. He becomes an arch-backed essence of will as I struggle to harness him into the shopping cart; the baby in my stomach discerns my distress and I am pummeled from within and without. I am almost glad to attract the disapproval of another shopper; sympathy now would undo me.

When we return home I understand three hours have passed. At my son's easel we crayon sweeps of color. "Yellow," he says.

After 10 years in academia, I am a stay-at-home mother. I have joined the growing number of professional women and men who interrupt their careers to raise their children. My immediate group of friends includes a lawyer, a geologist, a physicist, and a software programmer. Our decisions as new parents are, in the main, our response to the sense of time-poverty that afflicts so many working parents and the anxiety that our children's infancy might elude us. We have abandoned our soul-bruising commutes, our Sisyphean to-do lists, our guilt at careening to day care after closing time, our dispiriting late-night attempts to tame our accumulated e-mail.

My own decision, though, was made less intentionally. I had reached a point in mid-career where I wanted to expand future opportunities and had begun a two-year leave to pursue an M.B.A., which I hoped would allow me to bolster my humanities background with formal business skills. An unexpected second pregnancy stilled me. And I resolved to stay at home, as much to meet my need to be with my children as in response to their need to be with me.

I think of colleagues working toward promotions and bridle against the realization that, in career terms, this time away is "empty time"—a gap that will later require explanation. Sometimes it seems I inhabit the reverse of the fairy tale in which the exhausted cobbler drops asleep, and after a replenishing slumber awakens to rows of immaculately crafted shoes and a sparkling

By Lindsay Shen | Illustration by Pascal Milelli

workshop. I live with elves of a different kind. After a day of scrubbing, tidying, and polishing, I waken the next to find the mirrors smeared with soap and crayon, neon Play-Doh bonded to the carpet, a carnage of stuffed animals, no matching socks, and the refrigerator bare of nutritious home-cooked meals. There is nothing to tick off the to-do list here, and nothing to add to a résumé.

My children are teaching me, though, that our existence is so extraordinary, our time so precious, we squander it by an incessant measuring of what may be accomplished. My disquiet about how little I achieve is slowly transformed into pleasure at the small

experiences and tasks at hand. Time is no longer spent but simply felt. It takes much patience to unlearn ways of thinking about achievement. Everything now takes an extravagant amount of time. I give up thinking about a walk as a means to reach a destination; it's an exploration of acorn shells and leaf skeletons and the taste of pebbles. It's a hunting expedition for ladybugs—that form of insect life most tolerant of small children.



My son inhabits time freely; he cares nothing for the measurement of time as a construct. His oblivion reminds me how arbitrary and capricious some of that system is. Aggrieved that Julius Caesar's month of July had 31 days, it was no great trouble for his successor Caesar Augustus to lop a day off February and transplant it to his own short-changed month of August, to save face. Like most of humanity before the 19th century, I no longer wear a watch. Perhaps when my children are older I shall take them to see Queen Elizabeth I's watch in London and the clock museum in the Forbidden City in Beijing to suggest that time-keeping was among the burdens as well as privileges of monarchy. I might tell them about the English critic William Hazlitt, who surmised that time must have weighed drearily on the eccle-

siaatics who were the Middle Ages' timekeepers—why else would they wish to account so assiduously for how they disposed of it? For the moment, though, I am the one who is learning freedom from the notion of time running out. Through our slow and soothing days, I have come to feel time as a continuum. This year we have time enough to observe the persistence of fall and the diffidence of early winter. We press ginkgo leaves in November. We observe sumacs stiffen from pliant scarlet to *caput mortuum*, the death's head pigment, the residue of the year. When the skies are liquid with platinum and silver, my son stands beneath melting

icicles with his head tipped forward, cold water tickling his neck. When the sun withholds such warmth and the skies turn leaden, we watch the skim of ice on our lake thickening to carry our neighbor's joyous poodle. We have time to inhabit our time; it is a spacious and airy house rather than the pinched tenement of "never enough time."

Our house of time has windows in every direction; "now" admits a flow of recollection and expectation, of personal and collective memory, and hope for the future. And that realization is itself at least hundreds of years old. I realize that all of my frustrations have been experienced before. The love for my children that at times threatens to incapacitate or even erase me, is felt everywhere, at all times. My anxiety that a misstep or lapse of attention might take them from me has found expression through the centuries in the mirrors women embroidered onto their children's clothes to divert the evil eye, in the red threads to bind their souls to their bodies, in the shiny metal threads to deflect harm. All my obstacles have already found solutions. My Chinese husband's viewpoint helps too. When I remark on some new event or breakthrough—a "new" botanical remedy, an insight into the nature of happiness, a shift in social policy, our son's delight in the moon—he is apt to respond, from the perspective of millennia, that it already happened 4,000 years ago.

The new life growing within me cares nothing for the marking of time. And my measuring of time would have no impact on the switching on and off of genes, the division and growth of cells. It takes place in its own season and like its beginning, is beyond my will. And a thousand years from now, another child will learn "yellow" from the flight of cedar waxwings. ■

Lindsay Shen is on leave from her position as director of the Goldstein Museum of Design at the University of Minnesota's College of Human Ecology.

FIRST PERSON features personal essays written by alumni, faculty, students, or anyone with a University connection.

To request writers' guidelines, write to Shelly Fling, *Minnesota Magazine*, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455; e-mail fling003@umn.edu, or visit www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota.

The research Rudolph Vecoli began 50 years ago in the Italian neighborhoods of Chicago helped change the study and understanding of immigration history.

Professor Vecoli, the son of immigrants, retires this summer, having built a world-renowned archive documenting the Great Migration.

Immigration Authority

Rudolph Vecoli

was never one to miss an opportunity to conduct a little research, even when visiting his parents back home in Wallingford, Connecticut. He'd put on a pair of coveralls, fire up

the station wagon, and go off in search of history—often hidden away in basements black with coal dust. When he returned with his finds—cardboard boxes filled with yellowed papers—his Italian-immigrant mother would shake her head.

"She'd say, 'You went to school for all of those years. You're a doctor. Why are you cleaning out other people's basements?'" Vecoli recalls with a laugh. "My mother never quite understood what I was doing."

Vecoli has devoted much of his career to rescuing treasures of immigrant history—and securing a safe haven for them. He came to the University of Minnesota in 1967 to be a half-time professor of immigration history and director of the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC), which was just two years old and had a scant collection, no money, and no permanent home.

"I was a lone wolf, left to my own devices," Vecoli says. "I was director of a center. But where the hell was the center? My first office was in a building that they were already tearing down. Not a good omen."



Today the IHRC, along with the University's other special collections, occupies splendid quarters in the Elmer L. Andersen Library on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus. The IHRC is known the world over for its preservation, documentation, research, and promotion of immigration history, as well as its outreach to ethnic communities and educators. Its preeminent collections include written and audiovisual materials from 24 eth-

nic groups from southern, central, and eastern Europe and the Near East—all of whom came to the United States in the second wave of immigration, called the Great Migration, which occurred roughly between 1890 and 1930.

The Immigration History Research Center is open to scholars, high-school students, schoolteachers, or people who just want to research their genealogy. And anyone with an Internet connection can access COLLAGE, a digital library of photographs and images from the collection, and VITRAGE, an online tool

for searching the archives.

This July, after 38 years at the center's helm, Vecoli will retire. His successor will occupy the new Rudolph Vecoli Endowed Chair in Immigration History Research in the College of Liberal Arts and certainly will find Vecoli a tough act to follow.

"Many of us live on through our students whom we've trained and through our written work that people continue to read," says Peter Rachleff, assistant professor of history at Macalester College in St. Paul. "Rudy has all of that, but he has also built an insti-

By Patricia Kelly • Photograph by John Noltner

tution. That's a very, very special achievement. Not many of us build institutions."

Celeste Raspanti, who has served on the board of the Friends of the IHRC (an independent group that helps connect the center with ethnic communities) for 15 years, has known Vecoli for close to 30. "He has a very clear vision," Raspanti says. "He never swerves from that vision. He is persuasive. And he is charming. I'll tell you: He could talk you out of your right arm! He has wit and humor, and he uses it. People might say, 'Oh, I don't want to give up my father's records!' But by the end of the hour, they are saying, 'What else can I do for you, Dr. Vecoli?' He's got charisma."

The decorations on Vecoli's office walls illustrate his love for his Italian heritage: a calendar bearing a photo of the Colosseum in Rome; an Italian painting of immigrants standing on a dock; a photograph of Carlo Fresca (a major figure in the Italian American labor movement and one of Vecoli's heroes); and a postcard advertising Italian-influenced Lucia's Restaurant in Minneapolis. He's especially proud of a large, framed certificate from the Italian government, proclaiming him a cavalier (or knight) of Italy.

Vecoli's parents emigrated from Camaiore, a small town in Tuscany, in 1907 and settled in the factory town of Wallingford. (Vecoli, born in 1927, reports that he was to be named Calvin, after President Coolidge. But plans changed after his father's Italian friends made fun of the name, saying it sounded like *cavolo*, the Italian word for cabbage.) Vecoli attended a school named for Lyman Hall, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and often visited the town's Colonial-era cemetery and historical museum—filled with spinning wheels, swords, and powdered wigs.

After his sojourns to America's Anglo past, Vecoli would return home to a slice of northern Italy. His parents had little formal education: His mother worked in a dress factory, and his father was a construction laborer who grew magnificent vegetable gardens, raised rabbits, made wine, and picked fruit in exchange for a bushel of pears or apples to bring home to his family. In winter, his father shoveled snow for extra money. He hoped his son would do a little better—perhaps become a barber or shoemaker.

Vecoli remembers his dad playing bocce at the Italian hall (the Società Libero Pensiero, or Free Thought Society). The Italian community was close, and Vecoli spoke Italian at home; his schoolmates included Germans, Irish, Poles, Hungarians, and Eastern European Jews. "I was exposed to ethnicity before I knew the word," says Vecoli. "But I just wanted to be Jack Armstrong, All American Boy."

Vecoli joined the Navy at 17 and a year later, thanks to the G.I. Bill, began studying for his degree in history at the University of



Adult immigrant students of various ethnic backgrounds and their instructor in St. Louis in 1942, from the International Institute of St. Louis Records.

Connecticut, followed by a master's in history from the University of Pennsylvania. He spent three years at the State Department during the McCarthy era, a disillusioning experience that encouraged his choice of a career in academia.

When Vecoli arrived at the University of Wisconsin in 1954 to write his dissertation, the influence of having been born in America to immigrant parents bubbled to the surface. "Despite university education, travel, and marriage to a non-Italian," Vecoli would write years later, "and even when I wished otherwise, my ethnic identity has

retained a powerful grip on me." He chose to study Italian immigration and conducted his research in the Italian neighborhoods of Chicago, interviewing immigrants whose ethnicity was very much intact despite their "Americanization." At that time, he says, his topic was considered "eccentric."

"It was the era of the melting pot ideology," he says. "Immigrants were considered raw materials to be absorbed—to be either digested or excreted." He tells the story of an emblematic pageant that Henry Ford staged at his plant in 1921: Immigrants in their native costumes ascended a stairway and disappeared into a large "melting pot." When they reemerged and descended a stairway on the other side, they wore American business dress and waved American flags.

Looking back, Vecoli says his dedication to the study of immigration was fueled by an underlying feeling of exclusion as an Italian American. The more he studied the history of America, the more it bothered him: "The people I knew were not in that history," he says.

Vecoli left Wisconsin before finishing his dissertation. He had a wife and three children to support, so he took positions teaching immigration history first at Ohio State, then at Penn State, then at Rutgers. In 1962, a Social Science Research Council grant fellowship allowed him to return to Chicago to finish his research. And by this time the world was ready for it.

"In the '60s, the melting pot was thrown into the junk heap," says Vecoli. The upheaval of the decade—the Black Power movement, women's liberation, the Vietnam War—powered a re-examination of American history and a more inclusive view of its diverse peoples.

In 1964, Vecoli's publication of an article in the *American Journal of History* solidified his reputation as an eminent immigration historian. His article refuted the premise of *The Uprooted*, a 1952 Pulitzer Prize-winning book on the immigrant experience by historian Oscar Handlin. Handlin argued that immigrants were alienated, with little sense of identity or community.

"I argued that my research proved this was not the case," Vecoli says. "My contention was that immigrants did assimilate, of course, and learned the English language, but they retained various aspects

of their culture. The melting pot was ideology that didn't conform to reality."

Vecoli pauses and then quietly adds: "Others described my paper as a turning point in the study of immigration."

When Vecoli arrived in Minnesota in 1967, he rolled up his sleeves and set about promoting—and sustaining—this new vision of America, a vision that immigrant history was part of America's collective history.

"We worked to overcome a kind of amnesia, a denial of the past," Vecoli says. "It was almost like an archaeological dig. Layers of ideology had to be dug out and recovered and restored and preserved as part of American history."

The concept for the IHRC, and its first collections, grew out of a historic-preservation project on the Iron Range funded by the Ford Foundation. Three University history professors (Clarke Chambers, Hy Berman, and the late Timothy Smith) collected the records of immigrant groups on the Iron Range: Slavic, Croatian, Serbian, Italian, and Finnish.

When the wrecking ball forced Vecoli out of his first office, in a former elementary school, he and his boxes of materials were moved to Walter Library, which was not air-conditioned. "You could almost hear the newspaper crackling," Vecoli says, still



Little Italy on the upper levee in St. Paul in 1909, from the Father Nicolo Carlo Odone Papers.

annoyed by the memory. "I was busy collecting materials, telling groups and organizations that we would take care of them—which was a falsehood."

Vecoli threatened to resign, and he was moved again—to an air-conditioned but off-campus location. Next came a "temporary" move off campus into an industrial area. "We were there for 25 years," says Vecoli. "And we were always fearing a catastrophe." The building suffered from various maladies, including sewer backups and a concave roof that leaked regularly. But Vecoli and Joel Wurl, curator and assistant director at the center, managed to keep the collections dry with pal-

lets, plastic sheeting, and vigilance—once at 3 a.m. during a particularly fierce downpour.

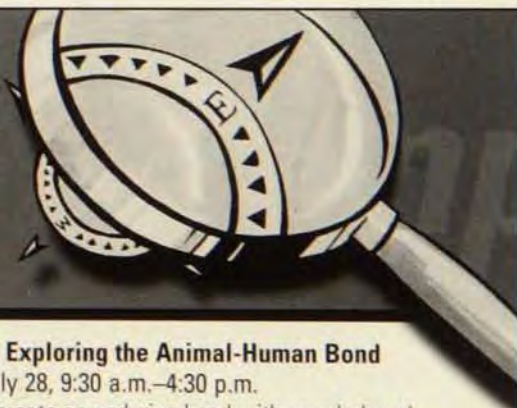
Wurl recalls a visit from an official from the U's Facilities Management after a bad rainstorm. As the IHRC staff struggled to mop up two inches of standing water, the visitor—wearing a business suit—turned to leave and said, "Let us know if we can help."

Says Wurl: "Rudy said to him, 'You want to help? Here's a mop.' And he stayed and mopped! Rudy had no qualms about getting other people in high places to roll up their sleeves on behalf of the center. When Rudy bumped heads, or locked horns, or came down hard, it was because of his conviction that this center *needed* to be in place—not only for the sake of the University



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The Importance of Being Wilde

Thursday, July 14, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Take a revisionist look at the life and times of Oscar Wilde and see his comedy *The Importance of Being Earnest* in a whole new light.

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Thursday, July 28, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

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Book Smart: Publishing in Minnesota

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A page from the 1939 diaries of Father Nicolò Carlo Odone, from the Father Nicolò Carlo Odone Papers.

of Minnesota, but for society as a whole.”

After five years, Vecoli took matters into his own hands. He traveled to Washington, D.C., and called on the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The center received its first NEH challenge grant in 1972 and is now working on its second. The center aims to raise \$2 million by July 31, 2006, in order to secure \$500,000 in NEH matching money. The grant is the centerpiece of the IHRC's \$4 million endowment campaign, “Stories Worth Remembering, Stories Worth Telling.”

Vecoli's successor, he says, will have a different chapter to write: “The next person who holds this position could teach, do research, and just pop in here once or twice a week to shuffle some papers. It's not been that way for me. Maybe I focused too much on the center. But when I came, its survival was always in question. And to me it was important. It still is important.”

In June 1999, the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation designated the IHRC's work an Official Project of Save America's Treasures—an award usually bestowed upon historic sites.

In February 2000, the University moved this treasure to spacious and state-of-the-art accommodations on the third floor of the Elmer L. Andersen Library. Sitting in his many-windowed office overlooking the Mississippi River, Vecoli waves his hand: “This is a dream come true. A miracle.”

On a springlike February day, his desk is flooded with sunshine—and cluttered with the stuff of scholarship: thick history books written in Italian, weighty papers to read and critique, letters to answer. Vecoli always envisioned a life of pure scholarship and teaching. But as IHRC director he filled roles as administrator, fund-raiser, promoter, head of outreach. (Exhibits, workshops, conferences, and other activities in conjunction with ethnic communities are a major part of the center's mission.)

Macalester College's Rachleff, who relies on the center's resources for his research, admires Vecoli's ability to “straddle the world of academia and the world of the community,” he says. “Scholars the world over turn to him, not as the ‘keeper of the resources,’ but as someone to help them shape their interpretation of those resources.”

At the same time, Rachleff says, Vecoli is widely respected among ethnic communities, whose members are largely working class. “They've been discouraged from thinking their history mat-

ters, and they see the University as ‘someone else's’ institution. But Rudy gets them to appreciate the importance of their history, and he serves as their bridge to the University. He's a role model for me.”

It's quiet in the stacks—the only sound the gentle buzz of the light fixture overhead. But all one has to do is open a journal, or a book, or a newspaper, and the immigrant voices from the past are there, ready to share their stories.

Vecoli gazes up at the vast collections. “Some people probably wonder: ‘Why keep all this? Why study all this?’” he says. But it's critical that each new wave of immigration be viewed with the knowledge that it has happened before, he says. The study of the differences and similarities between past and present immigration experiences is key to promoting understanding among peoples. “Immigration has been one of the shaping forces in the history of our country,” Vecoli says. “Still is, obviously.”

Today, the IHRC collections—23,000 books and pamphlets, more than 3,000 serial titles, editions of more than 900 newspapers, and about 900 manuscript collections—reside in climate-controlled comfort 80 feet below the ground. The center focuses primarily on the written word but includes phonograph records, photographs, and oral-history tapes.

Space at the Andersen Library is already at a premium. Vecoli no longer roams the United States actively soliciting materials; nowadays, collections often come to the IHRC—at times even arriving unannounced in the mail. Recent acquisitions include the entire Estonian American historical archive and an extensive Hmong collection donated by the now defunct Center for Refugee Studies at the University.

In addition to the records of ethnic groups themselves, the center houses records of agencies that worked with the immigrants—including the entire archive of the Immigration Refugee Services of America (established in 1917 to help immigrants integrate into American society).

The 24 ethnic groups represented in the center's collections were diverse in language, religion, and culture, but all were part of the Great Migration. Most of these groups had no historical repositories of their own, and, by the 1960s, their history was quickly disappearing. “I venture to say that 90 percent of what we have here would not have been preserved” without the IHRC, says Vecoli.

Most of the manuscript collections are papers of community leaders, clergypeople, and journalists. Vecoli especially appreciates the papers of Father Nicolò Carlo Odone, a Catholic priest who, in 1899, was invited by Archbishop John Ireland to come to St. Paul and establish a parish for Italians. “He kept a diary from 1900 until his death in the 1940s,” says Vecoli. He opens one of Odone's 90 diaries and admires the priest's ornate sketch of a bearded monk.

“He was artistic. Well-educated. He was kind of a hermit. He wasn't very successful as a pastor—didn't get along with people very well,” Vecoli explains. “I guess I like him because he was eccentric.” ■

Patricia Kelly is a freelance writer based in Hopkins, Minnesota. For information about donating materials to the Immigration History Research Center, visit www.ihrc.umn.edu/research/coldev or call 612-625-4800.



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Growing Businesses in a Lab

Budding entrepreneurs and their startups, many of them spawned from U research, are finding state-of-the-art lab space and practical business support in the new University Enterprise Laboratories.

If successful, this incubator could be the start of something very big in bioscience for Minnesota.



One day, the discoveries of ANDX, Inc., may save dairy farmers around the world hundreds of millions of dollars a year in lost milk production

and give priceless peace of mind to cat owners. The startup, founded by two University of Minnesota professors, has developed diagnostic tests for a number of animal diseases, based on a meticulous parsing of the genetic code. One test detects Johne's disease, a global scourge that afflicts 40 percent of dairy herds in the United States; another identifies domestic cats that are likely to develop cancer after receiving routine vaccinations. More tests are in the pipeline for other animal diseases and microbes that taint human food.

ANDX has kept a low profile during its three years of existence; its Web site is a blank slate, and it does its work in rented lab space tucked out of sight on the second floor of Snyder Hall on the University's St. Paul campus. But ANDX is poised to shed some of its anonymity; this summer the company plans to move into a \$24 million bioscience incubator facility under construction near Highway 280, between the U's Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. Inside the renovated shell of a former Target Corporation warehouse at 1000 Westgate Drive, the young company will have its own state-of-the-art wet lab, an office, access to conference rooms and other amenities, and designated parking for visitors.

President Sagarika Kanjilal and her husband, Vivek Kapur, vice president of ANDX, are thrilled about the move. "The building will have tremendous facilities, and it's close to the intellectual community at the University," Kanjilal says.

That's the type of response that University Enterprise Laboratories (UEL), a nonprofit entity formed by the University in collaboration with the City of St. Paul and a group of Twin

Cities-based corporations, was hoping for from prospective tenants when it conceived the notion of an incubator for bioscience companies. In the new facility, ANDX will join a community of biotechnology and other high-tech startups, many of them born at the University.

Robert Elde (Ph.D. '74), dean of the College of Biological Sciences and board chair of UEL, views the facility as an entrepreneurial crucible—a means to transform "the technology that bubbles out of the U" into companies that over time will create hundreds of local jobs, generate technology licensing revenue for the University, and make Minnesota a player in the brave new world of biotechnology. As part of its renewed mission under University President Bob Bruininks to commercialize technology, the University has committed \$2 million to help get UEL off the ground. "UEL is really emerging as the geographic center of the University's technology transfer efforts," Elde says.

And the incubator is central to the economic aspirations of the City of St. Paul and the state. Both St. Paul Mayor Randy Kelly

By Phil Davies • Photographs by Mark Luinenburg



Peter Bianco, CEO of University Enterprise Laboratories

and Governor Tim Pawlenty (B.A. '83, J.D. '86) want to create a homegrown bioscience cluster in the Twin Cities nurtured by University research. UEL could be the start of something big—for the University and the wider community it serves.

JOSTLING FOR LAB SPACE

Inventing the next big thing in bioscience is an expensive, potentially risky business. Outfitting a wet lab can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Pathogens, potent chemicals, and radioactive substances require special handling. "Legend has it that

the University of Minnesota Foundation, and the Board of Regents, which agreed to dedicate \$1 million in licensing revenue to UEL. The University invested another \$1 million in the form of a 10-year lease for the Office of Business Development (OBD), created to nurture U startups (see article on page 32).

Raising the \$6.8 million in private donations needed to underwrite the cost of acquiring and renovating the Target building, located just off the bus transitway that runs between the campuses, was slow going. But Xcel Energy jumped in with \$2 million and was followed by Medtronic, 3M, Boston Scientific, Guidant,

Bioscience Lexicon

The terminology of bioscience can be as baffling as the science itself. In this article:

BIOTECHNOLOGY or **BIOTECH** refers to the use of cellular and molecular processes to solve problems or manufacture products. Biotech is really a collection of technologies with applications in medicine (bio-engineered drugs, DNA diagnostics), agriculture (pest-resistant crops), and industry (recyclable materials, bio-based fuel cells).

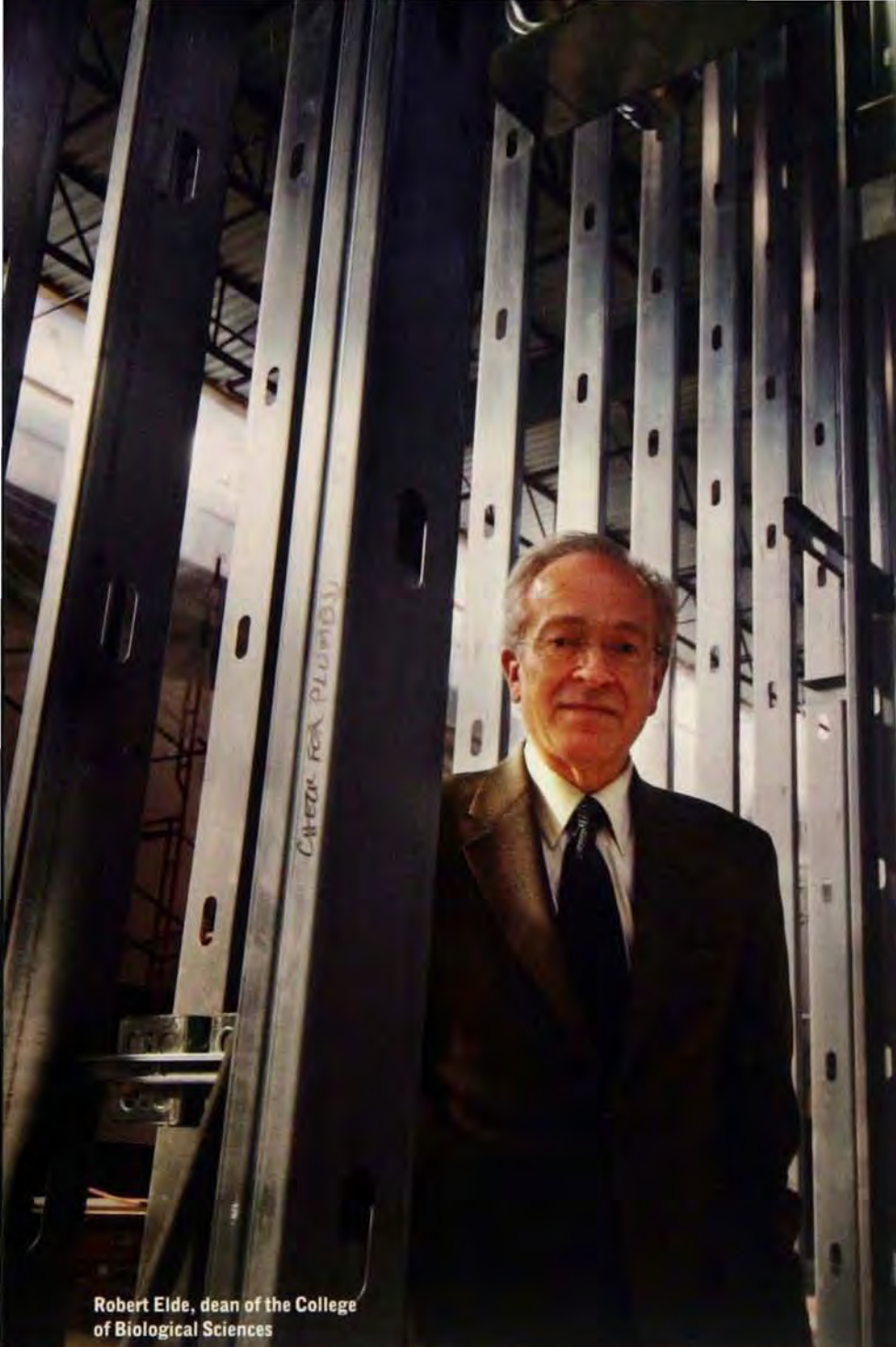
LIFE SCIENCES is a broader term that encompasses pharmaceuticals, medical labs, and medical devices such as stents and pacemakers as well as biotechnology.

BIOSCIENCE is an even broader catchall that can include all of the above, plus agricultural chemicals and research and testing. In the business world, the terms biotech and bioscience are often used interchangeably.

Source: Biotechnology Industry Organization

Medtronic was born in [company founder] Earl Bakken's garage," Elde says. "Yes, it was. The problem is that you can't do molecular biology and nanotechnology in a garage." A limited amount of lab space exists on campus, but companies spawned from University research that are ready to expand their operations and go to market must seek a home elsewhere. For cash-strapped startups, building their own lab facilities isn't an option; the UEL facility was created to satisfy that need—and provide a place where budding entrepreneurs could not only fine-tune their technologies but also hone their business skills.

Led by Elde, the proponents of UEL spent four years planning the incubator, finding a good location, and raising funds. Early financial support came from the City of St. Paul,



Robert Elde, dean of the College of Biological Sciences

Ecolab, Allina, Surmodics, and Dorsey & Whitney. A \$13.8 million bond offering backed by Wells Fargo Bank and federal tax credits to investors will cover the balance of development costs.

The transformation of a dowdy industrial building into an eye-catching structure with a skylit interior and 125,000 square feet of lab and office space began last fall. Minneapolis architect Tom DeAngelo (B.S. '78) has created a central "bioscience garden" that lets daylight into the labs and serves as a meeting place for tenants and visitors. Conference rooms, an auditorium, a coffee bar, and bamboo plantings ring the atrium. Out front, a big "UEL" emblazoned on a glass canopy greets visitors. The cool, sophisticated ambience in itself will be a draw for technology startups, says Chief Executive Officer Peter Bianco (B.A. '88): "Once the

doors open, this will be the place to be."

In fact, startup companies began jostling for lab space even before Bianco, a med-tech industry veteran who sits on the University's Business Commercialization Advisory Board, was hired to head UEL last September. Not just University-bred biotechnology firms came calling; although U-related startups get preference for lab space, and the incubator is billed as an ideal home for bioscience firms, any bona fide startup with a need for wet-lab space can apply for one of the 21 labs.

GIVING STARTUPS A LEG UP

UEL isn't the only game in town for high-tech fledglings looking for permanent roosts. Other Twin Cities tech incubators vying for tenants include Menlo Park on University Avenue in St. Paul and Elliot Park Life Sciences Institute near downtown Minneapolis. But these privately run facilities can't match UEL's unique combination of affordable, cutting-edge lab space; in-house business counsel; and links to the University and corporate world.

At UEL, startups accustomed to knocking elbows with other researchers in University lab facilities get their own 850-square-foot lab modules, equipped with acid-resistant countertops and sinks, ventilation systems for siphoning off noxious gases, and refrigerated storage for cell cultures and specimens. Tenants will share a lab stocked with specialized equipment and supplies. The facility doesn't claim the lowest prices in the metro area—rates are "cost competitive," Bianco says—but lease terms are flexible and UEL doesn't demand an equity stake in startups, as some for-profit incubators do.

The incubator's location—it's a 10-minute bus ride from either campus—is a plus for entrepreneurs who also hold faculty positions at the University. And the facility sits in the St. Paul Bioscience Zone, one of three

tax-free zones created by the state last year to stimulate economic development. Startups are eligible for state job creation and research tax credits, and their investors don't pay income or capital gains taxes.

Scientists who found technology companies are notoriously clueless about business matters: raising money, devising sales and marketing strategies, negotiating with distributors. Through its resident service and support organizations, including OBD and Carlson Ventures Enterprise (a Carlson School of Management program that assigns students to evaluate and assist startups), UEL can help novice CEOs navigate foreign terrain. "For a first-time entrepreneur, there's so much to do just so they can sit down and start doing their work," Bianco says. "Part of what we're going

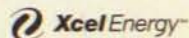


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Phyllis, Journeyperson

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to do is ease that transition from the [research] bench to the entrepreneurial environment."

Ready access to business assistance was a draw for ANDX, which may occupy two adjacent lab modules. A student with Carlson Ventures helped Kapur and Kanjilal write their business plan, and they expect to tap into OBD's expertise as they develop new tests and expand their market reach.

Currently the bulk of ANDX's revenue comes from testing blood and tissue samples sent in by veterinarians, amplifying minute snippets of nucleic acids to detect genetic markers for Johne's disease and a predisposition to feline sarcoma. However, that service model limits the number of tests that can be performed. In the future, the company may develop test kits for Johne's that could be used by agricultural labs around the world to diagnose the disease early—potentially saving dairy farmers more than \$600 million annually in the U.S. alone.

But Kapur, director of the University's Biomedical Genomics Center, and Kanjilal, an associate professor of medicine, are also looking forward to becoming part of what Bianco calls an entrepreneurial "ecosystem," a place where ideas seem to float in the air and collaborations flower from chance encounters at the coffee bar. "To achieve critical mass we understand that we're going to have to be in an environment where we see and learn from other startups and become part of the startup community," Kapur says. "That's why I think UEL is going to be good for us."

Another University startup slated to join the UEL community is StentTech, headed by Dr. Gladwin Das, director of the Cardiovascular Device Development Program at the University's Lillehei Heart Institute. Das founded StentTech to develop specially coated, biocompatible coronary stents for treating birth defects and heart disease. The company has shunned publicity; Das declined to be interviewed but did say via e-mail that UEL is a "natural choice" for him because of its top-notch facilities and



the presence of OBD, which has helped the company forge links with the business world.

Other UEL tenants not affiliated with the University include Gel Del Technologies, a developer of tissue-mimicking materials for use in drug delivery, cosmetic surgery, and blood vessel grafts; CIMA Nanotech, a firm that specializes in producing nanosized metal particles for conductive inks and coatings used in electronics manufacturing; and Prism Research, an inpatient research facility that conducts clinical trials of drugs and medical devices.

The large, well-known life science companies that donated to UEL's cause won't have offices in the incubator, but tenants open to scientific and business partnerships will feel their presence nonetheless. Medtronic, for example, is interested in acquiring hot new biotech or medical-device technologies. And Allina Hospitals & Clinics sees UEL as a seedbed for therapies that may take root in the company's far-flung network of hospitals, clinics, and hospices. David Orbuch (J.D. '86), executive vice president of corporate responsibility and community relations for Allina, says he expects doctors to pay regular visits to the building to learn firsthand about new medical devices and treatments.

SPREADING THEIR WINGS

StentTech and ANDX are the first of more than a dozen University-related startups expected to take up residence at 1000 Westgate Drive this summer. Companies scouting for off-campus quarters in March included Acera Biosciences, which focuses on creating synthetic versions of therapeutic compounds found in nature; Nanocopeia, a 3-year-old company that is working on nanosized, fast-acting drugs; and Heart Failure Technologies, another firm founded by Das.

UEL officials don't anticipate lab space going begging in coming years. The University has identified more than 60 technologies—the fruit of more than \$500 million in sponsored research

In-House Business Support

A poster depicting hands cradling a bird's nest hangs on a wall in the University's new Office of Business Development (OBD). In the nest lies a golden egg painted with a maroon "UM." "Turning bright ideas into golden opportunities," reads the caption underneath. The office's mission is to nurture startup companies hatched from University research. Formed last fall, OBD complements the efforts of the existing Office of Patents and Technology Marketing by working with companies that have licensed technology from the University to maximize their chances of commercial success.

Too often, innovations licensed to startups go nowhere because of lack of funding, or because University professors have no idea how to run a company, says OBD Director Doug Johnson (B.A. '66). Of 100 startups spun off from University research over the past 25 years, only two have become public companies. That's one-quarter of the national rate for U.S. universities. "We're changing the process at the University for licensing startups," Johnson says. "We're going to insist that a company has a real management team, a real financial supporter, and a real board of directors, and that there's an intention to commercialize the technology quickly."

Working out of businesslike offices on the ground floor of University

Enterprise Laboratories, a staff of five helps fledgling firms develop and hone their business strategies. M.B.A. students in the Carlson Ventures Enterprise program lend a hand with feasibility studies and market analyses. Johnson, who also heads the Carlson Ventures program, and OBD Assistant Director Dick Sommerstad leverage their extensive Twin Cities business contacts to put startups in touch with executive recruiters, marketing consultants, lawyers, and accountants.

The office also shows University faculty the business ropes in workshops and conferences; serves as a portal for outside businesses and investors interested in ongoing University research; and helps embryonic firms obtain funding from private investors and nonprofit organizations, such as the Minnesota Research Foundation, which has an office in UEL. OBD also plans to establish a \$20 million, nonprofit investment fund for promising applied research projects at the University, bankrolled by private donors and overseen by a board of scientists and businesspeople.

As for OBD's own finances, it will receive about \$750,000 in University support this year. Johnson aims to make the office self-sufficient within three years by providing services to member businesses and managing the investment fund.

—P.D.

awarded annually to the U—that could be licensed to local startups in coming years. Many of those companies will seek wet-lab space near the University and move into the incubator when space opens up. “We have strong technology that’s available now, and we’re working internally to be sure that we keep the pipeline flowing,” says R. Timothy Mulcahy, the University’s new vice president for research.

If these firms thrive, the University, the Twin Cities, and the state will share in their success. In the short term, the University stands to gain from the opportunities UEL gives faculty to launch their own companies and collaborate with researchers in private industry. In the past, biological sciences professors bent on commercializing their discoveries have threatened to leave the University because of a dearth of incubator facilities. Now the 40 new faculty members whom the University has hired in the past three years as part of the University’s Initiative in Molecular and Cellular Biology have good reason to stay. UEL also offers students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience as interns and part-time employees of tenants.

In the long term—over the next 10 to 15 years—the U and the state stand to gain much more if a research park grows up around the incubator. Collaborating with city officials and high-tech trade groups to develop such a park is a high priority for Mulcahy’s office. As UEL-raised startups spread their wings and settle into permanent space in the research park, they’re likely to be joined by other technology companies that want to be close to the facility and University researchers.

That kind of organic clustering—similar to the process that gave rise to research parks near the University of Wisconsin—Madison and Iowa State University—promises a bonanza of licensing fees for the University, hundreds of well-paying jobs for U graduates and Twin Cities residents, and robust economic growth. In the University of Wisconsin—Madison’s research park, 107 technology and ancillary companies employ more than 4,000 people. “This is something that’s going to benefit the entire region,” says Mulcahy, a former vice chancellor for research at Wisconsin.

A University of Minnesota research park anchored by UEL dovetails neatly

with the bioscience visions of the City of St. Paul and the Pawlenty administration. Mayor Kelly’s office is promoting the idea of a University Avenue “bioscience corridor” bustling with startups and established life sciences firms. “Bioscience is a growing sector worldwide, and we want to be a part of it,” says Tom Triplett, senior policy adviser to the mayor. City officials have identified potential building sites along the University transitway and have asked the Minnesota Legislature for \$20 million for infrastructure improvements near

UEL, including links to proposed light rail and commuter rail lines, new roads, upgraded sidewalks and lighting, and affordable housing.

The state views UEL and a future University research park as part and parcel of a broad initiative to make Minnesota a national leader in biotechnology, a \$39 billion industry in 2003. Besides supporting the creation of bioscience tax-free zones, Pawlenty was instrumental in launching a joint University—Mayo Clinic biotech research program, and in the last legisla-

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tive session he sought \$20 million to build a biotechnology and genomic research center in Rochester.

INVESTMENT AND INSPIRATION

If these ambitious plans bear fruit, future chroniclers of Minnesota's biotech industry will point to UEL as the proverbial garage, the place where it all began. But the facility's success and a return on the University's \$2 million investment are by no means assured.

The biggest challenge facing UEL and its boosters is helping startups secure financing when they're ready to leave the nest. Young companies crave cash—upwards of \$10 million to develop a product and bring it to market—even more than tax breaks or conveniently located lab space. Unfortunately, local venture firms tend to invest in the medical device sector rather than in biotech, and Minnesota is *terra incognita* to venture funds based on the coasts. More than 40 other states, among them Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, and Michigan, are wooing private investment for their own bioscience initiatives.

"We have to talk seriously about what happens when a company is ready to graduate from this building," Bianco says. "Unless there's investment capital specific to biotechnology for them, they're going to go to San Francisco or Boston. If we become a farm team for San Francisco or Boston, this will have been a colossal failure." Bianco believes that state government should create a fund to invest in early-stage bioscience companies, like those already established in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Pennsylvania.

Developing reliable funding so that UEL graduates can prosper in Minnesota—instead of relocating to established biotechnology centers elsewhere—will take years of sustained effort by the University, the business community, and local and state government. For now, as construction crews put the finishing touches on the incubator, companies like ANDX and StentTech have more immediate concerns, like packing up their equipment and finding out where the vending machines will be located. In a bioscience incubator, inspiration can strike at any time of the day or night. ■

Phil Davies is a St. Paul-based technology writer.



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The Ph.D. and the Northeastern Fisheries

*Charles Burke Elliott,
who earned the first Ph.D.
from the University of Minnesota,
in 1888, wrote a dissertation
that garnered the kind of acclaim
Ph.D. doctoral students
dream about.*



Charles Burke Elliott earned his Ph.D. in history in 1888, the first doctor of philosophy awarded by the University.

Charles Burke Elliott was a struggling young Minneapolis lawyer, working as a part-time editor for West Publishing Company to supplement a measly law practice. It was 1885, and Elliott felt his legal career was going nowhere fast, so he decided to jump-start his future by becoming the University of Minnesota's first candidate for the degree of doctor of philosophy. That plan was his first step down a path toward brief and unexpected renown in the nation's Capitol.

There was a touch of audacity in the idea; Elliott didn't even have a bachelor's degree. But he had studied at Marietta College in Ohio and was a brilliant law student at the University of Iowa, where he took a bachelor of law degree (it was possible, at the time, to get a B.L. without having a B.A.). Further, he'd published a number of well-received legal articles since his graduation and he reasoned that these, along with his law degree, ought to substitute for the missing B.A. He approached Cyrus Northrop, recently appointed the second president of the University of Minnesota, with his idea, guessing that Northrop might be a man with a sympathetic ear. The new president had grand ideas about putting the

still small University of Minnesota on the nation's higher educational roadmap, and one way to do that was to boost a graduate program that to that date had not produced a single Ph.D.

Not many colleges in the nation had. German universities, the model of educational enlightenment in the late-19th century United States, had been minting doctors of philosophy for many years, and the usual pattern for aspiring American

By Tim Brady

academics was to do their doctoral work in Deutschland. That had changed somewhat, beginning in 1861, when Yale awarded this nation's first three Ph.D.s. The trend continued in the 1870s, when Johns Hopkins University opened with the mission of promoting graduate education in this country. Even so, in 1876 only 25 institutions in the United States awarded Ph.D.s, and these were handed out to a grand total of 44 students.

Northrop was himself a Yale man, and keen on educational reform. Despite the B.A. problem, Elliott was an appealing candidate. His substitute credits were accepted in lieu of the degree. The young lawyer soon began his course of doctoral study.

Elliott's major field was to be history, with studies in Roman law, international law, and the constitutional history of England and the United States, with an emphasis on the diplomatic history of these two nations. Elliott would work under the direction of Harry Pratt Judson, professor of history; William Watts Folwell, professor of political science; and George Edwin MacLean, professor of the English. It was a prestigious crew. Folwell, Northrop's predecessor as president, was already an institution at the U; Judson would one day serve as president of the University of Chicago; and MacLean would serve as president at the University of Iowa and the University of Nebraska.

"From time to time I met these gentlemen at their homes, where my work was examined and reading directed," Elliott wrote in his unfinished autobiography almost 50 years later. "Each took great interest in his only candidate; each became a life-long friend."

By the second year of Elliott's studies, it was time to choose a subject for his dissertation. At Judson's suggestion, Elliott decided to write on the ongoing diplomatic controversy between the United States and Great Britain over the Newfoundland fisheries, specifically, the extent to which Commonwealth state Canada could claim proprietary fishing rights to the waters off of Newfoundland.

While the topic might seem distant to a midwestern lawyer, it was pretty hot in 1886. From the birth of the republic, the United States and Great Britain had maintained diplomatic relationships that were sometimes bellicose, sometimes surly, and sometimes merely fussy. England tended to be arrogant in its foreign relations, and the United States tended to be thin-skinned. One of the niggling bones of contention was the matter of fishing rights. And just as Elliott decided to write about the same, U.S. President Grover Cleveland's administration had made a treaty with Great Britain that "gave much dissatisfaction to certain ele-



Cushman Davis, a republican senator from Minnesota, put a copy of Elliott's dissertation in the hands of every one of his colleagues in the U.S. Senate.



History professor Harry Pratt Judson, who would become president of the University of Chicago, suggested Elliott study the diplomatic controversy over the Newfoundland fisheries.

ments in the United States," Elliott wrote.

Cleveland was a Democrat. The "dissatisfied elements" were mostly Republicans from the New England states. The conflict revolved around the question of what rights Americans had to fish in Canadian waters. Not surprisingly, New England fishermen thought not enough and Newfoundlanders said too many. In late 1886, Elliott went off to libraries in Washington, New York, and Boston to research the history of this question.

The contentions escalated as he studied. Canadian warships seized American fishing schooners and arrested crews for casting their nets in Dominion waters. To retaliate, the Republican-controlled U.S. Congress passed a bill in spring of 1887 authorizing American ports to bar Canadian ships and goods. Hotheads began spouting off about the possibility of war, a prospect that a poetic editorialist for the *Detroit News* warned could change the map of North America:

We do not want to fight,
But, by jingo, if we do,
We'll scoop in all the fishing grounds
And the whole Dominion, too.

Back in Minneapolis, Charles Burke Elliott was putting the period to his thesis with a cooler head. To his doctoral committee he presented a dissertation that turned out to be a careful and thorough examination of past fishing treaties signed between the United States and Great Britain. It tended to support the New England contention that terms of the major accord governing fishing rights in Canadian waters (the Washington Treaty of 1818) were generally unfavorable to the United States. Not only did Elliott's dissertation prove satisfactory to Judson, Folwell, and MacLean, but also "the University decided to publish and distribute it as sort of a public document," Elliott wrote.

It was now the fall of 1887, and in Washington, D.C., the Cleveland administration was trying to ease tensions over the fishing disputes by hosting a joint commission of British and American diplomats. Three representatives from each country began hammering out a proposed agreement that would appear in February 1888 as the Bayard-Chamberlain pact.

But even as the negotiations were taking place, Republican senators were leery of a favorable outcome. Eighteen eighty-eight was a presidential election year and no one on the Republican side of the aisle, including Minnesota Senator Cushman Davis, wanted to hand Grover Cleveland the laurels for settling this ancient dispute. They didn't want to be seen as nakedly political about the matter either. What they needed was some sort of learned argument that could support their political goals, the kind

of wonky ammunition that would one day become a familiar part of the modern political caucus's arsenal.

When Davis was sent a copy of Elliott's thesis, simply called "United States and the North-eastern Fisheries," he found just the right sword to help Republicans make a few thrusts at the Cleveland administration. Be cautious with the Brits, was Elliott's learned summation; they've taken advantage in the past. Davis quickly put a copy of the book in the hands of every one of his colleagues in the Senate, and it soon became the talk of the Capitol. Senators were making speeches in the chambers with Elliott's book propped open on their desks, freely quoting from this grad student from the University of Minnesota on the Senate floor.

Elliott received warm letters of praise from some of the leading political and intellectual lights of the day, including Massachusetts Congressman Henry Cabot Lodge; famed historian and diplomat George Bancroft; and diplomats John Jay, a descendant and namesake of the original co-author of *The Federalist Papers*, and James Russell Lowell, a former minister to England, who wrote, "I have read with great interest & instruction your History of the Fishery Question. It seems to me a thorough & fairminded statement of the whole business."

Any doctoral student camped in some lonely library carrel can appreciate Elliott's sentiments on January 6, 1888, as he pondered the circumstances that brought him and his work to the attention of so many notables. He kept a diary during these heady days. And on that Friday, he indulged himself by describing how, as a 17-year-old youth in Ohio, he began his first job as a teacher. Now, 10 years later, he asks himself:

Have they been successful years? I think I am safe in saying that they have not been altogether wasted. . . . Within a month I have received personal letters from some of the most distinguished men in the land, unsolicited, all speaking in flattering terms of my work. . . . Surely, without vanity, I may feel that there is some distance between the poor muddy youth of seventeen, standing on that hill side in Ohio ten years ago, and the young lawyer of 27 here in this great Western City. Senators of the United States did not then write to that youth, "You have done yourself and the State great credit."

In the modern age, Elliott would surely have been whisked away to Washington for a season in the sun: a round of interviews on the public affairs programs, testimony at Senate hearings, think tank offers to consider. But back in 1888, the clock was already ticking on his 15 minutes of fame. Though Washington continued to debate the pros and cons of the Bayard-Chamberlain pact, Elliott was left in Minneapolis with his wife, a year-old son, and his still meager law practice.

And, oh yes, he still had the obligations of an upcoming oral examination to fulfill the requirements for his Ph.D.

During the height of his romance with the Senate, Elliott's



English professor George Edwin MacLean, who would later serve as president of the University of Iowa and the University of Nebraska, sat on Elliott's doctoral committee.

enthusiasm for the doctoral work began to wane and his diary notes growing frustration with the faculty: "During May I suppose I will have to pass an examination for my Degree of Ph.D. if the faculty ever get the matter arranged." And, "If they go to adding any further requirements I will withdraw as my time is too valuable to give much more of it to this kind of amusement."

But as the weeks and months passed and Elliott's celebrity faded, his obligations remained. His days consisted of mornings at the courthouse, afternoons reading, and evenings attending to family matters. He kept abreast of activities in Washington and continued to receive congratulatory letters for his book, but discussion of the Bayard-Chamberlain pact ground to a halt in the Senate (the treaty would ultimately be voted down by Republicans in August 1888), and the fisheries matter was no longer Topic A in the Capitol.

By May, Elliott was back with his nose fully to the doctoral grindstone. And as the date for his oral exam neared, the man who just months before had been brimming with confidence and self-satisfaction, was suddenly weak-kneed: "Am very much disgusted with my Degree business," reads his May 21 diary entry. "Am unable to get time to study and will have to face a severe examination without the necessary preparation. I am a fair specimen of an ass, to attempt any thing of the kind while running a business at the same time."

Elliott's concerns turned out to be unfounded. On Saturday, June 2, 1888, he went to the home of Professor Judson where he had supper with his examining committee and then proceeded to face their questions from 8 o'clock in the evening until 10. He learned his fate just a half-hour later. Congratulations were in order for Elliott, who'd just been awarded the first doctor of philosophy in the history of the University of Minnesota.

"It has been a long hard course of study," Elliott wrote in his diary that night before going to bed. "I am well pleased to be free from it."

Elliott remained in Minneapolis after his June commencement. There he began a long and distinguished legal career that included stints on the municipal bench for the city of Minneapolis and as a state Supreme Court justice, where he sat from 1906 to 1909. In that year, President William Howard Taft appointed him as a federal judge in the Philippines and he wound up spending the next several years in the Pacific, first on the bench and then as a cabinet officer. Elliott helped shape the judicial system in the newly democratic government of the Philippines.

In 1917, Elliott published a two-volume history of the relationship between the United States and the Philippines that was well-received in scholarly and diplomatic circles. There is no record, however, of anyone passing out copies of it on the floor of the U.S. Senate. ■

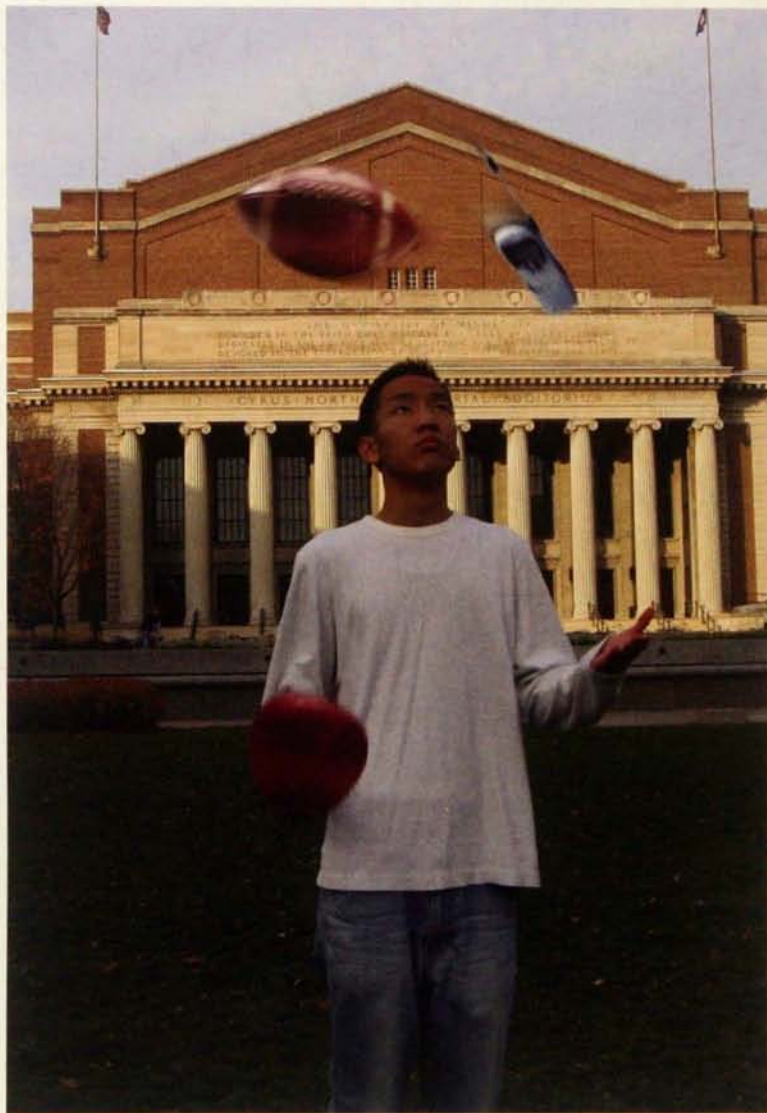
Tim Brady is a St. Paul freelance writer.

Through Fresh Eyes



Jill Andersen, elementary education
Wyoming, Minnesota

"This picture was taken in the afternoon on a day in November in Lindstrom, Minnesota, where I lived until I was about 4. As my family and I were driving through town, I noticed the perfect background. . . . One of the local business owners had painted the Swedish flag on the side of his building. This was perfect. The next day I drove back with a friend of mine and we shot the picture."



David Do, biomedical engineering
Savage, Minnesota

"Since arriving at school, I have had to juggle my physical health, a social life, and an oversized academic load, yet there are still only 24 hours in a day. Time has become a commodity and so has sleep. All I can do is keep my eyes on these objects and remain poised."

In fall 2004, 14 incoming students to the University of Minnesota picked up digital cameras and began clicking. They were volunteers in the "Picture Your First Year" photography project, designed to encourage the new college students to think about their experiences—including their worries, dreams, and values—and to communicate those ideas through a collection of images. Coordinated by the U's Orientation and First-Year Programs Office and the Visual Arts Committee, the project culminated in "Visions of U," an exhibit in the Coffman Gallery this spring. Here are some of the photographs featured in the exhibit.



Allison Stratton, interior design
Anoka, Minnesota

"I came to this school expecting my first year to be sheltered in a dorm with friends practically given to me, and instead I grew to be a hard-working, self-sufficient young adult who deals with struggles as they come. . . . This photo is of two tables in the Color and Design room on the second floor of McNeal Hall (home to the College of Human Ecology). This was basically my first impression of the class, and I was really excited about it! I ended the semester feeling a sense of community on the St. Paul campus and a sense of being a part of the University."



Adrian Suncar, undecided
Jakarta, Indonesia

"The Mississippi River represents the surreal feeling of being here. When I was still in Indonesia, I heard a lot about the Mississippi from many sources, like *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, which is one of the first novels in English I had read and truly understood. The mist on the river shows that I still don't know what I want to do with my life. I feel like I am in the middle of the mist and I need to find my way out, to find what my passion in life is."

Mike Minehart, graphic design
Albert Lea, Minnesota

"This was the October 2 game against Penn State, a 16-7 victory for the Gophers that put us at 5-0 at the time. The energy in the Dome was electric. . . . Some good timing and a great reaction from the guy crowd-surfing are what made this picture."



Rachele Cermak, photography
Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota

"There are thousands of people here with their own agendas. We walk past many a day but never make eye contact. In the photo you're witnessing what's going on but not interacting with it. During a busy week (like finals) that's how life on campus feels. We are all trying to make the most of our time here to have a successful future. . . . As long as we know ourselves, we can be part of something huge without fading into the background."

David Williamson, undecided
Rochester, Minnesota

"It had been really crummy weather for several days and this was the first sunny day, so I decided to take a walk down by the river. . . . I've never actually been inside it [the Weisman]."





**Cole Sexton, undecided
La Crosse, Wisconsin**

"I have always enjoyed taking pictures of everyday life, and this was the perfect opportunity for me to showcase my own transition into this new style of life. . . . I really like to make use of computer photo effects to emphasize what the picture is supposed to portray. Black and white photography is also a major part of my photography style. I feel that it really brings out a very different element of an experience."



**Kelsey Mosser, kinesiology and dance
Rochester, Minnesota**

"Pre-game was always my favorite part of band practice because it has such a deep tradition in the Marching Band and is exhausting, rewarding, and memorable. It was especially important to me because we have to 'challenge' or 'audition,' since there are not enough spots for the entire Marching Band, and I made it for the first pre-game of the year."

All-Around Champions

Meet four of the University of Minnesota's outstanding seniors, students who excel in academics as well as athletics.

Photographs by Dan Marshall

T

Guillermo Alvarez: Balancing Act

To say that Guillermo Alvarez's first visit to the University of Minnesota did not go according to plan would be an understatement. As a high school gymnast, Alvarez caught the eye of former Gopher men's gymnastics coach Fred Roethlisberger at the Junior National Olympic Championships five years ago. Although he wasn't certain he wanted to leave his home state of Colorado or even pursue gymnastics at the college level, Alvarez decided to check out Minnesota's program and was looking forward to the weekend trip to the Twin Cities.

And then everything went wrong.

First, a delayed flight landed him in Minneapolis hours late. It rained the entire weekend. And shortly after enjoying his first taste of lobster at a recruitment dinner, he discovered—the hard way—that he is severely allergic to shellfish. The quiet Alvarez is characteristically understated about the experience. "I had some bad moments on that trip," Alvarez laughs.

Still, something about the dynamic of the gymnastics team surmounted the trip's comedy of errors and convinced Alvarez to attend Minnesota. He liked the diversity of the teammates' personalities, the way the boisterous energy of some complemented the reserved but supportive nature of others.

Starting at the University in fall 2001, Alvarez quickly began compiling an impressive list of accomplishments, culminating in being named Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2002. Alvarez went on to become a three-time all-Big Ten honoree. His junior year, he placed fifth in the all-around at the NCAA meet and earned all-American status in the all-around, floor, and

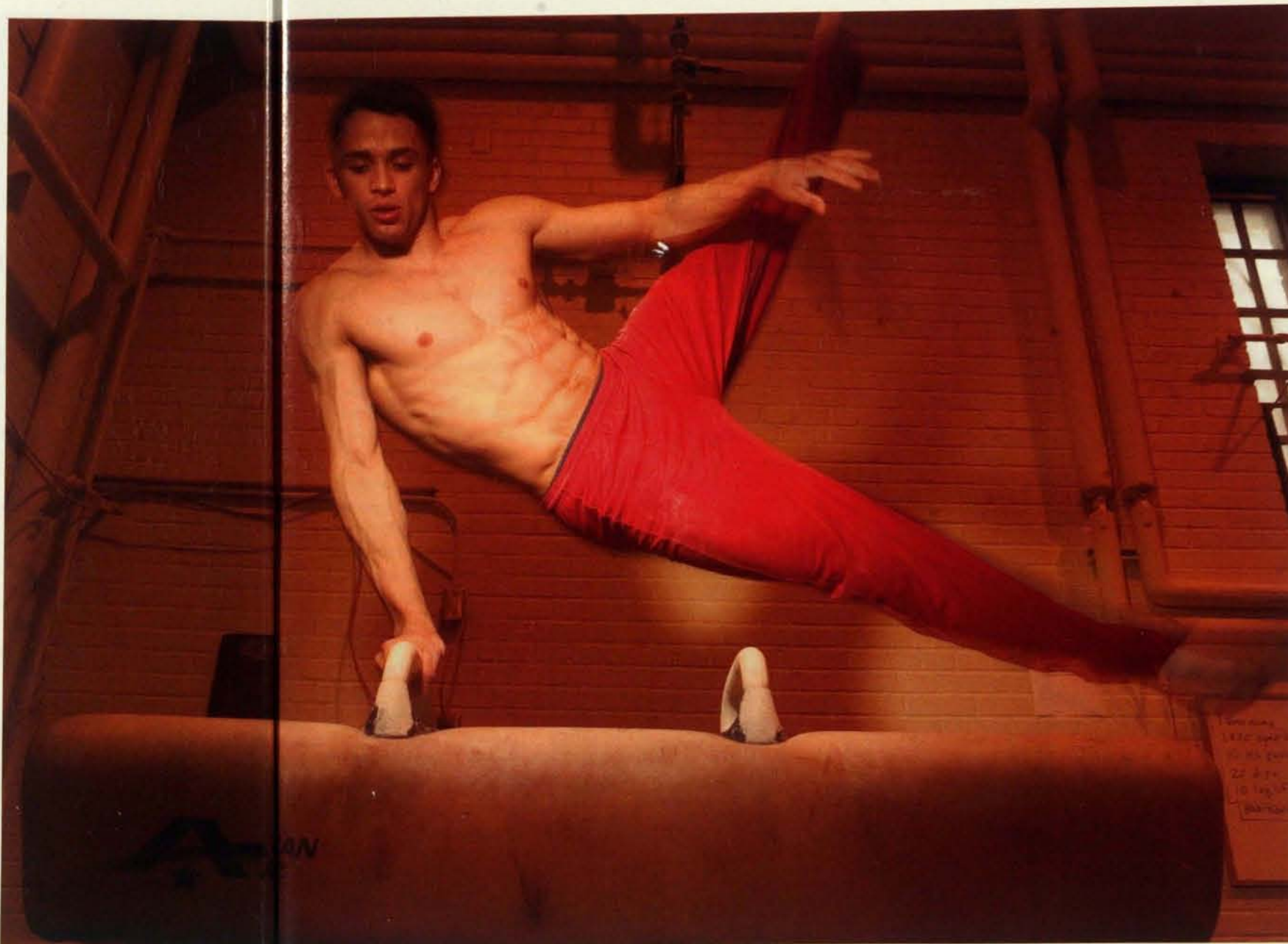
pommel horse.

Early in 2005, Alvarez was the Big Ten's highest finisher in the all-around at the Winter Cup in Las Vegas, taking second overall and finishing second on both the pommel horse and the vault. His performances earned him a spot on the U.S. National Team for 2005.

The accolades are exciting, Alvarez says, but it's the team that keeps him motivated. "My role models are my teammates, the guys who are working with me, working hard," he says. "When I see one guy working a new skill it makes me want to learn something new."

The feeling is more than mutual, according to current coach Mike Burns, who says that Alvarez's day-in and day-out consistency is what makes him so remarkable. "He's the face of Minnesota gymnastics," Burns says. "The younger guys look at Guillermo and say, 'Wow. He's on his game every day.'"

He's on his game in the classroom too. Last spring, Alvarez earned a place on the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics' Top Five GPA List among male athletes with a 3.94 on a 4.0-point scale. "It's just knowing what you need to get done and then making it happen," Alvarez says, shrugging off the suggestion that there is something special about his success.



A psychology major, Alvarez has spent much of his time outside the gym studying learning and memory. Working with pediatrics professor Michael Georgieff, Alvarez has participated in research on the effects of iron deficiency in prenatal rats and their ability to navigate mazes later.

But when Alvarez maneuvers around the pommel horse or flips through the air, he doesn't think about the kinetics or the psychology of what he's doing. His mind goes blank. "Because you do routines so much, by the time you get to competition, it's all muscle memory and so you try not to focus on what you're doing physically," he says.

With graduation on the horizon, Alvarez is in the unhappy position of leaving an environment where he can pursue gymnastics and psychology simultaneously. He's been exploring graduate school programs in educational psychology, but his

recent appointment to the U.S. National Team has given him the idea that there may be even more he can achieve in gymnastics. "Part of me wants to see how much I can actually accomplish," Alvarez says.

Burns says an ideal situation could be for Alvarez to pursue graduate school at Minnesota, continue training in the Cooke Hall gym, and travel to international meets and national team camps when possible. It's a route being taken by former NCAA champion Clay Strother (B.A. '04), which would give Alvarez a top-flight training partner.

But as his senior season winds down, Alvarez takes the time to appreciate the day-to-day interactions that he knows he'll miss next year. "It's a great experience," he says, "coming into the gym every day with your friends, with 15 great guys."

—Danny LaChance

Justin Mortimer: Pushing the Limits

There is little on the exterior that hints at what lies inside Justin Mortimer. The physics major may be a little taller, a little broader in the shoulders, and a little more serious than most college students. But Mortimer, one of the world's best distance swimmers, burns inside with a desire to push himself beyond what he and his coaches think is possible. "It's fun for me to keep pushing myself harder and harder and challenge myself to see how hard I can train," Mortimer says. "I like [to reach] that limit where you don't think you can do any more, and then do a little more."

Kelly Kremer, who recruited Mortimer and coached him his first three years at Minnesota, has never seen anything like it. "There are times he is maybe the best trainer in the world," Kremer says of both the sheer distance and speed of Mortimer's swimming. "But he had periods of inconsistency. What's different this year is [that] he's a great trainer every day." As a result, Mortimer set school records in the three longest events at the Big Ten meet in February: the 400-yard individual medley and the 500- and 1,650-yard freestyle events. Then Mortimer reset two of those records a month later at the NCAA meet, earning three more individual all-American honors, giving him a total of 10 for his career.

Mortimer took a year away from school in 2003-04 to train to make the U.S. Olympic team. Although he came tantalizingly close—missing an Olympic berth in the 1,500-meter freestyle by fewer than two seconds (the race lasts more than 15 minutes)—he learned he could swim with the best in the world. Among his training partners in Mission Viejo, California, was Larsen Jensen, who broke the American record in the Olympic trials race and went on to earn a silver medal in Athens in the event. Mortimer went on to the U.S. national meet held later that summer and won four events.

His training attitude carries over to school, where he has earned academic honors and finds picking up an astrophysics minor in his fourth year "no big deal," he says. "I think I just use the same mindset in school as I do in swimming. Just work harder. Don't try 50 percent. I like to be as prepared as possible no matter what I do. I don't want to take a test if I don't know exactly what I'm doing."

Being a competitive swimmer since age 7 has helped Mortimer refine his study habits. "You have to learn to do your home-

work in the car, or in the library after morning practice, or at the pool before practice," he explains. "You learn to get organized. You find time in the day where normally most people would just watch TV."

Mortimer, who grew up in several East Coast states, progressed slowly through the elite swimming ranks before exploding on the scene as a high school senior, winning several events at the U.S. junior meet and then swimming well in the 2000 Olympic trials. "People said, 'Who is this guy? How did we miss him?'" recalls Dennis Dale (B.S. '68, B.S. '73), Minnesota's longtime head coach. "But we had already signed him to a scholarship. We could see by the workouts he was able to do [in high school in Massachusetts] that it was just a matter of time before he took off."

As a high school senior, Mortimer faced the quandary of whether to

pursue both swimming and academics at a high level at Minnesota or to attend an Ivy League school and let swimming fade to the background. Now he intends to pursue swimming as a professional. He'll swim in the World University Games in Turkey in August. And he hopes to shave enough seconds off his time to make the team for the 2008 Olympic Games.

Although Mortimer keeps his grades up partly as a matter of principle, he also has an eye toward eventually going to graduate school in physics. He has other goals in sight first, however. They'll require a burning dedication to training, but they're within Mortimer's limits.

—Chris Coughlan-Smith (B.A. '86)



Sarah Solfelt: A Buoyant Personality

Sarah Solfelt's family has always been supportive. In fact, when it comes to her swimming, they've often been quite literally behind her. At nearly every home meet of her career, Solfelt's parents and three siblings have been behind the blocks, timing. "I call them the Solfelt timing crew," she says. "I give them a hard time because they sometimes forget to wear maroon shirts."

Solfelt, who specializes in the individual medley (IM) and butterfly events, has been a steady performer during her four seasons with the Gopher women's swimming and diving team, earning crucial points at big meets and racking up three consecutive academic all-Big Ten honors. At her final Big Ten competition in February, the team captain scored points while swimming personal bests in the 200-yard butterfly and in the 200 IM.

The U seemed like home to Solfelt long before she ever enrolled. Growing up in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, some of her most memorable high school meets took place at the University Aquatic Center. Though she attracted notice from Division I schools across the nation—she not only set state high school swim records, but was valedictorian of her graduating class of 700 students—Solfelt knew she would ultimately wear maroon and gold like her parents, Bob (B.S. '77) and Jody (B.S. '78), before her. "I always knew this is where I wanted to be," she says.

While Solfelt takes pride in her swimming accomplishments, she's never been content to have a single focus. She's carved out time for the things she deems important, from family to faith. She's an active member of the student groups Fellowship for Christian Athletes and Campus Crusade for Christ. She's also the student athlete representative to the Minnesota Swimming Board. During her summer breaks, she serves as a camp counselor for junior high girls from her church. And while she loves

the work, she believes it's her responsibility as well. "When you're blessed with a talent—whether it's athletics or academics or anything else—you have a unique position as a role model and a mentor," she says. "I want to be a leader and set an example for younger girls."

A finance major in the Carlson School of Management, Solfelt was troubled when she realized there were no student organizations at the school that addressed business ethics—so she and friends created one. The two-year-old Truth in Business club

meets once a week, bringing in local speakers to talk about business ethics. "I think there's a dire need for something like this now, especially after Martha Stewart and Enron," she says. For her efforts both in and out of the pool, Solfelt earned the U's Zander Award for Student Leadership in 2004, an honor that annually goes to one male and one female student who have exceptional character, academic achievements, leadership qualities, and commitment to service.

As she wraps up her swimming career and prepares for life after the U, Solfelt hopes to find the kind of balance she was able to achieve during school. Though she's currently weighing several job offers, her heart clearly remains with the water. "I don't know if you'll ever be able to pry me away from swimming," she says. For the summer, at least, she'll coach for the Aquajet Swim Club in Eden Prairie, hoping to be the

kind of mentor to others that her coaches have been to her.

Gopher co-head coach Terry Nieszner (B.S. '79) thinks it's a perfect fit. "The same things that she seeks in [her coaches] are her strengths when she works with young kids," Nieszner says. "She's an excellent teacher and coach."

No matter what Solfelt chooses, she plans to remain close to the University swimming program as a fan, perhaps cheering for her younger sister or brothers, who are also top swimmers. "I wish I could be part of the team for another 10 years, but I guess I'll just be one of those people timing on the deck," she says. "I'll always remember my maroon shirt."

—Erin Peterson



Terra Petsinger: Perseverance Pays Off

Terra Petsinger developed her love for golf early. Her mother toted baby Terra in a car seat around the nine-hole course near the family home in Arvilla, North Dakota. At 11, she began to spend all day at the course in the summer, sometimes getting in as many as 63 holes before dinner. By 13, Petsinger was beating the men in random foursomes.

Petsinger's fierce competitiveness emerged by third grade, on the basketball court, and has only grown over the years. It

Petsinger and her teammates were devastated and the Gophers finished last at the Big Ten tournament two weeks later. Soon, most of the golfers withdrew from their scholarships and transferred to other schools. Then the coach jumped to another job and Petsinger found herself in a dilemma.

She drew inspiration from the men's golf team, which seemed to use the announcement as motivation to win the NCAA title, but Petsinger was nervous about adjusting to a new coach and once again having to prove herself without a scholarship offer. She visited and received partial scholarship offers from two other schools. In the end, she and two teammates resolved to stay at Minnesota, work hard, and make the most of the opportunity

to rebuild the team if a fund-raising effort already underway was successful. "I just believed it would happen," Petsinger says.

Throughout a summer of uncertainty, Petsinger worked on her game and called recruits and urged them to stick with their commitment to Minnesota. In August, a new coach was hired and Petsinger's faith was rewarded. The money came through to save the program. She was offered a full scholarship, hit it off with new coach Weiss-Hanneman, and took her golf game to a new level. Petsinger's sophomore season average of 77.33 was sixth best in school history and a full four strokes better than her freshman average. Her fourth-place finish at the Big Ten tournament was the best by a Gopher in a decade.

Petsinger's example of dedication and results made her a team leader. Weiss-Hanneman named Petsinger a team captain her junior and senior years. In 2003-04, Petsinger led the team in stroke average and notched her first collegiate tournament victory at the Minnesota Invitational, which she won in fall 2004 as well. At the Lady Paladin Invitational in Greenville, South Carolina, the final tournament of the fall season, she carded a career best round of 70.

After completing her bachelor's degree in kinesiology this spring, Petsinger, a three-time academic all-Big Ten honoree, will take a shot at the next level of the game she loves. This summer, she plans to play on the Futures Tour, the first step on the long road to the LPGA.

Looking back on her four years at the U, Petsinger remembers the tough times but says she'll carry forward happy memories. "My teammates were awesome, my coach was awesome," she says. "I can honestly say I wouldn't do anything different."

—John Rosengren



doesn't matter if the game is bowling or basketball, she wants to win—especially when the opponent is her boyfriend, Gopher football player Jarod Posthumus. "It drives me nuts if he beats me," Petsinger says.

That competitiveness drives Petsinger on the golf course. "She's a scrambler," says Gopher women's coach Katie Weiss-Hanneman. "She's always in a round until the last putt falls."

As a freshman, Petsinger walked on to the University of Minnesota women's golf team, following her dream of playing for the best college team within an easy drive of home. Although she played inconsistently, she did well enough to earn starts in several tournaments, but not the athletic scholarship she desired. And then, before the 2001-02 season even ended, the University announced plans to drop the Gopher women's golf program. Financial shortfalls in the athletics department meant the team, along with men's golf and men's gymnastics, were to be no more after one more season.



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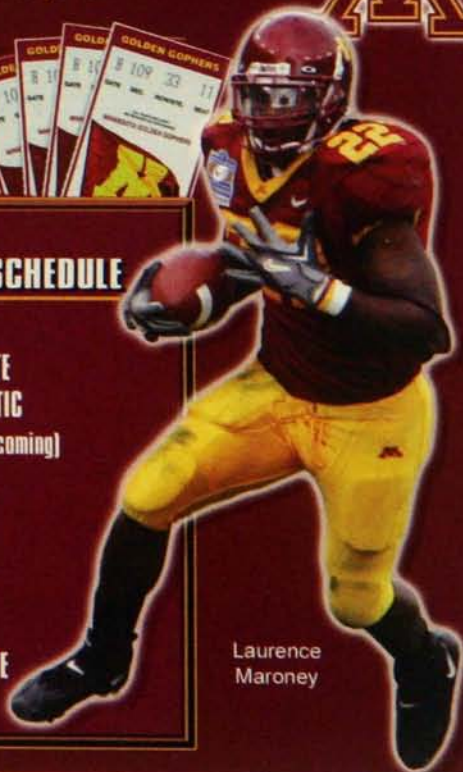
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Oct. 29	OHIO STATE
Nov. 5	at Indiana
Nov. 12	MICHIGAN STATE
Nov. 19	at Iowa



Bryan Cupito



Laurence Maroney

SPORTS NOTEBOOK

Mad March

Five winter sports teams reached their national tournaments in March, led by the women's hockey team winning its second consecutive national championship.



Women's Hockey

Certainly one of the most dominant teams in the brief history of women's college hockey fulfilled its destiny by winning the NCAA title in March. Minnesota ended the year 36-2-2 and held the top spot in the national poll all year. "We were never the underdog in any of our games," says head coach Laura Halldorson. "Our team got used to that pressure, used to the target on our backs. It didn't seem to phase us all year."

Although there were a few stretches in which the team did not play as well as it could, Halldorson says, "they were rare, and they responded right away to us getting on them about it."

At the same time, she adds, there was never a danger that confidence would grow into cockiness. "We had some superstars on this team, but they were always humble and team-oriented. I never worried about how they would carry themselves."

Those superstars included junior Krissy Wendell of Plymouth, Minnesota, winner of the Patty Kazmaier Award as the top college women's hockey player. Her line mate Natalie Darwitz, a junior from Eagan, Minnesota, was named the outstanding player of the NCAA's

eight-team tournament. Although Wendell and Darwitz are juniors, they will likely sit out next year to play on the U.S. Olympic team. Minnesota also graduates four-year starting goalie Jody Horak of Blaine, Minnesota, and standout forward Kelly Stephens of Shoreline, Washington. Top defender Lyndsay Wall of Churchville, New York, was a 2002 Olympian and is also likely to sit out next year for the Olympics.

But in the days after Minnesota's 3-2 win over Harvard to earn the NCAA title, Halldorson wanted to savor the victory rather than look ahead. "This was really a special group who really cared about each other," she says. "There was a lot of emotion in the locker room after that game."

Men's Hockey

A return trip to the NCAA Frozen Four ended a roller-coaster year on a high note for the Gopher men's hockey team. Ranked number one in the nation early in the season, when they ran off to a 17-4-0 start, Minnesota went 4-8-1 over the next several weeks and fell out of the top 10. A strong finish propelled them into the 12-team NCAA tournament and a pair of overtime wins earned them a

return trip to the Frozen Four. Minnesota finished the year 28-15-1.

Some of this year's ups and downs can be attributed to a team that lost much of its offensive power last year, and had 10 freshmen on its 26-man roster. The seven leading scorers going into the Frozen Four, as well as the starting goalie, were all underclassmen.

Women's Basketball

A third consecutive trip to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen cemented Minnesota's place as one of the top programs in the country. Minnesota had an NCAA-era (post-1982) record 26 wins, making head coach Pam Borton's three-year record 76-23. It was also Minnesota's fourth consecutive trip to the NCAA tournament, after reaching it only once in the previous 19 years.

Although Minnesota will graduate all-American center Janel McCarville of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, every other member of the squad is expected to return for 2005-06. The Gophers' success is convincing more of Minnesota's top high school players to stay in the state; the 2005-06 starting lineup is likely to be all Minnesotans.

Men's Basketball

One of the year's biggest surprises was the Gopher men's basketball team. Despite an almost all-new lineup, the team defied predictions and finished tied for fourth in the Big Ten, made it to the Big Ten tournament's final four, and qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time in Dan Monson's six years as head coach.


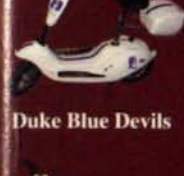
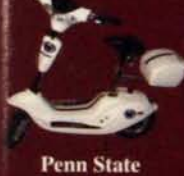
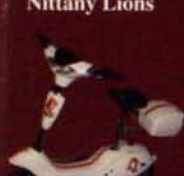
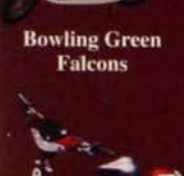






Although the team lost to Iowa State in the NCAA first round, its new star, first-team all-Big Ten guard Vincent Grier of Charlotte, North Carolina, will return for another season, as will several of the team's top players.

Wrestling

The men's wrestling team took a step back toward the nation's elite programs in 2005 by finishing fifth in the NCAA tournament. It was Minnesota's eighth top-five finish in the last nine years. Minnesota qualified a wrestler in each of the 10 weight classes for the NCAA meet, and ended up with four all-Americans, including heavyweight runner-up Cole Konrad, a sophomore from Freedom, Wisconsin. With just one senior and five freshmen in its lineup, Minnesota's immediate future looks bright.



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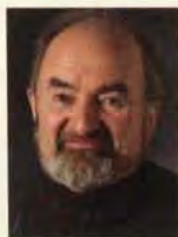
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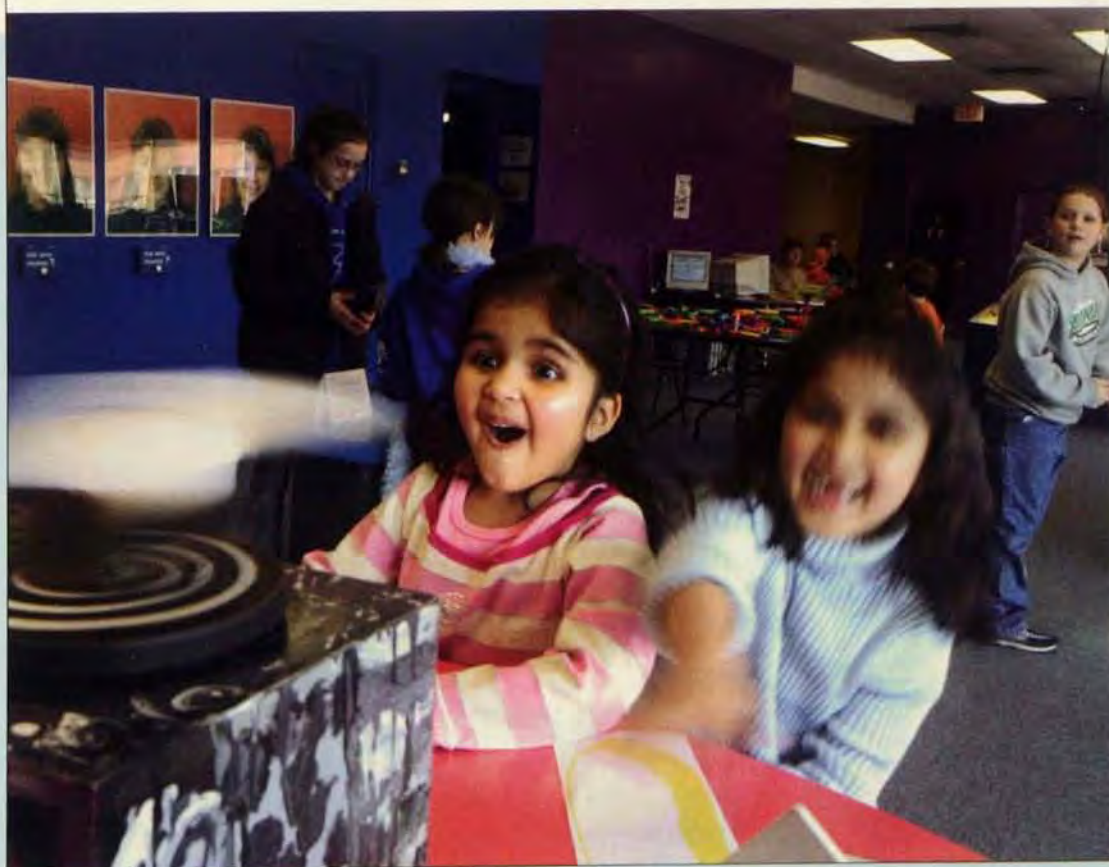
"I love being in the classroom—swimming in that pool with those younger and younger others—and it has become my element as surely as the pages of my notebooks and the demands of my craft."

Associate Professor Amy Lee Composition, General College

"My teaching and research center around the premise that every student has something worth saying. In order to develop a classroom community of engaged readers and writers, it is essential to motivate and build the confidence of developing writers."

Professor Kenneth R. Leopold Chemistry, Institute of Technology

"My hope is that in some way, I have made contributions not only by doing research and teaching in chemistry, but by influencing lives, career paths, and attitudes. If I have done this, then I think I have succeeded."



▶ Big Fun at The Works

Nupur Sampat (left), 4, and her sister Payal, 6, were astonished by the thaumatrope—a spinning device that appears to blend two separate drawings into a single image—at the Institute of Technology Alumni Society (ITAS) Day at The Works in February. The Works, a hands-on science and technology museum in Edina, Minnesota, and ITAS partnered with several engineering firms to provide free admission to celebrate the museum's 10th anniversary and National Engineers Week. About 250 people participated in the day's events, including a bridge building contest in which the only available resources were hard pasta, hot glue, and an uninhibited imagination.



GAIL PETERSON

**Associate Professor Gail Peterson
Psychology, College of Liberal Arts**

"I see teaching as an important and honorable cultural tradition, and I feel a real sense of moral obligation to do it as best I can in tribute, as it were, to the great teachers and colleagues I have had. This value may well come through in my style of teaching."



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**Professor Jon L. Pierce
Management Studies, Duluth campus**

"I do not approach my courses with the intention of developing the student into an effective manager or leader. . . . Instead, I simply hope that my students will gain a new—not necessarily better or right—perspective into the organizational phenomenon."



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**Professor Michael E. White
Animal Science; College of Agricultural,
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**Professor Christopher J. Cramer
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"I am proud that so many of my students have gone on to win fellowships, and that my former students and postdocs are happily employed. More than that, I am simply proud of them. To the extent that I have contributed to their success, I consider this to be my greatest achievement as a faculty member."

**Professor Timothy J. Ebner
Neuroscience, Medical School**

"I believe that offering novel courses, developing training programs, and providing public outreach . . . provide an infrastructure in which not only the students, but also the faculty, can flourish."



TIMOTHY J. EBNER

**Professor Alex Lubet
School of Music, College of Liberal Arts**

"When one learns, teaches, and serves to the mutual benefit of students, profession, and community, accomplishing much is natural and joyous."



ALEX LUBET

**Professor Carl A. Osborne
Veterinary Clinical Sciences, College
of Veterinary Medicine**

"I recognize that teachers and students differ not so much as persons, but rather by the roles they play. Teachers play the role of coaches, and should be on the sidelines. Students are the focus of the action."



CARLA A. OSBORNE

**Senior Teaching Specialist/Program Director
Mary Margaret Rowan
School of Nursing**

"Mentoring nursing students includes modeling professional nursing behaviors and values. My hope is that I reflect these values of the discipline of nursing: altruism, respect for human dignity and autonomy, integrity and promotion of social justice."



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Pharmaceutics, College of Pharmacy**

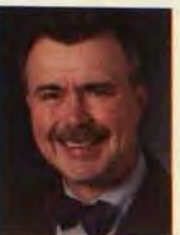
"It is students who make my work so very enjoyable. I have the good fortune of having mentored exceptionally motivated and capable students from whom I have learned valuable lessons which, I believe, have made me a better scientist and a better human being."



RAJ G. SURYANARAYANAN

**Professor Gregory M. Vercellotti
Hematology/Oncology/Transplantation,
Medical School**

"As a teacher, be the role model, the spark, the steward of values of the profession. Assume that your enthusiasm and joy are contagious to the open minds of young people. Ignite the fire within them, arouse their passion for knowledge, and walk with them on this journey."



GREGORY M. VERCELLOTTI

▶ [MEMBER SPOTLIGHT] Michelle Terrell

LIKE A LOT OF KIDS, Michelle Terrell (B.A. '92) grew up dreaming of becoming an archaeologist who would "dig in the dirt and find cool things." A smart, curious child, she pored over *National Geographic*, each turned page fueling the many interests that eventually propelled her to make her dreams a reality. "Most kids give up on being an archaeologist," she says. "But for me, I just knew that's what I wanted to do. I've always really liked history, science, and anthropology. Archaeology seemed like the best way for me to combine all of my interests into one field."

Still, Terrell admits, one of the things that most thrills her about her job as a professional archaeologist is digging in the dirt to find cool things. "Even after all this time," she says, "I still love the thrill of discovery, of finding something that is a tangible link to the past." This past summer, for example, Terrell worked on a site in the Minnesota River Valley where she found artifacts dating from 200 B.C. to 900 A.D. "It was a Native American site and we found pieces of pottery; projectile points [which are commonly, and incorrectly, called arrowheads, since many were never used on arrows]; and debris left behind after someone crafted stone tools."

That project was just one of the many Terrell, who earned her Ph.D. from Boston University in 2000, has tackled since starting her company, Two Pines Resource Group in Shafer, Minnesota, last year. Essentially an archaeological consulting firm, Terrell's company is hired by private companies and government agencies when a site

assessment is needed before a project, like construction on a new road, can begin. "Rather than going in to dig and find something, we're sent in to make sure that there isn't something there," she says.

Terrell has won several awards for her work, including the 2001 Society for Historical Archeology Dissertation Award and the 1996 Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize from the Boston University Humanities Foundation. If money were no object, she would devote more of her time to doing historical archaeology, which involves combining field research with information culled from things like census records to get a more complete picture of a time in history.

Terrell chronicles one such historical project in her book *The Jewish Community of Early Colonial Nevis: A Historical Archaeological Study*, published in December by the University Press of Florida. In the book, Terrell describes how she and U graduate student Eva Hill (B.A. '90) spent four seasons on the Caribbean island of Nevis in the mid 1990s, searching for evidence of a 17th-century Jewish synagogue, which was rumored to have been part of a once-thriving Jewish community. While the pair turned up thousands of interesting artifacts, none seemed to relate to a synagogue. Eventually, they established that they were digging in the wrong spot.

But using archived land records, Terrell did eventually pinpoint the true location of the synagogue and she hopes to return to Nevis to explore the site. "The book really is an account of the struggle to find the synagogue," she says. "But it's also a story about what archaeology is really like. You don't always find what you're looking for. But you always learn something."

—Meleah Maynard



Dollars for Rochester Scholars

AFTER FOUR YEARS at Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC), Heather Brakke had completed her prerequisites and was formally accepted into the University of Minnesota's doctor of pharmacy program. While it was a big step toward her goal of becoming a pharmacist, the cost of tuition and housing were daunting. That's where the Rochester Area Alumni and Friends of the University of Minnesota (RAAFUM) came in. Brakke, who had a 3.94 GPA at RCTC, received one of the Rochester chapter's two scholarships, giving her \$2,000 a year toward her expenses. "With the increasing tuition cost, I am very grateful to have a scholarship like this one," she says. "It has definitely helped to make [school] more affordable."

Rochester's scholarship fund, which started out a decade ago with small fund-raising events and sales of maroon-and-gold shoes and blankets, recently grew to more than \$100,000—the first chapter fund to reach that level. Each year, RAAFUM awards one of its two-year scholarships to an outstanding RCTC student seeking to continue at the University of Minnesota.

When the Rochester chapter was reorganized in the early 1990s, one of the first goals was to create a scholarship fund, recalls Jim Gilkinson (B.S. '67, M.S. '69), a member of the chapter's scholarship committee from the beginning. "We wanted to do something a little different than a scholarship to a high school student," he recalls. "RCTC draws people from all over the world in all kinds of fields. We've had recipients from Bosnia, Nigeria, Russia."

The two scholarships were endowed through \$25,000 gifts from Dick Hexum and from Mike (B.A. '69) and Dianne (B.S. '74) Quinn. And now the chapter is well on its way to endowing a third scholarship, to be awarded to a student at the University of Minnesota–Rochester. Ongoing fund-raising, as well as investment earnings, bumped the chapter's total to more than \$100,000 at the end of 2004. "We do this as a core activity. If a [chapter] event makes money, it goes right into the fund," Gilkinson says. "In probably a year or two, we can start awarding something on the third scholarship."

For information on donating to scholarships, visit www.giving.umn.edu or call 612-624-3333 or 800-775-2187.

National President

A Winning Deal

Sometimes everyone wins. I believe this will be the case if the University of Minnesota succeeds in securing the \$235 million it needs to build a new on-campus football stadium.

As many of you may already know, the University's stadium initiative gained great yardage this spring. As a result, I'm elated to report that we're on track to bring Gopher football back to campus for fall 2008. A brief recap of recent developments: On March 24, TCF Financial Corporation announced its plans for a \$35 million, 25-year sponsorship for a new on-campus stadium. What's more, House and Senate committees both approved a bill that would allow the state to finance 40 percent of the new stadium's cost if the University can raise 60 percent of the cost. In return for its investment, TCF will receive exclusive naming rights for the stadium, which will be called TCF Bank Stadium, until 2029. For its part, the state will strengthen its most valuable educational asset by restoring open-air football back in the heart of the University community.



Andrea Hjelm, B.S. '65

This is wonderful news for college football fans and University athletics. But the benefits of the U's plan to build an on-campus stadium extend far beyond the gridiron. A new 50,000-seat stadium will not only be home to our football Gophers, but to the world-class Minnesota Marching Band and the U's thriving intramural programs. The stadium will be the site of commencements and a grand gathering place for University students, faculty, alumni, and friends for all manner of events and celebrations.

Most important, however, this new TCF stadium agreement will provide an invaluable new source of funding for the entire University, especially academics, which is the backbone of this world-class institution.

The TCF agreement includes a \$2 million payment on signing, \$1 million a year during construction, and, once the stadium is completed, \$1.43 million annually for 21 years. In addition, the TCF deal includes an array of pieces that aren't related to the stadium. In fact, according to conservative estimates, these additional financial agreements could bring in \$2.5 million annually (\$43 million over the life of the deal), which would be used primarily for academic needs. These other agreements include:

- An agreement to extend TCF's sponsorship of the "U Card," a multipurpose card that serves as a student ID and allows users to make campus purchases and access campus services. Under the new deal, the sponsorship will be extended up to 16 years beyond its current end date of 2013. Each year of the sponsorship, the University will receive an estimated \$1.6 million for student scholarships and programs and other non-stadium uses.

- An option for TCF to extend its lease for the 10 ATM machines it operates around campus, as well as a lease for a new bank site on the West Bank campus. TCF will also have the option to lease the Coffman Union space currently used by U.S. Bank, whose lease ends in 2010. Combined, these arrangements could generate roughly \$443,000 annually.

- An opportunity for TCF to offer a variety of non-credit card products and services—such as debit cards, gift cards, checking accounts—to alumni and supporters of University athletics. The estimated annual proceeds from these accounts could total \$375,000.

A new stadium, quite simply, will open up new revenue streams that will flow throughout the entire University. This is revenue that would not otherwise come to the University. But it has the potential to provide the U with much-needed infusions of income, especially when state funding for higher education in Minnesota has been steadily and substantially declining.

In the end, everyone wins. Gopher fans will once again be able to revel in the incomparable excitement of enjoying fall football as it was meant to be—outdoors, on campus, surrounded by the buildings where students live, learn, discover, and create. TCF, steeped in this community, will become a valued partner with the state's greatest institution. And the University will capture a critical funding source that will help ensure its health and well-being for years to come.

The goal is in sight. And soon we'll make a game-day march down University Avenue, through the gates of our marvelous new stadium and into a bright new future for the University of Minnesota.

ALUMNI ONLINE

Visit M Alumni Online, the UMAA's new online directory of more than 350,000 University of Minnesota—Twin Cities campus alumni and friends. The service also features career networking tools for UMAA members. Go to www.alumni.umn.edu/MAlumniOnline.

▶ Trips and Return Trips

IN 1969, the first alumni association-sponsored tour, a 21-day trip to Russia and Scandinavia, sold out so quickly that a second was added. That tour sold out too. Thirty-six years later, Russia is a very different place, but once again a popular destination. **Passage of Peter the Great**, a cruise that wends its way through the heart of Russia on enchanting northern waterways, was the UMAA's top-selling trip last year.

While the travel program has grown to nearly 40 tours a year, the reasons to travel with the alumni association haven't changed. The UMAA partners with a select group of tour operators specializing in alumni travel. The operators take care of everything: airline tickets, hotel reservations, ground transportation, meals, and more. Many trips feature discussions with local citizens and visits to places and events not open to other travelers. And experienced local tour guides help navigate the region and provide valuable insights.

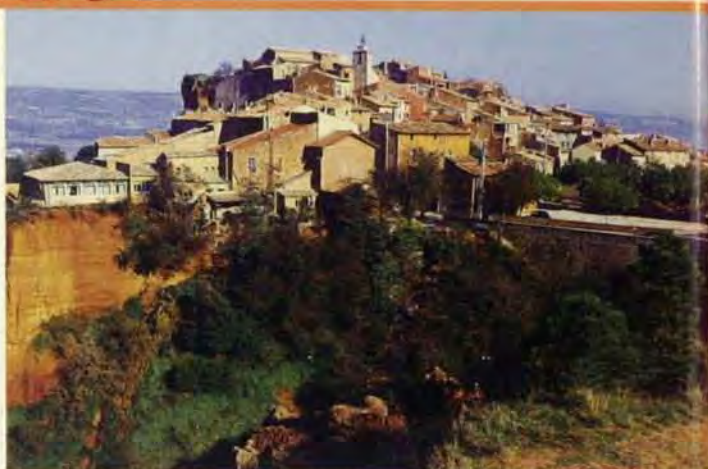
And then there is the camaraderie among alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota. Many find the tours so rewarding that two-thirds book trips with the UMAA again. Trips coming up in 2006 include:

SUMMER AND FALL 2005 ALUMNI TOURS

- June 9–23 Romance of the Blue Danube
- June 27–July 5 Alumni Campus Abroad in Normandy
- July 13–23 White Nights of the Baltic
- July 27–August 4 Alumni Campus Abroad in Switzerland
- August 16–24 Alumni Campus Abroad in Ireland (Ennis)
- August 12–19 Fjords and Glaciers of Alaska's Hidden Passage
- August 31–September 8 Alumni Campus Abroad in Tuscany (Cortona)
- September 12–25 Exploring Vietnam
- September 9–17 Ireland Alumni Tour (Killarney and Kilkenny)
- September 14–26 Passage of Peter the Great
- September 19–28 Alumni Campus Abroad in Spain (Ronda)
- September 22–October 2 South African Wildlife Safari

Alumni Campus Abroad in Provence takes place in charming Aix-en-Provence, an enchanting land of dazzling light, olive groves, lavender fields, and vineyards. Travelers walk in the footsteps of Paul Cezanne and this year will join in the special events marking the 100th anniversary of his death. Other highlights include a visit to the Mediterranean port of Cassis, tasting regional wines, and journeys to medieval Les Baux and Avignon.

In the Wake of Lewis and Clark, a voyage along the Columbia and Snake rivers, has something for everyone: adventure, history, nature, astronomy, culture, and the quest for discovery.



Traveling with the University of Minnesota Alumni Association means camaraderie, convenience, and a deeper look into the culture. Travelers to Provence will join in special events marking the 100th anniversary of Paul Cezanne's death.

Expert naturalists and historians bring the story of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to life.

Japan's Inland Sea and Scenic West Coast is a small-ship exploration of the castles, gardens, and shrines of Japan and South Korea. Along the way, travelers experience sacred Miyajima, Nagasaki and the famed Thomas Glover mansion, the historic and castle town of Matsue, beautiful Kanazawa, the mountain vistas of remote Sado Island, and Hakodate, with its panoramic view of the Inland Sea's harbors.

A new program, **A Summer Week in Kitzbuehel** offers excursions and activities unique to this alpine region near Innsbruck, Salzburg, and Munich. Travelers can hike fabulous forest trails, sightsee by bicycle, or golf perfectly groomed courses. Kitzbuehel is also known for its shopping, dining, and nightlife, with fine boutiques, old world shops, a farmers' market, lively pubs, and outdoor concerts.

To learn more about the UMAA's travel program, visit www.alumni.umn.edu. To receive trip brochures on a regular basis, call 612-624-2323 or 800-862-5867 or e-mail umalumni@umn.edu.

—Cheryl Jones

▶ 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.

May

- 10 UMAA Annual Celebration, 5:30 p.m. reception and 6:30 p.m. dinner in Coffman Memorial Union, 8 p.m. keynote presentation by CNN anchor Aaron Brown; contact Susan Zarambo
- 15 South Willamette Valley (Oregon) Chapter UMAA 101st birthday party and potluck social, 4 p.m. at the home of Sally and Ev Smith in Eugene; contact Mark Allen
- 17 Humphrey Institute Alumni Society event, 5–7 p.m. at the Mill City Museum in Minneapolis; contact Michelle Potter-Bacon at 612-625-0750
- 17 Red Wing Chapter Social Security reform discussion with Tim Penny, 7 p.m. at the Red Wing Library; contact Chad Kono
- 20–21 Medical School Alumni Reunion Weekend, all day at various campus locations; contact Emily Heagle at 612-624-9161
- 21 San Diego Chapter behind-the-scenes tour of the San Diego Zoo, 9 a.m.; contact Mark Allen
- 24 Glacial Ridge Chapter "Golden Gopher Tales" with Ray Christensen, 7 p.m. at the Willmar Holiday Inn; contact Chad Kono

- 28 Portland Chapter tour of the Evergreen Aviation Museum, 11 a.m. in McMinnville, Oregon; contact Mark Allen
- 31 St. Cloud Chapter Alumni After Work Gathering, 5:30 p.m. at the Green Mill Restaurant in St. Cloud; contact Chad Kono

June

- 11 Los Angeles and San Diego Chapters at the Minnesota Twins vs. Los Angeles Dodgers baseball game, 7 p.m. at Dodger Stadium; contact Mark Allen
- 11 Bay Area (California) Chapter Big Ten Picnic, time TBA at San Leandro Park; contact Mark Allen
- 16 Washington, D.C., Chapter bioterrorism lecture with Michael Osterholm, details TBA; contact Mark Allen
- 18 Puget Sound Chapter Seattle Architecture Tour, details TBA; contact Mark Allen
- 22 Southwest Florida Chapter summer outing to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, details TBA; contact Chad Kono
- 24 Red Wing Chapter Bob Mossefin Memorial Scholarship benefit, details TBA; contact Chad Kono

- 24 Biological Sciences Alumni Society at the St. Paul Saints game; 7 p.m. at Midway Stadium in St. Paul; contact Emily Johnston at 612-624-4770
- 25 Portland Chapter annual hike, 10:30 a.m. at Tryon Creek Park; contact Mark Allen

July

- 16 Portland Chapter tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Gordon House, 4 p.m. at Oregon Garden in Silverton; contact Mark Allen
- 17 Veterinary Medicine Alumni and Friends Society Reunion, 6 p.m. at the Minneapolis Hilton, details TBA; contact Meredith Godfrey at 612-624-1353
- 30 College of Natural Resources Cloquet Alumni and Friends Day; all day at Cloquet Forestry Center; contact Grant Wilson at 612-624-9957

PLAN AHEAD

September

- 24 Homecoming football game vs. Purdue; details TBA



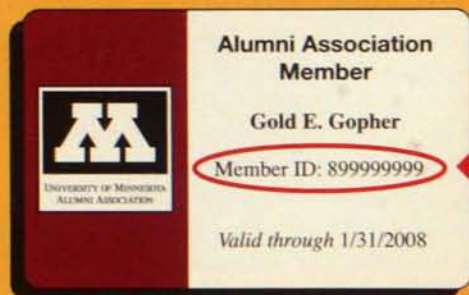
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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



A Stadium Deal to Bank On

July 24, 1992, stands out in my mind as if it were yesterday. That's the day that the wrecking ball's swing signaled the end of Memorial Stadium. The last football game had been played in the stadium in the fall of 1981, and the new Aquatic Center had since been built on what was the playing field. It had been clear to everyone that the Gophers would never play in Memorial Stadium again, but only when the walls came tumbling down did it strike me that bringing Gopher football home one day would take some doing.



Margaret Sughrue Carlson,
Ph.D. '83

The alumni association, determined to make the best of the situation, sold bricks from the demolished structure to raise money for scholarships. But the class of 1942 and the Board of Regents saved the Memorial Stadium Processional Arch. When the McNamara Alumni Center was built on the corner of Oak Street and University Avenue, the arch was reassembled as a full-size icon in the alumni center's Memorial Hall. Since

the alumni center opened in 2000, I have watched scores of visitors—especially those in their 60s or older—gaze up at the 55-foot arch in awe and pose for pictures in front of it.

That ritual shows the depth of spirit and community that Memorial Stadium instilled in alumni. It is a spirit they wish today's students could feel. Over the past 25 years, I've often been asked, "When is Gopher football going to return to campus?" I now have an answer: fall 2008.

A new football stadium—a campus landmark and community gathering spot—has moved closer to becoming a reality thanks to TCF Financial Corporation. This Minnesota company has committed to bringing our team home. Whether you call TCF the spark plug, the linchpin, or a catalyst, the result is the same: TCF has moved this project from an aspiration to a goal within reach.

If a major stadium partner had not been found this year, I believe talk of building a shared facility for the Gophers and the Vikings would have been renewed. Such a stadium would be an NFL-style facility and would cost three times what the proposed Gopher-only stadium would cost. Essentially, it would be a property the University would rent out for a few Saturdays each fall, not a stadium that would be the center of campus life. So while it might be melodramatic to call TCF a white knight, it has joined forces with us to build a facility that will meet many University needs for the next half-century and beyond. TCF has made a bold

decision at exactly the right time.

When the TCF sponsorship was announced, everyone smiled when Gopher football coach Glen Mason told about his first meeting with Bill Cooper, chairman and CEO of TCF, over a round of golf. Mason lost the game and a \$7 wager on it. But, in truth, Mason won. He got to talk about the dream of an on-campus Gopher football stadium with a visionary like Cooper. Mason, insisting he never loses on purpose, quipped, "That's the best seven bucks I ever lost."

While corporate naming agreements are a relatively new strategy for the U, partnerships between the University and businesses are not. For many years, corporations have helped the University achieve its mission of academic excellence while helping build pride, spirit, and sense of community. The Cargill Microbial and Plant Genomics building on the St. Paul campus and the Regis Center for Art on the West Bank of the Minneapolis campus are examples of corporations coming forward to fund buildings important to the mission and vitality of the U. The University also has long-term, multipart sponsorship agreements with Coca-Cola and Aramark, and Intercollegiate Athletics works with a number of corporations, including Dodge, Harmon Auto Glass, and Holiday Station Stores.

And new college football stadiums and sports arenas across the country are being named for corporate donors. Arizona State University has Wells Fargo Arena, Texas Tech has Jones SBC Stadium, the University of Maryland has Comcast Center Arena, the University of Washington has the Bank of America Arena, Ohio State University has the Value City Arena, and the University of Louisville has Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

When the University's agreement with TCF became public, alumni began asking me a new question: "When can I make a contribution to the stadium?" The good news is that it won't be long. Here's the plan. The University is continuing to work on securing additional corporate sponsors and major individual gifts in the \$1 million to \$10 million range. When this cornerstone funding is in place, grassroots fund-raising will begin. And the University will embrace and appreciate every single gift. So keep reading *Minnesota* magazine for more news about bringing Gopher football home.

Nostalgia is a good thing. It reminds us what has shaped us and what was important in the past so that we can understand who we are today. While many of us felt great sadness when the wrecking ball hit Memorial Stadium, the bright light that is the McNamara Alumni Center sits on the old stadium site, still home to many Gopher traditions and memories. And in 2008, the new TCF Bank Stadium will inspire new traditions on campus for countless alumni and friends. ■

When the University's agreement with TCF became public, alumni began asking me a new question: "When can I make a contribution to the stadium?" The good news is that it won't be long.

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On the Offense

Carl Eller uses his fame to promote education and service

Who's Watching the Kids? • President Bruininks Talks Strategy • Eric Sevareid's Journey • Gopher Football

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MINNESOTA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY
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Copy Editor

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Contributing Writers

Andrew Bacskai, Tim Brady,
Amy Gennaro Barrett, Mary Hoff,
Brenda Hudson, Gina Kennedy,
Camille LeFevre, Erik Lundegaard,
Rick Moore, Pauline Oo,
Kermit Pattison, Erin Peterson,
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Design

Barbara Koster Design

Advertising

Represented by Gregg Felsen
MSP Communications

Minnesota (ISSN 0164-9450) is published
bimonthly by the University of Minnesota
Alumni Association for its members.

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Alumni Association

McNamara Alumni Center
University of Minnesota Gateway
200 Oak Street SE, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040;
612-624-2323,
800-UM-ALUMS (862-5867);
fax 612-626-8167;
www.alumni.umn.edu

For advertising rates and information
call 612-313-1775;
fax 612-339-5806;
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Periodicals postage paid at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and
additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address
corrections to *Minnesota*, McNamara Alumni Center,
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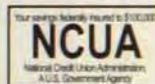
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Editor's Note

Being There for the Kids

As determined as I am to present variety in each issue of this magazine, sometimes the stories' themes seem to converge and interweave. Or the messages within the magazine echo what I'm hearing elsewhere. This is one of those issues.

As a budding Vikings football fan decades ago, I recall bouncing around the house most Sundays chanting a ditty about the Purple People Eaters. I suppose that at the time I savored the combination of the words and the image they conjured up more than I grasped the meaning of sacks and loss of yards. I certainly didn't know the names of the defensive linemen. But I knew they were fierce and unstoppable and ours.

Years later, in junior high, I reported to the school auditorium to hear a speaker—a former Vikings football player, one of the Purple People Eaters—talk to us about drug and alcohol abuse. Across the stage walked the largest man I'd probably ever seen. But as he spoke, it became difficult to reconcile the image of the mighty Carl Eller of football dominance with the man before us, gentle and humble, who had shown up to tell a bunch of seventh-graders that drugs had power over him.



Shelly Fling

Despite Eller's candidness and warnings, some of my classmates would dabble in drugs anyway. But he impressed many of us too. If drugs could come close to beating this football giant, I thought, imagine what they would do to a seventh-grader.

Carl Eller shows up. He did back then and continues to do so today, especially for young African American males, whom he mentors and encourages to stay in school and to serve their communities. But before taking on this role and before he was a Viking, Eller was a Gopher football all-American. That was reason enough for us to highlight this University alumna in our 2005 Gopher football section.

Being there for the kids in our communities sounds so obvious, but it's also easy to forget. I heard on the radio recently a report about a survey local teenagers conducted. Groups of kids hit the streets with clipboards and interviewed their peers, asking them, among other things, what they wanted most. Instead of flat-screen TVs and trips to Disneyland, the majority said they wanted adults to be friendlier to them, to say hi to them, not to be afraid of them.

This idea was still reverberating in my mind a few days later when I returned home from work. As I came out of the garage, I heard their shouts before I saw the two boys, probably 9 or 10 years old, crawling atop the fence in our backyard in pursuit of something. They were urgently yelling about where it went and to try and catch it. I assumed they'd lost a baseball but soon learned they were terrorizing a rabbit.

I glared at them and willed them to fall into the raspberry bushes and then realized I was a little afraid of these trespassers. I'd forgotten both the report about the survey and what it was like to be that young and making my own fun. How hard would it have been for me to say hello, ask their names, tell them to watch out for the raspberry bushes?

The fact is that a shocking number of school-age kids in the United States have too much unsupervised time, an average of over five hours a day. It's these stretches of time that interested a task force of University researchers and community leaders. Their studies about what kids are doing with their out-of-school time and conclusions about the impact youth programs can have on kids' lives is covered in this issue.

As I was editing that story, someone told me he's sure he'd be in prison—where friends around him were headed—if it weren't for sports when he was growing up. It was the discipline, he said, running around the field one more time than he wanted to—or thought he could. "People I work with tell me, 'You must have grown up in a good family,'" he said. "They don't know the truth. I am who I am because of my coaches." ■

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

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Letters



Take the Time to Reread

What a wise and lovely essay from Lindsay Shen ["Learning to Tell the Time," May-June]. It should be read every week.

MICHAEL O'ROURKE (B.A. '67, J.D. '70)
Minneapolis

Can You Trust the Media?

Professor Jane Kirtley's declaration that "you can't trust the government" [March-April] is shocking. If we accept that premise for purposes of discussion, should we not also ask, "Can you trust the media?"

Government performance is subject to review periodically via the election process. There is not a comparable means to assure accountability of the media. During an election we have access to credentials of public office seekers. Credentials of journalists, however defined, are seldom shared with those who see or hear their reports. More often than not, journalists have limited experience in areas other than writing/reporting. Their credentials are lacking, and their subjective viewpoints are questionable.

Then there is the question of how to define *journalism* or *journalist*. Are these terms synonymous with "the media"? Are "media ethics" and "the ethics of journalism" one and the same? If so, during the past 65-plus years there has been a down-

ward evolution similar to that of other societal values.

Objectivity in reporting no longer seems to be a virtue. Investigative reporting has transitioned to advocacy/opinion journalism. So where do you apply "media ethics"? How do you assure responsibility and accountability commensurate with the freedom of the press? And does that cherished freedom of the press take priority over the preservation of other freedoms Americans enjoy?

Yes, democracy is at stake! What lies ahead if we cannot trust the government when we are the government? And I wonder what my friend and contemporary Otto Silha (B.A. '40) would say about the viewpoints of Professor Kirtley as head of the Silha Center for the Study of Media Ethics and the Law.

E.L. GUS COOPER (B.A. '41)
Dunedin, Florida

Not All Fats Are Bad

Concerning the very well written article by Erin Peterson, "A Pound of Prevention" [March-April]: In order to determine the future, we must analyze the past. In the 1960s, the cholesterol hoax reared its ugly head to convince the general public and totally mislead the medical and nutritional research centers into following the philosophy that all fats were bad for everyone. Products like margarine and some cooking oils are low-fat, zero cholesterol concoctions [that] are unhealthy and loaded with trans fats.

I've been an organic vegetable farmer for 30-some years and have closely followed nutrition trends. Americans, with the support of well-meaning but ill-informed physicians and nutrition advisers, are on a low-fat craze. As it continues, Americans are becoming more and more sick, producing an epidemic. It includes obesity, abnormal liver function with high cholesterol and triglycerides, elevated levels of insulin, a predisposition to blood clotting, hormonal imbalances, and a tendency to slowly choke off the blood vessels that feed the heart. What is the most common health problem Americans suffer from despite 10

to 15 years of low-fat diets and food? The answer is clogged arteries and heart disease. The solution to these issues is not a low-fat diet.

The sad and alarming thing now is that medical research is determining that cholesterol is not the culprit causing heart attacks and strokes. In fact, the older we get, the more cholesterol our systems require. A very simple solution is [to correct the imbalance] of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids. The normal balance in individuals should be one part omega-3 to 10 parts omega-6. The majority of the population has a ratio of 1-20 up to 1-150. This is a very alarming fact that the health and nutrition industry is ignoring. Currently the major source of omega-3 is fish oil. [But] there are only two areas of the globe that can supply uncontaminated fish oil. A very simple solution to this major problem is organic, high-signan flax oil.

We must stop treating the symptoms and research the cause of the problem. Our land-grant colleges must stop doing research for the drug companies developing products and medicines that can be patented and sold to the public at robber-baron prices. When the low-fat myth was born, it enabled the multinational [food, medical,] and drug companies to drain the wealth of our working-class citizens.

REX OBERHELMAN
Fairmont, Minnesota

Correction

UMAA chief executive officer Margaret Carlson's column in the March-April issue ("From Apples to Viagra") contained several factual errors. The text should have stated that, in 1952, F. John Lewis (B.S. '38, M.S. '41, M.D. '42, Ph.D. '50) performed the world's first successful open-heart operation at the University of Minnesota hospital. Lewis was the lead surgeon, and C. Walton Lillehei (B.S. '39, M.D. '42, M.S. '51, Ph.D. '51) was one of two second assistants. In 1954, Lillehei performed the world's first open-heart operation that used cross-circulation, also at the University hospital. The editors regret the errors.



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* Edited by Chris Coughlan-Smith

[FACULTY PROFILE] Ann Garwick

NOT LONG AGO, asthma was a hidden problem in the Native American community. But School of Nursing professor Ann Garwick (Ph.D. '91) and the Indian Family Stories Project brought the problem into the light. In 1996, Garwick and project coordinator Sally Auger began listening to Native American families in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis talk about their health care problems and needs and discovered common patterns. "It was striking to me to discover how many children were missing school and having difficulty playing because of their asthma," Garwick says. The situation was made worse, she adds, because most children did not have a regular doctor; most medical care came in hospital emergency rooms.

Garwick invited the Native American community to help determine how to address the problems. The result is a six-week asthma education series for families, an instructional video on living with asthma, and "Getting to the Heart of It: Bridging Culture and Health Care," an award-winning 2001 video for health care providers working with Native Americans. Auger says the Native American community now has a much better understanding of asthma. "She was able to show what a serious condition it is and then bring help to the

community," Auger says. According to the Minnesota Medical Association, the number of children with asthma has increased 74 percent since the 1980s for 5- to 14-year-olds and 160 percent for children under 5.

Garwick, a Montana native who moved to Minnesota as a teenager, has made helping diverse families caring for seriously ill children the heart of her work. Humble and soft-spoken, with a gentle, calming manner, Garwick calls her approach of involving the community in the uncovering and solving of health problems "participatory action research." It's the best way to understand the needs of families of diverse backgrounds and to get them better health care, she explains. "We have to find out what families want, and [how to] deliver that in a culturally appropriate way."

The Indian Family Stories Project is just one of the ways Garwick is helping to raise awareness about childhood asthma. Her current research is focused on the needs of parents and teachers of children in Head Start programs in St. Paul and its suburbs. Garwick recently conducted 10 focus groups to find out what families and teachers want and need to know about asthma, a growing problem across the country, particularly among poorer families. "It's a beginning," she says of her ongoing work, "not the end-all, be-all."

—Amy Gennaro Barrett (M.A. '94)



Phillips neighborhood residents Jewell Arcoren, holding her grandson Rosco, and professor Ann Garwick.

Religious Faith May Be Genetic

IN THE NATURE-VERSUS-NURTURE DEBATE—whether our genes or our environment dominate in making us who we are—research out of the Minnesota Center for Twin and Adoption Research at the University of Minnesota has played a central role for more than 25 years. Starting with landmark studies of twins reared apart, Minnesota researchers have discovered remarkable levels of genetic influence on psychological traits and social attitudes.

The newest University study on twins finds that degree of religious faith appears to be tied to genetics. Further, it concludes that the genetic influence grows in adulthood. Behav-



▶ **Laura Koenig studied surveys of identical and fraternal twins and began to see patterns emerge about what influences people's religiousness.**

ioral psychology Ph.D. student Laura Koenig (M.A. '04) reviewed lengthy surveys from the early 1990s in the center's database. Though the surveys dealt with parenting behavior of twins, Koenig discovered that some included nine questions that dealt directly with religious faith, including about church attendance, prayer, religious reading, and more open-ended questions. Respondents who were asked the religiousness questions (more than 250 sets of male twins born from 1961 to 1964) were also asked to answer the same questions for when they were children.

At her computer in a cramped, windowless lab she shares with other Ph.D. students in Elliot Hall, Koenig sifted through the responses and saw patterns begin to emerge: Upbringing played a large part in determining respondents' degree of faith early in life. But as respondents became adults, genetics became a dominant factor, either strengthening or reducing the role of religion in their lives. Koenig drew her conclusions based on the fact that identical twins, who share all their inherited genes, have similar degrees of faith in adulthood, while fraternal twins, who share half their inherited genes, tend to deviate in religiousness as they become adults. Koenig's analysis was published in the April issue of the *Journal of Personality*.

Understanding which traits and attitudes are influenced by genetics can help psychologists, parents, teachers, and individuals learn how to work with genetic predispositions, Koenig asserts. Plus, she says, simply understanding why people do certain things is an important step in understanding human interaction as more than "a mass of confusing and chaotic behaviors."

Koenig has a natural interest in the topic: Her identical twin, Anne, is in graduate school for social psychology at Northwestern, and the girls were raised in a strongly religious family. "The findings didn't cause me to question my faith at all," Laura Koenig says. "It makes sense that parental influence would decrease as you move through adolescence and start finding your own way."
—C.C.S.

Viagra and Vision Loss



University doctors have linked permanent vision loss in seven men to the erectile dysfunction drug Viagra. The affected men each had an unusually constricted opening where blood vessels and nerves attach to the eyeball as well as at least one risk factor for arteriosclerosis, sometimes called hardening of the arteries. Seven similar vision-loss cases had earlier been related to Viagra, and numerous men have reported temporary color changes in their vision after taking the drug. The cases were reported in the March 2005 issue of the *Journal of Neuro-Ophthalmology*.

A Smoke Is a Smoke

A University of Minnesota Cancer Center study found no significant difference in levels of two known carcinogens in the urine of 175 smokers of regular, light, and ultra-light cigarettes. The current method of classifying cigarettes as regular or light is to measure the amount of tar and nicotine in the smoke, but the U findings suggest that smokers absorb the same amount of cancer causing agents no matter what they smoke. The study was published in the March issue of the journal *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*.

Gay-Friendly Feelings

In two studies, students who watched several episodes of *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* or *Six Feet Under* (in which a character came out as gay) showed markedly decreased anti-gay prejudice. Communications professor Edward Schiappa's "parasocial contact hypothesis" contends that most viewers treat TV characters as real and process positive interactions as if they had been with real people. The two studies were published in the journal *Communication Monographs*.

Meet the Regents

The Minnesota Legislature elected two new members to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents this spring and reappointed two others. The 12-member board, composed of one representative from each of the state's eight congressional districts and four at-large members (one of whom must be a student when elected), is the University's governing body. Regents serve six-year terms.



Steven Hunter

Steven Hunter (B.A. '73)

At-large representative; elected in 2005

Secretary/treasurer of the Minnesota AFL-CIO, Hunter previously served as the political action director in Minnesota for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees. He lives in Woodbury.

"I've spent most of my career in the labor movement, working to improve the lives of average working people," Hunter says. "While many of the members of the unions I represent have not had the opportunity to attend an institution of higher education, they are almost unanimous in sharing the dream that their children will have that opportunity. I share their vision of a future when all of our children have access to affordable, quality higher education. I hope to be their voice on the Board of Regents."

David Larson (B.A. '66)

Congressional district 3; elected in 2005

Larson, an executive vice president for Cargill, serves on the board of directors for the University of Minnesota Foundation. He lives in Wayzata.

"I was actually persuaded [to seek a regent seat] by a number of friends who also have strong attachments to the University," Larson says. "One of the things they convinced me of was that I have a lot of experience building and transforming large, complex, global organizations, and the University is a large, complex, global organization. Not a lot of people have had opportunities to have those experiences; I know a fair amount about how you create change in such organizations. I think I have some insights there and hopefully I can make a difference."

Anthony Baraga (M.D. '65), chair

Congressional district 8; elected in 1999 and 2005

Baraga, retired radiologist and president of Medical Imaging North, was previously chief of staff at Hibbing General Hospital, Chisholm Memorial Hospital, and Mesabi Regional Medical Center-University. He lives in Side Lake.

Patricia Simmons, vice chair

Congressional district 1; elected in 2003

Simmons is a physician and a professor of pediatrics at the Mayo Clinic and an author and lecturer in her field. She lives in Rochester.

Clyde Allen, Jr.

Congressional district 7; elected in 2003

Now retired, Allen most recently served as treasurer and vice president for business affairs for Concordia College and as commissioner of Minnesota's Department of Revenue. He lives in Moorhead.

Peter Bell

Congressional district 5; appointed in 2002, elected in 2003

Bell, chair of the Metropolitan Council, served on the transition teams for governors Jesse Ventura and Tim Pawlenty and on the boards of numerous social and civic organizations. He lives in Minneapolis.

Frank Berman (B.S. '62, J.D. '65)

At-large representative; appointed in 2001, elected in 2003

Berman has practiced law for more than 35 years in business-related litigation, business transactions, resolutions of disputes, and other commercial matters. He lives in Edina.

Dallas Bohnsack (B.S. '60)

Congressional district 2; elected in 1999 and 2005

Bohnsack, a self-employed farmer since 1960, is a former Scott County commissioner. He lives in New Prague.

John Frobenius (M.A. '69)

Congressional district 6; elected in 2003

Frobenius, a retired hospital administrator, served most recently as co-president for the CentraCare Health System in St. Cloud. He lives in St. Cloud.

Richard McNamara (B.A. '56)

At-large representative; appointed in 2001, elected in 2003

McNamara is chairman and owner of holding company Activar, Inc., and serves on the board of directors for the University of Minnesota Foundation. He lives in Edina.

David Metzen (B.S. '64, M.A. '70, Ed.D. '73)

Congressional district 4; elected in 1997 and 2003

Retired superintendent of the South St. Paul School District, Metzen is a leadership consultant and a director of American Bank. He lives in South St. Paul.

Lakeesha Ransom (M.A. '03)

At-large representative; appointed in 2001, elected in 2003

Ransom is a Ph.D. candidate in human resource development and a graduate research assistant in the Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs at the University. She lives in Minneapolis.

Technology Engine

If the University of Minnesota is an economic engine, the Institute of Technology is the fuel. A new survey of 15,000 IT grads has found that more than 4,000 alumni-founded companies are active today, two-thirds of them operating in Minnesota. Many of the companies are in high-tech fields like biotechnology, communications, software, electronics, and engineering, although others are in far-flung fields like health care and hospitality.

Among the findings:

- Firms founded by IT grads employ 550,000 people worldwide and generate \$90 billion in revenue.
- Minnesota-based companies founded by IT grads employ more than 175,000 people and generate \$45 billion in annual revenue.
- 3,024 respondents reported founding at least one company; 148 reported to have founded more than one.
- 60 percent of the firms were founded in the past 10 years.
- 19 firms on the *StarTribune* newspaper's list of the largest 100 public companies in Minnesota were founded by IT alumni.



Oral pathologist Robert Gorlin balances research with clinical work, which reminds him that facial syndromes belong to real people.

[FACULTY PROFILE] Robert Gorlin

Many of the patients Dr. Robert Gorlin sees come to him under grim and extraordinary circumstances. They may have degenerated jaws, facial lesions, or cleft palates. Gorlin acknowledges that their facial abnormalities can be startling, but it's never affected the way he treats them. "I always joke with them. I talk with them and look at them, so they don't feel different," says Gorlin, Regents' Professor emeritus of oral pathology. "I treat them as if they were quite normal. I think that's important." For people who have been isolated and shunned because of their conditions, feeling normal can seem like a remarkable gift.

For decades, Gorlin has earned international acclaim for his work identifying more than 100 syndromes—groups of symptoms that occur together, characterizing a particular abnormality—including six that bear his name. The prolific researcher has authored more than 600 articles and co-authored the authoritative reference book in his field, *Syndromes of the Head and Neck*. His research and accomplishments have made him the preeminent oral pathologist in the world, as well as often the first person doctors at local hospitals call when a child with facial abnormalities is born.

The path to those sterling credentials all began with a fluke. Gorlin volunteered for the Army after completing a general studies degree from Columbia College, an undergraduate arm of Columbia University, in New York, not long after Pearl Harbor. It turned out that there wasn't a need for more troops, but there was a need for doctors, veterinarians, and dentists. Because of his strong science background, "I got assigned to dental school," Gorlin recalls.

He earned his D.D.S. from Washington University in St. Louis and a degree in pathology from Columbia, where he became interested in studying syndromes. In 1956, he joined the faculty of the School of Dentistry at the University of Minnesota, in part because

he'd met the deans of the medical and dental schools while in the military. Forty-nine years later, Gorlin, 82, still goes to his office daily. He remains active in the field and continues to publish articles, including three in *Nature Genetics*, the premier journal in the field, within the past couple years.

Poring over journals to piece together elements that make up a syndrome can be a solitary business, but Gorlin balances it with clinical work, which reminds him that facial syndromes belong to real people, not abstract research. He is a natural storyteller who injects self-deprecating humor and life into what might otherwise be clinical accounts of research discoveries and patient successes.

It doesn't come as a surprise that Gorlin takes his life's accomplishments in stride. After all, he's always been one to make the extraordinary seem nothing more, and nothing less, than normal.

—Erin Peterson

Overheard on Campus

"There has been an increase that, I think, one cannot deny. And there appears to be a certain part of this that is man and his putting certain pollutants into the atmosphere."

—Donald Baker (Ph.D. '49), professor emeritus in the University's Department of Soil, Water, and Climate, who has been recording temperatures 42 feet below ground in St. Paul for more than 40 years and detected an increase of more than 3 degrees. Baker has until recently been skeptical of the global warming theory.

"I understand the schools' perspective. It's easier to avoid hot-button topics than confront them head-on, but they have no more basis backing away from this than someone who would come in and discuss the laws of physics."

—Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior professor Robert Zink (B.S. '77) on the decision by schools in Monticello, Minnesota, to cancel presentations by Lisa Westberg Peters (B.A. '74), author of *Our Family Tree*, a children's book on evolution.

The Insect Collector

Department of Entomology
scientist Phil Clausen



GRAY CABINETS stacked eight feet high extend in long, double rows down the center of the room. Floor-to-ceiling shelves containing black cases line the walls. Someone happening upon this windowless room in Hodson Hall might think it has all the charm of a junior high locker room. But open a cabinet, and you open the door to another world.

Boxes bulge with an array of biodiversity beyond imagination. Gnats the size of pepper flecks. Moths with fluorescent green wings. Big, brown beetles with pinchers that look like they could take the nose off a horse. More than 300 kinds of mosquitoes. As of April 8, the University of Minnesota Insect Collection counted 3,378,239 specimens representing 47,976 species.

Department of Entomology scientist Phil Clausen (B.S. '59, M.S. '65, Ph.D. '69) has curated the collection since 1969. It all began in 1879, when University professor C.W. Hall brought back insects and spiders from a natural history expedition along the North Shore of Lake Superior. Specimens have poured in ever since. Last year alone the collection acquired 101,167 insects, nearly 300 a day.

Many are gathered by faculty and students traveling the world. Clausen alone has collected in more than a dozen countries on four continents.

Others are donated by private collectors. Clausen remembers one, a former Minnesotan, who in the 1980s brought in 15 gallons of beetles, some as big as eggs, he'd collected at an oil field near his farm in Peru. "I dried them in the oven," Clausen recalls. "It stank like dead beetles through the whole department."

Recording the specimens is a curatorial challenge. Even though he and other systematists—taxonomists who classify the specimens—work hard to keep up, Clausen figures half the species in the collection have yet to be identified.

The museum goes through two 55-gallon drums of mothballs a year to protect the dead insects from living ones, and the place reeks like an old closet. (Clausen once tried urinal cakes instead, but nobody liked the cherry scent any better.)

Clausen keeps a box of odd and unusual specimens—including a foot-long walking stick from New Guinea—he takes to lectures and exhibits. And University instructors occasionally borrow specimens for their classes. The collection also has been tapped for commercial uses. Its insects have starred in a jigsaw puzzle, a book on home repair, and an ad for butterfly-blue eye shadow, among others.

But the collection's greatest value lies in its role as a permanent record of some of nature's most amazing creatures. "What is really here is a storehouse of the world's biodiversity," Clausen says. The insects cases are lent out like library books and help entomologists around the world identify new species and determine the variation in and distribution of various species. Recent studies have used the collection to shed new light on caddisflies, which are indicators of the health of lakes, rivers, and streams, and to explore diversity in bees and wasps, which help researchers characterize ecosystems.

In some instances, the collection could even represent an insect's last stand. At least a few it holds are now endangered or threatened. "If something goes extinct," Clausen says, "You have it in a museum. You don't just have a photograph or a memory of it."

For more information on the Insect Collection, visit www.entomology.umn.edu/museum.

—Mary Hoff

The University's Insect Collection goes through two 55-gallon drums of mothballs a year to protect the dead insects from the living ones.

Restoring Rural Health Care

MONTEVIDEO, A TOWN OF 5,500 people in southwest Minnesota, is like many rural communities. Its aging population enjoys a relatively low crime rate and high quality of life. And, like many small towns, it faces a potential health care crisis. "Many health care professionals in rural communities are nearing retirement," says Barbara Brandt, assistant vice president for education at the University of Minnesota's Academic Health Center. "Unless something is done about this situation, rural communities will lose their local practitioners."

Brandt leads the Minnesota Area Health Education Center (AHEC), a federally funded program that brings community partners together with the U's rural health programs. Some students in medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, and other disciplines work and study in rural communities as part of elective courses. AHEC helps connect them with local professionals and can provide financial help to the relocated students. Students get a taste of rural life as health professionals, increasing the chances that they'll return to rural communities to practice. They also receive a broader educational experience because they work more closely with other professionals—such as hospice workers, law enforcement officers, and emergency medical technicians—than they typically would in a metropolitan setting.

The effort is part of the U's goal to address the health care needs of the entire state, and the U is creating programs in the state's four regions. The first, for northeastern Minnesota, opened in Hibbing in February 2004; the second, serving southern Minnesota (including Montevideo), opened in Willmar in December 2004. The U is also planning to open AHEC programs in central and northwestern Minnesota in the next two years, assuming federal funding continues.

Kathy Huntley, executive director of the AHEC in Willmar, says part of the crisis in rural health care is simple economics. A young dentist burdened with huge student loan debt can't establish a new solo practice without going deeper into debt. "It's easier to be employed as part of a larger, metro practice," Huntley says. The same is true for pharmacists, she adds, and many small town drugstores close when no one is available to take over.

Another way AHEC hopes to address the problem is through mentoring rural youth interested in medical professions. But students need to understand what it takes to get admitted to health care programs, Brandt says. "That's why we send the message to students to begin early to prepare academically for health professions schools."

—Brenda Hudson



A Shifting Student Body

If present trends continue, by 2010 Minnesota will not be producing enough college graduates to meet the total workforce demands of replacing retirees and filling new positions. This is according to "Knocking at the College Door," projections of high school graduates by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). WICHE also reports that the number of Minnesota high school graduates will decline by 10 percent by 2013. While numbers of white students will decline almost 20 percent by 2013, numbers of students of color will increase almost 50 percent. By 2018, enrollments are projected to rise 7 percent from 2013. The projected enrollment gain will occur almost exclusively through increases in numbers of students of color. By 2018, about one-third of all high school graduates in Minnesota will be students of color.



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The Showboat Players Go Wilde

THE SHOWBOAT THEATER TRADITION has been ingrained in American culture ever since Edna Ferber's 1926 novel *Show Boat*, a charming tale of thespians aboard a floating theater, was brought to life in a vivacious musical and then two movie classics. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, showboat theater flourished as a lively form of entertainment in many cities along the Mississippi River. Today, it's mostly a thing of the past.

Except in the Twin Cities.

Nearly every summer since 1958, the Centennial Showboat Players, a program of the University of Minnesota's theater department, marshals its forces for a summerlong run at the Minnesota Centennial Showboat, docked on the Mississippi River next to St. Paul's Harriet Island Regional Park. (The original showboat, which was docked near the U's East Bank, was destroyed by a fire during renovation in 2000; the new showboat arrived in 2002.)

Only the most entertaining melodramas and comedies are chosen for the Showboat Players. This year's divertissement is Oscar Wilde's zany comedy of errors and mistaken identities, *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Directed by Twin Cities theater veteran Jon Cranney (M.F.A. '67) and performed by University theater students and graduates, the play also kicks off the theater department's 75th anniversary.

"The quaint 19th-century setting of this little jewel box theater [on the Centennial Showboat] lends itself to the kind of artificial brittleness of the play itself, which is very theatrical," says Cranney, who performed with Showboat players Loni Anderson and Linda Kelsey in the 1960s. Inspired by the Showboat setting, he adds, "I'm trying to mine the tremendous ironic humor that Wilde created in this little gem of a play, with its confused identities, puns, and aphorisms left and right."

The play centers on two young fellows, Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff, who fib and flub their way through various family and romantic escapades in order to render their leisurely British lives more exciting. Each creates an imaginary friend (one is named Earnest) that provides them with a double identity. Eileen May (B.A. '05) plays Miss Prism, a character central to the plot and the governess of Algernon's love-interest, Cecily Cardew.

The prim and proper Miss Prism once unwittingly switched baby Jack Worthing with the three-volume bodice-ripper she had authored. The former ended up in a handbag, the latter in the carriage. "She's the kind of woman always informing everyone of the mistakes they *might* make," May says, "but I see her as leading a secret life, the life in her manuscript that she can't live in proper English society."

The play is as relevant to audiences today as in the 19th century, Cranney insists, because of how it portrays timeless human behav-

ior. "People still get themselves in binds over their relationships and the characters in this play are no different, except Wilde very cleverly works everything out."

The play's other universal attraction is Wilde's language. "Wilde was one of the wittiest men in the English language," Cranney says. "The play crackles with one-liners and witticisms. And the characters are richly drawn." The set's props and hand-painted backdrops, designed by Rick Polenek (B.A. '74), are as "light and frothy" as the play itself, Polenek adds.

But the authenticity of the showboat experience only goes so far.



University students John Skelley and Samantha Colburn portray Jack Worthing and Gwendolyn Fairfax in Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, playing on the Minnesota Centennial Showboat through August 27. Here, Worthing pretends to be Earnest, his alter ego, to win Gwendolyn's heart.

"We try to create the feel and atmosphere of a 19th-century showboat theater," Cranney says, "but if we were really authentic, we'd have to truck in mud and horses and carriages." The location of the Centennial Showboat actually sets the stage, he adds. As theatergoers walk through Harriet Island Park to

the Showboat on the river, Showboat Players greet them with outstretched hands and song.

"You get a feel for what it was like to board a showboat back in the day," Cranney says. "It's very conducive to a wonderful summer evening of theater."

The Importance of Being Earnest runs through August 27 on the Minnesota Centennial Showboat, docked on Harriet Island in St. Paul. Tickets are \$15 to \$20. Call 651-227-1100 or visit www.showboattheater.com.

—Camille LeFevre



Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest

Our seventh-annual fiction contest is open to all University of Minnesota alumni and students.

How to enter:

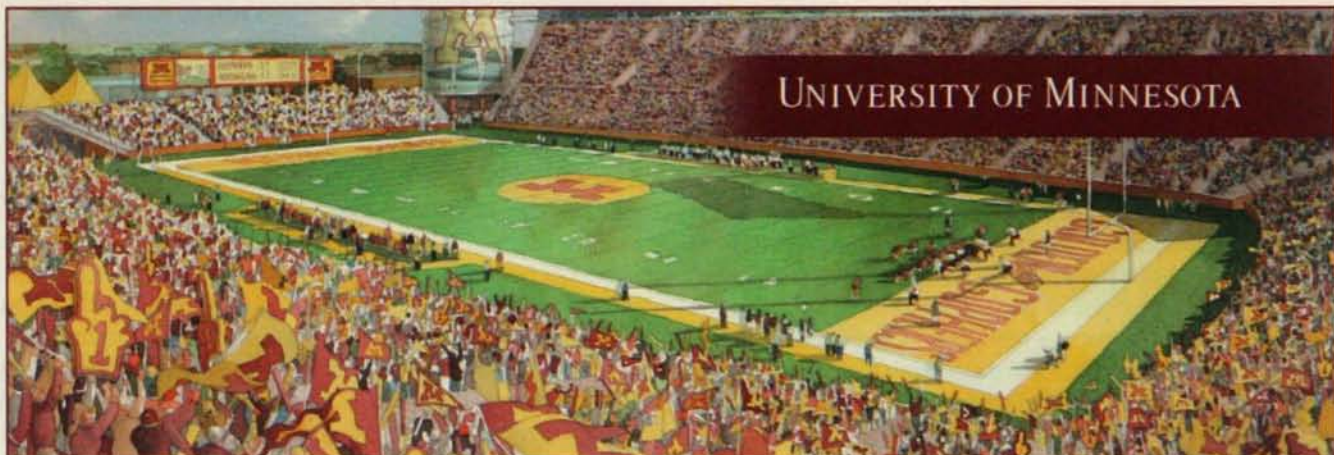
Submit a double-spaced, typed manuscript, 3,000 words or fewer. Submissions must not have been previously published. Past winners of this contest must wait two years before entering again. Poetry, children's stories, plays, and screenplays are not eligible.

Include a cover sheet that bears your name, year of graduation (or years of attending the University), day and evening phone numbers, address, story title, and word count of the manuscript. To ensure anonymity, please do not put your name on the manuscript itself. Manuscripts will not be returned.

The winner will receive \$1,500, and the winning story will be published in the March-April 2006 issue of *Minnesota* magazine and on the magazine's Web site. The author of the winning entry will be notified in early January but won't be announced until publication.

Submissions must be postmarked by December 5, 2005. Send to:

Minnesota Magazine Fiction Contest, U of M Alumni Association, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55455-2040.



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The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

In June, the Board of Regents approved President Bob Bruininks' plan to transform the University into one of the top three research universities in the world. The plan represents one of the most significant realignments of academic programs and administrative functions in the University's history. "This is the right thing to do and the right time to do it," said David Metzen, chair of the Board of Regents. The strategic positioning recommendations include closing three colleges and realigning their programs.

Task forces are being formed to implement these and numerous other changes. The goal is to have plans completed by December 10 and have many changes in place by July 1, 2006. See page 20 for more information.

Bruininks also proposed a 7.5 percent increase in tuition and the University fee for resident students on the Twin Cities campus in 2005-06. The regents will act on the proposal in July.

The Minnesota Legislature passed a \$2.6 billion higher education funding bill before the end of the regular session in May. The University received \$106 million in new state funding. Among the top funding priorities for the U are competitive compensation for the faculty, improved student services, and investing in research initiatives. "We're grateful to lawmakers and legislative leaders for making higher education their first budget priority," Bruininks said. Most major spending bills were not passed during the regular session but were awaiting action during a special session that began May 24.

The legislature earlier passed a capital bonding bill left over from the 2004 session that funded \$111 million in construction and renovation projects on its various campuses.

The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) has joined forces with the University of Minnesota School of Music to educate future musicians. The partnership includes a shared conductor who will direct the U's Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Opera Theatre, and Contemporary Music Ensemble and also serve as the SPCO's staff conductor. "This new position is unprecedented in the world of schools training the next generation of musicians," said Noel Zahler, director of the School of Music. Also in the agreement is the creation of a weeklong Contemporary Composers Festival in spring 2006 and a new track within the school's doctoral program in orchestral studies that will give students direct training with a leading chamber orchestra.

The University formally commissioned a new 367-foot wind turbine at the Renewable Energy Research and Demonstration Center, part of the University's West Central Research and Outreach Center in Morris. Only a mile from the Morris campus, the turbine supplies half the electricity for the campus. This is the first step in a massive project at the U to bring together a constellation of renewable-energy technologies to learn which ones work best and in what combination.

Three sites on the Twin Cities campus took on new names in May. The Basic Sciences and Biomedical Engineering Building was renamed Nils Hasselmo Hall, after former University president Nils Hasselmo (1987-96); the Fairview-University Medical Center is now the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview;



In the Spirit of Friendship

Muslim and Christian students finished landscaping around the Friendship Bench April 21, the ninth annual Beautiful U Day. A joint effort between the Al-Madinah Cultural Center, a Muslim student group, and the Mars Hill Students, a Christian group, the Friendship Bench is in a quiet courtyard between the Nolte Center and the Bell Museum on the Minneapolis campus' East Bank. Beautiful U Day, which coincides with Earth Day each April, is a one-day event meant to highlight the University community's ongoing commitment to campus beautification and environmental sustainability. Al-Madinah is a Saudi Arabian holy city containing many important Islamic historic sites. Mars Hill is a location in Athens where the Apostle Paul is said to have converted a member of the Athenian high court to Christianity.

and the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health is now the Deborah E. Powell Center for Women's Health, to recognize the Medical School's first female dean (2002-present). Also in May, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen named its new visitor center the Oswald Visitor Center. The \$20 million center in Chanhassen is named for Charles W. Oswald and family, who gave \$13.5 million toward its construction.

The College of Pharmacy has received \$2 million from Paddock Laboratories to renovate its teaching and research facilities on the Duluth campus and expand pharmacy services in greater Minnesota. The College of Pharmacy is based on the Twin Cities campus but expanded its program to Duluth and enrolled 52 students there in fall 2003. The Duluth pharmacy program emphasizes rural health care—training and placing pharmacists in greater Minnesota.

Connie White Delaney is the new dean of the School of Nursing. Delaney, who joins the U in August, is a professor and the director of the Institute of Nursing Knowledge at the University of Iowa. She assumes the position held by Sandra Edwardson, who stepped down last June after 14 years as dean to focus on her research interests. ■

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



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My Address Book

It's a mess, but some of those outdated entries are precious.

A

After a recent day of spring cleaning, with my apartment smelling of Lemon Pledge and squeegeed of the excess crap that accumulates quickly in our lives, I stood flipping through my address book, wondering whether it wasn't time to finally clean it too. This address book is eight years old. It's slightly wider than a trade paperback, with a cover of cushiony vinyl and, in the upper right corner, *Addresses* written in fancy script. Its pages are loose-leaf and held together by a three-ring binder, which means I can take extras from, say, "Q," where I'll never use them, and put them in "B," where I will.

What needed cleaning, of course, were all of those outdated and crossed-out entries. My sister no longer lived in Cincinnati, Washington, D.C., or Atlanta, but Detroit. Brenda hadn't left Seattle, but I still had four addresses for her there, a gradual progression westward toward Puget Sound. Yes, some of the obsolete entries were still cool—Gore Vidal's fax number, Kurt Vonnegut's phone number, both perks of freelance writing gigs—but most reeked of failure: girls I'd dated badly, acquaintances who never quite became friends, business leads who never got back to me. I'd listed three contacts at Amazon.com alone—Kristi, Bob, and Bob—and none came close to getting me a job there (when you wanted a job there), and none worked there now.

Cleaning, for me, has always been about

the feel of a fresh start, and that's what I wanted now with my address book—the feel of a fresh start—and so after a shower I sat down at the dining table and tore out the first dog-eared, coffee-stained pages and began transferring, onto the clean, blank pages left behind, whatever entries were relevant. Until I got to the F's and Sharon.

There was a pattern to her addresses. After moving to Fort Worth, Texas, she rented an apartment on Bridgeview Drive

(1), until she bought a home on Weatherbee Street (2). After moving to Washington, D.C., she rented an apartment on Veitch Street in Arlington (3), until she bought a home on E Street (4). After moving to Chicago, she rented an apartment on Lake Street in Oak Park (5), until she could buy a home in the city (6). Except (6) never happened.

From the Oak Park apartment she phoned to tell me she had breast cancer. The following July I visited her, after the



cancer had spread to her liver, lungs, and bones. Two days later she died. That was the F's.

In the T's, waiting for me, were Scott's addresses and phone numbers. Scott lived about a mile north of me on 81st Street in Seattle but moved to a suburb where it cost to call. Since when we talked, we talked for hours, arguing about movies and racial matters and movies, the phone bill added up. I teased him about it in early November. In late November he collapsed at the gym. A blood clot in the base of his brain. He died three days later. Four months after Sharon.

The three of us had worked at the University Book Store in Seattle in the mid-1990s. Sharon had been my boss, Scott my co-worker. I remember the clicking of Sharon's high heels as she walked into the warehouse. I remember Scott's bawdy sense of humor when it was just us guys and how gentlemanly he became whenever a woman's high heels clicked into the room.

Both, in a way, denied their true nature. Sharon insisted she was shy when she was the life of the party. She didn't know baseball as well as she pretended to, but she loved her Red Sox and hated them damn Yankees. She e-mailed me Yankee jokes and a humorous article called "How to Sing the Blues" (she loved the blues), and I responded with a blues song about and for her, which she said flattered her beyond words. Whenever she phoned her voice was sexy and flirtatious. It jumped through the wire and jangled my nerves. She insisted she wasn't sexy.

One time in the warehouse, Scott and I, bored out of our minds, contemplated which comic book character we'd be, and Scott immediately chose Spider-Man for himself. When I objected—"You're more like The Thing; I'm Spider-Man"—I didn't realize I was delving into something deep-seated. Asked to draw himself in a high school art class, Scott, ignoring his hefty frame, drew Spider-Man. And he had taken Peter as his confirmation name not because of St. Peter, but Peter Parker. Others in the warehouse quickly backed me up—"Sorry, Scott, he is more like Spider-Man"—but Scott dismissed us all and grumbled and griped the rest of the afternoon, particularly when, to annoy him, I'd

press my middle fingers against my wrist and make Spider-Man's web-shooting noise: "Thwip!" We were in our thirties at the time.

During our warehouse days, Scott wrote and illustrated a series of comics, "Colors in Black," about race in America, for the Dark Horse label. He once sent me an e-mail about the current state of movies: "I'm not starving for a black face on screen (I'm real hungry though), but I am starving for a multi-dimensional character on screen." After Sharon died he offered condolences, but the mention of her name made me feel empty and I didn't respond much. Sharon was precious then, because gone, not Scott. Then suddenly Scott was gone too. The lesson is obvious but hard to hold onto: Everyone you know is precious because everyone will go.

So I sat there, pen in hand, at the F's. Not including Sharon and Scott in my address book felt like a betrayal, but including them felt batty. At which address? For a minute or so I froze, unable to resolve this dilemma. Then I tucked the torn pages back into the address book and set it next to the phone again.

I'm sure, at some point, I'll recopy my address book without them in it. Just not yet.

Kurt Vonnegut, whose phone number I plan to keep, wrote about his brother, Bernard, in the prologue to his novel *Slapstick*. Bernard was a research scientist in Schenectady, New York, with such a sensationally messy lab that one day a safety officer bawled him out for it. "My brother said this to him," Vonnegut writes, "tapping his own forehead with his fingertip: 'If you think this laboratory is bad, you should see what it's like in here.'"

It's my answer to anyone who wonders over my mangled, messy address book in the middle of my pristine apartment. "If you think this address book is bad," I'll say, tapping my chest, "you should see what it's like in here." ■

Erik Lundegaard (B.A. '87) is an editor at Minnesota Law & Politics. He writes about film for MSNBC.com.

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Renewing the U

President Bob Bruininks explains why he recommends vast changes at the University.

BY SHELLY FLING

This spring, University President Bob Bruininks announced—and the Board of Regents approved—a set of recommendations for sweeping changes across the Twin Cities campus, including folding three colleges into three other colleges.

These changes are intended not only to save money and create new opportunities for students and faculty, but to position the University to become one of the top three public research universities in the world.

“Minnesota needs a strong and vibrant research university to sustain its economy and its unparalleled quality of life. It’s just that simple,” Bruininks said in mid-May, a few days after delivering his recommendations to the regents. Bruininks expounded for *Minnesota* readers on his plan for transforming the University:

Q: Why does the University need to be a top-three public research institution in the world?

A: The University is Minnesota’s only research and advanced educational institution. We have a thriving economy that is based largely upon research and innovation—the medical device industry, health care industry, food production and processing industries, just to name a few. These are all fields that require the advancement of knowledge to sustain economic growth.

In the center of any vibrant economy you are going to find a great research university, a place that acts as a magnet to draw talented people, that keeps people here, that connects talented people to the needs of our economy and our cultural and civic life. Minnesota needs a first-rate, outstanding research university. We need to be among the best, and when we ask ourselves what that means: We want to be in the top group of public research universities internationally.

Q: What is keeping the U from moving up among public research universities?

A: I think one obvious thing is we have lost serious ground in terms of the level of support from the state. At one time Minnesota was roughly fourth in the per capita expenditure in higher education.



Supporters of General College rallied on Northrop Mall April 20. Since the recommendation to restructure the college into a department was announced in late March, advocates of keeping the college open or of delaying a decision have staged several demonstrations.

We are now close to 26. We’re average, and we used to be above average. So the decline in state commitment is a disturbing trend and it must be reversed if we’re going to achieve any level of aspiration.

The second thing is that we have not grown the student profile in critically important fields. We’re way behind other states and other countries in engineering sciences and in the natural sciences and biology and the health sciences. I don’t think our student results are good enough. We need better graduation rates, better achievement levels, we need to retain more of Minnesota’s most capable students and attract others.

Q: How does building an on-campus football stadium fit with transforming the University into a top-three institution?

A: I don’t think the football stadium has much to do with making the University a great research and educational institution, but I do think it has a great deal to do with creating a deeper sense of community here at the University. If you think about it, we could have as many as 400,000 people in a football season—and that’s not the only use of a stadium—visiting campus. That’s an opportunity to reach 400,000 people with the academic mission and the cultural life of the University.

Q: If academic standards are raised, do you feel that athletics programs that traditionally don’t have the highest academic profile are going to struggle?

A: One of the big problems in intercollegiate athletics at the University is that some of our student athletes do not transition from General College into degree programs, and this proposal is designed to facilitate that transition. Other institutions compete athletically and do very well, and their students graduate at higher



President Bruininks, seated next to regent David Metzen (left), listened to more than three dozen members of the University community testify before the Board of Regents at a public forum May 16. Speakers voiced support, objections, and, in at least one case, concern that the recommendations were not extensive enough.

rates. So I don't have any doubt that we can make this transition and actually improve academic outcomes for student athletes.

Q: Will your recommendations that aim to ensure that the University continues to have a diverse student body address the concerns of those who say that reducing General College to department status will deny access to low-income students and students of color?

A: The issue of whether the University will provide access and opportunity to people from diverse economic and cultural backgrounds I think is really important. And we are wise to give that special consideration.

The University is not going to reduce its enrollment. By improving the rates of success, that is, more timely graduation, we will actually increase access; if students make more timely progress toward graduation, more students can take advantage of the University. And we are outlining a whole range of strategies that we think will help maintain high levels of diversity.

The first thing is a much-strengthened financial support program for low- and moderate-income students. Second, we're substantially increasing our investment in recruitment of people from first-generation backgrounds [students who are the first in their

families to attend college], immigrant backgrounds, and students of color from a wide range of economic backgrounds in our state and beyond. Third, we're outlining a very ambitious pre-K-12 strategy aimed at increasing the aspirational levels of young people to pursue careers in post-secondary education. A new vice president of diversity—an upgrade of a special position, dedicated broadly to academic and multicultural affairs—will give real leadership to the University's efforts to recruit and support a diverse community of faculty, staff, and students. And one other thing, we're increasing the ability to transfer to the University of Minnesota from the 10 community colleges, for example, in the metropolitan area and other institutions of higher education.

Q: Can the U become a top-three institution without new state funds?

A: No, it really does require very substantial and sustained state investment. But it requires more than that—it requires thoughtful use of our current resources. It requires a deep commitment to raising our private funding, long-term funding. So there isn't a magic bullet here. We have to do several things at once to improve the University long term. But I honestly believe the better days of the University of Minnesota lie ahead of us, and I'm quite optimistic that the state will be our partner. And I'm quite confident that we enjoy very, very high standing among private individuals and the private sector, two other important areas of long-term support for the University. So I'm quite confident that the University can make very substantial strides toward meeting its long-term aspirations.

Q: What do you say to alumni of colleges that are being divided up and reorganized who now feel severed from the University?

A: We need to remind people we are not closing academic fields. We are integrating academic fields in new combinations that we think will give the University much greater strength and vitality in the future.

So I would say to people, let's come together and celebrate this renewal that is taking place at the University of Minnesota. Isn't it magnificent to have an opportunity to create incredible opportunities for our students and maybe even invent or reinvent entire fields of research and education? Important centers of leadership have an opportunity to come together and reinvent themselves in new ways that will put Minnesota in the preeminent position not only nationally but around the world. ■

Shelly Fling is editor of Minnesota.

The Major Changes

The recommendations that the Board of Regents approved in June include restructuring several colleges, three of which will cease to exist as of July 1, 2006.

- The College of Human Ecology will be divided into three other colleges: the College of Education and Human Development; a new college of design with the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture; and the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences.
- The College of Natural Resources will be rolled into the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences.
- General College will become a department within the College of Education and Human Development.

Task forces will guide the implementation of these and numerous other academic and administrative changes that did not require board action. For more information, visit www.umn.edu/systemwide/strategic_positioning.

School's

What Are the Kids Doing

A University commission finds that giving children structured activities in those hours they're away from school is critical to their development and success.

...

By Kermit Pattison

Illustration by Juliette Borda

It's the time of day sometimes lost on the radar of policymakers. School has ended for the day, but many parents haven't returned home from work. These are the hours when kids can get into trouble.

Inside the Bethlehem Community Center in south Minneapolis, voices of children echo through the cavernous room that had once been the sanctuary of a stone church. Fourteen kids ages 8 to 12 hunch over tables, doing homework or playing educational games with adult mentors. Some browse library shelves. The building has become a different kind of sanctuary, and on this afternoon it hosts the "Homework and Hoops" after-school program.

"Every child deserves an opportunity to be engaged in quality youth development activities," says Delroy Calhoun (B.S. '77, M.Ed. '00), director of the center, as he gazes over the room. "Not every family can pay for that. After-school programs can provide ways for kids to grow in ways that school can't. Not every kid needs it, but the opportunity should be there."

Many experts at the University of Minnesota agree. The Minnesota Commission on Out-of-School Time, a task force of University researchers and community leaders, has shed new light on the importance of the hours children spend away from school and family. The commission has urged a more comprehensive policy and stronger public support for programs to ensure that all Minnesota children have a range of opportunities at a crucial point in their social and intellectual development.

"School and family have gotten a lot of attention, relatively speaking," says Carol Truesdell, co-chair of the commission. "The out-of-school time has not been attended to or valued for what it could accomplish as part of a comprehensive approach for helping young people be successful."

In Minnesota, 42 percent of children ages 10 to 12 are left home alone after school—the highest rate in the nation, according to the 1999 National Survey of American Families sponsored by the Urban Institute. American youth spend an average of nearly 2,000 hours per year—the equivalent of a full-time job—without adult supervision. Various studies have linked after-school programs to better school attendance, grades, test scores, work habits, interpersonal skills, and work habits. Yet one review of more than 70 youth-related programs operated by seven state of Minnesota departments, including education and human services, found that only 4.7 percent of funding supported such opportunities outside of school hours, compared with 95.3 percent during the school day.

"If we don't get systematic about how we help young people, families, and communities make good choices during this time, we risk undoing the very investments we're making in other areas of their lives," says Dale Blyth (Ph.D. '77), associate dean for youth development at the University's Center for 4-H Youth Development and chief of staff for the Commission on Out-of-School Time.

The Commission on Out-of-School Time has been one of the flagship programs of the academic Initiative on Children, Youth, and Families launched by University President Robert Bruininks. The initiative rests on the premise that the first years of life have an enormous bearing on the contributions a person can make to society as an adult. It also seeks to marshal the University's expertise in several areas to address issues with a long-term payoff for the people of Minnesota. "The multidisciplinary approach is the real world, not the silos of individual disciplines," says psychology professor Richard Weinberg, co-chair of the initiative. "We realize we have enormous resources at the University in terms of great minds, great ideas, and great students. We're trying to put a lasso around that and make it accessible on the local and state level, but also to live up to some responsibilities at the national level with the importance of the research that's done in all these various programs."

That's what the Commission on Out-of-School Time has sought to do. Bruininks charged the commission to craft a vision and strategy to ensure Minnesota's young people ages 5 to 18 have engaging opportunities to learn and develop. The commission, which began in January 2004 and concluded this summer, included experts in child and adolescent development and leaders from business, nonprofits, philanthropy, youth programs, and government. One result of its work has been to collect and publicize academic research



to educate the public and policymakers. Consider:

One national longitudinal study found that how youth spent their free time was a more powerful predictor of risk than demographic variables such as race or family resources. Hanging out with friends increased risk behavior while after-school programs reduced it. Another study of low-income teens in large cities found that those who participated in youth programs were more likely to graduate from high school (63 percent, compared with 42 per-

cent for nonparticipants) and more likely to continue to post-secondary education (42 percent, compared with 16 percent for nonparticipants).

Failing to invest in such opportunities for kids brings other costs. One study estimated at least 25 percent of adolescents in the United States are at serious risk of not achieving "productive adulthood" and are at risk for problems such as substance abuse, teen pregnancy, school failure, and trouble with the law. One

study cited by the commission showed that spending \$2.55 an hour per youth for 1,200 hours a year in such programs could result in significant returns on the social investment. The study estimated that every dollar invested would yield a return of \$10.51 in taxes paid and personal consumption over the lifetime of those individuals.

Yet many providers of such out-of-school programs have struggled. In 2003, the state eliminated the After School Enrichment Grant Program, resulting in a \$5.5 million annual loss to more than 200 programs across Minnesota. A follow-up study the next year examined a sample of 14 programs and found that three had ceased to operate, 9 continued with significantly reduced programs and staff and with doubts about long-term sustainability, and 2 showed only slight effects. Half of the remaining programs feared they would have to close within the next year.

The Commission on Out-of-School Time points to new insights in brain development as further evidence that the early years represent a window of opportunity. The developing brain overproduces cell branches, known as dendrites. In a process called "blossoming and pruning," those dendrites that are stimulated become wired into permanent networks and those that remain idle shrivel up. Newer research has shown that "blossoming and pruning" may peak during adolescence, particularly in the prefrontal cortex, the region responsible for managing impulses, planning ahead, and weighing consequences. Psychologist David Walsh (Ph.D. '85), who sat on the commission and lectures in the University's Work, Community, and Family Education Department, says adults and structured activities serve as a "surrogate prefrontal cortex while the young one is finishing being wired."

"The new research shows us this is an investment for the future of Minnesota that has hard scientific evidence behind it," says Walsh, president of the National Institute on Media and the Family, a nonprofit research organization in Minneapolis that studies the impact of the electronic media on children and youth. "It's

The Initiative at Work

The Initiative on Children, Youth and Families spans a diverse array of departments and disciplines. Here's a sampling of some notable programs in the initiative:

The Early Childhood Policy Certificate, a graduate-level curriculum, teaches how to apply research on early development to state and federal government policy affecting children up to age 8. The faculty includes instructors from a variety of disciplines.

UConnects pairs mentors from the University with disadvantaged K-12 students. The program seeks to nurture aspirations toward higher education in students who have few or no family or community role models in higher education. UConnects provides students and mentors with tickets and access to University educational programs, cultural activities, and athletic events.

The Center of Excellence in Children's Mental Health promotes emotional health and well-being among Minnesota children. The cross-disciplinary center links research, practice, and policy in children's mental health; disseminates best practices; and develops demonstration projects.

The Children's Summit Series focuses on how children at every developmental stage start strong and stay strong. The third event in the series, "Smart Policies, Strong Families," was held in March.

For more information about the Initiative on Children, Youth and Families, visit www.umn.edu/pres/picfy. —K.P.

not just a nice thing to do, it's a necessary thing to do."

The commission's work also has yielded other concrete results: the creation of several "youth engagement councils" in which young people would help plan youth programs in their communities, and the creation of the Out-of-School Time Partnership, a coalition of public and private organizations that will continue as an advocate for youth programs after the commission disbands.

In June, the commission issued its final report, "Journeys into Community: Transforming Youth Opportunities for Learning and Development." It offers recommendations such as creating "youth opportunity zones" in which learning programs receive special grants and fee waivers, conducting statewide surveys on interest in youth activities, and establishing a \$12 million annual investment fund to support the various steps outlined in the report. Still, the report does not offer a detailed prescription for action or cry for public funding as a panacea and mainly seeks to inform and provoke debate.

"Our biggest issue is not the immediate influx of money to solve the problem," says Blyth. "Our biggest issue is having a long-term vision of what we want for our young people."

The benefits of out-of-school programs have been long apparent to Delroy Calhoun. He has spent three decades working with youth, served on the Commission on Out-of-School Time, and teaches a class on youth organizations in the School of Social Work at the University. "I don't think there's a big threat that every kid is going to be a juvenile delinquent if they don't go to after-school programs," says Calhoun. "But if there are positive, supervised youth development opportunities available, kids will more or less take advantage of those. The ones that don't tend to have limited experiences and don't have as many choices and opportunities."

Calhoun says such programs teach children how to organize their time, get along with peers, relate to a positive adult, and be confident in themselves. The center's after-school and summer programs serve about 200 kids per year, most from low-income families and many of whom speak English as a second language.

"If you talk to the kids who are 'successful,' most of them can tell you that they participated in after-school programs," Calhoun says. "There's a lot of research that backs that up."

Calhoun stands inside the Bethlehem Community Center and cites his own evidence: the young people busily engaged in the Homework and Hoops after-school program. Over the course of the afternoon, children and their mentors fill out a list of goals for the day, complete their homework, and play educational games. Afterward they tally up points for completing various tasks in a checkbook. Then comes the fun part. They troop downstairs to redeem points for prizes like crayons, games, or yo-yos.

Ikram Mohamed, a 16-year-old volunteer, plays a reading game with a younger girl. Mohamed herself had been a student in the program before becoming a mentor. "They can come here and see another system of learning other than just school," she says. "It changed me a lot." ■

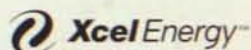
Kermit Pattison is a St. Paul freelancer who also has written for the New York Times and GQ. To view the Commission on Out-of-School Time report, visit www.mncost.org.



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Real-World

Research

Cathy Jordan champions University-community partnerships that benefit real people and expand scholars' knowledge.

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By Kermit Pattison

Photograph by Gary Bistram



Cathy Jordan, director of the Children, Youth and Family Consortium. The three dolls, by Michigan artist Nancy Camden, represent Jordan and two colleagues who formed an organization to remove the barriers to community-University partnerships.

Cathy Jordan has something in common with many famous scientists and explorers. One of her greatest discoveries came as an unintended consequence of researching another question.

Twelve years ago, Jordan, then a pediatric neuropsychology fellow, began studying lead exposure among children in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis. Her research required an unusual partnership between University of Minnesota researchers and neighbors and yielded results that went far beyond toxicology.

"I had gone into it thinking I was interested in lead poisoning," Jordan says. "But I came out of that experience more interested in the model of community-University partnerships that benefits communities, strengthens the scientific methodology, and contributes to our knowledge base. I wanted to continue doing something at the University that facilitated faculty members doing that kind of research."

Today she has found a way to do just that on a broad scale as director of the Children, Youth and Family Consortium at the University of Minnesota. The consortium serves as the coordinating hub of the University's academic Initiative on Children, Youth and Families. It disseminates research and encourages partnerships across numerous departments and disciplines. The consortium's database of experts includes 143 people from 34 colleges and departments. Its advisory board is made up of people from 22 departments and colleges, in disciplines such as public health, educational psychology, family social science, pediatrics, and law.

"Interdisciplinary is the way to go," says Jordan. "People are no longer really able to—or necessarily want to—function in their own silo. This kind of cross-fertilization is good for intellectual thinking, efficiency, and more complete and comprehensive understanding of complex societal problems."

The consortium has brought a wide array of academic expertise to bear on issues confronting Minnesota children. During the legislative session, it hosted a series of "Capitol Conversations" in which panels of University experts addressed issues such as early childhood education, nurturing good teachers, and the transition from high school to adulthood. After the Red Lake shootings, it developed resources to assist parents, teachers, students, and communities. Its Web site offers materials on subjects such as adolescent development, mental health, and violence prevention.

The consortium began in 1991 and took on an enhanced role after University President Bob Bruininks launched the Initiative on Children, Youth and Families. The initiative, in effect, shines a light on the consortium, giving the work it does greater importance within the University and beyond.

One key mission is to remove barriers to collaboration between disciplines and between academia and the world outside. "The traditional incentive system in a university rewards getting research published in prestigious academic journals," says Marti Erickson (M.S. '69, Ph.D. '84), co-chair of the overall initiative and former director of the consortium. "It doesn't necessarily reward time you spend getting out working with citizens in North Minneapolis. We're really having to look at how we build in better incentives and rewards."

Jordan's own academic bio provides one example of the type of work the consortium hopes to encourage. Jordan, who holds a bachelor's degree from Oberlin College and Ph.D. from Wayne State University, often speaks of her work in Phillips as a reawakening. In 1993, she co-designed a study of the effects of lead exposure among children in Phillips. Initially she envisioned the project as a linear equation involving lead leading to effects on child development. Over time, she saw that equation as just one strand of "a huge spider web" that also included things like parental stress, parenting practices, nutrition, and quality of housing. Jordan came to realize that these other strands—which a scientist normally might factor out of the equation—also had a huge bearing on child development and often correlated with lead levels as well.

"We really need to remember that often our research questions are just one thread within this larger web of connections," Jordan says. "There are often many other threads that have implications for our research question. I think this metaphor really helped me see these interconnections and to relate them to my observations of people's real life experiences."

The study also opened Jordan's eyes to a web of human connections. She worked closely with the Phillips Neighborhood Healthy Housing Collaborative, particularly activist Susan Gust. In addition to maintaining scientific rigor, Jordan found herself facing a series of new challenges: neighborhood politics, initial mistrust, translating jargon, and many, many meetings. The years in Phillips, she says, changed her life.

"I just became immersed in the community relationships and realized how enriching that was to my own personal and professional development and particularly my thinking

into the research problems we were undertaking," Jordan says. "It made me expand my view. I could no longer approach this research project in the reductionist way I believe I was taught to as a traditionally trained scientist."

Jordan became a champion for community-engaged scholarship. With Gust and Naomi Scheman, professor of philosophy and women's studies at the University, she started the organization GRASS Routes (Grass Roots Activism, Sciences, and Scholarship) dedicated to removing barriers to community-University partnerships. But when Jordan became an assistant professor of pediatrics, she found that clinical, aca-

demical, and administrative responsibilities limited the time she had for such advocacy—until a new opportunity came knocking. In July 2004, Jordan became director of the Children, Youth and Family Consortium.

"When I saw the advertisement for this job, I thought perhaps this would be a place where I could combine my passion for the community-University partnership work with my passion for kids and families," Jordan says. "Indeed, that's exactly what has happened."

For more information on the Children, Youth and Family Consortium, visit www.cyfc.umn.edu.

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To Hudson Bay and Beyond

Before his illustrious career at *CBS Evening News*, before becoming one of “Murrow’s Boys” covering World War II, even before he wrestled with ideas and authorities as a student at the University of Minnesota, Eric Sevareid (B.A. ’35) and a friend set out on a summer-long canoe voyage into Canada.

BY TIM BRADY



Walter Port (above) and Eric Sevareid (opposite page) in 1930.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESS

Seventy-five years ago this past June, two recently graduated seniors from Minneapolis Central High School headed out on a journey straight from *Boys’ Life*. Walter Port and his buddy Arnold Sevareid (B.A. ’35), who would go on to fame using his middle name, Eric, when he worked for CBS News, baptized their canvas canoe, the *Sans Souci*, in the waters of the Mississippi River near Fort Snelling on June 17, 1930. After paddling a few minutes south, they turned right at the Minnesota River and didn’t look back.

To the source of the Minnesota River in Big Stone Lake, the young men paddled. From there, they headed on to Lake Traverse and the Bois de Sioux River. Then they navigated down the Red River, which they took all the way to giant Lake Winnipeg. From Lake Winnipeg, they steered out into the wilds of northern Manitoba, toward the ultimate goal of the trip: Hudson Bay. The route they chose to the bay, through rapids and rivers and lakes dotted with hundreds of uncharted islands, had only been traveled in its entirety by Native Americans.

When they got back to Minneapolis, Sevareid began his studies at the University of Minnesota and ultimately published *Canoeing with the Cree*, the story of his and Port’s 14-week trip, which has been reissued this year by Borealis Books, an imprint of the Minnesota Historical Society Press. Unless you count the message on the Runestone in Kensington, Minnesota, Sevareid’s is the first fully recorded account of this particular journey in the history of adventure literature: more than 2,200 miles from the heart of Minnesota to Hudson Bay, by water and portage.

Reading the story today, it’s hard to imagine a more knuckle-headed trip. While the trip from Minneapolis to Lake Winnipeg was primarily long and hard work, the continued journey, on the great expanse of the lake and into the wilderness of Canada, was fraught with so much danger it’s a minor miracle these two made it out of the woods alive. Just what made them think they could navigate uncharted waters in a territory they’d seen only in their

dreams is a mystery. Sevareid was so green he’d never even been to the northern forest before he entered it.

To compound their own difficulties, the young men chose a route to Hudson Bay that not even the most experienced travelers in the region ever chose. At Norway House, at the northern tip of Lake Winnipeg, they took the counsel of a local trapper who told them that the Hayes River, the standard passage from the lake to the Bay, was low that year and that they’d be doing less “wading and dragging” of their canoe if they opted to take a course that included God’s Lake and God’s River, a route that swung to the east of the Hayes.

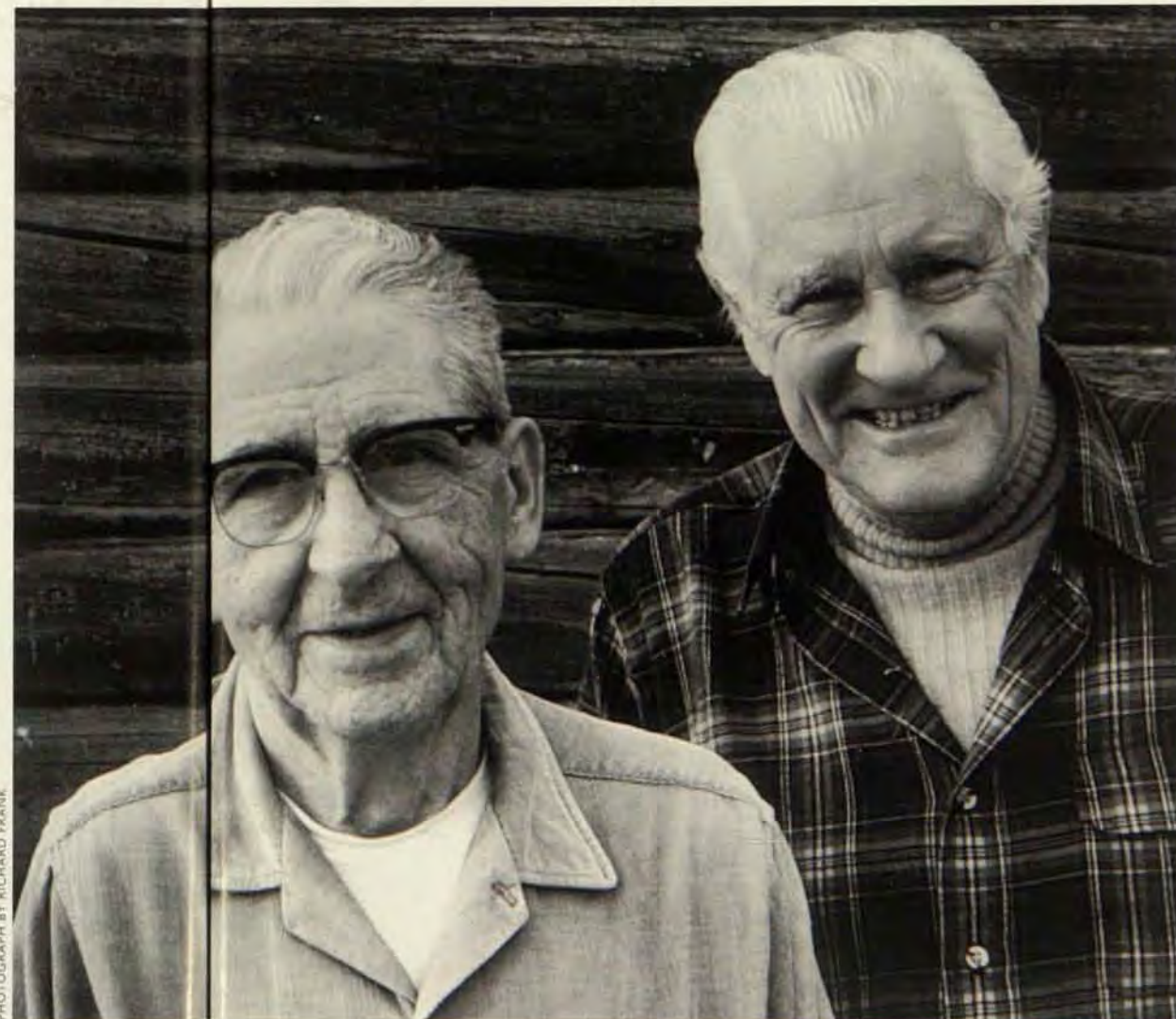
Bad advice. Within days they were lost—not the last time that would happen in their journey into northeastern Manitoba. With the aid of a pair of Cree Indians, they found their way to God’s Lake; but at the east end of this body of water, they found



themselves off the map that they’d borrowed from their trapper friend at Norway Bay. Just which outlet from God’s Lake was God’s River, was anyone’s guess.

With God’s good help they found it, but more terror and misery was on its way: rapids, god-awful portages, a constant rain. “Day and night, the drizzle did not cease for so much as an hour,” Sevareid would write years later. “The woods oozed with water, every leaf held a pond, every dead twig and log was rotten with wetness.”

In *Canoeing with the Cree*, Sevareid records that, time and again, strangers along the way tell the young men that they’ll never make it; they’ll get frozen in before they reach the bay; or they’ll get lost along the way. In Minnesota, these warnings sound overly cautious, but by the time Sevareid



PHOTOGRAPH BY RICHARD FRANK

“We had paddled a canoe twenty-two hundred miles, had survived, and had proved nothing except that we could paddle a canoe twenty-two hundred miles,” wrote Sevareid.

In 1980, Eric Sevareid (right) and Walter Port traced by float plane the route to Hudson Bay that they had canoed and portaged 50 years earlier.

and Port reach the northern sections of Lake Winnipeg, those voices sound as sage as the Ancient Mariner's.

It's hard, too, to reconcile the image of the man Severeid would become with the lad canoeing up the Minnesota River on his way to potential oblivion. To picture the older Eric Severeid—dark eyes trapped under the hood of a melancholic brow, seated next to Walter Cronkite and delivering his evening sermon on the *CBS Evening News* in that distinct, clipped and eloquent language of his—and imagine him as a young man in a high school English class daydreaming of canoeing with his buddy in the wilds of Canada, seems a pretty far stretch. Yet they were one and the same person.

Born in the small town of Velva, North Dakota, Arnold Eric Severeid was the son of a banker who brought his family to Minneapolis when Eric was a teenager. In the city, Eric attended Central High and began his lifelong career in journalism by working on the school paper and convincing George Adams, the editor of the *Minneapolis Star*, to underwrite his and Port's canoe trip to Hudson Bay. Adams agreed to pay the two young men \$100 for periodic dispatches describing their journey, which were published in the *Star* through the course of that summer of 1930. These became the basis for *Canoeing with the Cree*.

Once back in Minneapolis, Severeid took a job as a copy boy with another newspaper, the *Minneapolis Journal*, and soon entered the University as a night student. At the U, he wrote for the *Minnesota Daily* and became part of a group of liberal politicians who called themselves the Jacobins and successfully rebelled against, among other things, the requirement that all male students at the University have military training.

Severeid studied political science at the U with a minor in economics. He wrote a column for the *Daily* and took a number of journalism courses after his 1935 graduation. He hoped to spend that year as editor of the *Daily*, but another student won the position, a fact that left Severeid bitterly disappointed, even after he'd climbed to national prominence as a journalist. Already his brow was getting heavier. "[W]hen I read a novel of American campus life, or see a Hollywood version with its fair maidens in lovers' lane, dreamy-eyed youths in white flannels lolling under leafy boughs or lustily singing," Severeid wrote in his 1946 autobiography, *Not So Wild a Dream*, "I am astonished and unbelieving, or I have a faint twinge of nostalgia for a beautiful something I never knew. I remember only struggle, not so much of 'working my way through' as the battle, in deadly earnest, with other students of different persuasion or of no per-

suasion, with the university authorities, with the American society of the time. I remember emotional exhaustion, not from singing about the 'dear old college' but from public debate."

It was perhaps only natural for someone with such a deep interest in public debate and journalism to wind up in the maelstrom that was Europe in the years before the war. After his graduation from the U and a further stint with Minneapolis newspapers, Severeid and his first wife, Lois, moved to Paris in the late 1930s. There, he worked for a time as editor of the Paris edition of the *New York Herald* before being hired by CBS News to report on the escalating crisis in France as invasion from Hitler's Germany neared.

Severeid scurried around Europe, describing the looming war and impending fascist rule. When the French government capitulated, he joined Edward R. Murrow, his boss at CBS radio, in London, where he continued to report on the war until being sent home in January 1941, where he was assigned the CBS news desk in Washington, D.C.

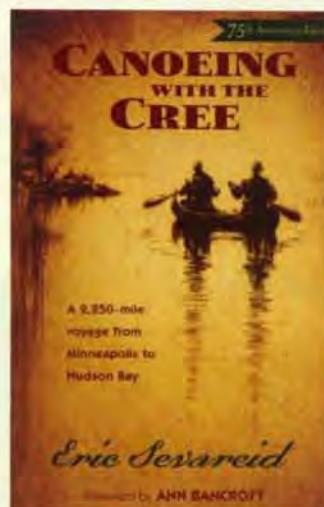
When the U.S. joined the allied war effort, Severeid badgered Murrow for an assignment in the field. He was sent, in 1943, to India to cover the American Air Force's attempt to supply Chiang Kai-shek's Chinese army over the Burma "Hump"—the Himalaya mountains. On one of these dangerous flights into China, the plane Severeid was traveling in crashed behind Japanese lines in the Burmese jungle, and Severeid and 20 survivors spent the next two weeks trekking 140 miles out of the broiling jungle. Of the arduous trip, Severeid wrote in his journal, "It's the Manitoba canoe thing all over again."

Out of China by the end of 1943, Severeid returned to Europe and traveled with the U.S. Army during its invasion of Italy. He wound up the war with the Army back in France and into Germany as the fighting came to an end in early May 1945. By June, he was heading home, where he took a leave of absence from CBS and immediately began working on *Not So Wild a Dream*.

The book was published to much acclaim in 1946. Meanwhile, Severeid continued his work with CBS News and in the 1950s made the transition to television with Murrow and others from that famed corps of CBS war journalists known as "Murrow's Boys." He worked in Washington and London before joining Walter Cronkite in the 1960s as a commentator on the *CBS Evening News*. Severeid became, after Cronkite, the most visible face of the most-watched news program on television.

To some, his essays, delivered to camera with no accompanying images (a lost form in the world of television news), could be frustratingly vague, offering a look at all sides of a question while refusing, ultimately, to answer it. To others, however, Eric Severeid was an icon of sober judgment in wild times, a symbol of maturity and considered opinion in an age when these traits seemed sorely lacking.

Severeid had come a long way from that summer spent canoeing toward Hudson Bay, a fact that he had recognized early on in his career. In *Not So Wild a Dream*, Severeid was hard-pressed to find any great meaning to the trip he and his buddy Port had made. "We had paddled a canoe twenty-two hundred miles, had survived, and had proved nothing except that we could paddle a canoe twenty-two hundred miles, a capacity of extraordinarily



Canoeing with the Cree by Eric Severeid has been reissued this year by Borealis Books, an imprint of the Minnesota Historical Society Press.

small value for the future," he wrote. "My chief return on this investment, outside of a fleeting notoriety which got me a job on a newspaper—as office boy—was that for several months thereafter, until sedentary habits softened my flesh, my older brother could not lick me."

At the start of *Canoeing with the Cree*, it's pretty easy to agree with Severeid's assessment. There seems to be no great purpose to this journey; we're simply traveling through a familiar land with a pair of pleasantly callow young men. Severeid's descriptions of the landscape are vivid but offer few insights. His prose is clear and simple and very readable, but its most charming feature today is its description of a world gone by, where 17-year-old boys smoked pipes; wore knee-high, lace-up boots as they canoed; and were shy about their bare chests as they paddled into populated areas.

Even seen as a whole, the book lacks the traditional elements of a great adventure story. These young men could not have made it without the help of strangers, who guided them at various times along the way. But they are not "saved" on their journey. Nor are there any real heroics to be found. Nor does anyone seem to have a lot more wisdom coming out of the woods than going in. The highest moment of drama comes in the last few pages of the book, up in deepest, darkest Manitoba, when the two friends finally become fed up with each other and their own grand adventure. Lost once more on God's River, wet and chilled to the bone, Severeid and Port wind up rolling around their camp in a wrestling match that somehow seems only natural given their dire circumstances and the fact that they have only each other to blame for how they arrived here.

In the end, however, the two young men muddle through. And it's in the simple description of that muddling, faithfully reported by Severeid, that *Canoeing with the Cree* transcends its *Boys' Life* roots and becomes not only a great story, but a portrait of the brooding journalist to come. Severeid simply can't make more of the tale than is there. So *Canoeing with the Cree* becomes a story of soggy blankets, aching muscles, and desperate, angry boys rolling around the smoldering campfire.

From these plain descriptions of desperate circumstances, however, comes a poignancy that kicks in subtly and flows all the way through the end of the book, when the boys, who've had to hitch a ride home from Canada, quietly return to their hometown.

"On the eleventh of October Walter and I reached Minneapolis. We had left when the city was in the bloom of spring, buds were sprouting into new leaves and the grass was turning green, and the air was soft like rain water. As we walked toward home, our boots kicked up dead leaves that covered the sidewalks, the grass was turning into the drabness of fall, the smell of bonfires was in the sharp air, and smoke arose from the chimneys.

"We went by the school, sitting on its terraces among yellow trees. As we drew nearer and nearer to home, high-school boys and girls passed us on their way to classes. We realized that we were looking at them through different eyes. We realized that our shoulders were not tired under the weight of our packs. It was as though we had suddenly become men and were boys no longer."

Port and Severeid returned to Manitoba in 1980, three years after Severeid's retirement from CBS News and 50 years after their initial canoe trip. Port had spent many of the intervening years living in Bemidji, where he worked as a photographer. Severeid had been hired by *Audubon Magazine* to write a retrospective of their journey of 1930, and it was on the magazine's nickel that the pair traveled—by float plane, hopscotching from lake to lake—all the way to Hudson Bay.

Not just men now, but old men, the two of them got soaked in by a fog for four days on the bay. They fished, talked, and got reacquainted after years of not being in touch. If there were any



The University of Minnesota honored Eric Severeid with the Outstanding Achievement Award in 1955.

lingering problems between the two of them, stemming from that fight that marked the end of their first trip in this country, they were now gone. In *Audubon*, Severeid wrote of dozing off for a moment and feeling Walter "arranging the fallen blanket over my exposed feet."

Even so, it was the last time the two voyageurs would get together, and there is a haunting sense of irony about the whole return visit. So near death on their first journey to God's River, their return trip, even in the relative

comfort of airplanes and lodges, suggests their shortening days.

Port went home to Bemidji and died in 1994; Severeid went back to a waning career in New York. Through the next decade, he would work on a pair of PBS documentaries, do some commentary for National Public Radio's *Marketplace*, along with voice-over work and personal appearances.

On July 9, 1992, Eric Severeid died in New York. Through one of the century's most distinguished careers in journalism, he'd won three Peabody Awards and two Emmys, along with a host of other honors. In 1980, the University of Minnesota further honored him by christening the Eric Severeid Library at the School of Journalism in his name.

That same year, he put a period to his first real writing assignment, that trip to Hudson Bay. In *Audubon*, he describes flying over God's River 50 years after that first trip. "Rapid after rapid after rapid fled past us and I thought, 'My God, my God, how did we do it in the darkness and rain, in our innocence and ignorance?' The religious feeling does not often possess me, but now it did. Surely, Walter and I had rushed along those currents in company with some special blessing."

On the plane leaving the path of the river, he writes, "God's River slipped behind us. I knew I would never see it again or need to." ■

Tim Brady is a St. Paul freelancer.



Passing the Baton

Jerry Luckhardt has taken the Minnesota Marching Band to new heights in his eight years as director. But as he moves into a new role at the University, he believes the crescendo is yet to come.

• • •

By Chris Coughlan-Smith Photograph by Dan Marshall

COME FALL, someone other than Jerry Luckhardt will climb the ladder to direct the Minnesota Marching Band. Luckhardt is stepping aside after eight remarkable years rebuilding the unit often referred to as “The Pride of Minnesota.” Luckhardt will remain professor of conducting and associate director of bands, but will devote more time to administration, fund-raising, and directing the creation of the band’s new home in the proposed TCF Bank Stadium. These steps, Luckhardt says, are necessary to maintain the band’s upward momentum and now “really quite stellar” national reputation.

Since Luckhardt arrived in 1997, the marching band has blossomed in every way imaginable. Not only has it grown from 180 to 300 students—the majority of them non-music majors—it has better uniforms and instruments, a larger staff, and, perhaps most important, dedicated student leaders who pass on the traditions and spirit to each incoming class.

Tim Diem, a Minnesota native and 1992 graduate of the U’s Morris campus, will pick up the baton as director of the marching band. “In my five years as his assistant, Jerry’s never made me feel like an assistant,” Diem says. “He’s got this program running like a great car that he’s built from the ground up, letting me help every step of the way. Now he’s handing me the keys and saying, ‘Here you go. Don’t drive it off the road.’”

Craig Kirchoff, renowned director of the band program at the University (which includes all wind ensembles), hired Luckhardt for the job of rebuilding the marching band shortly after coming to the U himself. “The reason that I really wanted him—aside from his musicianship and the other attributes you’d expect—is his ability to work with people,” Kirchoff says. “Jerry’s a problem solver and he has vision. He empowers students to take a lot of responsibility for the success of [a band that] represents spirit and community in a very tangible way.”

A graduate of the University of Michigan in his home state, Luckhardt held several college teaching positions before coming to the U. Minnesota talked with Luckhardt this spring about his years leading the band.

Q: What kinds of students participate in the marching band?

A: We attract exactly the kind of students this school wants. They’re passionate about the campus, they know the traditions, they’re articulate, they’re scholarly. The average GPA last time we checked was 3.6. I’m not sure how they do it. They’re giving, we’ve calculated, 500 hours of time during the regular football season. If you divide that by weeks, it’s about 30 hours per week. Game day is an 11- or 12-hour commitment, and from pregame parade until post-game show, they don’t sit down for five hours. [When there are home games on consecutive Saturdays], they have to

learn a new halftime show in five days. And they memorize the music. That is now part of the fabric. The band will not accept the idea of carrying [sheet]music.

Plus, the students are paying to take the course. [Marching band is a one-credit fall semester course.] With tuition, shoes, shirts, instrument deposit, there’s an out-of-pocket expense of about \$450 for the privilege of being part of the marching band. I feel compelled, given all that, to raise scholarship funds to support these students.

Q: What does the student get out of it?

A: As students matriculate from the program, I ask them what they value most about the experience. One is the wonderful relationships they’ve developed—evidenced by the fact that I go to a lot of weddings. They’re also very thankful for the opportunities they’ve had in leadership. Formal leadership positions are by audition, but all the veterans have influence and mentorship roles with the new students.

They’re also part of the atmosphere of college athletics and they love being part of something bigger than themselves. They’re part of the event, a big part of what makes college athletics unique. People really connect with the marching band. When we march down the street I see little bitty kids marching and pretending to be in the band, I see 70-year-olds marching in place, I see smiles form on people’s faces. That’s a unique and powerful thing to be a part of.

Q: How important is it for the band to have a home in TCF Bank Stadium?

A: A new facility, a home for the band, is going to have an enormous positive influence on all aspects of the program. We have very much outgrown the current space [in Northrop Auditorium]. It was not built for a 300-piece

marching band. . . . Plus, we're sharing space. When the Bolshoi Ballet is in town, for example, we lose our classroom. And if it's raining and we can't go outside and we have five days to prepare intensely important material that is going to be public to 50,000 or 60,000 people, that's problematic.

[In TCF Bank Stadium] the marching band will have 30,000 square feet of dedicated space. There will be several large spaces for section rehearsals, and I've been told that our daily practices will be on the playing field. We'd like to create an archive-type room or a lobby where you enter into the history of the band. Plus, we [hope to] return one of the great traditions from Memorial Stadium—marching down University Avenue and into the stadium. When I talk to alumni, they describe that so vividly that I can feel it. When they talk about that, the hair stands up on their necks.

Q: What will you miss most as you take on new projects?

A: What I will miss is the ability to get to know individual students and to be able to interact with them on a one-on-one basis. Every student has a story. They come from somewhere and they are here for a reason. They have goals and aspirations. To be part of students' lives on that level, I'll miss that. There's a sense of loss about that. But the sense of gain is that I know that I'll have a greater ability to help the program go to that next level, to enjoy its next phase.

Q: Do you have a favorite memory over the past eight years, a time when you realized things were really moving in the right direction?

A: The first time we went to the Sun Bowl [in 1999]. When you get to the postseason, and you get to play alongside another national band [Oregon], and the fans are realizing that the football program is moving and the band is moving—that was a nice pivotal moment. There was so much energy. I know the band walked away from that trip thinking we had a good thing going. But they also knew that we were not as good as we were going to be, so they went away from that still hungry.

We suffered a couple of low spots too. Just before the Sun Bowl, we had 12 students on a trip [to a performance in Rochester, Minnesota] break a policy, and there were consequences for that action. [They lost their spots in the band for the rest of the year as was spelled out in the band's code of conduct.] These students stood up one-by-one, in front of their peers, and apologized and accepted fully what they had done and what it had cost them and the whole program. I have to say that was the defining moment for this band program. What could have been a really negative moment ended up as a very positive one. Everyone put on their suit the next time feeling a little bit differently about the standard by which they operate.

And those 12 students, the next year, were all welcomed back, and eight of them were student leaders. They had something to prove. They grew enormously and became real torchbearers for the band. . . . It was a great lesson that there was nothing that we couldn't overcome. There was no obstacle that could keep us from moving this program forward. ■

Chris Coughlan-Smith (B.A. '86) is senior editor of Minnesota.

TICKETS FOR TROOPS



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



A Fine Fall Forecast

The Gopher football roller coaster looks ready to climb again in 2005. The same pieces that saw Minnesota exceed all expectations in winning 10 games in 2003 but limp to the finish in a disappointing 2004 season are in place again: A high-powered offense and a defense with something to prove. With its talent, perhaps the best in head coach Glen Mason's nine years, Minnesota should have a fourth consecutive winning season and return to a bowl game for the sixth time in seven years.

That this has become routine—that a 7-4 record and a bowl win in 2004 was a disappointment—shows the emergence of Minnesota as a winning program and the higher expectations that creates. The Gophers are 25-13 over the past three years with three bowl victories, after having only 10 winning seasons in the preceding 33 years. But making the leap to Big Ten title contender has proved a tougher task. For 2005, most prognosticators put Minnesota near the top of a five-team pile behind Big Ten favorites Michigan, Ohio State, and Iowa, and some preseason polls predict a top-25 finish for the maroon and gold. With three potential national title contenders and five other teams in the hunt for upper-division conference finishes, the margin for error is small. A few good breaks and Minnesota could crack the Big Ten's big three for the first time in two decades. A few bad mistakes, however, could send Minnesota to a losing conference record.

Mason, for one, is confident. "We've been to three bowl games in three years and won all three and have come within the blink of an eye of winning it all," he says, referring to a few heartbreaking losses that deflated Rose Bowl talk in 2003. "We've got a lot of guys who have played a lot of football for us and who have invested a lot in this program. The attitude is really good. Why wouldn't you have confidence?"

Reason for optimism

There is no better offensive line in the Big Ten than Minnesota's. Seniors Greg Eslinger and Mark Setterstrom are "as good as anyone in the country at their positions," Mason says. The line is experienced and versatile—in addition to blocking for the Big Ten's best running offense in 2004, Minnesota's is the only Big Ten line that has given up fewer than 20 sacks in each of the past three seasons.

The running game will drive the offense once again. Junior running back Laurence Maroney has shifty moves and an amaz-



▲ Shifty and speedy, junior running back Laurence Maroney returns from an all-Big Ten season with the chance to earn national acclaim. Minnesota's run offense powers a team looking for a sixth bowl berth in seven years.

ing burst of speed when he hits the open field. Despite sharing the rushing duties last year, he was named first-team all-Big Ten. If he can stand up to an increase in carries, Maroney could garner national acclaim. Sophomore fullback Justin Valentine runs with power as a change of pace to Maroney's fluid style. Two talented sophomores are ready if either should falter this year.

The passing game showed moments of brilliance in 2004, along with lengthy stretches of ineffectiveness. Junior Bryan Cupito was thrust into the starting role with no real reserve behind him in 2004. He showed excellent touch and precision on his throws at times, but at other moments appeared to struggle with his confidence, completing fewer than half his passes for the season. He will benefit not only from a year of experience, but from throwing to the same receivers he had last year. Senior Jared Ellerson has the speed to break a long touchdown

Tickets for Troops

This past spring, the University of Minnesota's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics received the Department of Defense Outstanding Corporate Citizen Award for partaking in the Salute to the Armed Forces Day on September 11, 2004. The athletics department partnered with the Minnesota National Guard and Reserve in the Tickets for Troops fund drive, raising more than \$14,000 to purchase over 1,000 Gopher football tickets so the families of Guard and Reserve members could attend the game against Illinois State. The 2005 Tickets for Troops drive for the September 17 game against Florida Atlantic is under way. See page 34.



on any play. He improved his blocking last year but must work on short timing routes to keep defenders from cheating against the long bomb. Tall and speedy freshman phenom Ernie Wheelright averaged more than 20 yards per catch and made several leaping grabs over defenders. But he also dropped passes in critical situations. A coaching change and an emphasis on consistency and fundamentals in practice should pay off for both. Experienced backups, versatile tight ends, and running backs who can catch screen passes will give Minnesota a more balanced passing game.

In the kicking slot—a big question mark at the beginning of spring practice—it appears that redshirt freshman Jason Giannini has the ability to continue Minnesota's run of excellent kickers.

Stopping the pass

Minnesota graduated its best pass-rushing lineman and two strong defensive backs from a team that was last in the Big Ten against the pass in 2004. Position changes to get bigger players at linebacker and safety might help, but until the Gophers show they can stop the pass, especially in crucial situations, teams will continue to throw against Minnesota. Against Michigan in 2004, it took the Wolverines just 67 seconds to travel 87 yards on six consecutive pass completions to score the winning touchdown. The next week Michigan State ran up 51 points in a rout that ended Minnesota's conference title hopes.

But even here there is reason for opti-

▲ With a year of starting experience behind him and talented receivers in front of him, junior quarterback Bryan Cupito will work on consistency to keep opponents from cheating against Minnesota's powerful running game.

mism. Mason has redshirt freshmen and several highly regarded recruits ready to join the already lively competition for starting spots. And, in winning the Music City Bowl over Alabama, a revamped, simplified defense did not allow a single third-down conversion. The progress continued in spring practice. "I saw 14 good spring practices [for the defense]," Mason says. "I see marked improvement in our defense. You won't see much departure from what we did in the Alabama game."

The nonconference schedule should offer a 3-0 start, but the Big Ten slate is tough from start to finish. The homecoming game against Purdue on September 24 will speak volumes about the season; both teams are expected to be among those fighting for spots in the top half of the Big Ten. Minnesota then goes on to play the three teams ranked at the top of the conference.

Still, Mason is confident. "We've had a good attitude around here for the past couple of years," he says. "We've made good things happen. We've come close to making something great happen."

The pieces are in place for another winning year in 2005. That Minnesota has a chance to make something great happen despite a tough schedule shows how far the Gopher program has come.

—Chris Coughlan-Smith

2005 Gopher Football Schedule

September 1	at Tulsa (9:15 p.m.)
September 10	Colorado State
September 17	Florida Atlantic
September 24	Purdue (homecoming)
October 1	at Penn State
October 8	at Michigan
October 15	Wisconsin
October 29	Ohio State
November 5	at Indiana
November 12	Michigan State
November 19	at Iowa

Gopher home games are played at the Metrodome. Unless noted, game times are to be announced. For more information about Gopher football, visit www.gophersports.com.

Parallel Linemen

The lives of all-American center Greg Eslinger and all-Big Ten left guard Mark Setterstrom seemed destined to intersect on the Gopher offensive line. Both largely ignored by recruiters in high school, Eslinger, from Bismarck, North Dakota, and Setterstrom, from Northfield, Minnesota, can today boast of 38 consecutive side-by-side starts, stretching back to three days before they began taking classes as freshmen. But while these senior standouts are quick to chop-block mention of individual accolades, both are eager to speak about their familiarity with, and fondness for, each other.

"I can really trust him," Setterstrom says of Eslinger, who was recently listed as the 16th best player in college football by ESPN. "It's amazing how well we know each other. When we're walking up to the line and going through all the scenarios that might play out, we basically know what we're going to do. Sometimes it's just silent. We've gotten so used to knowing what each other's going to do, we just feel [it]."

Eslinger responds with an anecdote about Setterstrom's oft-

something special for me as a teammate, to see his love for the game."

Their trust and respect has grown each year. When Eslinger pulls from his center spot to lead run blocking around one end (one of his best-known talents), he knows Setterstrom's size, strength, and superior technique will fill both his own and Eslinger's spots in the middle of the line. When the run is up the middle, there may be no better tandem in college football at steamrolling opponents and clearing a hole well beyond the line of scrimmage.

The linemen's on-field trust has translated to life outside the lines, as the equally humble Eslinger and Setterstrom have become tighter than the cornrows of Laurence Maroney, the running back who benefits from their run-blocking prowess. "[Mark's] a mean sucker on the field," the well-mannered Eslinger jokes. "When he straps the helmet on, he's a different person—a nasty player. But off the field, he's the nicest guy, wouldn't hurt a fly. Mark's the kind of guy that, if I had a sister, I'd want him to date her."

Setterstrom says the players on the entire Gopher offensive line—the largely anonymous worker bees of any football team—

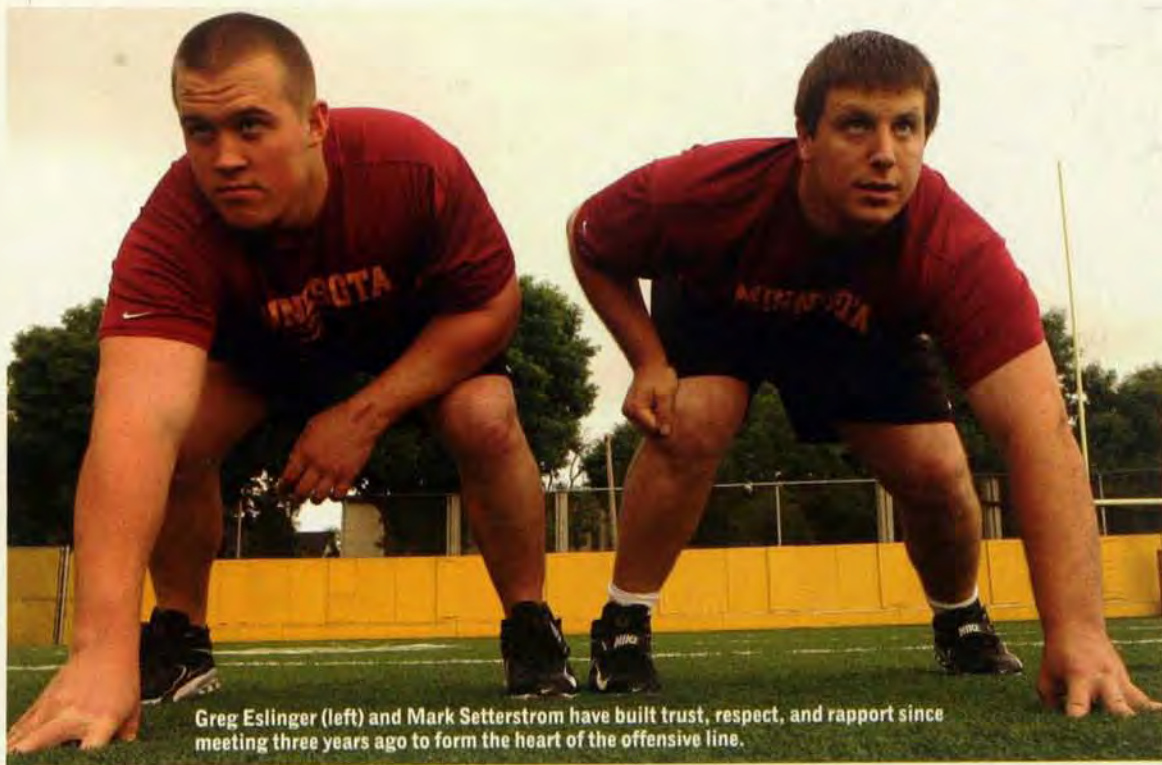
are "happy just to be hanging out with each other. We don't need to go chase something to entertain ourselves," he says. "We just have a great time hanging out, going fishing, listening to country music."

That on-field/off-field dichotomy has earned Eslinger and Setterstrom a big fan in head coach Glen Mason. "I'm going to miss the heck out of them next year," Mason says. "I don't just mean as football players—although I will miss them as players—but as people. They're what college football is all about.

They work extremely

hard, they're unselfish, they buy into the team system, they've improved, they're both very good students. Neither one has given us one second of a problem, on or off the field. They're guys you would trust in any situation. Greg and Mark are great representatives of our University."

—Judd Spicer



Greg Eslinger (left) and Mark Setterstrom have built trust, respect, and rapport since meeting three years ago to form the heart of the offensive line.

noted toughness. "Our first year together, we were playing Louisiana-Lafayette, and Mark got a really bad deep-thigh bruise," Eslinger recalls. "It was so bad that he could barely get down in his stance, but he kept playing. Finally, we got him off [the field]. And to see him, how hurt he was to not be playing, you would've sworn that he lost a loved one. That really meant

Teaching Defense

Although he favors the playing turf rather than the blackboard, and tests are conducted before tens of thousands, new Gopher defensive coordinator David Lockwood is as much a teacher as any classroom peer on campus. Now in his 15th year of coaching—the past three as Gopher secondary coach—Lockwood prepares to tackle his first full season as lead defensive professor like a dedicated instructor. “In order to be a good coach, you need to be a good teacher,” he explains of the tenets that have guided his ascension through the coaching ranks. “It’s easy to take a guy that has a bunch of talent, and see him do well. I think a great coach, a great teacher, is a person who takes a guy that’s got average ability and you get him to do something he didn’t think he could do.”

Lockwood, 39, had a successful one-game interim stint on the largest of stages, last year’s Music City Bowl. While the defense must play efficiently as one unit, Lockwood handles every player as an individual. The teaching comes in knowing when a whisper is more effective than a shout, when patiently

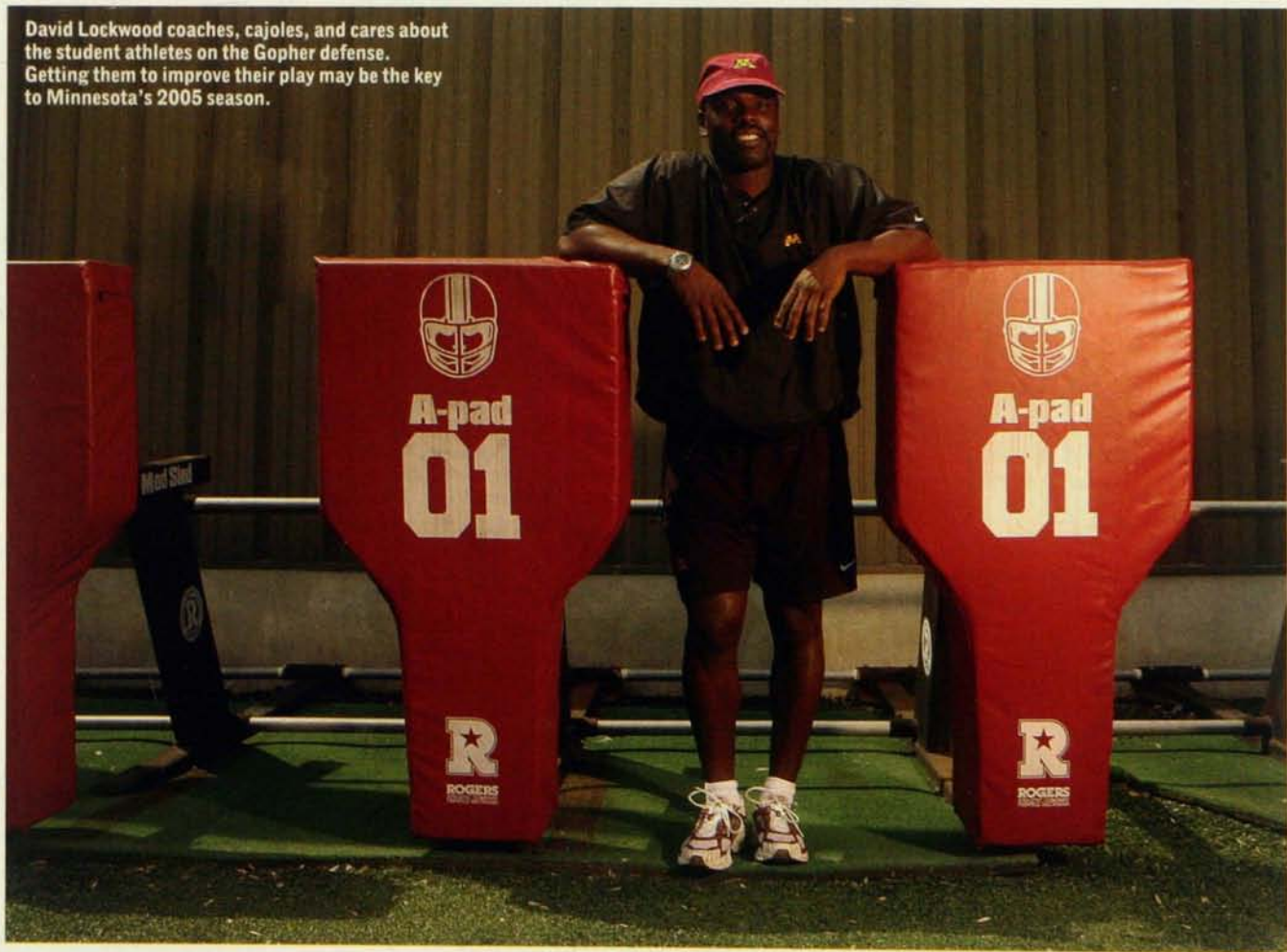
walking a player through a defensive assignment will work better than a loud lecture in front of teammates. “Caring about the players is the whole picture,” says Lockwood, whose office is known to be readily available to his student athletes. “I like to teach guys like they’re my own. . . . When you approach players on that aspect, I think they have the tendency to trust you, to respect you a little more.”

A defensive standout at West Virginia in the late 1980s, starting for a team that went 11–1, Lockwood earns further respect by that background and by his insistence on sound fundamentals. “You’ve got to be willing to try new things, new ideas,” he says. “But, you’ve still got to have your *foundations*.”

Trust and respect, plus simplified schemes, an emphasis on fundamentals, and several position changes, translated into a standout performance in the Music City Bowl and an aggressive and competitive attitude in spring practices. Lockwood’s next real test is slated for September 1, against Tulsa. “We’ll be more aggressive, flying around, making plays, playing with confidence,” Lockwood says. “The bottom line is: When the Minnesota defense takes the field, we’re excited to play.”

—Judd Spicer

David Lockwood coaches, cajoles, and cares about the student athletes on the Gopher defense. Getting them to improve their play may be the key to Minnesota’s 2005 season.



Carl Eller Takes a Stand

Photograph by Doug Knutson

Carl Eller was a force to be reckoned with on the football field. A former Gopher all-American and a member of the Minnesota Vikings' legendary Purple People Eaters defense in their steam-puffing Met Stadium heyday, Eller was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame a year ago. But what he's doing today for his community may have a more lasting impact than any ferocious tackle.

The six-time all-pro has used his high profile to combat drug addiction and health-care disparities for more than 25 years. More recently, he's begun speaking out about diverting young African American males from the destructive paths many are on. Eller is creating a nonprofit foundation to promote education and community service in the North Minneapolis neighborhood where he's lived for more than 30 years. "The big thing is to change their own attitudes about education, about citizenship, and about their future—their communities' future—and the role they're going to play," Eller says. "We need to develop leaders out of this population."

Decades removed from his playing career, Eller's 6-foot-6 frame and deep voice still announce his presence. But behind that exterior is a soft-spoken and reflective man eager to talk about his convictions. He's lived his convictions since tackling his own substance abuse problems; he's been successfully recovering since 1981, a few years after retiring from football.

He worked with the National Football League to develop its first employee assistance program, which included help for



Carl Eller sits among St. Louis Park High School students. Front: Chris Hall, Julian Adams, Tony Bostic. Middle: Richard Elliot, Forest McClarron, Jayson Morris, Alex Henderson, Julian Brown, Lloyd Cain. Back: Jerod Robertson, Matt Green, Nick Anderson, Kevin Gayden, Antwaun Phillips, Dominick Sandgren.

"I know that we must give young African American men a message that will lead them . . . towards the great universities and colleges of our nation, not to the prisons and jail cells," Carl Eller said in his Pro Football Hall of Fame induction speech.

drug and alcohol abuse, and gave frequent talks at schools on the subject. In 1986, Eller, a licensed alcohol and drug counselor, founded a group of substance-abuse clinics in the Twin Cities called Triumph Life Centers. He zealously followed his patients' quest for sobriety, and his son Regis, introducing him at the Hall of Fame ceremony, recalled that his father was devastated whenever a client left the program prematurely: "He would

never give up, and he relentlessly attempted to get that client back into the program as if fighting for his own sobriety."

In the mid-1990s, Eller shifted his focus to other endeavors. After a brief stint with the United Way, he began working for the Minnesota Department of Human Services to help address health differences between white people and people of color. His role, he says, was "to bring awareness to the community about those gaps, how to close them, and bring some resources to the community for those problems."

Community is a word that crops up frequently when talking with Eller, and his sense of community has defined him since he moved to the Twin Cities from North Carolina to attend the University of Minnesota. He is sometimes seen at campus events and recently met with University President Bob Bruininks about strategies to improve diversity on campus. And he loves living in North Minneapolis. "The diverse mix of people have really bonded over the years and have a real sincere interest and concern over the neighborhood," he says.

But Eller also is attuned to the "downside" of his community—the drugs and violence, especially involving African Americans. And that led him to use the greatest stage in his life, his Hall of Fame induction speech, to try to make a difference: "I want to use this platform to help young African American males to participate fully in this society," Eller said from the podium. "I know that we must give young African American men a message that will lead them in the direction differently from where many

of them are headed today. I want that direction to be . . . towards the great universities and colleges of our nation, not to the prisons and jail cells."

Reflecting on his enshrinement speech, Eller says, "It was more than just an award for me, but also a chance to do something for those causes I'm interested in."

His father died when Eller was young, and, he admits, he was angry and headed for trouble. Football gave Eller an outlet and a focus on something outside himself. He hopes to provide something similar for today's young men in North Minneapolis. He is developing the Carl Eller Foundation to help young African American males focus on academics, graduate from high school, and start thinking of attending college. (Eller finished his own college degree in human services at Metropolitan State University in 1994.) Working with colleagues including Oscar Reed, another former Viking, Eller is mentoring a pilot group of about 25 kids—a number he hopes will grow to as many as 500. He also believes in having disenfranchised youth serve their own communities. "Typically, they think of themselves as the victims," Eller says. "But we want them also to think of others. There are always people less fortunate than you."

Regis Eller, in his Hall of Fame introduction, recalled that his father spoke of and modeled the importance of community service. "[M]y dad always tried to use his fame to effect meaningful change," he said. "His work and care for people within his community is undoubtedly one of his life's works."

—Rick Moore

Stadium Memories

Add Carl Eller to the thousands of Gopher alumni who eagerly await a return to outdoor, on-campus football. "One of the things I liked [about the University] was that football was on campus," says Eller, who attended the April announcement of a stadium deal with TCF Bank to show his support for the effort.

Eller arrived at the University when freshmen weren't allowed to play in games. As he watched the action from the Memorial Stadium stands that first year, he thought, "Next year, I'm going to be out there and this is going to be great."

Although Eller went on to be named first-team all-Big Ten in 1961 and 1963, and all-American in 1963, he wasn't so fond of the stadium's role in his training. Eller recalls that as part of their conditioning, coach Murray Warmath routinely made the players run up and down the stairs of all 60 or so aisles, from field level to the very top.

—R.M.

WHAT'S NEW FOR GOPHER FOOTBALL IN 2005?

(see inside back cover)



2005 HOME SCHEDULE

Sept. 10	Colorado State
Sept. 17	Florida Atlantic
Sept. 24	Purdue (HC)
Oct. 15	Wisconsin
Oct. 29	Ohio State
Nov. 12	Michigan State

Aaron Brown Honored by U and Alumni

ALTHOUGH HE SPEAKS TO MILLIONS each night, CNN anchor Aaron Brown was deeply honored to be speaking in Northrop Auditorium at the UMAA's 101st Annual Celebration on May 10. "I can't tell you how strange it is to stand here," he said, "given what could be best described as a checkered academic history." Brown, a Hopkins, Minnesota, native who left the University after a year of classes, went on to joke that if someone had told him 25 years ago that he'd be delivering a keynote address in Northrop Auditorium one day, "I would have believed them," he said. "If you don't have a degree, you'd better have confidence."



The tone of Brown's speech was largely humorous and self-deprecating, tracing his unlikely path from an 18-year-old talk radio host to national news anchor. But he also offered some pointed comments on television news and media trends. Brown argued that news media have become timid; while balance is important, he argued that it can be taken too far. (He cited one news show that, in a report on the Holocaust, felt it needed to "balance" the report by giving time to a person who denies the Holocaust ever happened.)

Brown also took on "blogs," personal Web logs, that churn out rumors and opinion as if they were facts, which sometimes find their way



- [1] Keynote speaker CNN anchor Aaron Brown
- [2] University vice president Kathleen O'Brien (left), UMAA national board president-elect Dennis Schulstad, and Pam Schulstad
- [3] Sue Graupman, director of administrative projects in Intercollegiate Athletics, and University donor Lee Sundet
- [4] Outgoing UMAA national board president Andrea Hjelm passes the gavel to Bob Stein
- [5] CNN anchor Aaron Brown with, from left, UMAA national board president Andrea Hjelm; Launa Q. Newman, CEO and publisher of the *Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder*; Phebe Givens, cofounder of the Givens Collection of African American Literature; and Serena Wright, events coordinator for General College
- [6] UMAA national board member Beverly Hauschild-Baron

► [MEMBER SPOTLIGHT]

Carol Pine

OF ALL THE HONORS CAROL PINE (B.A. '67) has received over the years, the most recent one—the Exceptional Woman Award—most succinctly encapsulates her ambitions and accomplishments. Whether as an entrepreneur, mentor, or sailor, Pine has used her talents to empower others, especially women.

Pine, who earned degrees in journalism and speech and theater arts, is thrilled to be recognized by the award's media sponsors, the *Star Tribune*, *Mpls.St.Paul* magazine, and WCCO Radio. "My skills lie in storytelling," Pine says. "So it was the most natural thing in the world to choose journalism as a major." And Pine says lessons learned in the University of Minnesota's "J school" have stayed with her since. She remembers when professor Mitchell Charnley graded her article with an A over an F. "The A was for writing style, organization, and general good work," she says. "The F was because I misspelled somebody's name. Boy, that stayed with me! I'm a huge stickler for detail." Pine has taught community journalism at the University as an adjunct professor.

In 1980, Pine (a life member of the alumni association) became president of the Journalism School Alumni Board and launched a mentoring program that paired students with professionals in journalism, advertising, and public relations. She created the program, she says, because when she was learning the trade "people had taken me aside and given me counsel." In 1990 Pine founded the Smooth Sailing Program for the Greater Minneapolis Girl Scout Council. She taught groups of at-risk girls how to operate her sailboat on Lake Minnetonka and recruited other female coaches to the program. In its five years, Pine's program reached 130 girls, teaching them how to sail and helping build confidence and self-esteem.

Pine loves the water as much as she does writing and is selling her Victorian house in the Crocus Hill neighborhood of St. Paul to live on a houseboat on the Mississippi River, still in St. Paul. From there, she'll continue the communications firm she started in 1973, Pine & Partners, which researches and writes corporate histories. Her clients include 3M, Piper Jaffray, and Medtronic. Pine also plans on spending half the year aboard her cruising sailboat in Cape Cod. And this September she'll compete once again in the Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship in Annapolis, Maryland.

Several years ago, Pine founded an all-women's sailing team named Hot Flash that competed in the 2001 and 2003 Rolex races. "I'm very much a pre-Title IX woman; all of us are," Pine says of her teammates. "We didn't have much in the way of team sports when we were growing up. I've had a lot of chances and opportunities in my life to excel, but I never had an opportunity to participate in the athletic arena—until now."

Pine hopes her team finishes somewhere in the middle of the 65 entrants. But her goal, she says, is to "affirm the vitality of women." While the average age of Pine's competitors is mid-20s, each of the Hot Flash sailors is at least 50. In fact, on the day of the race, Pine will turn 60. "It's a very good omen," Pine says.

—Camille LeFevre



into more mainstream media. And Brown also criticized viewers who decry the lack of serious news coverage yet "vote with remotes" for light, celebrity news.

The evening began with a reception and dinner in and around Coffman Memorial Union attended by 1,400 alumni and friends. Those guests, and several hundred who bought tickets for the speech only, made their way to Northrop for an association meeting and Brown's keynote. After his speech, Brown was presented with the University's Award of Distinction. Brown had joked several times about how upset his mother is that he'd never finished his degree. In presenting the award, U regent Anthony Baraga (M.D. '65) joked, "It's not an honorary degree, but it's close."

The UMAA's 102nd Annual Celebration is already scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2006, with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor as keynote speaker.



Carol Pine

[MEMBER SPOTLIGHT] Charlotte and Elmer Emerson

CHARLOTTE (B.A. '48) AND ELMER (B.A. '48) EMERSON are World War II veterans; have been successful in academics, work, and political organizing; and have raised a family. But their lasting legacy can be found in the basement of the Downer's Grove Township Hall. There, food and clothing await the needy and volunteers organize rides, emergency financial help, and referrals to other agencies for more help.

The Emersons started Downer's Grove Area FISH, Inc., in 1968 with a handful of volunteers and \$25 donations from several area churches. At first, FISH, named after the symbol by which early Christians identified themselves, largely helped with emergency transportation to medical appointments, court dates, and other important matters. But over 36 years, the needs of the community have grown and FISH has grown and changed with them. Today, 700 to 800 families a month visit the free food pantry and clothing closet run by an all-volunteer crew of between 125 and 150. FISH now attracts about \$60,000 a year in contributions from individuals, companies, churches, and other organizations. FISH offers the help "in the spirit of Christian service," Elmer says, but is open to everyone.

"We never had a fund drive," Elmer says. "People just heard about what we were doing and gave us money."

Charlotte adds: "Even people who don't belong to any church heard about it and donated or volunteered."

Charlotte and Elmer met as part of the postwar college boom. Elmer, a Montana native, spent eight years in the U.S. Navy and was aboard the USS *San Francisco* at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Charlotte, from Illinois, left a college in Wisconsin to come to Minnesota and study physical therapy in a U.S. Army program under Sister Elizabeth Kenny and others, then served for several years in Army medical facilities.

In 1946, they met on campus. Although Elmer "majored in activities and minored in college," he says he did manage to earn a degree in industrial relations in fewer than three years. He went to work in 3M's personnel department while becoming active in local Republican Party campaigns. Charlotte entered medical school but left in her third year, realizing it was not the career for her.

After a return to active duty for Elmer during the Korean War, the Emersons' growing family moved to Michigan, where Elmer worked

for Whirlpool. In the early 1960s they became active in civil rights campaigns and got interested in the FISH movement, which was calling laypeople to minister to the material needs of the community. They worked to organize a local agency in St. Joseph, Michigan, but found their efforts constantly rebuffed or delayed—Elmer suspects because they insisted



Charlotte and Elmer Emerson

on involving area black churches in the organization.

So when the Emerson family moved to the Chicago suburb of Downer's Grove in the late 1960s, Elmer and Charlotte were delighted to find congregations eager to supply volunteers and a small amount of money to get FISH started. Thirty-six years later, it's bigger than ever. Although it still has no paid staff, it does have the Emersons. Charlotte helps produce a newsletter, while Elmer stops in a few times a week to help unload donations, break down boxes, and "check that the Dumpster isn't getting too full," he jokes. "I started as the chairman and now I'm in charge of the garbage."

But Charlotte reveals that Elmer is still a guiding force behind FISH: "People are always asking him for advice."

FISH has also given back to the Emersons. "Having worked in personnel for so long, I saw lots of people who had nothing to do after retirement and who died after three or four years," Elmer says. "We're glad to still be able to be of use."

—Chris Coughlan-Smith (B.A. '86)

Goldy Goes Global

WHILE GOPHERS—both the rodents and the U of M students—spend a lot of time inside complex tunnel systems, they do occasionally like to get out and about. In fact, a photo of Goldy Gopher sitting on the ceremonial South Pole marker arrived at the UMAA's office in January with a letter that bragged, "Notice Goldy is so tough and used to the cold that he didn't even need his shirt on. . . . The air temperature was -37 degrees Fahrenheit."

The letter writer, David M. Nelson (M.D. '97), is a member of the Minnesota Air National Guard. Nelson was in Antarctica to provide medical care for the 1,400 Americans stationed there for "Operation Deep Freeze" in November and December 2004.

Nelson's photo inspired the UMAA to begin collecting more photos of Goldy Gopher in far-off places, including Hawaii and Europe. U of M alumni, faculty, and students are encouraged to take Goldy with them when they travel and to take a photo (preferably digital) to contribute to the collection. The Global Goldy site also includes a poll to vote for your favorite Goldy photo, instructions for contributing photos, and links to alumni travel opportunities. Visit www.alumni.umn.edu/GlobalGoldy.

—Gina Kennedy (B.A. '93)

National President

Let's Follow Their Lead

When I walk into the Ski-U-Mah Room in the McNamara Alumni Center and look at the wall of photographs of the past alumni association presidents, I'm both inspired and awestruck. So many of these individuals tirelessly and passionately continue to serve the University and their communities in countless ways.

I'm about to join the ranks of the past presidents, and over the years I've learned volumes about altruism from them. To them, serving wherever and whenever needed isn't optional. I'll mention just a few of them and why they do it.

Deb Hopp (B.A. '75), president in 2002–03, is chair of the Minneapolis Downtown Council. She's also on the boards of the Minnesota Orchestra, Walker Art Center, and the United Way and chairs the development committee for the University of Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics Department. "I had a great time at the University—probably the best four years of my life," Hopp says. "To help others have as good an experience, through whatever effort one can put forth, is very important."



Andrea Hjelm, B.S. '65

Nancy Lindahl (B.S. '68), president in 1999–00, is a founding member of the United Way Women's Leadership Council and a director of the Minnesota Community Foundation. With her husband, John (B.S. '68), she co-chairs another United Way group. The Lindahls also co-chair the Gopher stadium campaign. "Sometimes I'm actually shocked by how passionate I am about the University," Lindahl says. "As I've grown older, I've realized that everything in this community depends on the strength of the University. I believe that to my core."

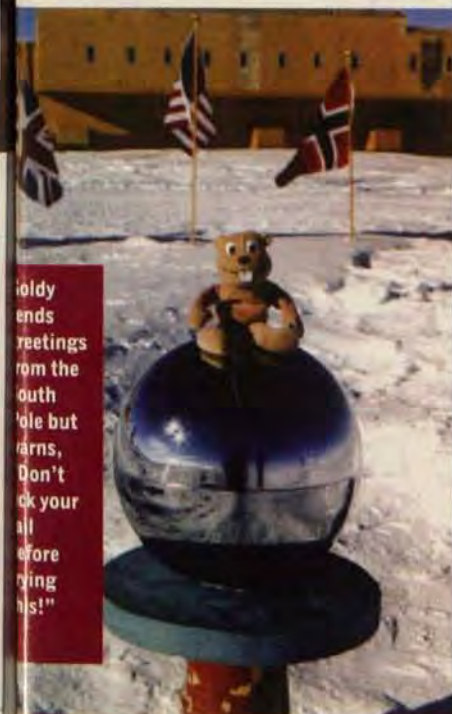
Dave Mona (B.A. '65), president in 1998–99, is chair of the Minnesota Vikings Children's Fund and vice president of the Greater Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association. In addition to his radio broadcasts for Gopher football games, Mona is leading the grassroots fund-raising for an on-campus stadium. "Once I started traveling with the football team and saw the impact an on-campus stadium could have," Mona says, "it made me understand how much we've missed by not being a part of campus."

Linda Mona (B.S. '67), president in 1995–96 (and married to Dave Mona), is an adviser for the College of Human Ecology's Mertie Buckman Fund for Leadership in Philanthropy and a trustee for the University of Minnesota Foundation. She recently headed a committee that raised \$950,000 for a new women's locker room in Williams Arena, and she's currently helping raise funds for the women's volleyball team. "I've worked hard to be involved in places in which I thought we could give girls and young women opportunities for leadership, learning, and fun that my generation didn't have," Mona says.

Harvey Mackay (B.A. '54), president in 1986–87, spearheaded the Save Gopher Sports campaign in April 2002. Just 10 months later, the group had raised the \$2.7 million necessary to save the Gopher men's and women's golf and men's gymnastics programs from being discontinued. Mackay, a former varsity golfer, also endowed a scholarship for the golf team. He's currently working to raise \$500,000 to fund a pair of scholarships in honor of *Star Tribune* sportswriter Sid Hartman. "You have to have a good memory. Who are the people who helped you on the way up?" Mackay says of his continued service to his alma mater. "The University of Minnesota is the crown jewel of the state of Minnesota."

Tom Swain (B.S. '42), president in 1976–77, who just turned 84, is still on the boards or advisory committees of about a half dozen University and community organizations, including the Humphrey Institute, the Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, which he helped found 10 years ago. "You've got to think of the University in the same fashion you think of giving to the Red Cross or your community fund or your church—help make it possible for others to get by because costs today are huge," Swain says. "It's terribly important that those of us who benefited from an education from the University recognize our obligation to repay."

I can't think of better words with which to conclude my final column as UMAA president. Let's all follow the lead of these exceptional individuals and continue working to safeguard the health and well-being of the University of Minnesota—and the community it so profoundly enriches—for generations to come.



Goldy ends greetings from the South Pole but warns, "Don't pack your all before trying this!"

Signs of Fall

THE MAROON AND GOLD OF FALL is just around the corner, and the University and the alumni association are planning several ways for alumni to celebrate: Maroon and Gold Day at the Minnesota State Fair, the dedication of the Scholars Walk project, homecoming, and an alumni volunteer weekend.

The annual last blast of summer takes on a U of M tint on Sunday, August 28. While at the State Fair, see the Pride of Minnesota, the 300-piece Minnesota Marching Band, in the Maroon and Gold Day parade. And visit the U's exhibit hall on Dan Patch Avenue near the Snelling Avenue main gate for special events and giveaways. For more information, check out the University's Web site, www.umn.edu, in August for daily updates on University activities at the fair.

An early homecoming in 2005 holds the promise of fine weather for several related events. The completion of the Scholars Walk project, which includes an Alumni Wall of Honor as well as monuments to the University's greatest academic achievements, will be marked on Friday, September 23. The walk extends 2,200 feet west from the McNamara Alumni Center across the East Bank campus. It will include landmarks to Nobel Prize winners, national academy members, and recipients of other prestigious academic honors. A wall depicting important U discoveries is planned for a passage between buildings near the walk's midway point. Elements of the project extend to the Alumni Wall of Honor at the southeast corner of the Gateway Plaza. The names of the U's



The annual UMAA homecoming breakfast takes place September 24 in the Sports Pavilion, right on the parade route.

Outstanding Achievement Award recipients are to be engraved on the wall. Details on dedication events will be published in the September–October issue of *Minnesota*.

More than 1,000 Gopher fans each year have taken to fueling up for homecoming at the UMAA Homecoming Breakfast, which includes U celebrities and special events. This year's breakfast, on Saturday, September 24, takes place inside the Sports Pavilion on the homecoming parade route, so fans can step outside and see the color and excitement of the parade. The homecoming football game against the Purdue Boilermakers that day features two teams expected to be battling for position in the upper half of the Big Ten. Kickoff time will be announced later in summer and will determine the times of the breakfast and parade. Also, several Minnesota chapters—West Central Lakes, Glacial Ridge, Southwest, South Central, and Southeast—are planning to travel to campus together by bus for homecoming (call 612-625-9183 for details). Visit www.alumni.umn.edu or check the September–October issue of *Minnesota* for more homecoming information.

Finally, on Friday, October 7 and Saturday, October 8, the UMAA will host a volunteer leadership weekend. Events include the annual Volunteer Awards Reception Friday evening to honor the best programs, events, and volunteers of the past year. Saturday morning includes a forum for UMAA chapter and society leaders to share ideas and learn more about effective volunteer groups. Visit www.alumni.umn.edu in late summer for details and award winners.

Catholic Alumni Group Forms

FOR THOSE CONCERNED that today's U students have no affinity for religion and community leadership, Greg Weinand recommends a visit to the Newman Center at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Dinkytown. "There is a myth out there that spiritual Catholics are not coming out of our public universities," says Weinand, campus minister at St. Lawrence. "Our students and alumni are still very involved and leaders in justice issues in the church, as well as in business and the community."

And alumni now have a new way to get involved. The St. Lawrence–Newman Center (SLNC) Alumni is now an interest group of the alumni association. It gives Catholic alumni a chance to connect with the University community in a way no other group can offer, Weinand says. Most major colleges have a Newman Center, a place for Catholic students to gather, worship, and undertake community projects. The U's Newman Center merged with St. Lawrence in the late 1990s, but the perception is that it closed, Weinand says. "Part of the reason we've formed an alumni group is to let alumni know the Newman Center is still alive and active here," he says.

SLNC's established alumni activities include a 5K "pancake run" in early November, homecoming pregame activities and

postgame Mass, and a spring banquet. Although St. Lawrence—just a few blocks off campus—has long served the U community, merging with the Newman Center has forged stronger connections to the U.

Four times a year, the Newman Forum presents speakers who discuss national and international issues—such as the Palestine–Israel conflict and the just-war doctrine—from a Catholic perspective. And once a year, a panel of U faculty and staff discuss U issues. The forums are free and open to all.

Ultimately, Weinand hopes the SLNC Alumni will help create a thriving alumni community at the church that can mentor students, help with Newman Center programs, and simply "share the word" about SLNC.

Alumni interest groups cross academic and geographic boundaries to unite alumni in areas of personal interest. Other official interest groups are the Finnish Connection, 4-H Alumni and Friends, GLBT Alumni, Hmoob (Hmong) Alumni Group, Twin Cities Student Unions, and Fraternities and Sororities: Greek Alumni Network. An interest group membership is free with UMAA membership. For more information, visit www.alumni.umn.edu/interestgroups or call 612-624-2323.

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.

July

- 16 Portland Chapter tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Gordon House, 4 p.m. at Oregon Garden in Silverton; contact Mark Allen
- 17 Veterinary Medicine Alumni and Friends Society Reunion, 6 p.m. at the Minneapolis Hilton, details TBA; contact Meredith Godfrey at 612-624-1353
- 30 College of Natural Resources Cloquet Alumni and Friends Day; all day at Cloquet Forestry Center; contact Grant Wilson at 612-624-9957
- 30 Chicago Chapter at Chicago Symphony Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. at Ravinia; contact Mark Allen

August

- 7 Portland Chapter Annual Picnic, 11 a.m. at Washington Park's Elephant House (across from Rose Test Garden); contact Mark Allen
- 9 Southwest Florida Chapter outing to the Minnesota Centennial Showboat, 11:45 a.m. at Harriet Island Regional Park in St. Paul; contact Chad Kono
- 13 Bay Area (California) Chapter at Twins vs. Athletics baseball outing, 11 a.m. at Oakland Coliseum; contact Mark Allen
- 14 San Diego Chapter tailgate party and San Diego Padres baseball game, 11 a.m. at PetCo Park; contact Mark Allen

- 16 Chicago Chapter at Twins vs. White Sox baseball game, 7 p.m. at U.S. Cellular Field; contact Mark Allen
- 21 Puget Sound Chapter Minnesota Podluck, details TBA; contact Mark Allen
- 28 Maroon and Gold Day at the Minnesota State Fair; all day; contact Elinor Augé

September

- 17 College of Education and Human Development Saturday Scholars Alumni College, details TBA; contact Raleigh Kaminsky at 612-626-1601
- 18 San Diego Chapter Birch Aquarium guided tour, 12:45 p.m. in La Jolla; contact Mark Allen
- 23 Scholars Walk; project dedication events, details TBA; contact Sue Diekman
- 24 Homecoming breakfast at the Sports Pavilion (contact Elinor Augé), parade down University Avenue, and football game vs. Purdue at the Metrodome; times TBA

PLAN AHEAD

October

- 7-8 UMAA Volunteer Awards and Leadership Forum, times TBA at McNamara Alumni Center; contact Sadie Kell



ALUMNI TOURS

- August 12-19** Fjords and Glaciers of Alaska's Hidden Passage
- August 16-24** Alumni Campus Abroad in Ireland (Ennis)
- August 31-September 8** Alumni Campus Abroad in Tuscany (Cortona)
- September 2-15** Exploring Vietnam
- September 9-17** Ireland (Killarney and Kilkenny)
- September 14-26** Passage of Peter the Great
- September 19-28** Alumni Campus Abroad in Spain (Ronda)
- September 30-October 8** Germany and Switzerland
- October 7-15** Alumni Campus Abroad on the Waterways of France
- October 7-15** Italy's Mediterranean Coast and Tuscany
- October 17-26** Saxony Cruise on the Magnificent Elbe River Alumni Campus Abroad
- October 21-27** California Wine and Cuisine
- November 9-15** In the Wake of Lewis and Clark



For more information, call Cheryl Jones at 612-625-9150 or visit www.alumni.umn.edu/travel.

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The Turning Point

Since the June 10 Board of Regents meeting, I have been proclaiming to alumni audiences that the golden days have returned to the University of Minnesota. What makes this a banner time for the U? First and foremost, the Board of Regents voted 11-1 to endorse University President Bob Bruininks' strategic planning recommendations, which are key to our quest to become one of the top three public universities in the world.



Margaret Sughruue Carlson,
Ph.D. '83

While it's far from the only reason for optimism, the regents' vote will be remembered as a turning point for the University. But it wasn't without controversy. Six colleges are affected in the first set of recommendations. Three of them—General College, the College of Human Ecology, and the College of Natural Resources—will no longer exist as free-standing academic units. And three—the College of Education and Human Development, the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, and the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences—will undergo substantial changes as academic units

merge with them. But nearly every academic unit will undergo a transformation as the University makes strides toward its goal to be the best.

Some of Bruininks' recommendations were met with resistance, especially from supporters of the 73-year-old General College. The proposal to reduce the college to a department brought up familiar pain, disappointment, and fear. Twice before in recent decades U presidents had made motions to close the college, and both times its defenders mounted successful campaigns to overturn the recommendation. This year, General College supporters held peaceful, passionate demonstrations on Northrop Mall, in the president's office, and outside McNamara Alumni Center, where the regents meet. The local media covered the topic extensively. Supporters of General College sent hundreds of letters and e-mails to the regents, campaigning to keep the college open.

Many groups on campus, including the alumni association, knew that they needed to study the recommendations and publicly speak out. If we failed to do so, the General College issue could overshadow all other issues. The association's advocacy committee held numerous meetings, listening to and debating with University officials. The topic was discussed with Bruininks and provost Tom Sullivan at our board meetings this winter and spring.

Throughout the public debate over the recommendations, many people at the University and in the wider community asked that the process be slowed down and made more deliberate and consultative. The advocacy committee considered this as well. But Robert Stein, president-elect of the alumni association, knows something about large, complex organizations; he's executive

director of the American Bar Association and former dean of the University's Law School. "The University can't afford to stand still in the face of changing demographic, economic, and global challenges," he said. "The University can't be Minnesota's economic engine without getting ahead of those changes and that's why these recommendations are moving forward at exactly the right time."

By a vote of 33-2, the alumni association gave its support of the president's recommendations at the May 7 national board meeting with the following resolution:

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association strongly endorses the University's vision to be one of the top three public research institutions in the world. To achieve this transformation, the University must think creatively, act boldly, and look beyond traditional academic and administrative structures. We have confidence in President Bruininks' wisdom, leadership, and courage, and we urge the Board of Regents to support his recommendations.

As the strategic positioning process moves into implementation, we encourage University leaders to continue to engage a wide array of people within the University and greater community and to establish and monitor measures of success. As representatives of the University's alumni, we pledge our support and assistance. We share the University's goal to continue to embrace change and to build a campus culture centered on excellence, diversity, and access to success.

After the board vote, 22 of the alumni association's past national presidents endorsed the association's resolution. And numerous other campus groups and coalitions endorsed the plan. Twenty of the 22 collegiate deans signed a statement that read, "The time is right to institute programmatic and cultural changes that will set the course for academic excellence." Embracing a new transformational culture was endorsed by 31 of the U's 55 McKnight Distinguished professors. Forty-two current and former members of the University of Minnesota Foundation's Board of Trustees signed a full-page ad in the *StarTribune* stating, "This plan is a wise investment in the future of one of Minnesota's precious assets." And the Faculty Consultative Committee voted its support 120-3, an unprecedented endorsement from the heart of the University.

Bruininks, a 37-year veteran of this institution, said that it would have been the easiest thing in the world not to lead this effort. But he knows this institution and the state deserve real leadership. The University has not done major restructuring since 1965, he pointed out, and the University cannot be reformed without attacking the curriculum. "Change is difficult, but the status quo is not an option," Bruininks said. "If we stand still, we will surely fall behind."

Thanks to President Bruininks and our regents, the U will neither stand still nor fall behind. I encourage you to send a note of thanks to Bruininks (upres@umn.edu) and our regents (visit www.umn.edu/regents). Because of their vision and courage, the University is on the way to the top.

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