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Dear University of Minnesota Alumni and Friends,

I am delighted to introduce our first edition of E-News, a new biweekly source of University news and information that includes perspectives you are not likely to find in the mainstream media.

Through E-News, you will receive timely news, interesting stories about groundbreaking research, and first-hand information about the University's public policy, academic, legislative and other initiatives.

In this rapidly changing world, the ability to communicate directly and quickly with our key constituents is more important than ever. E-News is also another way to strengthen and fortify our connections with you, our alumni and friends. We encourage you to share E-News with others and invite them to also subscribe.

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Thank you for your time and interest. We welcome your feedback. To comment on E-News, e-mail us at unews@umn.edu.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely yours,

Mark G. Yudof
President

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Current Issue

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Sept. 27, 2001

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U IN THE NEWS**THE YUDOFS HIT THE AIRWAVES
MARK AND JUDY YUDOF TO CO-HOST WCCO
RADIO SHOW**

People who can't get enough university-related news, information or entertainment can now get it straight from the top. "Beyond the U," a monthly radio show co-hosted by University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof and his wife, Judy Yudof, will premiere at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2, on WCCO Radio (830 AM).

The hour-long call-in show will air on the first Tuesday of every month and focus on a variety of general interest topics, including the university, current and legal affairs, politics and the implications of new technologies.

"This is a unique and exciting opportunity," said Mark Yudof. "Never before has a U of M president had this kind of opportunity to connect each month with so many of our stakeholders. On a lighter note, we also think it will be great fun to discuss the issues we talk about around the dinner table with the people of Minnesota."

According to Yudof, the co-hosts will have no problem finding fodder to debate, critique and discuss. He is a former Texas lawyer and law professor whose interests include pop-science and country music, and Judy is a community volunteer who will begin serving as international president of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism in February. They have two adult children.

All of which make the Yudofs a great fit for WCCO, according to Wendy Paulson, the station's program director. "Having the Yudofs on once a month gives WCCO listeners access to great information, which is what 'CCO is all about,'" she said. "After meeting them, I know they are warm, loving, caring, funny, real people. They will provide great entertainment that only WCCO can offer."

"Beyond the U" will originate from the station's studios in Minneapolis. Guests will occasionally join the Yudofs, and listeners are invited to join the discussion by calling (612) 989-9226.

The Yudofs will not be paid for doing the show. Instead, Mark Yudof said he will benefit from "the opportunity to hear from citizens throughout the state who listen to WCCO, one of the state's best known sources of news, information and entertainment."

Paulson describes the show as "another extension of the strong relationship the university has with WCCO Radio." WCCO Radio also broadcasts Gopher football and basketball games and recently acquired the rights to men's hockey.

**NEW REPORT PUTS 'U' AMONG NATION'S ELITE
PUBLIC RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES**

The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities ranks third among the nation's public research universities, according to a new study by the Center for Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences ("The Cneter") at the University of Florida.

"This is great news," said University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof. "The study affirms that we're on the right track. Clearly, the University of Minnesota is a world-class institution and is highly competitive with the very top public universities nationally. Minnesotans can be proud."

The report, The Top American Research Universities, 2001, ranks public and private universities based on scoring within the top 25 on nine measures, including the strength of the faculty, research program and private support. The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities ranks in the top 25 on eight of the nine measures. The only other public research universities that score as well as the University of Minnesota in the study are the University of Michigan and the University of California, Berkeley, both of which also rank within the top 25 on eight of nine measures.

Yudof pointed to the university's interdisciplinary initiatives, such as genomics, new media and digital technology; improvements in the social sciences; the engineering departments; alumni support; improvements in undergraduate services; and the successful capital campaign. These were all assets in the survey, Yudof explained.

According to the university's Institutional Research and Reporting Department, the Florida study is more comprehensive and sound than many other popular rankings.

"Unlike a lot of rankings which only focus on undergraduate education or on specific graduate programs, this survey looks more broadly at all the things that make a university strong," said Peter Zetterberg, senior analyst, Institutional Research and Reporting. "Because the University of Minnesota is large with strength in many areas, we fare well in this new study."

The Top American Research Universities report can be found on the Web at: www.thecenter.flu.edu.

BETTER DAYS COMING FOR COFFMAN

Coffman Memorial Union looks like the site of some terrible battle these days, but it will be quite a building when it reopens in fall 2002.

To serve students better, it will have a 24-hour computer lab; a bookstore with a coffee shop; student services such as satellite financial aid, employment office, and registrar; lounges and study space; a food court with a wide variety of choices; and expanded student organization office space.

The new design is intended to restore elements of the original 1939 building, including re-opening the original entrance under the colonnades on Washington Ave. and improving the transparency of the building by installing a virtually all-glass wall on the south face. Students voted to fund \$45 million of the \$71 million project through increased student fees, approximately \$17.5 million will come from tenants, with the rest from university and Student Union funds.

The Coffman renovation is one component of the University of Minnesota south mall development project. The other parts of the south mall project include:

- ® Replacing the parking ramp behind Coffman with an underground garage that will accommodate up to 1,700 cars and be accessible to student union patrons
- ® Adding new apartment-style residence halls behind Comstock Hall, adjacent to the new parking garage and Coffman Union.

The entire project aims to restore the original Cass Gilbert master plan for Northrop mall by visually connecting the mall to the Mississippi River. To physically connect the mall to the river, planners are drawing up designs for new bridges or a single bridge to span Washington Avenue.

For more on the Coffman Union renovation, see <http://www.coffman.umn.edu/renovation/drawings.html>.

**U OF M STUDENT FEATURED IN OCT. GLAMOUR
MAGAZINE**

Jennifer Carrier, a senior at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, is featured as one of this year's top 10 college women in the October issue of Glamour magazine.

Carrier, an honor student in the College of Liberal Arts who majors in political science and sociology of law, criminology and deviance and has a 3.86 GPA, applied to the magazine for this honor because she was attracted by the scholarship it entails. She learned in April that she had made the list and went to New York for a photo shoot. She is featured on page 187 of the October Glamour, which is currently on newsstands.

Students selected for the Glamour scholarships not only have to have outstanding academic performance, but also must demonstrate public service and community activism. Carrier fits those criteria perfectly. Last summer, she interned for five weeks at South Dakota Sen. Tom Daschle's Washington D.C., office, and for 10 weeks at the White House Office of Legislative Affairs.

Back in Minneapolis, Carrie, a native of Presho, S.D., works two jobs to support herself. She's a student legal administrative assistant for Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners, a legal clinic for indigent prisoners in civil cases at the university, and she's a waitress. She works 40 hours a week in addition to her college load, but she said the busier she is, the more organized she is. This summer she worked at the Hennepin County Attorney's office. She also finds time to read to children at Shriners' Hospital in Minneapolis.

Carrier plans to attend law school and possibly get a master's degree in public policy. She would like to be a public defender and then a judge or U.S. congresswoman.

Carrier was scheduled to attend the scholarship banquet in New York Thursday, Sept. 20, but it was postponed in light of the World Trade Center tragedy.

**NEW U RESEARCH ON MONARCH BUTTERFLIES IN
BIO TECH CORNFIELDS**

Milkweeds growing in cornfields sometimes support monarch butterfly larvae at the same time the corn is shedding its pollen, according to a survey of cornfields in the Midwest, Maryland and Ontario. The overlap implies that monarchs feeding next to corn genetically engineered to contain the insecticide known as Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) toxin could be exposed to the toxin. The study, led by University of Minnesota ecologist Karen Oberhauser, is published on the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Web site, www.pnas.org/papbyrecent.shtml, along with other papers dealing with monarchs and Bt toxin. The series of papers address the issue of whether "Bt corn" is harmful to monarchs in the field as well as in the laboratory.

"We still don't have the data to come to the conclusion that the risks are negligible," said Oberhauser, a research associate in the department of ecology, evolution and behavior.

The researchers examined milkweed and monarch densities in various habitats--cornfields, cornfield edges, other agricultural fields and nonagricultural fields--in the butterfly's breeding range during summer 2000. The study area comprised 20 plots in four regions: Minnesota and Wisconsin, Iowa, Maryland, and Ontario. Plots were in cornfields, land adjacent to cornfields or nonagricultural land, all containing milkweed. Except for one plot each in Maryland and Iowa, cornfields contained nonBt corn. Every week, researchers examined several hundred milkweed plants and noted the number of monarch larvae and, in cornfields, whether pollen was being shed.

In Minnesota and Wisconsin, corn pollen was shed during a time--mid-July through the first week in August--when the highest numbers of monarch larvae were in cornfields. In Iowa, pollen was shed during the first half of July, before the peak in monarch larvae.

"The situation in Iowa is less risky for monarchs," said Oberhauser. "The farther north the cornfield, the later the pollen was shed and the greater the chance that monarch larvae will be exposed to it." When the researchers calculated the percent of monarch larvae in the fields when pollen was shed, Ontario led the way with 62 percent, followed by Minnesota-Wisconsin (40 percent), Maryland (20 percent) and Iowa (15 percent). They also estimated that in general, 73 times as many monarchs come from cornfields as from nonagricultural land in Minnesota-Wisconsin. In Iowa, the figure was 80 times as many, with both corn and soybean fields contributing large numbers of the butterflies.

"One of the most important conclusions of this study is that agricultural habitat is important to monarchs," said Oberhauser. "If an event that hurts monarchs or their host plant, milkweeds, should occur in cornfields, it could have population-wide impacts."

Oberhauser cautioned, however, that studies by other researchers have suggested that Bt toxin is not harmful to monarchs at levels found in cornfields. But many of those studies occurred in laboratories and looked at pollen only. In cornfields, plants shed part of the anthers (the structures that produce pollen), and anthers tend to have higher concentrations of Bt than pollen does. Even the studies done in the field may have underestimated the amount of time that monarchs were exposed to toxic corn tissue. While monarch larvae don't avoid pollen on milkweed leaves, it is not known whether they also eat anther material, Oberhauser said.

"I think we still don't know the effects of long-term exposure to Bt," she said. "Some lab studies may not have exposed them long enough to tell." And, even if Bt doesn't kill monarchs at levels found in cornfields, "We don't know how Bt affects factors like monarch reproduction, flight ability and size," Oberhauser said.

Oberhauser's colleagues in the study were from the University of Guelph, Ontario; the Southwest Purdue of Maryland; Iowa State University; the Southwest Purdue Agricultural Program, Indiana; the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); and the University of Minnesota. Financial support came from the USDA, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency; Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs.

For the last seven years, Oberhauser has directed the Monarchs in the Classroom project. This fall, more than 30,000 monarch eggs and larvae were given to hundreds of Minnesota schools to be nurtured by children. When adult butterflies emerge from their chrysalises, the children will release them for the species' annual migration to Mexico.

U of M HAPPENINGS**LINKS**

U at the Legislature: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help. <http://www.umaa.umn.edu/legislative/>

Hey Sports Fans! Check out sports news and schedules of the U's teams:

- [Gophers](#)
 - [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
 - [Morris Cougars](#)
 - [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)
- Campaign Minnesota:** Learn more about this needed, long-term investment in the U.
- University of Minnesota Alumni Association:** Your membership makes a difference.
- University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page**

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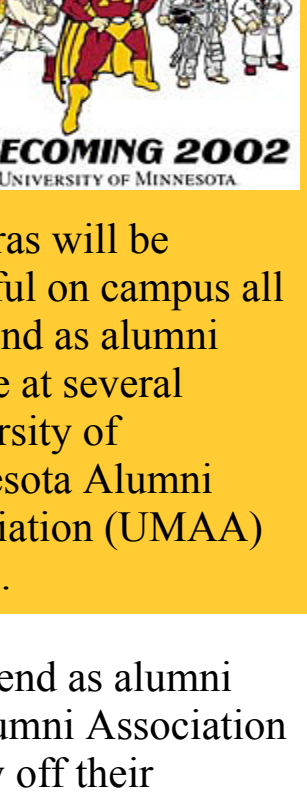
*This site contains the corrected legislative network volunteer number. [click](#)

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U IN THE NEWS

Yudof to discuss U trends with regents

At the Board of Regents meeting Friday (Oct. 12) President Mark Yudof will discuss key trends at the University that he says demonstrate "sustained and measurable momentum." Among the longitudinal measures he will present are students graduation, enrollment, and satisfaction rates and research, faculty, and technology transfer productivity.



"I want to illustrate that this is not the University of 1970, 1980, or even 1990."

"I want to illustrate that this is not the University of 1970, 1980, or even 1990--virtually every key indicator of progress at the University has dramatically improved over the past couple of decades," Yudof explained. "Understanding how well we're doing helps us to better understand the challenges on the horizon that need to be addressed--and we certainly do have such challenges."

For more detail on his remarks, go to www.unews.umn.edu after mid-day Friday, Oct. 12.

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Homecoming 2001 will feature lights, cameras, and action!

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus 2001 homecoming will have a Hollywood feel as current students and returning alumni will be the stars of a "Hollywood Homecoming" during homecoming week, Oct. 15-22.



Cameras will be plentiful on campus all weekend as alumni reunite at several University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) events.

Homecoming weekend events start at 7 p.m. Friday (Oct. 19) when the homecoming king and queen are crowned. A pepfest follows and a bonfire will light the sky above the St. Paul campus. The bonfire is behind the Student Center located at 2017 Buford.

Cameras will be plentiful on campus all weekend as alumni reunite at several University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) events and student filmmakers show off their cinematic skills at a Student Film Showcase on Friday evening.

On Saturday (Oct. 20), the UMAA will sponsor a pre-game pancake breakfast and parade event at the McNamara Alumni Center from 8-10 a.m. This event is family-friendly and features current and former Gopher athletes, new women's basketball coach Brenda Oldfield, and the longtime radio voice of the Gophers, Ray Christensen. There is a parade viewing area reserved for those attending the breakfast.

The homecoming parade starts at 9 a.m. at 10th St. and University Av. and goes down University to the Sports Pavilion. After the parade, a free shuttle is available to the Metrodome as the Gopher football team plays Michigan State.

Additional homecoming weekend activities follow. Friday, Oct. 19: Noon. Free U of M Marching Band concert on the steps of Northrop Auditorium. The band will play music from its new CD, "Are You Ready." CDs are available at the U of M Bookstores.

5-7 p.m. Homecoming Huddle, a cocktail party and networking opportunity for recent graduates, hosted by the UMAA at McNamara Alumni Center. \$10 for UMAA members and \$15 for non-members. Call (612) 625-9195 for more information.

Saturday, Oct. 20: Approximately 2:30 p.m. (after the football game). Homecoming Chili Fest featuring free chili on the Knoll (corner of University and 15th Avenues).

8 p.m.-midnight. Homecoming Ball, McNamara Alumni Center. A public dance featuring music by the TC Jammers. Admission \$12 in advance, \$16 at the door.

For a complete list of events and ticket information go to www.umn.edu/cic/homecoming.

For homecoming events for alumni go to <http://www.umaa.umn.edu>.

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Regents to act on 2002 legislative request

At its meeting Friday (Oct. 12), the University of Minnesota Board of Regents is expected to act on the 2002 legislative request. The proposed request includes funds for improvement, renovation, and construction on all four University campuses, totaling \$239.8 million over the biennium; of that, the state would fund two-thirds, or \$186.5 million. The Minnesota legislature convenes on Jan. 29, 2002. For more on the request go to www.umn.edu/govrel. To join the legislative network, a volunteer network to support the University's request, call (612) 624-2323 or (800) 862-5867. (This is the corrected 800 number)

The largest portion of the request, and the University's highest priority, is \$80 million for Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement (HEAPR), which will support approximately 85 safety, building code, and renewal projects. Recently, the State Department of Finance scored the University's proposed HEAPR request above all other proposed 2002 capital requests.

Other projects in the request include \$18.7 million to complete new plant growth facilities on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul that were partially funded in the 2000 legislative session. \$33 million is also requested for a new lab science building in Duluth for which UMD has already raised \$7.5 million. Renovation projects on the Twin Cities campus include \$24 million for 110-year-old Nicholson Hall to create a freshman teaching and advising center, and \$18.4 million to renovate the landmark Mineral Resources Research Center (MMRC), where the taconite process was first developed. Once completed, the MMRC will house the College of Education and Human Development's literacy, learning, and child development programs.

Yudof explains that the proposed request supports the University's vision and priorities for preserving its historic buildings, making investments in the life sciences and technology, and focusing on strengthening undergraduate education.

Maureen Reed, chair of the Board of Regents, said, "This proposal supports the academic priorities of the board while maintaining historic buildings that give our campuses character and charm."

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U memorial fund honors Tom Burnett

Tom Burnett, Jr., a passenger on hijacked United Flight 93 who is believed to have helped thwart the hijackers' plan, is being honored for his heroics with a memorial fund in his name at his alma mater, the University of Minnesota. The Thomas E. Burnett, Jr., Memorial Fund will be used to benefit University of Minnesota students and promote the type of character and leadership exemplified by Burnett.

Burnett, 38, a 1986 graduate of the Carlson School of Management and member of Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity, is believed to have been among the passengers who kept the hijackers from crashing the plane into a national landmark, which would likely have resulted in many more deaths on the ground. Instead, the plane crashed in a Pennsylvania field. Burnett lived with his wife and three daughters in San Ramon, Calif., where he was senior vice president of Thoratec Corp., a medical research and development company.

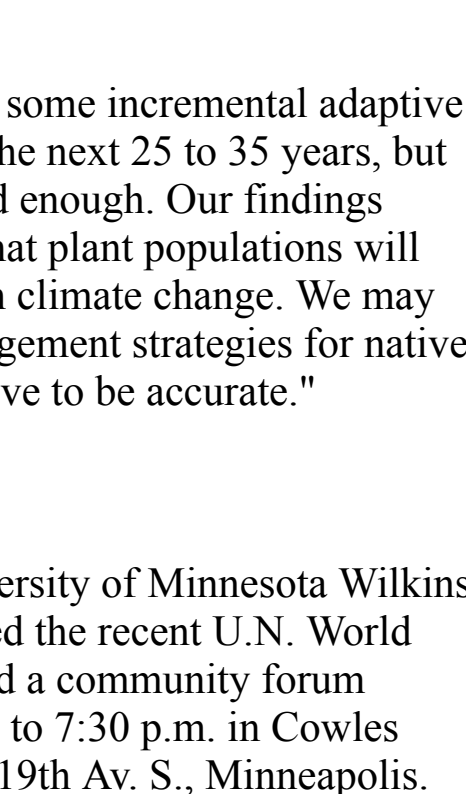
"The University of Minnesota is proud to call Tom Burnett, Jr., one of its own," said President Mark Yudof. "This fund is a fitting memorial to a man who cared deeply about his fellow human beings and who, by his actions, has earned the nation's everlasting gratitude. History will rightly number him among the heroes who had greatness thrust upon them."

Persons wishing to make a gift to the memorial fund should contact the University of Minnesota Foundation at (612) 624-3333 or (800) 775-2187 or visit the foundation Web site at www.foundation.umn.edu. Donors can make a gift by mail, phone, or online, designating it to the Burnett Memorial Fund. The mailing address is University of Minnesota Foundation, Suite 500, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455-2010.

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U nursing student volunteers at Pentagon relief effort

A doctoral student in nursing at the University of Minnesota, Carolyn Porta Garcia got a first-hand look at the devastation of the terrorist attack on the Pentagon. Last month, Porta Garcia was assigned to the American Red Cross disaster relief operation serving the victims of the Pentagon disaster where she served as the leader of one of the teams that responded to the needs of hospitalized survivors and their families. Most survivors suffered from extensive burn injuries. She also made consolation visits to those who have lost family members in the disaster.



"I am honored to help bring relief to people responding to this tragedy."

"I am honored to help bring relief to people responding to this tragedy," Porta Garcia said. "It's a great feeling to be part of the Red Cross effort to help the Pentagon community in this time of need. It is intensive and incomparable to what is occurring in New York, and yet, pain and sorrow are universal regardless of location, and the recovery efforts and stages of healing follow parallel processes."

As a doctoral student at the U, Porta Garcia is teaching an undergraduate course in nursing. When she was in Washington, D.C., her colleagues and professors chipped in to cover her class. Porta Garcia is grateful for the support she has received.

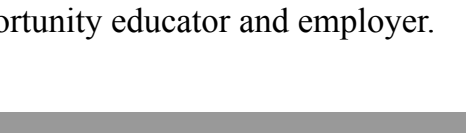
"It has been so great knowing I left at a moment's notice with colleagues willing to step in and go to bat for me," she said. "I know it is because many of you, if given the opportunity, would have done what I have."

The work at the Pentagon is Porta Garcia's third national disaster relief operation. She served in Wisconsin health service in 1994 in the aftermath of a tornado in Wisconsin, went to Rwanda in 1995 under the auspices of the American Refugee Committee, and worked in Puerto Rico to help flood victims in 1996.

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Teaching in the midst of tragedy

Eric Sheppard teaches a 1000-level human geography class to 150 students, about a third of them freshmen. The course introduces students to the relationship between humans and the environment and how the principles of geography apply to worldwide politics, culture and economics. His class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays and had met twice before September 11. Link follows to read an interview with Sheppard about teaching in the midst of tragedy.



"I was not psychologically capable of teaching under those conditions, and the students clearly wanted to talk. And the profound feeling then was really the shock of the events."

Q: How did your class change on September 11?

A: We had a discussion on Tuesday morning in class. I was not psychologically capable of teaching under those conditions, and the students clearly wanted to talk. And the profound feeling then was really the shock of the events. I don't think anybody was far enough away from the events to even ask the question: What lies behind this?

There was simply a sharing of information from people who had been watching television at various points in the morning or listening to the news.

Then I had a class two days later, on Thursday, when people really didn't want to talk about it anymore. They were concerned, and remain concerned, about succeeding in the class itself. So we really went back to the business of the class. Because the students, at that point, were like, yes, this happened, but how can I intersect this with my daily life? And the struggle really was trying to get daily life going again.

Q: What have your classes been like since the tragedy?

A: This week, I think students are starting to get a distance from [the events] and starting to ask questions about the kinds of information we are receiving. About what lies behind these things. So they are starting to be reflective.

But I think students are still very much trying to process information and process what this means for them. I think that will be going on in a series of stages.

Q: Do you think that the students are experiencing these events differently from faculty and staff?

A: It is a process we are all going through. It is not something that is just unique to the students--the immediate shock, your world is all of a sudden turned inside out, something has happened that you just didn't conceive of happening in reality, even though, in some ways, the images are familiar from the movies. I don't think there are probably very many differences between students trying to deal with this and faculty and staff at the University [trying to deal with this].

Q: Do you find students are more thoughtful now about their future and the future of the world than they were before the attack?

A: I would say that, certainly, at the moment, they are a little more fearful. [They are imagining] it could've happened to me, it could've happened among my relatives. They're asking, is it going to happen again? And what are the consequences--of whatever we decide to do--for my life? It has reduced their sense of security. That is certainly going on. I don't yet know what else is going on beyond that. I don't think I know for myself, and I don't think my students really know for themselves.

Q: What challenges do you face as a teacher right now?

A: For myself, I can try to construct a bigger picture through which I can rationalize where these kinds of things come from and see them not simply as isolated acts. Nevertheless, to engage that with the emotional side of me, I still find very hard. I find myself thinking on these two very different levels--thinking very emotionally about the loss and the cost and the risk and how is this going to change American society and so on. And then very rationally about how I can explain to students why this sort of thing happens and why it is not as unexplainable as it seemed to all of us at first.

Q: You teach the geography and political geography of the region of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Were your students less interested in this region before September 11?

A: Well, yes. Both in this place per se but also, really, in making connections [between geography and human actions and decisions]. One thing I have always tried to do with this class (in the four years that I've taught it) is to convince students that geography really helps you make sense of the complex problems that face us: global change, globalization, all of these kinds of things.

I think it takes something like this to happen for students to feel how what they learn in school connects with their everyday life. All of a sudden you become more aware of what your everyday life is like, because all of a sudden things have changed. When you just go along day to day, there is no critical distance. It's certainly my hope that this [event] will give a different sense of meaning to that connection than the one students had before.

Q: What do you think you will be doing differently for the rest of the semester?

A: One of the things that I will be doing during the class is using these events, while they are still fresh in the students' minds, to illustrate some of the more general things that we talk about in class. From the teach-ins, we know that students are starting to ask the deeper questions like, "What lies behind this? What information is right or wrong? What can I trust and not trust? And how do I even make those judgments?"

I also think that, as instructors, we can't then look at this as if it was a terrible event that happened and then just set it aside and go on with life. Because, at one level, life does go on; but at another level it is going on in a very different context, and we can't pretend that that's not happening.

I think it will be very important throughout the semester to continue to help students think through these issues and create space to talk about them. I hope they will think of themselves as students of this phenomenon, not just as collectors of information, and try to study it and think critically about it. I think students, in exceptional situations like this, learn in a different way, and we need to try to figure out what that way is and judge whatever they are doing with respect for that context.

We are all trying to deal with our everyday lives at the same time that we are trying to manage this [new teaching challenge]. The University could draw on the expertise they have in their teaching centers to have people think of how to deal with this. I think we're all sort of flying by the seat of our pants.

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Common native plant of great plains threatened by climate change

A common Great Plains prairie plant, the partridge pea (*Chamaecrista fasciculata*), could face severe reduction in numbers if climate conditions in the Midwest change to the extremes predicted for the next 25 to 35 years, according to a study published in the Oct. 5 issue of the journal *Science*. If the partridge pea is threatened by changing conditions, other common native species may be threatened as well.

"The partridge pea's evolutionary response for adaptation to hotter and drier conditions is unlikely to be fast enough to ensure its survival," Julie R. Etterson.

"The partridge pea's ability to adapt to rapidly changing climate conditions is likely to be much slower than the rate of climate change predicted for its native habitat throughout the Midwest," said the study's principal investigator, Julie R. Etterson, a former doctoral student at the University of Minnesota who conducted the study, and is now a postdoctoral research associate in biology at the University of Virginia.

According to the climate model used by Etterson for her study, Minnesota's climate in 25 to 35 years is predicted to be similar to today's climate in Kansas, which is drier and warmer than Minnesota's. Under extreme conditions in a worst-case scenario, Minnesota's climate could become more current-day Oklahoma -- much drier and warmer. Etterson's study indicates that native prairie plants could be seriously threatened if these predictions hold true.

"The partridge pea's evolutionary response for adaptation to hotter and drier conditions is unlikely to be fast enough to ensure its survival," Etterson said.

"The various genes that contribute to drought tolerance tend not to occur together in individual plants," said study coauthor Ruth Shaw, a professor of ecology, evolution and behavior at the University of Minnesota. "Our comparison indicates that the rates of evolutionary change of these traits will not match the rate at which climate changes toward increasing drought."

Etterson planted seeds from Minnesota partridge peas in Kansas and Oklahoma. She also planted Kansas partridge peas in Oklahoma. She found that seed production of Minnesota plants dropped 84 percent when grown in Kansas and 94 percent when grown in the hotter and drier conditions of Oklahoma. The Kansas partridge pea plants dropped 42 percent when grown in Oklahoma. She also studied leaf number and leaf thickness, traits that are important indicators of drought tolerance, and found the transplants were less adapted than local plants of the same species grown in the same plots.

"Native plants in the Midwest are facing two problems that may negatively affect their future survival," Etterson said. "One, the predicted rate of climate change is much more rapid than has occurred previously; and two, the habitat of native plants is fragmented to isolated islands between farms and cities, making it difficult for plants to slowly migrate to areas with more favorable conditions. This means plants will have to rely more on their evolutionary response to changing conditions. The partridge pea is unlikely to adapt to changing conditions quickly enough."

Etterson emphasizes that her findings are specific to the species she studied, the partridge pea.

"The species could possibly develop some incremental adaptive responses to climate change during the next 25 to 35 years, but the responses are unlikely to be rapid enough. Our findings suggest that we should not assume that plant populations will evolve fast enough to keep pace with climate change. We may need to think about alternative management strategies for native species if the climate predictions prove to be accurate."

U of M HAPPENINGS

Scholars and activists from the University of Minnesota Wilkins Center on Social Justice who attended the recent U.N. World Conference Against Racism will hold a community forum tonight, Thursday, Oct. 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Center, 301 19th Av. S., Minneapolis. The purpose of the forum is to engage community members and discuss local aspects and implications of the conference, and to declare a plan of action. The forum is free and open to the public. For more information, or if you are unable to attend but would like an audio tape of the forum, call (612) 625-9821.

UMC family weekend is October 13-14. For a schedule of events, go to <http://www.crk.umn.edu/campusinfo/calendars/octcal01.htm#13>

U.S. Senator John McCain, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and foreign policy expert, will speak on his vision for America and how a new kind of politics can shape its future at 11:30 a.m., Monday, October 15 at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center. The luncheon is presented by Minnesota Meeting in partnership with the University's Humphrey Institute Policy Forum. Reservations are \$25 per seat. For more information, go to www.minmeeting.com.

The Humphrey Institute's Conflict and Change Center is hosting a weekly colloquium to discuss the causes, effects, and policy consequences of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The first session begins Tuesday, Oct. 16 at 12:45 p.m. at the Humphrey Center. For more information, e-mail Tom Fiutak at fiutak@hhh.umn.edu.

President Mark Yudof will present the annual State of the University address Thursday, Oct. 18 at 3 p.m. in 25 Mondale Hall, 229 19th Av. S. Minneapolis. For more information, call (612) 624-4160.

See the "Oddities and Curiosities of Nature" exhibit, Saturday and Sunday October 20-21 at the Bell Museum of Natural History. The exhibit is based on the TV series "Beakman's World" and includes fun for the whole family. For more information, call (612) 624-9050.

Susan Marshall and Company will be performing their unique expressions of dance on Friday, October 26, at 8 p.m. at Northrop Auditorium. Tickets are between \$20 and \$29.50. For more information, go to <http://www.northrop.umn.edu/index.html>

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University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Your membership makes a difference.

U at the Legislature: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help. <http://www.umaa.umn.edu/legislative/>

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U of M E-News is a biweekly e-mail newsletter for alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota. The newsletter, a free information source prepared by University Relations, is designed to help alumni and friends stay connected to the University of Minnesota campuses in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Crookston, Morris and Duluth.

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U IN THE NEWS

YUDOF DESCRIBES MOMENTUM AT 'U'

In his annual State of the University address on Thursday, Oct. 18, University of Minnesota president Mark Yudof declared that the University is doing "better than ever."

"We're enjoying a great deal of momentum today," said Yudof. "The fact is that nearly all meaningful indicators of University performance are up."

Yudof described upward trends in student enrollment, graduation rates, research, and private giving. Applications for admission have risen 60 percent since 1995, demonstrating that market demand is high. Both the average high school rank of freshmen and freshman ACT scores have risen. More students are living on or near campus and are, overall, more satisfied with their educational experience at the university. While careful to stress that they're still "unacceptable," Yudof described rising four- and five-year graduation rates on the Twin Cities, Duluth, and Morris campuses and said the University is granting nearly a third more master's and doctoral level degrees than in 1992. Faculty productivity, as measured by research activity, is growing; in the past 15 years, research awards have more than doubled, in inflation-adjusted dollars. Also in the past 15 years, private giving is up nearly threefold, from \$85.4 million in 1986 to \$217 million in 2001.

"These trends clearly suggest that we're doing our primary job well," said Yudof. "We have a larger student body, we have improved satisfaction, we attract higher caliber students, we've improved graduation rates, and we're meeting the state's needs for graduate and professional education. These achievements, made with relatively fewer faculty and staff, demonstrate increased efficiency."

Yudof noted that in many areas the momentum at the University has outpaced the public's perception, and he asked for help spreading the news.

"I think it is the duty of the faculty and the greater University community to help the public's perception catch up with today's university," said Yudof. "We need to take these facts and weave them with our many examples of success to create new stories—stories that will replace the urban legends that still exist."

While focusing on the good news, Yudof also identified challenges and called on faculty members to help address them. Specifically, he pointed to what he described as a "long-term, national" trend away from state support of public higher education and the need for increased tuition revenues that creates. Financing activities that generate no tuition revenue, such as outreach, will be increasingly difficult and will require "creative solutions," he said.

Yudof gave his address to an audience of approximately 200, primarily faculty members, in Mondale Hall on the Twin Cities campus. The address was broadcast live to each of the other University campuses. The full text of the speech can be found on the Web at www.unews.umn.edu.

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U STUDENTS AMONG BRIGHTEST EVER

Official enrollment figures recently released by the University of Minnesota show that overall, incoming freshmen are better prepared as measured by class rank and average ACT scores. As well, enrollment on the Twin Cities, Duluth, and Morris campuses is growing.

The Morris campus leads all University of Minnesota campuses in the percentage increase in the size of its student body for 2001-02.

Student enrollment has grown this year by nearly five percent, to 1,927, representing the highest enrollment in the last five years. Total fall enrollment on the University of Minnesota's four campuses has reached 60,433, with increases of 3 percent at Duluth, 2.5 percent at the Twin Cities, and a drop of nearly 9 percent at Crookston.

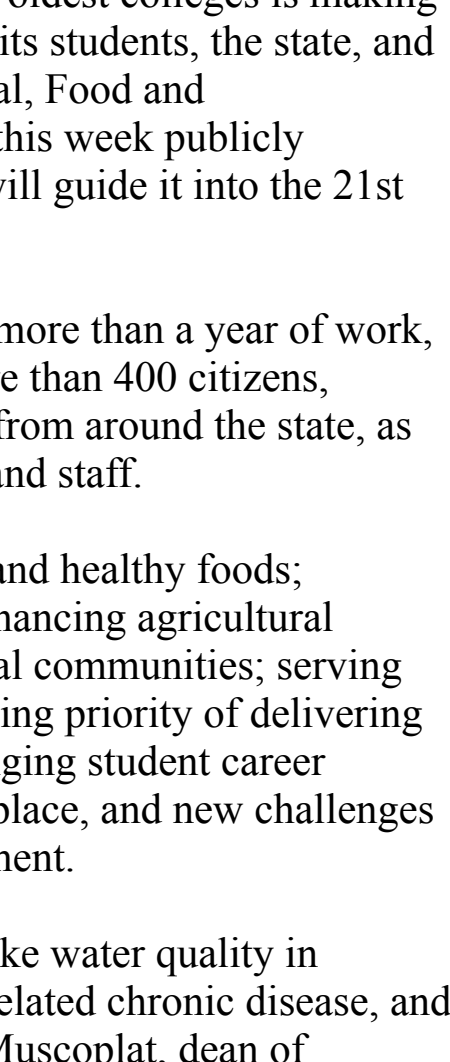
UMTC and UMM freshmen are neck and neck when it comes to entrance exams, with average ACT scores of 24.5 and 24.4, respectively. Once entered, Morris students lead the University in the average number of undergraduate credits. For fall 2001, Morris students are carrying an average of 15.3 credits compared with 14.4 at Duluth, 13.9 at Crookston, and 13.3 on the TC campus.

Satisfaction among students on all campuses is also high. The 2001 Student Experiences Survey showed students were happy with their education despite changes from quarters to semesters, a new student information system, and significant construction disruption, especially on the Twin Cities campus. Measures of overall satisfaction were highest for Morris students who gave especially high marks to the overall quality of their academic programs, the quality of instruction, and availability of their instructors. The survey asked students to rank the quality of academic programs, instruction, classrooms, availability of study areas, administration responsiveness, and other factors.

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MURAL TO CELEBRATE SCIENCE OF NEUTRINOS

Who says cave art went out with the Paleolithic painters? Minnesota artist Joseph Giannetti is creating a colorful mural half a mile deep in the Soudan Underground Mine near Tower, Minn. The 25- by 60-foot mural will adorn a physics laboratory, operated by the University of Minnesota, where scientists are probing the nature of tiny subatomic particles. The art will also celebrate the Soudan Mine and the generations of miners who provided iron ore to American industry.



The mural will contain elements symbolizing the formation and expansion of the universe.

"It's incredibly exciting—like winning the lottery," said Giannetti. "My dream was to do a mural that couldn't be torn down and would last forever. This mural will be the deepest in the world, the only one in a mine, and the largest on an irregular surface. But because the wall is not flat, it's also a difficult one."

The Soudan Mine was a working mine from the 1880s until 1962 and is now owned by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The current laboratory was built in the mid-1980s. During the past two years, construction workers have excavated and outfitted a new room for an experiment to probe the nature of the elusive particles known as neutrinos by searching for and measuring neutrino mass. The lab includes a handicapped-accessible, second-story visitor's gallery financed by a grant from the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. Giannetti's mural will fill the wall opposite the gallery and give visitors an artist's impression of the scientific experiment below them.

In August an international team of scientists began installing a 5,000-ton apparatus, called the MINOS Far Detector. When it is completed, beams of neutrinos will be shot from Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, near Chicago, and some will be picked up by the MINOS Far Detector. This study of neutrino mass is expected to increase understanding of the Big Bang that formed the universe, the unseen "dark matter" that influences the expansion of the universe, and the fundamental interactions between energy and matter. The mural will contain elements symbolizing the formation and expansion of the universe, the history of neutrinos, and the scientists who have striven to understand them.

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COAFES ANNOUNCES NEW PRIORITIES

One of the University of Minnesota's oldest colleges is making a change to help it meet the needs of its students, the state, and the world. The College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences (COAFES) this week publicly unveiled six new priority areas that will guide it into the 21st century.

The priorities are the culmination of more than a year of work, including listening sessions with more than 400 citizens, agricultural, and community leaders from around the state, as well as input from students, faculty, and staff.

The new priorities—promoting safe and healthy foods; improving environmental quality; enhancing agricultural systems; revitalizing Minnesota's rural communities; serving urban communities; and the overarching priority of delivering an exemplary education—reflect changing student career interests, opportunities in the marketplace, and new challenges in agriculture, food, and the environment.

"People are concerned about issues like water quality in Minnesota's streams and lakes, diet-related chronic disease, and how we use our land," said Charles Muscoplat, dean of COAFES and vice president for agricultural policy. "They understand that the successes and failures of our rural and urban communities do impact each other. And they want future leaders who have the skills and knowledge to tackle these and other challenges we face."

Along with changes to agriculture, food, and the environment, are significant changes in the needs and interests of students and employers. Over the past 10 years, student enrollment in the college has increased by 86 percent, with 54 percent of the students now coming from metropolitan areas. In addition, nearly 81 percent of the college's students pursue careers beyond traditional production agriculture in fields such as environmental management, food quality and safety, marketing, investment, and technical communications.

Muscoplat said that the college will use the priorities as a guide for decisions on faculty positions, curriculum, student learning opportunities, research, and outreach within the college's 12 departments and six research and outreach centers. In addition to continuing current efforts related to the six priorities, the college is developing new initiatives to further advance each of the six priority areas.

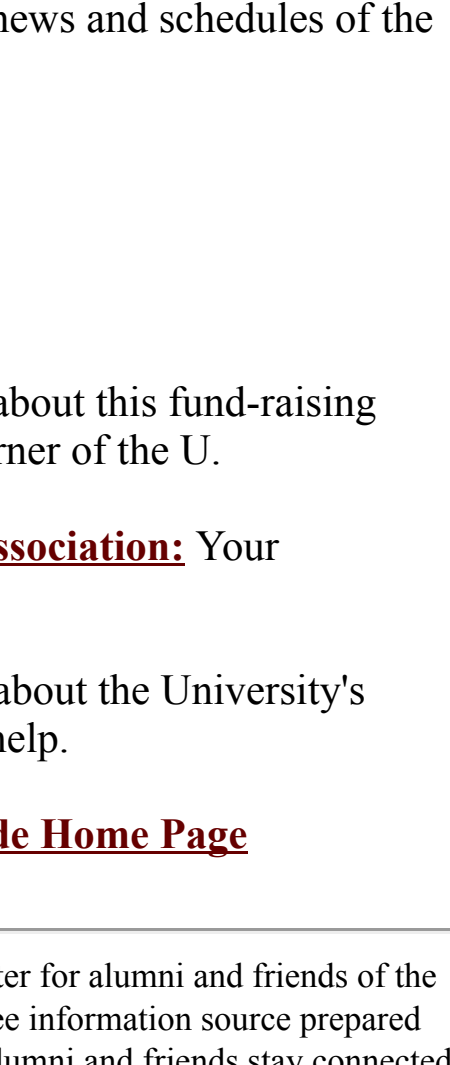
"The priorities enable us to build on our strengths, focus on areas of critical importance to Minnesota citizens and the public good, and hold ourselves accountable," said Muscoplat. "As we move ahead to translate our vision into action, we will continue to ask for and listen to citizen, student, and marketplace needs."

For more information about the college and its new priorities, visit www.coafes.umn.edu or call, (612) 624-3009.

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BELIEVE THE HYPE

It was a victorious homecoming for the Golden Gopher football team Saturday, Oct. 20. Minnesota earned its first Big Ten win this season in a 28-19 triumph over the Michigan State Spartans before a crowd of 47,385 at the Metrodome. If you missed the festivities, the University of Minnesota's [Virtual Homecoming](#) Web page features news links and dozens of photos from homecoming events. Alumni are encouraged to leave a note for former classmates in the Class Notes section at www.umaa.umn.edu/umaa/homecoming2001.



Minnesota earned its first Big Ten win this season in a 28-19 triumph over the Michigan State Spartans.

Before the football game, 500 people attended the pregame pancake breakfast hosted by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association at the McNamara Alumni Center. A program featured appearances by U of M coaches and past and present Gopher sports stars, including longtime Voice of the Gophers Ray Christensen and 1963 Gopher All-American Bobby Bell, who led the Gophers to two Rose Bowls, won two Super Bowls with the Kansas City Chiefs, and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Christensen and Bell were grand marshals of the homecoming parade. For a summary and photos of the football game and other homecoming sports events, go to GopherSports.com.

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NEW DEGREE PROGRAM REFLECTS COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

What do you do when a major manufacturer comes to you and says it needs a new breed of educated worker to compete in a global marketplace? You start a new degree program, of course. That's exactly what the University of Minnesota, Rochester (UMR) did this fall.

On Tuesday, Oct. 23, the UMR and the College of Continuing Education (CCE) formally announced a new Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Manufacturing Technology (BASMT).

The new degree was conceived, and the program designed, as a collaborative effort between the UMR, CCE, the Institute of Technology, and regional businesses. This is also the first original program that the University of Minnesota, Rochester, has been instrumental in designing.

"Industries have a need for specific skills for their employees, so their companies can be more competitive in a global economy," said Dick Westerlund, program director for business and technology at Rochester. "It gives the University the opportunity to respond to definite industry needs."

The degree will be granted by the University of Minnesota CCE, but course work for the completion of the program will be provided by both University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities institutions.

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U of M HAPPENINGS

The Ballet Nacional de Cuba first came to the University of Minnesota in 1999 on its first U.S. tour in 20 years. The Cuban company has embraced a tradition of romantic and classical excellence since it was founded in 1948 by Alicia Alonso, with several members of American Ballet Theatre. The 50 dancers who regularly tour Europe, Asia, and South America will be admired for their beautiful footwork, multiple turns, and impeccable beats on Monday and Tuesday, Oct 29-30 at Northrop Auditorium starting at 7:30pm. Tickets are between \$23 and \$38. For more information, visit <http://www.northrop.umn.edu/index.html>.

UMD's halls will be haunted this Halloween, Oct. 31. Trick or treating will take place in the residence halls. Community kids can come anytime between 5 and 7 p.m. Participating resident rooms will be well-marked and there will be tour guides to take groups of kids/parents around. Refreshments will be served in the Lake Superior Hall lobby. For more information, e-mail Susan Darge at sdarge@d.umn.edu.

The University of Minnesota Marching Band will perform a free concert at the Mayo Civic Center Auditorium in Rochester on Tuesday, Nov. 6. The concert starts at 7 p.m. Free tickets are available at any Marquette Bank location in Rochester, Davies Printing in Rochester, or at the University of Minnesota, Rochester. This concert is part of the Rochester Area Alumni and Friends of the University of Minnesota's (RAAFUM) Maroon & Gold Day Celebration. This all day event includes a RAAFUM reception prior to the concert. The cost is \$10. For more information please contact Amy at (507) 281-7791.

Tuesday, November 6, from 1-2 p.m. Mark and Judy Yudof take to the airwaves for the second installment of "Beyond the U," their new talk show on WCCO Radio AM 830. The show focuses on the University, politics, and current events, and they take calls from listeners. Beyond the U airs from 1-2 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month.

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U IN THE NEWS

NEW ELECTRONIC FINANCIAL AID HELPS STUDENTS

Officials from the University of Minnesota's Office of Student Finance are calling the switch to a Web-based financial aid process a success for students as well as the University. Last July, the University became one of the first schools in the country to offer electronic financial aid processing, a move the school hoped would make an often-complicated process easier for students and staff.

According to Nancy Sinsabaugh, interim director of Student Finance, "The move to the electronic aid process was a huge success. This is a victory for the University and our students, who ultimately reap the benefits."

By making financial aid processing available on the Internet, the University hoped to make applying for and accepting aid more convenient for students, improve aid delivery time, and eliminate problems associated with paper processing such as incorrectly filled out applications and lost letters. Statistics show that the school accomplished all of the above and more. Successes include:

--An 87 percent user rate. Of 16,785 eligible students, 14,615 used the Internet to accept, amend or decline their aid. Sinsabaugh and her staff had anticipated a 50 percent user rate.

--Increased convenience for students. Most students accepted their aid during non-office hours, because the University was able to keep the site running 22 hours a day, seven days a week.

-- A reduction in processing time from an average of six weeks to four days.

--Problems such as wrong addresses, incorrect information on forms, and handling delays were eliminated, which freed staff to help individual students instead of processing paper.

Rose Samual, a marketing and international business student, found that the new system went much more smoothly than the previous four times she had applied for aid. "I only had to visit the financial aid office once this year," she said. "During the little bit of contact I had with an employee there, I received friendly and expedited services, despite the stress that comes along with the beginning of the year. I give the University kudos for their good work. I am sure everyone else on campus does as well."

Sinsabaugh says that the benefits of electronic aid go beyond the campus. "Taxpayers will appreciate it, too," she said. "We're on track to save 1 million sheets of paper and \$80,000 this year."

BOARD OF REGENTS TO ACT ON YUDOF'S CONTRACT

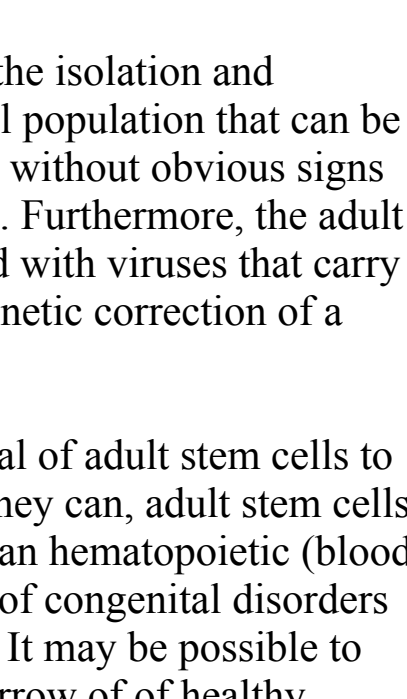
At its monthly meeting this Friday (Nov. 9), the Board of Regents is expected to act on a new contract for President Mark Yudof. While the terms of the contract will not be public until Friday, board chair Maureen Reed expressed confidence in Yudof when she presented his annual performance review in September.

"President Yudof has provided outstanding leadership to this institution through both exciting and difficult times," said Reed. "The board is pleased with his accomplishments in many areas including, undergraduate education and administrative and fiscal management, as well as his continued focus on academic priorities and insight on issues facing public higher education."

Yudof's current contract, approved in July 2000, goes through 2003. In the past, the board has expressed a desire to provide incentives for Yudof to remain in Minnesota.

RESEARCHER FINDS BONE MARROW CELLS ACT LIKE EMBRYO STEM CELLS

Researchers at the University of Minnesota Stem Cell Institute (SCI) have demonstrated that the isolation and expansion of cells derived from adult healthy human bone marrow have characteristics much like embryonic stem cells. These first-time findings, published in the Nov. 1 issue of *Blood*, suggest that these adult stem cells may be an ideal source of cells for therapy of degenerative or traumatic disorders such as osteoporosis, arthritis, and vascular problems, or for therapy of single gene disorders such as hemophilia, Hurler's disease, or muscular dystrophy.



"We are currently exploring the potential of adult stem cells to engraft long term."-- Catherine Verfaillie

"Lab results clearly demonstrate the potential of adult bone marrow stem cells to differentiate beyond mesenchymal cells, into cells of the visceral mesodermal origin, such as endothelium," said [Catherine Verfaillie](#), director of the SCI, and author of the research. "Further, there is preliminary evidence that these adult stem cells may be capable of differentiating into nonmesodermal cell types, such as neurons, astrocytes, and oligodendrocytes."

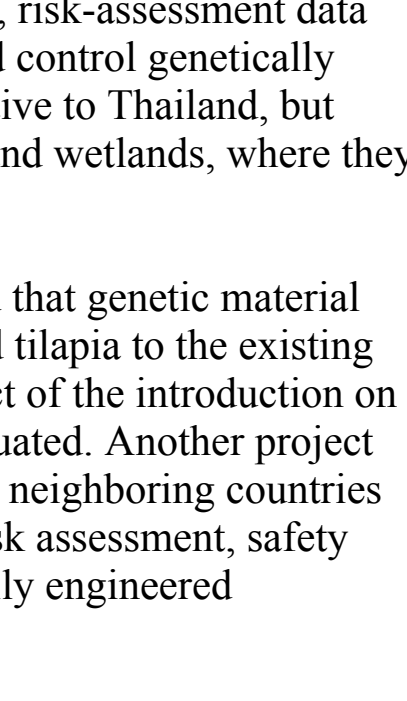
The results describe, for the first time, the isolation and laboratory culture of this adult stem cell population that can be expanded for more than 50 populations without obvious signs of differentiation or senescence (aging). Furthermore, the adult stem cells can readily have genes added with viruses that carry genes into cells, which should aid in genetic correction of a patient's own stem cells.

"We are currently exploring the potential of adult stem cells to engraft long term," said Verfaillie. "If they can, adult stem cells may be a much better source of cells than hematopoietic (blood producing) stem cells for gene therapy of congenital disorders characterized by enzyme deficiencies." It may be possible to use stem cells drawn from the bone marrow of healthy donors, irrespective of age, and possibly the patient's own marrow, for treatments such as gene therapy.

Along with being director of the SCI, Verfaillie holds the Anderson Chair in Stem Cell Biology, Tulloch Chair in Stem Cell Biology, Genetics and Genomics, and the McKnight's Presidential Chair in Stem Cell Biology. Last December she was honored by U.S. News & World Report as one of the nation's top innovators in science and technology.

UMM FEMALE WRESTLER WINS WORLD CUP

UM-Morris senior Katie Downing went to France excited that she had the opportunity to represent the United States in the 1st Annual Women's World Cup. Now Downing is returning to the United States as the lone American crowned as World Cup Champion, and the only wrestler who went undefeated throughout the competition at 149.75 pounds.



Katie Downing pinned her first four opponents in a total time of 5 minutes, 20 seconds.

Downing, a senior majoring in history and social sciences, pinned the first four opponents, from Russia, Canada, China and Tunisia, in a total time of 5 minutes, 20 seconds. She then won by injury default over her opponent from Japan, and by a 9-4 decision over the French wrestler.

"This is huge," commented head coach Doug Reese. "I am so excited for Katie. She deserves this so much. She works so hard, makes so many sacrifices, and she is so focused. It is a real blessing to have her realize success at this level of competition. This is the victory she needed at this stage in her career."

The World Cup is a dual meet tournament with the best women's teams in the world, wrestling in a round-robin format. Individual wrestlers were honored based upon win-loss records during the tournament.

"Next to the world championships, this is the most prestigious event in the international calendar," said Reese. "It is an honor to be selected. Any time you represent your country in international competition, it is a thrill. This is the type of competition Katie needs to keep her focused on her ultimate goal -- the Olympics in 2004. This is a great first step."

There are about 10 women's wrestling programs in the nation now, according to Reese, but UMM organized the first women's wrestling program in the nation in 1994.

GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FISH SUBJECT OF U OF M STUDY

University scientists will soon be helping leaders in Thailand evaluate and regulate the environmental safety of genetically engineered organisms. This is the goal of a four-year, \$425,000 grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) to the University's Institute for Social, Economic, and Ecological Sustainability (ISEES).

The AID grant will support the first scientific research on the effects of introducing tilapia--a fish that is a major food source in the region--that has been genetically engineered for growth enhancement. The work will evaluate the potential safety or risk to biodiversity from the introduction of the tilapia, large numbers of which are raised in fish farms in the United States and around the world. According to ISEES director Anne Kapuscinski, a professor of fisheries and conservation biology and principal investigator for the grant, the Thai government has discouraged several requests to introduce such fish, partly because of the absence of case-specific, risk-assessment data and insufficient capability to assess and control genetically modified organisms. Tilapia are not native to Thailand, but some have escaped into natural rivers and wetlands, where they have established feral populations.

The project will measure the likelihood that genetic material will flow from the genetically modified tilapia to the existing feral populations of the fish. The impact of the introduction on other fish populations will also be evaluated. Another project goal is to help officials in Thailand and neighboring countries increase their skills in science-based risk assessment, safety planning, and management of genetically engineered organisms.

"The ISEES program on governance of biotechnology has attracted domestic and international interest," said Kapuscinski. "This AID grant will enhance the international dimension of our biosafety research, graduate training, and outreach. Also, we expect the project to enhance Thailand's role as a regional biotechnology and biosafety leader with the capacity to share scientific and regulatory expertise and information with other nations."

UMD BUILDING NAMED AFTER "MR. TACONITE"

The University of Minnesota Duluth Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) officially dedicated its new Coleraine building as the C. W. Niemi Research Building. For over 56 years, Clifford W. Niemi has dedicated himself to minerals research for the taconite industry, and is often referred to as "Mr. Taconite."

"It has taken a united effort by taconite, industry, and University people to create the taconite industry, and now it will again take a united effort to revitalize this industry in the face of a global economy," said Niemi. In 1986, he advocated and facilitated the transfer of ownership of U. S. Steel's Coleraine research laboratory and its employees to the NRRI.

The NRRI fosters economic development of Minnesota's natural resources in an environmentally sound manner to promote private sector employment.

FINALISTS NAMED FOR DEAN OF CARLSON SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Two finalists for the position of dean for the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management have been named by the search committee. They are Lawrence Benveniste and David Blake.

According to Charles Muscoplat, chairperson of the search committee dean of the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, both candidates are qualified to lead the Carlson School of Management into the future.

"The search committee is pleased with the finalists for this important position," Muscoplat said. "Both candidates have extensive and impressive records as professors, researchers, and deans. I'm sure the University community as well as the general public will be as impressed with them as the committee is."

The finalists are participating in interviews with Carlson School constituencies including students, faculty, staff and alumni, as well as various university administrators. Both must give public presentations entitled "Moving the Carlson School Forward: A Dean's Vision of the Future."

Benveniste's interviews and public presentation took place this week, Nov. 6 and 7. Blake's interviews and public presentation are scheduled for next week, Nov. 12 and 13. Muscoplat said the decision about who will be the new dean is expected by the end of November.

Benveniste has a Ph.D. in mathematics from University of California-Berkeley. He has held the US Bancorp chair in finance since 1996 and is currently the interim dean of the Carlson School of Management. At the University of Minnesota, he has served as finance professor, chair of the finance department, and associate dean of faculty and research. His previous faculty experience includes the Wallace E. Carroll School of Management at Boston College and the J. L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. He has also been on the staff of the Federal Reserve Board. His principal research is on initial public offerings of equity. Among his most cited articles is "How Investment Banks Price and Place New Issues," in the *Journal of Financial Economics*. He has also done significant work on loan underwriting and securitization.

Blake has a Ph.D. in political science from Rutgers University in New Jersey. He is presently the dean at the Graduate School of Management at the University of California-Irvine (UCI). Prior to joining UCI, he was dean of the Edwin L. Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University and of the business schools at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and Northeastern University. He has been a professor and associate dean of the Katz School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh and a professor of political science at Wayne State University. He is an authority on business strategy, leadership, and management education and has been a business school dean for two decades. In 1996, he served as president of the AACSB--The International Association for Management Education, a professional association for leaders in management education. He has written extensively on the international political economy and multinational corporations.

U of M HAPPENINGS

The University of Minnesota Marching Band will perform its annual indoor concert at Northrop Memorial Auditorium on Saturday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. and again on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. For more information, contact the ticket office at (612)624-2345.

The University Theatre is performing Tennessee Williams' classic play, "The Glass Menagerie." Performances begin Sunday, Nov. 11, at the Rarig Center and run through Sunday, Dec. 2. Tickets are from \$5 to \$13. For more information, contact the University Arts Ticket Office at (612)624-2345 or e-mail theatre@umn.edu.

A community forum called "Understanding September 11th," will explore the effects of the terrorist attacks on civil liberties, and will also address the experiences of Arab-American and Muslim communities in the United States. The forum will take place Monday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. The event, sponsored by the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change, and co-sponsored by the Walker Art Center and the U of M Institute for Global Studies, is free and open to the public. For more information, visit <http://www.icgc.umn.edu/Events.htm>.

New York Chamber Soloists will perform Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" at the Marshall Performing Arts Center at UMD on Tuesday, Nov. 13. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and \$10, with a \$5 student rush. For more information, call the UMD music department at (218)726-8208 or e-mail mu@d.umn.edu.

Dr. Trinh T. Minh-ha--filmmaker, poet, literary critic, and Chancellor's Distinguished Professor in Women's Studies and Rhetoric at the University of California-Berkeley--will give this year's Barber Lecture in Literature at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, in Edson Auditorium at UMM. Her film, "Thursdays Viet Given Name Nam," has received many awards, including the Blue Ribbon Award at the American Film and Video Festival. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, please e-mail Sarah Buchanan at buchansb@mrs.umn.edu.

UMD's Tweed Museum of Art presents an exhibit of 50 large-scale woodcuts by Neil Welliver, one of the country's most respected landscape artists. Welliver's large, multicolor prints feature the forests and rivers of the New England countryside; they represent a high level of craft and technique in terms of woodblock printmaking. The exhibit runs until Jan. 13. For more information, visit <http://www.d.umn.edu/tma>.

Opening Nov. 18, "New Visions of the American Heartland," a new exhibition at the Weisman Art Museum, explores the Midwest's cultural identity through commissioned works by four contemporary artists: Malcolm Cochran, Kerry James Marshall, Maya Lin, and Mary Lucier. An opening night preview and a chance to meet the contemporary artists is on Saturday, Nov. 17, 7-11 p.m. Admission for the preview is \$10, \$5 for students, seniors, and WAM members. The exhibit is free and open to the public. It runs through March 24. For more information, e-mail Karen Casanova at casan001@umn.edu.

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U IN THE NEWS**U OF M CASE HEARD BEFORE U.S. SUPREME COURT**

This week, the University of Minnesota made legal history. For the first time ever, the University presented a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. The University's general counsel, Mark Rotenberg, defend its position in the case Raygor v. Regents of the University of Minnesota.

The issue presented to the court concerns the power of Congress in relation to that of state governments, Rotenberg explained.

"The Supreme Court took this case to decide an important constitutional issue of federalism: Can Congress require Minnesota to extend the time it set for filing state discrimination claims against the University in state court?" he said.

Last Feb., a unanimous Minnesota Supreme Court held that the plaintiffs' state law discrimination claims were barred by Minnesota's statute of limitations. The plaintiffs had filed their claims in state court 378 days after receiving a letter from the state informing them that they must bring their case against the University in state court within 45 days.

"We defended the Minnesota Supreme Court's decision that Congress cannot dictate to the states different time periods for filing state claims in state courts," said Rotenberg.

The case arose from allegations of age discrimination raised by two University employees who initially filed their charges in 1995. The University denied the allegations, and both the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Minnesota Department of Human Rights dismissed their charges. The merits of the original discrimination claims are not what the U.S. Supreme Court is considering, said Rotenberg.

Many governmental units and organizations signed on to briefs supporting the University's position, including the U.S. Justice Department, 24 states, the National Governors Association, the National League of Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the National Conference of State Legislators.

Rotenberg and his counterpart had one hour to argue the case in front of the nine justices. The court is expected to issue its decision within the next few months.

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A four-member team of UMD industrial engineering students took first place in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers International Student Design Competition held Nov. 11 in New York City. The winning design was a fishing rod and reel controlled by simulated "sip and puff" technology that allows a quadriplegic person to accurately cast a fishing lure.

The student team included Mike Anderson, Charlie Fox, Steve Sobiech, and Joe Higgins and was supervised by David Wyrick, associate professor and head of the UMD Department of Industrial Engineering.

The UMD team was one of only 13 in the United States selected to participate in the international contest, which included participants from India and Japan. UMD students previously won their regional competition representing a seven-state area.

[Return to top](#)**CAPITAL BUDGET ON AGENDA FOR 2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

When the Minnesota Legislature convenes on Jan. 29, 2002, one of the dominant issues of the session will be the state's capital budget.

The legislature will consider the governor's recommendations for a capital budget and will ultimately present the governor with its budget to fund state construction projects. The University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved the 2002 capital request to the legislature last month. The capital request, which includes funds for 12 prioritized improvement, renovation, and construction projects on all University campuses, totals \$239.8 million over the biennium.

At this time, it is unclear how the reported state budget shortfall will impact the size of the bonding bills. Unlike operating funds, however, capital funds have the potential to quickly pump millions of dollars into the economy through new construction projects. The U is hopeful that lawmakers will look favorably at our record of completing projects quickly and on time when they consider this year's request.

Alumni, students, faculty, staff, and others are invited to learn more about the University's capital request at the 2002 Legislative Briefing, on Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2002 at Memorial Hall in the McNamara Alumni Center. A free buffet and interactive display starts at 5:30 p.m., and the program starts at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bob Burgett at 612-624-2323, or 800-UM-ALUMS, or Nicole Bennett at benne069@umn.edu, or visit www.umn.edu/govrel.

[Return to top](#)**U OF M ROCHESTER TO LAUNCH NURSING DEGREE PROGRAM**

The University of Minnesota, Rochester, is addressing the national and regional nursing shortage by establishing a bachelor's degree in nursing beginning in fall 2002.

The nursing program will admit up to 30 students a year. Students will take all course work in Rochester from University of Minnesota faculty. Clinical training will take place at Mayo Clinic and Hospitals and other medical facilities in southeastern Minnesota. Students will earn a degree from the University of Minnesota, which has the oldest continuing university nursing program in the United States.

This expansion of the University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is a joint effort with the Mayo Clinic and the state legislature.

According to the American Hospital Association's June 2001 *TrendWatch* newsletter, 126,000 nurses are needed to fill vacancies in U.S. hospitals; 75 percent of all hospital personnel vacancies are in nursing.

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The Raptor Center's Freedom Gift Shop went online Nov. 2. Accessible at www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu, the virtual shop offers more than 70 items featuring eagles and other birds-of-prey. Items can be ordered online and paid for by credit card on a secure server.

The Freedom Gift Shop began about 12 years ago, offering a few sweatshirts, mugs, and cards, largely purchased by Raptor Center volunteers, staff, and visitors. Today, its inventory includes nearly 300 items, from books, puzzles, and toys, to T-shirts, socks, and hats. An eagle adoption kit, which sells for \$20, lets buyers sponsor one of six eagles. The online store includes 72 catalog items, as well as gift certificates and memberships.

The Raptor Center was established in 1974 within the College of Veterinary Medicine. It specializes in the medical care, rehabilitation, and conservation of eagles, hawks, owls, and falcons. Directed by Dr. Pat Redig, a professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine, the program treats an average of 800 birds a year, reaches approximately 250,000 people annually through public education programs and events, and provides professional training in raptor medicine and surgery for veterinarians from around the world. It is supported by private donations, grants, fees from educational programs and professional services, and gift-shop sales.

For more online shopping opportunities, check out the University of Minnesota Bookstores at www.bookstore.umn.edu.

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An exhibit of the archives of textile designer Jack Lenor Larsen will run at the U of M Elmer L. Andersen Library from Dec. 7 to Feb. 20. It will feature materials drawn from the Larsen Archives, which are held by the University Libraries. Almost all of the material in the exhibit will be on public view for the first time. The exhibit will coincide with exhibits of Larsen's work at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and The Goldstein: A Museum of Design on the St. Paul campus.

Beginning as a weaver, Larsen is credited with numerous fabric designs and pioneered the use of new materials, such as leather, mylar, nylon fishing line, metallic wire, and foil in creating new effects in textile designs. His robes included Pan American and Braniff Airlines, Sears Roebuck, Dansk, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Lever Brothers.

The University Libraries acquired the archives, which include more than 25,000 samples from more than 1,200 textile designs, after Larsen sold his company in 1997. The records also contain drawings and sketches, notes by designers, correspondence, invoices, and other documents that embody the history of Larsen and his company. Large collections of fabric samples were given to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and the Goldstein.

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Since Sept. 11, Pauline Boss has played a national role helping families and friends of victims deal with their loss and grief following the terrorist attacks in New York City. On Saturday, Dec. 1, the U of M therapist and professor of family social science will host "Ambiguous Loss: Reflecting on Sept. 11," a lecture and panel discussion at the Weisman Art Museum. The event begins at 2 p.m. and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Karen Casanova at casan001@umn.edu.

Tune in to WCCO 830 on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 1 p.m. for "Beyond the U," a monthly radio show hosted by University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof and his wife, Judy. The hour-long, call-in show focuses on the University, current issues, legal affairs, politics, and the implications of new technologies, and can be heard the first Tuesday of every month.

The Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, and Brass Choir will perform "Sounds of the Season" at the Ted Mann Concert Hall on Friday, Dec. 7. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Tom Donaghy at donag003@umn.edu

Students of the Dance Program and Cowles Chair Guest Artists will showcase their work the weekend of Dec. 7. This year's concert is a mixture of classic repertoire pieces and new works created just for U of M students. Performances are Friday and Saturday Dec. 7 and 8 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. All performances are at the Rarig Center's Whiting Proscenium Theatre. Tickets: \$5-\$13. For more information, contact the University Arts Ticket Office at 612-624-2345, or theatre@umn.edu.

Nearly 1,200 high school students from Minnesota and North Dakota will make their way to the University of Minnesota, Crookston, to participate in "Ag Activities Day." The annual event is set for Friday, Dec. 7. Students, members of 4-H clubs, and FFA chapters will compete in several contests including dairy judging, agricultural mechanics, and ag salesmanship. Contests begin at 9 a.m. The registration fee is \$6 per student. For more information, or to register, contact UMC's Center for Agriculture and Natural Resources at 218-281-8101, or visit www.crk.umn.edu/ag/aad.

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