



spring 2007

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

A publication for alumni, friends, faculty,  
and staff of the University of Minnesota—  
Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, Twin Cities

# SEEKING AN EDGE

## U HOPES TO SECURE LONG-TERM FUNDING TO ENHANCE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH

by Rick Moore

In a few short weeks, the shiny new labs with the bright blue floors at 717 Delaware St. will be teeming with activity. Gunda Georg's cadre of 27 research associates will be settled in and working on novel ways to treat people with brain cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

One of their projects will be working with the drug Taxol, which has been used to effectively treat ovarian and breast cancer. Georg is hoping to use the drug in the brain, but the problem is that Taxol, as she describes, is a "big, greasy molecule" that cannot get into the brain; a natural "pump" there—a human defense mechanism—sends it back out. Her team is attempting to modify the Taxol molecule in such a way that it can make it across the so-called blood-brain barrier.

By all accounts, Georg is a world-renowned researcher; in fact, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has identified her as among the top 5 percent of researchers receiving NIH funding over the last quarter century. For the past 22 years she has built her fame at the University of Kansas, but the University of Minnesota recently lured her here, where she is the Robert Vince Endowed Chair and McKnight Presidential Chair in Medicinal Chemistry.

That only happened because the U was able to promise Georg state-of-the-art labs on campus to support her work.

"Only once it was made clear there would be space to move into, could I even consider coming here," says Georg. "It's a challenge for [any university] to have that kind of space available."

The circumstances around Georg's hire are the perfect illustration of a perpetual dilemma facing the U. To remain competitive, let alone to gain ground on its top-ranked peers, the University needs to be able expand its ability to hire world-class faculty, and a precondition for bringing in the best talent is having technologically sophisticated space lined up for them. This requires the ability to look further out on the horizon when planning for new buildings.

That's why the University is turning to the Minnesota State Legislature to fund the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority, which would authorize the issuance of \$310 million in bonds (\$279 million in state general obligation debt and \$31 million in University-issued bonds) and enable the University to construct four new research buildings—plus finish the renovation at 717 Delaware—over the next eight years.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >



PHOTO: PATRICK CLEARY

After 22 years at Kansas, Gunda Georg is looking forward to collaborations with other scientists at the University of Minnesota. "All my research has been interdisciplinary—bringing in teams of people who complement each other with their skills," she says. "That's what I hope to do here."



PHOTO: SCOTT STRIBBLE

If approved by the legislature, the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority would enable the U to add 600,000 square feet of new or renovated space dedicated to interdisciplinary research in the biomedical sciences over the next decade.

The buildings would be hubs for interdisciplinary research like Georg's. Each would allow the U to house 40 new faculty researchers and 120 research assistants, and it's expected that each building would attract \$20 million in new research dollars annually.

The proposal for the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority originally went to the legislature last year, where it passed in the Senate but not in the House. The U is hoping that this year both bodies see its potential value to the health of the University and the state.

"I believe this Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority is indispensable to our future," President Bob Bruininks told the House Biosciences and Emerging Technology Committee at a hearing in late January.

According to Bruininks, some 20–25 states already have major long-term investments in the biosciences, including California, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Washington. Lack of funding might be understandable if Minnesota were lagging behind other states in biomedical sciences accomplishments and acumen, but this is the state that spawned Medtronic, Guidant, and St. Jude Medical, and that currently has more

**"Do [we] want to be a fly-over state when it comes to biosciences, and give away the richness that we have today to the east and west coasts? That is what's at stake."**

—Frank Cerra

than 500 biomedical and related businesses employing some 250,000 people. "Minnesota is not some backwater state in this area," Bruininks says.

The investment must be made in the bioscience research that feeds the biotechnology industry, adds Frank Cerra, the U's senior vice president for health sciences. "The only institution that can do that for health, industry, and agriculture is the University," he says. "It is a unique capability and needs to be invested in now."



PHOTO: TIM RUMMELHOFF

Mark Schleiss, a world-renowned researcher in the study of cytomegalovirus, works in the Translational Research Facility—another building dedicated to interdisciplinarity and collaboration.

In an age of heightened competitiveness among the country's top research universities, the best-equipped campuses get the best new research superstars. "If they have the choice between three different places and one has superb space, they will go there—all things being equal," says Georg.

And the health of Minnesota's economy may be on the line, as Cerra suggested to the House committee in January: "Do [we] want to be a fly-over state when it comes to biosciences, and give away the richness that we have today to the east and west coasts? That is what's at stake." 🐦



**more info** To learn more about the U's biennial budget request or capital request, including the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority, visit the Office of Government and Community Relations Web site at [www.umn.edu/urelate/govrel](http://www.umn.edu/urelate/govrel)

## BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST AT A GLANCE

The University of Minnesota has an ambitious and tangible plan to improve its competitiveness among the top research universities.

Now U officials are turning to the Minnesota State Legislature for funding support necessary to maintain the U's current quality and competitiveness and invest in the plan to transform the University.

The U's biennial budget request (for fiscal years 2008 and 2009) calls for \$182.3 million in new state funds for funding accounts for approximately 10 percent of the University's total budget and represents an important source of funding for the U's education, research, and outreach missions.

One part of the budget request focuses on enhancing the University's core mission and competitive position. The primary component of this is general compensation for faculty and staff. Other areas include investments in advancing education—through efforts such as an undergraduate writing initiative and expanded academic advising and undergraduate research opportunities—as well as in technology and research infrastructure and facilities operations, and maintenance.

A second part of the budget request focuses on investments that will help to "create Minnesota's future." Included are new investments in health workforce and clinical sciences; science and engineering programs; and environmental, agricultural systems, and renewable energy initiatives. In addition, this funding would help to ensure that the U can recruit and retain the best faculty and staff. 🐦

# Cook your way around the world

Get your taste buds fired up for the 2007 Heartland Cooking Series and treat yourself to the true flavors of the upper Midwest and of foods from across the globe. Chefs Jenny Breen, Beth Dooley, Amalia Damgaard, and Raghavan Iyer toss a dash of cultural insight into their pot of cooking know-how at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Each second and fourth Thursday evening of the month, the demonstration-style classes will offer wine tasting and exceptional recipes. Dabble in the delectable tastes and cooking techniques of such dishes as spicy Spring Cod Caramba, Classic Winter Squash Soup With Coconut Milk and Hearty Greens, Dulce de Papaya Parfaits, and Roasted Beet and Arugula Salad. The laid-back setting provides an opportunity for both relaxation and discovery. To learn more, visit the Arboretum's Web site at [www.arboretum.umn.edu](http://www.arboretum.umn.edu) and click on the "Cooking Series" link from the "What's New" page; or call 952-443-1422. 🍴



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for the winter 2007 issue of *M*. I was especially interested in this issue, which I can share with my children—one college aged. He will get a taste of the U from many of the articles. The Bob Dylan article he will find very interesting as well! I enjoyed the articles on teenage diet pills (I have a teenage daughter), and "The Beauty of Service." I'd like her to read these! "Healthy Young Hearts" is an issue I face with my 10-year-old son. I only wish the magazine was available online, or I had several more copies!!

Congratulations on a quality publication, which is always read!

Renee Hoch (Shraier), Tucson

*Editor's note: We are always happy to send out additional copies of M. Please e-mail [urelate@umn.edu](mailto:urelate@umn.edu) to make a request. M is also available on the Web at [www.umn.edu/umnnews/m](http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/m).*

I would like to obtain 20 copies of *M* winter 2007 for my aerobics/weight training class at Andover High School. It has several articles in it that I think my junior and senior students would benefit from reading. "The Tyranny of Thin," "Healthy Young Hearts," "Sending Out an S.O.S.," and "The Art of Discovery" are four that pertain to my PE class, but the rest of the publication would be great for these students in their search for a college to attend in the future.

Thank you in advance,

Lee Garbe, Andover, Minnesota



A publication for alumni, friends, faculty, and staff of the University of Minnesota—Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, Twin Cities

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## BOOK REVIEWS

by Gayla Marty

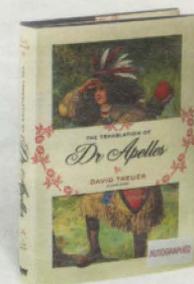
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### The Translation of Dr Apelles

By David Treuer

One terrible winter, two Native American bands perish. A young girl and boy, unknown to each other, are the sole survivors, and both are rescued by animals. Many years later, solitary Dr. Apelles finds their story and begins to translate it. At the same time, Dr. Apelles is discovering that he has never been in love. "Translation" into humanness—through words or love—makes us fully alive... but will Dr. Apelles succeed at either one? Treuer teaches literature and creative writing on the Twin Cities campus and is the author of *Native American Fiction: A User's Manual*.

Graywolf Press, 2006; ISBN 978-1-55597-451-0; \$23.00 hc



### The Physics of Superheroes

By James Kakalios

Discover what first-year students—and readers across the nation—have learned from the professor who uses his love of comic book superheroes to teach us about the marvelous world of physics. Now in paperback. Kakalios teaches physics on the Twin Cities campus.

Gotham Books, 2006; ISBN 1-592-40242-9; \$15.00 pb

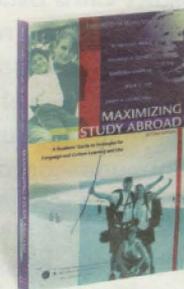


### Maximizing Study Abroad

By R. Michael Paige, Andrew D. Cohen, Barbara Kappler, Julie C. Chi, and James Lassegard

Do you learn better by reading, hearing, or doing? And do you do those things better with others or by yourself? Take the survey at the beginning of this guide to identify your own learning style... then pick the strategies that are best suited to help you learn to speak a language and live in another culture—before you go, while you're there, and after you get home. This guide was written for college students but is invaluable for any adult who wants to get the most from even a short experience abroad. The U authors are international leaders in their fields.

U of M Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition, second edition, 2006; ISBN 0-9722545-5-2; \$12.00 pb



**more info** Contact University of Minnesota Bookstores, located in Coffman Memorial Union and the St. Paul Student Center, at 612-626-0559 or [generalbooks@umn.edu](mailto:generalbooks@umn.edu). Look for faculty authors at [www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref](http://www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref)

# Faces in the quilts

U PROFESSOR REMEMBERS FEMALE AMERICAN SOLDIERS  
KILLED IN THE CURRENT IRAQ WAR

by Pauline Oo

In spring 2004, Daniel Jasper began a series of design projects called "The Casualties of War" to show the number of U.S. military fatalities in the Iraq War while recognizing individual soldiers. In one project, he transforms digital portraits of servicewomen who have been killed in Iraq into full-sized patchwork quilts.

"What is remarkable about this particular war is the numbers and the pace at which women soldiers are dying—though they're not technically combat soldiers," says Jasper, an associate professor of graphic design. "The women are support soldiers: mechanics, truck drivers, members of supply teams, etc." But support battalions cannot escape the fighting and are often hit by roadside bombs.

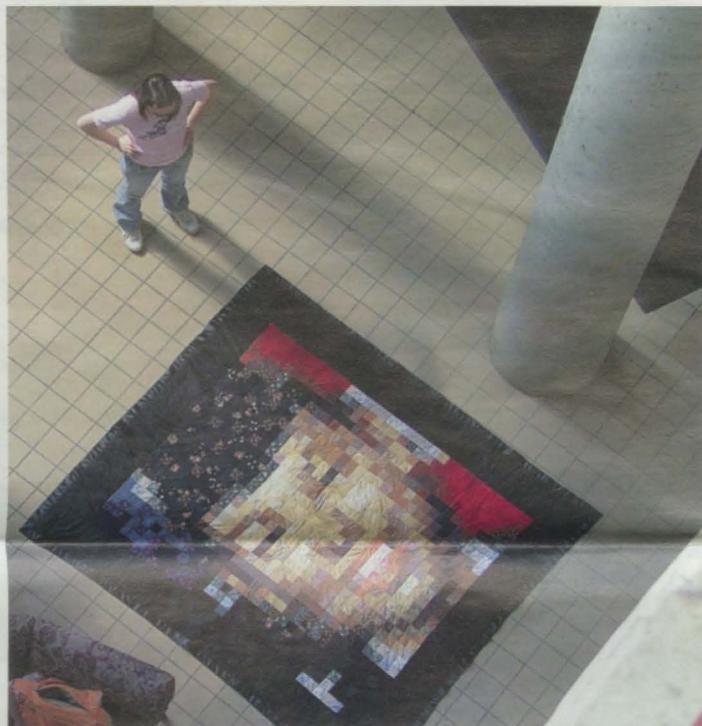
In 2004, there were 35 women on the casualty list; today, there are more than 60, says Jasper.

Jasper works with University alum and costume technician Susan Walter and textile designer Chris Bataglia. To make the quilts, digital photos are reduced to pixels, one per quilt patch. On a computer screen, it looks like just a bunch of squares up close. "But when you zoom out, it sort of congeals into a continuous-toned image," says Jasper.

There are five, so far, with grant money left for one more. The goal is a quilt in each woman's name.

The number of soldiers being killed in Iraq can seem an abstract event without names, photos, or stories attached to them. "When I look at one of these quilts, the portrait stays with me," says Walter.

"The quilt is the ideal vehicle to get at the dichotomy that exists between what are seen as traditional



The Karina S. Lau Quilt is one in a series of quilts depicting female American soldiers killed in the Iraq war. Army Pfc. Lau, 20, was killed Nov. 2, 2003, in an attack on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter near Fallujah, Iraq.

**"Whether the viewer is pro- or anti-war, I hope that [this exhibit] reminds him or her of the human element of war and what that means."**

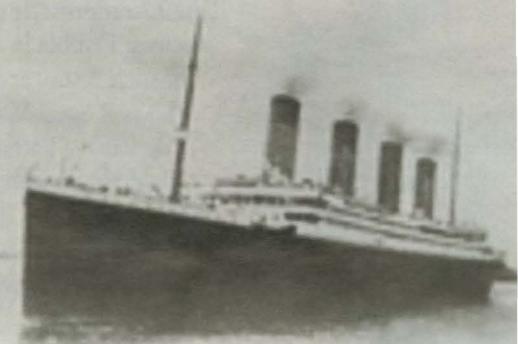
roles of women in culture and this new role that they're performing as combat soldiers," says Jasper.

The quilts are traveling in exhibits nationwide, but plans are under way to show them at the University.

"Whether the viewer is pro- or anti-war, I hope that [the quilts] remind him or her of the human element of war and what that means," says Walter. 🌿

## A RIVETING TALE OF THE TITANIC

by Deane Morrison



The night was plagued by human error, a disorderly rush to the lifeboats, and, of course, a nasty scrape with an iceberg. In the end, the Titanic took just two hours and 40 minutes to sink. Some have theorized that the ship's steel hull became brittle from cold and staved in on impact. But work by University alumnus Timo Foecke suggests it was the rivets that were brittle and, perhaps, the key to the disaster.

Foecke tells the tale of the rivets in an upcoming book, *CSI Titanic: A Forensic Examination of the Sinking*, with coauthor Jennifer Hooper McCarty. They conclude that the impact probably snapped off rivets like buttons torn from a shirt, opening the seams between the steel plates of the boiler.

Examining 28 of these rivets, the authors found they had been made from substandard wrought iron. This created a silent time bomb, because there was no way to detect the weaknesses once the rivets were in place.

"If the rivets had been of better quality, the hull damage would have been smaller, and she would have sunk more slowly or even reached port in Halifax," says Foecke. With the rescue ship *Carpathia* only two hours away, a delay could have saved many lives.

Foecke holds a B.S. and Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from the University and is a staff materials scientist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. 🌿

Learn more about the thriving arts community at the University at [www.umn.edu/ArtsCulture](http://www.umn.edu/ArtsCulture)

# DESIGNING A NEW CAMPUS LANDMARK

by Rick Moore



The football stadium will anchor the East Gateway District, the name being used to describe the area of new development at the east end of the Twin Cities campus. The district will house up to 10 major academic buildings, including the new Medical Biosciences Building; two new parking structures; and a hub for mass transit.

The planned new Gopher football stadium is beginning to take shape—and that shape will be a traditional collegiate horseshoe opening westward to the University of Minnesota campus and the downtown Minneapolis skyline.

In January, after hearing details from University officials and a representative of the architectural team, the U's Board of Regents approved the schematic designs for TCF Bank Stadium as well as its revised budget, now \$288.5 million. The stadium is scheduled to open in fall 2009.

"I think this design captures the character and the tradition of our campus," says President Bob Bruininks. "We want [TCF Bank Stadium] to be one of the more memorable venues in college football." The design calls for a 50,000-seat facility that can expand to 72,000 or 80,000 seats and is meant to have a collegiate look and feel, says Scott Radevic, senior principal architect with HOK Sport.

To that end, the stadium will be a "single rake" bowl, without the multiple decks and overhangs

of many professional stadiums. The exterior will recall the old Memorial Stadium, including its brick arches, and will be ringed by a colonnade.

Fan will like the 19-inch seats, 33-inch spaces between rows, and 45- to 60-foot corridors—much wider than the Metrodome's 24-foot corridors.

University officials based the updated cost on changes to enhance the fan experience, improve campus aesthetics, and incorporate sustainable or "green" architecture designs. Other cost increases have come from recent changes to the building code and engineering challenges due to the type of soil on the site.

Bruininks stresses that the extra \$39.8 million will not come from taxpayers or students or at the expense of the University's academic mission. Instead, the U will use a combination of financing

tools and increased athletics revenue resulting from the new venue.

The design unveiling has also renewed stadium fundraising. Over half the \$86.5 million goal has been met through gifts, pledges, and sponsorships from individuals and corporations. Since the commitments from TCF Bank and the state of Minnesota, recent gifts of \$1 million or more from companies like Best Buy, Target, and the General Mills Foundation, plus gifts from individual donors, have pushed fund-raising beyond the halfway mark. 🐾

For more information on the stadium, visit [www.umn.edu/stadium](http://www.umn.edu/stadium).



## CHANGING THE PORCELAIN PERCENTAGES

While the new football stadium promises to have a "traditional collegiate look and feel," don't expect the traditional lines outside of the women's restrooms.

Minnesota law mandates that all new stadiums, arenas, concert halls, etc., must provide three female bathroom stalls for every two male bathroom stalls or urinals. Part of the "potty parity" movement, such laws are welcome news for the

generations of women who have endured long lines at stadiums while waves of men did their business and still had time to buy another round of lemonade.

The new stadium design calls for approximately 400 women's water closets and 280 men's fixtures (200 urinals; 80 stalls), according to Myron Chase, an associate for HOK Sport. Men can take heart, too, as there will be individual urinals instead of urinal troughs, like at the Metrodome.

"Ironically enough, HOK standards [for potty parity] exceed what the

Minnesota code requires," says Chase, whose firm has designed a number of sports stadiums and arenas in recent years. "Based on our past experience, we know what we should shoot for."

It's about time. 🐾

Read more stories about sports and recreation at [www.umn.edu/SportsRecreation](http://www.umn.edu/SportsRecreation)

# THIS IS MADNESS

## A YOUNG PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR STALKS THE ROOTS OF MENTAL ILLNESS

by Deane Morrison

When the student got up to speak, Angus MacDonald should have been ready. But he wasn't.

As a young assistant professor of psychology, MacDonald knew about drug addiction. He had discussed with his class how nice feelings in the early stages of addictive drug-taking turn into an awful craving. But when this student he knew talked about going down that road, it was different.

"What took me aback was the proximity of it, that it can happen to anybody," says MacDonald. "He was an excellent student who thought deeply about issues, and he was a coke addict. But [his experience shows] that you can find your way back."

Something goes wrong in the human brain as it spirals into addiction, just as in schizophrenia and other mental illnesses. For his efforts to find causes and treatments of such disorders, MacDonald won

**"The challenge of turning data from humble neurons into a meaningful story about how to lead your life is one of the wonderful things about being at the University," says MacDonald.**

a McKnight Land-Grant Professorship which the U awards promising young faculty members at a crucial time in their careers. But it's his rapport with students that really sets him apart.

He is almost certainly the only faculty member to make a humorous music video to the Dandy Warhols' indie hit "Scientist" with his graduate students. Or, in a statistics class, to introduce an off-beat topic by performing an original rap song with his students. He also takes students on an annual canoe trip to the St. Croix River and gives each one individual attention.

"He gave me opportunities to talk about projects I was interested in rather than [just] assigning something," says senior Danielle Huber.

"Working on my senior thesis, we had weekly meetings," recalls former undergraduate advisee James Porter, who now manages MacDonald's laboratory. But other students, he says, wouldn't hear from their project advisers for weeks.

In his search for the roots of mental illness, MacDonald asks: *Where does madness happen, and why?* He focuses his search in the prefrontal cerebral cortex, the outermost layer of the front third of the brain. This thin tissue allows people to perform many sophisticated tasks, such as

consciously altering routines or generating new responses to fit new situations. Using a scanner at the University's Center for Magnetic Resonance Research,

MacDonald analyzes patterns of brain activity associated with certain tasks in healthy subjects, schizophrenia patients, and relatives of patients.

"We see abnormalities in schizophrenia patients, and there's a reliably higher proportion of relatives of patients who also show abnormalities," he says.

Lately, MacDonald has begun studying the brain mechanisms involved in human joy and impulsivity, including activity in the more primitive midbrain region. And, along with colleagues, he plans to



PHOTO: PATRICK O'LEARY

The U named assistant professor of psychology Angus MacDonald a McKnight Land-Grant Professor in 2006.

study brain activities involved with control or lack of control of an emotional response in hopes of finding better ways of helping people through life's ups and, especially, downs.

"His work runs from mental disorders to how the brain produces them and how genetics plays a role," says graduate student Melissa Johnson. "I'm constantly surprised by how much he knows about these areas and how he can put them all together in a research program."

Above all, MacDonald loves stretching his mind and conveying the adventure to students. He hopes this will help them as they come into their own as citizens and scientists.

"The challenge of turning data from humble neurons into a meaningful story about how to lead your life is one of the wonderful things about being at the University," he says. 🌱

Read more about award-winning professors and students at [www.umn.edu/TeachingStudents](http://www.umn.edu/TeachingStudents)

# The temps, they are a-changin'

## AND WINTER IS LOSING ITS BITE

by Deane Morrison

When Minnesota ice fishing tournaments are canceled for lack of ice, you know it's a mild winter—again. Mark Seeley, a University meteorologist and state climate history expert, says the change in winter is for real.

"Although we can always find warm winters, we can't find a string like the last nine," says Seeley, author of *Minnesota Weather Almanac*. The changes are in line with predictions by models of global warming.

Based on average temperatures, January 2006 was the warmest since 1846, and December 2006 tied for

fourth warmest in state history. That's a far cry from December 1983, the coldest of the 20th century.

The relative heat wave means we're burning less fossil fuel in our furnaces. "At present energy prices, some people would be paying a monthly heating bill equivalent to a mortgage payment" if December 1983 were to repeat itself, Seeley figures.

Municipalities are spending less on snow removal, and schools and businesses close less often. The weather has brought a longer construction season for contractors, a longer biking season, and even winter golfing.

But ski operators, skaters, and even car mechanics are feeling the heat of a warmer winter.

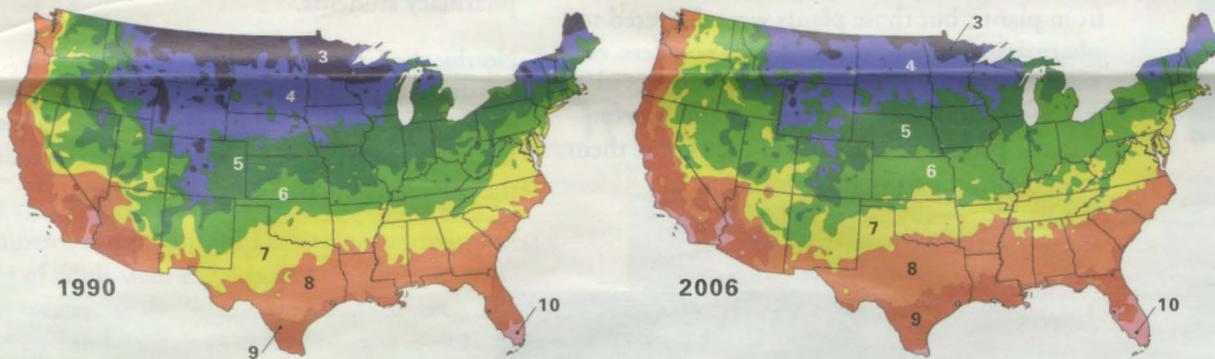
"My mechanic said that during the '70s and '80s, a huge part of his income was installation of engine block heaters," recalls Seeley. "They've all but disappeared."

The lack of snow is in part a cause, as well as an effect, of warm winters. Snow reflects solar radiation, helping the air around it stay cold. But bare ground soaks up the heat, warms the air, and contributes to further snowmelt. As more northern land goes snow-free in winter, it helps accelerate global warming.

The warmth may mean more freezing rain and sleet in Minnesota. And January is now the snowiest month, thanks to more of March's precipitation falling as rain.

"This can help alleviate the spring snowmelt effect," says Seeley, referring to the flooding that follows a large, rapid snowmelt.

Records begun in 1895 show that 10 of the 20 warmest November–March intervals have occurred since 1981. Higher minimum temperatures, usually occurring at night, seem most responsible. For example, southeastern Minnesota counties' average daily minimum for February rose 3.5 degrees between 1951–1980 and 1971–2000.



The shift in U.S. hardiness zones can be seen in the USDA map at left (1990) and the Arbor Day map for 2006.

## SO THAT'S AN OPOSSUM!

As the climate warms up, many animals and plants are making their moves:

- > **Opossums.** North America's only marsupial has been moving rapidly north, turning up in roadkills throughout the Upper Midwest.
- > **Birds.** The Carolina wren and the blue-gray gnatcatcher have made themselves at home in our state. Loons may be migrating back earlier. But climate change could rob

Minnesota of more bird species than it adds. Warblers of the northern forests, which are threatened by climate change and other factors, are especially vulnerable.

- > **Insects.** More bean leaf beetles and European corn borers will survive our winters, which bodes more damage to soybean and corn crops.
- > **Gardeners** may wonder if plants adapted to USDA hardiness zone 5 can now be grown in parts of Minnesota long rated zone 4.



The answer is unclear. If you want to experiment with zone 5-rated plants, try an inexpensive perennial such as a Korean spice viburnum, forsythia, peony, or iris. Don't risk \$300 on a Japanese maple or fruit tree. The USDA hardiness zones (on which the Arbor Day Foundation zones, above right, are based) are now being revised.

Explore how innovative University research is helping to protect the environment by visiting [www.umn.edu/Environment](http://www.umn.edu/Environment)

# Recalling the U's medicinal plant garden



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ARCHIVES

In 1892, the University of Minnesota hired an energetic and opinionated 25-year-old named Frederick John Wulling to be the founding dean of the brand new College of Pharmacy. The U's Medical School balked at the college's inclusion as a place of real scientific endeavor.

But Wulling knew the value of his profession and had two stipulations for accepting the deanship—the promise of a four-year course of study for the pharmacy degree (finally implemented in 1927) and a medicinal plant garden. Seventy percent of the drugs at the time came from plants, but those plants were delivered to pharmacists bound in bundles, as powders, or tinctures. Wulling was asking his students to get their hands dirty by planting and harvesting the plants themselves and thus know them and their properties more intimately.

Unable to get an agreement for an on-campus garden for his students, Wulling went ahead and planted one in his own backyard, at 3305 2nd Ave. S. in Minneapolis. After two years of maintaining and funding it himself, he gave the regents an ultimatum—give him more money for lab equipment and a proper medicinal plant garden or he was leaving. The regents met his request. Wulling toured medicinal plant gardens in Europe and came back to establish, in 1911, what would be one of the nation's best.

Where you can now watch modern dance, listen to jazz, or catch the latest music sensation, stood Dean Wulling's garden. Northrop Auditorium on the Twin Cities campus occupies the spot where 15,000–25,000 plants of 492 species flourished as a living laboratory pharmacy students.

Nearby, the College of Pharmacy built a lovely ornamental, yet sophisticated plant house with drying ovens, a drug milling system, an aquarium for aquatic plants, and a heated tunnel connecting the plant house to the pharmacy building.

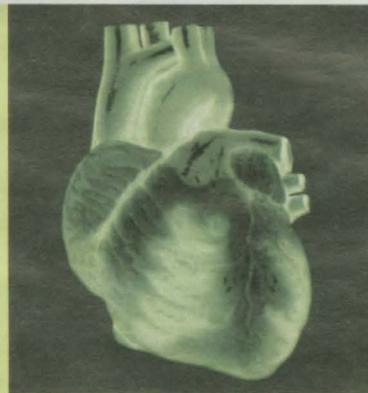
## NEW HOPE FOR HEARTS

University of Minnesota researchers have found a cell type in adult rat hearts that can make all types of cardiac cells. This offers hope that someday these cells could be used to repair heart muscle damaged by a heart attack or to grow new blood vessels for use in bypass surgery.

The researchers grew the cells from rat heart tissue in a dish. The cells were able to generate

all types of cardiac cells, such as those found in the left and right ventricles and blood vessels. The cells even beat in a laboratory dish, as more mature heart muscle cells will do.

Then they injected the cells into rats with injured hearts and documented that the cells repaired



the damaged tissue, says Doris Taylor, professor of physiology and director of the Center for Cardiovascular Repair.

"They appear at this time to be the ideal cell to use for cardiac repair," Taylor says. "They do everything embryonic cardiac cells do, and they don't create teratomas, or tumors."

The next steps will be to grow the cells from human heart tissue and to repeat the experiment in a larger animal, such as a pig. 🐷

For more on personal health and groundbreaking medical discoveries, see [www.umn.edu/HealthMedicine](http://www.umn.edu/HealthMedicine)



U.S. sailors (far left) helped harvest the digitalis that College of Pharmacy students and faculty grew, extracted, and standardized to meet the pharmaceutical needs of the nation during World War I. (Plant house is at right in the photo)

Left, College of Pharmacy students helped plant, tend, and harvest the 15,000-25,000 plants that made up the medicinal plant garden where Northrop Auditorium now stands.

ical and experimental studies, including data from Dong's group, indicates that compounds derived from tea have a strong inhibitory effect on cancer development, with few side effects.

In 2004, the National Institutes of Health gave the Center for Spirituality and Healing a \$2.3 million grant to study whether taking Turkey Tail mushroom (*Trametes versicolor*) extract can boost and maintain the body's immune response following radiation therapy to treat breast cancer. Slaton and fellow researchers will measure if the tumors shrink and if the women experience less fatigue and a better quality of life after taking the extract. While the clinical trial involves breast cancer, the results may have implications for prostate cancer patients as well. 🌿

Wulling's respect for and curiosity about plants and their potential continues in the work of many University researchers. Among them are Zigang Dong, director of the U's Hormel Institute, and Joel Slaton, assistant professor of urologic surgery.

Dong is using a five-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to study the effectiveness of tea in preventing cancer. Evidence from epidemiolog-

## BUILDING BONE MARROW

A team of researchers from the University of Minnesota and Stanford University has found that a type of adult stem cell can replace the bone marrow and regenerate the immune systems of mice. If the finding can be extended to humans, it could mean a new and more abundant supply of cells for bone marrow transplant patients.

Catherine Verfaillie, director of the University's Stem Cell Institute, who headed the latest work, first identified the cells, called MAPCs (multipotent adult progenitor cells), in 2001. True to their name, they can give rise in the laboratory to many tissues, including blood, brain, liver, smooth muscle, and the endothelial cells that line the cavities of arteries and veins.

The Verfaillie team isolated MAPCs from bone marrow of mice, grew them in culture, and transplanted them into mice whose immune systems had been destroyed by radiation. "The cells not only survived when transplanted, but they completely repopulated the blood system of the mice," Verfaillie says.



PHOTO: TOM FOLEY

Petri dishes incubating adult stem cells

The researchers stress that much more work must be done with nonhuman animals and that studies must be replicated with human MAPCs before any new treatments can become available. 🌿

## DISCOVERY LINKS UNUSUAL PROTEIN TO DIABETES

A tiny variation in a protein that transports cholesterol in the blood may predispose many people of American Indian and Mexican descent to diabetes, University biochemistry professor Gary Nelsestuen and his colleagues have found.

The researchers detected the variant form only in people of American Indian or Mexican descent and those who carry it are more likely to be overweight or obese and to have parents with diabetes. It is the first genetic variation ever found in the protein, which is called apolipoprotein C1 and is found in all human beings.

"Obesity and diabetes are serious health problems for Americans and especially for those with American Indian or Mexican ancestry," Nelsestuen says. "This protein may contribute to the elevated rates of diabetes in relevant ethnic groups and might be more common in isolated populations."

The variant form of C1 may have survived because it conferred an advantage that has been masked or even turned into a disadvantage by changes in diet and lifestyle.

"An important future goal [of our research] is to identify an adult population of New World descent who have the variant trait but no diabetes or increases in BMI (body mass index)," says Nelsestuen. "Such a population may reveal dietary and lifestyle [habits] that would benefit all individuals with the trait." 🌿

# FIVE REASONS TO COME BACK TO CAMPUS IN APRIL

Spring will soon be in the air and, whatever your tastes, the Twin Cities campus beckons with fun, entertaining, and enlightening possibilities. Pair your visit with good food and you have the makings for a great back-to-campus experience.

## Sports

Mid-April is the height of the **Gopher baseball and softball** seasons, so why not catch a game or two. On Saturday, April 14, the softball team plays Purdue at noon at Jane Sage Cowles Stadium on the north edge of campus, and the baseball team squares off against Iowa next door at Siebert Field in a doubleheader beginning at 1:05. The following day you could catch the softball team in a doubleheader beginning at noon, while the baseball team has a single game at 1:05.

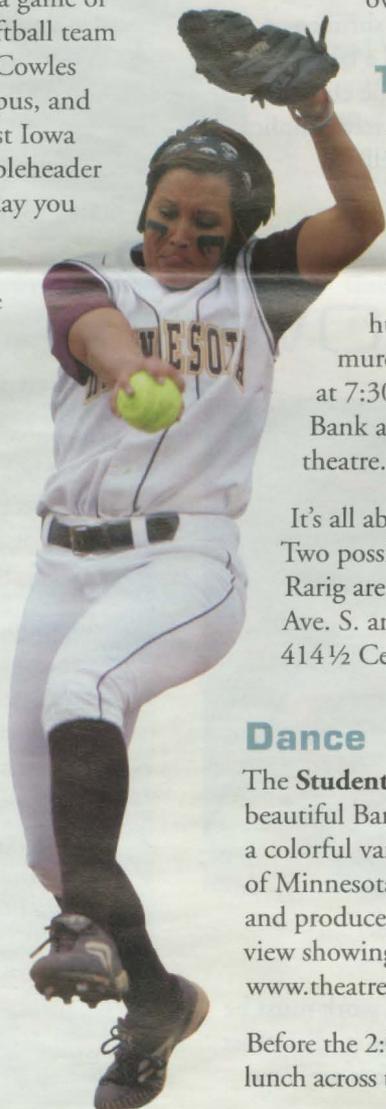
For a hearty breakfast before the games, and killer pancakes, visit the old standby at 413 14th Ave. S.E. — **Al's Breakfast** — and if the crowd is too big for this one-counter classic, head across the street to the **Dinkytowner Café**.

## Film

Each Thursday at 7 p.m., the Bell Museum's **Science on Screen** program presents intriguing films focusing on scientific research and related ideas, controversies, and personalities. Following each screening, audiences are invited to share view-

Rene Konderik delivers a pitch for the University of Minnesota softball team.

PHOTO: COURTESY U OF M ATHLETICS



points during informal post-film discussions with scientists and other experts. For more information, see [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org).

These days Dinkytown is rich in good places to have dinner or a drink. Try the **Loring Pasta Bar** at 327 14th Ave. S.E. for first-rate cuisine in a disarming atmosphere. Just down 14th Ave. at number 421 is **Kafé 421**, with a cozy wine bar, terrific food, and an owner who greets you like an old friend.

## Theater

A 12-member cast of University theater students brings **The Arabian Nights** to campus. This adaptation offers a wonderful blend of the lesser-known tales of Scheherazade as she spins them for 1,001 nights to prevent her husband, the cruel ruler Shayryar, from murdering her. The play opens on April 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rarig Center on the West Bank and continues until April 28. See [www.theatre.umn.edu](http://www.theatre.umn.edu) for details.

It's all about ethnic dining on the West Bank. Two possibilities within walking distance of the Rarig are **Jewel of India** at 1427 Washington Ave. S. and the new **Chai's Thai Restaurant** at 414 1/2 Cedar Ave.

## Dance

The **Student Dance Coalition's** annual show at the beautiful Barbara Barker Center for Dance features a colorful variety of original works that University of Minnesota dance students create, perform, curate, and produce. Performances run from April 5 (pre-view showing) through April 9. For details, visit [www.theatre.umn.edu](http://www.theatre.umn.edu).

Before the 2:00 p.m. Saturday show, be sure to have lunch across the street at **St. Martin's Table**, 2001

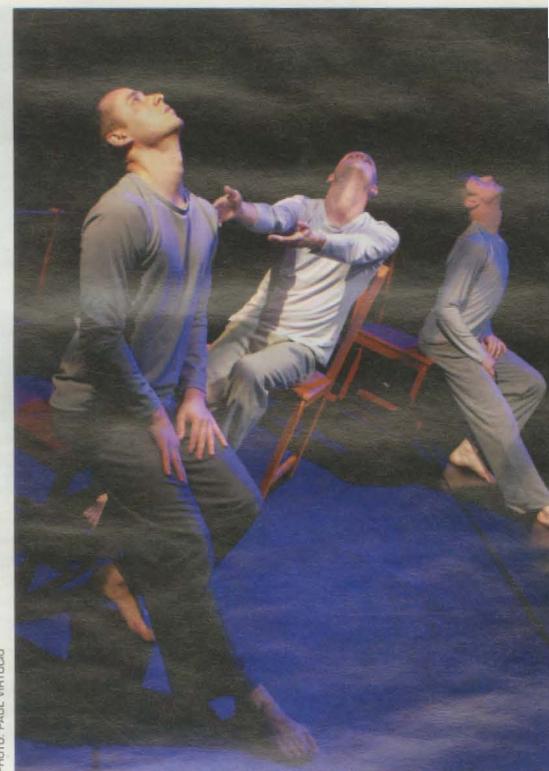


PHOTO: PAUL VIRTUCCO

Dance program students perform in a recent production of Anna Sokolow's *Rooms* at the Southern Theater.

Riverside Ave. The food is exceptional, all the servers are volunteers, and tips are donated to charities.

## Music

One of the best-kept secrets on the Twin Cities campus is the senior, master's, and doctoral **music recitals**. On Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings, the best and brightest music students show off their talents in the Lloyd Ultan Recital Hall in Ferguson Hall. Come see and hear these young musicians at the very beginning of their careers. Recitals are free and open to the public. For a complete schedule, see [www.music.umn.edu/events](http://www.music.umn.edu/events).

Before or after a recital, stroll across the Washington Avenue Bridge to Stadium Village to enjoy two locally owned restaurants. The **Village Wok** at 6 Washington Ave. S.E. serves authentic Chinese food and specializes in fish and seafood. And a little ways down the street, at 802 Washington Ave. S. **Bona** offers fresh and delicious Vietnamese food in pleasant surroundings. 🍴

*Directions to all University of Minnesota locations can be found at [www.umn.edu/maps](http://www.umn.edu/maps). For more events in the coming months, see [www.umn.edu/events](http://www.umn.edu/events).*

To learn more about campus life, see [www.umn.edu/Campus](http://www.umn.edu/Campus)

# CALLING ALL ALUMNI

U STUDENTS PICK UP THE PHONE FOR PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL REWARDS

by Steve Anderson

When U of M students ask alumni for gifts over the phone, it's not just dollars that the grads offer up. A recipe for rhubarb pie, the secrets of a good relationship (FYI: communication and trust), and the merits of name-brand macaroni and cheese are all things alumni have shared.

True, you can't take advice and recipes to the bank. But encouraging alumni to say what's on their mind is still a critical aim of the U's effort to re-engage graduates. "We've always tried to create great conversations with our alumni," says former director of telemarketing Peter Rozga. "Usually, that means informing them about what's happening on campus."

Who better to relay campus chatter than current students? Around 100 student callers work on the telemarketing fund-raising staff. Each day, some 40 callers dial a segment of the U's 400,000-plus alumni to give them news from their department, their college, and the University as a whole. The 130,000 conversations callers have each year with alumni and friends typically last five to seven minutes and hopefully end with a pledge. In the past, pledges have been anywhere from \$5 to \$25,000.

## Gifts of the gab

So far this year, pledges are outpacing projections. The current crop of callers reached the \$1.5 million milestone six weeks before the same mark was hit last year. The majority of contributions are to an area of the University alumni feel strongly about; many are directed toward scholarships that help students study abroad, conduct research, or pursue interests in the arts, to name a few.

While no one's tallying the nonmonetary gifts student callers receive, each has stories that reflect the value of their conversations. Ashley Penney, a



PHOTO: SALLY MCGRAW

This year's team of student callers will have 130,000 conversations with alumni, resulting in lots of great advice and several pledges of support to the U.

senior English and elementary education major, keeps a notebook of all the great advice she gets from alumni in the education field.

Superintendents, teachers, and cafeteria workers have all offered Penney tips on how to research a school district to make sure it fits with her teach-

## BACK TALK

Alumni recall conversations with student callers:

"Rachel was friendly, courteous, interested, enthusiastic—one of those callers who left me feeling good just for having talked to her."

"I probably would not have increased my giving this year if I hadn't been so impressed with the student caller."

"Nick was AWESOME on the phone; he really made me miss the U and remember how much I love it."

ing philosophy, how to tell which districts are good places to look for jobs, and how to prepare for an interview. "Someday, I'll be able to thank alums for helping me get a job," she says.

Senior architecture major Josh Larson started as a student caller his freshman year and is now a student supervisor. "This job makes you feel really good because you get to make connections with people," he explains. "You feel good about making money for the U, making money for other students in need."

Those sentiments stick with Larson even after he hangs up the phone. He often takes his message of giving into the campus community. "Talking with people in class about what I do makes them think that they should consider giving back to the U," he says. "It makes them appreciate their U education even more." 🐦

# Mob mentality

FELLOWSHIP HELPS STUDENT GET CREATIVE WITH HIS STOLEN IDENTITY

by Steve Anderson

For five weeks last summer, Andrew Schroeder was a Bulgarian mobster. The second-year visual arts M.F.A. student traipsed around the Balkans, hanging out in seedy hotels, decrepit resorts, and smoky taverns—all in the name of research.

Schroeder was on the trail of thieves who had stolen his identity off the Internet. The crooks, probably part of organized crime, created a credit card and launched a spending spree through Macedonia and Bulgaria. Because of lagging technology, they were able to ring up more than 60 transactions over a two-week period before Schroeder's bank canceled the card.

"After I was done moping around, I realized it was actually an opportunity," recalls Schroeder, who decided to turn the experience into a docu-

mentary photo project. "Part of my interest was a sense of voyeurism, to see what I could learn about someone through something as trivial as a financial transaction."

Using credit card statements, he drew up an itinerary that included shops, hotels, restaurants, and ATM machines—places at which, according to bank records, he'd already been. A prestigious Judd Fellowship helped fund the project. Established in 2002 by a gift from the Walter H. Judd Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation, the program has already given more than 100 graduate and professional students the chance to study and conduct research abroad.

Since Schroeder's goal was total immersion, he checked his personal preferences at the border. In restaurants, he ordered dishes that matched the

charges to his account, which led the vegetarian to choke down many a meat-based specialty, including one featuring pork neck in a boiling clay cauldron.

Another aim of the research was to explore the notion of identity in today's digital world. "I found that it's a really eerie, amazing thing when your paper trail and your conscious, physiological being smack into one another," says Schroeder, "especially at an over-60 resort on the Black Sea."

View images from Schroeder's project and read diary entries at [giving.umn.edu](http://giving.umn.edu).



PHOTO: ANDREW SCHROEDER

DATE: May 28, 2006 LOCATION: Varna, Bulgaria TRANSACTION: Allianz Bank ATM  
This transaction appeared on my bank statement twice. Each time the maximum amount was withdrawn from the ATM. I had an extremely difficult time finding the ATM because it is located underneath the movie theatre.

See the entire series of Andrew Schroeder's photographs at [giving.umn.edu](http://giving.umn.edu).



PHOTO: SARA LORDE

Scholarships, including one from the U of M Alumni Association, have helped take the stress of debt off freshman Chantel Ressie.

## STRONG ASSOCIATIONS

GENEROSITY EXTENDS FROM CURRENT TO FUTURE ALUMNI

As a high school senior, Chantel Ressie applied for college scholarships until the cows came home. Then she went out to milk them. Ressie, a freshman in the Carlson School of Management, credits the work ethic she developed on her family's dairy farm near Lewiston, Minnesota, with helping her land several scholarships.

One of the awards is a University of Minnesota Alumni Association Scholarship. Created for the alumni association's 100th anniversary in 2004, the award is enhanced by the President's Scholarship

Match program—which doubles its impact—and this year is helping seven students across the University.

"The scholarship has helped me greatly by relieving stress that comes with high tuition bills," says Ressie. "My first year at the U has been a really great experience as a result." She expects to focus her studies on human resources, with the hope of putting her degree to work outside the Twin Cities. "I don't plan to stay in the big city. I'd like to be able to know more people in my community," she says.

# A PARTNERSHIP THAT HITS THE BULLSEYE

## \$5 MILLION GIFT FROM TARGET SUPPORTS THREE CAPITAL PROJECTS

A commitment from faculty, staff, students, and alumni isn't all it will take to transform the University of Minnesota into a top three public research institution. Support from the greater community will also be vital. And perhaps no name is as synonymous with

community support as Target, which gives back more than \$3 million a week to the communities it serves.

Now Target has joined with the U to zero in on three strategic projects on the Twin

Cities campus: the Weisman Art Museum expansion (\$2 million), TCF Bank Stadium (\$2 million), and Herbert M. Hanson Hall at the Carlson School (\$1 million). The projects run parallel to Target's primary areas of giving, including education, the arts, and families and communities.



"We're grateful to Target for their generous support of the University," says President Bob Bruininks. "Target's gift will support three important capital projects that build on our academic mission, improve the student experience, and add to the entire state's quality of life."

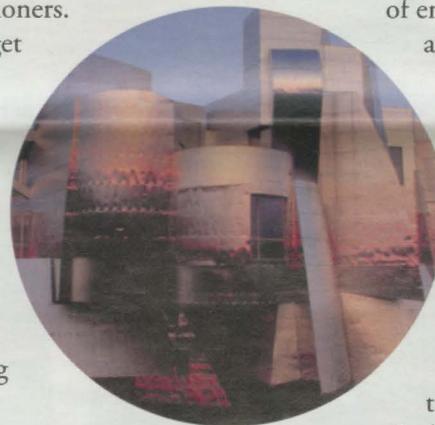
The gift to the Weisman will be used to build a new wing, allowing the museum to expand exhibit and programming space. Weisman architect Frank Gehry will design the space, which will include a new studio for showcasing the process and results of creative collaborations among artists and other practitioners. It will be called the Target Studio for Creative Collaboration.

Target and the University agree that when TCF Bank Stadium opens in 2009 it will be a marquee gathering place and a venue for building a strong sense of com-



munity. According to Bruininks, "TCF Bank Stadium will be an exciting new center of campus life, where students, alumni, and friends will gather for many years to come."

Target's support of Hanson Hall will help the Carlson School increase enrollment by 50 percent. The expansion will help meet the increasing demands in applications (in 2006, only 12 percent of applicants were admitted), as well as the number of employers looking for new graduates. It will also bring the size of the Carlson School undergraduate program up to par with most peer schools in the Big Ten.



"Target believes partnerships with leading cultural and educational institutions help strengthen local communities," says Laysha Ward, vice president of community relations for Target. "This partnership will help all of us gain a stronger appreciation and understanding of diverse cultures, traditions, and points of view, which collectively create a more vibrant community." 🌿

## MY ALMA MATER

by Shelley Miller, '02

One could say that I followed my big brother to the U. Jeff was configuring his final class schedule for his aerospace engineering degree as I was signing up for my first classes. And while I attended my first varsity swim practice, he was at the other end of the pool with the men's team. So yes, my brother's positive experience had an impact on my decision to leave Wisconsin to become a Gopher.



PHOTO: MICHAEL MOGRAW

Although I followed Jeff, from my first day on campus I felt like my college experience was my own. The U offered the opportunity to learn about a seemingly infinite number of topics. Classes for my German minor balanced my business studies in the Carlson School, and the electives I took gave me a better perspective on the world. The U taught me business and leadership skills that prepared me to be as competitive and knowledgeable as graduates of any other university. That is why I give back.

*Shelley Miller, '02 B.S.B., is an associate at Magnetar Capital in New York City and a donor who supported the recent construction of a new boathouse for the women's rowing team.* 🌿



Do you want to share your alma mater story in 150 words or less? Send it to [myalmamater@umn.edu](mailto:myalmamater@umn.edu). It may appear in *M* or online at [giving.umn.edu](http://giving.umn.edu)

# Be the life of the UMAA

University president Bob Bruininks has noted that nothing is more important to the strength of the University than alumni and friends who care deeply about its future. One of the best ways to forge a lasting bond with the University is through membership in the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, an independent membership organization dedicated to connecting alumni, students, and friends in life-long support of the University and each other. Life members make up almost a quarter of the UMAA's membership base of more than 56,000.

## Who are life members?

Life members graduated as long ago as 1924 and as recently as 2006. They hail from every college on campus and represent a wide spectrum of careers and occupations. What they share is pride in the University and a keen interest in helping maintain its excellence. Life membership ensures that you have a stake in the University as it moves toward becoming one of the top three public research universities in the world.

## Why become a life member?

*It's satisfying.* The UMAA accomplishes great things for the University through its members.

*It benefits you.* Life membership is seamless. You join once, and you're assured uninterrupted access to University libraries, *Minnesota* magazine, and other membership benefits. The newest benefit for life members is discounted rates on room rental in the McNamara Alumni Center.

*It makes financial sense.* Life membership allows the UMAA to avoid the costs associated with renewals, leaving more resources for important work in



PHOTO: DAVID ELLIS

legislative advocacy, support for collegiate units, recognition of faculty and alumni, and assistance for student programs.

## How do I join?

Single and joint life memberships are available, as well as a senior life membership (for age 65 and over). You have a choice of payment options. Pay all at once, make annual installments over 10 years, or have monthly payments automatically deducted from your bank account. An envelope is attached to this issue for your convenience. Join the UMAA today or contribute to alumni programming at one of the other University campuses. 🐦

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

## MEET A LIFE MEMBER

One of José Gonzalez's enduring memories of his days as a student at the University is standing in long lines to register for classes, with one baby daughter in a "snuggly" on his chest and the other—a toddler—in a stroller. In those days, Gonzalez (B.A. '87) balanced book bags and diaper bags. Today, he balances family time and work as a program officer for the Bush Foundation with a deep commitment to the University.

A life member of the UMAA, Gonzalez, 50, serves on the president's Latino advisory committee at the U and is a proud supporter of the Chicano studies department and Latino students and faculty. "I am especially proud of the projects I've worked on with the admissions staff to make it as painless as possible for Latino students to apply to the U, to brainstorm alternate methods to improve outreach to Latino students, and to make the U and its many resources as accessible as possible," he says. 🐦

## CLICK AND VOTE

What problems should University researchers focus on in 2007? Should Gopher sports teams compete against teams with American Indian mascots or names? How did you finance college? Visit the alumni association Web site and give us your opinion on hot topics pertaining to the University of Minnesota and its alumni and friends. Every Friday, we'll post a new question and give the results from the previous week's poll. Visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu) and click on "Question of the Week." 🐦

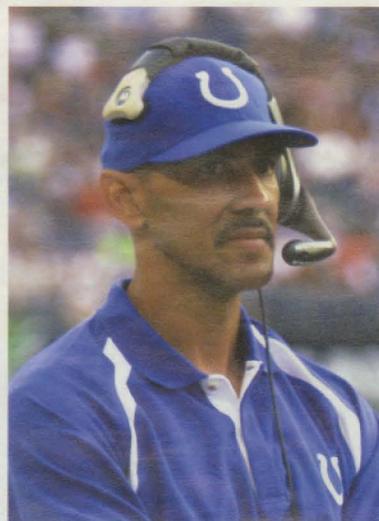
## Huddle with the UMAA on May 8

Alumni and friends of the University won't want to miss the 103rd annual celebration of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association on May 8. The UMAA is proud to present featured speaker Tony Dungy (B.S. '78) and special guest Stan Freese (B.A. '68), along with members of the University of Minnesota Marching Band. The evening includes a reception and dinner.

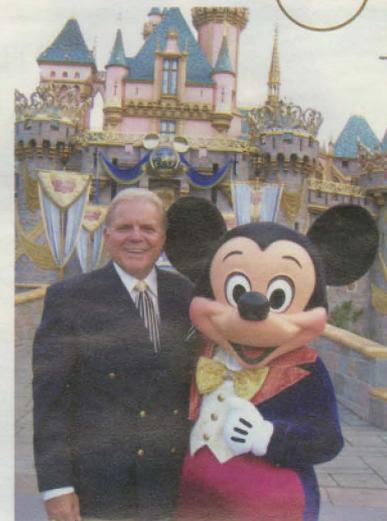
As a Gopher quarterback in the 1970s, Dungy was an academic all-American who led Minnesota to winning seasons as a starter. He is head coach of the Indianapolis Colts and has led them to four consecutive division titles and

a Super Bowl championship. Freese, a talented musician and delightful entertainer, has been with the Disney Corporation for 35 years and served as Disney's first ever world director of bands. He is currently the company's talent booking and casting director.

Tickets are on sale now. Call the University of Minnesota Arts Ticket Office at 612-624-2345 or go to [www.umn.edu/umato](http://www.umn.edu/umato).



Former Gopher Tony Dungy guided his Indianapolis Colts to this year's Super Bowl championship.



University alumnus Stan Freese (left) is the Disney Corporation's talent booking and casting director.

## GET BEHIND THE BIOSCIENCES

You or someone you know has likely benefited from a medical breakthrough from the University of Minnesota. There are many, including the first open-heart surgery, the development of treatments for diabetes, cancer-curing blood and bone marrow transplants, and advances in treating Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. Through these discoveries, Minnesota has emerged as a leader in biomedical and related

industries, employing 250,000 people and serving as home to companies such as Medtronic and St. Jude Medical.

This year, the Minnesota State Legislature is considering the University's request for funding to establish the Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority (see cover story for details). The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is committed to galvanizing alumni around this critically important initiative, as well as the University's 2008-09 biennial request.

Since last fall, the UMAA's advocacy committee has immersed itself in learning about the initiative, what promise it holds for the University and the state, and why it needs to be a legislative priority. The committee's work has led to a series of meetings throughout the state to educate citizens about the initiative.

The UMAA encourages you to become active in supporting the University at the legislature. To learn how to become involved and for the latest information on meetings in your area, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu) or call 612-626-1417.

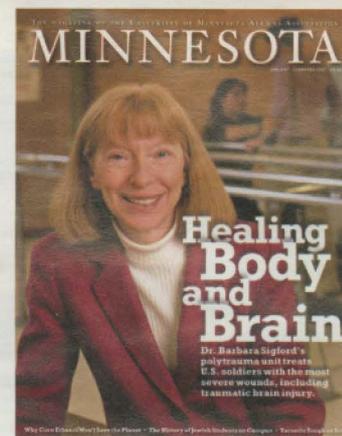


PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE

The proposed Biomedical Sciences Research Facilities Authority would enable the development of state-of-the-art research labs such as the McGuire Translational Research Lab, pictured.

## RECEIVE MINNESOTA MAGAZINE

*Minnesota* magazine is a benefit of membership in the University of Minnesota Alumni Association. The January-February 2007 issue includes a cover story on alumna Barbara Sigford, whose polytrauma unit treats U.S. service people with severe wounds, including traumatic brain injury; a feature on why corn-based ethanol won't save the planet but why alternative biofuels being studied by University researchers just might; and the first article in a two-part series exploring the history of Jewish students on campus.



Check out *Minnesota* content online at [www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota). Contact us to receive a sample copy, or become a UMAA member and every issue will be mailed to you. Call 612-624-2323 or 800-862-5867.



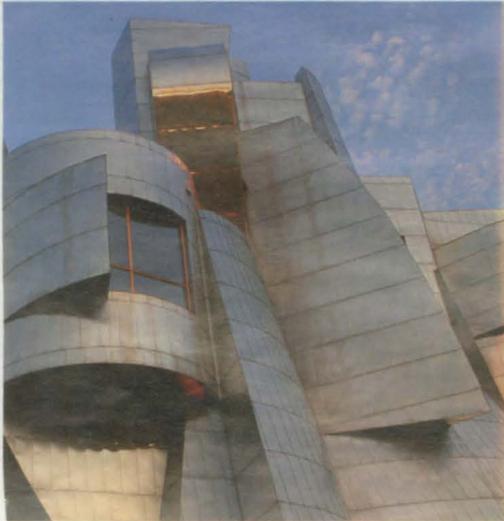
**how to join** To join the University of Minnesota Alumni Association or to learn more about membership and its benefits, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu) or call 612-624-2323 or 800-862-5867.



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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA



### SHINING STAR

The Weisman Art Museum was recently named among the 150 most popular buildings in America in a poll by the American Institute of Architects. Only eight buildings on the list—which is topped by the Empire State Building and the White House—are on campuses or owned by colleges. The Frank Gehry-designed Weisman, built in 1993, sits on the east bank of the Mississippi River and reflects the many shades of its surroundings. To see a slide show of different views of the Weisman taken at various times of the day, go to [www.umn.edu/twincities/weisman.php](http://www.umn.edu/twincities/weisman.php).

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spring 2007



### COVER STORY

## INNOVATIVE INVESTING

### THE UNIVERSITY SEEKS TO KEEP ITS EDGE IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The University of Minnesota has a rich legacy of innovation in the biomedical sciences. To ensure that it stays competitive in attracting star researchers, the U is asking the state for a unique bonding capability to invest in biomedical science facilities.

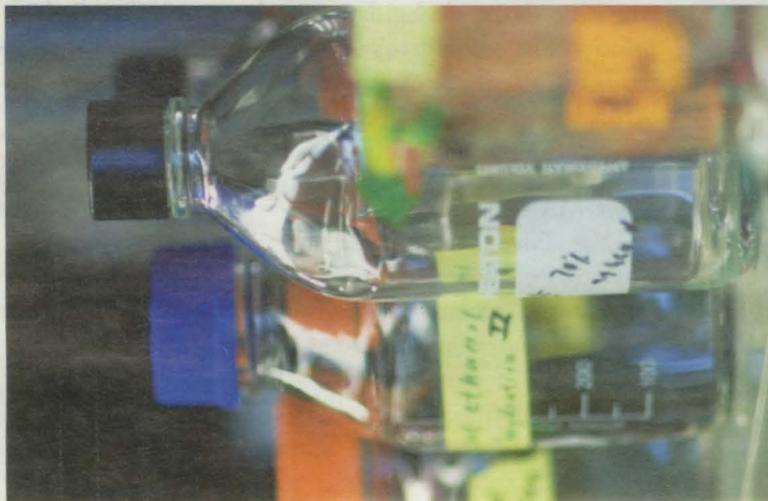


PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE



### CAMPUS LIFE

Five sample spring nights to take in the best of what the University has to offer in sports, film, theater, dance, and music.



### ENVIRONMENT

Minnesota's winters are losing their bite and plants and animals are changing along with them.



### ARTS & CULTURE

Quilts honor women soldiers killed in Iraq; new book explores why the Titanic went down.

(10)

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(4)



fall 2007

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
Driven to Discover

A publication for alumni, friends, faculty,  
and staff of the University of Minnesota—  
Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, Twin Cities

# KEEPING THE BEST

HOW THE U IS CHANGING THE CLIMATE FOR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

by Martha Coventry

Tay Netoff is one of those young brilliant minds who can make a university great. And with his work in trying to understand how epilepsy moves through the brain, Netoff had a plethora of opportunities for settling his family and beginning his academic life. He chose the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Minnesota.



PHOTO: PATRICK O'LEARY

Tay Netoff joined the Department of Biomedical Engineering last year to teach and to research the origins and mechanics of epilepsy.

“One of the things that made the difference in coming here was that the people in the administration were much more responsive than at other places,” says Netoff. “They treat you as a colleague and they recognize that new faculty are really keeping this place alive.”

In the past two years, the University has begun a push to attract the most talented faculty members and keep them here, with a new welcoming strategy, a revised tenure policy, better salaries, and greater attention to issues like diversity and collaboration. Increased competition nationwide for the same faculty pool is a factor in the effort, but an even bigger motivator is the U's goal to become a top-three public research university.

Arlene Carney, a professor in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, is now a vice provost in charge of making sure the U does everything it can to help young faculty members make the best start possible. She's part colleague, part mentor, part facilitator. She gets fired up when she talks about what the University has done to attract these faculty, and the word “nurturing” enters her vocabulary a lot.

Through a series of efforts, including a new faculty orientation program, Carney and her team are helping new teachers and researchers achieve their potential and are building loyalty to the U.

“A task force looking at faculty culture found that faculty tend to feel a strong connection to their departments and to their disciplines, but not always to the University of Minnesota,” says Carney. “We're trying to give them that connection right away.”

## Starting off right

New Faculty Orientation for Twin Cities faculty is a three-day affair. Each day, incoming faculty from all disciplines meet together on a different part of campus.

“One of the best things the faculty told us about the orientation was that they made friends with people from other colleges whom they never would have met, and they continued those friendship throughout the year,” says Carney.

Trica Keaton agrees. Keaton came to the U last fall as an assistant professor after a stint at Indiana University. She has a joint appointment in

American studies and global studies and focuses on questions of race and exclusion in the United States and France.

“I've never attended an orientation that actually brought together people from the natural and social sciences and humanities all in one room,” she says. “So that was fantastic. I was able to establish some relationships [last year] with people in the Medical School and on the St. Paul campus who are working in the sciences.”

President Bob Bruininks, Provost Tom Sullivan, and other senior administrators are included in the orientation meetings and receptions for new faculty members. Keaton asked them difficult

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >

questions—like how the humanities and social sciences will fare in the push for a stronger research agenda—and no one shied away from them.

“It was refreshing to find people in high powered positions willing to have frank discussions,” she says. “I’ve since reached out to them and to chairs of other departments.... I probably wouldn’t have done that if I didn’t feel that door was open. That tone was established early on.”



PHOTO: PATRICK O'LEARY

One of the things Vice Provost Arlene Carney instituted to make sure new faculty members have immediate access to the administration is a special e-mail address just for their questions: [newfaculty@umn.edu](mailto:newfaculty@umn.edu)

Netoff found a similar openness and respect during his hiring process. “When you’re interviewing and wondering if people are going to treat you well, this type of communication makes a huge difference,” he says.

### Valuable resources

Orientation does another important thing for young faculty. “It provides us with resources that make a huge difference not only in what we accomplish, but what we *believe* we can accomplish,” Keaton says. For her, one of those resources came in the person of Jeanne Kilde in the Institute for Advanced Studies, who has helped Keaton write a grant for a project in Paris as well as design a lecture series.

Netoff needed support, too, but of the material kind—he had to have the right equipment to do his job.

In his lab in Nils Hasselmo Hall, Netoff stains slices of brain and uses a microscope to record the electrical signal in a cell during a seizure. The fluorescent signal from the dye allows him to photograph how this seizure moves across the brain in milliseconds from cell to cell. When it comes to the brain producing this reaction on its own, “we don’t really understand how and why this happens,” he says.

Netoff is one of only a handful of people in the world who use this sophisticated set-up to study the patterns of neurons, and the U honored his skill and potential. “When I wrote down the list of everything I wanted in order to do my research, [the administration] said, ‘If that’s what you need, that’s what you get.’ Now it’s up to me to perform,” he says.

### Catching the brass ring

Performance is a key issue for young faculty because it brings up the most sought-after achievement and most stressful topic at any university—tenure.

Tenure is the holy grail of a professor’s life, assuring him or her—barring any grievous actions—of a permanent academic home.

Traditionally, to get tenure faculty members have to publish a number of high-quality articles or books and establish a record of good teaching in a set amount of time, usually six years.

The U’s faculty tenure policy was originally crafted in 1941, a time when U faculty members were almost exclusively male and many had wives at home to look after children. Today, nationwide more than 50 percent of new Ph.D.s are women, and the U has altered its policy to reflect this changing demographic and to give more opportunities to both men and women when it comes to taking care of their families or themselves.

The biggest change to the policy was to make it tougher to get tenure—a change that the faculty asked for and the faculty senate voted unanimously to accept. The standards are more explicit

and more rigorous. For example, previously the tenure policy examined a faculty member’s potential to develop into an excellent scholar and teacher. The new standards require that a faculty member have already demonstrated excellence in those areas before he or she is awarded tenure.

The changes in the tenure policy appeal to Netoff.

“The new tenure code seems reasonable and has built-in transparency,” says Netoff. “That has put me more at ease. I can pay attention to my research and teaching. Once I get to the time when I’m ready for tenure, I think I’ll have a good feeling about whether I deserve it or not.”

### Not just for new faculty

The support that the U gives its young faculty members extends to those who’ve been around for years. Carney has been approached to do an “old faculty” orientation and although that might be a way off, there are already workshops for all faculty on teaching and on writing grant proposals.

The University is raising faculty pay, as well as upping from 20 to 30 the total number of faculty awarded the Regents Professorship—one of the University’s highest honors—and increasing the award’s stipend. Prominent faculty are also honored on the Scholars Walk and the Wall of Discovery, both on the Twin Cities campus.

The goal of the University is to raise the level of excellence in the three areas that have been its mission since the beginning—teaching, research, and outreach (now called “public engagement”).

**Today, nationwide more than 50 percent of new Ph.D.s are women, and the U has altered its policy to reflect this changing demographic and to give more opportunities to both men and women when it comes to taking care of their families or themselves.**

Taking care of its faculty—old and new—will help the University become a world leader as well as a Minnesota institution that keeps its eyes focused close to home. 🍁



## A MILLION-DOLLAR EFFORT

U alum Phil Thompson performed his poignant and somber piano composition "Final Ride Home" at Minneapolis's City Center in August. Thompson, a composer and an entrepreneurship graduate from the Carlson School of Management, wrote the song two days after the Interstate 35W bridge collapse as a tribute to the aid workers and to victims. He hopes to raise \$1 million for the Twin Cities chapter of the American Red Cross through sales of the song, which can be downloaded for 99 cents through iTunes, CD Baby, or his Web site, [www.philthompsonmusic.com](http://www.philthompsonmusic.com), where you can also watch the accompanying video. Says Thompson: "I was inspired to do something, and writing music is something I can do, so I threw myself into this song."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I would like to take a few quick moments to say thank you for your coverage of University of Minnesota students making a difference in the world ("Making a difference," *M*, summer 2007). So often the media covers only the negative stories about youth.

As a founding member of STLF (Students Today, Leaders Forever), [I have read] many articles...about the organization. The piece in *M* was able to accurately describe the growth of STLF

and its impact. It was able to honor the 9,000 hours of service that college students across the nation performed over spring break [through the STLF-sponsored Pay it Forward tours].

As a recent graduate, I'm excited to become a member of the alumni and continue to support our wonderful University.

Greg Tehven, '06  
West Fargo, North Dakota



A publication for alumni, friends, faculty, and staff of the University of Minnesota—Crookston, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, Twin Cities

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Read *M* online at: [WWW.M.UMN.EDU](http://WWW.M.UMN.EDU)

## BOOK REVIEWS

by Gayla Marty

3

### Latino Minnesota

By Lee Roethke

Latino migrants, immigrants, and their U.S.-born children have been contributing to the economic, cultural, and social fabric of Minnesota for more than a century. Through lively prose and photographs old and new, Roethke traces the story from the first recorded Mexican settlers in 1860 to workers who have formed the backbone of Minnesota's agricultural, food processing, manufacturing, and service industries since the early 1900s. Roethke is a doctoral student in art history at the Twin Cities campus.

Afton Historical Society Press, 2007; ISBN 978-1-890434-73-1; \$24.00 hc



### The Feast of Love

By Charles Baxter

Bradley, twice divorced, is a guy who can't sleep. Walking his dog under the stars, he begins to discover a whole world of connections and varieties of love, and we get to discover them, too. The novel—a National Book Award finalist—inspired the new movie starring Morgan Freeman and Greg Kinnear, due out from MGM this fall. Baxter teaches creative writing at the Twin Cities campus and is the author of eight novels as well as many poems and short stories.

Vintage, 2000; ISBN 978-0-307387-27-1; \$14.95 pb



### You Failed Your Math Test, Comrade Einstein

Edited by Mikhail Shifman

Are you interested in captivating and challenging math problems created by Soviet mathematicians that can be solved using elementary math (i.e., without calculus)? Curious as to whether you'd be eligible for freshman admission to the math department at Moscow University? Want to learn about the use of math as a weapon of ideological control in the USSR during the 1970s and '80s? If you answered yes to any of these questions, this book is for you. U physics professor Mikhail Shifman, who lived through it all, has been awarded the Blaise Pascal Research Chair in Paris for the coming year.

World Scientific, 2005; ISBN 978-9-812562-79-1; \$32.00 pb



**more info** Contact University of Minnesota Bookstores, located in Coffman Memorial Union and the St. Paul Student Center, at 612-626-0559 or [generalbooks@umn.edu](mailto:generalbooks@umn.edu). Look for faculty authors at [www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref](http://www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref)

# O great teacher, where art thou?

FIRST-RATE TEACHING IS ALIVE AND WELL AT THE UNIVERSITY by Pauline Oo

Approachable. Engaging. Full of enthusiasm. A good teacher is an academic alchemist who can transform any course into pure gold. If we've been lucky, we've all had a great teacher at some point in our life, and we instinctively know it. He or she is not necessarily the person with infinite knowledge of a particular subject; how to calculate angular momentum may roll off her tongue, or he may know Shakespeare's sonnets as well as his own face, but if these teachers can't make you care about their subjects, all those learned words are just talk. And if you feel they don't care about you? Forget it.

Paula O'Loughlin is an associate professor of political science at Morris. In her decade-plus career there, she has chalked up numerous distinctions, most recently the Morse-Alumni Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Teaching. O'Loughlin is known for her astonishing commitment to students and for pushing them to do more than they think they are capable of doing.

"If you open the door for them and say, 'Hey, you could be good enough to get a Ph.D.,' they will rise to that level," she says. O'Loughlin's efforts have

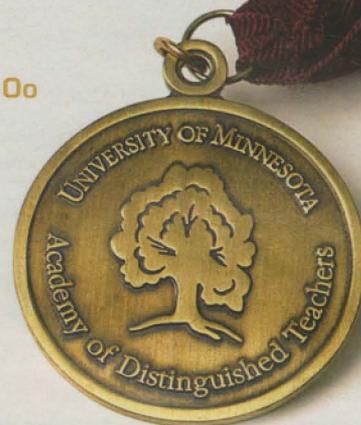
helped send many students to Washington, D.C., for internships and led others to apply for graduate fellowships. Her commitment to teaching naturally spills into her role as an adviser. She has about 45 advisees, twice as many as some of her colleagues.

"I don't want to turn people away and then have some students say I'm playing favorites," says O'Loughlin. "It's more work, but you know what? Students can help each other; [teaching is] a collective process. At times, I will have my advisees and students get to know each other so they can talk about student government or what it's like to apply for the Truman Scholarship, for example. There's a little bit of outsourcing [that takes place whenever I teach or advise]."

### Grounded in teaching

With the U's goal of becoming one of the world's top-three public research universities, there has naturally been a focus on its research. Yet the U's emphasis remains on great teaching.

"The people in Minnesota want professors who will show some attention to their sons and daughters



and help them through school, give them a lot of guidance on the career, and be there for them," says electrical engineering professor

Bruce Wollenberg, a 200

recipient of the University's award for outstanding contributions to postbaccalaureate, graduate, and professional education. "And the research is, maybe you could say equal, but really in my opinion, it's secondary [to teaching]."

Provost Tom Sullivan, the University's chief academic officer, believes everything the U does is grounded in teaching, and that "some of the very best teaching owes its roots to the experience gained through active research, which in itself is a type of learning and teaching."

First-rate teaching captivates the imagination, makes us open our minds to possibilities, and inspires us to think and look beyond ourselves.



Auschwitz, with its grim "work makes you free" welcome, was one of six Nazi death camps in Poland.

## TEACHING THE HOLOCAUST by Kelly O'Brian

Poland was the center of the Nazis' efforts to exterminate the Jews during WWII. Six death camps lay within its borders, including Treblinka and Auschwitz. Many non-Jewish Poles also died in these camps. This period altered the face of Poland forever. The city of Lublin, for example, had 119,000 Jews in 1939; today it has only 18—10 women and 8 men.

The Poles have struggled to make sense of this chapter of their history for decades. As a result, Holocaust education in Poland has been fraught with doubt and misinformation. But this summer the University began to help middle- and high-

school teachers learn how to explore this difficult issue for a new generation of Polish children through a program called Project Poland.

Tess Weiss, a survivor of the Radom, Poland, ghetto and labor camp and president of the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida, began Project Poland a year ago. She asked Stephen Feinstein, director of the U's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, to help. "My philosophy was to find [educational] organization whose mission was the same as our mission: to teach the lesson

“My charge in every course is to provide an intellectually rigorous experience,” says O’Loughlin. “I pay attention to students’ backgrounds. If students in a class are highly familiar with a course content, I increase the difficulty of the material. Anything less would be disrespectful of my students’ possibilities.”

Wollenberg, who also has a reputation for presenting tough material with great clarity and ease, thinks nothing of overhauling his syllabi when the times call for it. For example, in the 1990s Congress passed legislation that deregulated the entire electric power industry in the United States; Wollenberg responded by almost immediately rebuilding his course content so students could understand the new world in which they could pick their power company, just as they could choose their long-distance phone service.

Good teachers, he says, have one ear tuned to the world and another to their students.

“I have a colleague down the hall, who’s not a full-time professor, but this guy has a good rapport with his students. He [literally] has a welcome mat in his doorway,” says Wollenberg. “I look at him and I think I’ve got to be a little more like him.” 🍂

of the Holocaust and to shape a more moral and ethical community,” says Weiss.

In July, Feinstein and American and Polish scholars, including Jewish adults who were hidden as children, gathered at Jagellonian University in Krakow with 65 teachers to discuss the Holocaust from a decidedly Polish point of view.

“Every year more information is found. As a result, Holocaust education is constantly evolving,” says Feinstein. The future of Project Poland depends on funding, but Feinstein hopes the University can continue helping people understand what the wrong technology, and political ideology and rhetoric can produce. 🍂

## DYING ON THE STREETS

In 1997, 15,000 homeless people lived in Minnesota; by 2003 there were more than 20,000. Homeless people are often invisible, but U researchers are honoring their lives by looking at their wishes around death.

Researchers John Song, Edward Ratner, and Dianne Bartels from the Center for Bioethics interviewed homeless people—whose average age of death is 40—in the Twin Cities about their concerns for the end of life.

They fear not being found or recognized, and dying anonymously. They also don’t want to be a burden, want to avoid “heroic measures” like life support, and may feel the need to reconnect with family members. They favor advance care planning like appointing surrogate decision-makers and creating living wills.

The National Institutes of Health recently gave the Center for Bioethics \$900,000 for a three-year project. Its goal is to determine whether homeless people are willing to create an advance directive, whether the assistance of a social worker will increase their likelihood of doing so, and whether the process will spark a change in care when homeless people become hospitalized or die. 🍂



## ALLEVIATING DIABETES COMPLICATIONS

Birgitta Rice, in the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, has developed a therapy proven to relieve leg pain and improve healing of chronic foot ulcers in patients with diabetes or peripheral arterial disease.

Utilizing assisted thermal biofeedback, WarmFeet Intervention allows peripheral blood vessels to widen, improving circulation to tissues and nerves. In a randomized clinical trial, the treatment helped chronic foot ulcers heal completely within three months. Subjects also noticed improvements in pain relief, nerve function, ambulation, and coping skills.

To find out more about WarmFeet Intervention, see [www.WarmFeetKit.com](http://www.WarmFeetKit.com) 🍂



## ALCOHOL ADS AND ADOLESCENTS

A recent study suggests that adolescents experience heightened intentions to drink when their schools are in a neighborhood where alcohol advertisements are prominent. A team from the University of Minnesota and the University of Florida recorded 931 alcohol advertisements within a 1,500-foot radius of 63 schools in the Chicago area. Students exposed to these advertisements in sixth grade were more likely to hold positive attitudes about alcohol and have stronger intentions to drink by eighth grade. Over 75 percent of the ads featured only the alcohol’s brand name or price, suggesting that ads need not be directed at children for children to internalize them. Youth who drink before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking after age 18. 🍂

For more, see [www.m.umn.edu/HealthMedicine](http://www.m.umn.edu/HealthMedicine)

Read M online: [www.m.umn.edu](http://www.m.umn.edu)

BREWSTER AND SMITH STIR UP SPIRIT  
IN FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL FANS

# IGNITING THE 'GOPHER NATION'

by Rick Moore

In a two-month span last winter, U athletics director Joel Maturi changed the tenor of Gopher athletics.

In mid-January, he lured Tim Brewster from the ranks of the NFL to be the new head football coach, and two months later he shocked the basketball world by hiring Tubby Smith from perennial powerhouse North Carolina.

And in the days hence, U students, sportswriters, bloggers, and casual observers have taken to analyzing the moves—with almost uniformly favorable reviews. It was if the coaching hires—especially Smith—flipped on the switch that awakened a sleeping “Gopher Nation,” a moniker Brewster has given Gopher fans.

There was certainly reason for the slumber.

While the football team enjoyed moderate success under 10-year coach Glen Mason, with seven bowl appearances and a record of 64-57, it was never able to crack the ranks of the top three in the Big Ten and had a 33-48 record in conference play. Moreover, Minnesota hasn't made it to the Rose Bowl since 1962. The back-breaking straw came when the Gophers squandered a 31-point lead in a loss to Texas Tech in last year's Insight Bowl. Two days later Mason was fired.

Times have been even tougher on the hardwood. In Dan Monson's seven years as head basketball coach, the Gophers only made the NCAA tournament once, and last season (under Monson and interim replacement Jim Molinari) they lost more than 20 games for the first time in team history.

## Enter Tim and Tubby

Within two days of Smith's hire, about 600 new season tickets for men's basketball had been sold, and as of mid-August, sales had increased by about 1,100 seats compared to last year. Early indications are that the once-raucous Barn will once again be brimming with fans for the 2007-08 season.

Interestingly, a short article on the University's home Web page, [www.umn.edu](http://www.umn.edu), announcing Smith's hire attracted more notes from readers than virtually any story this year, and many of those came from Kentucky residents congratulating the University on its new coach. Said one: “I'm one UK fan who hates to see Tubby go... Best of luck to Tubby and to Golden Gophers for knowing that Tubby is a great coach.” And another: “I want to congratulate UM for hiring Tubby Smith... I for one think he is an outstanding coach and was proud that he was at UK. I wish nothing but good things for him and his family.”

Brewster has been generating his own buzz, in part due to an internal motor that never seems to stop. Among other accomplishments in a busy summer, he made due on his promise that he or a member of his coaching staff would visit each and every high school football coach in the state by the end of the summer. And fans are feeding off of his enthusiasm; season ticket sales for football are up by 3,400 from 2006.

Now the task is to convert that excitement into wins and championships. On paper, neither the football nor basketball teams would appear to be a frontrunner for a Big Ten title this year. But there's certainly hope beyond the hype.

Says one U fan and blogger: “For the first time in years, Gopher football and Gopher basketball are simultaneously creating off-season excitement. Both programs have a lot of work to do to reach the expectations that each new coach brings to their respective program, but both programs can sell hope. Hope is a powerful tool and hope is back in Dinkytown.” 🍂



**more info** For more on Gopher sports, visit [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com); to purchase tickets, call 612-624-8080 or 800-846-7437.

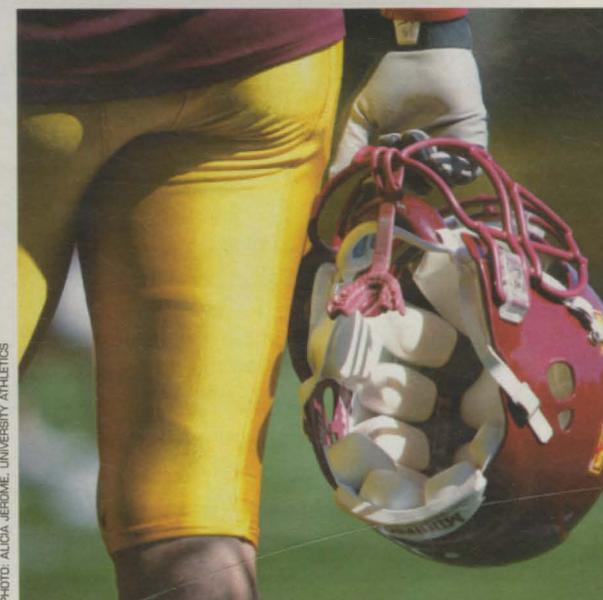
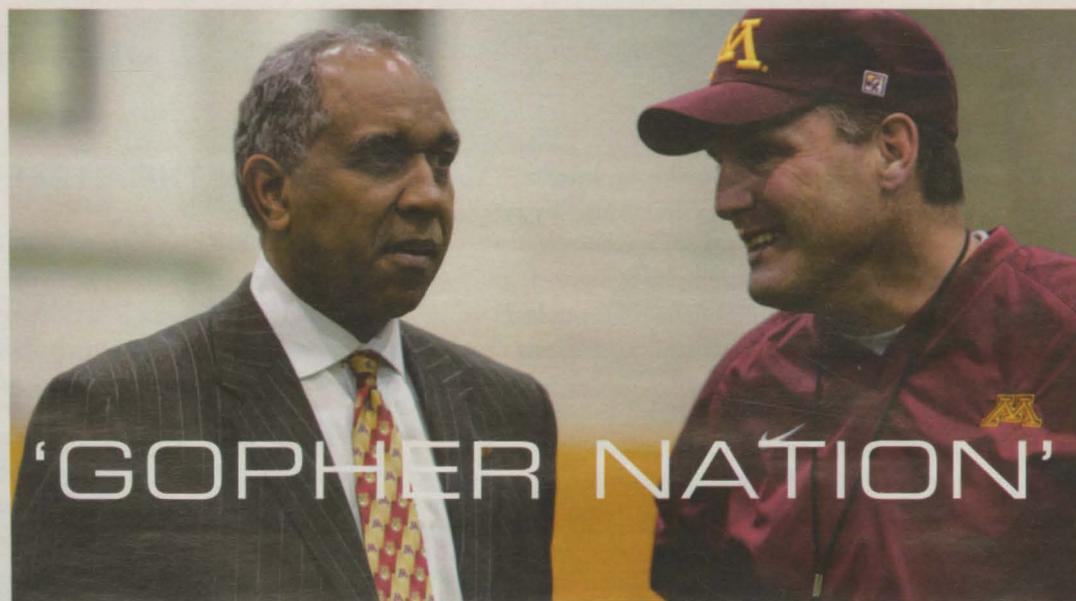


PHOTO: ALICIA JEROME, UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

# Value of a new football stadium transcends Xs and Os

by Rick Moore

During the fall months over the years, I've been both heartened and taken aback by this recurring Saturday sight: waves of U students in gold, season-ticket-holder T-shirts all walking toward the Gopher football game. Heading to the Metrodome, and heading *away* from campus.

College life is largely shaped by students' activities and memories on campus, and a Big Ten football game—a centerpiece of campus life—should not be given away to a nearby professional venue. At stake are the associations with and memories of this university in perhaps its time of greatest change and improvement.

Games on campus once included the sky overhead, the sharp scents of autumn, and the Marching Band playing *The Rouser* as it paraded down University Avenue toward the stadium. You can't get those things—as much a part of the game as yards rushed and touchdowns scored—in the stale air of the Metrodome, amidst its sea of blue plastic seats *under a dull gray roof*.

Fortunately, in 2009 the Twin Cities campus will be home to a new landmark: an open-air football stadium in the burgeoning Gateway District at the east edge of campus.

But a number of people—including readers of our publication—have brought up an important question: Is this new stadium absolutely crucial in helping the U become one of the top three public research universities in the world?

Probably not in any quantifiable sense. But it will play an important part in helping us get there. Because achieving this kind of standing depends not just on great discoveries, grant money totals, or the number of faculty in the National Academy of Sciences. When the U reaches its goal, it will be because it is the recipient of a huge accumulation of goodwill and enthusiasm from the people who believe in this place.

Sports are often strongly connected to the image people have of the University of Minnesota. Though we may not always like it, fans and even casual observers tend to talk more about Tim Brewster than they do about the latest work of our Regents Professors. Having memorable experiences at a state-of-the-art stadium may translate into more support for the U in general, and may increase contributions to scholarships and other academic endeavors.

## FUNDRAISING ON PACE

So far, \$60 million of the \$86.5 million needed for the stadium has been raised from individuals and corporations, and a team of volunteer fundraisers was recently organized to inspire more gifts. "Gopher fans have shown tremendous dedication through their gifts of time and money," says Athletics Director Joel Maturi. "They're playing a lead role in creating one of the finest collegiate football facilities in the nation."

And the stadium will be more than just a site for football games. It will serve as the new home for the U's Marching Band, the "Pride of Minnesota." It will be a place where alumni gather, relive memories, and notice the changes taking place on campus, like the developing biomedical sciences corridor just west of the stadium. It will also be a place where visitors will discover the splendors of the U for the first time; roughly half of the Minnesotans who have contact with the U each year make that connection through arts or athletic events.

"I think it's going to be a great state gathering place," President Bob Bruininks said at the stadium groundbreaking.

It's not just about six or seven football games a year. Yes, TCF Bank Stadium will be a place where students rally and alumni reminisce while a new generation of Gopher football players makes history. But it will also show the U's dedication to delivering a comprehensive student experience and to providing a place that the people of Minnesota can call their own. 🍂

## TAKING AIM AT CONCUSSIONS

This season, the University will be one of 10 schools in the country to use a new football helmet that detects potential concussion-causing hits. The helmet, made by Riddell, is outfitted with sensors that detect the G-forces of hits sustained to the head. If a hit is hard enough to cause a concussion, a transmitter sends an alert to a sideline computer where trainers or coaches can monitor players' conditions. The system will also keep track of the number of powerful hits players receive throughout the season. The helmet won't prevent concussions, but it will provide increased awareness of potential dangers. Data suggests that 85 percent of concussions suffered by football players go undetected; the U hopes the Riddell helmet will reduce this rate. 🍂

# IN THE WAKE OF THE BRIDGE COLLAPSE

by Rick Moore

A month after the August 1 collapse of the Interstate 35W bridge over the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, the images linger of twisted steel beams, slanted spans of freeway, and cars standing askew at both ends of the remains. There are also the sobering statistics: 13 people dead, dozens injured, and countless lives affected by the trauma.

Given the bridge's location—literally a block away from the western edge of the Twin Cities campus—and its function as a major artery for commuters, the collapse hits even closer to home at the University of Minnesota. Thousands of students, faculty, and staff used the span each day to get to campus from points all around the greater metro area.

you could die in a plane crash or on a highway, but you don't assume that the basic structure holding you up when you travel is going to fail. There's something unbelievably unsettling to that. It makes everything else around you seem so much more unpredictable."

Looking toward the future, there is a strong sense of hope. Although it seems hard to believe, Minnesota leaders hope to have a new bridge in place by the end of 2008.

And this fall the Urban Studies Program is offering a special course, "The River, the Bridge, the Community: Beyond the Headlines of the I-35W Bridge Collapse," taught by Pat Nunnally, coordinator of the U's River Life Program. The class, which will include a series of lectures by University and off-campus experts, will consider how our transportation system and the Mississippi River ecosystem will be shaped by decisions made in the next year. 🌱



PHOTO: PATRICK O'LEARY

As you travel toward campus now via University Avenue and look to the south as you cross the freeway, there is a stark reminder of the tragedy: the road rises... and then simply disappears.

Gone, too, is another piece of our collective sense of security. As University President Bob Bruininks told the *Minnesota Daily*, "... You didn't travel across that stretch of highway and ask yourself, 'What are the odds of getting to the other side?' ... You assume

Just as a number of students, faculty, and staff rushed to the scene at the time of the collapse—helping rescue the injured, doing basic triage, and ferrying victims to ambulances—so, too, will the University of Minnesota be helping the community understand the catastrophe and its implications for the future.

U researchers have applied for grants to examine possible causes for the bridge's collapse and to study how travelers choose to commute in its aftermath.



**more info** For stories about the involvement of University students, staff, and faculty in bridge-related rescue efforts and information on how to navigate around campus, visit [www.umn.edu/umnnews/Feature\\_Stories/Bridge.html](http://www.umn.edu/umnnews/Feature_Stories/Bridge.html)

Jeremiah Peterson returned from the Iraq war and is a student again at the University of Minnesota, studying and taking tests with a new perspective. He is enrolled in the Inter-College Program at the College of Continuing Education.

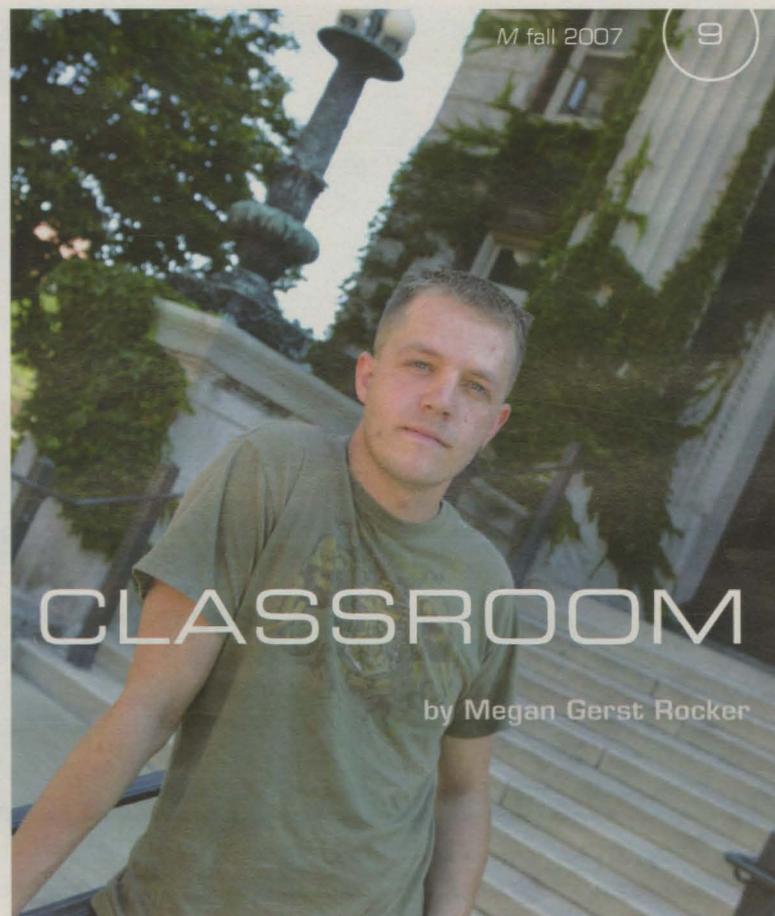


PHOTO: TIM RUMMELHOFF

# FROM IRAQ TO THE CLASSROOM

U STUDENT AND WAR VET JEREMIAH PETERSON TALKS ABOUT ADJUSTING TO CAMPUS LIFE

by Megan Gerst Rucker

As a grenadier for Delta Company, Jeremiah Peterson was stationed in one of the deadliest places in Baghdad: Airport Road. Now he's back at the University of Minnesota. And for Peterson, an engaging, gregarious 25-year-old who spent 18 months in a combat zone, adjusting to the slower pace of college life has been a significant transition.

He's not alone. Hundreds of veterans are currently enrolled at the U, and more are returning from the war and re-enrolling every semester. But the dropout rate for veterans is extremely high.

"Some of these guys haven't been in school for years... and are now having to relearn how to learn," says Peterson. "And think about it: For your average college-aged kid, a 'life or death' situation means cramming for a chem final or forgetting you had a term paper due. For a vet ... well, having spent months getting shot at sort of takes the urgency out of studying in Walter Library for nine hours."

## There's no place like home ... even home

When Peterson's tour ended in March 2005, he was happy to come back home—at least for a time.

"I came home, and I was restless," Peterson says. "It wasn't the place I had left. My friends from school had all graduated and moved away, or gotten jobs ... and I wasn't ready to sit still yet, adjust to

civilian life." So Peterson packed his bags again, and indulged in one of his great loves: traveling.

He spent a month in Asia, visiting Japan and Thailand. He also stayed in hostels across Europe, spent time in Africa, and journeyed coast to coast in South America.

By fall, Peterson was ready to resume his studies. His decision to come back as a full-time day student meant that he was in classes with more traditionally aged college students. "Like many vets who come back, I was all alone. I was the oldest in most of my classes, and I had no one my age I could talk with or commiserate with about homework and stuff."

"But," he says, "I knew what benefits were afforded to me as a vet and a soldier. I was adaptable and motivated to finish my education."

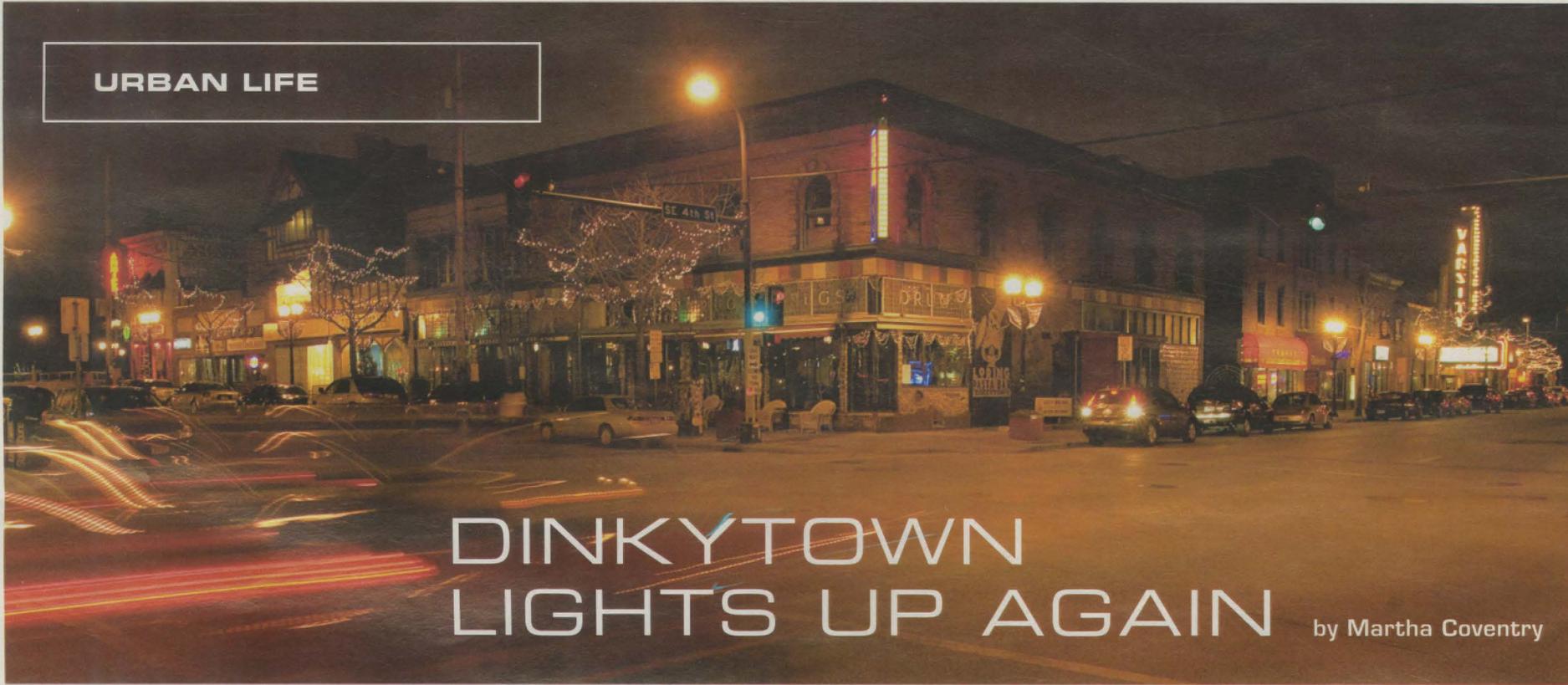
Peterson realizes that not all of his fellow veterans are as fortunate, which is the main reason he volunteers as president of the Veterans Transition Center (VTC), which is supported by a student group for veterans called Comfort for Courage.

"The VTC lets vets hang out with other people who have gone through the same thing, faced the same challenges," he says. "They can feel free to be themselves."

## Return engagement?

In order to fund his education, Peterson reenlisted with the National Guard this past January, and spends his time training units stateside that are getting ready to deploy. He's signed on for another three years, and although it is unlikely he will be sent back to Iraq, the possibility does exist.

Peterson is diligently working on designing his Inter-College Program degree through the College of Continuing Education in chemistry, business, and pre-professional studies, and estimates that he has about a year and a half left before graduation. He would like to go on to physical therapy school (he currently volunteers at the V.A. hospital in the therapy ward) with the goal of "opening my own practice somewhere up north, running and expanding it until I can hire a partner to take it over, making some wise investments, and then retiring to travel." 🍁



# DINKYTOWN LIGHTS UP AGAIN

by Martha Coventry

Some of us are slightly embarrassed to admit that, in the 1960s and '70s, we chose to come to the University of Minnesota because of Dinkytown. It was Greenwich Village a mere few hours from our hometowns, and we hoped its caché would rub off on us.

Dinkytown has morphed over the years from groovy street scene to purveyor of practical goods to night-life hot spot. Dinkytown's latest incarnation makes it a destination not just for students, who still fill its bars at night, but also for their parents—some who walked its sidewalks dazzled by dreams three or four decades ago and are now returning to eat its imaginative food and linger over a glass of wine.

“Dinkytown has changed as it has needed to change,” says Skott Johnson, president of the Dinkytown Business Association for 16 years, on and off. Dinkytown used to be a residential/commercial district with plenty of stores to serve the surrounding neighborhood. Then the face of retail changed, and Dinkytown had to follow. When the nearby Quarry shopping center—with its “big box” stores—opened in the late 1990s, it was the “nail in the coffin” for Dinkytown as a basic needs supplier, says Johnson. Students now make “Target runs” and drive, not walk, to get what they need.

But as these customers were driving away from Dinkytown, others started driving toward it. Dinkytown's basic entrepreneurial spirit kicked in and helped the crossroads reinvent itself once again. “Entertainment has blossomed in places like [Minneapolis's] warehouse district, and Dinkytown went right along with this trend,” says Johnson. “More people are traveling greater distances to come here.”

Jason MacLean helped foster the latest Dinkytown renaissance in 2000 when he moved his Loring Park restaurant to the old Gray's Drug building, which he renovated into the theater set called the Loring Pasta Bar. In 2003 he opened the bohemian Kitty Cat Klub. And in 2005, he reopened the Varsity Theater as an entertainment venue where local bands play, the Bell Museum hosts its Café Scientifique lectures, and lines form down the block.

The now popular Kafé 421 occupies the space of a former hardware store, which Georgia Sanders transformed into an inviting, attractive restaurant six years ago. “I wanted to come here because of the social climate,” Sanders says. Students come during the day, and their parents show up in the evening to eat her first-rate food or sit at her new

wine bar. The University has embraced Sanders, too, and her food turns up at catered events all over campus.

Dinkytown's streets are now busy every night, with different age groups claiming their own time slots. Places like Mesa, which sells slices of pizza, do more business from 1 to 3 a.m., after the bars close, than during lunch or dinnertime.

In 1978 business owners had a marketing campaign featuring T-shirts saying, “Dinkytown USA, ‘Where it's at!’” Those T-shirts would work today. There's an energy in Dinkytown that's been absent since student protests filled the neighborhood. And although Dinkytown is cleaner now, odd and indecipherable characters still set it apart from anywhere else in the city. Like the young man with a peacock feather stuck in his giant Afro who sits nearly every day, shirt open to the navel, outside the Kitty Cat Klub, carefully smoking a cigarette and reading a book, a perpetual ironic smile on his face. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose. 🍁

# A race to give back

MORE THAN 51,000 ALUMNI MAKE 2007 AMONG BEST YEARS FOR GRADS GIVING TO THE U

This past spring, hundreds of young alumni zipped around campus dressed as Goldy on a motor scooter, bumping into the likes of President Bruininks on a toy horse and Ada Comstock on a bike.

Okay, so the wild ride was virtual, but this interactive game earned some real dollars for the University from some 600 Generation Y alumni—those who graduated in the last decade. Donations from this group totaled more than \$200,000 and the Triple Match Derby promotion helped increase the number of Gen Y alums giving back by more than 35 percent.

Jessica Nischik, who earned bachelors degrees in Spanish and marketing in 1999, was one such alum who made her first gift this year—a year that saw a record number of alumni supporting the U (see sidebar). “The U gave me my degrees, which have enabled me to get the jobs I’ve had,” says Nischik, *who lives in Portland, Oregon, and works as an administrative manager in the healthcare industry.* “The U is definitely a worthwhile cause for me.”

Nischik directed her support to the GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Scholarship, in part because she was helped by scholarships as a student and understands the difference they can make, both while in school and after graduation.

“Scholarships helped cover the cost of books and other supplies. Without them, I would have had to take out more loans, which would have made it more difficult to get established after graduation,” she says.

While ensuring educational opportunities for others seems like a selfless act, there’s also something in it for the donor, as Nischik points out: “Those of us already in careers will be working beside today’s students when they graduate. I want to know that they got a solid education and are well prepared to make positive contributions. Scholarships help make that possible.”

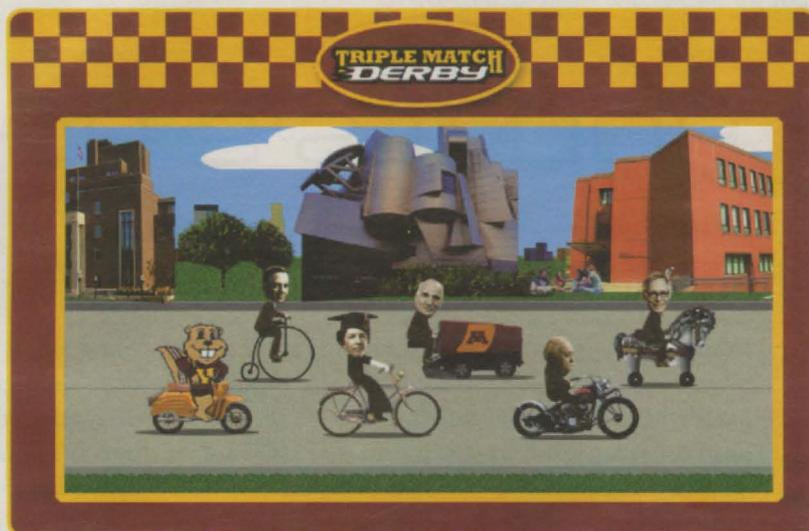
Vincent Mar, B.A., ’85, also looked beyond the classroom when he decided to support students with his first gift to the U. Mar directed his gift to a scholarship in the China Center. “International education is very important to make our U better and better,” explains Mar. “We all have a need to

**“The tens of thousands of alumni who contributed this year helped provide a world-class education for talented and prepared students.”**

— PRESIDENT BOB BRUININKS

understand the outside world and I believe the China Center Scholarship will help more students understand China and its culture.”

Gifts from Nischik, Mar, and thousands of other alumni were sparked by the U’s commitment to reconnect with its graduates. Whether chatting with a student caller, or reading a letter or e-mail from the president, alumni continue to be engaged with their alma mater—at times even donning Goldy Gopher garb to chase esteemed University figures around campus. 🍁



The Triple Match Derby online game pitted thousands of young alumni in a race across campus with U legends and leaders, earning 200 points for hitting Bruininks, Comstock, and Coffman, but losing points for getting hit by Northrop and Mariucci, whose zamboni was tough to dodge. Once they crossed the finish line, many alumni made a donation to their alma mater.

## ALUMNI GIVING BY THE NUMBERS

Alumni Donors: 51,051

Gen Y: 1,930

Gen X: 7,176

Boomer: 25,483

Mature: 16,462

Data from fiscal year 2007,  
July 1, 2006–June 30, 2007



Race around campus as Goldy on a motor scooter! Play the Triple Match Derby game at [www.triplematchderby.com](http://www.triplematchderby.com)

## SPANing the globe

### MINNESOTA'S OLDEST STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM CELEBRATES SIX DECADES OF PROMOTING AMITY AMONG NATIONS

After WWII, a group of local students, faculty, and community leaders decided the need for international understanding and amity was greater than ever. Their solution—the Student Project for Amity Among Nations (SPAN)—celebrates its 60th anniversary this year.

“The project was started to help students experience the wider world,” explains U history professor Theofanis G. Stavrou, who’s also the executive director of Minnesota’s oldest study abroad program. Bridging two academic years, SPAN is recognized for its unique combination of international education, cultural immersion, and independent research.

A student-run organization, SPAN offers undergrads and graduate students from all Minnesota colleges and universities an opportunity to earn University of Minnesota credits for an in-depth research project on a self-chosen topic.

In 2007, students focused on Egypt, Greece, or New Zealand. During their preparation semester in the spring, students select a research topic and make connections with experts in their host country. They also study history, culture, language, and current events. Summer is spent doing research abroad. Upon their return, students write an extensive thesis.

Many SPAN alumni continue to credit the program. John Lindstrom, B.S. '56, M.S. '61, went to Turkey in 1954. “I traveled with the UN food and agricultural team for several weeks,” he says. “The experience stimulated my appetite for learning about different cultures.” Lindstrom later went into the Navy, learned to fly, and was a Delta Airlines pilot for 34 years.



Margot Wagner traveled to Senegal with SPAN to explore that country's dialects and languages and how they will survive in a post-colonial Africa.

Ten years ago Lindstrom decided to establish a scholarship for SPANers. “International education is more important than ever because of globalization, the Internet, and the world situation,” he says. “We have to be educated about what’s going on. SPAN is ideal for this.” 🌿



Experience 221B Baker Street at Wilson Library on the Twin Cities campus.

## HOLMES'S HOME

THANKS TO A GENEROUS DONOR AND AVID SHERLOCKIAN, 221B BAKER STREET IS NOW A UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

“Allen started reading Sherlock Holmes when we were kids,” says Mel Mackler of his late brother. “And when he got into something, he really got into it.” Allen Mackler became an avid collector of Sherlockiana and an active member of national and local Sherlock Holmes societies.

When he died in 2005, Allen Mackler made the largest bequest ever received by the Sherlock Holmes Collections at the University of Minnesota Libraries, including 5,000 to 6,000 books, original pieces of Sherlockian art, a gift to fund a curator for the collections, and a full-scale replica of Holmes’s sitting room at 221B Baker Street, which resides at Wilson Library.

The room is complete with furniture, wall hangings, and light fixtures that recreate the period—even teacups that are true to the text. “Going into this room in Allen’s house was like stepping into a time warp,” Mel recalls.

“Collectors do a close reading of the texts where the sitting room is described and put the pieces together as authentically as possible,” says Tim Johnson, curator of Special Collections and Rare Books at the U. “Allen’s room was a sacred place for him and is attracting Sherlockians from all over the world. We’re honored to have it.” 🌿



Victor Nhul's journey of self-discovery at the U took him in unexpected directions.

# A NEW BELIEVER

**PUCKETT SCHOLARSHIP HELPED U GRAD JOURNEY FROM BUSINESS TO BALANCE — AND FIND HIMSELF ALONG THE WAY**

by Tony Baisley

As a high school senior, Victor Nhul learned that he'd been selected for the U's Puckett Scholars program. He remembers being in awe of the late Minnesota Twins superstar. "What Kirby achieved in his lifetime was amazing," Nhul recalls. "To me, receiving his scholarship was an acknowledgement that I could take some academic risks to find myself and my strengths."

A 2007 Carlson School of Management graduate, Nhul began his academic risk-taking with courses through the Center for Spirituality & Healing. First up was a course on Reiki, a hands-on healing technique that promotes relaxation and reduces stress.

**Nhul was transformed by the course in complementary and alternative medicine: "I noticed a shift in my thinking from the science-based approaches of Western thought, in which problems are isolated and treated separately, toward a balanced approach that ultimately encourages prevention."**

"Before taking that course, I would have deemed myself insane not only to participate in complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) but willfully practice it on others," he explains. "But I was surprised by what I learned and noticed a shift in my thinking from the science-based approaches of Western thought, in which problems are isolated and treated separately, toward a balanced approach that ultimately encourages prevention."

Thanks to scholarship support and the U's flat tuition rate for full-time students, Nhul was able to take six more CAM courses while still completing majors in marketing, risk management and insurance, and entrepreneurship. Nhul got in touch with his true interests as

a result of his CAM classes—from Advanced Reiki Healing to the privately supported Ways of Thinking About Health (see sidebar).

Debbie Ringdahl, who taught Nhul's Reiki courses, saw firsthand how transformational the experience was for him. "I was blown away by his willingness to grow, and I was really touched by his honesty," says Ringdahl. "I believe Reiki just opened Victor up to be more of who he already was. He is an authentic guy who connects easily with others."

Now Nhul, too, has a better sense of his own path. "Originally I was planning on living the American Dream through purely monetary means. I was ready to accept 60- to 70-hour work weeks doing the same thing every day because I believed that was the way to success," he recalls. "The CAM courses made me realize that I was cheating myself by denying my other abilities. I now believe that success is mastering many different skills and having a variety of experiences."

A recent graduate, he's turned away from the security of a job in the business world and is looking for work in the nonprofit sector: "The Center for Spirituality & Healing, along with my Puckett Scholarship, have helped me realize that taking risks can be worth the rewards. It's healthy to explore and change one's point of view." 🍁

## SUPPORTING MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

One course that contributed to Victor Nhul's transformation through the Center for Spirituality & Healing was Ways of Thinking About Health. "Through class field trips, students get to explore a wide range of health care systems, including indigenous North American medicine, Vedic medicine, traditional Chinese medicine, African American healing, as well as biomedicine," says Craig Hassel, who teaches the course.

But the travel costs incurred to experience healing methods in places such as the White Earth Indian Reservation in northwestern Minnesota or Maharishi University in Fairfield, Iowa, threatened to keep some students from taking the class.

"The experiential learning these trips afforded is invaluable," says Hassel. "Without private support, we would have to have imposed a student fee, creating a financial barrier for many students. Thankfully, the Marbrook Foundation understood the value of this course and stepped up to support us." 🍁

# WHY SPORTS?

## ATHLETICS ENHANCE COLLEGE LIFE, DUNGY SAYS

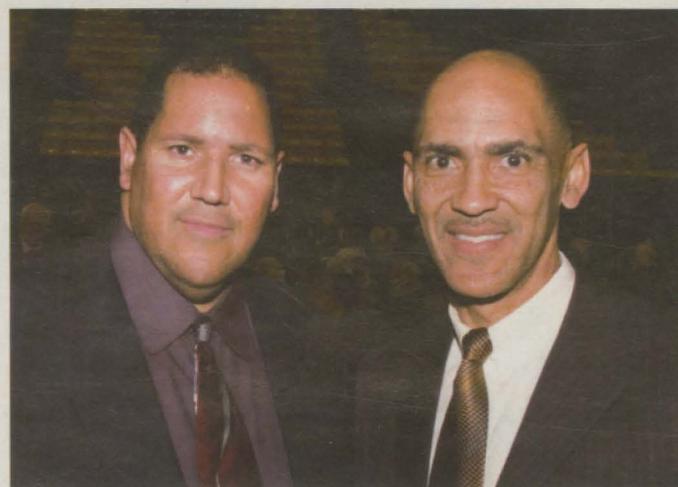
*On May 8, more than 3,000 alumni and friends of the University gathered at Mariucci Arena for the University of Minnesota Alumni Association Annual Celebration, featuring musician Stan Freese (B.A. '67), talent casting and booking director for Walt Disney Productions, and winning Super Bowl coach Tony Dungy (B.A. '78). Dungy offered a heartfelt reflection, based on his own experience as a student at the University of Minnesota, on why he believes that athletics increase the quality of life for the entire student body. Here are excerpts from his remarks.*

"There was a young man I know who grew up in Michigan, on the campus of Michigan State University, and he never really thought of attending the University of Minnesota until his senior year of high school. He visited the campus on January 27, 1973, primarily because Michigan State was playing Minnesota in a basketball game. When that young man got here, he was very impressed, but it wasn't by the Michigan State basketball team. It was what he saw here on campus that caught his attention.

"Now, if you guessed that that young man was me, you'd be right. But when I said that athletics attracts

tremendous people to a university, I wasn't referring to myself. My brother got to spend some [time] up here with me. He wasn't a star athlete, but he was a star student. Because of his experience coming here, mainly to football and basketball games, he decided he wanted to attend dental school at the University of Minnesota. Then he decided to make his practice here in the Twin Cities. So if you follow the connection, [athletics was] indirectly responsible for getting an outstanding student, an outstanding dentist, and an outstanding person here to the Twin Cities, one who never played on a sports team while he was here.

"I believe that's more the rule than the exception. I'm someone who doesn't apologize for wanting our teams to do really well, for wanting to have sell-out crowds and national championships. I don't apologize for wanting to attract the very best coaches we can get here, for wanting to turn out top-notch student-athletes—men and women who will go on to be great citizens in our community. I don't apologize for wanting a football stadium to be built on campus, even though it's going to be expensive.



Linden (left) and Tony Dungy at the 2007 Annual Celebration

"Not only do I think we should not apologize, I believe we should be excited about it. I happen to think that it pays off in a lot of ways, and I, for one, am very grateful to the University of Minnesota, because it paid off for me. If it wasn't for [the people I met and] for the instruction that I got from my coaches and from great faculty members, I know I would not be the coach of the Super Bowl champions in 2007. Let's build on the great tradition that we have ... let's continue to make this university the very best in the country, and continue to make the state of Minnesota proud of its Gophers." 🍁



For more on the annual celebration, including an audio recording of Stan Freese's outstanding tuba performance, go to the UMAA Web site at [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu)



PHOTO: SHARI FLEMING PHOTOGRAPHY

# Forever in full bloom

**"WE DON'T HAVE PALACES ... IN OUR COUNTRY. [BUT] WE DO HAVE GREAT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS... FOR ME, THESE ... ARE OUR COUNTRY'S PALACES, AND THAT IS WHY WE ARE HERE TONIGHT CELEBRATING IN A PALACE OF HIGHER EDUCATION — HERE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA." — LUELLE GOLDBERG**

Luella Goldberg chose the McNamara Alumni Center for the site of the naming ceremony for the "Lulu G" tulip, a new cultivar developed in her honor as the recipient of the 2007 Blooming Forever Achievement Award. The award is given each year by Blooming Forever, a charitable organization based in the Netherlands, to acknowledge a person

who has made a difference in his or her community, city, or country, or even across the world. Last year's recipient, Ukrainian president Victor Yushchenko, chose a palace in Kiev for the ceremony.

This past spring, Goldberg was given an Honorary Doctor of Laws, the University's highest award, which recognizes distinctive achievements that have added materially to knowledge and to the betterment of society. She is past chairperson and current trustee of the University of Minnesota Foundation. The Lulu G will be planted at the Blooming Forever Hall of Fame in Lisee, the Netherlands. 🍁

Luella Goldberg christens the Lulu G tulip during the naming ceremony at the McNamara Alumni Center.

## Be a mentor

The UMAA is seeking volunteers to serve as mentors for students in numerous disciplines. A mentor is someone who helps foster the development of a student's career interests, making himself or herself available to answer questions, assist with résumé writing or interviewing tips, introduce the student to people who are working in the field, or help with other career-related activities. Mentors are asked to give between two and four hours per month to their mentee, either by phone or e-mail or in person. The program runs from October through April. The University also offers structured get-togethers and provides coaching for those new to mentoring. For more information, contact Trish Will at 612-626-0425 or willx010@umn.edu. 🍁

## U ON THE ROAD

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association, along with selected University deans and faculty members, is visiting more than 35 communities throughout the state to share the ways in which teaching, research, and public engagement benefit these specific areas and the entire state. Speakers will discuss their research and the U's involvement with society's most pressing issues. It's a chance for Minnesotans to learn more about the U firsthand from people who are involved every day in its mission. For more information about the statewide speakers' tour, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu) and click on "News & Events." 🍁



PHOTO: SARA RUBINSTEIN

School of Nursing Dean Connie Delaney (right) is part of the statewide speakers' tour. She is pictured here with student Khou Yang (left) and research assistant Leslie Holm.

## THE INSIDE STORY

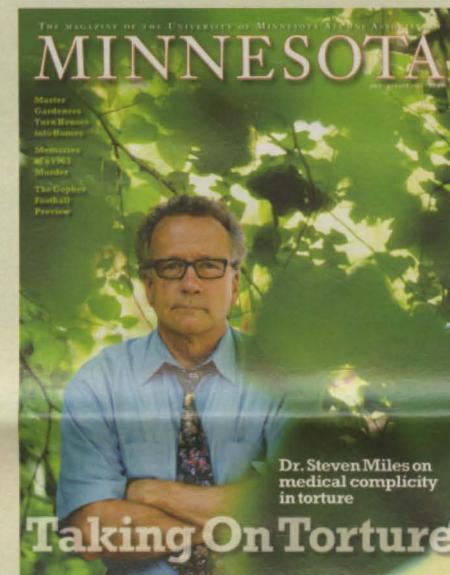
In an interview for the July–August 2007 issue of *Minnesota* magazine, Steven Miles (M.D. '76) discusses medical complicity in the torture of prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan and at Guantanamo Bay. A medical professor in the Center for Bioethics at the University of Minnesota, Miles read an estimated 60,000 pages of declassified government documents, which became the basis of his 2006 book *Oath Betrayed: Torture, Medical Complicity, and the War on Terror* and were posted this spring in an archive on the University's Human Rights Library Web site, [www.umn.edu/humanrts](http://www.umn.edu/humanrts). Below is an excerpt from the interview with Miles:

**You've spoken to some medical professionals in the prisons. Did they talk about the pressure they were under to participate in abusive interrogations?**

"There was pressure. And some of the pressure can be seen in the documents as well. But what I don't see in the documents or in their personal stories is the type of pressure that is brought to bear against health professionals who protest torture in countries like Chile or Uruguay or the Soviet Union or Turkey, and risk being disappeared or tortured or killed or having their family members killed for that resistance. The pressure that was brought to bear was peer pressure, in some cases the threat of a transfer. But when I look at my colleagues in other torturing countries, I see them taking absolutely heroic and in some cases suicidal risks to protest torture. So I don't accept—I simply do not accept—the notion that the pressure was of a degree that should have caused [our doctors] to be silent or complicit. And because of the fact that pathologists universally failed to disclose the torture deaths, they turned off a critical early warning system that something had gone seriously wrong in our prisons."

To read the entire article, visit [www.alumni.umn.edu/miles\\_story](http://www.alumni.umn.edu/miles_story).

Members of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association receive *Minnesota* six times a year. To receive a sample copy or to join the UMAA, call 612-624-2323 or 800-862-5867 or visit [www.alumni.umn.edu](http://www.alumni.umn.edu). 🍁





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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Search Why do we cry when we're sad?



"Crying is a natural adaptive response to emotional stress," says William H. Frey II, director of the U's Region's Alzheimer's Research Center. Studies conducted in adults show that people usually feel better after crying—less sad, less angry, etc. Frey theorizes that may be because we are literally "crying it out." Chemicals that build up during emotional stress may be removed in our tears when we cry.  
To read other intriguing questions and answers, go to [www.discover.umn.edu](http://www.discover.umn.edu).

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## COVER STORY

### FINDING THEM AND KEEPING THEM

A new welcoming strategy, a revised tenure code, better salaries, and more attention to issues like diversity and collaboration are changing the climate at the University for new faculty members.

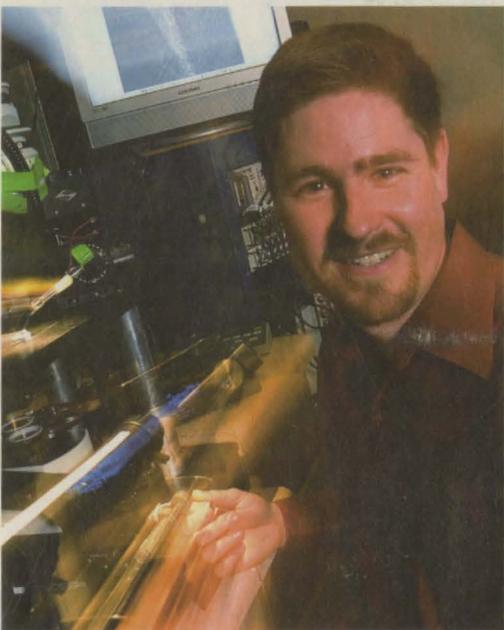


PHOTO: PATRICK O'LEARY

### SURVEY E-MAIL COMING

What do you like about M? What do you wish we'd change? How can we make this quarterly more relevant? Please help us by answering questions like these in an upcoming e-mail survey. In the next couple of weeks, you'll get a message from us with a link to the survey. We'd love to know your thoughts.



### SPORTS

Two new coaches—  
Tim Brewster and Tubby  
Smith—are reigniting  
Gopher sports.



### CAMPUS LIFE

The Interstate 35W bridge col-  
lapses in the U's backyard;  
Iraq veteran Jeremiah  
Peterson returns to  
the University.



### URBAN LIFE

Dinkytown has had many  
lives and its latest  
incarnation is as a  
night-life hot spot.

