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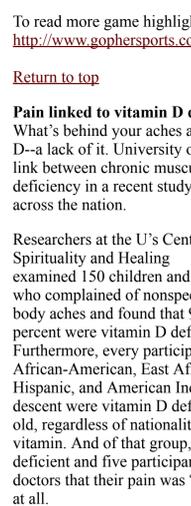
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NEWS

Gophers win Sun Bowl

With only 23 seconds left in the game and trailing Oregon by two points, Minnesota's very own Englishman, Rhys Ilyod, kicked the winning 42-yard field goal. Golden Gopher fans roared as their football team snatched the Sun Bowl title 31-30 from the Ducks in El Paso, Tex., on December 31.



"I didn't know if it was going to go through," says Minnesota senior receiver Aaron Hosack, who caught six passes for 107 yards. "We all just stood there and went crazy when the ref signaled it was good. Oregon's defense is one of the toughest we faced all year."

Oregon took a 30-28 lead with about 4 minutes remaining before the Gophers drove 55 yards to set up the winning kick. The Gophers were beaten 24-20 by the Ducks in the 1999 Sun Bowl.

The 2003 Sun Bowl was scoreless after the first quarter, but the teams combined for 31 points in the second--the most points scored in a Sun Bowl quarter. Minnesota entered the game with the nation's third-best running offense, averaging 293.2 yards a game. The Gophers outruled the Ducks 241-77.

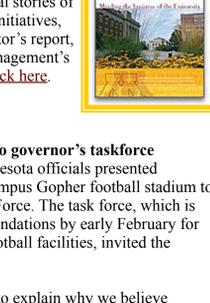
The Gophers finished 10-3 in the 2003 season, their best record in the modern era.

To read more game highlights, see <http://www.gophersports.com>.

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Pain linked to vitamin D deficiency

What's behind your aches and pain? The culprit could be vitamin D--a lack of it. University of Minnesota researchers have found a link between the chronic musculoskeletal pain and vitamin D deficiency in a recent study that has received media coverage across the nation.



Researchers at the U's Center for Spirituality and Healing examined 150 children and adults who complained of nonspecific body aches and found that 93 percent were vitamin D deficient. Furthermore, every participant of African-American, East African, Hispanic, and American Indian descent were vitamin D deficient. All participants under 30 years old, regardless of nationality, were also found to be lacking the vitamin. And of that group, more than half were severely deficient and five participants, who had been told by their doctors that their pain was "all in their head," had no vitamin D at all.

"These findings are remarkably different than what is taught in medical school," says Greg Plotnikoff, associate professor of medicine and lead author of the study. "We would expect vitamin D deficiency in old persons or housebound persons, [but] we found the worst vitamin D deficiency in young people, especially women of childbearing age."

Vitamin D deficiency is associated with significant risks for osteoporosis, hypertension, diabetes, cancer, and autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis. Plotnikoff says this new study supports more routine screening for vitamin D deficiency.

"[Musculoskeletal] pain is the most common type of complaint seen by primary care doctors," he adds. Unsuccessful treatment of pain costs \$61.2 billion per year, according to the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (November 2003). Plotnikoff says further studies need to be done to see if a prescription of vitamin D can help a patient manage or alleviate persistent, non-specific pain.

The study is published in the December 9, 2003, *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*.

--Academic Health Center

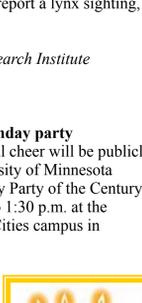
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Minding the business of the U

The University of Minnesota is placing the highest priority on fiscal resourcefulness, institutional efficiency, and quality student services to retain its academic excellence in these challenging economic times. The University's 2003 Annual Report details how the U has reshaped the way it operates and explains why it continues to be a valuable investment.

"This has been a challenging year for the U," says University president Bob Bruininks. "We took one of the larger cuts in state appropriations--15 percent for the biennium--of any public university in the nation, but we are forging ahead, working to ensure excellence and vitality of the University for our students and for the people of Minnesota in a time of fiscal austerity."

The annual report, which was presented to the Board of Regents in December and sent to key business and community leaders this month, includes real stories of cost savings and productivity initiatives, as well as an independent auditor's report, financial statements, and a management's analysis. To read the report, [click here](#).



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Stadium findings presented to governor's taskforce

This week, University of Minnesota officials presented recommendations for an on-campus Gopher football stadium to the Governor's Stadium Task Force. The task force, which is charged with making recommendations by early February for Twins baseball and Vikings football facilities, invited the University to present its plans.

"This was a great opportunity to explain why we believe bringing Gopher football back to campus is the best option for the University and the state of Minnesota," said Joel Maturi, athletics director. "An on campus stadium will attract more students, fans, alumni and donors, strengthening pride and people's relationships to this great University."

During the presentation, Maturi evoked the excitement of marching down University Avenue into the old Memorial stadium on a crisp fall game day. A generation of Minnesotans, he said, has not enjoyed a true Big Ten football experience.

In addition to contributing to the collegiate experience and strengthening alumni and fan connections to the University, which contributes to the University's overall strength, Maturi reminded the task force that the University has been playing Division I football in Minnesota for more than a century. "We're not going anywhere, and we shouldn't be taken for granted because of that," he said.

Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services, discussed the University's recommendations for an on-campus stadium ("modern, enduring, but modest.")

The University projects the cost to be \$180 million, with another \$42 million needed for site preparations and infrastructure improvements, bringing the total project to an estimated \$222 million.

University chief financial officer Richard Pfutzenreuter said officials are looking at a variety of funding streams, including a substantial amount of private funding. "Our academic mission remains paramount," he said. "However, we expect an on-campus Gopher stadium will attract large sums of private funding that simply wouldn't come to the University but for this project."

Specifically, Pfutzenreuter said the University is exploring financing strategies that include private donations, sponsorships, stadium revenues, student support, and parking revenues. He added that with a project of this size, no single source of funding would be sufficient.

"If the University raises 60 or 70 percent of the funding, \$6 million annually would cover the debt service and close that funding gap," he said.

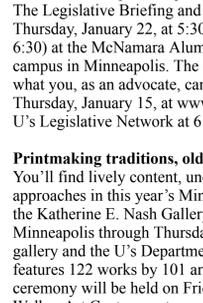
The University is not including stadium funding in its capital request to the Minnesota legislature this year but will follow the stadium discussions at the capitol during the session. For the latest on a proposed stadium, see www.umn.edu/stadium.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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New links to Minnesota lynx

Once a very rare sight in Minnesota, the elusive Canada lynx has returned, and scientists at the University of Minnesota, Duluth's Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) are on its trail. They're using new technologies to keep track of their old friends in the northwoods.



The lynx is a 15- to 25-pound wildcat added to the Endangered Species Act in 2000.

The U's research team is working with the U.S. Forest Service to capture the wildcats in Superior National Forest and install tracking collars on them to learn more about their movements, habitat preferences, and population density. The lynx was added to the Endangered Species Act in 2000.

"Concurrent with listing lynx as 'threatened' comes the need to know a whole lot more about the species," says NRRI biologist Chris Burdett. "We want to know what they stay [and] why they starve? We need to know what they're doing and how they're doing."

Over the past year, the scientists have tracked the movements of six lynx with radio collars and, just this month, two more lynx are being followed with the latest Global Positioning System (GPS) technology.

"These GPS collars give us up to four locations night and day in all weather conditions," said Ron Moen, NRRI biologist. "They also give us locations in the summer when it is impossible to track lynx when there are no snow tracks to follow. Activity sensors in the collar tell us when the animals are active or resting."

The public also informs the researchers' database. Thus far, the team has received about 40 e-mails and calls from people in northern Minnesota who have sighted a lynx.

The lynx is a 15- to 25-pound wildcat, most commonly found where its favorite food--the snowshoe hare--is most abundant. The researchers estimate that the lynx population will likely decline as the number of snowshoe hares is predicted to fall over the next few years.

The Superior National Forest is using the findings from this study for planning projects and taking into account lynx habitat needs when analyzing revisions for the Forest Plans on the Superior and Chippewa National Forests.

To learn more about the study or how to report a lynx sighting, see <http://www.nrri.umn.edu/lynx>.

--June Kallestad, Natural Resources Research Institute

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Winning cheer to debut at UMAA birthday party

The new University of Minnesota musical cheer will be publicly performed for the first time at the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's (UMAA) "Birthday Party of the Century" on Friday, January 30, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis.

The winning cheer was chosen from more than three dozen entries submitted to the musical cheer contest sponsored by UMAA in honor of its 100th birthday. Contestants were asked to compose "a spirited and bold" 15-second cheer similar to that of the University of Michigan's "Let's Go Blue." The new cheer won't replace the "The Minnesota Rouser" but will introduce another tradition to bring the crowd to its feet during Gopher games and other University of Minnesota events.

The U's Pep Band will perform the cheer at the birthday party, which will also feature a free lunch, birthday cake, prize giveaways, and games. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information about the UMAA birthday party, musical cheer contest, and 100th anniversary, see www.alumni.umn.edu/100.

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U to study child abuse issues

In 2001, 903,000 children were victims of abuse or neglect in the United States, and more than 9,000 of those children live in Minnesota. The U's School of Social Work recently received one of only 11 federal grants to study child abuse and neglect.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will fund research on such topics as child protection for individuals with disabilities, cultural differences in the definition of child maltreatment, supervision of child welfare cases, and the role of social support systems for abused children.

"Research from these projects will help maximize effective child welfare practices while making the most of limited resources to care for our most vulnerable populations," says Susan Wells, social work professor and grant project director.

The University will conduct five projects over a two-year period in collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the children's services units for Anoka, Dakota, Olmsted, Ramsey, and Washington counties.

"We are extremely proud of this award and hope that highlighting the important work being done by Dr. Wells and others will enhance the national debate on child welfare needs and practice," says Jean Quam, director of the School of Social Work.

To learn more about the University of Minnesota School of Social Work, see <http://ssw.che.umn.edu>.

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Clicks vs. trips

At the dawn of the Internet age, futurists predicted that as telecommunications improved, we would travel less--working, shopping, and banking from home. Why, then, do traffic jams persist? A University of Minnesota professor is studying how our use of the Internet affects congestion and social behavior.

Kevin Krizek, with the U's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, is collecting and analyzing data on household travel decisions in three cities--Seattle, Pittsburgh, and Kansas City--so that transportation planners can better understand how urban areas may change as technology becomes more pervasive.

"At one point, we thought that e-commerce could replace a lot of physical travel and therefore we'd eliminate our congestion woes," Krizek says. "The emerging thought is that information technologies are not replacing household travel but are complementing it."

In some cases, Krizek says, shopping online directly replace certain trips. But the Internet and other technologies may be prompting more purchases and travel--both short trips to the local mall and longer trips for leisure travel. "The good deals people can get on airline tickets through the Web may well be instigating travel," he explains.

In addition to influencing our travel behavior, Krizek says the availability of products through the Internet has affected the way a community socializes. Many bricks-and-mortar retailers have changed their approach to customers. Bookstores, for instance, have remade themselves as coffeehouses and neighborhood gathering spots as well as places to buy books.

Kevin Krizek is with the U's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Photo credit Jonathon Chapman

"Much of the social interaction we require is invaluable and cannot be adequately served electronically," he says. "For example, renting a movie is not a substitute for going to the theater because the two are not usually considered equivalent experiences."

Krizek's research is part of a larger project, the Sustainable Technologies Applied Research Initiative, sponsored by the U's Center for Transportation Studies. To learn more about the initiative, see <http://www.its.umn.edu/research/projects/2003012.html>. For more on Krizek's findings, see <http://www.hhh.umn.edu/news/newsletter/2003/nov03.pdf>.

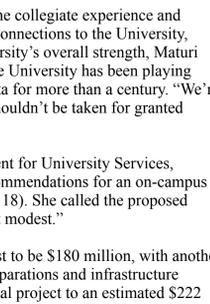
--edited from an original story by Mary Lahr Schier in Humphrey Institute News, November 2003.

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Beating winter blues with houseplants

When the holidays are over and the last decorations are packed away, even the most inviting rooms can seem a little drab. Why not brighten your favorite room with a new houseplant or two? University of Minnesota gardening expert Deb Brown offers some tips on buying plants during this bone-chilling season.

- Many Minnesota nurseries and garden centers ship in large, fresh supplies of foliage plants this time of year and often run special sales on them in January or February.
- Though it may be tempting, never whisk an unprotected plant quickly from a building to a car or vice versa. Even though you expose it to extreme cold for just a very short time, the plant may suffer irreparable damage. Wrap or double-wrap it before heading outside. Most foliage plants originate in the tropics or sub-tropics and can't tolerate any cold temperatures.
- For bright and warm locations near south- or west-facing windows, consider one of the ficus (fig) trees or plants from the aralia family. These include the bamboo-lookalike, Ficus "Alii;" the weeping fig, Ficus benjamina; the spidery "false aralia" or Dizygotheca elegantissima; and the lacy-leafed Ming aralia or Polyscias fruticosa.
- Some of the best plants for low-light conditions belong to the aroid family, which includes philodendrons, pothos, peace lilies, anthuriums, dieffenbachias, and Chinese evergreens. Of these, only the peace lilies and anthuriums have showy flowers, but the Chinese evergreens often develop bright red berries after their inconspicuous flowers fade. You could also try growing the "Janet Craig" dracaena and the parlor palm Chamaedorea elegans "Bella" or grouping several "Dallas" ferns together.
- If your light conditions are really poor, try growing a cast iron plant such as the Aspidistra trifasciata or a large potted snake plant like the Sansevieria laetifasciata. Though they're not the most beautiful houseplants, they are green and practically indestructible.



--edited from the Yard and Garden Line News, a publication by the University of Minnesota Extension Service

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HAPPENINGS

Owl prowl

Go on the Owl Prowl this Sunday, January 11, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Raptor Center on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul and you'll leave knowing all about native and migrant Minnesota owl species. You'll also get to touch a live owl and spot a wild one from afar. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors. To register, call 612-624-4745. The center is also offering a weekend owl-watching tour from January 23-25 in Duluth. Tour guides Sharon Stiteler and Amber Burnette will take you in search of owls and other northern bird species. The cost is \$225, (or \$250 single occupancy), which includes meals, lodging, transportation, and a donation to the Raptor Center. Tickets are sold at All Seasons Wild Bird Stores. For more information, call 952-935-5892.

"Bigger is better" at the Physics Circus

Why implode a pop can when a 55-gallon drum is available? Or why shoot down a mythical monkey when the target could be a physics teacher dropping from a 20-foot-high scaffold? At 7 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, several scientists will demonstrate the entertaining side of their profession during a Physics Circus in Northrop Memorial Auditorium on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The group is part of Physics Force, an outreach program in the U's Institute of Technology created to make science interesting and fun for students of all ages. Admission is free. To learn more, see <http://www.physics.umn.edu/outreach/pforce>.

Get the legislative scoop

Join University of Minnesota president Bob Bruininks and alumni association president Jerry Noyce for an insider's look at the U's 2004 Capital Request to the Minnesota State Legislature. The Legislative Briefing and Reception will take place on Thursday, January 22, at 5:30 p.m. (with the program starting at 6:30) at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The event is also an opportunity to learn what you, as an advocate, can do to support the U. RSVP by Thursday, January 15, at www.supporttheU.umn.edu or call the U's Legislative Network at 612-625-9174.

Printmaking traditions, old and new

You'll find lively content, unexpected images, and experimental approaches in this year's Minnesota National Print Biennial at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis through Thursday, February 19. Organized by the gallery and the U's Department of Art, this juried exhibition features 122 works by 101 artists. A public reception and awards ceremony will be held on Friday, January 16, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Walker Art Center curator and biennial juror Siri Engberg will give a public lecture on Thursday, January 22, at 7 p.m. in the space adjacent to the gallery. All events are free. For general information, see http://artdept.umn.edu/art_dept/nash.html.

Mix it, pound it, roll it, and bake it...

Discover how easy it is to make bread at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen this winter. In January, "Cool Cooking with Hot Breads" will feature lessons in pizza-making and basil-planting, and in February, you can learn the secret to shaping and seasoning soft pretzels, grinding grains into flour, and combining ingredients for simple doughs. No registration required; all you have to do is visit the Marion Andrus Learning Center from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturdays through February 28. Classes are free with the gate admission (\$5 for adults and free for arboretum members and children under 18). For general information, see www.arboretum.umn.edu or call 952-443-1400.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

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

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

U of M eNews is a biweekly e-mail newsletter for alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota. The newsletter, a free information source prepared by the 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

The U needs you!

The University plays a significant role in the economic health of Minnesota—it educates the next generation of leaders, conducts research that creates jobs and expands the state's tax base, and works in communities statewide to address complex challenges. As the governor and legislators address the state's record budget deficit and the University faces likely budget cuts, we need ambassadors—students, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends—to talk about the University, its value to the state, and its prudent management of its resources.

On Tuesday, Jan. 21, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., the University of Minnesota Legislative Network will host its annual legislative briefing, which will provide an overview of the legislative session, including the state's budget challenges and the University's role as an economic engine for Minnesota. President Robert Bruininks and University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) President Deborah Hopp are featured speakers. They will focus on how you can become an advocate for the University at the Legislature. The event, which is sponsored by the UMAA, will be held at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus.

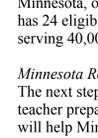
All University supporters are invited to the event and are encouraged to invite their legislators to join them. Displays will highlight some of the University's diverse and special programs. Faculty and staff will be available to answer questions and provide expertise on how their programs are contributing to Minnesota's well-being.

If you plan to attend, make your reservation by Thursday, Jan. 16; call 612-625-9174. For more information, see the University's Office of Government Relations Web site at www.umn.edu/govrel.

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A fundamental human write

Some children simply seem to become literate, devouring books—from early-readers to novels—with ease. But for children who have learning disabilities, are recent immigrants living in homes without English speakers, or do not have access to reading materials at home, the process can be very difficult. The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) on the Twin Cities campus has forged a literacy initiative to address this need.



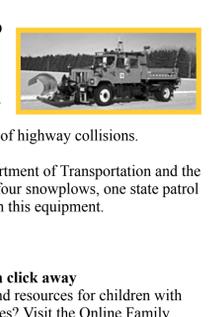
The long-term effects for children with limited literacy skills can be devastating. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, adults in the lowest levels of literacy have significantly higher rates of incarceration and nearly half live in poverty.

Through the literacy initiative, college faculty are collaborating with state government and local educational institutions and organizations on three grant projects to help the next generation of Minnesotans achieve the fundamental human right of literacy.

The Early Literacy Training Project

The Early Literacy Training Project, funded through a \$1.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, is preparing preschool educators to help Minnesota children develop early literacy and language skills. The project will revise and refine existing early education curriculum and prepare a cadre of trainers to work with early educators across the state.

The project is a collaboration between the University; the Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association; Hennepin County; Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referral Network; Minneapolis Public Library; Minneapolis Public Schools; Minnesota Department of Children, Families, and Learning; and the White Earth Indian Reservation.

*Reading Excellence Act*

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), more than two thirds of fourth graders in high-poverty schools are unable to demonstrate a simple understanding of what they read. A \$24.5 million Reading Excellence Act (REA) grant will provide professional development to teachers to ensure that the state's most at-risk students receive high quality reading instruction. Minnesota, one of 13 states receiving REA grants this year, has 24 eligible school districts with 86 eligible schools serving 40,000 students.

Minnesota Reads

The next step in addressing literacy education is to improve teacher preparation. A \$1 million Bush Foundation grant will help Minnesota's colleges address literacy education through improved preparation of teachers. The grant funds Minnesota Reads, a University faculty and development research project designed to support college educators as they analyze and redesign literacy education courses for teacher licensure programs. The University is collaborating with St. Cloud State University, the College of St. Catherine, and Augsburg College on this project.

For more information on literacy projects in the College of Education and Human Development, see <http://literacy.umn.edu>.

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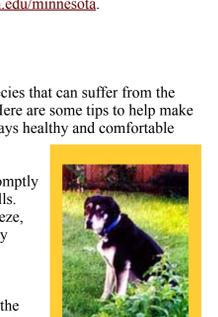
U technology makes snowplow driving safer

Researchers from the University's Intelligent Vehicles Lab in the Center for Transportation Studies are trying to make driving a snowplow, a state patrol car, and even a bus a little easier during Minnesota snowstorms.

Researchers use Global Positioning Systems (GPS), a digital map database, obstacle detection radar, and a head-up display (HUD), to provide drivers with a virtual reality-like representation of the road when driving conditions make it almost impossible to see the road.

The GPS identifies a snowplow's exact location, and when combined with digital maps containing the location of road landscape elements such as lane boundaries, guard rails, and signs, provides real-time mapping accuracy. The HUD then uses this information to make it possible for drivers to see the road even if they cannot see the highway with their own eyes.

At the same time, the HUD shows vehicles in front of the plow as white or red boxes, depending on how close they are, which alerts the snowplow driver and greatly reduces the chance of highway collisions.

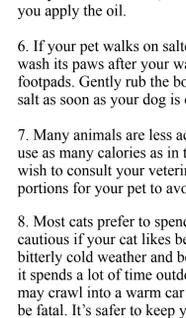


To date, Minnesota's Department of Transportation and the University have equipped four snowplows, one state patrol car, and one metro bus with this equipment.

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Disability resources just a click away

Looking for information and resources for children with disabilities and their families? Visit the Online Family Resource Center at <http://www.allaboutkids.umn.edu/kdybvc/dbframes.htm>.



This new virtual library from the University's Department of Pediatrics is designed to improve the quality of life for children and youth with disabilities, their families, and friends. The online family resource center also has information for physicians, educators, social service providers and others who provide care and services.

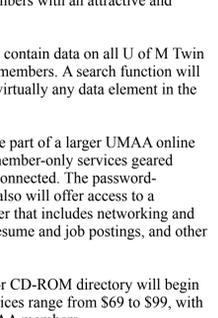
For more information about additional resources offered through the Medical School's Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Health, see <http://allaboutkids.umn.edu>.

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Historic Coffman Union to reopen

The University's historic Coffman Memorial Union will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 21, after a three-year, \$71 million renovation. The rebuilt union, a marriage between the old and the new, the high-tech and the high-style, is designed to satisfy the needs of students with its up-to-date services, and the desires of traditionalists with a return of the building's art deco origins.

Coffman's interior details and furnishings now look like its 1940s originals. Although the color palette runs solidly maroon and gold, it is in muted tones to fit with the new décor. The renovation of Coffman involved gutting much of it, shifting walls, repairing ceilings, moving hallways and staircases, and adding more major new features, including a 400-seat theater, a 100-terminal computer lab, and a glass wall that extends four stories on the south side.



From the front, the most striking change is the removal of the angled side entrances and the pushed-out glass front that interrupted the building's vertical columns and tall windows. Some 100 feet northwest of the building sits what looks like a separate glass structure. This is, in fact, a new entrance to Coffman. This entry flows into the ground floor, where most of the new commercial outlets, such as restaurants, are located.

The ground floor also houses the University Bookstore's flagship location, set to open the first week of March. Tucked into what had been a little-known parking garage under Coffman plaza, the new bookstore will consolidate east and west bank campus bookstores into one larger location (the St. Paul campus and law school bookstores will remain open). The bookstore will offer more space for academic press books, international periodicals, general interest books, and special events like author readings.

The first floor is largely common space—with study and lounge areas set off from the main traffic areas—and the new theater.

Students are what Coffman is intended to be all about. Student fees and a Works Progress Administration grant paid for the original building, and student fees have covered the majority of operating and renovation costs ever since.

Although Michael Holland, past president of the union's governing board, and his fellow students were adamant that Coffman must meet student needs, they also supported returning it to its historic character. "You look at those original images and there is this feeling of grandeur to it," he says. "We wanted students not only to feel like the union had everything they needed, but to be able to look around and say, 'Wow, what a great building!'"

Coffman Union is located on Washington Ave. on the Twin Cities campus. The Jan. 21 reopening celebration will begin at 7 a.m. Activities will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon and a concert in the Great Hall at 12:30 p.m.

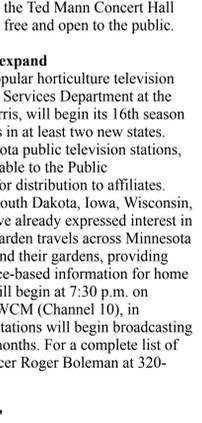
To take a virtual tour of the renovation, see www.coffman.umn.edu/renovation. For more information about Coffman Union, watch for the January-February issue of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's Minnesota magazine. The magazine is sent to all alumni association members, and select articles can also be found online at www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota.

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Winter tips for pets

Humans aren't the only species that can suffer from the cold, icy blasts of winter. Here are some tips to help make sure that your dog or cat stays healthy and comfortable during the winter months.

- Keep pets away from antifreeze solution, and promptly clean up any antifreeze spills. Pets are attracted to antifreeze, but it is deadly, even in very small amounts.
- Do not leave your pets outdoors unattended when the temperature gets below freezing. Pets that are mostly indoors need time to adapt to cold temperatures. They must build up a thicker coat and get their footpads toughened for snow and ice. Pets that get too chilled can develop hypothermia or even frostbite. Ear tips are especially susceptible to frostbite.
- Short-coated dogs should not go outside without a coat or sweater in very cold weather, except to relieve themselves. Small dogs with short coats are especially vulnerable to cold and may not be able to tolerate any outdoor exercise in extremely cold weather.
- Many dogs also need boots in cold weather, regardless of coat length. If your dog frequently lifts up its paws, whines, or stops during walks, its feet are uncomfortably cold. Be sure to get your dog used to wearing boots before the cold weather sets in.
- Dogs with long fur on the bottom of their paws often develop ice balls between the pads and toes of the feet. To prevent ice balls from forming, trim the hair around your dog's feet. Apply a small amount of Vaseline, cooking oil, or PAM spray to your dog's feet before taking a walk in snow. The oil helps prevent ice balls from sticking. Make sure you use edible oil; most dogs will lick their paws after you apply the oil.
- If your pet walks on salted sidewalks or streets, be sure to wash its paws after your walk. Salt is very irritating to footpads. Gently rub the bottom of the feet to remove the salt as soon as your dog is off the road.
- Many animals are less active during the winter and don't use as many calories as in the warmer months. You may wish to consult your veterinarian about the right winter food portions for your pet to avoid excessive weight gain.
- Most cats prefer to spend their winter days indoors; be cautious if your cat likes being outside. Don't let it out in bitterly cold weather and be sure it has a warm place to go if it spends a lot of time outdoors. Cats that are left outdoors may crawl into a warm car engine to get warm, which can be fatal. It's safer to keep your cat indoors during the winter.



For more information about the care and well-being of dogs, cats, birds, and pocket pets, see the College of Veterinary Medicine's PetCARE Web site at www.petcare.umn.edu.

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Find your college friends

Do you want to look up old college friends or network with other University alumni in your career field? In 2003, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) will publish a new directory of Twin Cities campus alumni to help you find lost friends and network with others.



To compile the information for the directory, the UMAA will send a questionnaire to all Twin Cities campus alumni in mid-January. The questionnaire can be filled out in writing, by phone, or online. You can choose not to be included in the directory, but you are still encouraged to update your information for the UMAA's private database.

The directory will contain vital information about alumni association members, nonmembers, and friends of the University, plus a history of the UMAA as it approaches its 100th anniversary in January 2004. It will be available in November 2003 in three formats: hard cover, CD-ROM, and online at the UMAA Web site.

The hard cover version, which will contain only UMAA members, will provide members with an attractive and lasting keepsake.

The CD-ROM version will contain data on all U of M Twin Cities campus alumni and members. A search function will allow custom searches on virtually any data element in the directory.

The online directory will be part of a larger UMAA online community that includes member-only services geared toward keeping members connected. The password-protected online directory also will offer access to a comprehensive career center that includes networking and mentoring opportunities, resume and job postings, and other career-related services.

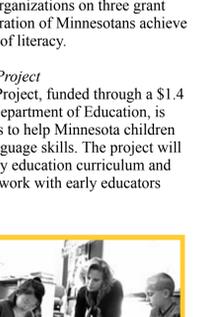
Orders for the hard cover or CD-ROM directory will begin in April 2003. Directory prices range from \$69 to \$99, with discounts available to UMAA members.

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Old violin finds new home

A donor has presented the School of Music with a rare violin made by one of the great 18th century violin makers.

The instrument was made by J.B. Guadagnini, who is believed to have been a student of Antonio Stradivari. The violin is conservatively valued at about \$300,000. The bow that accompanies the violin was made by Nikolaus Kittel in the 19th century and is valued at \$30,000.



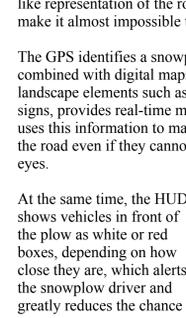
Rare instruments are treasured by music schools because they can be loaned to student performers for major recitals. Peer music schools, such as that at Indiana University, may have several Stradivarius violins to loan to students. The Guadagnini is the School of Music's first such instrument.

The donor, who has owned and played the violin in chamber music groups since 1957, had intended to leave the instrument to the school in his will. However, he decided it would be better to give it now and be able to hear it in the hands of students.

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UMC hires new vice chancellor for finance

Rose Koch has been hired as vice chancellor for finance at the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC). She began her duties on December 18.



Koch's prior experience includes work as deputy general manager for finance and corporate planning with a multinational communications company in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and in Denver, CO. She was a co-owner of a regional financial planning business in Crookston. She holds a Master of Business Administration in finance and accounting from Owen Graduate School of Management, Vanderbilt University. She is originally from Crookston.

As vice chancellor for finance at UMC, Koch will be responsible for providing leadership and oversight in the development of annual capital, research, and operating budgets; evaluating and providing budget recommendations; forecasting expenditure levels, and directing the business services of the campus including financial reporting, business training, purchasing, payroll, disbursement services, stores and inventory services, students accounts receivable, postal services, the UMC bookstore, and financial systems development.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

U legislative briefing and reception slated for January 21

The University of Minnesota Legislative Network will host a discussion about the University's importance to Minnesota and the role advocates can play during this year's legislative session. President Robert Bruininks and University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) President Deborah Hopp will discuss how to become an advocate for the University at the Minnesota Legislature. A reception follows the discussion. The event, which is sponsored by the UMAA, will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus. If you plan to attend, make your reservation by Thursday, Jan. 16; call 612-625-9174. For more information, see the University's Office of Government Relations Web site at www.umn.edu/govrel.

In the Spirit of Martin: The living legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The first major Smithsonian exhibition of visual arts dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will open at the Weisman Art Museum on the Twin Cities campus, Sunday, Jan. 19, and continue through April 6. The exhibition features 119 works of art in painting, sculpture, photography, print, and mixed media by more than 100 prominent, emerging, and self-taught artists, including Jacob Lawrence, Elizabeth Catlett, Gordon Parks, Andy Warhol, and Faith Ringgold.

An opening celebration will be held on Saturday, Jan. 18, 7-11 p.m., and will include an exhibition preview, refreshments, and entertainment. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for Weisman members, students, and seniors). For reservations or more information about the exhibit and related events, call 612-626-4747 or see www.weisman.umn.edu. There is no admission fee to the museum.

"From Every Voice" concert celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The University of Minnesota School of Music and the Office for Multicultural and Academic Affairs will present "From Every Voice," the University's 22nd annual concert celebrating the life and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The concert, which will feature professional performing artists and University students and faculty, will be a nonstop 90-minute presentation of dance, music, and drama, building to a high-energy finale with more than 250 performers together on stage. The concert, which will be held on Sunday, Feb. 2, 4 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus, is free and open to the public.

"Good Writing = Strong Medicine"

Dr. Susan Love will be the keynote speaker at the 14th annual colloquium sponsored by the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of Writing. Love, adjunct professor of surgery at UCLA and medical director of the Susan Love, M.D., Breast Cancer Foundation, will address the significance of good writing in the sciences and the public's need for access to and understanding of medical knowledge. Love is one of the most visible advocates for women's health in the United States. Her best-selling book, *Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book*, set the national standard for effective patient communication. The lecture, which will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m., at the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus, is free and open to the public.

UMM horticulture show to expand

Prairie Yard and Garden, a popular horticulture television series produced by the Media Services Department at the University of Minnesota, Morris, will begin its 16th season on Jan. 9, with new audiences in at least two new states. Already broadcast on Minnesota public television stations, the series is being made available to the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) for distribution to affiliates. Public television stations in South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, California, and Oklahoma have already expressed interest in the series. Prairie Yard and Garden travels across Minnesota to visit horticultural experts and their gardens, providing tips, expert advice, and science-based information for home gardeners. The new season will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Pioneer Public Television, KWCM (Channel 10), in Appleton, Minnesota. Other stations will begin broadcasting the series over the next few months. For a complete list of stations, call executive producer Roger Boleman at 320-589-6150.

"Superior Science for You!"

The public is invited to attend "Lake Superior's 'Canaries' -- Detecting Ecological Change," the next presentation in the "Superior Science for You!" series hosted by the University of Minnesota Sea Grant Program. The lecture, which will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m., at the Gitchie Gumece Conference Facility, 6201 Congdon Blvd., will look at how biologists use Lake Superior's birds, fish, and bugs to provide early warnings of environmental stresses. A live audio broadcast of the talk will be available through the Minnesota Sea Grant Web site at www.seagrant.umn.edu/speakerseries/index.html, and a video of the talk will be posted on the site the next day.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

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

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

U of M E-News is a biweekly e-mail newsletter for alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota. The e-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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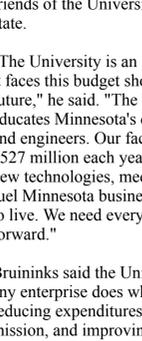
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U IN THE NEWS

U is hit by state budget challenges
 As the state wrestles with a projected \$356 million deficit for the remainder of this fiscal year and a projected \$4.2 billion deficit for the biennium, the University is preparing to do its share, while maintaining academic excellence.



Last week, in what is likely to be the first round of budget cutting this legislative session, Governor Tim Pawlenty recommended a \$50 million reduction for higher education to be split between the University and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

As he plans to implement the reduction, University President Robert Bruininks pledged to maintain the University's core academic mission.

"Minnesotans have set high expectations for the University and our job is to manage the budget in a way that ensures we continue to deliver the quality research and education that citizens demand," Bruininks said. "This is a substantial cut that will require painful and difficult decisions, but we're prepared to do our share."

At this week's annual legislative briefing, which was sponsored by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, Bruininks called on nearly 400 alumni and friends of the University to help articulate its value to the state.

"The University is an important asset to not only the state as it faces this budget shortfall, but also as it prepares for the future," he said. "The University attracts bright minds and educates Minnesota's doctors, business leaders, teachers, and engineers. Our faculty and researchers secure nearly \$527 million each year in research funding and they create new technologies, medical treatments, and knowledge that fuel Minnesota businesses and make the state a great place to live. We need everyone to help carry that message forward."

Bruininks said the University is managing the cut just as any enterprise does when its revenues are down. "We'll be reducing expenditures, focusing strategically on our core mission, and improving efficiency and productivity."

As the University's seven-year fundraising effort Campaign Minnesota nears its successful completion in June, Bruininks stressed that private funds supplement but do not replace state funding and that, historically, donors designate specific uses for 99 percent of gifts. Furthermore, many gifts are endowments that will not produce support for many years.

"Our donors are very generous and they're committed to providing a sustained margin of excellence for the University," he said. "But we cannot expect them to assume the state's responsibility for providing the university's foundation as it has for the past 152 years."

The University's annual state appropriation is approximately \$600 million and the Governor's proposed \$25 million reduction is in addition to the nearly \$25 million reduction for the University imposed in the 2002 legislative session. The legislature is expected to act on Pawlenty's proposal in the next few weeks.

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Record number apply to U

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus has received a record 16,000 applications to date for fall 2003 admission. Freshman applications are up 21 percent, or 2,800 applications, compared to the same time last year.

"The University's popularity is extremely gratifying, as it reflects our commitment to improving academic quality and the undergraduate experience," said President Robert Bruininks. "Increasingly, the most talented students are making the University a top choice because it offers a great education at a competitive price."

According to Wayne Sigler, director of admissions, a number of factors have contributed to the growing interest in the University, including the quality of the educational experience, cost, and its location in a major metropolitan area. As a result, the student profile has been steadily improving for the past decade.

"As more high-achieving students choose the University of Minnesota, competition for admission has increased," said Sigler.

The record number of applications to the University has implications for both the institution and its applicants. University officials believe that the overall strength of the entering class will improve graduation and retention rates, a high priority for the institution.

"We want students to be successful," said Sigler. "It benefits no one when students do not graduate in a timely manner. Our admission standards are designed to enhance retention and graduation rates by helping to ensure the students we admit succeed."

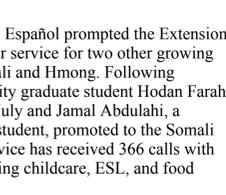
As applications from high-achieving students have increased and admission has become more competitive, Sigler advises applicants whose decisions have been deferred to continue to make alternate educational plans in the event that the University is unable to extend an offer of admission. Completed application forms postmarked after December 16, 2002 will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

"As long as Minnesota has been a state, the University has been committed to providing educational opportunities to its sons and daughters, and that has not changed," said Bruininks. "However, to provide a quality educational experience, we must keep new student enrollment reasonably in line with the resources available to serve them. The result for now is a highly competitive situation for freshman admission."

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U is a "best buy"

The University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM), is the only Minnesota college or university listed by Kiplinger's Personal Finance among the Top 100 best buys in U.S. public higher education.



"This recognition is an external confirmation of our unique mixture of academic quality and a commitment to financial access," says UMM

Chancellor Sam Schuman. "UMM aims to be a campus for outstanding students, regardless of their income status—a 'best buy,' not just in that we are inexpensive, but that we provide a top quality undergraduate experience compared to any institution, regardless of price."

UMM was ranked just ninth in the average debt -- \$9,208 -- that its graduates accumulate before graduation. With regard to quality, Kiplinger's ranked UMM 27th for its low student-faculty ratio of 14:1. In the past, Kiplinger's cited UMM as one of only 11 schools "where everyone knows your kid." In addition, survey data for UMM's four- and six-year graduation rates places it near the top of the listing.

The top 100 colleges were gathered from a list of the nation's 200 most selective universities, then narrowed based on a variety of quality measures, including graduation rates, returning freshmen, student-faculty ratios, and the amount each college spends per student on instruction and library resources. Tuition costs, affordability, and the average debt of each institutions' graduates are also factors in determining educational value. For more information see, www.kiplinger.com/php/college/2002/public.html.

UMM's mission as an academically rigorous, public undergraduate liberal arts college is distinctive. It was declared "a model liberal arts college" by The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in its recent reaccreditation report.

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Three U professors receive national recognition



John Pastor

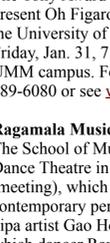
Three University faculty members are among the most cited ecologists and environmental scientists in the world, according to recent rankings by the Institute for Scientific Information.



Peter Reich

The faculty members are John Pastor, senior research associate at the Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI), and professor in the Department of Biology, University of Minnesota, Duluth; David Tilman, Regents Professor, Distinguished McKnight

University Professor, and director of Cedar Creek Natural History Area, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, Twin Cities campus; and Peter Reich, professor and F.B. Hubachek, Sr. Chair in Forestry, Department of Forest Resources, Twin Cities campus.



David Tilman

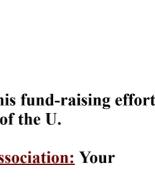
Overall, ISI includes 245 "most cited" researchers in its Ecology/Environment list. The list is valuable in that oft-cited research is one measure of researchers' influence in their fields of expertise. ISI will release the Ecology/Environment Highly Cited list on January 24. For more information, see www.ISIHighlyCited.com.

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Leukemia could develop before birth

Findings from a University of Minnesota Cancer Center study show that the development of leukemia is most often a sequential, multiple-step process beginning before birth.

The study was carried out in mice with a form of leukemia identical to the most frequent type of leukemia found in humans. University of Minnesota Cancer Center researchers introduced the leukemia-causing MLL gene, then compared fetal liver and bone marrow cells early after birth and later in adult mice, tracking the evolution of the disease from its prenatal beginnings.



"Our results are the first to outline a method of characterizing prenatal and postnatal abnormalities that result from early introduction of a MLL fusion gene," says lead researcher John Kersey, M.D., director of the University of Minnesota Cancer Center. "They illustrate that distinct genetic events occur at each stage of leukemia development. Further research will enhance our understanding of this progression and should assist in improved in-utero prevention or early treatment strategies for human MLL leukemia."

The study will be published in the spring issue of the American Society of Hematology journal *Blood*. To view the research paper online, see www.bloodjournal.org.

The University of Minnesota Cancer Center is a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. The center conducts cancer research and engages in community outreach and public education efforts. To learn more, see www.cancer.umn.edu. For cancer-related questions, call the center's information line at 1-888-CANCER MN (1-888-226-2376) or 612-624-2620 in the metro area.

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INFO-U offers services in several languages

What started out as Debby Newman's master's degree thesis four years ago has blossomed into a popular multi-language service for the University Extension Service's INFO-U program.

INFO-U is a popular, prerecorded, 24-hour, free phone service that answers questions about topics ranging from gardening to nutrition and housing to childcare. The Extension Service saw a need to have INFO-U in Spanish to serve the rapidly growing Latino population in Minnesota.

"We had received requests from some of our field staff to put nutrition, food safety, money management, and parent information into Spanish," said Newman, now the INFO-U coordinator. "We felt a need to connect with previously underserved audiences."

Working with the Extension Service, Newman recruited a group of community leaders who helped her understand the education needs of the Latino community and develop culturally appropriate documents. She translated the documents into Spanish and held focus groups with participants ranging from young, new immigrants to second generation senior citizens to ensure the documents were useful and clear.

Promotion of INFO-U en Español began in late 2000, and it quickly became a hit. "Over 3,000 people have requested phone information and thousands more have visited the Spanish language web site," Newman said. "Issues about migrant workers, drivers' licenses, English as a second language (ESL), eating well, parent, food safety and nutrition, and bugs in the home are the most popular topics."

The success of INFO-U en Español prompted the Extension Service to provide a similar service for two other growing ethnic communities--Somali and Hmong. Following Newman's model, University graduate student Hodan Farah set up INFO-U Somali in July and Jamal Abdulahi, a University undergraduate student, promoted to the Somali community. So far, the service has received 366 calls with the most popular topics being childcare, ESL, and food nutrition and safety.

Newman recently hired Ong Xiong, a University graduate, to work on the Hmong program. The first meeting of community agencies will be held in February and the goals is to have the Hmong service up by this June.

To access INFO-U, call (612) 624-2200 or 1-800-525-8636. For U-INFO online, see www.extension.umn.edu/info-u. For the online version of U-INFO en Español, see www.extension.umn.edu/titles.html?arcid=2&categoryID=19.

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RentWise empowers tenants

"I got kicked out of my apartment. Don't ask me why, 'cause I don't know myself." These sentiments illustrate the daunting task that finding and keeping affordable housing in Minnesota can be for many people, especially young adults, people with disabilities, and low-income families. *RentWise*, a University education and training program, was created to respond to these concerns.

Developed by Marilyn Bruin, a College of Human Ecology professor and housing specialist, *RentWise*, is offered through the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

There are many barriers to building stable housing situations and self-sufficient tenants, according to Bruins. People may have poor credit, bad rental histories, mental illness, chemical dependency, criminal

histories, or be victims of domestic abuse. *RentWise* helps tenants develop strategies to overcome these barriers and understand the consequences of poor decision-making. The program also works with housing advocates, service providers, landlords, and property managers to improve access to and retention of affordable housing for renters.

Improving housing stability helps both renters and landlords; individuals and families can better focus on issues such as employment and parenting, and stable tenants reduce business expenses for landlords.

RentWise initially offered a pilot workshop program for renters that reached 175 people. To reach even more renters, the program currently offers workshops for staff members from service agencies, education institutions, faith communities, and other groups who work with families and individuals on housing issues.

The workshops provide participants with a curriculum-based program that can be used by agencies serving renters statewide. The curriculum provides renter-education on housing management, finding and applying for rental housing, tenant rights and responsibilities, home maintenance, neighborhood relationships, building positive credit and rental histories, communication skills, and conflict resolution. People who successfully complete the program receive a certificate.

To date, *RentWise* has reached more than 200 housing advocates and professionals across Minnesota. The training workshops are being offered across the state by Regional Extension Educators. To request a brochure and registration materials for this program, call Katie Dupay at 612-624-7726.

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Another chance to beat the Badgers

Recent University of Minnesota grads now have another chance to beat Wisconsin--and other Big Ten schools as well.

The Big Ten Challenge is an effort among all schools in the conference to win support from their graduates of the past 10 years. The level of alumni support is increasingly regarded as an important yardstick in comparing institutions, said Jennifer Eggers, director of annual giving at the University of Minnesota Foundation. From that perspective, it's never too soon to develop an annual giving practice.

"All colleges are concerned about developing that group of younger grads from the past 10 years," says Eggers. The Big Ten Challenge (www.bigtenchallenge.org) is the result of an effort to add a dash of competitive zeal to alumni giving. The organization's Web site reports levels of participation among younger grads for each class at every school, and provides an avenue for online giving.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

"M" coming to your mailbox

The winter issue of "M" will be sent to all U alumni the first week in February. Stories include the return of Coffman Union, U's new Rhodes scholar, value of a liberal arts education, University's budget challenges, and latest U research. "M" can also be found online at www.umn.edu/urelate/m.

Art, Activism, and the African American Experience
 Retired visual artist Faith Ringgold will discuss "Art, Activism, and the African American Experience" at a public lecture on Thursday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m., in the Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, and will participate in a forum on Friday, Jan. 31, 12:30 p.m., in the Shepard Room, Weisman Art Museum. Both events, which are co-sponsored by the Department of Art and the Weisman Art Museum, are on the Twin Cities campus and are free and open to the public. For more information, see <http://artdept.umn.edu/yap>.

National Theatre of the Deaf to perform at UMM
 The Tony Award-winning National Theatre of the Deaf will present *Oh Figaro* as part of the Performing Arts Series at the University of Minnesota, Morris. The performance is on Friday, Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m., in the Edson Auditorium on the UMM campus. For tickets or more information call 320-589-6080 or see www.mrs.umn.edu/stuorgs/CAC/Arts.

Ragamala Music and Dance Theatre to perform
 The School of Music will present Ragamala Music and Dance Theatre in a special two-piece performance: "Aavya" (meeting), which pairs classical Indian dance with contemporary percussive music performed by legendary pipa artist Gao Hong, and "The Transposed Heads," in which dancer Ranece Ramaswamy and deaf actress Nicole Zapko communicate without spoken language. The performance will be held on Friday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m., in the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus. For ticket information, call 612-624-2345.

Ag-Arama will bring winter fun to Crookston
 The 28th annual Ag-Arama, a competitive and fun event that focuses on agriculture and natural resources, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 25, in the University of Minnesota, Crookston, Teaching and Outreach Center (UROC). A related alumni social is set for 5:30-7 p.m. at the Crookston VFW, followed by a campus dance at the Crookston Armory from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. For more information, see <http://webhome.erk.umn.edu/clubs/agarama>.

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

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

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

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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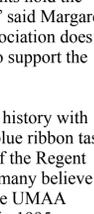
U IN THE NEWS

Regent candidate forum today

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) will sponsor a Regent Candidate Forum on Thursday, February 6, from 3:45 to 6 p.m. in the basement hearing room of the State Office Building. The forum will give the public an opportunity to meet the finalists for the each of the four Board of Regents seats up for election this year.

Last week the Regent Candidate Advisory Council announced the finalist list:

- First Congressional District: Al DeBoer, Dwight Gourneau, and Patricia Simmons;
- Fourth Congressional District: Gregory Filice, Marcia Hanson, and David Metzen;
- Sixth Congressional District: John Frobenius, Steven Hunter, and Maureen Reed;
- Seventh Congressional District: Clyde Allen, Jr., Art Brandli, and Roger Moe.



"The alumni association sponsors this public forum because we believe that excellent governance is crucial to the University's success and that University regents hold the most important volunteer post in Minnesota," said Margaret Carlson, UMAA executive director. "Our association does not endorse specific candidates. Our role is to support the selection process."

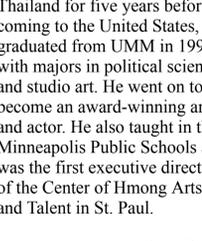
Carlson added that the association has a long history with regent selection. The UMAA sponsored the blue ribbon task force whose work resulted in the formation of the Regent Candidate Advisory Council in 1988, which many believe helped de-politicize the selection process. The UMAA sponsored the first Regent Candidate Forum in 1995.

The State Office Building is located at 100 Constitution Ave., St. Paul. Each of the finalists will first make brief opening remarks and then answer pre-selected questions posed by forum moderator Lori Sturdevant, editorial writer and columnist for the Star Tribune.

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Presidential inauguration set

Robert Bruininks will be inaugurated as the University of Minnesota's 15th president on Friday, Feb. 28. During the ceremony, Bruininks will be presented with the mace and medallion, symbols of the University leadership, by Gov. Tim Pawlenty and University of Minnesota Board of Regents chair Maureen Reed.



Each University president is presented a medallion during the inauguration ceremony. The medallion signifies the authority of the University's chief executive.

The ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. in Northrop Auditorium on the Twin Cities campus and will include Bruininks's inaugural address, "Advancing Knowledge: A Partner for the Public Good." A reception will follow in the Great Hall, Coffman Union. The ceremony and reception is free and open to the public.

"The inauguration is an important opportunity to renew the University's connections with the people of Minnesota," said Mary Jo Kane, co-chair of the Presidential Inauguration Committee, professor and director of the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport. "However, recognizing the state's tough financial times, this presidential inauguration will be a very modest event."

The presidential inauguration coincides with Founders Week, Feb. 23-March 1, a celebration to mark the founding of the University 152 years ago. Numerous events are planned to reflect the University's contributions as the state's primary research institution and its partnerships with communities to improve the state's economic strength and quality of life.

For the first time, the inauguration ceremony may be viewed by live streaming video at www.umn.edu/inauguration. It will also be broadcast on University of Minnesota campuses in Crookston, Duluth, Morris, and at the University Center Rochester.

For a complete list of inaugural and Founders Weeks event information, see www.umn.edu/inauguration.

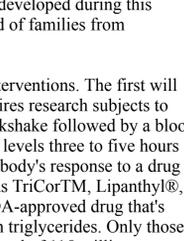
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UMM alum is first Hmong state representative

When Cy Thao, a University of Minnesota, Morris, alumnus, was elected to Minnesota's House of Representatives last fall, he became the state's first Hmong representative, and the second Hmong to be elected to the Minnesota Legislature.

He follows Mee Moua, who was elected to the state senate in a special election last spring and re-elected this fall.

Thao, who was born in Laos and lived in refugee camps in Thailand for five years before coming to the United States, graduated from UMM in 1995 with majors in political science and studio art. He went on to become an award-winning artist and actor. He also taught in the Minneapolis Public Schools and was the first executive director of the Center of Hmong Arts and Talent in St. Paul.



Cy Thao, a University of Minnesota, Morris, alumnus, is the first Hmong elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives.

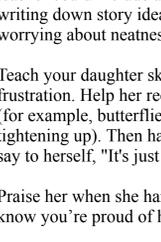
As a state representative, Thao says his priorities for his St. Paul district [65A] include economic development and renovation of run-down homes and businesses.

Thao is one of 13 freshman legislators who received a degree from the University. Overall, 55 members of the 201-member Minnesota Legislature hold University degrees.

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Heart disease and the family tree

If you share certain genetic information with a sibling, parent, or grandparent, it is likely that you'll also share the same diseases? That's the question that University of Minnesota researchers are hoping to answer through a \$10 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).



The School of Public Health has received a four-year grant to identify and study the genes that contribute to human cardiovascular disease. Researchers will study how genetics affect the body's triglyceride levels -- a form of fat that's transported in the blood system.

The NIH study builds on previous research conducted by the University in the 1990s. Research participants will be pulled from a database that was developed during this earlier study and that's composed of families from Minnesota and Salt Lake City.

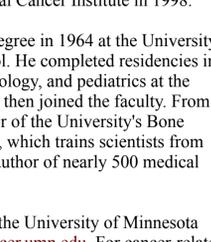
Participants will undergo two interventions. The first will focus on fat loading, which requires research subjects to drink a very high fat content milkshake followed by a blood test to measure their triglyceride levels three to five hours later. The second focuses on the body's response to a drug called fenofibrate. Also known as TriCor™, Lipanthyl®, or Lipidil®, fenofibrate is an FDA-approved drug that's currently being used to treat high triglycerides. Only those participants with a triglyceride level of 115 milligrams per deciliter will be eligible for the drug study. Current medical practice considers a triglyceride level of 150 to be high.

"We already know how fenofibrate works, but we want to identify different genetic pathways and how the body responds to the drug so we can understand why it works better in some people than others," said Donna Arnett, associate professor in the Division of Epidemiology and lead investigator on the study.

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Expert Q&A: 7-year-old is a perfectionist

Do you have questions about raising children? Martha Erickson, director of the University of Minnesota's Children, Youth, and Family Consortium, offers "Growing Concerns," an online question-and-answer column at www.unews.umn.edu.



growing concerns

Question: My 7-year-old daughter is such a perfectionist. One mistake on a math worksheet, and she bursts into tears. If she messes up one letter while working on a writing assignment, she erases it furiously, then rips up the paper because it looks messy and refuses to try again. I worry that this behavior is starting to cause serious problems for her in school, especially with classmates who call her a big baby when she falls apart. How can we help her learn to lighten up?

Answer: It's important to talk with the teacher and agree on ways to help your daughter learn to handle frustration and tolerate imperfection. Emphasize creativity over accuracy when appropriate. The teacher could include activities that engage the children in writing down story ideas as they come to them without worrying about neatness or spelling accuracy.

Teach your daughter skills for managing her feelings of frustration. Help her recognize when she starts to get upset (for example, butterflies in her tummy or her hands tightening up). Then have her take three deep breaths and say to herself, "It's just a little mistake."

Praise her when she handles her frustration well, and let her know you're proud of her. Be mindful of how you respond when she makes a mistake and how you handle your own mistakes. When there's a spill in the kitchen, calmly say, "Oops, we've got a mess to clean up." If your daughter does poorly on a math test, just say, "We'll practice those problems together this week, and you'll probably do better next time."

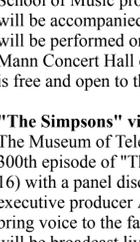
With time, thoughtful support, and guidance, your daughter will learn a healthier balance of trying to do her best while accepting that it's normal to make mistakes. But if she continues to be so hard on herself, and if it continues to impact her social relationships, request an evaluation by a school psychologist to see if there is a more serious issue that underlies her behavior.

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Cancer Center head honored for lifetime achievement

John Kersey, director, University of Minnesota Cancer Center, received the 2003 Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Blood and Marrow Transplantation (ASBMT). The award cites his pioneering work in blood and marrow transplantation and his major contributions to the current understanding of childhood leukemia.

"Dr. Kersey has been one of the leaders in our field, especially in the translational science of human acute leukemia," said John Wingard, ASBMT president.



Dr. John Kersey

In 1975, Kersey and colleagues performed the world's first successful bone marrow transplant for lymphoma. The patient was a 16-year-old boy with a rare form of cancer called Burkitt's lymphoma, which at the time was a fatal disease. That patient is now a husband and father in his 40s and doing well.

At the forefront of understanding the role of stem cell transplants for leukemia, Kersey was among the first to recognize that leukemia represents distinct stages of normal lymphocytes, including T-cells. Kersey was a force behind the creation of the University of the Minnesota Cancer Center, which was established in 1991 and designated a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute in 1998.

Kersey earned his medical degree in 1964 at the University of Minnesota Medical School. He completed residencies in pathology, immunology, oncology, and pediatrics at the University of Minnesota and then joined the faculty. From 1974 to 1995, he was director of the University's Bone Marrow Transplant Program, which trains scientists from around the world. He is the author of nearly 500 medical journal articles.

For more information about the University of Minnesota Cancer Center, see www.cancer.umn.edu. For cancer-related questions, call the Cancer Center information line at 1-888-CANCER MN (1-888-226-2376) or 612-624-2620 in the metro area.

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Gopher sports saved; endowed scholarships needed

Last week, University officials announced that \$2.7 million was raised to save men's and women's golf and men's gymnastics. More importantly, the "Save Gopher Sports" fund-raising efforts will continue, with a new long-term goal of endowing all scholarships for intercollegiate athletics.

During the campaign, approximately 1,700 donors contributed gifts ranging from \$5 to \$300,000 to help save the threatened sports, which would have otherwise been dropped this summer. University president Robert Bruininks told a news conference that a 40-member committee led by Harvey McKay, Robert McNamara, and Lou Nanne raised \$2.8 million, \$100,000 more than needed, before the Feb. 1 deadline set last year by former U President Mark Yudof.

Bruininks and athletics director Joel Maturi explained that the state's current budget crisis will pose new challenges for intercollegiate athletics. "These fundraising efforts simply cannot, and must not, end here," said Bruininks.

"My goal is to have no more campaigns to save sports," said Maturi. Instead, he wants to focus on increasing the number of endowed scholarships and announced a five-year goal to endow athletic scholarships for all sports.

The department awards more than 300 scholarships annually, providing approximately \$6.5 million in financial aid to student athletes. Only 15 percent of those scholarships are fully endowed, meaning that most of the annual financial aid for student-athletes must come from the department's operations budget. The University has among the fewest endowed scholarships in the Big Ten.

An endowment creates a permanent fund that generates investment returns to support scholarships. It takes \$250,000, which can be accumulated from any number of donations, to fully endow an athletic scholarship. Invested, it will provide about 5 percent, or \$12,500 annually, for financial aid.

If you are interested in supporting endowed scholarships for Gopher athletics, call 612-625-1001, or e-mail Mike Halloran, director of development for Intercollegiate Athletics, at halla008@umn.edu.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

U Reads highlights books that inspire the University's top minds

The College of Continuing Education has launched U Reads, a recommended reading list program with book reviews by University faculty, staff, and students. Included are recommendations from President Robert Bruininks; David Taylor, dean, General College; and Joshua Colburn, undergraduate student body president. For more information or to request a poster or bookmark, see www.cce.umn.edu/ureads.

Breaking the Silence

The University Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) Programs Office will host the annual "Breaking the Silence," community celebration and awards ceremony on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Campus Club, in Coffman Union on the Twin Cities campus. This year's award winners are Jean-Nickolaus Tretter, who established and maintains the Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection in GLBT Studies in Andersen Library, and Beth Zemsky, founding director of the GLBT programs office. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 612-625-8519.

A Rare Pattern

"Amy Lowell: A Rare Pattern," a part-opera, part-song recital composition by U alumna Edie Hill explores the life and personality of American poet Amy Lowell (1874-1925). It's world premiere will feature School of Music doctoral student KrisAnne Weiss, mezzo-soprano; and School of Music professor Glenda Maurice, speaker. They will be accompanied by Ruth Palmer on piano. The operetta will be performed on Saturday, Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities Campus. The event is free and open to the public.

"The Simpsons" visit the U live via satellite

The Museum of Television and Radio will celebrate the 300th episode of "The Simpsons" (which airs Sunday, Feb. 16) with a panel discussion featuring creator Matt Groening, executive producer Al Jean, and several of the actors who bring voice to the famous cartoon family. The discussion will be broadcast live by satellite Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the School of Journalism and Mass Communications conference center, 100 Murphy Hall on the Twin Cities campus. The event is free and open to the public.

A Legacy of Building Peace

An international exhibition on nonviolence, featuring the history and legacy of twenty world peacemakers: Mohandas K. Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Daisaku Ikeda opens Friday, Feb. 14, and continues through Saturday, Feb. 22, in the atrium of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs on the Twin Cities campus. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held on Feb. 17 at 5 p.m., and an award presentation and closing ceremony featuring keynote speaker Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter, Sr. will be held on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the institute's Cowles Auditorium. The exhibit and events are free and open to the public.

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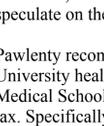
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U IN THE NEWS

U president vows to protect educational quality
 This week, Governor Tim Pawlenty recommended a \$185 million cut to the University over the 2004-05 biennium, or approximately 15 percent of the University's biennial state appropriation -- the highest reduction to the U's budget ever.

Calling the cuts deep and painful, University president Robert Bruininks said, "Higher education is critically important to our state. A strong, quality, higher education system improves our quality of life and is key to Minnesota's future prosperity."



To put the reduction into context, \$185 million represents the total amount of state support for the College of Biological Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts and the Institute of Technology for two years.

"This is a historic budget reduction," said Bruininks. "It will require very difficult decisions, reductions, and additional costs to students. Those decisions will have an impact on thousands of real people--our faculty, staff, and students and their families--and it simply will not be business as usual here."

To manage the reductions, the University will aggressively reduce costs, seek new sources of revenue, and may have to eliminate some programs. "Raising tuition will not be our first course of action; however, given the size of the budget reduction, additional tuition increases are almost inevitable," said Bruininks, who also said it is too early to speculate on the size of an increase.

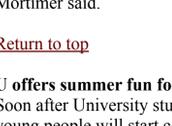
Pawlenty recommended transferring funds that support University health professional programs such as the Medical School from the tobacco endowment to the tobacco tax. Specifically, an estimated \$21.5 million of tobacco tax revenues in fiscal year 2004 would be allocated to support health professional education and training. Bruininks said it was critical that the state maintain its commitment to a strong medical school and other University health professional programs and to the role they play in the health of all Minnesotans.

Bruininks said that he is committed to maintaining excellence at the University. "Minnesotans have high expectations for the University, and we are absolutely committed to protecting our core mission and a quality educational experience for students."

For more information or to get involved in advocating for the University at the legislature, see www.umn.edu/govrel.

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Work and teens: it's a good thing after all



University of Minnesota sociologist Jeylan Mortimer shows that adolescent work experiences can provide many benefits to teens. The findings are presented in her book, *Working and Growing Up in America*, released this month.

Contrary to other studies of working teenagers, a new study by University of Minnesota sociologist Jeylan Mortimer shows that adolescent work experiences can provide many benefits to teens. The findings are presented in her book, *Working and Growing Up in America*, which was released this month by Harvard University Press.

Mortimer surveyed about 750 St. Paul students over 12 years from the beginning of high school through their mid-20s. Mortimer concluded that high school students who work at part-time jobs fare better in many ways than students who don't have jobs. Part-time jobs gave students increased confidence and time

management skills, helped them to explore vocational options, and enhanced future academic success.

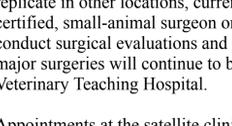
In addition, she found that high school students who work part time learn skills for coping with job-related stress that will benefit them as adults, and that meeting more adults on the job can provide a buffer for tensions with parents at home.

Earlier studies of teens suggested that paid work might lower grades and lead to behavior problems. But in this study, parents and teens agree that working during school can help teens manage time and prepare them for later work challenges. Moderate work--limited to 20 hours a week or less--is better for teens than more time-consuming work, Mortimer said.

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U offers summer fun for kids

Soon after University students head home in May, a bevy of young people will start converging on campus for weeklong summer day camps offered through the U's summer youth program. Beginning



June 11 and continuing to August 22, more than 2,700 metro-area kids ages 5 to 15 will participate in activities ranging from tennis and fly-fishing to chemistry and magic.

"Parents love the program for its structure and recreation," says Todd Tratz, program manager. "And kids enjoy the wide variety of opportunities that a Big Ten university has to offer--like world-class pools and climbing walls."

The program, which will be celebrating its 10th anniversary year, is very popular because of its affordability and wide selection of classes. Every year the camps fill. About 75 percent of the participants enroll for more than one week of camp and many kids return year after year. This year, 18 departments and colleges will be offering classes.

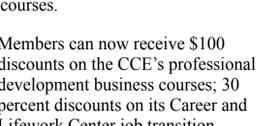
The program is a win-win for everyone, says Tratz. Area families get quality activities for their children, recreational facilities at the U are used during down time, and University students get jobs staffing the programs. Summer youth programs are completely self-supporting and generate income for the U.

Registration for this summer's program has begun, and classes fill quickly. For more information or to get registration forms, see www.recsports.umn.edu/youth.

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Vet Med opens first satellite clinic

The University's College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) recently launched its first specialty satellite clinic. Based at the South Metro Animal Emergency Care Center, located in Apple Valley, the clinic gives area residents convenient access to veterinary specialty care.



Dr. Greg Anderson and technician Darcy Quammen of the U of M College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) are available for surgery consultations at the CVM's first satellite clinic, located in Apple Valley.

"Veterinarians and their clients rely on our Veterinary Teaching Hospital and its staff to provide advanced care for complex cases and patients with highly specialized needs," said Jeffrey Klausner, dean, College of Veterinary Medicine. He says the launch of the satellite clinic improves access for clients who, until now, had to bring their pets to the college's Veterinary Teaching Hospital in St. Paul for specialty services.

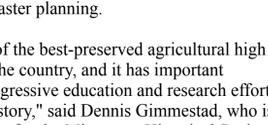
The satellite clinic service, which the CVM hopes to replicate in other locations, currently provides a board-certified, small-animal surgeon on site once a week to conduct surgical evaluations and procedures. However, major surgeries will continue to be performed at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Appointments at the satellite clinic are only by referral from a client's primary veterinarian. For questions or for more information, call 612-625-8755, or see www.cvm.umn.edu/vth.

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Kids need books!

Join Uncle Gopher and Clifford the Big Red Dog March 2-8 in collecting new books for young readers being tutored by University of Minnesota students. The U's Book Drive for Kids, now in its third year, provides children with books of their own to help develop their literacy skills and a love for reading.



How can you help:

- Stop by any Barnes & Noble store in Minnesota or the new University of Minnesota Bookstore (opens March 3) in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus and purchase books (K-3 grade level) for donation at a 10 percent discount.
- Call your local Barnes & Noble bookstore and make a donation of preselected book packages.
- Order books online through the U of M Bookstore: www.bookstores.umn.edu
- Send a check to the U of M Foundation, McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55440. Please note Literacy Initiative Fund #5192 on the memo line.

Meet Goldy and Clifford at special book drive events:

- Sunday, March 2, 3-4:30 p.m. Kickoff party: Galleria Barnes & Noble, Edina.
- Sunday, March 2, 4-5 p.m. Kickoff party: Miller Hills Mall Barnes & Noble, Duluth.
- Saturday, March 8, 1-3 p.m. at the U of M Bookstore in Coffman Union.

Events will include storytelling, refreshments, and fun for the whole family.

The book drive is sponsored by the College of Education and Human Development Alumni Society, University of Minnesota Literacy Initiative, University of Minnesota Duluth Alumni Association, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, University of Minnesota Bookstores, and media sponsor MPLS.ST.PAUL Magazine.

For more information, call Raleigh Kaminsky at 612-626-1601, or see www.education.umn.edu/alum, which includes a listing of participating stores.

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New alumni discounts for career services and continuing education

In response to alumni interest in lifelong learning, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) and College of Continuing Education (CCE) are now offering UMAA members discounts on career services and continuing education courses.



Members can now receive \$100 discounts on the CCE's professional development business courses; 30 percent discounts on its Career and Lifework Center job transition workshops and individual career consultations; and varying discounts on enrichment programs, such as

Compleat Scholar courses and weekends, U of M Elderhostel learning vacations, Great Conversations events, and the Split Rock Arts program's weeklong summer retreats (see more information about the Split Rock Arts program in the Happenings section below).

"We want our alumni to be connected to the U for a lifetime and this partnership with CCE is one way for us to support that goal," said David Sailer, UMAA associate executive director for membership and marketing. "These value-added discounts are especially timely, given the number of people who are seeking career changes in this challenging economy."

To further support alumni job seekers, the UMAA and CCE are also sponsoring a free U of M Alumni Employment Expo on Wednesday, April 23, 1-7 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus. All alumni and University seniors can view displays, gather information, and meet representatives from top Twin Cities businesses during an informative day designed to help them in their career planning and job searches.

For more information about specific discounts, see www.alumni.umn.edu/ccesavings. Additional information about the U of M Alumni Employment Expo is available at www.alumni.umn.edu/expo or call Libby at 612-626-4795.

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Morris buildings and landscape make history

History abounds at the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM). The West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) and Experiment Station, a residential agricultural high school, which occupied what is now the UMM campus from 1910-60, has been entered on the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district.

A photo of the WCSA dormitory (left) and an aerial view of the WCSA and Experiment Station, c1925, which is now part of the Morris campus. (Photos courtesy Stevens County Historical Society).

"The WCSA and Experiment Station signified a very important trend in national agricultural education that took

place in early 1900s and certainly met a need for improving agriculture in this country prior to the adoption of agricultural education in public school systems," said Lowell Rasmussen, UMM associate vice chancellor for physical plant and master planning.

"This district is one of the best-preserved agricultural high school campuses in the country, and it has important associations with progressive education and research efforts in our agricultural history," said Dennis Gimmestad, who is a preservation officer for the Minnesota Historical Society and a UMM alum. "The University added contemporary buildings to the campus edges while preserving the historic core as the heart of its liberal arts community."

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Race, education, and civil rights

A three-day conference on race and education hosted by the U will kick off on Friday, Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. with a keynote address by University of Texas law professor Gerald Torres on "Race, Power and Education: Finding the Democratic Potential in American Life." A reception will follow at 7 p.m. At 8 p.m., a panel of distinguished experts will discuss "Dr. King's Legacy in Politics, Civil and Human Rights, Social Justice and More." The events will be held in Memorial Hall at McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities Campus and are free and open to the public.

Presidential inauguration set for Feb. 28

Robert Bruininks will be inaugurated as the University's 15th president on Friday, Feb. 28 at 1 p.m. in Northrop Memorial Auditorium, with a reception to follow in the Great Hall, Coffman Memorial Union. The ceremony and reception is free and open to the public. It will also be broadcast on U campuses in Crookston, Duluth, Morris, and at the University Center Rochester. The inauguration coincides with Founders Week, Feb. 23 to March 1. To view the ceremony live through streaming video, and for a complete list of inaugural and Founders Weeks event information, see www.umn.edu/inauguration.

Dr. Ruth: Sexually Speaking

Dr. Ruth Westheimer will present "Sexually Speaking," on Sunday, March 2, at 4 p.m. at the Great Hall in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus. Ticket prices are: \$36 for general admission; free for students with college ID. Tickets must be picked up or ordered in advance at Hillel, 1521 University Ave. S.E., 612-379-4026. A fundraiser, dinner with Dr. Ruth, is at 6 p.m.; \$250 per person. All funds raised will support Hillel programming on campus. Cosponsors include University of Minnesota Housing and Residential Life, Boynton Health Service, and the Minnesota Daily.

Vegetables and bioterrorism

Is our food supply at risk? The answer is maybe. If you want to know more, attend the Center for Plants and Human Health Forum, "Fresh Vegetables and Potatoes as a Vector for Bioterrorism," on Friday, Feb. 21, 1:30-3 p.m., 120 Molecular and Cellular Biology Building on the Twin Cities campus. Professor Ted Labuza, food science and nutrition, will discuss ideas and suggestions for preventing food bioterrorism. Free and open to the public.

20th anniversary Split Rocks Arts program

The Split Rock Arts program, the U's summer series of residential workshops in creative writing and visual arts, will offer 38 weeklong workshops taught by renowned practicing writers and visual artists for people with all levels of interests, backgrounds, and skills. The program is held on the U's Duluth campus overlooking Lake Superior, and at the Cloquet Forestry Center. Online registration begins March 1, and phone or fax registration begins March 17. For a complete listing of workshops and registration information, see www.cce.umn.edu/splitrockarts, or call 612-625-8100.

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- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

[Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.](#)

[University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Your membership makes a difference.](#)

[U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.](#)

[University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page](#)

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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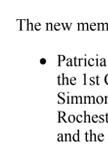
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U IN THE NEWS

President Bruininks hits the airwaves

On Friday, March 7, University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks is scheduled to be a guest on "Almanac," Twin Cities Public Television's weekly public affairs show. On Monday, March 10, Bruininks is scheduled to be on Minnesota Public Radio's "Midday" program.



U president Robert Bruininks.

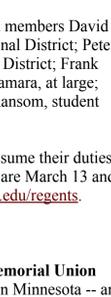
"Almanac" airs on channel 2 in the Twin Cities on Friday, March 7, at 7 p.m. and is re-broadcast Saturday, March 8, at 8 p.m. on channel 17 and Sunday, March 9, at 9:30 a.m. on channel 2. For other local Minnesota broadcast times or to view the program online, see www.tpt.org/almanac.

"Midday" airs on 91.1 FM in the Twin Cities and on MPR stations throughout the state on Monday, March 10 from 11 a.m. to noon. He'll take your questions; call 651-227-6000 from the Twin Cities or 800-242-2828 from other locations. For more information or to listen online, see www.news.mpr.org/programs/midday.

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Three new members appointed to Board of Regents

On March 3, the Minnesota Legislature appointed three new members and reappointed six others to the 12-member Board of Regents that governs the University of Minnesota.



The new members of the board are:

- Patricia Simmons, representing the 1st Congressional District. Simmons, 51, is a pediatrician at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She holds degrees from Carleton College and the University of Chicago. Historically, University regents have had ties to Mayo. Simmons' seat was previously held by a Mayo physician.
- John Frobenius, representing the 6th Congressional District. Forbenius, 61, is the former president of St. Cloud Hospital and is now a health care lobbyist and consultant. He has a master's degree in health care administration from the University of Minnesota.
- Clyde Allen, Jr., representing the 7th Congressional District. Allen, 68, is a business officer with Concordia College in Moorhead. In the early 1980s, he was the State Revenue Commissioner and has been the research director for the Minnesota Taxpayers Association.

Reappointed by the legislature are board members David Metzgen, representing the 4th Congressional District; Peter Bell, representing the 5th Congressional District; Frank Berman, at large; Richard "Pinky" McNamara, at large; Maureen Reed, at large; and Lakeesha Ransom, student representative to the board.

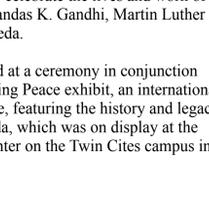
Newly appointed board members will assume their duties immediately. The next regents meetings are March 13 and 14. For more information see www.umn.edu/regents.

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Mega-bookstore opens in Coffman Memorial Union

The largest public university bookstore in Minnesota -- and one of the largest university bookstores in the nation -- opened this week in Coffman Memorial Union. The 46,000-square-foot University of Minnesota Bookstore offers students, faculty, and staff a spacious, fully stocked academic and general interest bookstore in one convenient, central location.

"The new University of Minnesota Bookstore at Coffman Union is truly a 'super' bookstore in every sense of the word," said Bob Crabb, director, U of M Bookstores. "We offer what you'd typically expect in a college bookstore: a complete inventory of textbooks and school supplies for students. But we'll go well beyond that with a fully stocked arts supply center, a large shop for University of Minnesota merchandise, and a substantial general interest section with the latest titles."



"The new University of Minnesota Bookstore at Coffman Union is truly a 'super' bookstore in every sense of the word," said Bob Crabb, director, U of M Bookstores.

The store will be stocked with more than 200,000 titles from 3,500 publishers worldwide, including a large selection from U faculty authors and from general, academic, technical, small press, and university press titles.

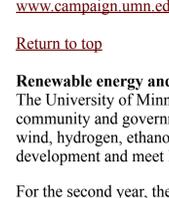
"The new bookstore will have the depth and quality of an independent bookstore, an extensive section of textbooks, and an unequalled selection of technical books as well as the browsing environment of a book superstore, complete with a Starbucks coffee shop just outside the doors," Crabb said.

The bookstore was part of the Coffman Union renovation that was completed in January 2003. The store is open to the general public. For more information and store hours, or to order books online, see www.bookstore.umn.edu.

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General College dean awarded international peace prize

David Taylor, dean of the University's General College, has been awarded the 2003 Gandhi, King, Ikeda Community Builders prize by Atlanta's Morehouse College, Dr. Martin Luther King's alma mater.



David Taylor, dean of the University's General College.

Taylor received the award for his outstanding leadership of General College and its commitment to nonviolence and peace, and for his extraordinary efforts to promote educational opportunities for all Minnesotans, according to Lawrence Edward Carter, Sr., dean of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Chapel and professor of philosophy and religion at Morehouse.

Past winners of the award come from leaders in the fields of education, academia, religion, and politics, and include M. Lenore Bennet, Jr., executive editor of Ebony Magazine; H. M. Taufahau Tupou IV, the King of Tonga; United States ambassador Andrew Young; and Rosa Parks.

The award was created to celebrate the lives and work of world peacemakers Mohandas K. Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Daisaku Ikeda.

Taylor received the award at a ceremony in conjunction with the Legacy of Building Peace exhibit, an international exhibition on nonviolence, featuring the history and legacy of King, Gandhi and Ikeda, which was on display at the Hubert H. Humphrey Center on the Twin Cities campus in February.

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Philanthropy: a critical niche

As the University faces historic reductions in state funding, U leaders are frequently asked why the University cannot simply turn to philanthropic support to make up for the loss of state support.

Private giving is a critical component of the University's overall funding mix, but it simply cannot replace public support. Gifts, largely designed by donors for specific uses, enable the University to go beyond the limits of state funding.

Gifts to the U have created hundreds of scholarships and fellowships, supported faculty and their research, and helped build or renovate facilities. But they don't cover basic salaries or medical insurance or pay the heating bills.

Campaign Minnesota is the major fundraising campaign currently under way at the U. The campaign has raised \$1.56 billion since it began in 1996.

Philanthropy plays a distinct role at the University.

- Ninety-eight percent of all gifts to the U are designated for specific purposes by donors, and the University must use these gifts as intended.
- About 65 percent of the gifts made every year are in the form of cash. The rest are bequests, other future commitments, or pledges to be paid over a period of time. The University will not realize the full value of Campaign Minnesota for a number of years.
- Many gifts, including half of those made during Campaign Minnesota, have been designated for endowment, in which the principal is held intact and invested. An annual payout ensures that ongoing funding is available only for designated programs. The University cannot draw down that principal to make up for lost state funding.
- About 10 percent of the U's revenues each year are the result of philanthropy, either through contributions available for immediate use or as payout from endowed funds. While our donors are extremely generous, they simply cannot replace core state funding, which comprises about 31 percent of University revenue.

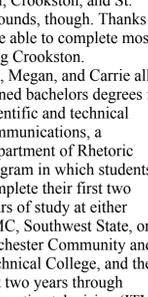
There is still time to contribute to the campaign, which comes to a close in June. For more information see www.campaign.umn.edu or call 612-624-3333.

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Renewable energy and rural economic development

The University of Minnesota is helping farmers and rural community and government leaders harness the power of wind, hydrogen, ethanol, and biomass to spur economic development and meet local energy needs.

For the second year, the University's West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) is cosponsoring "Empowering the Countryside with Renewable Energy," a nuts-and-bolts workshop on using renewable energy to address energy needs and stimulate economic development.



Harnessing the power of the wind through the use of large turbines, like those above, will be one focus of the WCROC workshop.

"Renewable energy is becoming increasingly important in our nation and world," said Greg Cuomo, head of the WCROC. "This workshop will help farmers and rural communities develop plans to use renewable energy."

Last year, more than 200 farmers and community and government leaders and electric utilities cooperatives participated. This year, the workshop will cover establishing a wind farm; products, the processes, and potential of bio-refining and biomass; innovations with hydrogen energy; and funding and financing renewable energy projects. In addition, participants will discuss a proposal to create the Renewable Energy Center, a biomass district energy system that could be located in Morris. The proposed project would include wind energy, bio-diesel, heat recovery, and a bio-refinery.

The workshop will be held Thursday, March 13, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Science Auditorium on the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) campus. Details are available at <http://wcroc.coafes.umn.edu>.

Other workshop sponsors are UMM, West Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, and the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Office.

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Research to products

What do a pacemaker, an airplane's "black box" and a Chisago potato have in common? They're all products brought to life by the University of Minnesota research.

That research and the resulting products were featured at an all-day exposition last week where hundreds of people strolled through the McNamara Alumni Center, taking in more than 50 different exhibits.

The event showcased both the work of researchers, and the partnerships between the U and investment, business, and private sector leaders. It's those partnerships that facilitate the transfer of University discoveries to the marketplace and create new products and services.



The Honeycrisp™ variety was 30 years in the making, from the original cross of two parents to the final introduction in 1991.

Products and discoveries on display at the event included: honeycrisp apples, a special breed of apple developed by University faculty members James Luby and David Bedford; an artificial mouth that researchers can use to replicate a year's worth of chewing in just a day; and a newly developed bluegrass that's being used at several golf courses, including the legendary Pebble Beach.

In fiscal year 2002, the University of Minnesota received \$527 million in research awards -- the first time the University has surpassed the half-billion-dollar mark -- and technology transfer continued its substantial upward momentum. The amount of intellectual property generated by University faculty is up 65 percent over the last five years; the number of active license agreements the University has with business and industry increased 49 percent over the same time period; and royalties generated by University-developed technologies totaled \$26.5 million in fiscal year 2002.

The U is ranked among the top three public research Florida study. Among large research schools, the U is also in the top ten in amount of income generated by its products and number of start-up companies created.

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ePortfolio gives students a leg up

In the olden days (of a few years ago), college students had to literally gather portfolio items such as writing samples, artwork, or graphic design examples to show to prospective employers. That is, in many cases, they had to take a box and start filling it. But those days are disappearing fast, thanks to a groundbreaking project at the University of Minnesota.

It's called an Electronic Portfolio - or ePortfolio -- system, and it lets students gather, store, and distribute personal information selectively and electronically.

As students store their work electronically, they can send a prospective employer just the items they want that employer to see. For instance, a journalism major might want to send a broadcast story to a television station, but also make sure that his or her best writing clips reach a newspaper editor. Both options are simple with ePortfolio. And, using the University's "Technology for Life" plan, students can continue to use and enhance their ePortfolios throughout their lives. The content students can put in their portfolios is limitless.

Paul Treuer, an associate professor in the supportive services program at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, is the force behind the project. Treuer came up with the idea in 1995. His students have seen the real-world application of his efforts -- they are getting internships, scholarships, and jobs as a result of strong portfolios.

This is the first electronic portfolio project to be built with "open source" software. Open source is an approach to developing software that allows anyone to participate in the project's development, use, or commercial exploitation. That way it can be continually improved by anyone who wants to contribute ideas. So far 24,000 people -- students, staff, and faculty -- on all four University of Minnesota campuses are using ePortfolio. To sample ePortfolio, see <http://eportfolio.d.umn.edu>.

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Distance learning is a family affair

To earn their degrees from the University of Minnesota, Crockston (UMC), Liz Tollefson ('02) and her daughters Megan ('02) and Carrie ('01) had to take classes all over the state -- East Grand Forks, Marshall, Crockston, and St. Paul. It's not as complicated as it sounds, though. Thanks to distance learning classes, they were able to complete most of their studies without ever leaving Crockston.

Liz Tollefson (left) and her daughters Megan (sitting) and Carrie (right).

Liz, Megan, and Carrie all earned bachelors degrees in scientific and technical communications, a Department of Rhetoric program in which students complete their first two years of study at either UMC, Southwest State, or Rochester Community and Technical College, and their last two years through interactive television (ITV) and online classes offered by the Department of Rhetoric, based on the St. Paul campus. This approach gives students access to instructors and programs that would not likely be available on a smaller campus.

The benefits of distance learning extend beyond graduation by preparing students to work in an increasingly technological work force. When Carrie interviewed for an internship as a technical writer, the fact that she had taken ITV classes was a real selling point. "We often work across distances," she explains, "and the fact that I had that experience made me more qualified to work in an environment that required the same kind of distance interaction."

All three Tollefsons endorse distance education options and encourage others to explore them. "If you have a good instructor and hold up your end, it is a great experience," says Megan.

For more information about distance learning, see www.idl.umn.edu or call the College of Continuing Education at 612-624-5332.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

"What's a White Girl Like You Doing in Multicultural Education?"

Christine Sleetor, award-winning educator and writer on multicultural education and multicultural teacher education, will present a lecture on this topic Thursday, March 6, at 7 p.m. in the Mississippi Room, Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus. For more information, call or e-mail Dave Ghere at 612-626-8631, ghere001@umn.edu, or Lisa Albrecht at 612-626-7130, lalbrech@umn.edu. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Great Conversations--Corporate Responsibility

Will the scandals and shady business practices give rise to a new era of corporate responsibility? Will congressional actions amount to window dressing or true reform? Hear Norman Bowie, Elmer L. Andersen Chair for Corporate Responsibility at the Carlson School of Management; and Thomas Dunfee, Joseph Kolodny Chair of Social Responsibility in Business at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania discuss these issues during the second installment of the 2003 Great Conversations series, sponsored by the College of Continuing Education. The event will be held on Thursday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m., in the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities Campus. Tickets are \$27, with a 20 percent discount available for UMAA members, and U faculty, staff and students. To purchase tickets, call 612-624-2345.

Shanghai Ghetto

Shanghai Ghetto, an internationally acclaimed film about the thousands of Jewish refugees who escaped Nazi persecution by fleeing to China, will be shown Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m., at the Lagoon Theater in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$5. A panel discussion and reception will follow. The screening is cosponsored by the China Center on the Twin Cities campus. Contact them at 612-624-1002 to purchase tickets or for more information.

Arboretum Pancake Brunch/Maple Sugar Tour

Enjoy arboretum-made pure maple syrup and all-you-can-eat pancake served with all the fixings. Discover how maple trees are tapped and how sap is processed. The event will be held Saturday, March 22 and Sunday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 4-10, and children 3 and under are free. For more information call 952-443-1400 or see www.arboretum.umn.edu.

Arts on Campus

"Arts on Campus" is currently on display in the Heritage Gallery of the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus. The exhibit showcases significant individuals and events in theatre, dance, music, studio arts, and architecture at the University, and is free and open to the public. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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U IN THE NEWS

President Bruininks speaks to U community on war

March 18, University President Robert Bruininks sent a message to the University community reiterating that, while the University takes no position on the conflict in Iraq, it will honor one of its most deeply held values: the freedom to engage in passionate dialogue. He also encouraged compassion for those members of the University community who are called, or will be called, into military service.

Below is the complete text of President Bruininks' message:

To all faculty, staff, and students:

With military action in Iraq appearing more imminent each day, I want to provide you with my thoughts on preserving the University of Minnesota's sense of community during what may be a difficult time.

The University has a long tradition of open dialogue and engagement in the civic life of this country. It is likely that members of our community will have differing points of view about this issue and will, consistent with our tradition, express those views publicly and vigorously. While the institution will take no position on the issue of conflict in Iraq, the freedom to engage in passionate dialogue about important questions is among our most deeply held values and we will continue to honor that value.

We are committed to ensuring that the University is a place where many different viewpoints can coexist and can be heard. This is a safe place—both physically and intellectually—for all members of our community and it will remain so.

We should also not forget that some members of the University community are directly affected by this pending war. More than 100 of our faculty, staff, and students have been called into military service and more are likely to be called as time passes. We hope and pray for their safe return so they may take up their roles as our students, teachers, colleagues, and friends.

Sincerely,
 Robert H. Bruininks
 President

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Contact your legislators to support the U

The University of Minnesota is at a financial crossroads and needs your help. Governor Tim Pawlenty's proposed budget for the 2004-05 biennium calls for a \$209 million reduction in state funding for the University, which would be the largest cut in the U's 152-year history. Now is a critical time for legislators to hear your support for the University.

You can find your Minnesota legislators at <http://capwiz.com/umn>. Both the House and Senate are developing their own budget proposals for the state and setting target numbers for higher education.

While the University is poised to be a part in solving the state's budget problem, it is important for the future of Minnesota that the University continues to receive adequate state funding. Below are some points to stress when you contact your legislators. Always begin your message by stating that you are a constituent.

- The University's value to the state, our economy, and our quality of life is extraordinary. For the second year in a row, the University has been recognized as one of the top three public research universities in the country. U research improves the economic health that generates thousands of new jobs each year.

- Even in a time of fiscal crisis, the core budget of the University must be preserved. We cannot afford to let our highly ranked programs falter, student educational experience decline, our most talented faculty leave, or our research infrastructure wither.

- The Board of Regents and President Bruininks must have maximum flexibility in managing the University's budget. The University is already looking at a combination of strategies to address the budget problem and its leaders need to have the freedom to best determine solutions.

For more information on contacting your legislators and the legislative session, see www.umn.edu/govrel. To learn about other ways you can advocate for the U, see www.alumni.umn.edu/legnetwork or call 1-800-UMALUMS.

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An aspirin a day may keep colon cancer away

A seven-year Dartmouth Medical School study, led locally by the University of Minnesota, shows that a daily dosage of aspirin can be effective in reducing the risk of colon adenomas, the benign tumors that can develop into cancer if left in the bowel.



Timothy Church, associate professor in the University's School of Public Health and a member of the University of Minnesota Cancer Center, is principal investigator for Minnesota and an author of the paper.

"Research findings show that low doses of aspirin protect against the precancerous polyps," said Church. "So there is good reason to believe aspirin probably reduces rates of colorectal cancer itself. This will be particularly valuable for people who are at increased risk for cancer because they have had colon adenomas (polyps) or because they have previously been treated for colorectal cancer."

The randomized, double-blind study looked at more than 1,100 patients with previously diagnosed colorectal adenomas. Some patients received aspirin while others received a placebo.

Overall, those treated with a daily dose of low-dose aspirin found their risk of polyps reduced 19 percent and their risk of advanced lesions reduced by more than 40 percent. A companion study, conducted among patients with a history of cancer of the colon or rectum, tested a regular aspirin tablet (325 mg) against placebo. It showed even larger reductions in the occurrence of adenoma—about a 35 percent reduction.

Although aspirin is generally a safe drug, it can have adverse effects for some individuals. Before embarking on a daily aspirin regimen, you should check with your doctor. Regular screenings, perhaps including colonoscopies, are still important.

The University of Minnesota Cancer Center is a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. To learn more about cancer, visit the University of Minnesota Cancer Center Web site at www.cancer.umn.edu. For cancer questions, call the [University of Minnesota Cancer Center](http://www.cancer.umn.edu) information line at 1-888-CANCER MN (1-888-226-2376) or 612-624-2620 in the metro area.

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U clinic provides health care for the uninsured

The University opened the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic earlier this month to provide high-quality, affordable health care to uninsured and underinsured people living in one of the most economically distressed neighborhoods in Minneapolis.

In Phillips, the percentage of uninsured people and those who receive insurance through state-funded programs is significantly higher than in either Minneapolis as a whole or in Hennepin County. That disparity is likely to increase given the current economic downturn and anticipated cutbacks to state-funded health insurance programs, according to John Song, medical director of the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic and assistant professor in the Center for Bioethics at the University of Minnesota's Medical School.

"We all have a responsibility to promote the health of all our neighbors, but this responsibility is greater for those of us who work and learn at a publicly funded university," says Song. "This clinic and the service we will provide is a part of our fulfillment of this responsibility."



The clinic, run by University student volunteers who are studying to become health professionals, offers patients basic health screening, acute medical care services, physical therapy, and referrals to other health care providers. Interpreters are on site for clients who do not speak English, and no one is denied care for inability to pay. The clinic is open on Monday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m.; longer hours may be offered in the future.

"The Phillips Neighborhood Clinic is the result of a three-year, collaborative process of identifying needs, working with the community, and building relationships," says Eric Meininger, clinic coordinator. "It is truly a student-driven initiative, informed by the voices of our community." The clinic is a partnership between the University's Academic Health Center, Community-University Health Care Center, Center for Health Interdisciplinary Programs, and Oliver Presbyterian Church.

For more information about the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic, which is located in the 612th Presbyterian Church at 2647 Bloomington Ave. S., call 612-724-1690 or see www.phillips.neighborhoodclinic.com.

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Center for Spirituality and Healing promotes mind-body medicine

From massage and acupuncture to herbal supplements and yoga, the ever-growing popularity of alternative therapies is causing health care systems and institutions who train health care providers to rethink the role of integrative medicine in patient care.



The University's Center for Spirituality and Healing, established in 1995 to advance this growing health discipline, has quickly become a nationally recognized leader in integrative medicine. The center trains future health care providers in mind-body medicine and conducts research critical to establishing a scientific body of knowledge about complementary and alternative medicine (CAM).

In 1999, the center began offering the nation's first graduate-level minor in complementary care and healing practices. Months later, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded the center the first university-based \$1.6 million grant to build and support a health sciences curriculum in CAM.

Today, lectures in CAM topics are integrated into the curriculum in the Medical School, the School of Nursing, and the College of Pharmacy, and more than 25 graduate minor courses are offered in topics such as Reiki healing, Tibetan medicine, and clinical aromatherapy.

The center facilitates community access to integrative health care services through University and community partnerships that meet the needs of patients, and University faculty and staff. For example, the Inner Life of Healers program trains health care professionals to be attentive to their self-care so they can better treat patients.

To learn more about the Center for Spirituality and Healing, see www.csh.umn.edu or call 612-624-9459.

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Slowing down to the speed of life

Stressed out? Psychologist Joe Bailey, a community-based faculty member of the Center for Spirituality and Healing and coauthor of *Slowing Down to the Speed of Life*, offers these tips for creating more balance in your life.

Listen deeply to your self and to others

Listening to yourself means taking time to learn who you truly are and how to trust your inner wisdom. Listening deeply to others creates a connection that allows for true communication and for depth and ease in all relationships.

Live in the moment, fully

Living in the moment allows you to be present with your family, your work, and in all aspects of your life. A scattered mind full of interruptions speeds us up, stresses us out, and lowers our efficiency.

Trust in your innate wisdom

Your innate wisdom is a built-in guidance system to what is truly important. It helps us set clear priorities. When we trust, we can relax into the present moment; when we don't trust, we fill our heads with worry, stress, and confusion.

Forgive yourself and others

We create a negative experience for ourselves when we fill our minds with resentments, judgments, and guilt. Forgiveness allows us to let go of the past. Willingness to choose forgiveness is all that is needed to start a new life and new relationships, even with those we know well.

(Joe Bailey's new book, *Slowing Down to the Speed of Life* (McGraw-Hill, Contemporary Books) will be released in September 2003.)

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"Boot camp" for nonbusiness majors

This summer, the Carlson School of Management, consistently ranked among the top business schools in the nation, will offer a new, noncredit business certificate program to undergraduates and recent grads who wish to add business knowledge to their education portfolios. For more information, see www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/csba.

The Carlson School of Management Business Academy is an intense, four-week "boot camp" designed for liberal arts and other nonbusiness majors. Its goal is to provide students with a competitive edge in the job market. Students who successfully complete the academy will be able to better their depth and breadth of knowledge in the liberal arts or other nonbusiness areas of study with a firm understanding of fundamental business principles.

The academy is open to college juniors, seniors, and recent graduates; individuals who have recently entered the job market but feel limited by their lack of familiarity with business fundamentals; and individuals who are considering an MBA but are unsure about making a two-year commitment to a graduate program.

Led by top Carlson School of Management faculty, the class sessions will explore marketing, operations management, accounting, finance, and information technology. Upon completion of the academy, students will receive a certificate that verifies achievement of business competency in these fundamental areas of business. Students will also receive career advice, learn how to present themselves effectively to potential employers, and get brought up to date on the basics of resume preparation.

Jerry Rinehart, assistant dean and director of undergraduate programs at Carlson School of Management, is faculty director for the academy. For additional information, call 612-624-2545.

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Distinguished Teaching Awards honor U faculty

Sixteen University of Minnesota faculty will be honored for excellence in teaching when they are inducted into the U's Academy of Distinguished Teachers at a special ceremony on April 21, 3:30 p.m., at the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus.

Eight faculty will receive the Morse-Alumni Award for their contributions to undergraduate education, and eight will receive the University's Graduate-Professional Teaching Award for their contributions to graduate and professional education.

This year's Morse-Alumni Award recipients are:

- Jon E. Anderson, associate professor, statistics, Division of Science and Math, U of M, Morris
- Robert J. Brooker, professor, genetics, cell biology and development, College of Biological Sciences
- Thomas R. Chase, associate professor, mechanical engineering, Institute of Technology
- Lisa Disch, associate professor, political science, College of Liberal Arts
- Andrew Ellenbein, professor, English, College of Liberal Arts
- Josephine Lee, associate professor, English, College of Liberal Arts
- Kent R. Mann, professor, chemistry, Institute of Technology
- Leslie R. Meek, associate professor, social science, U of M, Morris

This year's Graduate-Professional Teaching Award recipients are:

- Francesca Cuthbert, professor, fisheries, wildlife, and conservation biology, College of Natural Resources
- Sara Evans, professor, history, College of Liberal Arts
- Ilene Harris, professor, medical education, Medical School
- Marc Jenkins, professor, microbiology, Medical School
- Frances Lawrenz, professor, curriculum and instruction and educational psychology, College of Education and Human Development
- John Mowitt, professor, cultural studies and comparative literature and English, College of Liberal Arts
- Christine Teyssier, professor, geology and geophysics, Institute of Technology
- Donald Uden, professor, pharmaceutical care and health systems, College of Pharmacy

As lifetime academy members, the award recipients will provide leadership to the University community by serving as mentors, advisers, and spokespersons for the University's mission.

The Distinguished Teaching Awards are sponsored by the U Senate Committee on Educational Policy, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, and the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

To attend the ceremony, register online at www.alumni.umn.edu/distinguishedteaching.

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Unisys donates supercomputers to U

Two new supercomputers recently donated to the U's Digital Technology Center (DTC) will enhance research in many fields, including biological sciences, chemistry, fluid dynamics, genomics, and geophysics. The computers, valued at \$2.4 million, are a gift from Unisys Corporation.

The supercomputers will be used in the DTC Supercomputing Institute and the DTC Laboratory for Computational Science and Engineering (LCSE). The donation was made possible through the assistance of Intel Corporation and Microsoft Corporation, in partnership with Unisys.

In the LCSE, faculty will use the equipment in their research to visually represent intensive scientific computations. "We will use the equipment as the 'electronic brain' that connects networks of data to draw images of the phenomena we are studying," said Professor Paul Woodward, LCSE director. "This might be pictures of giant stars, thunderstorms on earth, or the movement of river sediments. We will be able to visualize digitized data and manipulate it to look at it in different ways."

"This gift will give us the opportunity to undertake interesting new projects because the Unisys systems are significantly different from other supercomputers," said Andrew Odlyzko, DTC director and U assistant vice president for research. "They run on a Windows operating system and are ideal for projects involving large amounts of data and complex data structures."

The DTC was established in 1998 to help Minnesota reclaim a leadership role in the digital technology industry. It integrates research, education, and outreach in the areas of digital design, computer graphics and visualization, telecommunications, data storage and retrieval, multimedia, datamining, scientific computation, and other digital technologies.

The gift from Unisys counts toward Campaign Minnesota, the University-wide fund-raising campaign that ends on June 30. Raising new funds for research is one of the campaign's main priorities.

For more information about Campaign Minnesota or making a donation to the University, see www.campaign.umn.edu or call 612-624-3333.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Go Gophers! Go Bulldogs!

A number of University of Minnesota intercollegiate athletics teams are in postseason play this week. From the Twin Cities campus, women's basketball is in its first game of the NCAA Tournament; men's basketball plays the initial round of the National Invitation Tournament; men's wrestling competes in the NCAA Championships; and women's swimming and diving also enter NCAA National Championships. The Twin Cities and Duluth women's hockey teams play in the NCAA Women's Frozen Four, hosted by UMD, and both men's hockey teams are in WCHA post season play. For more information, go to www.gophersports.com or www.umdbulldogs.com.

Chinese dancing at UMM

The Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company will perform Friday, March 21, 7:30 p.m. in the Edson auditorium on the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) campus. Melding ancient Chinese and modern dance forms, the performance will include founder and choreographer Lily Cai's interpretation of four classical Chinese dances. For ticket information, call 320-589-6080 or see www.mrs.umn.edu/events/Headlines/NewsAndEvents.html.

West Nile Virus: "Can Our Birds Be Saved?"

Patrick Redig, director of the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota, will present a lecture about the impact of West Nile Virus on raptors and other birds on Sunday, March 23, 2 p.m. at the Raptor Center in St. Paul. The lecture is free for Raptor Center members. The cost for nonmembers is \$5 adults and \$3 children ages 10-18. For more information, call 612-624-4745 or see www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu.

UMD to hold discussion on the future of affirmative action

The University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD), will hold a panel discussion on "What's in Store for Affirmative Action—Important Aspects of the University of Michigan Case Before the Supreme Court" on Monday, March 24, 4 p.m., 120 Campus Center. The event, sponsored by the UMD Center for Ethics and Public Policy, is free and open to the public. For more information, call Tom Powers, UMD Department of Political Science, at 218-726-8697, or email at tpowers@d.umn.edu.

UMC to host MACT*FEST 2003

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), will host MACT*FEST 2003, the biennial theater festival of the Minnesota Association of Community Theatres, April 2-6. The festival will include productions by 18 Minnesota community theater companies, theater workshops, and networking opportunities. MACT*FEST will be held in the Kiehle auditorium. Tickets are \$10 per session (each session includes two or three plays); an \$85 festival package includes all plays and workshops, an opening night reception, a Saturday night party, and the Sunday awards brunch. For more information, call 612-721-5851 or see www.MACT.net.

"Classes Without Quizzes"

The College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences (COAFES) is hosting its second annual "Classes Without Quizzes," a series of mini-seminars on topics such as managing the threat of bioterrorism, renewable energy, revitalizing rural communities, changes in Minnesota's weather, and eating to reduce heart disease. The event will be held on Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost is \$20 for the general public, \$15 for UMAA members, and \$10 for high school or U of M students. Preregistration is requested by March 30. For more information, call 612-624-1745 or see <http://alumni.coafes.umn.edu/forum>.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

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

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

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.

[PRIVACY POLICY](#)

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April 3, 2003

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U IN THE NEWS**Broadening our reach: U exhibit at the capitol**

University of Minnesota research has resulted in things like new grape varieties for producing wines and better data recording devices for airplanes. Through April 12, Minnesota lawmakers will be reminded of the far-reaching impact of University research as they stroll along the north corridor of the state capitol.

The U's exhibit depicts University research that led to breakthroughs in medicine, agriculture, technology, and recreation. In addition to the original airplane black box and an early pacemaker, taconite pellets, a rare \$12,000-a-pound piece of agarwood, and wine made from cold-weather grapes developed at the U are on display.

This is the first time the University has put together such a large-scale visual presentation for lawmakers, and University advocates can use it to talk about the U's research contributions when voicing their support for the University. This unique display comes on the heels of other advocacy activities. On March 6, hundreds of University students rallied at the capitol, speaking passionately about why they chose to pursue their education at the University. On March 19 and 20, U faculty members visited legislators to tell them about their work. And since February, many University staff have volunteered their time to call alumni and friends of the University and ask them to contact their legislators.

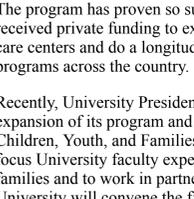
If you live in Minnesota, your legislators will be home for a spring break April 17-22. This is a great time to catch them at community events and remind them to support the University, or for you to call local radio talk shows and write letters to your local paper outlining the importance of higher education.

To get contact information about your legislators, see www.umn.edu/govrel.

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Infants and toddlers rule in Baby's Space

In 2000, the first baby was enrolled in Baby's Space, a groundbreaking program by the University and several community partners to provide infant and toddler care and family support services to parents in one of the most economically distressed communities in Minneapolis.



U president Robert Bruininks during his visit to Baby's Space, which provides support services not offered in traditional child care settings.

University research shapes programs offered at Baby's Space. For example, research indicates that high-quality childcare boosts cognitive and language development, particularly in children who live in poverty. To provide this kind of care, Baby's Space keeps the staff-to-child ratios low and assigns specific caregivers to each child to provide consistency of care.

Research has also found that a strong mother and child relationship fosters a child's cognitive development, so Baby's Space provides support services for parents that are not offered in traditional child care settings. Many parents were involved in developing the Baby's space and the Minnesota Children's Museum played a role, designing the unique infant and toddler classrooms with an emphasis on nature.

Anecdotal evidence suggests the Baby's Space model is working, says Terrie Rose, associate director of the University's Irving B. Harris Center for Infant and Toddler Development and Baby's Space executive director. Babies in the program are developmentally on track, and their mothers are delaying further pregnancies while learning and doing what it takes to successfully nurture a child.

The program has proven so successful that Rose and her colleague Amos Deinard received private funding to expand the Baby's Space model to five existing child care centers and do a longitudinal study that could lead to implementing similar programs across the country.

Recently, University President Bob Bruininks visited Baby's Space to announce the expansion of its program and to publicly launch the President's Initiative on Children, Youth, and Families. The initiative, which will be privately funded, aims to focus University faculty expertise and research on issues facing children, youth, and families and to work in partnership with other community groups. On May 30, the University will convene the first of three children's summits as the first phase of the initiative.

To learn more about Baby's Space: A Place to Grow, see www.harristrainingcenter.org.

To learn more about the President's Children, Youth, and Families Initiative, see www.umn.edu/pres/cyf.html.

Editor's note: A fuller version of this story will appear in the spring issue of *M*, a seasonal publication for U alumni and friends, which should arrive in your mailboxes mid May. If you currently do not receive *M*, and wish to, e-mail coven002@umn.edu.

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U students manage \$11 million investment fund

An investment fund, run by MBA students at the University's Carlson School of Management (CSOM), is the largest of its kind in the nation and has attracted \$11 million in private investment.

The chance to groom promising new financial consultants and make a good, if not hefty, profit, is what prompted five national companies, including a Wells Fargo subsidiary, to invest in the University's Carlson School Fixed Income Fund, says Jay Kiedrowski, Wells Fargo executive vice president of institutional investments.

"Our corporate investors have given us a great vote of confidence by entrusting their funds to us," says Larry Benveniste, CSOM dean. "In doing so, they have also made an important investment in the students who will become tomorrow's finance leaders."

The corporations investing in the Carlson fund are Advantus Capital Management, American Express Financial Corporation, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, U.S. Bancorp, and Galliard Capital Management, a subsidiary of Wells Fargo Corporation.

A team of four MBA students made their first investment last month, and they will continue to manage the fixed income fund until May 2004 with the help of a professional fund manager and an academic director from the Carlson School. After that, 12 students in next year's MBA class will take over the fund.

The Carlson School Fixed Income Fund is the most recent addition to the Carlson School Enterprise Program. The program provides selected MBA students with reality-based experience in funds and financial management and prepares them to hit the ground running when they graduate. In addition to managing the fund, the students spend four hours a week in a requisite class.

To learn more about the Carlson School Enterprise Program, see www.csom.umn.edu/DegreesPrograms/EnterprisePrograms/EnterprisePrograms.cfm.

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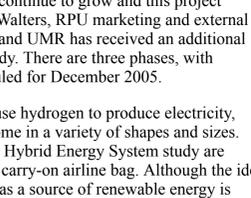
Talking with children about war

War is a topic of conversation nearly everywhere you go these days. And talking to children about the fears and uncertainties that can arise in times of war may be difficult.

Children might express their fears directly by asking a lot of questions. Or their fears may show up in ways that are less obvious, such as sleeping problems, general crabbiness, wetting the bed, or throwing tantrums when they have ordinarily not been displaying these behaviors.

The University's Children, Youth, and Family Consortium developed these tips for talking to children about war:

- Encourage children to ask questions and talk about their concerns. Listen carefully and answer their questions in language that is appropriate for their age.
- Try not to burden them with too much information before they are ready.
- Reassure them that you, other adults, their schools, and their country are taking steps to keep them safe. Be prepared to repeat your explanations. Children will find it hard to understand the complexities of war and may find reassurance in simply asking questions and receiving answers over and over.
- Limit media exposure to war issues. While it is unrealistic to completely shield children from the news, limiting the amount they see and hear can help children--and adults--from being overwhelmed. Watch how children react to the news and talk with them about it.
- Don't dismiss their fears. As an adult, you're probably a bit fearful yourself.
- There's a lot of power in simply giving a child a hug, and saying, "I know this is scary. I'm glad we're here together."
- If a parent is serving in the war, do everything possible to maintain contact.
- Make phone calls and send e-mails, letters, videotaped bedtime stories, or whatever the circumstances allow.



In responding to war concerns, children will follow the examples set by adults around them, especially their parents. When adults act worried and frightened, children will, too. While it's important that adults not hide the realities of war, keeping a calm attitude will help children remain calm.

For more tips on communicating with children about war and related challenges, see these U Web sites:

www.extension.umn.edu/administrative/disasterresponse/terrorism.html

www.extension.umn.edu/administrative/disasterresponse/terror2.html

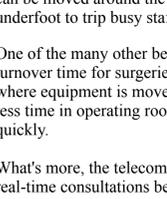
To learn more about the U's Children, Youth, and Family Consortium, see www.cyfc.umn.edu/welcome.html.

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New renewable energy source for homes

Rochester Public Utilities (RPU) and the University of Minnesota, Rochester (UMR) have launched a study to explore the use of new and existing fuel cells to heat and cool homes.

"Customer inquiries about renewable energy continue to grow and this project demonstrates that we are listening," says Jim Walters, RPU marketing and external services manager. RPU is funding the project and UMR has received an additional \$59,000 grant to conduct the first phase of study. There are three phases, with completion scheduled for December 2005.



Sophonis Mantoles, a UMR electrical engineering graduate, student shows off one of the fuel cells.

Fuel cells, which use hydrogen to produce electricity, heat, and water, come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Those used for the Hybrid Energy System study are about the size of a carry-on airline bag. Although the idea of using fuel cells as a source of renewable energy is more than 100 years old and fuel cells have been used in the space program, it is only recently that they have been tapped for use as residential or vehicle energy sources.

"The two fuel cells used in this initial phase of the project will each produce enough electricity to power a 100-watt light bulb and will produce 0.8 liters of water at the same time," says Sophronis Mantoles, a UMR electrical engineering graduate student working with the researchers to collect and analyze the data.

The study's lead investigator is no stranger to innovation; UMR faculty member Hal Ottesen holds more than 70 patents.

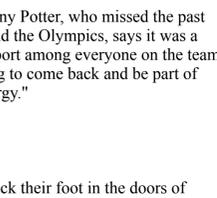
"Dr. Ottesen brings expertise to this project in the area of science and engineering known as fuzzy logic," says project manager Jim Licari, who works with the U's Digital Technology Center. "Fuzzy logic deals with situations where there are rarely right or wrong answers, but a variety of options to consider. [And] the use of fuzzy logic is necessary in technologies like fuel cell and energy consumption because of the dynamic nature of the technology and the energy systems."

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Operation Minimally Invasive: no gaping incision and little blood

University of Minnesota surgeons have been pioneers for more than half a century. The world's first successful open-heart surgery at the University ushered in a new era of medicine. Now with the Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery, the University is entering a new medical frontier.

As many as 40 percent of abdominal surgeries, and up to 80 percent of routine "high volume" surgeries, like colon resections, splenectomies, and even surgery to remove tumors in the kidney, are currently performed with minimally invasive laparoscopic techniques.



"We call this minimally invasive surgery, but the real term for it is minimal access surgery," says Sayeed Ikramuddin, codirector of the center. "Today, we're making four or five holes in a patient's abdomen, but in a few years, as the equipment becomes more and more refined, that will be down to three holes, and someday there will be no holes in the belly for some patients. We are on a continuum."

Much of the equipment used for minimally invasive surgery is voice-activated and surgeons can call up vital signs on the monitors, raise or dim the lights, or call up and view pathology and radiology reports. Attached to overhead booms, equipment can be moved around the operating table without cables and lines lying about underfoot to trip busy staff in often-crowded ORs.

One of the many other benefits of these endosuties will be a much more rapid turnover time for surgeries--as much as 45 percent quicker than with traditional ORs where equipment is moved from room to room on carts. That means patients spend less time in operating rooms and the University can serve more patients more quickly.

What's more, the telecommunications equipment is opening up the possibility for real-time consultations between surgeons in the OR and surgeons located anywhere in the world. Even more remarkable, telecommunications is leading to the day when surgeons will perform surgery from remote locations, guiding robots in the OR. "This has actually already been done experimentally," says Micheal Maddaus, the center's other codirector. "Not long ago, a pig in New York had its gall bladder removed under the direction of a surgeon located in France."

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Women Bulldogs rule the ice

The Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center exploded with screams, laughter, and tears when sophomore forward Nora Tallus' slap shot ended the double-overtime thriller, 4-3, between University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD) and Harvard in the 2003 NCAA Women's Frozen Four final game.



The UMD Women Bulldogs pose following their victory in the 2003 NCAA Women's Frozen Four final game.

"We're absolutely thrilled to death to be able to win a national championship right here at home," says UMD head coach Shannon Miller. "It is a three-peat for some players and for some it's their first national championship. Both teams were talented and played with so much heart and class that it was like competing in a mirror. We couldn't have put on a better show while raising the bar for women's college hockey."

The game made history as the Bulldogs and Crimson treated the record crowd of 5,167 to 84:19 minutes of play. UMD is the first school in the three-year history of women's Frozen Four to have its team competing in the tournament. With the win, the Bulldogs stretched their undefeated streak in Frozen Four competition to 6-0-0, and coach Miller has posted a 108-19-13 record in just four years of Division I hockey.

The Bulldogs also captured the WCHA regular season and playoff titles in their fairytale 2002-03 season.

UMD student and first-time national champion Jenny Potter, who missed the past two seasons with the Bulldogs due to pregnancy and the Olympics, says it was a shared passion for the sport and an easy-going rapport among everyone on the team that made the win all the more special. "It's exciting to come back and be part of team like this with so much heart and so much energy."

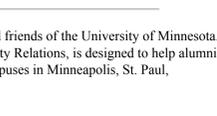
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Top companies represented at alumni job expo

University alumni, seniors, and recent grads can stick their foot in the doors of several top local and national companies at one time when they bring their résumés to the first ever U of M Alumni Association (UMAA) Employment Expo on Wednesday, April 23, from 1 to 7 p.m., at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. S.E., Minneapolis.

"The sluggish economy and greater competition in the marketplace mean job seekers need an advantage," says Libby Huff-Tate, UMAA outreach program director. "The Expo aims to bring together talented candidates seeking good jobs and key employers seeking good applicants."

Target Corp. (Marshall Field's, Target, and Mervyn's), US Bank, Fairview Health Services, Cargill, Andersen Windows, the CIA, AT&T Wireless, and Pace Analytical are among the many companies that will be represented at the expo. Each will have displays and informative materials designed to help attendees in their job search and career planning. Career development resources will also be available.



UMAA is cosponsoring this free event with the College of Continuing Education and the Minnesota Workforce Centers. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early for a chance at the door prizes. For more information about the UMAA Employment Expo, see www.alumni.umn.edu/expo or call the Expo Hotline at 612-626-4707.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS**Online discussion of the Iraq conflict**

The University's School of Social Work is facilitating an online discussion about the Iraq conflict at http://ssw.che.umn.edu/iraq_discussion/index.htm. In addition to participating in the discussion, you can read other people's comments, find links to recent news, and learn more about Iraq.

Of dogs and microchips

The College of Veterinary Medicine's open house on Sunday, April 6, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., will include a canine microchip implant clinic (noon-4 p.m.), horseshoeing demonstrations, and Raptor Center presentations. Dog owners pay a reduced fee of \$30 for pet registration and the implant, which involves placing a chip containing a unique number under the skin between the dog's shoulder blades. The number and owner information are registered with the microchip manufacturer; if someone finds a lost pet, an animal shelter and many veterinarians can scan the chip and obtain the information to call the owner. Proceeds from this clinic will benefit the Veterinary Teaching Hospital's Companion Animal Fund. The college is located at 1365 Gortner Ave. on the St. Paul campus. The open house is free and open to the public. For more information, call 612-624-4747 or see www.cvm.umn.edu.

Looking out for the reproductive life of fish

The things we eat, drink, and wash down our drains can interfere with the hormonal signals that rule fish development and reproduction. Deborah Swackhamer, School of Public Health professor, will discuss her research on chemical compounds and their impact on fish in the Duluth-Superior Harbor on April 9 at 7 p.m. The talk, "Coffee Beans, Laundry Soap, and Fish Sexuality: What Comes Around, Goes Around," will take place in Duluth at the Environmental Protection Agency Mid-Continent Ecology Division, 6201 Congdon Blvd., and aired live on the Web at www.seagrant.umn.edu/speakertseries/index.html.

The last rites of Iron Pour

Cast metal sculpture artists and students will pour 2,500-degree molten metal at the University's art building on the Twin Cities campus for the last time. (A new art building scheduled to open in fall 2003 is under construction.) The Art Department's 34th annual Iron Pour will be held on Friday, April 11, from noon to 4 p.m. in the building's foundry annex, 216-21st Ave. S., Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. Special limited edition T-shirts will be sold to commemorate this event. Proceeds will go to the art department's scholarship fund. For more information about the event, see <http://artdept.umn.edu/ironpour/index.html>.

Summerfolk: a Guthrie and U baby

Summerfolk, a vibrant, satiric collage of diverse and outrageous characters spending their vacation together in pre-revolutionary Russia, will run April 11-19 at the University's Rarig Center on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The show is the debut production of students in the BFA Actor Training Program, a 3-year-old collaboration between the Guthrie Theater and the U's Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. Tickets are \$8-\$14. To order, call the University Arts Ticket Office at 612-624-2345.

Caring for the folks

Understand the aging process and learn how to better communicate with your parents about sensitive issues at "Parenting Your Parents: Maintaining Lifework Balance With Your Aging Parents," a three-hour workshop offered by the University's Career and Lifework Center on April 9, 6-9 p.m.; May 8, 6-9 p.m.; and June 2, 1-4 p.m. The cost is \$89. For more information or to register, call 612-626-7222 or see www.lifework.umn.edu.

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- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
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- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

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

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

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

Hockey team victorious; U president outraged by vandalism

University President Bob Bruininks joined the U community and citizens across the state in congratulating the Gopher men's hockey team on their second consecutive NCAA title. He then expressed outrage at the criminal activity on and around the Twin Cities campus on April 12 after game play.

"We simply will not tolerate vandalism or criminal destruction of property on or off campus by University students," he says. "We are deeply disappointed that the actions of some individuals have tarnished the reputation of this institution and the majority of law-abiding, responsible University students. A victory such as this should be a time for building community, not tearing it down."

Bruininks says that although it is unclear how many of those responsible for damage or inciting destructive behavior were U students, the University will work closely with the Minneapolis Police Department to identify those involved. Students who broke the law are subject to prosecution by the local authorities and could also face disciplinary action from the University.

Damage to U and private property was estimated at more than \$100,000; damages on campus consisted primarily of broken windows, overturned trash containers, and damaged parking booths.

To address potential future disturbances and destructive behavior, Bruininks says the University is considering a "zero tolerance" policy that will impose swift discipline on students involved in vandalism on or off campus. Since most University students are young adults, he adds, they need to be held accountable for their behavior, especially when it is illegal, regardless of their student status.

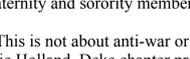
The University's Police Department is seeking the public's help in identifying several people involved in the riots on April 12; see photos at www.umn.edu/umpolice/help-idx-2003.htm. If you have any information, write to the department at 612-624-3550 or e-mail umpolice@umn.edu.

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\$22 million beyond expectation

Since 1996, 11,000 University faculty and staff, including retirees, have given \$62 million to Campaign Minnesota—surpassing the \$40 million goal set by the Faculty and Staff Campaign Committee. Among current faculty and staff on all campuses, 30 percent have made gifts to the campaign, which will end on June 30, 2003.

"I've never seen anything like this level of support at other institutions," says committee chair V. Rama Murthy, a professor in the Institute of Technology.



"Obviously, University employees are committed to higher education."

On Tuesday, April 22, University and staff who have made gifts to Campaign Minnesota will be recognized for their contributions with events on each campus.

"The record giving by faculty and staff is an incredible demonstration of how deeply committed staff and faculty are to the future of the University and its mission," says President Bob Bruininks. "They come to work each day not merely as employees, but as members of a community dedicated to advancing knowledge and serving as partners for the public good."

The largest portion of faculty and staff gifts, or 44 percent, have been designated for student scholarships and fellowships. Fellowships are an especially appealing gift designation for many faculty because they see first-hand the impact top graduate students can have on the quality of U research. Also, the University's 21st Century Graduate Fellowship Endowment matches these gifts.

The University will reap the full benefits of Campaign Minnesota over an extended period of time since the amount raised includes pledges, bequests, and other future gifts. Gifts to the campaign cannot be a substitute for state support to the University because about 98 percent are designated for specific purposes by donors and about half have been marked for endowment, in which the principal is invested and an annual payout supports a designated program.

All gifts made to the University before June 30, 2003 will count toward Campaign Minnesota. To learn more about the campaign, see www.campaign.umn.edu.

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U fraternity adopts squadron

A care package is being put together for a U.S. Marine squadron half a world away, courtesy of a University of Minnesota alum's fraternity brothers.

The Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, Phi Epsilon chapter, has adopted the HMLA-267 or "Stingers" squadron that includes Captain Eddy Hansen, a former president of the fraternity and 1995 U political science graduate. Hansen is currently flying a Cobra helicopter in the Persian Gulf.



The official patch worn by HMLA-267 ("Stingers") squadron members.

Delta Kappa Epsilon, also known as Deke, is collecting items, such as canned food, toothbrushes, and playing cards, from other fraternity and sorority members to send to the squadron.

"This is not about anti-war or pro-liberation politics," says Eric Holland, Deke chapter president. "Men and women of our military have fought for our First Amendment right to debate these issues. The items we are collecting will bring some comfort and relief to them as they sleep on trucks or in tents pitched on the sand."

The Dekes held a similar project in 1991 during the Persian Gulf War. Marine Corps major Andy Dietz was a fraternity member during that project.

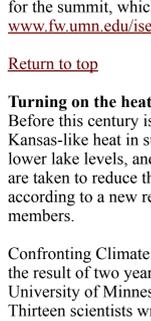
"Back in 1991, sending care packages to a local Marine Reserve unit in the gulf was the least we could do to show our support," Dietz says. "Now, after having served in northern Kuwait, where you feel like you are a million miles from nowhere, I can't stress just how great it feels to get something from home. It really makes you feel like the people back home are right there with you, supporting you and keeping you in their thoughts and prayers."

For more information about this year's project, call Eric Holland at 612-703-0272.

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100 candles: Harvey Mackay launches UMAA's yearlong celebration

Harvey Mackay, Twin Cities businessman and author of four New York Times bestsellers, will headline the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's (UMAA) 99th Annual Celebration, Thursday, May 29, at Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus. The evening will mark the start of UMAA's 100th anniversary. "As we begin our 100th year, we wanted to showcase one of our most notable alumni, and Harvey was the perfect choice," says Margaret Carlson, UMAA executive director. "Since alumni helped raise money when Coffman Memorial Union was built in the late 1930s, we wanted to reintroduce them to the beautifully restored union. It's the ideal venue."



U alum Harvey Mackay, author of four New York Times bestsellers, will headline the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's 99th Annual Celebration.

The event from 5:30 to 9 p.m. will include a reception and dinner in Coffman Union followed by Mackay's keynote address in a tent outside, overlooking the Mississippi River.

Mackay, a U graduate and former UMAA president, is chairman of Mackay Envelope Company. His first two books, including *Swim With the Sharks Without Being Eaten Alive*, have been translated into 35 languages and distributed in 80 countries. Mackay is also a nationally syndicated columnist and sought-after business speaker.

Tickets are \$40 for UMAA members and \$60 for nonmembers. For more information, see www.alumni.umn.edu/annualcelebration or call 612-624-2345.

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Recording African American history at the U

Today, more than 30 years after a group of African American students and community activists staged a two-day sit-in at the U's administration building, a project is under way to document the history of African Americans at the University.

The Coalition for the History of African American Contributions to the University of Minnesota, under the auspices of the General College (GC), is collecting documents, memorabilia, photographs, and oral histories related to the African American experience on campus following the January 14, 1969 civil rights protest at Morrill Hall.

Additionally, project coordinator Remi Douah is examining the watershed event in relation to other student activism on campuses nationwide in the 1960s and 1970s. Findings and materials will ultimately be housed in the Givens Collection of African American Literature at the University's Elmer L. Andersen Library.

The project is important, says GC Dean David Taylor, because previous University histories have either ignored or given limited treatment to the history of African Americans at the U. He says the African American involvement with the University spans more than 100 years—long before the protest at Morrill.

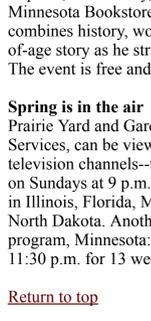
John Wright, associate professor of African American and African Studies (formerly the Afro-American Studies Department) and a member of the coalition advisory board, agrees. "This project is attempting to provide a supplement and counterpoint to the official histories in order to give a richer sense of the complex interrelationship of the University and the African community," he says.

To learn more about the project or if you wish to contribute input or memorabilia, call David Taylor at 612-625-6885 or e-mail taylor@umn.edu.

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Beautifuling the U on Earth Day

While the ultimate goal of beautifuling the Twin Cities campus remains, this year's Beautiful U Day will take on a deeper shade of "green" and involve more campus-wide events and groups.



Beautiful U Day, which will coincide with Earth Day on Tuesday, April 22, is the University's six-year-old effort to ensure its publicly funded buildings and grounds are kept in tiptop shape. It is also an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and alumni volunteers to show their pride in the U by pitching in.

"Keeping the University environment beautiful and healthy is important to many people, and this is evident in the growing number of volunteers and groups who want to organize an event on Beautiful U Day every year," says Kathleen O'Brien, vice president for University Services. "We owe it to the people of Minnesota to make their University the best that it can be, and this includes caring for the surroundings."

Traditional favorites—like planting trees, shrub, and flowers, painting, and cleaning buildings—will highlight some new activities, such as a Sustainability Summit sponsored by the Institute for Social, Economic, and Ecological Sustainability, and a student-led clean-up in Edgelytown. Other events include the renaming of the U's waste management facility, and a lunch hosted by the University to thank faculty and staff who have contributed to Campaign Minnesota.

For complete list of [Beautiful U Day](http://www.facm.umn.edu/BeautifulU) activities or to volunteer, see www.facm.umn.edu/BeautifulU. To register for the summit, which falls on Wednesday, April 23, see www.fw.umn.edu/isees/CSS/css.htm.

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Turning on the heat

Before this century is in sum, Minnesota will experience Kansas-like heat in summer, more floods and droughts, lower lake levels, and conflicts over water use unless steps are taken to reduce the output of greenhouse gases, according to a new report coauthored by two U faculty members.

Confronting Climate Change in the Great Lakes Region is the result of two years of study by scientists from the University of Minnesota and several other institutions. Thirteen scientists wrote the report, including two U professors—Lucinda Johnson of the Center for Water and the Environment and Stephen Polasky from the applied economics department.

The report, which is designed to raise awareness of climate change, details the expected severity of warming (6 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter, 7 to 16 degrees in the summer) and suggests such remedies as reductions in carbon dioxide emissions and limits to urban sprawl and habitat fragmentation.

UCS is an independent nonprofit alliance of 60,000 concerned citizens and scientists across the country.

Globally, the last few decades have been the warmest on record, say the scientists. The warming shows up in shorter winters, thinner lake ice, less snow but severe spring and summer storms, longer growing seasons but drier soils, and lower lake levels. Severe storms mean more weather-related damage to buildings and, hence, higher insurance rates. Loss of snow will hurt winter sports and those whose livelihoods depend on them, dropping lake levels may require dredging of harbors, and drier soils may hurt agriculture. Such warming would also harm livestock and the conifer trees in northern forests.

To read the full report, sponsored by the Ecological Society of America and Union of Concerned Scientists, see www.ucsusa.org/greatlakes/glchallengereport.html.

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Free fish recipes

So, you think you have every fish recipe out there? Take a look at what the University of Minnesota Sea Grant program has to offer, and you'll probably find something new, or at least, unusual.

The program, which works with communities to maintain and enhance the environment and economies along Lake Superior and Minnesota's inland waters, has several brochures available for free. One of them, *Cooking Your Catch*, has diagrams on how to cut up Great Lakes fish, tips on maximizing the flavor of freshly caught fish, and five easy recipes.

After sampling *Cooking Your Catch's* baked stuffed lake trout or fish steaks with lemon-thyme marinade, try the recipes in *Eelpout (Burbot)*: The Fish Minnesotans Love to Hate, *A Craving for Crayfish*, *Smelt-Dip Net to Dish*, or *Fish-wurst*: Recipes for Sausage from Fish. Yes, that's right, fish sausage.

However, before you become solely piscivorous (fish-eating), Sea Grant staff recommend reading *Eating Minnesota Fish: Health Risks and Benefits and Contaminants in Minnesota Fish*, fact sheets prepared by the Minnesota Department of Health.

To view *Cooking Your Catch* online, see www.seagrant.umn.edu/fish/cooking.html.

To order hard copies of the brochure or any of the publications mentioned above, call the Minnesota Sea Grant program at 218-726-6191 or e-mail at seagr@d.umn.edu. A small fee may apply to bulk orders.

To learn more about the Minnesota Sea Grant program, see www.seagrant.umn.edu.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

UMM Jazz Fest on MPR

Minnesota Public Radio will profile University of Minnesota, Morris's 25th annual Jazz Fest, including interviews with the jazz ensemble director James "Doc" Carlson and guest artists Byron Stripling and Eric Marienthal, on Saturday, April 19. Excerpts from the Jazz Fest will air every hour during "The Jazz Image" show with Leigh Kamman from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. For a list of MPR regional stations, see <http://access.mpr.org/stations>.

Celebrating 20 years of feminist scholarship

The Center for Advanced Feminist Studies will celebrate 20 years with a symposium Monday, April 21, from 3 to 6 p.m. in the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus. "Feminist Generations at the University of Minnesota" will recognize scholars and their innovative contributions to feminist scholarship and teaching. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 612-624-6310.

Bob Bergland knows agriculture

Bob Bergland, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under President Carter (1977-80) and former U regent, will speak at the University of Minnesota, Crookston on Wednesday, April 23, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Youngquist Auditorium. He will discuss his role with the USDA and various marketing programs he helped develop as well as the professional opportunities available for agriculture graduates. The event is free and open to the public.

Explore the Arctic at Coffman Theatre

Arctic explorer Subhankar Banerjee will present a photo exhibit and discuss his experiences travelling by foot, raft, kayak, and snowmobile over four seasons in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on Thursday, April 24, at 7 p.m., in Coffman Union Theatre on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The event is free and open to the public. Photos from Banerjee's new book, *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land*, will debut at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington on May 2 and open at the American Museum of Natural History in New York in October.

Gulf War veteran discusses his new book Baghdad Express

Joel Turnipseed will talk about his experiences as part of the greatest logistical operation in Marine Corps history during the Gulf War and sign copies of his new book, *Baghdad Express*, on Tuesday, April 29, at 2 p.m. in the University of Minnesota Bookstore in Coffman Union. *Baghdad Express* combines history, world politics, and Turnipseed's coming-of-age story as he struggled with his own search for peace. The event is free and open to the public.

Spring is in the air

Prairie Yard and Garden, produced by the UMM Media Services, can be viewed on two Twin Cities public television channels—tp2 on Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. and tpt17 on Sundays at 9 p.m. The program is also being broadcast in Illinois, Florida, Michigan, California, Oklahoma, and North Dakota. Another Media Services-produced TV program, *Minnesota: Rivers and Fields*, is airing on tpt17 at 11:30 p.m. for 13 weeks.

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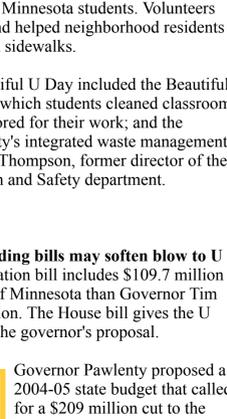
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U IN THE NEWS

Cleaning up in Dinkytown

A beautiful spring day became a Beautiful U Day last week when more than 160 volunteers from the University and the Twin Cities community got down and dirty with brooms, garbage bags, and other cleaning supplies for an annual campus clean-up.

The clean-up also extended into the Dinkytown and Marcy-Holmes neighborhoods. This effort was especially significant this year because it came just ten days after a post-hockey championship celebration turned into a riot--U students and non-students caused thousands of dollars worth of damage to Dinkytown businesses.



U of M student volunteers help clean-up Dinkytown as part of Beautiful U 2003.

Photo by Aaron Stroinsky

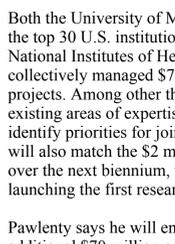
Several students said they were participating in the clean-up because it was important to show their campus neighbors that a small group of vandals and lawbreakers do not represent the vast majority of University of Minnesota students. Volunteers picked up tons of trash and helped neighborhood residents spruce up their lawns and sidewalks.

Other highlights of Beautiful U Day included the Beautiful Classroom Campaign, in which students cleaned classrooms and custodians were honored for their work; and the renaming of the University's integrated waste management facility after the late Fay Thompson, former director of the U's Environmental Health and Safety department.

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Differing legislative funding bills may soften blow to U

The Senate's higher education bill includes \$109.7 million more for the University of Minnesota than Governor Tim Pawlenty's recommendation. The House bill gives the U \$19.7 million more than the governor's proposal.



Governor Pawlenty proposed a 2004-05 state budget that called for a \$209 million cut to the University's state funding over the next two years. This would be the largest reduction in state appropriation ever faced by the University.

The House and Senate bills will now move to a Higher Education Conference Committee, which will work out their differences, before being finalized by the Legislature. If the conference committee is unable to agree, it is likely that the governor's higher education funding proposal will be adopted.

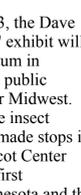
For updates on the University's state budget request and presentations at the legislature, see www.umn.edu/govrel.

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Minnesota--biosciences hub in the making

On April 17, Governor Tim Pawlenty announced a partnership between the University of Minnesota and Mayo Clinic that could position Minnesota as a global leader in biotechnology and medical genomics.

The "Minnesota Partnership for Biotechnology and Medical Genomics" pairs the University and Mayo Clinic in a state-sponsored initiative to yield new scientific discoveries in the diagnoses and treatment of human diseases and improve technology for food and agriculture research. The partnership hopes to attract multi-million dollar research grants and world-class scientific talent to the state, which in turn would create new businesses and jobs in Minnesota.



"We have a very limited window of opportunity to capitalize on two of the world's stellar scientific resources to make Minnesota a world hub in biosciences," said Governor Pawlenty when he announced the new initiative. "Fortunately, this industry is still in its infancy, similar to where the computer industry was 25 years ago. But it's going to grow fast."

Both the University of Minnesota and Mayo Clinic rank in the top 30 U.S. institutions that successfully compete for National Institutes of Health research funding, and last year collectively managed \$700 million in major research projects. Among other things, the partnership will inventory existing areas of expertise, resources, and capabilities and identify priorities for joint research. The U and Mayo Clinic will also match the \$2 million seed money from the state over the next biennium, which will be used for planning and launching the first research project.

Pawlenty says he will encourage the state to finance an additional \$70 million over five years to partially support the faculty, equipment, technology, and scientific infrastructure to successfully compete with other states that are aggressively promoting this type of research.

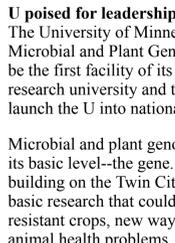
"The potential of biotechnology and medical genomics is huge, and so is the cost of development," says Hugh Smith, chair of the Mayo Clinic Board of Governors. "Neither the University nor Mayo Clinic can do it on our own, and even working together we cannot fund a competitive initiative without the additional partnership of the state."

Editors note: For information about a special conference on biosciences, see the Happenings section.

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Monster bugs skip the repellent

This summer, discard the repellent. The big bugs at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, part of the U's College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences, won't bite.



Bug-eyed: This giant Praying Mantis is one of several giant bugs crawling around in the "Big Bugs" exhibit.

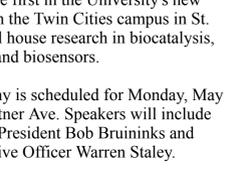
On Saturday, May 3, the Dave Rogers' "Big Bugs" exhibit will open at the Arboretum in Chaska--the largest public garden in the Upper Midwest.

This larger-than-life insect collection that has made stops in Disney World's Epcot Center will be making its first appearance in Minnesota and the surrounding five-state area. "Big Bugs" will feature thirteen sculptures including a seven-foot assassin bug, a 15-foot spider on its web, a dragonfly with 17-foot wingspan, and a family of ants with the largest being 25 feet long and weighing 700 lbs.

The sculptures are created from a combination of natural materials--whole trees, cut green willow saplings, dry branches, and other forest materials.

"Our goal is to educate visitors about the beneficial role of insects in the environment, and help people see that there is another alternative to thinking about insects besides the 'zap it' or 'stomp it' approach," says Sandy Tanek, youth, family, and teacher program manager at the Arboretum's Marion Andrus Learning Center.

Insects outnumber us by 158 million to one, Tanek explains, and they make enormous contributions to our natural environment despite their size. They aerate soil, eat weeds, pollinate flowers, make honey, decompose dead plants or animal material, and release organic matter into the ecosystem.



Watch out for the 700-pound ants!

"Big Bugs" will run through the end of September with a series of special events. Among them are a bug zoo, the Buggy Brigade for families with tots in strollers, and on Father's Day, Dad's Bug Out Day. Eighty percent of the exhibit is funded through private giving.

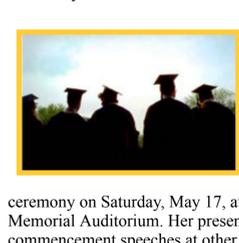
The Arboretum is open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset. Admission \$7 for adults or free for members and children under 18. (Admission is also free every Thursday after 4:30 p.m.) For more information about the Dave Rogers' Big Bugs exhibit, call 952-443-1400 or see www.arboretum.umn.edu.

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U poised for leadership in microbial and plant genomics

The University of Minnesota's Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics, which opens next week, will be the first facility of its kind in the nation at a public research university and the research conducted there could launch the U into national prominence.

Microbial and plant genomics involves the study of life at its basic level--the gene. Researchers in the new Cargill building on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul will conduct basic research that could lead to disease- and drought-resistant crops, new ways to treat and prevent human and animal health problems, and new methods to improve the environment.



An artist's rendering of the new Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics.

"One of the University of Minnesota's strengths is the rich diversity of research on genomes of different organisms," says Charles Muscoplat, dean of the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences.

"The Cargill Building for Microbial and Plant Genomics will unite genomics researchers from agriculture, biology, ecology, medicine, veterinary medicine, and other fields. Together, we can make much more progress than we can by working alone."

The \$20 million, 64-000-square-foot building will house at least 150 groups of scientists and features a liberal use of glass to reflect the University's open policy on genomics research. The facility will also have laboratories with open layouts, microbial and plant growing areas, a robotic center for screening new biological compounds, teaching space, and offices.

Cargill gave \$10 million toward the construction of the building, and the state contributed an additional \$10 million. This facility is the first in the University's new biotechnology precinct on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. Other buildings will house research in biocatalysis, bioenergy, biomaterials, and biosensors.

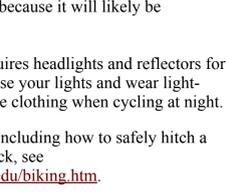
A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for Monday, May 5, at 2 p.m., on 1500 Gortner Ave. Speakers will include University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks and Cargill Inc. Chief Executive Officer Warren Staley.

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Search narrows for new UMC leader

First, there were 11; now there are 4. The finalists for the position of chancellor at the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), will meet with various campus and community groups over the next week.

The final candidates are Ben Johnson, president of Peru State College, Nebraska; John Anderson, provost and vice president for academic affairs at Alfred State College, New York; Ellen-Earle Chaffee, president of Valley City State University, North Dakota; and Velmer Burton, Jr., dean of the Graduate School and professor of sociology at North Dakota State University.



University of Minnesota Crookston

"We were very fortunate to attract a strong pool of candidates," said Robert Justice, chair of the Chancellor Search Committee and University vice president and executive vice provost. The committee received 55 applications for the position, and of those, 11 candidates were interviewed by the committee, who then advanced four finalists.

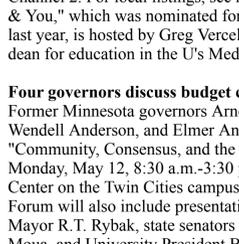
Each finalist will interview with University officials on the Twin Cities campus before proceeding to Crookston to meet the community and speak at public forums--John Anderson will speak on Friday, May 2; Ellen Chaffee on Tuesday, May 6; and Velmer Burton on Wednesday, May 7. (Ben Johnson presented on April 30). The forums, which include a question-and-answer session, will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. in Youngquist Auditorium in the Agricultural Research Center on the UMC campus.

UMC Chancellor Don Hegant is stepping down on June 30 after 18 years at the helm. He plans to take a one-year sabbatical before returning to UMC in a consultative or development capacity.

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Notable figures grace spring commencements

FBI agent Coleen Rowley, named a Person of the Year by Time magazine in 2002, is among the notable speakers at this year's spring commencement ceremonies at the University.



Rowley, who last year criticized high-ranking FBI officials for blocking investigations that might have prevented the 9/11 terrorist attacks, will speak at the Law School commencement

ceremony on Saturday, May 17, at 10 a.m., in Northrop Memorial Auditorium. Her presentation will follow earlier commencement speeches at other colleges by well-known personalities--former Surgeon General David Satcher at the Medical School commencement ceremony on Friday, May 9, at 2:30 p.m., in Northrop Auditorium; former Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson at the Institute of Technology ceremony on May 9, 7 p.m., Northrop Auditorium; and former Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development Commissioner Rebecca Yanisch at the College of Continuing Education ceremony on Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m., Northrop Auditorium.

More than 7,500 students are expected to graduate from the University's Twin Cities campus this spring. Because it graduates so many students, the campus does not hold a single ceremony. Instead, collegiate units coordinate and host their own graduation activities. There will be 21 college commencement ceremonies on campus between May 2 and August 23. The University's campuses in Crookston (UMC), Duluth (UMD), and Morris (UMM) each have one commencement ceremony for graduating students.

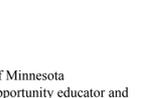
For a complete list of Twin Cities campus graduation ceremony dates, locations, and general details, see www.umn.edu/twincities/commencement. For commencement ceremony details at UMC, see www.erk.umn.edu/newsevents/notices02-03/grad2003.htm; UMD, see www.d.umn.edu/commencement/; and UMM, see www.mrs.umn.edu/events/commencement.

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Pedal with caution

If you're one of the thousands this spring season who have turned or will turn to bicycles for transportation or exercise, the University's Parking and Transportation department has some tips to offer for a safer and theft-free ride.

- Never ride on a sidewalk unless it is designated as a bike lane with pavement markings.
- Always yield to pedestrians.
- Ride on the right with traffic.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals, just as you would when driving a car or walking.
- Use hand signals to let drivers on the roadway or pedestrians know what you intend to do.
- Don't leave your bike unattended. Use a cable and lock to deter theft.
- Never attach your bike to handrails, trees, fences, bus shelters, or patio furniture (unless you want an excuse to buy a new bike, because it will likely be impounded).
- Minnesota law requires headlights and reflectors for nighttime riding. Use your lights and wear light-colored or reflective clothing when cycling at night.



Alert traffic and pedestrians with proper hand signals when turning.

For more tips on biking, including how to safely hitch a bicycle to a public bus rack, see www.parkandtrans.umn.edu/biking.htm.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Planes and pancakes

The University of Minnesota, Crookston, Flying Club and Crookston Aviation will host their annual "drive-in, fly-in" pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 4, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Crookston Municipal Airport (three miles north of Crookston on Highway 75). The breakfast, which will include pancakes, hashbrowns, and sausages, is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 5-12, and free for children under five. The event will also feature antique aircrafts, classic cars, and airplane rides (\$10 per person, weather permitting). Proceeds will go to the UMC Flying Club activities.

Melanoma Monday

The University's dermatology department is giving free skin cancer screenings on May 5 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. as part of Melanoma Monday, an annual event to raise awareness of skin cancer. "An asymmetrical mole, a darkly pigmented mole, or one with an irregular border should raise a red flag," says Stephen Tan, U dermatology instructor. The free service will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis in 4-175 Phillips-Wangensteen Building on the Twin Cities campus. For more information and directions, call 612-625-4605.

Summit on biosciences

University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks and College of Biological Sciences Dean Robert Elde are among invited speakers at the "Government's Biosciences Summit" on Monday, May 12, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Minneapolis Hilton, 1001 Marquette Avenue. The U is a cosponsor of the event, which will explore details of the Minnesota biosciences initiative. Tickets are \$25. To register or for more information, see www.PositivelyMinnesota.com.

Health advice via the black box

"Health Talk & You" is in its 16th and final season on Twin Cities Public Television. Upcoming programs include animal to human infections (May 4), cancer (May 11), minimally invasive surgery (May 18), genomics (May 25), kids health (June 1, with part 2 on June 8), aging (June 15), and complementary medicine (June 22). The show airs in the Twin Cities on Sundays at 7 p.m. on TPT Channel 17 and is rebroadcast on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. on TPT Channel 2. For local listings, see <http://tpt.org>. "Health Talk & You," which was nominated for a regional Emmy Award last year, is hosted by Greg Vercellotti, senior associate dean for education in the U's Medical School.

Four governors discuss budget crisis

Former Minnesota governors Arne Carlson, Al Quie, Wendell Anderson, and Elmer Andersen will speak about "Community, Consensus, and the Common Good" on Monday, May 12, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., in the Humphrey Center on the Twin Cities campus. The 2003 Freeman Forum will also include presentations by Minneapolis Mayor R. T. Rybak, state senators Dean Johnson and Mee Moua, and University President Bob Bruininks, who will give the keynote address on the importance of education in promoting the "good life" in Minnesota. Tickets are \$35 per person (\$25 for students and educators) and includes lunch, refreshments, and a copy of a new book, Freeman--The Governor Years. To register, see www.minnesotaruralpartners.org/freemanforum.

Polly wants a good owner

Parrot Island bird store owners Terry and Shari Beaudoin, along with four parrots, will speak about the care, feeding, and parenting of parrots--from budgies to Amazons--at the Raptor Center auditorium on Sunday, May 18, at 2 p.m. Parrot Parenting 101 is free to Raptor Center members, and \$5 for nonmembers (\$3 children ages 10-18). To learn more, see www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

- [University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Your membership makes a difference.](#)
- [U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.](#)
- [University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page](#)

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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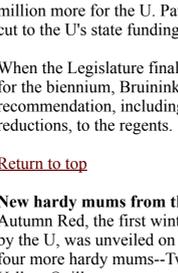
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U IN THE NEWS

Exact cut to U's state funding still up in the air

The fate of the University of Minnesota's state funding for the next two years lies in the hands of 10 people--the Higher Education Conference Committee. If the committee cannot settle the differences between the House and Senate higher education funding bills, it will adopt Governor Tim Pawlenty's proposal--and the U will have \$209 million less for 2004-05.



"There is still time to advocate for the University at the legislature," said University President Bob Bruininks in a recent budget update e-mail to faculty and staff and a voice mail to nearly 4,000 members of the University's volunteer legislative network. He encouraged the U community to call their legislators to remind them of the value and importance of the U. To get contact information for your legislators or for updates about the U's legislative request, see <http://www.umn.edu/govrel>.

Bruininks was among those who testified on May 8 before the conference committee, which is made up of representatives Doug Stang, Doug Meslow, Carla Nelson, Bud Normes, and Gene Pelowski and senators Sandra Pappas, Yvonne Solon, Rod Skoe, Dan Sparks, and David Tomassoni. The committee will work out the differences between the Senate bill, which includes \$109.7 million more for the U than Governor Pawlenty's recommendation, and the House bill, which includes \$19.7 million more for the U. Pawlenty recommended a \$209 million cut to the U's state funding in his proposed state budget.

When the Legislature finally approves the University's funding for the biennium, Bruininks will present his budget recommendation, including tuition increases and cost reductions, to the regents.

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New hardy mums from the U

Autumn Red, the first winter-hardy chrysanthemum developed by the U, was unveiled on September 20, 2001. This spring, four more hardy mums--Twilight Pink, Coral, White, and Yellow Quill--are now available.

"This breed of chrysanthemums tolerate cold well and attract butterflies," says Neil Anderson, assistant professor of horticulture who leads the U's flower breeding program. "They are frost tolerant and self-pinching, so they require minimal care. A single plant can grow as high as 30 inches and as wide as 48 inches, and it can produce a canopy of 5,000 blooms by its third year. In regions with warmer climate, the mums will overwinter as green plants and may even flower more than once."



L-R Front: 'Twilight Pink', 'White' Middle: 'Yellow' Back: 'Coral'

Anderson and his team--retired professor Peter Ascher and research fellow Esther Gesick--bred and tested this class of perennial mums for more than 10 years at four University trial sites as far north as Crookston, Minnesota. The My Favorite Company is the U's exclusive licensee to test, propagate, grow, and sell the mums worldwide. To be included in the brand, Anderson says each cultivar must have outstanding garden performance and be easy to grow.

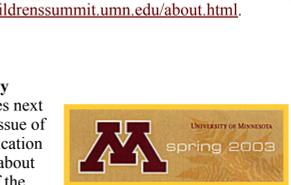
These hardy U mums are available mostly during spring in select garden centers in the Midwest, such as Frank's Nursery and Crafts, Home Depot, and Meijer Stores. The brand will be more widely available in 2004. To order the mums by mail, call Edmunds' Roses at 888-481-7673.

To learn more about the mums, see www.myfavoritegarden.com/Display.aspx?Page=Details&ID=108&Region=mn. For general information on chrysanthemums, such as planting times, soil variety, and insect control, see www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG7068.html.

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President Bruininks spotlights children and their families

According to the 2000 Census, 26.1 percent of Minnesota children are economically disadvantaged, and research shows that as a result these children may have learning and development deficits. University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks launched a three-year initiative to heighten awareness of this issue and focus University research on improving the lives of these children.

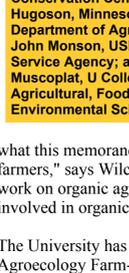


U president Robert Bruininks during his recent visit to Baby's Space, an innovative child care center in Minneapolis.

That Bruininks sees promise in young faces and wants to bring U expertise to help fulfill that promise is a natural, given his personal and professional background. He graduated from college with degrees in special education, social science, and music and later earned a master's and doctorate in education. For the last 35 years, Bruininks's career has centered on accountability and strategic improvements in education.

The five goals of the President's Initiative on Children, Youth, and Families are:

- to increase public awareness of challenges facing youth and families;
- to advance knowledge of and find solutions to those challenges through ongoing University and community partnerships;
- to improve outcomes for Minnesota's youth and families;
- to expand and share the University's intellectual vitality, leadership, and resources; and
- to establish a model for future presidential initiatives.



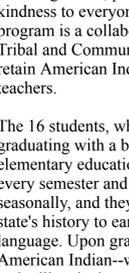
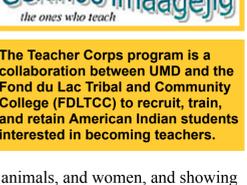
On May 30, the U is hosting as part of the initiative the first of three annual summits that will bring invited community and University leaders together to discuss the needs of Minnesota children and families. "Minnesota Children's Summit: Starting Strong" will be held in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus and will focus on the early foundations for healthy development and on the programs, policies, and conditions that help children and their families to thrive.

For more information on the initiative, see www.umn.edu/pres/cyf.html. To learn more about the upcoming summit, see www.childrensummit.umn.edu/about.html.

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Spring M on the way

Watch your mailboxes next week for the spring issue of M, the U's only publication for all alumni. Read about the transformation of the freshman experience at the



U, the use of aspirin in reducing the risk of colon cancer, how three B.F.A. students learned more about life and theater on the Guthrie stage, and the healthful effects of eating together as a family.

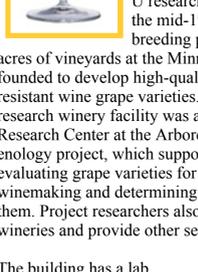
To read this issue, or past issues, of M on the Web, see www.umn.edu/urelate/m. If you do not receive M but would like to, e-mail the editor at urelate@umn.edu.

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Organic agriculture in Minnesota gets booster shot

Minnesota leads the nation in the production of organic corn and soybeans, and it ranks sixth in the nation for the most certified organic acreage. On April 21, the University of Minnesota and four state agencies sealed a deal that is the first of its kind in the nation.

Representatives from the University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the USDA Farm Service Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate on activities that conserve natural resources and increase consumer choices of Minnesota-grown organic products.



Representatives from the U and other state agencies signing an "organic" agreement to work together--(from L to R) Bill Hunt, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Center; Gene Hugoson, Minnesota Department of Agriculture; John Monson, USDA Farm Service Agency; and Chuck Muscovat, U College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences.

"This memorandum is a recognition that organic agriculture and products are significant parts of our economy," explains Bill Wilcke, biosystems professor and U of M Extension Service agricultural engineer, "and they are useful and valuable to a number of consumers and farmers."

And this recognition, says Wilcke, is symbolic because organic agriculture or farming without the use of synthetic pesticides has--like any other industry--its fair share of opposition.

"It's hard to say for sure what this memorandum will ultimately mean for consumers and farmers," says Wilcke. "But at the University, we may see more work on organic agriculture by faculty and staff who are already involved in organic-related activities."

The University has an organic research farm--the Elwell Agroecology Farm--in Lambert Township, Minnesota. On this 30-year-old, 160-acre farm, researchers work with farmers to improve their existing operations, adopt more sustainable practices, and sell their products in traditional markets. To learn more about the farm, see <http://swroc.coafes.umn.edu/caf.html>.

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On the good path of the Anishinaabeg

At its May 17 commencement ceremonies, the University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD), will graduate the largest group of American Indian teachers in the history of Minnesota.

The group, known as Gekinoo'imaagejig or "the ones who teach," are part of the Teacher Corps program that uses a curriculum rooted in the core values or mino-bimaadizi-win (the good path) of the Anishinaabeg or Ojibwe.



The Teacher Corps program is a collaboration between UMD and the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC) to recruit, train, and retain American Indian students interested in becoming teachers.

These values include honoring elders, plants and animals, and women, and showing kindness to everyone, including those you disagree with. The program is a collaboration between UMD and the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC) to recruit, train, and retain American Indian students interested in becoming teachers.

The 16 students, whose ages range from 22 to 50, are graduating with a bachelor of applied science degree in elementary education. They attended Ojibwe language classes every semester and Ojibwe language immersion camps seasonally, and they will become the first graduating class in the state's history to earn a teaching minor in an indigenous language. Upon graduation, the students--14 of whom are American Indian--will teach in either public or tribal schools and will actively work for the betterment of indigenous people.

"Being a part of Gekinoo'imaagejig I have the opportunity to contribute to the preservation of the Anishinaabeg language and share its cultural heritage," says graduating student Rene Ann Goodrich. Since she started the program in January 2001, her classmates have been a source of inspiration and support because each person brings a "wealth of knowledge and resources" and a "shared vision of the future for our children."

The Teacher Corps program is supported by a grant from the Office of Indian Education, the U.S. Department of Education, and the UMD Ruth A. Meyers Endowed Chair in American Indian Education and Mott Foundation.

For more information about the program, call UMD's education department at 218-726-7233 or see www.fdlc.cc.mn.us/web/te/home.htm.

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Here's to Minnesota wine

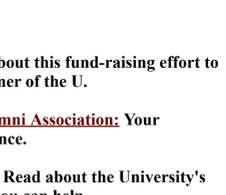
Wine connoisseurs usually think first of wines from France and California, and some praise products of vineyards in Italy and Oregon. But there's a thriving winemaking industry in Minnesota, aided and encouraged by the University of Minnesota's horticultural science department.



According to the Minnesota Grape Growers Association, there are at least nine wineries now producing grape wines in Minnesota and the number of local wines winning regional or national awards is on the rise. Minnesota's wine grape varieties, many of which were developed by the University, include Foch, Frontenac, Saint Croix, Seyval, Saint Pepin, and LaCrosse.

U researchers have bred wine grapes since the mid-1980s. The U's viticulture or grape-breeding program, which now includes 10 acres of vineyards at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, was founded to develop high-quality, winter-hardy, and disease-resistant wine grape varieties. In 2000, a state-of-the-art research winery facility was added to the U's Horticultural Research Center at the Arboretum. The facility houses the U's enology project, which supports the grape-breeding program by evaluating grape varieties for their potential use in Minnesota winemaking and determining the best processing methods for them. Project researchers also train employees of regional wineries and provide other services to local vintners.

The building has a lab, classroom and office space, a tasting room, and four independently controlled, refrigerated rooms for storing fresh fruit and wine, fermenting white wines, and cold stabilization. Support for the research facility came from the Minnesota Grape Growers Association and funds appropriated by the Minnesota legislature.



Project leader and U enologist Anna Mansfield.

As the U's enology project grows, courses and workshops in winemaking and wine appreciation may be available for experts and novices. Project leader and U enologist Anna Mansfield will collaborate with the Minnesota Grape Growers Association on educational programs and publications to increase public awareness of Minnesota wines.

To learn more about the U's viticulture program and enology project, see <http://winegrapes.coafes.umn.edu/>.

Editor's note: To learn about research findings related to wine and health, read "To Your Health" in the upcoming issue of M or see the article online at www.umn.edu/urelate/m/spring%202003/health.html.

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U alum turns corn into biodegradable plastics

The request from the head of Cargill's corn-milling operation was simple: find something new to make from corn. University of Minnesota alumnus Patrick Gruber did just that. And today, 15 years after the request, Gruber's new class of plastics could dramatically reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

Nobody at Cargill, Inc., based in Minnesota, meant to start a revolution when they hired Gruber in 1988. They wanted Gruber, who was just completing his Ph.D. in chemistry at the U, to find a new corn derivative that could yield at least \$100 million a year in revenues.

U alum Patrick Gruber's breakthrough: a new class of plastics that could dramatically reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Photo by Dan Marshall

Within six months, Gruber had identified the potential product he could make from corn: a family of polymers (plastics) called polylactide or PLA. Soon after, he tested manufacturing processes, cooking up small batches in his kitchen at home. Today, PLA is being used to manufacture everything from carpet to food packaging. Production for 2003 is expected to exceed 200 million pounds, but Gruber believes PLA could soon replace almost all conventional plastics--of which some 270 billion pounds are manufactured annually. Instead of \$100 million annually, he expects sales from his findings to reach \$2 billion annually in less than 10 years. Eventually, sales could surpass that many times over.

In addition to matching or exceeding the performance of conventional plastics, PLA can be manufactured in an environmentally responsible way. PLA production results in 30 to 50 percent fewer greenhouse gases and consumes 30 to 50 percent less fuel than conventional plastics. In most forms, PLA is 100 percent recyclable. It can be incinerated, if necessary, with very few emissions. And, if composted, it breaks down into its basic, non-polluting building blocks in fewer than 60 days.

Gruber, who holds nearly 50 patents related to his discovery, believes that different permutations of the same basic technology may soon be used to replace fossil fuels almost entirely. The U.S. Department of Energy apparently believes Gruber is right; it recently awarded him a \$25 million grant to begin figuring out how to do just that.

"Thirty or 40 years from now, people will look back at the work he has done and be wowed," says Randy Howard, CEO of Cargill Dow, which was formed in 1997 by Cargill and Dow Chemical to develop PLA and related products using Gruber's technology. "I describe it as the second industrial revolution."

Editor's note: A longer version of this story appears in the May-June issue of Minnesota, the bimonthly magazine to University of Minnesota Alumni Association members. To read it online, see www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Online Gopher auction

The U's Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is sponsoring an online auction through 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 21, to raise money for the Golden Gopher student-athlete scholarship fund. Items on the auction block include court-side men's and women's basketball seats, a men's hockey game jersey signed by the 2003 national championship team, football season ticket packages, baseballs autographed by former Gopher baseball alumni, and a golf outing with men's golf head coach Brad James. To place a bid or for more information about the auction, see www.gophersports.com.

Wooden Korean beauties

The beauty and craftsmanship of Korean wooden furniture--65 beautiful boxes and chests--are highlighted in a Weisman Art Museum exhibition that will run from May 17 to August 3. "Beauty in the Box: The Enduring Elegance of Korean Design," from the museum's Edward Reynolds Wright, Jr. Collection, is being presented as part of Minnesota's commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States. For more information about the exhibit or museum hours, call 612-625-9494 or see www.weisman.umn.edu.

UMAA birthday

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association's (UMAA) 99th Annual Celebration will be Thursday, May 29, 5:30-9 p.m. at Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus. The evening, which marks the start of UMAA's 100th anniversary, will include a dinner and keynote address by Harvey Mackay, Twin Cities businessman and author of four New York Times bestsellers. Tickets are \$40 for UMAA members and \$60 for nonmembers. For more information, see www.alumni.umn.edu/annualcelebration or call 612-624-2345.

Passion for fashion

Friends of the Goldstein Museum will host a 25th anniversary celebration on Saturday, May 31, at 7 p.m. The public event will include dinner, dancing, and a live auction of items donated by some of Minnesota's premier designers. Tickets are \$100-\$1,000, and all proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Goldstein endowment campaign. The Goldstein Museum is located on the U's Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. For more information about the event or the group, call Mary Larson at 612-624-7434.

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Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

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

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

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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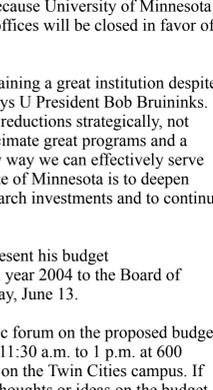
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U NEWS

Cutting costs and keeping excellence

For the next two years, the University of Minnesota will have almost \$1.1 billion in state money to pay for operating costs. Most people would jump for joy at getting a billion dollars, but this amount only covers about one-third of the University's total operating budget for two years. To respond to this financial challenge, the University is trimming costs and reshaping the way it does things.

The \$1.1 billion passed on May 29 by the Minnesota State Legislature for the University's next biennium is less than what was proposed in both the House and Senate higher education bills, and it's about \$196.3 million less than the amount the University received in 2001. This reduction in state funding is the largest the University has ever had to face.



With declining state funding, the U has already eliminated more than 500 positions, and it expects to raise tuition. Students would pay 14.8 percent more for the 2003-04 school year and another 13 percent more for 2004-05. U faculty and staff will pay more for health care (subject to collective bargaining for represented employees) and will not see a salary increase this coming year. Minnesotans in some counties will have to travel farther for U education and leadership programs because University of Minnesota Extension Service county offices will be closed in favor of regional centers.

"We're committed to maintaining a great institution despite the dire fiscal situation," says U President Bob Bruininks. "We are approaching these reductions strategically, not cutting in the ways that decimate great programs and a quality education. The only way we can effectively serve our community and the state of Minnesota is to deepen existing academic and research investments and to continue to make new ones."

President Bruininks will present his budget recommendations for fiscal year 2004 to the Board of Regents for review on Friday, June 13.

The board will hold a public forum on the proposed budget on Tuesday, June 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 600 McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus. If you'd like to express your thoughts or ideas on the budget, e-mail regents@umn.edu with your name, address (including e-mail), the group you will represent (if any), your relationship to the University, and a general presentation topic. You may also send this information to the Office of the Board of Regents, 600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 or call 612-625-6300. Final action on the budget is expected at a special board meeting on June 26.

To learn more about the U's budget planning for 2004-05, see www.umn.edu/urelate/govrel/050803regents.

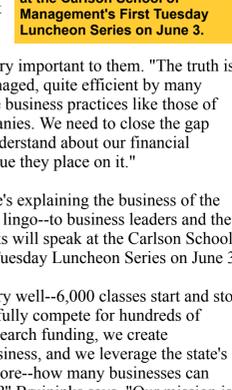
For more information about the changes in the U of M Extension Service, see www.extension.umn.edu/extensionnews/2003/UofMEXTISRResponss.html.

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The business of the U

Imagine signing on as the CEO of the third largest business of its kind in the nation, a highly diversified conglomerate with annual revenues of \$2.3 billion, 30 percent growth over the past decade, and accountability that extends beyond the board or shareholders to all citizens of the state. That's the job U President Robert Bruininks tackled, and now he's helping citizens understand the business of the University.

"I am frequently asked about the University's financial management, often with the assumption that because we're public, we're inefficient," Bruininks explains, and University public opinion polls confirm his observation.



President Bruininks will speak at the Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday Luncheon Series on June 3.

For the past two years, U research has shown that Minnesota adults are not confident in the University's financial management, yet it is very important to them. "The truth is that we're very well-managed, quite efficient by many measures, and we utilize business practices like those of most Fortune 500 companies. We need to close the gap between what people understand about our financial management and the value they place on it."

To begin that process, he's explaining the business of the University--in corporate lingo--to business leaders and the broader public. Bruininks will speak at the Carlson School of Management's First Tuesday Luncheon Series on June 3.

"The University runs very well--6,000 classes start and stop on time, faculty successfully complete hundreds of thousands of millions of dollars in research funding, we create knowledge that fuels business, and we leverage the state's investment by 16:1 or more--how many businesses can boast that kind of return?" Bruininks says. "Our mission is not that of a typical business, but our investment strategy, our search for efficiencies, and the entrepreneurial bent of our faculty and staff all resemble those of our counterparts in the private, for-profit world."

To register for the First Tuesday Luncheon Series or to learn more about it, see www.csom.umn.edu/page2066.aspx. For the University's annual financial report, see www.fpd.finop.umn.edu/cont.

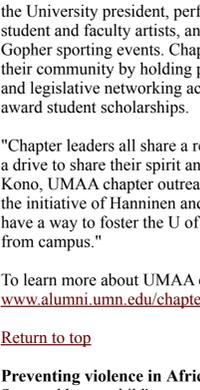
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Are you difficult?

From time to time, we all encounter what we consider difficult behavior in other people. But is it really them, or are we the problem? Lisa Dau, a counselor in the University of Minnesota's Employee Assistance Program, has some tips for understanding how you come across to other people.

If you find yourself answering "yes" to any of following, chances are someone will perceive you as difficult.

- * Do I interrupt?
- * Am I impatient?
- * Do I talk more than listen?
- * Do I lose my temper easily?
- * Am I argumentative?
- * Do I talk at people rather than with them?
- * Do I criticize people publicly?
- * Do I manipulate others?



The University's Employee Assistance Program provides free professional and personal problem-solving resources to U faculty and staff.

We often don't notice the reactions we generate in others or we misinterpret them. If you want to communicate more effectively in relationships, or if you want to prevent a friendship from going sour, ask people how they see or experience you. But make sure you do this with people who will be honest and with people you trust and respect. Then take what you learn and make some changes.

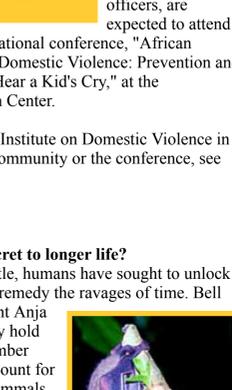
The University's Employee Assistance Program provides free professional and personal problem-solving resources to U faculty and staff. Services included referrals to legal, financial, and eldercare services; and workshops or one-on-one counseling on issues such as depression, job conflicts, and alcoholism. To learn more about the program, see www.umn.edu/ohr/eap.

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Of chapters and Finnish connections

What do Iceland, Poland, Singapore, and Morocco have in common? A University of Minnesota alumni chapter. On June 13, Finland will become another country with University alumni determined to nurture the University of Minnesota spirit miles from Gopherland.

Kuopio, a Minneapolis Sister City, will be home to the 66th University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) chapter. The Finnish chapter's inauguration will take place in the Minnesota Room at the University of Kuopio, and representatives from every major Finnish university will be on hand to sign the charter.



The signing of the founding document will take place at about 3 p.m. with a drop of wine and the chapter will get its temporary board," says founder Osmo Hanninen, a physiology professor and medical doctor in Finland. University of Kuopio Rector Matti Uusitup, who last year renewed a university sisterhood agreement with President Bob Bruininks, will preside over the event.

Most UMAA chapters are started by an enthusiastic alum, like Hanninen, who wants to network with other local alumni. Alumni seeking to start a chapter contact the UMAA outreach staff in Minneapolis, who will provide information about alumni in their area, a manual of chapter guidelines and processes, and administrative support.

Chapter leaders and their volunteer board members serve as ambassadors of the U and plan social and educational events for area alumni and friends. Events include visits by the University president, performances by University student and faculty artists, and viewing parties for televised Gopher sporting events. Chapters also play a vital role in their community by holding policy lectures, issue forums, and legislative networking activities. And some may also award student scholarships.

"Chapter leaders all share a real love for the University and a drive to share their spirit and pride in the U," says Chad Kono, UMAA chapter outreach director. "Now, thanks to the initiative of Hanninen and others, alumni in Finland have a way to foster the U of M spirit despite being so far from campus."

To learn more about UMAA chapters, see www.alumni.umn.edu/chapters.

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Preventing violence in African American homes

Stop and hear a child's cry, suggests the title of an upcoming conference hosted by the University of Minnesota's Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community.

In 1993, the institute was established as an outcome of a discussion by several African American scholars about domestic violence and its effects on their community. They concluded that victims of abuse in African American homes were not receiving adequate help because the policies and intervention strategies that were in place for domestic violence did not address the cultural needs of African American families. What was needed, believed the group, was an organization focused on identifying the most effective ways to prevent and reduce family violence among African Americans. The institute is housed in the U's School of Social Work.



The U of M's Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community presents: "African American Children and Domestic Violence: Prevention and Intervention--Stop and Hear a Kid's Cry," as part of their national conference June 5-6.

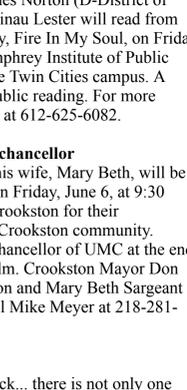
The institute publishes a seasonal newsletter, hosts public lectures, national conferences, and training forums; and provides resources and consultation services to local and national groups. More than 600 people, including social workers, foster parents, and law enforcement officers, are expected to attend the institute's June 5-6 national conference, "African American Children and Domestic Violence: Prevention and Intervention--Stop and Hear a Kid's Cry," at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

To learn more about the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community or the conference, see www.dvinstute.org.

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Could bats hold the secret to longer life?

Since the days of Aristotle, humans have sought to unlock the secrets of aging and remedy the ravages of time. Bell Museum graduate student Anja Brunet believes bats may hold that key. Bat species number more than 1,000 and account for one quarter of all the mammals on earth. With life spans of up to 30 years, bats outlive other small mammals by a substantial margin.



A camera-shy fruit bat from Costa Rica (Photo credit: Anja Brunet)

Brunet's research, which compared bats and shrews--a close relative of bats that live only one to two years--suggests that bat cells produce energy more efficiently and with only half as much of the harmful byproducts known as free radicals. Free radicals start reactions in the body that destroy DNA, protein, and cell membranes. This damage, scientists believe, is what leads to the degenerative effects of aging.



U graduate student Anja Brunet measures the wing length of a vampire bat in Mexico, where she conducted her master's degree research.

Another factor that distinguishes bats from shrews (and other mammals) is their ability to fly. "It is possible that flight is associated with longevity," says Brunet. Birds, like bats, are also remarkably long-lived, she adds. "Maybe the energy required for flight requires the most efficient mitochondria (cell structures that produce energy) and, in turn, reduces the free-radical damage that leads to aging." She also discovered that young bats, which don't yet fly, produce twice as many free radicals as flying adults.

"Ultimately," she says, "if we can get a handle on how individual cells age, we might be able to do something about Alzheimer's and other age-related diseases." Though such discoveries may be far in the future, Brunet hopes that her research will help lay the groundwork for such advances.

To learn more about Brunet's research, see www.bellmuseum.org/imprint.html. To meet Brunet and her bat, Reinaldo, see "Bats at the Bell" in the eNews Happenings section.

Edited from an original story by Jennifer Amie in Imprint, spring 2003.

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Looking to the past for small-town solutions

There are 853 cities in Minnesota, of which 727, or 85 percent, are small towns with less than 5,000 people. The Center for Small Towns at the University of Minnesota, Morris, is hosting a first-of-its-kind event to help small towns, such as Ronneby (population: 16) and Tenney (population: 6), battle declining revenues and a disappearing workforce.

"Rural Minnesota: A Century of Change," will bring together county commissioners and city managers, citizen action groups and extension educators to focus on the transformations and trends faced by rural towns in Minnesota between 1900 and 2000. The symposium will be held on June 10 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. and June 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the student center on the Morris campus. The public is invited to attend. "This is an excellent opportunity to both understand and celebrate small towns," says Roger McCann, center director. "We hope that the past century of change may guide us in the research, programs, and policies of the future." The Center for Small Towns is a community outreach program that links those involved in rural development or rural issues with appropriate U resources.

Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and U Regent Robert Bergland will give the keynote address, and five topic-specific sessions--each providing a historical analysis and a future outlook--will culminate in a panel discussion on the needs of small towns.

The registration fee is \$45, which includes lunch, admission to an exhibit, and a ticket to a concert by mandolinist and fiddler Peter Ostroushko on June 10 at UMM's Edson Auditorium. To register or for more information, call Barb Hesse at 320-589-6451 or see www.mrs.umn.edu/services/cst/symposium/index.htm.

To learn more about the Center for Small Towns, see www.mrs.umn.edu/services/cst.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Using math to understand the heart

The U's Institute for Mathematics and its Applications will host "Secrets of the Heart," a free public lecture on the use of mathematical models and computer animation to understand the processes of the human heart. The event is Thursday, June 5, at 7 p.m. in 2-650 Moos Tower on the Twin Cities campus. For more information, call 612-624-6066.

Biography of a congresswoman

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-District of Columbia) and author Joan Steinau Lester will read from the congresswoman's biography, Fire In My Soul, on Friday, June 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 301 19th Ave. S. on the Twin Cities campus. A book signing will follow the public reading. For more information, call Sue Finnegan at 612-625-6082.

Farewell reception for UMC chancellor

Chancellor Don Sargeant and his wife, Mary Beth, will be honored at a public reception on Friday, June 6, at 9:30 p.m., at the Northland Inn of Crookston for their contributions to UMC and the Crookston community. Sargeant is stepping down as chancellor of UMC at the end of June after 18 years at the helm. Crookston Mayor Don Osborne will declare June 6 Don and Mary Beth Sargeant Day. For more information, call Mike Meyer at 218-281-8434.

Music on the mall

Reggae, honky-tonk, classic rock... there is not only one music genre at the U's annual Summer Session at the Northrop. From Wednesday, June 4, to Wednesday, July 30, the U's Department of Concerts and Lectures will host free, outdoor concerts from noon to 1 p.m. on Northrop plaza on the Twin Cities campus. The modern jazz band Triplecite will kick off the series on June 4. For a complete concert schedule, see www.northrop.umn.edu or call 612-624-2345.

Bats at the Bell

From Sunday, June 8, to Sunday, August 31, you can explore a bat cave, try on a giant pair of bat ears, and learn about different bat species at the Bell Museum of Natural History on the Twin Cities campus. The museum's "Bats in My World" exhibit will also feature the latest in bat research. U bat researcher Anja Brunet and her bat, Reinaldo, will be at the "Bats in My World Opening Party" on June 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. Museum admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children ages 3-16. (Admission on June 12 is \$8 for adults and \$5 for Bell Museum members and children; reservation is required, call 612-624-9050.) For information about museum hours or location, see www.bellmuseum.org/hours.html.

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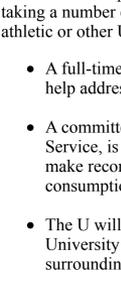
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U NEWS

University acts to discipline future rioters

For the first time, the University of Minnesota will be able to discipline its students who take part in off-campus celebratory riots, under a new anti-riot policy being presented to the U's Board of Regents tomorrow (June 13).



The proposed administrative policy prohibits students from inciting or participating in a riot "on campus, in areas proximate to campus, or in any location when the riot occurs in connection with or in response to a University-sponsored event." Students violating the policy will face sanctions, including expulsion, under the U's Student Conduct Code. Currently, the conduct code applies only to on-campus behavior.

"This policy sends a clear message to students that they will be held accountable for their actions," says President Bob Bruininks. "Rioting, disorderly conduct, and property damage are inconsistent with the values of this University and of our broader community, and we take this problem very seriously."

If approved by the board, the policy would take effect immediately.

In addition to expanding its disciplinary authority, the University is taking a number of other steps to prevent future violence related to athletic or other University-sponsored events:

- A full-time community liaison position has been created to help address student behavior off campus;
- A committee led by Ed Ehlinger, director of Boynton Health Service, is working on issues related to alcohol use and will make recommendations this fall to reduce excessive consumption and binge drinking;
- The U will co-host a national conference with Ohio State University next fall in Columbus, Ohio, on student conduct surrounding celebratory events;
- The U will participate in a student summit on promoting responsible celebrations, hosted by the University of New Hampshire, in September;
- The U will participate in a Michigan State University research project to explore issues surrounding off-campus parties. Participating institutions will appoint a research team of students, staff, university police, city police, and other community agencies to collect information and identify best practices next February;
- The U will communicate its expectations for students entering school this fall, and the sanctions for violating the new U policy will be outlined and applied through the Student Conduct Code.

The April 12 riot following the Gopher men's hockey team's national championship victory caused an estimated \$150,000 worth of damage to the Twin Cities campus and thousands of dollars in damage to private property in nearby neighborhoods.

So far, at least eight people have been charged in connection with the violence, five of those with felonies. The U has charged 12 students with disciplinary violations under the Student Conduct Code for on-campus behavior.

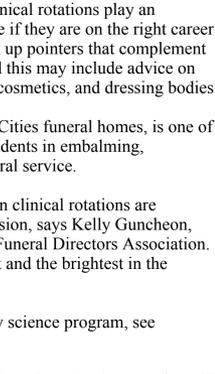
U police are still looking for several suspects. Pictures of suspects yet to be identified are posted at www.umn.edu/umpolice/help-td-2003.htm#new.

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Cycle of life

A mortuary isn't where most people would choose to spend their nights. But about 20 years ago, then-University of Minnesota student Richard Purcell found it met his needs. He paid no rent and got a hands-on education just for watching the place. Today, burglar alarms have largely eliminated live-in positions at funeral homes, but learning up-close remains vital to mortuary science.

Before fall 2001, students in the U's mortuary science department weren't required to spend time in the field until near the end of their two-year program. Now, they are plunged into the profession from day one, says department director Michael LuBrant. They must spend five hours a week at a licensed funeral home, crematorium, cemetery, or affiliated institution such as a hospice, hospital, morgue, or medical examiner's office. This change is part of the department's new community-based education initiative.



Traditionally, says LuBrant, mortuary science students have come from families already involved in funeral service. But in recent years, an increasing number of students entering the program have no background in the business, so clinical rotations play an important part in helping them decide if they are on the right career track. During rotations, students pick up pointers that complement and augment classroom learning, and this may include advice on flower arranging, wake preparation, cosmetics, and dressing bodies.

Purcell, now the owner of two Twin Cities funeral homes, is one of several practitioners mentoring U students in embalming, restoration, and other aspects of funeral service.

Funeral directors who host students in clinical rotations are investing in the future of their profession, says Kelly Guncheon, executive director of the Minnesota Funeral Directors Association. "They're interested in having the best and the brightest in the profession," she says.

To learn more about the U's mortuary science program, see www.med.umn.edu/mortsci.

Edited from an original story by Joel Hoekstra in Pictures of Health, summer 2002.

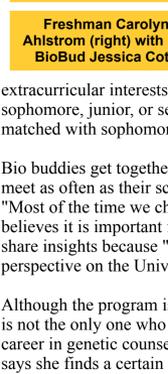
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From Fargo to Crookston: new chancellor at UMC

Sociologist Velmer Burton, Jr., has been named the new chancellor of the University of Minnesota, Crookston. His appointment, pending Board of Regents approval on June 13, comes as current Chancellor Don Sargeant returns to teaching after 18 years at the helm.



"Dr. Burton combines the leadership, vision, and energy that will serve the Crookston campus well in the coming years," says University President Bob Bruininks, who offered Burton the job after a months-long national search. "He also brings to the position significant experience and a record of achievement in higher education along with a strong scholarly background."



Velmer Burton, Jr., speaking at a public forum in Crookston during his bid for the position of UMC chancellor.

Burton, 40, who holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Cincinnati and an Ed.D. in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania, is Graduate School dean and sociology professor at North Dakota State University (NDSU) in Fargo. In his three years there, Burton has expanded student recruitment efforts and implemented numerous new graduate programs. Previously, he served as associate provost for graduate studies at Southeast Missouri State University and as a department head at Ferris State University. He has also held faculty positions at Washington State University-Pullman, Sam Houston State University, and Illinois State University.

"I am eager to work with President Bruininks, his administration team, and everyone at UMC to further develop initiatives that will build on the strong foundation left by Chancellor Don Sargeant," says Burton. "I believe UMC has a bright future, and I am excited to be a part of it."

During his tenure as chancellor, Sargeant guided the campus from a two-year college to a four-year institution that became the first in the nation to provide all its full-time students and faculty with a notebook computer. Sargeant is planning to take a yearlong sabbatical before rejoining the faculty. He has been a faculty member and administrator at UMC since 1970. To learn more about Sargeant's decision to step down, see www.crk.umn.edu/newsevents/notices01-02/SargStepDown.htm.

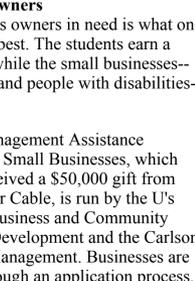
Editor's note: UMC will hold a press conference on Monday, June 16, at 10 a.m. in the Kiehle Building rotunda to introduce its new chancellor.

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Food at the office making you fat?

Glazed doughnuts at the breakfast meeting, pasta salad and bread for the lunch seminar, chocolate cake for a co-worker's birthday party... Uff da! Fortunately, faculty at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health have developed guidelines that may help you from piling on the pounds at work.

"There is an epidemic of obesity in our country," says Mary Story, epidemiology professor and co-author of the guidelines. "Two out of every three adults in the United States is overweight or obese. These guidelines will be a free and easy tool employers can use to encourage healthy eating habits at work."



Perhaps it's time to digest some healthier food options?

The guidelines offer healthier food options for office functions, compare healthful and unhealthful foods, and give caloric and fat information on popular foods and beverages. One of the seemingly obvious suggestions for healthy eating habits at work is not providing food at mid-morning or mid-afternoon meetings, presentations, and seminars. Yet, this recommendation, according to the U's Academic Health Center, has never been made before by nutrition experts. And it may be a hard one to follow, calling for a major cultural shift in some workplaces.

When it is necessary to serve food at work functions, the guidelines give specific recommendations on what should be offered. These include serving salads with dressings on the side; preparing sandwiches on whole grain breads; providing lean meats, poultry, and fish; and having fresh fruit, instead of fruit tarts or pies, for dessert.

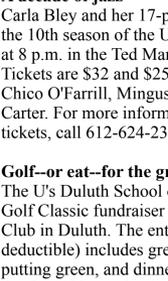
The U's workplace nutrition guidelines were developed based on food recommendations from the 2000 Dietary Guidelines for Americans by the U.S. health and human services and agriculture departments.

For a copy of the guideline, see www.ahc.umn.edu/ahc_content/colleges/sph/sph_news/Nutrition.pdf

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BioBuds: more than just friendly faces

Last fall, there were 46,734 students, 2,864 faculty members, and 250 buildings on the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, campus. And freshman Carolyn Ahlstrom. The genetics, cell biology, and development student credits the U's BioBuds program for making a massive campus less intimidating and for giving her an insider's view of her college.



Freshman Carolyn Ahlstrom (right) with her BioBuddy Jessica Cott.

BioBuds was created last year by the College of Biological Sciences (CBS) to connect its freshmen with upperclassmen who were more familiar with the college and the University in general. Incoming students get their chance to find a Bio buddy during summer orientation.

After filling out an online questionnaire, which asks for potential major, career plans, and extracurricular interests, each student is paired with a CBS sophomore, junior, or senior with similar interests. Ahlstrom was matched with sophomore Jessica Cott, who shares the same major.

Bio buddies get together at least once a month. Ahlstrom and Cott meet as often as their schedules allow and stay connected by e-mail. "Most of the time we chat over a cup of coffee," says Cott. She believes it is important for upperclassmen to mentor freshmen and share insights because "there's really nothing like getting a student's perspective on the University of Minnesota to help you get started."

Although the program is geared toward helping freshmen, Ahlstrom is not the only one who benefits from it. Cott, who is interested in a career in genetic counseling and has a mentor outside the program, says she finds a certain satisfaction in helping other people succeed, and "I know how important it is to have someone to talk to."

To learn more about the BioBuds program, see www.cbs.umn.edu/student-services/biobuds.

Edited from an original story by Justin Piehowski in BIO, spring 2003

Editor's note: To learn about other University efforts to create a friendlier place on its Twin Cities campus for first-year students, read "Transforming the Freshman Experience" in the spring issue of M at www.umn.edu/urelate/m.

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Cool cats and dogs

Dogs and cats cannot sweat like humans do to stay cool—they only have sweat glands on their paws. To avoid the summer heat, Spot and Puff most likely will pant and seek a shady place to cool themselves. Laurie Green, a vet at the University's College of Veterinary Medicine, has some pet care tips for when the temperature and humidity levels rise.

Buddy poses in the cool comfort of his air-conditioned home.

- If you keep your pet outdoors, make sure it has a place to get out of the sun and plenty of fresh water to drink. Your pet will need much more water in the summer to replenish what it loses by panting.
- Never keep your pet in a car, especially under direct sunlight. Even with the windows slightly open, the temperature inside the car can quickly soar to 120 degrees or more. These conditions can kill a pet in less than 10 minutes.

Hugo takes a moment to cool down in the shade of his backyard oasis.

- If you like to run or do vigorous exercises with your dog, do so at cooler times of the day such as the early morning or evening. If you exercise during hotter times of day, your dog will have difficulty cooling itself and could overheat quickly. And because your dog will probably try to keep up with you, you may not realize that it is overheating until its condition is severe. Another option is to soak your dog with water before exercising to help it stay cooler. This is especially important for longhaired or heavy-coated dogs. Dogs with very short hair have less trouble keeping themselves cool.
- A dog's normal body temperature is 100-102 degrees. If its temperature rises to 105 degrees, it is in danger of heat stroke. Likely symptoms of heat stroke in a dog are hard panting, very dark pink or reddish gums, and a body that is hot to the touch. If your dog shows these signs, immediately soak it with cool or cold water and take it to the nearest vet.

For more pet care tips, see the U's PetCARE Information Center at www.petcare.umn.edu.

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Students supporting small-business owners

Connecting students with small-business owners in need is what one University of Minnesota program does best. The students earn a stipend and gain real-life experiences, while the small businesses—run mostly by women, people of color, and people with disabilities—get free advice and technical support.

The U's Management Assistance Program for Small Businesses, which recently received a \$50,000 gift from Time Warner Cable, is run by the U's Office for Business and Community Economic Development and the Carlson School of Management. Businesses are selected through an application process, and interested MBA or professional students are assigned to a consulting team and matched with a business project. Services, which are provided based on a company's needs, include market research and analysis, marketing and business plan development, accounting, and information technology development.

Connie Frederick, owner of Gifted Baskets and GB Promotional Products in Tonka Bay, Minnesota, says the program provided her with services and expertise that her company couldn't afford. Three U students were asked to evaluate the company Web site and suggest changes.

"I was hesitant to try e-commerce," Frederick says. But her reluctance to sell her products over the Internet disappeared when her assigned consulting team presented a comprehensive evaluation that included the revenues Frederick could generate with different levels of financial investment. "They laid everything out," she says. "We really needed to get ourselves in a position where people could order online, and that's just what we're doing."

"It was good to collaborate with students who had different specialty areas," says Lakeesha Ransom, a Ph.D. student in human resource development and strategic management who worked on the project. "We were able to learn from each other and share our knowledge and skill sets." Ransom has also worked on three other projects under the management assistance program, and "I definitely feel like our work made a difference," she says. "Business owners were appreciative of the work we did for them."

To learn more about the U's Management Assistance Program for Small Businesses, see www.ced.umn.edu.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Of liposuction and silicon injections...

U bioethics professor Carl Elliott will discuss his new book *Better than Well* and the issue of medical enhancements on Tuesday, June 17, at 2 p.m. in U of M Bookstores at Coffman Union on the Twin Cities campus. A book signing and reception will follow. For a review of Elliott's book, which examines the American obsession with looking good, see "Better than Well" in the spring issue of *M* at www.umn.edu/urelate/m.

Are you ready for Harry?

The long-awaited fifth book in the Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, will be released nationally on June 21. Harry Potter fans can reserve a copy now at the U of M Bookstores and pick it up that Saturday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. from the Coffman Union store on the Twin Cities campus. To reserve your copy, which retails for \$29.99, see www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref. Fans who have the publisher's advanced sale reservation coupons can redeem them at the bookstore beginning June 21. For more information, call 612-625-6000.

Vampire on the Mississippi

A cast of 12 University of Minnesota theater arts and dance students will perform Bram Stoker's *Dracula* from June 20 to Aug. 23 on the Minnesota Centennial Showboat off of Harriet Island in St. Paul. This is the theater department's second season on the new showboat. Tickets are \$13-\$18, and performances are 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. For tickets or general information, call 651-227-1100.

A decade of jazz

Carla Bley and her 17-piece international jazz orchestra will launch the 10th season of the U's Northrop Jazz Series on Tuesday, July 1, at 8 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus. Tickets are \$32 and \$25. Other performers in this year's series are Chico O'Farrill, Mingus Big Band, David Krakauer, and Regina Carter. For more information about upcoming concerts or to order tickets, call 612-624-2345 or see www.northrop.umn.edu.

Golf—or eat—for the greater good

The U's Duluth School of Medicine will hold its seventh annual Golf Classic fundraiser on Monday, July 21, at Northland Country Club in Duluth. The entry fee of \$175 per person (\$55 is tax deductible) includes green and cart fees, use of the driving range and putting green, and dinner. Register by July 7; the event is limited to the first 100 people. And if golf is not your game, just come for dinner (\$35 per person) or sponsor a golfer for \$175. All proceeds go to the Medical Student Research Fund. To register or for more information, call Lori Isaacson at 218-726-7572 or e-mail lisaacson@d.umn.edu.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

[Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.](#)

[University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Your membership makes a difference.](#)

[U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.](#)

[University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page](#)

U of M eNews 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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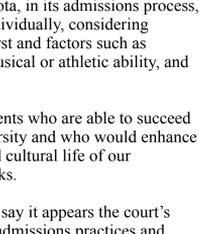
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U NEWS

U committed to diversity; president praises court decision

This week, University of Minnesota president Bob Bruininks praised the historic U.S. Supreme Court ruling in a challenge to the University of Michigan's use of race-conscious admissions policies.

"This is a very important decision that appears to afford a compelling state interest in creating a diverse student body and endorse the use of race as a factor, among many, in admissions decisions," said Bruininks. "The University of Minnesota has always been committed to diversity and to creating learning and living environments that incorporate a rich composite of experiences and perspectives."



In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court upheld the University of Michigan Law School's use of race as part of an individual review of each applicant's record and qualifications.

In a second decision, the court struck down the use of a "mechanical" point system that awarded undergraduate applicants extra points based on their race.

The University of Minnesota, in its admissions process, reviews each applicant individually, considering academic qualifications and factors such as leadership experiences, musical or athletic ability, and race secondarily.

"Our goal is to admit students who are able to succeed academically at the University and who would enhance the intellectual, social, and cultural life of our community," says Bruininks.

While University officials say it appears the court's decision supports current admissions practices and procedures, a thorough legal analysis of the decision will be conducted and U admissions policies and procedures will be reviewed to ensure they continue to conform to the law.

To learn more about the U's admissions policies, see <http://admissions.tc.umn.edu>.

For information about the U's Board of Regents policy on diversity, equal opportunity, and affirmative action, see www.umn.edu/regents/policies.html.

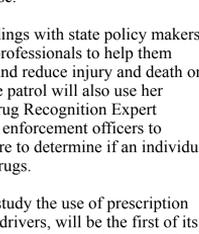
From the University of Minnesota News Service

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Bridging lab science and patient care with translational research

Every day, University of Minnesota researchers take basic scientific discoveries--like the breast cancer gene--investigate how to use them, and pass on their findings to help create new treatments or cures for diseases. This kind of work isn't new, but the name is--it's called translational research. Thanks to a private donor and the people of Minnesota, the new Translational Research Facility at the U will advance this important work.

Without translational research, scientific discoveries would languish on the lab bench and never make it to the bedside. University researcher Jeffery Miller, for example, explores the immune system's natural killer cells--NK cells for short--which cruise the bloodstream, attaching to foreign objects and killing them with exploding pods of poison. As a translational researcher, Miller investigated how NK cells develop and how they distinguish between friend (a person's own healthy cells) and foe (germs and cancer cells). He's now working to apply that knowledge to a practical problem: improving NK cells' ability to fight leukemia. Miller's work will then be used in clinical studies by actually introducing them into the blood stream of cancer patients.



The U's new facility, scheduled to open in 2005, was made possible by \$12.3 million from private sources and \$24.7 million from the state. This session the Legislature also approved funding for several other U building projects. The Translational Research Facility will include medical research lab and support space for 33 clinician-scientists and about 200 research staff from the Medical School and College of Pharmacy.

To read more examples of translational research at the U, see www.mmf.umn.edu/1_AboutMMF/section1.cfm?id=11.

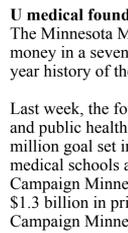
For information about other U projects approved by the Legislature in this year's capital bonding bill, see www.umn.edu/govrel.

Edited from an original story by Mary Hoff in Medical Bulletin, winter 2003.

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Driving and over-the-counter drugs

In 2002, an estimated 500 people were arrested for drug-impaired driving in Minnesota. Although most were found to be using illicit drugs, some were only taking prescription drugs. University of Minnesota professor Judith Garrard has been working with the Minnesota State Patrol to better understand how drug use may impair driving.



In 2001, the state patrol asked Garrard to conduct research based on more than 10 years of behavioral and toxicological records of people who had been arrested for driving under the influence (DUI). "The state patrol files were a potential gold mine," says Garrard. "We were able to get a grant from the U's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs to spend a year turning the administrative information into a research database."

Garrard will share her findings with state policy makers and transportation safety professionals to help them improve vehicular safety and reduce injury and death on Minnesota roads. The state patrol will also use her research to evaluate the Drug Recognition Expert program, which trains law enforcement officers to conduct a 12-step procedure to determine if an individual is under the influence of drugs.

Garrard's next project, to study the use of prescription drugs by elderly impaired drivers, will be the first of its kind in the nation. "As a result of our initial work with the state patrol, our research team became aware that no one has examined the role that prescription drugs play in impaired driving by elderly people," says Garrard. "We are especially concerned about the use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs--how they interact and how they potentially impact a driver's ability to react quickly."

To learn more about Garrard's work on drugs and driving, see www.hsr.umn.edu/People/regular/garrard/garrard.htm.

Edited from an original story by Kristin Stouffer in Division News, winter 2003.

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Staying sane while travelling with children

Before you shout out, "Don't make me stop this car!" read what Martha Farrell Erickson, University of Minnesota family social science professor, has to say about making road trips easier for young children.

- Dress children in loose, comfortable clothing and have a pillow and blanket for them to snuggle up with. Prepare a special bag of goodies for each child that includes their favorite snacks, beverages, small toys, books, and art supplies.
- Set clear and realistic expectations or "rules of the road." For example, let all family members know they must be strapped into their car seats or have their seatbelts on at all times. And let children know when you're pleased with their behavior.
- Plan surprises along the way. This can include pulling out a new book, game, or treat or making an unannounced stop at a roadside attraction.
- Mark the passing of time by breaking it into manageable chunks. Try an oven timer--set it for 20 minutes and let children know that when the bell rings it'll be time for a special treat.
- Take frequent breaks with opportunities to burn off energy, such as a 10-minute stop at a playground or a quick game of catch at a rest stop.
- Do less. Better to have a good time in a few places than to be miserable in many.

For more tips on parenting, see the University of Minnesota News Service "Growing Concerns" column at www.unews.umn.edu.

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U medical foundation breaks fundraising record

The Minnesota Medical Foundation has raised more money in a seven-year period than in the entire 100-plus-year history of the U's Medical School.

Last week, the foundation announced that its medical and public health fundraising effort surpassed its \$500 million goal set in 1995. This drive to benefit the U's medical schools and School of Public Health is part of Campaign Minnesota, the U-wide campaign to generate \$1.3 billion in private support for the University. Campaign Minnesota began in July 1996 and ends on June 30, 2003.

"The generosity of more than 60,000 benefactors during some difficult economic times says a great deal about the confidence people have in what the Academic Health Center is all about," says Frank Cerra, senior vice president for health sciences. "They believe, with good reason, that the U is where new therapies, preventions, and cures will be developed to improve the lives of generations to follow."

The effort has raised \$22 million for medical student scholarships and almost \$7 million for graduate medical education. It has helped establish 37 new endowed faculty positions, with an additional 16 chairs or professorships pledged through deferred gifts, and it has also raised money for many areas of medical investigation at the U. These include cancer research (more than \$50 million); research in neuroscience and disorders affecting the brain, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Lou Gehrig's disease, and muscular dystrophy (\$31 million); and research in children's health (\$29 million), diabetes (nearly \$12 million), and women's health (\$3.6 million).

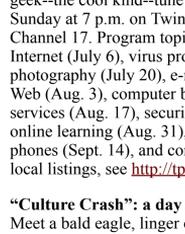
To learn more about the Minnesota Medical Foundation or Campaign Minnesota, which has raised more than \$1.6 billion, see www.mmf.umn.edu.

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Lawn signs welcome gophers

Gophers, once unwanted guests in anyone's lawn, are now being welcomed into the yards of homeowners thanks to a new lawn sign campaign launched by the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, athletics department.

More than 3,500 "Beware of Gophers (Dangerous During Football Season)" signs have already been distributed to Gopher football fans since April. "Our fans are looking forward to another successful season," says Betsi Sherman, athletics assistant director of marketing and sales. "We wanted to gain momentum early in a unique way and get people talking about Gopher football."



To provide added support for the campaign, the athletics department and the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) are cosponsoring the "Signs of Spirit" photo contest to find the most creative use of the sign. First prize includes a pair of tickets to the Minnesota vs. Iowa game, lodging in Cedar Rapids, and Gopher apparel. Second and third-prize winners will receive Homecoming game tickets and apparel packages. To learn more about the photo contest, see www.alumni.umn.edu/photocontest.

The free signs will be available through the 2003 football season on the Twin Cities arena at the U's Sports Marketing office in Mariucci Arena and the UMMAA office in the McNamara Alumni Center. They can also be picked up at major UMMAA and athletics events.

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Women recognizing women

Susan Hagstrum, wife of University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks, played a pivotal role in founding the Women's Philanthropic Leadership Circle at the U. On Monday (June 23), the group gave its first awards and introduced three scholarships.

The circle, a volunteer organization housed in the College of Education and Human Development, supports women in educational leadership by creating new pools of money. The circle currently has 35 members and membership is open to the public. Members have pledged to contribute \$3,000 over three years, and each year they will decide as a group where the funds should go in the college. To date, the group has raised \$75,000.

The group gave \$4,000 to the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport to support the revision, publication, and worldwide distribution of its 1998 research report, "Physical Activity and Sport in the Lives of Girls 18 and Under"; \$2,000 was awarded to the Mary McEvoy Fund that supports early childhood research and outreach; and \$1,000 was given to the Urban Leadership Academy to fund up to five summer institute scholarships.

The circle also introduced three new scholarships, which it will present this fall. The Women's Philanthropic Leadership Award will be given to a U alumna who has contributed outstanding leadership or made significant contributions to charitable organizations; the Women's Philanthropic Leadership Circle Rising Star Award will go to a female junior faculty member in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) whose work holds great promise for the future; and the Women's Philanthropic Leadership Graduate Scholarship Award will be presented to a current CEHD female graduate student who demonstrates academic promise and leadership ability.

To learn more about the circle or to nominate someone for an award, call 612-625-1310.

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Polishing prose

Every writer's dream is to create stories that move people. But often, writers--from beginners to professionals--struggle with the words, not quite able to make their stories sparkle the way they envisioned. This is where the University of Minnesota's new Online Mentoring for Writers comes in.

From the convenience of their home and via a specialized Web site, writers can get thoughtful reading and honest insights from professional writer-teachers based around the country. "I do believe that the kind of serious, sustained attention a mentor gives to a student's work can make a huge difference," says Jim Moore, a nationally known poet who is one of 13 creative writers on the mentoring faculty. "It is a great pleasure, something of a luxury as a teacher, to be able to focus one's attention on one student and be able to tailor one's responses to that student's needs."

The U's online mentoring course was created by the U's College of Continuing Education and is offered through its Split Rock Arts Program.

Interested writers must submit a work in progress and goals for their writing as part of the no-obligation groundwork exchange. A mentor will review the work and provide feedback. If the writer decides to continue with the mentor, they commit to a longer relationship. The cost of participating in this course will vary with the amount of time a mentor spends with a writer. Writers may choose their own mentor or have the Split Rock Arts program staff match them with one.

"[You] don't need a lot of exotic experience or deep background [to enter this mentoring relationship]," says nonfiction author Myrna Kostash, a mentor in the course. "You do need intense curiosity, deep reading, and the capacity to reflect on what you've just seen or heard or read or felt."

For more information about the U's Split Rock Arts Program Online Mentoring for Writers, see <http://mentoring.cce.umn.edu> or call 612-625-8100.

Edited from an original story by Elizabeth Turchin in c.e.e. times, summer 2003.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS**Korean treasures**

A group of professional performers from Korea will share 5,000-year-old dance, instrumental, and vocal traditions on Saturday, June 28, at 7 p.m. in Coffman Memorial Union Theater on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for Weisman Art Museum members, students, and seniors). For tickets, call the museum at 612-625-9495 or the Korean Association of Minnesota at 763-560-0404.

Time to talk tech

For a series of lessons guaranteed to turn you into a geek--the cool kind--tune in to the U's "Tech Talk" every Sunday at 7 p.m. on Twin Cities Public Television Channel 17. Program topics are connecting to the Internet (July 6), virus protection (July 13), digital photography (July 20), e-mail (July 27), browsing the Web (Aug. 3), computer breakdown (Aug. 10), online services (Aug. 17), security and privacy (Aug. 24), online learning (Aug. 31), digital music (Sept. 7), cell phones (Sept. 14), and computer games (Sept. 21). For local listings, see <http://tpt.org>.

"Culture Crash": a day at the U

Meet a bald eagle, linger over clothing from the 1800s or a Georgia O'Keefe painting, and meander through 1,000 acres of natural landscape. The U's first "Culture Crash" tour on Friday, July 11, and Saturday, July 12, at 9 a.m. will take visitors to the U's Raptor Center, Goldstein Museum of Design, Bell Museum of Natural History, Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The one-day guided tour costs \$20, which includes admission fees, transportation, and lunch. Space is limited. To reserve a spot or for more information, call Nichole Neuman at 612-626-5302 or e-mail neuma035@umn.edu.

Hang out with raptors

On Thursday evenings through Aug. 14, The Raptor Center will host Family Fun Nights from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 1920 Fitch Ave. in St. Paul. In addition to raptor feedings, facility tours, and guitar music by The Jersey Boys, this free event will feature presentations on wildlife photography (July 10), raptor rescue and treatment (July 17), wildlife sketching (July 24), falconry (July 31), raptor conservation (Aug. 7), and eagle folklore in Native American culture (Aug. 14). To participate, call 612-624-4745 or see www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu.

Speak and they will listen

The U's College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences will hold "Listening Sessions" this summer to find out what the public thinks of its new direction and goals. The sessions will be July 8 at Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Crookston; July 9 at North Central Research and Outreach Center, Grand Rapids; July 15 at West Central Research and Outreach Center, Morris; July 16 at Northwest Research and Outreach Center, Lambert; July 17 at Southern Research and Outreach Center, Waseca; July 21 at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska; July 24 on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul; and Aug. 5 at the Minnesota Rural Summit in Mankato. To register or learn more about the sessions, see www.Coafes.umn.edu/listen.

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U NEWS

Board of Regents to consider new weapons policy

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents is expected to review and act on a new policy to ban weapons from the U's campuses and events at its meetings today (June 10) and tomorrow.

The proposed policy would prohibit students, most U employees, and visitors from carrying or possessing a weapon while on University property, which includes all U-owned or leased facilities (including the Metrodome when used for Gopher football games). It expands on an existing prohibition that bans students from having weapons on campus. The proposed policy was drafted in response to Minnesota's new conceal and carry law that went into effect May 28, which made it easier to get a permit to carry a gun.

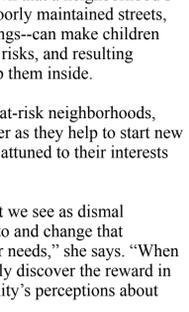
"It is commonly understood that our classrooms, laboratories, student centers, and athletic and event venues are no place for weapons," says U president Bob Bruininks. "This proposed policy is an approach that reflects longstanding norms and practices."

For the complete Board of Regents meeting agenda, see www.umn.edu/regents.

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Asking the play experts: children

The first thing Corliss Outley does when she begins gathering research data on inner city play habits is choose a location, usually a park, and recruit kids who are hanging out in the area to be her assistants.



Corliss Outley (second from left) with some of her students at the U. Photo by Diana Watters.

Outley wants to discover how children's activities are influenced by the state of their neighborhood and how the neighborhood is shaped by them. "I talk to the kids who are there and say, 'I want you to be my research assistants. I want you to talk to other kids and give me a report. Do a survey, you know? Find out what kinds of activities your friends like best, what afterschool programs there are, what things they'd like to change about their neighborhood,'" explains Outley, assistant professor of recreation and parks studies at the University of Minnesota.

Previous studies by other researchers have shown that a neighborhood's ecological and social risks--dangerous areas, poorly maintained streets, uncollected piles of garbage, abandoned buildings--can make children fearful, angry, and anxious, says Outley. These risks, and resulting feelings, can limit children's activities and keep them inside.

By using children to explore new solutions for at-risk neighborhoods, Outley gives the kids a sense of their own power as they help to start new park and neighborhood activities that are more attuned to their interests and abilities.

"The children are showing us that, despite what we see as dismal conditions, they are resilient and able to adapt to and change that environment, however marginally, to meet their needs," she says. "When they're given the chance to do this, they not only discover the reward in this kind of work, but they change the community's perceptions about youth and their place in the world."

Outley is just beginning a new study that will examine how the use of public parks and recreation services is related to the health of older adults.

To learn more about Outley and her research, see www.education.umn.edu/KLS/faculty/coutley.htm.

Edited from an original story by Peggy Rader in Link, summer 2003.

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U professor dances to inspire social change

Artist and activist Ananya Chatterjea, assistant professor of dance at the University of Minnesota, uses her body as an instrument to tell stories about violence against women.

Editor's note: The following is edited from "Body Language," a story in Chatterjea's words published in the July-August 2003 issue of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association magazine.

Violence against women exists all over the world in different forms--some obvious, some subtle--but the violence is everywhere. It is like a many-headed serpent; you get rid of one head and another grows in its place. I do political theater, using dance to tell ordinary stories about ordinary people and to address this violence. It is my life's work, and I pour my heart and soul into it.

I was born in India and began studying classical dance before I was 5. At the University of Minnesota, I teach dance history and philosophy and aesthetics. My choreography and my scholarship focus on how being an artist might enrich [my students'] lives and expose them to different ideas.

I also am the artistic director for Women in Motion, a company of South Asian artists who create political theater and perform in community-based and other artistic forums. It's important for me to connect with women of color by involving them in projects I do about self-esteem and performance, dancing about their issues.

It's an amazing experience. Sometimes there is rejection [by these women]. They might think, "Who do you think you are to dance about my life?" One woman in Toronto said, "I was angry with you during the performance, because you were forcing me to think about things I didn't want to think about." But another woman said, "My own life flashed before my eyes. Thank you; I don't have to be ashamed about this."

To read the full story, see www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota.

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HIV and AIDS research at the U

A recent \$3 million National Institutes of Health grant will allow University of Minnesota researchers to further study the effects of the HIV virus on the immune system. The researchers hope to improve treatment for some HIV and AIDS patients who do not respond to current treatments.

Last year, the researchers, led by U associate professor of medicine Timothy Schacker and Regents Professor of Microbiology Ashley Haase, discovered a new way in which HIV erodes the immune system. They demonstrated that HIV caused chronic inflammation and fibrosis in a part of the lymph nodes called the T cell zone. Even when HIV-infected people are undergoing aggressive drug therapies, this damage can prevent their immune system from improving.

"Currently, most treatment strategies for HIV and AIDS focus on stopping the virus from replicating itself in the body, which is essential to begin the process of healing and repairing of the immune system," explains Schacker, who is the principal investigator. "But it does not happen for everyone, and we believe this may be due to the structural damage."

The study will recruit 30 HIV-positive individuals and involve sampling the participants' lymph nodes at specific intervals over three years. "In the current clinical study, we hope to find out if measuring the amount of fibrosis [and scarring] in lymph nodes will enable physicians to more accurately stage the disease and predict the response to standard therapies," Schacker says.

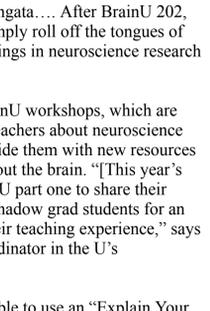
To learn more about findings from last year's HIV and AIDS study, see www.umn.edu/urelate/newservice/newsreleases/02_10AHCshacker.html.

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Bringing life to drawings

In a matter of hours, intricate one-dimensional drawings of F-16 fighter jet parts, bridges, window hinges, and chess pieces can be turned into actual objects--something you can pick up and examine. The new rapid prototyping machines at the University of Minnesota, Duluth (UMD), are erasing the days of having to build 3-D models by hand.

The ability to make parts and prototypes faster than ever before is an attractive lure for businesses that regularly change their designs and for industries needing machine replacement parts that are no longer available, explains Mike Lulich, director of UMD's Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI). The Northern Lights Technology Center--home of the new prototyping machines--is located in NRRI. The machines are able to produce prototypes using a new technology. One machine heats epoxy and acrylic resins to create any imaginable shape. Another forms 3-D shapes out of plastic or metal powder. And yet another fashions the models out of cornstarch, plaster, or ceramic-based raw materials. These machines were purchased with a \$776,400 grant NRRI received from the national Economic Development Administration.



General Pattern president Denny Reiland (left) talks about the possibilities of rapid prototyping with Don Fosnacht, lead investigator at UMD's new Northern Lights Technology Center.

Lulich says forming this relationship with General Pattern gives NRRI and the U another venue for promoting economic development in Minnesota.

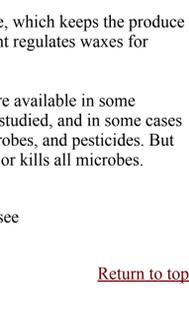
To learn more about the Northern Lights Technology Center and its services, call Don Fosnacht, principal investigator of the center, at 218-720-4282. For more information about NRRI, see www.nrri.umn.edu.

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Birds, the law, and Bell Museum

In February, Doris Rubenstein found a sharp-shinned hawk at an intersection in Richfield, Minnesota. It appeared to be roadkill, judging by its location and injuries. Realizing that the bird might be a useful addition to the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum collections, Rubenstein brought the hawk to U ornithologist Bob Zink.

When Zink examined the hawk, he discovered that it had not been killed by a car but by a gunshot. "When I prepared the bird, a pellet from an air rifle fell out," says Zink, who also located the beak of a house sparrow in its stomach. "These hawks eat other birds, and that's why some people don't like them."



U ornithologist Bob Zink adding a bird to the Bell Museum's scientific collections.

As curator of birds, Zink works to educate the public about regulations protecting Minnesota's birds. "Many people are unaware that it is against state and federal law to have in your possession any part of a bird--including feathers, eggs, and nests," he says. The only exceptions are house (English) sparrows, European starlings, pigeons (rock doves), and game birds shot legally during hunting season. The maximum penalty for killing any other bird, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is a \$15,000 fine or up to six months in jail, or both.

It is, however, legal to turn over birds that you find to the Bell Museum. Zink and other museum curators have special permits from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources that allow them to accept bird, egg, and nest specimens salvaged by others.

The hawk that Rubenstein brought in has become a valuable part of the museum's scientific collections, which are used by researchers around the world. "A museum collection is a rare reference collection in a library," says Zink. "Each specimen is like a book providing information we need to protect birds, such as where and when species occur, what their habitats are, what they eat, and their breeding condition." The Bell Museum's bird collection, which dates back to the 1870s, contains 50,000 specimens.

This summer, Zink is advising members of the public not to pick up any dead birds because of the likelihood that they may be infected with the West Nile virus. "Unless you're sure they've died in a collision with a car or with a window [don't touch it], or, at the very least, use gloves," he says.

To learn more about the museum's scientific collections, see www.bellmuseum.org/collections.

Edited from an original story by Jennifer Amie in Imprint, spring 2003.

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Campaign Minnesota: \$1.62 billion and counting...

June 30 marked the official end of the University of Minnesota's seven-year fundraising campaign. The initial Campaign Minnesota goal of \$1.3 billion was reached more than a year ago in April 2002, and over the past 12 months the total has grown to \$1.62 billion. The final numbers will be released in September.

Since the campaign began in 1996, nearly 85,000 alumni--representing almost 40 percent of all donors--have made gifts to the U. More than 11,000 faculty and staff members also gave generously, reflecting their commitment to the University. Overall, 217,000 people and organizations have made gifts, and 330 of these gifts were \$1 million or more.

Not all of this money is available to meet immediate needs. Ninety-eight percent of the gifts are designated by donors for specific purposes--such as the U's endowment fund which invests the principal for the future and pays out about five percent each year for ongoing needs--and about half of the contributions are pledges or future commitments such as bequests. A University-wide priority for scholarship support, for example, remains an on-going and vital need for which the University must continue to raise private funds.

To learn how Campaign Minnesota gifts have and will have an impact on students, research, faculty, and outreach at the U, see www.giving.umn.edu. This new University Web site also provides an opportunity for more convenient online giving.

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BrainU: making brain study fun

Cerebellum, corpus callosum, medulla oblongata.... After BrainU 202, the names of these parts of the brain will simply roll off the tongues of middle-school teachers. Even the latest findings in neuroscience research will come easy.

BrainU 202 (July 21-25) builds on past BrainU workshops, which are designed to inform middle-school science teachers about neuroscience and its health-related issues, as well as provide them with new resources and creative ways to teach their students about the brain. "This year's BrainU will allow teachers who took BrainU part one to share their successes, learn more about neuroscience, shadow grad students for an afternoon, and work on skills to enhance their teaching experience," says Carrie MacNabb, community outreach coordinator in the U's neuroscience department.

BrainU 202 workshop participants will be able to use an "Explain Your Brain" exhibit and a BrainU Trunk resource kit during the coming school year. They will also get University of Minnesota course credit for their time in BrainU.

"[I'd like to see] middle school students become intrigued by what their brains do and how the brain works," says MacNabb. "Our hope is that students will be excited about science and consider it as a potential career."

BrainU is part of a 5-year, \$1.5 million project--Bringing Resources, Activities, and Inquiry in Neuroscience (BRAIN) to Middle Schools--by the U's Department of Neuroscience and the Science Museum of Minnesota. Last year, 22 teachers from Minnesota and Wisconsin signed up for the workshop, which included making field trips to the museum, studying worms under a microscope, surfing the Internet for neuroscience resources, and making neuron models out of giant beads. BrainU 101 will run again next summer.

To learn more about BrainU or other programs in the BRAIN to Middle School project, see www.neurosci.umn.edu/brainscience.html.

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Clean your fruits and veggies

Before you reach for your next apple, carrot, or leafy green, read what the University of Minnesota Extension Service has to say about washing fresh produce.

- Whether produce comes from your garden or from the store, wash it just before serving. Since fresh produce has a natural protective coating to retain moisture and freshness, washing it well ahead of when you plan to eat or cook it will cause it to spoil faster.
- Rub fruits and vegetables briskly with your hands under running water to remove dirt and surface microorganisms. Discard the outer layer of leafy vegetables such as lettuce and cabbage before washing. You can use a vegetable brush to scrub produce with a firm skin or hard rind like carrots, potatoes, melons, or squash.
- Always wash squash and melons, even if you don't eat the rind or skin, because dirt or bacteria on the outer surface can be transferred to the flesh when you cut it.
- Don't wash produce with detergent or bleach solutions. Fruits and vegetables are porous and can absorb these chemicals, which if consumed could make you sick.
- Waxes are applied to help retain moisture, which keeps the produce firm and crisp. Since the U.S. government regulates waxes for safety, they are not harmful if eaten.
- Commercial produce sprays or washes are available in some supermarkets. These are currently being studied, and in some cases may help remove some soil, surface microbes, and pesticides. But no washing method completely removes or kills all microbes.

To learn more about food safety and nutrition, see www.extension.umn.edu/topics.html?topic=6.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Saxophone congress

Almost 1,000 saxophonists from around the world have converged on the U's Twin Cities campus for the 13th World Saxophone Congress (July 9-13). For some saxophone action, catch the following at the Ted Mann Concert Hall in Minneapolis: The World Saxophone Congress Orchestra, which includes members of the Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, will perform today (July 10) and Saturday, July 12, at 7:30 p.m.; and the Belgian Royal Air Force Band will play on Friday, July 11, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 (\$15 for students). For more information or to buy a ticket, call 612-624-2345.

Supporting the Bulldogs

The University of Minnesota, Duluth, athletics department is hosting the 2003 Malosky Open fundraiser on July 31 at the U's Les Bolstad Golf Course at 227 West Larpenteur Ave. in St Paul. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with tee-off at 1 p.m. A social, dinner, and short program will follow at 6 p.m. The cost is \$125 (or \$30 for dinner only). Proceeds will benefit the UMD James Malosky Endowment Fund. To register, call Paula Le Blanc at 218-726-6341 or e-mail pleblanc@d.umn.edu.

Wear your beads to belly dancing

This summer, learn how to make bead jewelry, and then wear your creations to your belly-dancing class. The U's Twin Cities Student Unions Programs and Activities Committee is offering classes to the public in jewelry making (July 14), knitting (July 14 and 28), Middle Eastern belly dancing (July 31-Aug. 14), and photography (July 19-Aug. 9). Classes are \$12-\$42 and taught by instructors from the U and the local community. To learn more or to register, see www.spcc.umn.edu/minicourses/add.php.

To good books

The U's College of Continuing Education is offering a two-day program on "Building a Better Book Club" Thursday, July 17, from 4 to 7 p.m. and Friday, July 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Earle Brown Center on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. Essayist Mickey Pearlman will discuss ways to choose books and authors, how to facilitate the group interaction, and how to focus a club's reading selections. Registration is \$175 (\$125 for U alumni). For more information or to register, call 612-625-7777.

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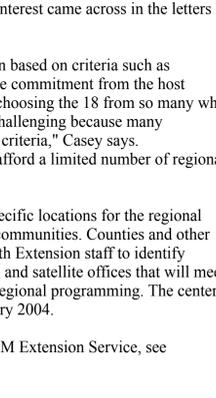
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U NEWS

Serving Minnesotans through regional centers
 On Monday, July 21, the University of Minnesota Extension Service named 18 Minnesota communities as regional Extension centers. These new centers, replacing county offices, will allow the University's research and resources to continue to be available to citizens across the state.

The centers will be located in Albert Lea, Andover, Brainerd, Cloquet, Crookston, Farmington, Fergus Falls, Grand Rapids, Hutchinson, Mankato, Marshall, Moorhead, Mora, Morris, Rochester, Roseau, St. Cloud, and Wroughton.



"After careful consideration and significant consultation, we picked these communities as sites for regional centers because they create a network to ensure all Minnesotans have access to Extension," says Chuck Casey, Extension dean and director.

Each center will house five to ten University employees, who will be part of the statewide system that provides educational programs and services to address critical issues in Minnesota.

The University began shifting its Extension Service to a regional system last spring in response to state budget reductions and requests from counties for more flexibility in how they contract for extension services. More than 100 letters were received from communities interested in becoming a regional center location.

"A great deal of passion and interest came across in the letters we received," says Casey.

The communities were chosen based on criteria such as geographic location and active commitment from the host community. "The process of choosing the 18 from so many who expressed interest was very challenging because many communities met most of the criteria," Casey says. "Unfortunately, we can only afford a limited number of regional centers."

U officials will now select specific locations for the regional centers within the identified communities. Counties and other local partners are working with Extension staff to identify programs, services, positions, and satellite offices that will meet local needs and enhance the regional programming. The centers are expected to open in January 2004.

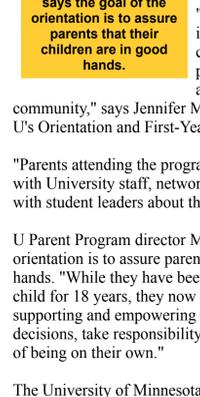
To learn more about the U of M Extension Service, see www.extension.umn.edu.

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Playing fetch and catching bad guys

The University of Minnesota police department's newest officer is one-and-a-half and loves to play--but he's all business when he's on the beat. Meet Ben, a German shepherd from the Netherlands, at the Minnesota State Fair on Friday, Aug. 22.

Ben became the police department's (UMPD) first K-9 officer at a swearing-in ceremony on June 27. Ben and his partner, Officer Andy Panek, completed 12 weeks of training at the St. Paul Police Department earlier this year. The training covered such areas as obedience, tracking, and agility. In the fall, they will return for a course on detecting explosives.



The University Police Canine Unit began in June 2003. "Ben," UMPD's first ever four-legged officer is a male German Shepherd who was born in December 2001. Ben was imported from the Netherlands and in February 2002 he was assigned to his handler, Officer Andrew Panek.

One of the biggest benefits Ben has brought to the UMPD is efficiency. "I can go into a building with Ben and [check that it's safe] in less than the time it might take four or five officers to do the same job," explains Panek, a five-year veteran of UMPD. And Ben also has public relations value. "I can't stand on the corner with Ben for more than a minute without someone coming up and wanting to talk," says Panek.

So how does Ben handle his newfound celebrity status?

"He loves it," says Panek. "He's very social and very friendly. He can be aggressive on command, but otherwise he's soaking up the attention."

Ben and Panek patrol the U's Twin Cities campus between 6 p.m. and 3 a.m., and also spend a lot of time together away from work. Ben lives with Panek to facilitate the bonding between the partners. In Ben's spare time, he's like any other youngster--he loves playing fetch.

"I throw the ball, and he brings it back," says Panek. "I think he'd do that until he passed out, if I kept throwing it. He has a very high play drive, which is the key to a good police dog. When we're searching for a bad guy, he thinks it's a game."

The U's Canine Unit will appear on the U of M Stage at the Minnesota State Fair on Friday, Aug. 22, at noon.

To learn more about the U's police department, see www.umn.edu/umpolice. For a list of U-related State Fair events, including Maroon and Gold Day on Aug. 24, see www.umn.edu/statefair.

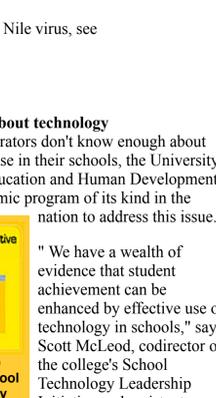
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The "Father of the University" gets a face-lift

The bronze statue of the University of Minnesota's first major donor, and the man credited with saving the U from closure in its early years, received a new pair of glasses and a thorough cleaning during its first face-lift in more than a century.

Since 1900, the John Sargent Pillsbury statue has stood on Pillsbury Drive in the heart of the U's Twin Cities campus. It was created by Daniel Chester French, the sculptor responsible for the marble statue of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. The U's monument to Pillsbury was refurbished in the name of the Presidents Club and privately funded by the University of Minnesota Foundation.



A welder works on a new pair of spectacles for John Sargent Pillsbury. Photo by Amirali Raissnia.

"This seems an appropriate way [at the end of Campaign Minnesota] to celebrate private support to the University," said Gerald Fischer, president and chief executive officer of the U of M Foundation. "In 1889, John Sargent Pillsbury made the first documented gift to the U--\$150,000 to build Pillsbury Hall."

Thus began a tradition of giving that, in 1963, led to creation of the John Sargent Pillsbury Fellowship honoring donors of \$10,000 or more. The fellowship was renamed the Presidents Club in 1977.

Pillsbury was a hardware merchant who served five terms as a Minnesota state senator and three terms as governor. He was appointed to the U's Board of Regents in 1863 and elected board president. He is recognized by many as the father of the University, largely for his efforts in the 1860s to rescue the U from debt and ensure its status as a land-grant university.

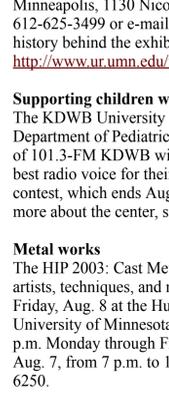
The restoration of the statue was managed by the U's Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, which oversees all public art on the Twin Cities campus. Shelly Willis, museum coordinator, said the project is significant because the statue was made by "one of the great American sculptors" and it is the oldest piece of public art at the U. The project included removing corrosion, insect cocoons, dirt and grime from the bronze; welding a pair of bronze eyeglasses into the statue's right hand; and creating a plan to ensure the statue doesn't go another century without regular maintenance.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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U parents get oriented

New students at the University of Minnesota aren't the only ones attending summer orientation to get adjusted to life on campus--their parents are, too.



U Parent Program director Marjorie Savage says the goal of the orientation is to assure parents that their children are in good hands.

About 3,500 parents of first-year students have attended orientation with their children this summer. They spend the first few hours together before going their separate ways for different sessions. Parents also have the choice of attending an evening program, which includes a dinner at Coffman Memorial Union and a trolley tour of Minneapolis.

"The orientation is designed to offer insights into the adjustments new college students undergo and to help parents feel more knowledgeable about the University of Minnesota community," says Jennifer Milleville, assistant director of the U's Orientation and First-Year Programs.

"Parents attending the program have the opportunity to meet with University staff, network with other parents, and speak with student leaders about their college experiences."

U Parent Program director Marjorie Savage says the goal of the orientation is to assure parents that their children are in good hands. "While they have been supporting and protecting their child for 18 years, they now [have to] make the change to supporting and empowering their students to make their own decisions, take responsibility, and work through the challenges of being on their own."

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) is offering parents who join UMAA during the summer orientation a free student membership for their child. Parents do not have to be U alumni to become members. Benefits of the 2-for-1 membership include discounts on arts and athletic events, U of M Bookstore merchandise, and hotel lodging. To learn more about the UMAA membership offer, see www.alumni.umn.edu/parentstudent.

To learn more about the U's Parent Program, see www.parent.umn.edu. To register for an orientation session, see www.ofyp.umn.edu.

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Chemical soup: U expert uses computers to predict toxicity

Understanding how chemicals behave when they're mixed together, and then predicting how those blends affect human and ecological health, is what Subash Basak does best. But instead of testing his hypotheses on lab animals or in test tubes, this University of Minnesota predictive toxicologist uses a computer.

Basak has designed a software program to create computer models of individual chemicals. "Basically, we look at the properties of each chemical in a mixture to predict how they will act together," explains Basak, who works in the Natural Resources and Research Institute (NRRI) at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. "Like with chicken noodle soup. If we know what chicken tastes like and we know what noodles taste like, we can predict what the soup tastes like."

Subash Basak examining a stick model of a chemical compound.

One of the biggest advantages of the in silico (in the computer) is its cost-effectiveness, says Basak. Testing one chemical for cancer with lab animals can cost approximately \$5 million, and with test tubes and petri dishes, it would cost \$200,000. But by using a computer program like Basak's, a toxicity study on a chemical costs only about one cent.

Earlier this year, NRRI received two federal grants totaling \$1.6 million to use Basak's skills and computer modeling program in real-world applications. The Center for Disease Control wants to understand the toxicity of more than a thousand Superfund sites across the country and the U.S. Air Force is interested in learning the toxic effects of jet fuel, including JP-8 that comprises about 2,000 different chemicals.

A big task is at hand, but Basak is prepared. He has assembled a "virtual team" of more than 50 scientists from around the world to work with him via computer on both projects. "Predictive toxicology is something I've been working on for the past 25 years," says Basak. "But I don't want to sit in a lab doing endless basic research. I want to see it applied. These are real-world problems being solved with theoretical ideas in a cost-effective way."

Edited from an original story by June Kallestad in NRRI Now.

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Mosquitoes are biting

Last summer, 992 horses, 342 birds, and 48 humans with the West Nile virus were reported to the Minnesota Department of Health. This summer, as of July 18, three horses, six birds, and one man have tested positive. University of Minnesota extension educator Chuck Schwartau has tips to reduce your risk of infection.

While West Nile virus can be deadly for horses and birds, the risk for humans is generally low.

Because West Nile is a viral disease transmitted to people and horses through a bite from an infected mosquito, the best thing you can do is minimize mosquito bites.

- Avoid going outside at dusk and dawn, which are peak feeding times for many mosquitoes.
- Use a mosquito repellent.
- Apply it to your clothes or on your skin but only enough to lightly cover the desired areas.
- Do not treat children with a product containing more than 15 percent DEET.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when you're in areas where mosquitoes are biting.
- Remove empty containers, old tires, and other objects that can hold water. These serve as breeding sites for mosquitoes.
- Contact your vet, if you own a horse, for vaccine recommendations. There is currently no vaccine for humans.

While West Nile virus can be deadly for horses and birds, the risk for humans is generally low. Most people who are bitten by an infected mosquito will experience either no symptoms or may, three to five days after being bitten, sustain a mild, flu-like illness that typically lasts a few days. But if you experience symptoms of a more serious nature, such as high fever, stiff neck, tremors, and paralysis, see a doctor immediately. A small percentage of people, especially elderly adults, may develop encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) and about 13 percent of these cases are fatal.

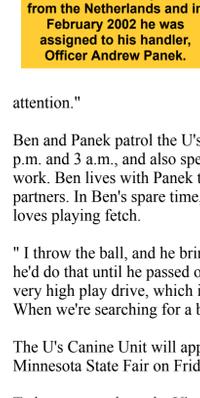
Learn more about the West Nile virus by visiting the College of Veterinary Medicine homepage www.cvm.umn.edu.

To learn more about the West Nile virus, see www.cvm.umn.edu.

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School leaders know little about technology

Because many K-12 administrators do not know enough about technology to put it to good use in their schools, the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development has developed the first academic program of its kind in the nation to address this issue.



The \$2.4 million initiative involves the University, school districts, major technology corporations such as Microsoft, and other groups.

"We have a wealth of evidence that student achievement can be enhanced by effective use of technology in schools," says Scott McLeod, codirector of the college's School Technology Leadership Initiative and assistant professor of educational policy and administration.

"What we don't have is a critical mass of school leaders who know how to make this happen."

McLeod explains that with technology, administrators can make data-driven decisions that improve education and, in turn, improve student performance. For example, by reviewing student information in databases, administrators can learn what remedial reading programs works best for a particular group of kids. Without computers, administrators would have to rely on hunches or anecdotal evidence to find the best curriculum. Through this initiative, school leaders will also realize the importance of investing more in technology support.

"Schools underpay and overwork tech support people," McLeod says. In business, there is typically one tech support person for every 50 to 100 computers. School districts average one tech support person for every 350 to 400 computers.

The \$2.1 million initiative involves the University, school districts, major technology corporations such as Microsoft, and other groups such as the International Society for Technology in Education and the Consortium for School Networking.

The first group of participants attended classes on the U's Twin Cities campus July 7-12 and will continue their lessons online during the school year.

To learn more about the initiative, see www.schooltechleadership.org.

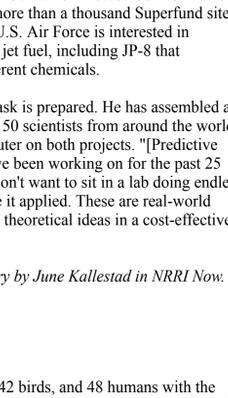
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Borealis II: racing with the sun

The University of Minnesota's solar-powered car team is basking in a top finish position in the 2,300-mile American Solar Challenge (ASC). Borealis II crossed the finish line in Claremont, Calif., about 1:45 p.m. CDT Wednesday, July 23.

Official results were not yet released when eNews went to "press," but an update is available at www.umn.edu/umnsvp. "The race is a high-stress environment," said team leader Travis Lee. "We're overjoyed about doing so well, but it's also a bit of a letdown now that it's over."

Twenty teams from universities across the United States and Canada competed in the biennial ASC, which began on July 13 in Chicago and had the teams travelling along the historic Route 66.



University of Minnesota driver Brian Eickhoff gets ready to start the American Solar Challenge, a 2300 mile cross country race, in front of the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. Stefano Paltera/American Solar Challenge

ASC cars must be powered entirely by the sun, travel at highway speeds, and are required to obey the local speed limits. (Ten years ago, only a few cars with solar-powered technology could reach 30 mph. Today, on a closed course, they can reach 80 mph or more.) Teams build their own solar-powered cars for the competition. Most cars are made of advanced composites and use the best available photovoltaic (solar) cells to convert sunlight into electricity for power. In general, the cars can run faster on sunnier days.

The U's Solar Vehicle Project was founded in 1990 by students from the U's Institute of Technology. It remains an undergraduate project that involves about 30 students from a variety of disciplines who want a hands-on lesson in engineering and managing product development. Borealis II is the project's sixth vehicle. Its predecessor, Borealis, finished sixth in the American Solar Challenge in 2001.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Farmers Market at UMD

Pick up fresh produce this summer at the Farmers Market on the University of Minnesota, Duluth, campus. The market is held every Wednesday (through September) at 2 p.m. in the parking lot next to the UMD Medical School and Alworth Planetarium. For more information, call Wendy at 218-727-0992. To receive a weekly reminder, e-mail shub@shubatsfruits.com.

Harvesting the Children's Garden

See the biggest zucchini, the prettiest flower, the tallest sunflower, and the silliest vegetable creature at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum on Saturday, Aug. 2, and Sunday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Children's Garden Harvest Fair offers a chance to win some prizes, make some crafts, and have your face painted. To learn more, see www.arboretum.umn.edu. Admission to the Arboretum is \$7.

Nazi persecution of homosexuals

The U's Steven J. Schochet Center for GLBT Studies is cosponsoring a traveling exhibit, "Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945," from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Aug. 4-Sept. 26 at the YWCA of Minneapolis, 1130 Nicollet Mall. For general information, call 612-625-3499 or e-mail qstudies@umn.edu. To read about the history behind the exhibit, see <http://www.ur.umn.edu/unsrcleases/find.php?ID=585>.

Supporting children with chronic and disabling conditions

The KDWB University Pediatrics Family Center (part of the U's Department of Pediatrics) stands to win \$25,000 if Dave Ryan of 101.3-FM KDWB wins a Quizno's Subs contest to find the best radio voice for their slogan. For more information about the contest, which ends Aug. 8, see www.quiznos.com. To learn more about the center, see www.alaboutkids.umn.edu.

Metal works

The HIP 2003: Cast Metal Exhibition, showcasing a variety of artists, techniques, and metals, will be on display through Friday, Aug. 8 at the Humanities Fine Arts (HFA) Gallery at the University of Minnesota, Morris. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. A public reception will be held on Aug. 7, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. For information, call 320-589-6250.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Connecting alumni for a century.

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

U of M eNews 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.

[PRIVACY POLICY](#)

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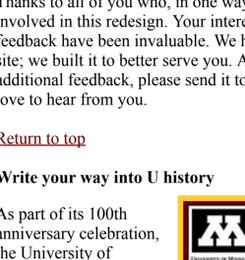
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U NEWS

This site's for U

The numbers are staggering: People click on the University of Minnesota homepage 60,000 times per day and 1.3 million people visit "umn.edu" Web sites in any given month. This traffic accounts for 1.3 percent of *all* Web traffic in the United States. In other words, more than one out of every 100 hits to U.S. Web pages are to umn.edu sites. And this was *before* we had improvements!



The University of Minnesota homepage gets 60,000 hits per day.

Through interviews, focus groups, online polling, and other testing methods, the University engaged thousands of Web visitors to determine how to improve its sites. The new homepage, www.umn.edu, reflects significant changes in design, navigation, accessibility, and content organization. Site visitors are now presented with University news and feature stories, photos of campus life, quick access to a search field and department information, and a comprehensive University directory organized by audience interest. The new site also helps visitors navigate more easily through the more than 1.7 million umn.edu Web pages.

Thanks to all of you who, in one way or another, have been involved in this redesign. Your interest in this project and feedback have been invaluable. We hope you enjoy the new site; we built it to better serve you. And if you have any additional feedback, please send it to urclate@umn.edu. We'd love to hear from you.

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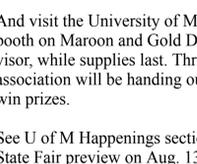
Write your way into U history

As part of its 100th anniversary celebration, the University of Minnesota Alumni Association



(UMAA) is sponsoring a musical cheer contest, which is receiving media buzz throughout Minnesota and even nationally. All graduates of the University are invited to create an original musical cheer that expresses--in 15 seconds or less--Minnesota's Golden Gopher spirit.

The winning entry should be "spirited and bold . . . with staying power to foster a maroon-and-gold tradition at Gopher games for years to come," says Amy Hyatt, the alumni association's director of centennial activities.



The grand-prize winner will receive \$2,500 cash, additional prizes, and the opportunity to direct the University of Minnesota Marching Band at a sporting event. The song will be unveiled at the UMAA 100th birthday party on Jan. 30, 2004. Contest entries are due October 1.

This won't be the first music composition contest at the U. "The Minnesota Rouser" was the winner of a 1909 contest inspired by Gopher fans who thought "Hail! Minnesota" was too stately to bring fans to their feet at football games.

For more information about the UMAA 100th Anniversary Musical Cheer Contest, including rules and the official entry form, visit www.alumni.umn.edu/100 and click on "Musical Cheer Contest."

--University of Minnesota Alumni Association

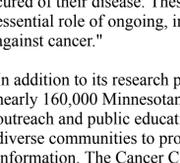
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Maroon and Gold Day at the fair

Join friends and supporters of the University of Minnesota from all over the Upper Midwest at the Minnesota State Fair on Sunday, Aug. 24, for the fifth annual Maroon and Gold Day celebration.



The jam-packed day, sponsored by Famous Dave's Legendary Pit Bar-B-Que, features a smorgasbord of activities. Test your knowledge of University trivia in the Know Your U game on the University stage (outside the University building on Dan Patch Avenue two blocks west of Snelling Avenue) and win fabulous prizes--including gift certificates from Famous Dave's. You can also join in the fun with the University's Legendary Barbecue Blues Band and catch the U's 300-piece marching band at the Maroon and Gold Day parade.



Stop by the University's athletics booth inside the building to purchase the Famous Dave's Football Feast Package. For \$40, you'll receive tickets to the Golden Gopher football home opener on Aug. 30, two long-sleeved football shirts, and a \$20 gift certificate to any Famous Dave's restaurant. And kids will have the chance to meet not one but two mascots--Goldy Gopher and Famous Dave's Wilbur the Pig.

And visit the University of Minnesota Alumni Association booth on Maroon and Gold Day to pick up a free Goldy Gopher visor, while supplies last. Throughout the fair, the alumni association will be handing out scratch-off cards for a chance to win prizes.

See U of M Happenings section for information on the U's State Fair preview on Aug. 13.

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Cancer Center receives renewal and grant from NCI

The Cancer Center at the University of Minnesota has received renewal of its Comprehensive Cancer Center designation and a five-year grant of more than \$17 million. The center is one of only 39 institutions in the nation to hold this designation, awarded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and it is given only to institutions that make ongoing, significant advances in cancer research.

Following its initial designation as an NCI Comprehensive Cancer Center five years ago, the Cancer Center has grown to include 415 laboratory and clinical scientists, health care professionals, and staff. Since 1997, the center has seen an 82 percent increase in grants, climbing from \$38.5 million to more than \$80 million in grant funding during fiscal year 2002.

The University of Minnesota has been active in cancer research for decades and is home to several firsts in cancer research. Accomplishments include performing the world's first successful bone marrow transplant for lymphoma, discovering the cancer-preventing qualities of fruits and vegetables, proving nicotine is addictive, and creating the first animal model for studying, identifying, and disabling the cells responsible for causing bone cancer pain.



In addition to its research programs, the Cancer Center reaches nearly 160,000 Minnesotans every year through community outreach and public education

"The Cancer Center has also directly contributed to the dramatic increase in childhood cancer survival rates," says Dr. John Kersey, center director and a pioneer in leukemia and bone marrow transplantation research. "Not long ago, fewer than 25 percent of patients survived. Now, more than 75 percent are cured of their disease. These dramatic results illustrate the essential role of ongoing, innovative research in our fight against cancer."

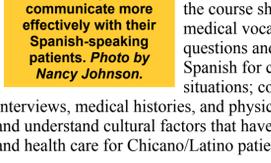
In addition to its research programs, the Cancer Center reaches nearly 160,000 Minnesotans every year through community outreach and public education, and also actively works with diverse communities to provide culturally specific cancer information. The Cancer Center's information line, 1-888-CANCER MN, is staffed by oncology professionals who provide personalized answers to questions about cancer therapy and care. The latest information about cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment is also available online at www.cancer.umn.edu.

--Academic Health Center

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UMM to cut women's and men's wrestling, add women's swimming

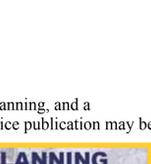
The University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM), in a budget-driven move, has announced that it will eliminate its wrestling programs for women and men effective with the 2004-05 academic year. UMM will add the sport of women's swimming.



While addressing the need to reduce expenditures in a time of tightening operating budgets, the decision is also based on a number of other factors:

- Fewer colleges are sponsoring men's wrestling nationally. In UMM's former NCAA Division II Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, only three continuing members sponsor men's wrestling.
- The growth predicted in women's intercollegiate wrestling in the early 1990s did not materialize. The NCAA sponsors 19 sports plus 7 emerging sports for women, and wrestling is not among them. UMM is the only university in the Upper Midwest sponsoring women's wrestling.
- The number of entering freshmen who wrestle at UMM has decreased sharply to approximately eight (men and women) each year.
- Between 60 and 70 percent of entering students who wrestle at UMM are gone before their junior year. This attrition level greatly exceeds the student body average.

"The decision to end wrestling at UMM was not an easy one in light of the success of the talented students involved in our wrestling programs and the national visibility they've brought to our small campus," says Sandra Olson-Loy, UMM vice chancellor for student affairs. The wrestling program will continue for the coming year (2003-04).



The women's swimming program--which will begin in 2004-05--will continue UMM's commitment to strengthening sports opportunities for women. Although UMM currently sponsors nine sports for women and seven for men, 55 percent of student athletes are male and 45 percent female--within a student body that is 60 percent female.

In addition, high school participation in girls swimming is strong, UMM has excellent collegiate swimming facilities, and prospective and current students have expressed interest in a collegiate swim program at UMM.

--University of Minnesota, Morris, News Service

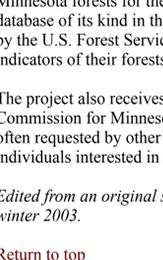
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The knee bone's connected to the muslo bone

Communicating with someone who speaks a different language can be awkward or even humorous, but miscommunication in a medical setting can be downright dangerous. Symptoms can be misinterpreted, leading to a faulty diagnosis, which can ultimately translate to flawed and potentially health-threatening treatment.

To address this growing concern--specifically in the Chicano/Latino community--the College of Continuing Education (CCE) began offering a Medical Spanish course last summer. The concept has proven to be a model of innovation, and one that improves health care.

The need for the Medical Spanish course stems in part from the rapid growth of the Chicano/Latino community, both in the Twin Cities and nationwide. According to the Minnesota State Demographer's Office, this population increased 166 percent between 1990 and 2000, which was the ninth-fastest growth rate for Chicanos/Latinos among the 47 states for which figures have been released.



Maria Emilce López, a native of Argentina and veteran teacher of both English and college-level Spanish, developed a course for health care workers that would help them communicate more effectively with their Spanish-speaking patients. Photo by Nancy Johnson.

María Emilce López, a native of Argentina and veteran teacher of both English and college-level Spanish, recognized that the burgeoning Chicano/Latino population was encountering a language barrier with U.S. medical practitioners who predominantly spoke little, if any, Spanish. So she developed a course for health care workers that would help them communicate more effectively with their Spanish-speaking patients.

Students who successfully complete the course should be able to use medical vocabulary in Spanish; ask questions and provide answers in Spanish for common medical situations; conduct patient interviews, medical histories, and physical exams in Spanish; and understand cultural factors that have an impact on health and health care for Chicano/Latino patients.

Student feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. "I took the class because I work in an area of St. Paul with a large Hispanic population," says physician Tim Hernandez. "Taking the course has improved my fluency tremendously. Many times, patients come without interpreters, and now I feel I understand at least 80 to 90 percent of what they say."

Another student, nursing assistant Heidi Flashinski, adds, "The class also covers the Latin American view of health care and the myths that influence how they view their diagnosis and treatment. That was so helpful, and not something you can learn from a Spanish-English dictionary."

Due to the positive response and demand for Medical Spanish, López is now developing Advanced Medical Spanish, which will be offered in spring 2004.

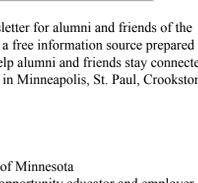
For more information about the fall 2003 Medical Spanish class (Span 144), which will be offered Thursday evenings from 6:10-8:15 p.m., call 612-624-4000 or see www.cce.umn.edu/potential.

Edited from an original story by HoJo Willenzik in cceTimes, summer 2003.

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Help with retirement planning

Many of us need help with retirement planning, and a University of Minnesota Extension Service publication may be just the ticket.



Some 53 percent of U.S. households have not calculated how much money they'll need to save by the time they retire. In addition, 51 percent of current workers think that they will be eligible for full Social Security retirement benefits before they actually will be.

Many people aren't aware of the phased increase in normal retirement age from 65 to 67 under Social Security, says Sharon Danes, family economist with the University of Minnesota Extension Service. Danes has written *Planning Ahead for Retirement*, and its chapter, "Will you be Able to Afford the Life You Want?" can help you estimate what postretirement life will cost, assist with figuring out how to take inflation into account, and help you calculate whether you can afford to retire early.

Copies of the publication are available from county offices of the U of M Extension Service. Order online (\$14 plus shipping and handling and tax) at www.extension.umn.edu or by calling 800-876-8636, or (612) 624-4900 in the Twin Cities area. Ask for number 07775.

--University of Minnesota Extension Service

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Listening in on the party line

To the untrained ear, it's a cacophony of twitters, chirps, and whistles. To Jim Lind, it's a conversation between friends on an overloaded party line.

Jim Lind is one of 12 bird researchers at the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

Lind is one of 12 bird researchers at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) who can listen to around 35 bird species chirping at once and tell you which song belongs to which bird. The researchers can recognize the calls of 120 birds, including two or three different calls for each species.

Lind can hear the difference between a Nashville Warbler, a Canada Warbler, a Black-throated Green Warbler, or a American Redstart Warbler--all of whom were singing away in Jay Cooke State Park (south of Duluth) in early July as the bird-monitoring field season was ending.

"I've always been interested in birding," says Lind. "This job takes us into areas of the forest that many people don't go, and I get to see birds many people don't get to see."

Researchers like Lind go to hundreds of specific spots in Minnesota and Wisconsin established more than a decade ago when the study began. They are in the woods when the birds begin their morning calls, sometimes as early as 4:30 a.m. The researchers listen for exactly 10 minutes, and note the species they hear inside and outside an approximate 100-meter circle.

NRRI has been monitoring bird populations in northern Minnesota forests for the past 12 years and has the largest database of its kind in the state. The study is funded primarily by the U.S. Forest Service, which is required by law to monitor indicators of their forests' health.

The project also receives funding from the Legislative Commission for Minnesota Resources. Bird census data is often requested by other universities for research projects or by individuals interested in birding.

Edited from an original story by June Kallestad in NRRI Now, winter 2003.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

State Fair preview

Can't wait 'til the fair for food on a stick? Then stop by the University Bookstore in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus on Wednesday, Aug. 13, eight days before the fair begins. Purchase your gate admission tickets (discounted to \$6), preview the University's State Fair offerings, pick up the latest M-Wear fashions for Maroon and Gold Day, meet U professor and State Fair expert Karal Ann Marling, and check out the Know Your U trivia game. You'll have another chance to win prizes, and you can catch a preview performance by the University's Legendary Barbecue Blues Band. Perhaps more important--you can enjoy funnel cakes, corn dogs, cheese curds, a pickle on a stick, and other fair-ly healthy treats at the restaurants in Coffman Union.

Arts and crafts festival at Glensheen Historic Estate

The University of Minnesota, Duluth's Glensheen Historic Estate will hold its 9th annual festival of fine arts and crafts on Saturday, Aug. 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 50 artists will exhibit and sell unique creations. Admission, parking, and shuttle bus are free. For more information, call 218-726-8921.

More summer fun at the Arboretum

Experience the Insect Olympics, "Ask the Bug Doctor," build a bug with nature's treasures, and construct a butterfly net to take home--all at the Bugs and Plants Festival at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum on Saturday, Aug. 16. Kurt Mead, dragonfly researcher and naturalist from Finland, Minn., will be at the Arboretum's Learning Center for a kid-friendly slide show (1-2:30 p.m.), storytelling and book signing (2:30-3:30 p.m.), and fieldwork exploration (3:30-4:30 p.m.). For more information, see www.arboretum.umn.edu.

Project Art for Nature

Inspired by a 2000 Bell Museum exhibit, 16 local artists have banded together to form Project Art for Nature, now at the Bell, to promote stewardship of threatened natural areas in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Printmaking, book arts, textiles, drawings, paintings, and sculpture depict areas of natural beauty and the threats they face. The exhibition runs through Aug. 31, 2003, and participants include Vera Ming Wong, Barbara Harman, Mimi Holmes, Wendy Lane, and others. For more information, call 612-624-7083 or visit bellmuseum.org.

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[Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.](#)

[University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Connecting alumni for a century.](#)

[U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.](#)

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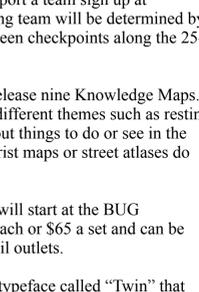
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U NEWS

Celebrating design in urban setting

In September, 25-foot-high inflatable games pieces (picture Godzilla-sized chess pawns) will turn the Twin Cities into the world's largest game board. New maps charting offbeat and lesser-known Twin Cities characteristics will be unveiled. And a new typeface will morph before your eyes, changing with the wind and other variables.

These are all part of the first Twin Cities Design Celebration (TCDC), a free public exploration of design in the urban environment produced by the University of Minnesota's Design Institute (DI) with support from Target Corporation.



A giant blue game piece as part of the Big Urban Game (BUG) sits in front of the capitol.

"The TCDC projects encourage America and the world to see the Twin Cities as Design Central U.S.A., a playground of ideas that demonstrates the significance of design in shaping our communities," says Janet Abrams, DI director.

The first-ever Big Urban Game (BUG) will crisscross Minneapolis and St. Paul Sept. 3-7. Three teams will race red, yellow, or blue game pieces over streets, bridges, parks, and rivers toward a finish line. To support a team sign up at <http://design.umn.edu>. The winning team will be determined by the shortest cumulative time between checkpoints along the 25-mile course.

On Wednesday, Sept. 3, DI will release nine Knowledge Maps. These maps, which are based on different themes such as resting and playing, give information about things to do or see in the Twin Cities that conventional tourist maps or street atlases do not offer.

Knowledge Map discovery tours will start at the BUG checkpoints. The maps cost \$10 each or \$65 a set and can be purchased from DI and select retail outlets.

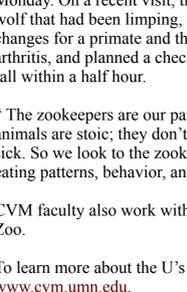
DI has also commissioned a new typeface called "Twin" that changes in response to external conditions in the Twin Cities--such as the weather, traffic patterns, and the flow of the Mississippi River--when a software program for the typeface is linked to systems that monitor these conditions. To learn more about Twin, see http://design.umn.edu/go/project/tcdc03_1.ttc.

For more information about the TCDC, call the Design Institute at 612-625-3373 or see <http://design.umn.edu/go>.

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Found: Link between adolescent teasing and suicide

Adolescents teased about their weight may contemplate and even attempt suicide more than their peers who are not teased, according to a new University of Minnesota study.



U researchers found that teasing about body weight was consistently associated with low self-esteem and body satisfaction and high depressive symptoms.

Researchers at the U's School of Public Health surveyed 4,746 adolescents in grades 7 to 12 at public middle schools and high schools in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area about their eating habits, health, mental health, and experiences with teasing. The researchers also obtained the heights and weights of the teens they surveyed.

The researchers found that of the students who completed the surveys (85 percent), 30 percent of adolescent girls and 29 percent of adolescent boys were teased by peers, and 25 percent of the girls and 16 percent of the boys were teased by family members. Approximately 15 percent of the girls and 10 percent of the boys reported being teased by both peers and family members. Compared with teasing from a single source or no teasing, teasing from both peers and parents was associated with a higher prevalence of emotional health problems.

The researchers also found that teasing about body weight was consistently associated with low self-esteem and body satisfaction and high depressive symptoms. The effect of the teasing remained the same, regardless of whether the adolescents were actually overweight or not.

"Of particular concern are the alarming rates of suicidal ideation and attempts associated with weight-based teasing, which are two to three times as high among those who were teased compared with those not teased," says lead author Marla Eisenberg. "Physicians and other health care providers and health educators should recognize the potential importance of weight-based teasing for their young patients and actively counter unrealistic norms regarding body weight and shape."

The study is published in the August issue of *The Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*.

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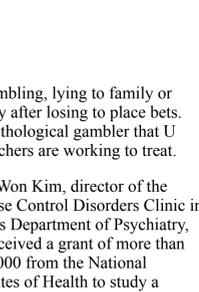
U at the zoo

For more than 35 years, the animals at Como Zoo have basked in the tender, loving care of their zookeepers and University of Minnesota veterinarians.

Ralph Farnsworth, a bovine medicine expert, and Micky Trent, who specializes in large-animal surgery, divide their time between teaching students at the U's College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and examining sick animals at the Como Zoo. The zoo, owned and operated by the city of St. Paul, gets top-notch, onsite veterinary support without the cost of having a veterinarian on staff. And for U students, the Como Zoo relationship creates unique education and research opportunities.

A "Selected Topics in Zoo Medicine" course introduced by CVM in fall 2002 had more interested students than it could accept.

"It's just a wonderful relationship--the city, the zoo, and its animals are really fortunate," says Victor Camp, Como Zoo director. "We have unlimited veterinary expertise we can tap, whether it's ophthalmology, endocrinology, dermatology... as well as state-of-the-art equipment and labs [at the U]."



U faculty Ralph Farnsworth (center) and Micky Trent examining a sea lion at Como Zoo. Photo by Michelle Mero Riedel.

Como Zoo has about 100 different mammals--ranging from one-pound Emperor tamarins (a brown primate with a white mustache) to 18-foot-tall, one-ton giraffes--and 400 reptiles and birds.

Farnsworth or Trent, or both professors, make the rounds every Monday. On a recent visit, they noted the progress of a female wolf that had been limping, discussed potential nutritional changes for a primate and therapies for a Kodiak bear with arthritis, and planned a checkup for a cougar arriving at the zoo--all within a half hour.

"The zookeepers are our partners," says Farnsworth. "Zoo animals are stoic; they don't show symptoms until they're very sick. So we look to the zookeeper to tell us about the animals' eating patterns, behavior, any changes that they see."

CVM faculty also work with staff veterinarians at the Minnesota Zoo.

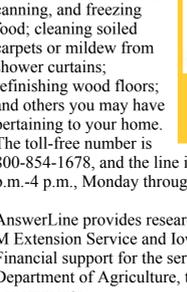
To learn more about the U's College of Veterinary Medicine, see www.cvm.umn.edu.

Edited from an original story by Meta Gaertner in Profiles, spring 2003.

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Singing "The Rouser" in Italy

When U alumni Dan and Susan Mareck turned 50 this year and their daughter Jenny turned 21, they decided to celebrate their birthdays--plus the couple's 24th wedding anniversary--by taking a trip to Italy sponsored by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) group travel program.



21 University of Minnesota alumni and their family and friends spent nine days in Sicily this summer, unpacking once in the small town of Taormina. Daily excursions included trips to Syracuse and its ruins, Mt. Etna, the Greek temples of Agrigento and the Piazza Armenia.

Dan says his family enjoyed getting to know fellow travelers with diverse backgrounds and the common bond of the U. "We had a fantastic experience," he says. "What can beat singing "The Rouser" in Sicily overlooking Mt. Etna?" Their favorite moments in Italy were having Dan and Susan's anniversary acknowledged at a group dinner, receiving a surprise bottle of wine and chocolates, and "finally being able to see the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica."

The Marecks and 21 University of Minnesota alumni and their family and friends spent nine days in Sicily this summer, unpacking once in the small town of Taormina. Daily excursions included trips to Syracuse and its ruins, Mt. Etna, the Greek temples of Agrigento and the Piazza Armenia. And each day, the travelers were treated to classes in Sicilian art, architecture, geology, and history. The Marecks also took advantage of a four-day optional trip extension to Rome.

The trip was one of the UMAA's Alumni College packages, which combined educational experiences with sightseeing. The UMAA recently announced its 2004 trips, which include Alumni Colleges in Europe and Scandinavia; cruises in New Zealand, Baja California, and Costa Rica; and trips to attend Italian art and visits to China, Prague, and Berlin.

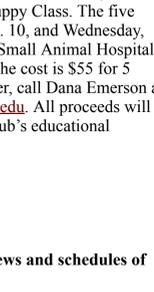
To learn more about the UMAA travel program and the trips offered in 2004, see www.alumni.umn.edu/travel.

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Working hard at recreation

Students pursue degrees in recreation, park, and sport studies at the University of Minnesota for many reasons, such as a love of the land or a passion for athletics. Aluma Ann Sarnecki wanted to make a living working at a park.

Sarnecki spends every workday encouraging people to enjoy one of Minnesota's greatest natural resources, the Mississippi River. As an interpretive park ranger for the National Park Service, she teams up with area park districts, businesses, community groups, and others to promote the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, a 72-mile stretch of the Big Muddy that flows from Ramsey to Hastings.



U alumna Ann Sarnecki on the job. Photo by Leo Kim

Her job can include helping Friends of the Mississippi River and the Paddleford Packet Boat Company present different programs along the river. "It's great to work with the National Park Service in such a unique setting and have the opportunity to work with a variety of partners," she says.

Sarnecki was a burned-out social worker volunteering at Three Rivers Park District (formerly Hennepin County Park District) when she learned she could actually make money doing similar work. In 1994, she went back to school and earned a master's degree in recreation, park, and leisure studies through the U's School of Kinesiology. It was her coursework and an internship with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources that helped Sarnecki narrow her career goal to working in a visitor's center or at a park.

"People are fascinated by the Mississippi," she says. "They can't believe what they can get out and do along the river. It's rewarding to be able to share it with people."

Edited from an original story by Suzy Frisch in Link, summer 2003.

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Help for pathological gamblers

Committing crimes to support gambling, lying to family or friends, and returning immediately after losing to place bets. These are some symptoms of a pathological gambler that U researchers are working to treat.

Suck Won Kim, director of the Impulse Control Disorders Clinic in the U's Department of Psychiatry, has received a grant of more than \$460,000 from the National Institutes of Health to study a promising new treatment for pathological gambling disorder (PGD). The study, the only one of its kind in the nation, will determine if the drug naltrexone is effective in treating PGD. Currently, there are no established drug treatments for this disorder.

In three preliminary studies, Kim found the naltrexone to be an effective treatment for PGD patients with severe gambling urges. Kim and colleagues are now working to find the optimal dose that can most effectively control those urges.

Results from Kim's study may not only help compulsive gamblers but could shed light on possible treatments for people with other impulse-control disorders. Naltrexone has been tested in the past for obsessive-compulsive disorder and eating disorders, but results from these clinical trials have been inconclusive. "The implications from our study extend from PGD to other impulse-control disorders, including compulsive shopping, kleptomania, and possibly alcoholism," he says.

Kim and his colleagues are looking for people who suffer from PGD to participate in the dose study. To learn more about the study, call 612-627-4879. For more information about pathological gambling disorder, see www.med.umn.edu/psychiatry/research/gambling.htm or pick up a copy of *Stop Me Because I Can't Stop Myself*, a guide to understanding impulse control disorders by Kim and U psychiatrist Jon Grant.

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Refuge for student parents

While a mother studies, her four-year-old son plays with his toys cars and in a nearby room, several young women surprise a fellow student with a baby shower. Scenes like these have been common at the U's Student Parent HELP Center since 1967.

At the HELP (Higher Education for Low-income People) center, housed in General College, 350 undergraduate students with young families from all U colleges get assistance in juggling the dual roles of student and parent. Already outside the mold of traditional college students, student parents must learn quickly to balance academic and family needs.

U student parent Hanika Alemayshu-Marciniak (left) with HELP Center staff Carole Broad, Susan Warfield, and grad teaching assistant K. Giddings.

The center is a place they can study and coach each other. It also serves as a learning environment for their children. Seeing their parents in an academic setting allows the children to establish the pattern of "going to school" that helps them carry forward their parents' dreams of earning a degree and improving their lives, says Susan Warfield, a program coordinator at the center.

Life for Warfield and colleague Carole Broad, the center's other social worker, is more than a little challenging. Their duties include serving as the students' advocates with faculty, departments, or outside agencies and helping the students with financial aid and childcare grants, academic work, parenting issues, and family life. They also refer students to child care centers, women's shelters, health clinics, and legal aid. Services at the center include emergency financial assistance, a book-lending program, a new-mother mentoring program, a weekly parent discussion group, and an electronic newsletter.

As a former single student parent, Broad says she feels honored to "give back" to a center that helps students with the unexpected. "I know the obstacles student parents are faced with each day, [and] I also know that success is more than possible," she says. "Our commitment to our children and our own well-being often means an equally fierce commitment to our education."

To learn more about the U's Student Parent HELP center, see www.gen.umn.edu/programs/help_center or catch segments about the center on "St. Anthony Falls Journal" through Metro Cable Network (channel 6) every Thursday at 6 p.m. through the end of the year.

Edited from an original story by Julie Medbery in Access, fall 2002.

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Household experts just a call away

Want to know how to freeze fresh corn? Or get rid of stains from your favorite pair of pants? Call AnswerLine, a new service from the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

AnswerLine household experts will take questions about cooking, canning, and freezing food; cleaning soiled carpets or curtains from shower curtains; refinishing wood floors; and others you may have pertaining to your home.

To learn more about AnswerLine services, see www.extension.umn.edu. The toll-free number is 800-854-1678, and the line is answered from 9 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

AnswerLine provides research-based answers through the U of M Extension Service and Iowa State University Extension. Financial support for the service comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the state of Minnesota, and county governments.

AnswerLine joins two other Extension information services: INFO-U, which offers multilingual, pre-recorded tips on food safety and nutrition, parenting, money management, and wildlife, and the Yard and Garden Line that has Master Gardeners answering questions about gardening, landscaping, plant diseases, and insects. To learn more about these services, see www.extension.umn.edu.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

From moth to cloth

Unravel the mysteries of silk at the "Silk: From Moth to Cloth" symposium on Saturday, Aug. 23, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Minnesota Arboretum. Topics include the history of silk, manufacturing processes, clothing styles from the mid-18th century to present day, and practical care tips. The program costs \$75, which includes gate admission, continental breakfast, lunch, and handouts. To learn more or to register, call 952-443-1422 or e-mail education@arboretum.umn.edu.

Maroon and Gold Day at the State Fair

Play the "Know Your U" trivia game and win fabulous prizes from Famous Dave's or catch the U's Barbecue Blues Band in action during Maroon and Gold Day at the Minnesota State Fair on Sunday, Aug. 24. And drop by the U of M Alumni Association booth for a free Goldy Gopher visor. For a complete list of events and stage acts at the University Building on Dan Patch Avenue, see www.umn.edu/statefair.

Off to college... advice for the parents

Marjorie Savage, director of the U's Parent Program, will answer questions and sign copies of her new book *You're On Your Own (but I'm here if you need me)* on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 1:30 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 30, at 2 p.m., in the U of M Bookstore at Coffman Union on the Twin Cities campus. The event is free. For more information, see www.bookstore.umn.edu.

Red-coated Mounties and printing paper

Between 1930 and 1970, 16 artists were commissioned by the Potlatch Corporation of Cloquet, MN, to create drawings of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to advertise its brand of printing papers. The collection, "Looking North: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Illustrations," will be on display until Sunday, Oct. 5, at the Tweed Museum of Art on the University of Minnesota, Duluth, campus. To learn more about this exhibit and others at the museum, see www.d.umn.edu/uma/ExhibitionEvents.htm.

Woof, woof...

Do you have a puppy that's 7-14 weeks old? Learn everything you need to know about developing a healthy relationship with it, including how to housetrain it and walk it on a leash, at the U's College of Veterinary Medicine's Puppy Class. The five week courses begin on Wednesday, Sept. 10, and Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. at the Small Animal Hospital on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. The cost is \$55 for 5 classes, handouts and parking. To register, call Dana Emerson at 612-624-0797 or e-mail ashli001@umn.edu. All proceeds will go to the veterinary student Behavior Club's educational activities.

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U NEWS

Bully research at the U
 Ever had your lunch money swiped by a bully? Or your books knocked to the ground? Two University professors are chipping away at the root of bullying to uncover ways to interrupt a bully's path of destruction.

Educational psychologist Anthony Pellegrini with the U's College of Education and Human Development has found that preteens use a certain level of bullying to establish their place in the social environment. He observed children enrolled in Georgia public schools (from fifth grade through junior high) in classes, on the playground, and at weekly after-school dances, and examined daily journals the children were asked to keep about incidents of aggression they encountered.

Rates of aggressive behavior rise during tumultuous times, such as when the children made the transition from grade school to junior high. "Kids naturally use bullying as a way to establish dominance when they go into middle school," Pellegrini says. "Once they show that they're tough and the pecking order is established, rates of aggression usually begin to go down."

Pellegrini also discovered that children who bullied were "rewarded" for their behavior with increased levels of admiration or romantic interest. "In the early years, we asked girls to nominate boys that they would like to invite out on a date," he says. "The aggressive boys were the ones who were most likely to get selected. But as they got older, they began to fall out of favor."

While the stereotypical bully is a strapping boy with a chip (or a Boulder) on his shoulder, associate professor of child development Nicki Crick says a large percentage of bullies do not fit this stereotype. Many are girls, and they don't use fists to hurt their victims.

"I study what I call relational aggression," Crick says. "I'm talking about using relationships as a vehicle of harm. An early example is when young kids say something like, 'You can't be my friend unless you share the swing with me.' As kids get older, the tactics get much more sophisticated, with stuff like spreading rumors, employing the silent treatment, or just ignoring others."

Crick is observing and interviewing some 230 kids enrolled in Minnesota's public schools. The students, who were nine when the study began, are now 13 years old.

"I'm interested in how bullying occurs throughout the life span and its effect on adult development," she says. "So we're in it for the long haul."

To date, her research has shown that relationally aggressive children are at risk for social-psychological problems such as peer rejection and problematic friendships. Crick says disbelieving adults are one of the biggest hurdles in addressing relational bullying. When a girl who has been victimized says, "this hurts," the adults in their lives dismiss their concerns with a "girls will be girls" version of the "boys will be boys" saying, she explains. "In the end, girls who are bullied end up not having allies."

To learn more about Crick's research, see <http://education.umn.edu/ecd/faculty/Crick.htm>. For information about Pellegrini's study, see <http://education.umn.edu/EdPsych/Faculty/Pellegrini.html>. And for tips on how to deal with bullies or what to do if your child is a bully, see www.extension.umn.edu/info-families/BF923.html.

Edited from an original story by Andy Steiner in *Link*, winter 2002.

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Is your child ready for school?

Thousands of Minnesota youngsters are entering kindergarten this month and experiencing school for the first time. Are they ready to learn? Researchers with the U's Children, Youth, and Family Consortium have some tips for helping children get off on the right foot when they start school.

- Make sure children have regular physical checkups, hearing and vision tests, and vaccinations to help catch any physical or developmental disorders early.
- Read to them often, starting at birth. Talk about the pictures and ask them questions they can answer from listening to the story. Also, play games with words and sounds.
- Use normal language rather than baby talk, especially with toddlers. The more words children hear, the stronger their vocabularies will be.
- Help them learn skills such as tying shoes, buttoning or zipping up clothes, and using the bathroom. Most teachers don't have time to help children individually with these tasks.
- Give them opportunities to practice what to do when they feel out of control emotionally, and help them figure out appropriate ways to deal with their emotions.
- Make sure children have plenty of opportunities to interact with others their age so they can learn how to make friends and get along in a group.

For more information on the U's Children, Youth, and Family Consortium, see www.cyfc.umn.edu/welcome.html.

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U regents to appeal court decision

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents will appeal the Court of Appeals decision in a case challenging the presidential selection process it used last year. The board will also seek renewal of a court order to protect the confidentiality of certain presidential candidates until the judicial review process has concluded.

"This board is fully accountable to the people of Minnesota for its ultimate choice of University president, and that important responsibility is what led board members to ensure confidentiality for the candidates they interviewed," says Mark Rotenberg, University general counsel. "Selecting a president is the most important job the board has, and the board believed that the only way it could effectively do that job was to interview the very top candidates, who said they would have dropped out had their names been public at that point in the process."

Last November, after confidential interviews with candidates recommended by the U's Presidential Search Advisory Committee, the board announced a finalist who participated in public interviews with members of the University and broader community. Following those interviews, the board met publicly to consider community input and discuss the selection of the president. On Aug. 19, the court ruled that the board's closed meetings in November violated Minnesota's open meeting law.

Under the University charter and the Minnesota Constitution, the board has exclusive authority to govern the U. In the case of the presidential search, the board determined that publicly naming finalists would interfere with its constitutional responsibility of finding the best possible leader. According to Rotenberg, the market for university presidents is highly competitive, a factor that influenced the search process.

The U has until Sept. 18, 2003, to file its appeal.

—*University News Service*

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New date for homecoming

To avoid a potential scheduling conflict at the Metrodome, the University of Minnesota has moved its homecoming football game and related activities to Saturday, Nov. 1.

The Gophers homecoming game was initially set for Oct. 18 against Michigan State. However, that date, along with the Oct. 11 home game against Michigan, may conflict with the Major League Baseball playoff games involving the Minnesota Twins.

"[Rescheduling] was the safe and prudent thing to do," says U athletics director Joel Maturi. "Homecoming week is very important to the University community."

Maturi and other U officials have met with Sen. Norm Coleman and representatives from the Minnesota Twins, the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission, and Major League Baseball to resolve the potential clash of dates. As of this publication, dates for the Michigan and Michigan State games have yet to be determined.

"Confirming the new date for homecoming this early is good news for our students, parents, alumni, and fans who need to make plans to participate in the events and attend the homecoming game," says Margaret Towle, director of the U's Twin Cities Student Unions.

Homecoming 2003, "Once Upon A Homecoming," runs Oct. 27-Nov. 1 with activities such as the Alumni Association scholarship auction, Homecoming Pancake Breakfast, and Gopher Road Show; a bonfire, and parade. To learn more about events of the week, see www.homecoming.umn.edu.

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Inducting men and women together for the first time

The University of Minnesota Gopher Sports Hall of Fame will induct five men and five women athletes at a public ceremony on Friday, Sept. 19.

"When the men's and women's athletics departments merged, we decided to unite the men's and women's Hall of Fame recognition as well," says Charles Arnold, executive director of the National "M" Club, which represents approximately 6,000 Gopher letter winners. "This is the first year men and women will be inducted together, and we are very proud and excited about that."

The Hall of Fame inductees are Bill Foggie (golf, 1966), Ben Egland (swimming, 1986), Rickey Franks (football, 1984), Belmar Gunderson (tennis coach, athletics director, 1964-76), Jill [Halsted] Garver (volleyball, 1979), Debra Hunter (basketball, 1980), Corey Millen (hockey, 1983), Sue Ring-Jarvi (hockey, 1974), Diane [Wallner] Schoeneman (swimming, 1983), and Gordon Watters (hockey, 1951).

At the ceremony, the club will give "M" letters to more than 100 women athletes who attended the University before Title IX and the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women were established. Student-athletes who won letters 50 years ago will receive "M" pins, and all student-athletes who attended the U 25 years ago will also be recognized during the program.

Brandon Hall, the Gopher football player who was fatally shot last year, will be honored at the event. Football coach Glen Mason and athletics director Joel Maturi will present Hall's mother, Dorothy, with an honorary "M" letter.

The ceremony, which begins with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by a banquet and program, will be held at Coffman Memorial Union. Tickets are \$75, with discounts available for tables of 10, recent letter winners, and students. For more information, call the National "M" Club office at 763-566-5895 or e-mail smiller@synergy-resource.com.

—*U of M Alumni Association*

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An investment in urban schools

As the school year begins, a spotlight is on the challenges of urban education. A new endowed faculty chair at the University of Minnesota aims to help address this challenge.

The U's Carmen Starkson Campbell Endowed Chair in Urban Education was created to develop and share knowledge about issues specific to urban schools, such as teacher retention and development, classroom stability, and problems with at-risk children. The position, one of only a few of its kind in the nation, was established as part of a \$5 million Campaign Minnesota gift from Carmen and Jim Campbell. It is named in recognition of Carmen Campbell's career as a teacher in the Minneapolis schools and in honor of her parents who were involved in education in southern Minnesota. "We saw the urban setting changing and realized we wanted to help fine young teachers stay in the profession," says Carmen Campbell, a 1964 U alum.

"Studies show that having consistent, well-trained teachers is one of the most critical ingredients for children's success in school, and yet nearly two thirds of all teachers in urban schools are new or on the move," says Bob Bruininks, University president and former dean of the College of Education and Human Development. "Our goal with this new chair is to help solve this problem by improving teacher retention and development in urban schools."

The new chair will deepen the expertise already in place at the U's College of Education and Human Development in the field of urban education. Faculty are currently engaged in projects such as literary research, intervention with at-risk children, special education, school dropouts, and classroom management. The University's setting between two urban centers creates an ideal environment for the new position, and the college will look for a chair holder who can strengthen partnerships with the Minneapolis and St. Paul school districts.

The Campbells' generous gift has also provided seed money for several programs at the Carlson School of Management. One example is the school's Enterprise Programs, which give students hands-on experience in managing stock portfolios and other investments and in working with entrepreneurs to start new companies.

Portions of the Campbells' gift are also designated to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and the U of M Marching Band.

To learn more about designating a gift or giving to the U, see the U of M Foundation Web site at www.giving.umn.edu/index.html.

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Tooth loss and cardiovascular disease

Tooth loss caused by gum disease may be an early warning sign of cardiovascular disease, according to University of Minnesota researchers.

Preliminary findings from the Oral Infections and Vascular Disease Epidemiology Study have suggested a link between tooth loss and subclinical atherosclerosis, the symptomless buildup of plaque in the carotid arteries or blood vessels that run along the neck and feed the brain, says lead investigator Moïse Desvarieux, an epidemiologist in the U's School of Public Health. In the past, other studies have proposed a relationship between gum disease and adverse events such as heart attack and stroke.

The U researchers examined 711 people--55 and older with no history of heart disease or stroke--to determine if the number of missing teeth correlated with periodontal disease and the amount of plaque in the carotid arteries. Investigators recorded dental hygiene habits, including the number of times per week participants brushed and flossed, as well as socioeconomic characteristics and cardiovascular risk factors. The participants also underwent ultrasound to detect signs of plaque buildup.

Among those missing zero to nine teeth, 45 percent had carotid artery plaque. And of those missing 10 or more, about 60 percent had the buildup.

The researchers speculate that tooth loss is an indicator of chronic infection or inflammation of the gums. And since tooth removal practices vary, they caution that not all tooth loss may indicate the same severity of gum disease.

Desvarieux says many of the study participants with periodontal or gum disease also have other risk factors for cardiovascular disease, such as smoking, poor diet, and low levels of physical activity. Tooth loss may be more than a simple marker for lifestyle, he says, because the relationship between tooth loss and gum disease remained even after other risk factors and cultural factors were accounted for.

As the study continues, the researchers will examine the progression of atherosclerosis, periodontal disease, and tooth loss. The study is published in the Aug. 1 issue of *Stroke: Journal of the American Heart Association*.

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Top spots for UMM, UMC, and UMD

The University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM), is a top three public liberal arts college, according to U.S. News & World Report. And the University's campuses in Crookston (UMC) and Duluth (UMD) are among the best places in the Midwest to earn a bachelor's or master's degree.

UMM is the only public college in the Midwest to place among the magazine's top 21 public liberal arts colleges in the nation. UMM's No. 3 spot in the U.S. News & World Report's 2004 rankings of America's Best Colleges is a step up from last year's position. "This ranking says that students interested in a superior liberal arts education owe it to themselves and their budgets to take a serious look at Morris," says UMM chancellor Sam Schuman. UMM has a student to faculty ratio of 14:1; 98 percent of its faculty are full-time, and 68 percent of the courses it offers have fewer than 20 students.

UMC, for the sixth consecutive year, was ranked among the top three colleges in the Top Public Midwestern Comprehensive Colleges--Bachelor's category. It bested 324 colleges this year for the No. 3 spot. "This recognition certainly reinforces UMC's commitment to offering a quality educational experience and acknowledges the work and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students," says UMC chancellor Velmer Burton, Jr.

UMD claimed eighth spot in the Top Midwest Public Universities with Master's Degrees category and ranked No. 3 for its undergraduate chemical engineering program. Additionally, Outside magazine named Duluth among the 40 Best College Towns in North America in its September issue. According to the editors, a school that makes their honor roll must, "turn out smart grads with top-notch academic credentials, have a healthy environment ethos, and an A+ sense of adventure." The magazine also recognized UMD's Natural Resource Research Institute and Recreational Sports and Outdoor Program.

Editor's note: Also mentioned in the U.S. News & World Report 2004 college rankings are programs on the U's Twin Cities campus--Study Abroad (special recognition) and the Carlson School of Business's management information systems (No. 4), Health Services Administration (No. 5), part-time MBA (No. 10), executive MBA (No. 16), and undergraduate business (No. 14) programs. The Twin Cities campus was also ranked No. 2 for chemical engineering and No. 17 for engineering among schools whose highest degree is a doctorate.

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U professor helps draft new human rights standards

On Aug. 13, the United Nations human rights body in Geneva adopted the first set of international human rights norms for transnational corporations. University of Minnesota law professor David Weissbrodt had a hand in writing the standards, which are aimed at fostering greater corporate social responsibility.

"Given all the news that's been coming across about Enron, Qualcomm, etc., this is an attempt by the U.N. to provide guidance to companies about what human rights expectations they should fulfill," says Weissbrodt, a member and former chairman of the U.N. Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. "This is said to be the most comprehensive set of standards applicable to businesses."

The standards, "U.N. Norms on the Responsibilities of Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises with regard to Human Rights," deal with the rights of workers, the quality of goods, and anti-corruption, among other things. It pulls together principles from a wide range of labor, environmental, consumer protection, and anti-corruption treaties, including those by the International Labor Organization and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

While drafting the document, Weissbrodt and the 25 other committee members sought input from many interested parties, such as governments, nongovernmental organizations, transnational corporations, and unions. "There is a large community of people out there with concerns about corporate social responsibility," he says.

The U.N. standards are useful not only for companies looking to police their own conduct but also for companies in assessing their suppliers or other organizations they may want to do business with, explains Weissbrodt. For consumers, the standards can serve as a checklist for finding socially responsible companies to invest in.

To read a copy of the new U.N. standards, see www.umn.edu/humanrts/links/norms-Aug2003.html.

—*University News Service*

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Weisman tribute to its creator

To mark its 10th anniversary, the Weisman Art Museum will host an open house on Friday, Sept. 12, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. (with building tours at 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m.) and present the "Frank Gehry: Designs for Museums" exhibit Sept. 6, 2003 through Jan. 4, 2004. The exhibit, featuring drawings, models, photographs, and videos, will focus on Gehry's creations before and after the Weisman was constructed in 1993. For general museum information, see www.weisman.umn.edu or call 612-625-9494.

Catch the Japanese Moon

Write haiku poetry on a Japanese paper fan or listen to readings by a haiku fire at the Japanese Moon Viewing event on Thursday, Sept. 11, 6-8 p.m. at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The event celebrates the autumn moon and the Japanese tradition of telling stories at this time about how the moon watches over children. The event is free; there is no admission fee at the Arboretum on Thursdays after 4:30 p.m. For general information, see www.arboretum.umn.edu.

After the Human Genome Project...

A new approach to biology, including powerful new computational tools for analyzing biological information, will be discussed at a public lecture hosted by the U's Institute for Mathematics and its Applications. "After the Human Genome Project: Systems Biology and Predictive, Preventive, and Personalized Medicine" will take place on Monday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. in 100 Smith Hall on the Twin Cities campus. To learn more, see www.ima.umn.edu/public-lecture/2003-04/hood/index.html.

Meow, meow...

From kitty cats to cats that kill... "The Art of Cats" exhibit, running Sept. 14 through Dec. 14 at the Bell Museum of Natural History on the Twin Cities campus, will be your chance to learn about feline behavior and evolution through paintings and sculptures. The opening party on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 7 p.m. will include a lecture on "Big Cats: The Food Chain of Power and Glory" by author David Quammen. For tickets to the party (\$85 for Bell members and \$10 for nonmembers), call 612-624-9050. To learn more, see www.bellmuseum.org/calendar.html#upEvents.

History of eugenics

The U's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies is cosponsoring a free, public lecture by Edwin Black, author of *New York Times* bestseller *IBM and the Holocaust*, Thursday, Sept. 18, at 4 p.m. in D-2530 Moos Tower on the Twin Cities campus. Black will make references to the history of eugenics while talking about his new book *The War Against the Weak*, which chronicles an American campaign to create a white, Nordic master race through eugenics.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

[University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Connecting alumni for a century.](#)

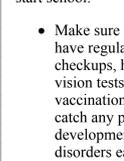
[U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.](#)

[University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page](#)

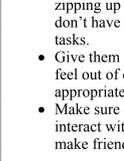
U of M eNews is a biweekly e-mail newsletter for alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota. The newsletter, a free information source prepared by University Relations, is designed to help alumni and friends stay connected to the University of Minnesota campuses in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Crookston,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

[PRIVACY POLICY](#)

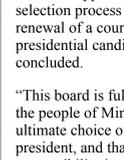
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Educational psychologist Anthony Pellegrini with the U's College of Education and Human Development also discovered that children who bullied were "rewarded" for their behavior with increased levels of admiration or romantic interest.



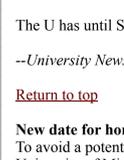
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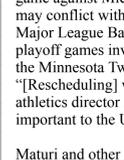
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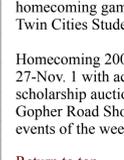
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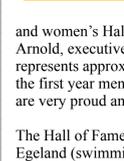
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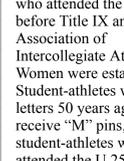
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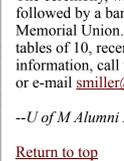
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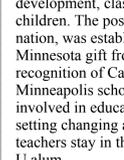
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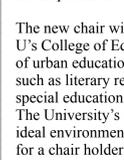
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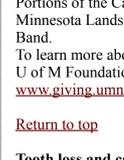
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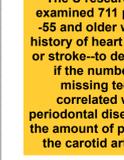
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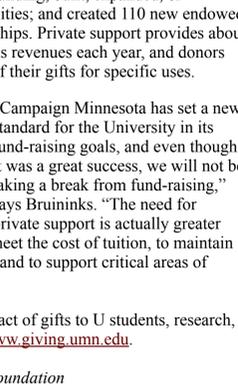
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U NEWS

Private donations to U set record

Campaign Minnesota raised nearly \$1.66 billion in cash and pledges during its seven-year fund-raising effort, surpassing its original goal of \$1.3 billion. It is the second most successful fund-raising campaign of any public university in the nation

More than 220,000 individuals, foundations, and other organizations, contributing to the campaign, including 85,600 alumni and 11,000 faculty and staff. Nearly half--113,000--were first-time donors to the University.

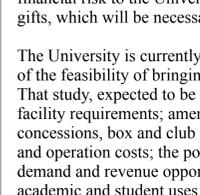


The U celebrates the \$1.66 billion in cash and pledges raised over its seven-year fund-raising effort.

"A wonderful outcome of the campaign was that we were able to make connections with so many people about the work of the University and show alumni and friends how they could help," says U alumus Russell Bennett, volunteer chair of the campaign. "I have been very touched by how much people care about this University."

During the campaign, 338 donors gave \$1 million or more--19 gave \$5 to \$10 million and 17 gave more than \$10 million.

As a result of Campaign Minnesota, the U has tripled its scholarship and fellowship funding; built, expanded, or renovated more than 25 facilities; and created 110 new endowed faculty chairs and professorships. Private support provides about 12 percent of the University's revenues each year, and donors designate about 98 percent of their gifts for specific uses.



"Campaign Minnesota has set a new standard for the University in its fund-raising goals, and even though it was a great success, we will not be taking a break from fund-raising," says Bruininks. "The need for private support is actually greater than ever--to help students meet the cost of tuition, to maintain the quality of our programs, and to support critical areas of research."

To learn more about the impact of gifts to U students, research, faculty, and outreach, see www.giving.umn.edu.

--University of Minnesota Foundation

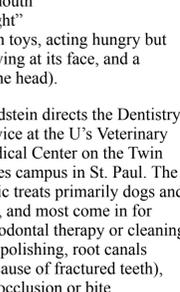
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Bringing Gopher football back to campus

On Sept. 5, the University announced that 1958 alum T. Denny Sanford has proposed a \$35 million contribution to create a matching gift fund for the construction of a new Gopher football stadium and field on the Twin Cities campus. As eNews goes to press, the details of the gift agreement are under negotiation.

"We have heard from students, faculty, staff, fans, alumni, and neighbors a great deal of support for bringing Gopher football back to campus," said University President Bob Bruininks, in making the announcement. "There is significant interest in creating a true Big Ten football experience that will build community and rekindle pride in the University."

Among the University's priorities are to ensure that a stadium development advances the U's academic mission; is financially feasible; and meets high standards of fairness, integrity, and sound business practice in its planning, development and construction.



As has been widely reported in the Twin Cities media, an initial stipulation by Sanford that the gift would not be received until the stadium is completed would be unacceptable to the University.

"The University is a public institution. Our foremost priority is to safeguard public resources and limit undue financial risk," said Bruininks. "We need a substantial private contribution up front in order to reduce the overall cost of the project, limit financial risk to the University and to motivate other generous gifts, which will be necessary to make this dream come true."

The University is currently undertaking an extensive evaluation of the feasibility of bringing Gopher football back to campus. That study, expected to be completed by November, will look at facility requirements; amenities, such as locker rooms, concessions, box and club seating; construction, development, and operation costs; the potential for private fundraising; market demand and revenue opportunities; and the potential for academic and student uses of such a facility.

"Our vision for this facility extends far beyond football," said Bruininks. "A new stadium could provide a highly symbolic new center of community life for the University community. It could be a place for the student body to gather with family, faculty, and friends for all-university events such as convocation and graduation; a home for the marching band; and possibly a place for academic and research activities. The facility could be a catalyst to further engage students in University life. That engagement, in turn, inspires and supports student academic success."

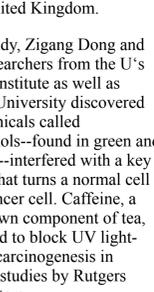
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Care for your pet's oral health

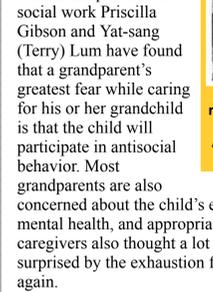
According to the American Veterinary Dental Society, 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats show signs of oral disease by age three. To keep your pet's periodontal problems at bay, University of Minnesota veterinarian Gary Goldstein recommends routinely lifting your pet's lip and examining its mouth.

Look for the following warning signs, because if left untreated these problems could lead to heart, lung, liver, and kidney disease as bacteria in the mouth spreads.



One of the warning signs of oral disease in dogs and cats is a broken or cracked tooth.

- Broken, worn, discolored, or malformed teeth
- Retained deciduous or baby teeth
- Tooth decay
- Halitosis or bad breath
- Heavy tartar buildup
- Red, swollen, or bleeding gums
- Increased salivation or drooling
- Bleeding from the mouth or nasal cavity
- Facial swellings
- Inability to open or close the mouth
- Listless and "just not acting right"
- Oral pain (refusing to play with toys, acting hungry but reluctant to eat, rubbing or pawing at its face, and a reluctance to being patted on the head).



One of the operating rooms in the Dentistry Service at the U's Veterinary Medical Center on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul.

Goldstein directs the Dentistry Service at the U's Veterinary Medical Center on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. The clinic treats primarily dogs and cats, and most come in for periodontal therapy or cleaning and polishing, root canals (because of fractured teeth), malocclusion or bite abnormality repair, and oral surgery that includes surgical and non-surgical extractions (because of oral tumors or fractures).

"We see on average about 25 to 30 cases a week," he says. "These numbers are significant because they show the huge need for veterinary dentistry in our community and that clients are demanding high quality care for their 'family members.'"

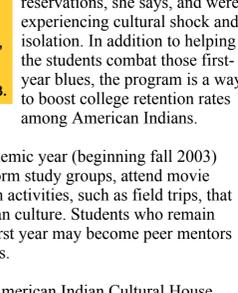
The U's vet school is one of four in the country to have a full-time dental service. The clinic opened in April 2002, "and in just over a year, we have become one of the busiest," adds Goldstein. Clinic hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

To learn more about the clinic or to make an appointment, call 612-625-8156. For dental hygiene tips, see www.petcare.umn.edu/IrSci/Dental.htm. To learn more about the U's Veterinary Medical Center, see www.ahc.umn.edu/ahc_content/colleges/vetmed.

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M is on its way

Look for the fall issue of *M*--the University's only publication for all alumni, faculty, staff, donors, and friends--coming to you soon. Read about the reasons for tuition increases at the U; the adjunct professor who designed Minneapolis's Mill City Museum; the jazzy new West Bank Arts Quarter; University research on women and smoking; and alumnus and state representative Cy Thao.



If you don't receive *M*, but would like to, please e-mail the editor at editorUR@umn.edu and she'll put you on the mailing list.

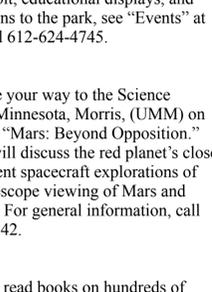
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Mackay: "Changing the World You Live In"

Vital Speeches of the Day, a magazine known for presenting the "best thoughts of the best minds" on current national questions, has published the speech delivered by Harvey Mackay at the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's annual celebration and 100th Anniversary Kick-Off last May.

In his speech, "Changing the World You Live In," Mackay spoke about his education at the U and the importance of public education. "Nowhere in the United States is there a deeper esteem for public education than right here in our home state," he said. "Education is expensive. But letting public education slide is more expensive."

Mackay encouraged alumni to keep learning all of their lives. "It is said that you learn as long as you live," he said. "Wrong . . . You learn as long as you try." Mackay's advice for success was simple: listen, read, learn, change, and above all, visualize [the result you will want]. "Odds are good you'll change the times you live in and the world around you," he says.



University of Minnesota alum Harvey Mackay.

Mackay, a U graduate and past alumni association president, is founder of the Minneapolis-based Mackay Envelope Company and author of four *New York Times* bestsellers, including *Swim with the Sharks Without Being Eaten Alive* and *Pushing the Envelope*.

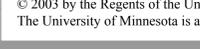
Mackay's speech appeared in the August 15 issue of *Vital Speeches*. You can also read it at www.alumni.umn.edu/mackay.

--University of Minnesota Alumni Association

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Fighting skin cancer with topical tea

University of Minnesota researchers are in the early stages of developing a tea-based cream that would minimize the cancer-causing effects of ultraviolet rays. The study that prompted this development has received media coverage across the nation and in the United Kingdom.



Can tea help fight cancer? University of Minnesota researchers say yes. Photo by Jerry Fess.

In the study, Zigang Dong and other researchers from the U's Hormel Institute as well as Rutgers University discovered that chemicals called polyphenols--found in green and black tea--interfered with a key process that turns a normal cell into a cancer cell. Caffeine, a well-known component of tea, was found to block UV light-induced carcinogenesis in previous studies by Rutgers investigators.

Dong and his colleagues shined UVB light (the ultraviolet rays that cause skin cancer) and applied a substance called TPA, which promotes tumor formation, on the shaven backs of mice. Some mice were also swabbed with a solution containing polyphenols; those mice showed relatively little of the biochemical activity that leads to cancer, compared to mice in the controlled group. A similar result was seen in cultured human and mouse epidermal cells.

"Blocking UV light is the best prevention, but sometimes people cannot avoid going out in the sun," Dong says. "We hope to develop a cancer preventive agent for those people." Hence, the polyphenol-based cream that Dong and his colleagues are working on. The cream could supplement the UV light-absorbing sunscreens currently in use, he adds.

You could reach the same levels of tea polyphenols used in the experiments by drinking tea, but Dong says you'd need to drink seven cups a day of strong tea to even come close.

To learn more about the U's Hormel Institute located in Austin, Minn., see www.hi.umn.edu.

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Kinship care: grandparents raising grandkids

The number of children raised by their grandparents jumped from 23,000 in 1990 to 47,679 in 2000. The concerns of a grandparent raising a grandchild were revealed in a University of Minnesota study released on the 25th anniversary of Grandparents Day Sept. 7.

U assistant professors of social work Priscilla Gibson and Yat-sang (Terry) Lum have found that a grandparent's greatest fear while caring for his or her grandchild is that the child will participate in antisocial behavior. Most grandparents are also concerned about the child's education, the child's emotional and mental health, and appropriate discipline techniques. The caregivers also thought a lot about their own health and were surprised by the exhaustion from and demands of being parents again.

To learn more about child welfare research at the U's School of Social Work, see the U's Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare at <http://ssw.che.umn.edu/cascw>.

Gibson and Lum interviewed about 100 Minnesota families between May 2002 and March 2003, where grandparents were the primary caregivers for their grandchildren. The average age of the grandparents was 64; the grandchildren averaged 13 years old. Fifty-nine percent of the living arrangements came at the request of a parent, while a small number were made at the request of the child. According to the grandparents, their grandchildren's overall quality of life was a lot worse before they came under their care.

Caregivers in the study were predominantly white, from the Twin Cities area, married, and highly educated, but researchers say this sample may not represent the majority of kinship caregiving arrangements. The study does show, though, the rising trend of grandparents raising grandchildren that is impacting many families in the nation. The Minnesota Board on Aging and Minnesota Kinship Caregivers Association sponsored the study.

To learn more about child welfare research at the U's School of Social Work, see the U's Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare at <http://ssw.che.umn.edu/cascw>.

Editor's note: The U's Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare is cosponsoring a conference, "Unplanned Parenthood II: Grandparents and Others Raising Children of Kin," on Monday, Oct. 6, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at the Earle Brown Continuing Education Center on the U's Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. The cost is \$26 for kinship caregivers and \$85 for professionals. To register, call 612-624-4231 or 651-917-4641.

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For the love of all things American Indian

The American Indian Cultural House, a pilot program at the University of Minnesota aimed at helping American Indian students adjust to campus life, is the first of its kind among Big Ten universities and third in the nation after Harvard and Dartmouth.

Located in Comstock Hall on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis, the cultural house is a co-ed, living and learning community for incoming American Indian students or freshmen interested in American Indian culture.

"The goal of the cultural house is to provide a supportive community where the academic experiences of students will be nurtured and enriched," explains Jillian Berkland, a recruiter in the University's Office of Admissions and founder of the cultural house. "It will also help students make friends and find their niche on campus."

Students from the U's American Indian Cultural House--(left to right) Julia Littlewolf, Cless Peterson, and Shea Fleming--share smiles during the open house on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Berkland says the house, a partnership between the U's Department of American Indian Studies and the Office of Housing and Residential Life, is an important addition to the campus because many first-year American Indian students were having trouble getting used to life in their new surroundings. Many of them come from reservations, she says, and were experiencing cultural shock and isolation. In addition to helping the students combat those first-year blues, the program is a way to boost college retention rates among American Indians.

The 10 participants this academic year (beginning fall 2003) will take courses together, form study groups, attend movie screenings, and participate in activities, such as field trips, that celebrate the American Indian culture. Students who remain with the program after the first year may become peer mentors and initiate tutoring networks.

"I was attracted to join the American Indian Cultural House because of the opportunity to enrich my culture and learn more about it so that I will be able to pass it on to my children some day," says freshman Laura Marlowe, from Veblen, S.D.

To learn more about the U's American Indian Cultural House, e-mail Jillian Berkland at berk1002@umn.edu or call 612-625-9565. For information about other special living and learning communities at the U, see www.umn.edu/housing/student/sllc.shtm.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

State of the U

Mark your calendars for the annual State of the U address: Thursday, Oct. 2, at 3 p.m., in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. President Bob Bruininks's address may also be viewed on the other campuses--Crookston (101 Dowell), Duluth (410 Library), Morris (2950 Science auditorium), St. Paul (student center), and Rochester (ST108). For a video streaming link, see www.umn.edu (check for compatibility between Sept. 25 and Oct. 1).

Animals and science

How should we think about animals from a scientific and morally sensitive perspective? That's what "Science, Ethics, and the Animal Protection Movement," a presentation hosted by the U's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment, and the Life Sciences, will attempt to answer. The free, public event will be held on Monday, Sept. 22, 12:15-1:15 p.m., in the Mississippi Room at Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus. For more information, see www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu or call 612-625-0055.

Setting the raptors free

See several rehabilitated birds of prey return to the wilderness at the U's Raptor Center fall release on Saturday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Clifton E. French Regional Park in Plymouth. (The raptors will be released at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.) The event will also feature raptors on exhibit, educational displays, and children's activities. For directions to the park, see "Events" at www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu or call 612-624-4745.

More on Mars

Want more on Mars? Then make your way to the Science auditorium at the University of Minnesota, Morris, (UMM) on Wednesday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. for "Mars: Beyond Opposition." Two UMM physics professors will discuss the red planet's close approach to Earth as well as recent spacecraft explorations of Mars. There will be a public telescope viewing of Mars and Uranus following the free event. For general information, call Gordon McIntosh at 320-589-6342.

Book sale at the Arboretum

Dig through thousands of recently read books on hundreds of topics--from gardening to whodunits--at the Andersen Horticultural Library Book Sale on Friday, Oct. 3, through Sunday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The library is located at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanasson. The arboretum gate fee will apply (\$7 for adults and free to children under 18 and members). You can also make book donations for the event through Friday, Sept. 26. For more information, call 952-443-1405.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
- [Morris Cougars](#)
- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Connecting alumni for a century.

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

U of M eNews 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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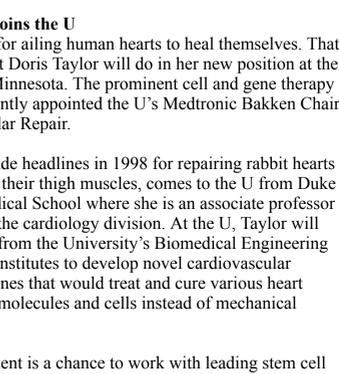
U NEWS

State of the U address

University President Bob Bruininks will give the State of the University address at 3 p.m. today (Oct. 2) in the theater at Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis.

Bruininks will discuss the current condition, challenges, achievements, and future of the U as well as his priorities--including a number of new interdisciplinary academic areas of focus--and the challenges that lie ahead. The address is presented annually to a joint meeting of the University Senate, the Faculty Senate, and the Twin Cities Campus Assembly and is primarily attended by faculty, staff, and friends of the University.

The event, which includes a question-and-answer session, will be broadcast live on the other University campuses--in Crookston, 101 Dowell; Duluth, 410 Library; Morris, 2950 Science Auditorium; Rochester, ST108; and St. Paul, student center.



University President Bob Bruininks will give the State of the University address at 3 p.m. today (Oct. 2) in the theater at Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. To see the live streaming video, go to www.umn.edu/pres/livesou2003.html.

To view the address via streaming video on your computer, see www.umn.edu/pres/livesou2003.html.

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New scientist joins the U

Finding a way for ailing human hearts to heal themselves. That's essentially what Doris Taylor will do in her new position at the University of Minnesota. The prominent cell and gene therapy expert was recently appointed the U's Medtronic Bakken Chair in Cardiovascular Repair.

Taylor, who made headlines in 1998 for repairing rabbit hearts with cells from their thigh muscles, comes to the U from Duke University Medical School where she is an associate professor of medicine in the cardiology division. At the U, Taylor will blend research from the University's Biomedical Engineering and Stem Cell institutes to develop novel cardiovascular technologies--ones that would treat and cure various heart ailments using molecules and cells instead of mechanical devices.

"This appointment is a chance to work with leading stem cell researchers as well as top-notch cardiologists and surgeons who intimately understand cardiovascular disease and its devastating consequences," says Taylor. "The time is right to pursue the tremendous promise of new approaches to treat the number-one killer in America."

The endowed position, named for Medtronic founder and pacemaker inventor Earl Bakken, is supported by more than \$8 million in funds from Medtronic and the U's bioengineering department and Medical School.

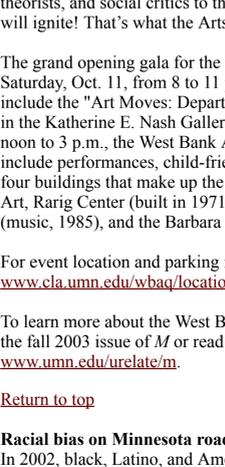
To learn more about stem cell research at the U, see the Stem Cell Institute Web site at www.umn.edu/stemcell. For information on the U's Biomedical Engineering Institute, see www.bmei.umn.edu.

Editor's note: The winter issue of M will feature a profile on Doris Taylor. The publication should arrive in your mailboxes early December. If you do not receive M but would like to, e-mail the editor at urelate@umn.edu.

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Collaborating to stop the riots

Riots following the 2002 and 2003 Gopher men's NCAA hockey championships outraged administrators, students, and the public and left the University's reputation bruised. But the U is hardly alone in dealing with the issue of out-of-control, seemingly inexplicable violence tied to sporting events.

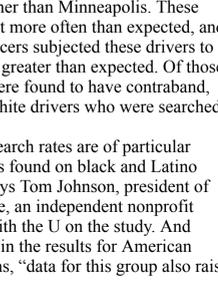


Sociologists have been studying the phenomenon of sports-related riots for years, but so far there is little in the way of concrete conclusions and definitive answers about either causes or solutions. Jerry Lewis, a sociology professor at Kent State University, says that some of the factors involved include a championship game, the presence of a natural urban gathering place, large groups of young males, and alcohol.

Rioters may actually view their destructive acts as "feats of skill," which they see as extensions of or tributes to their college athlete models, Lewis suggests. "They also look to other fans who are observing for approval."

The University is taking a multi-pronged approach to the problem this year, as well as collaborating with schools around the country. University officials and a student delegation recently participated in a student summit at the University of New Hampshire to promote responsible, alternative ways to celebrate. The U is co-hosting a conference at Ohio State in November on student conduct and riots, and is among 14 schools that are compiling and analyzing data related to riots for a Michigan State research project.

University of Minnesota Police have already held planning sessions with Minneapolis police to try to keep any future disturbances "under control before they develop," says U police chief George Aylward. He says the rioting trend is growing and must be broken. "It's a nationwide problem. It's scary in that if it becomes entrenched in the college undergraduate culture, we're going to have a heck of a time finding a remedy for it," says Aylward.

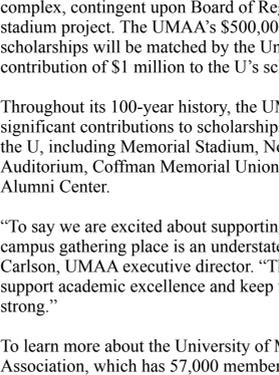


Editor's note: A longer version of this story by Burl Gilyard appears in the September-October 2003 issue of Minnesota, the UMAA magazine. To read the full story, see www.alumni.umn.edu/minnesota.

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Fall Arts Festival at the new U quarter

Imagine bee-shaped sculptures the size of your head, glowing molten red and moving inches from your reach. Sculptor Allen Peterson will create dozens of these iron models, and dancers will carry them on 5-foot poles during the Oct. 10-12 grand opening of the University of Minnesota West Bank Arts Quarter.



"Cross-pollination" blends the skills of sculptors, dancers, and musicians, and is part of the Arts Quarter Collective Fall Arts Festival on Friday, Oct. 10, 4:30-7:30 p.m. The festival is just one of several events going on that weekend to celebrate the opening of the University's Regis Center for Art and the completion of the quarter that brings all the U's arts disciplines together in one place.

"When you put dancers, actors, musicians, and visual artists in a room together, you can literally watch the creative and intellectual sparks fly," says Steven Rosenstone, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. "Add a few historians, political theorists, and social critics to the mix, and look out--the place will ignite! That's what the Arts Quarter is all about."

The grand opening gala for the new art center will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 8 to 11 p.m. Events that evening will include the "Art Moves: Department of Art Faculty Exhibition" in the Katherine E. Nash Gallery. On Sunday, Oct. 12, from noon to 3 p.m., the West Bank Arts Quarter open house will include performances, child-friendly activities, and tours of the four buildings that make up the district--the Regis Center for Art, Rarig Center (built in 1971 for theater), Ferguson Hall (music, 1985), and the Barbara Barker Center for Dance (1999).

For event location and parking information, see www.cla.umn.edu/wbaq/location.html.

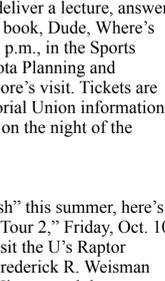
To learn more about the West Bank Arts Quarter, see page 6 of the fall 2003 issue of *M* or read the story online at www.umn.edu/urelate/m.

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Racial bias on Minnesota roads?

In 2002, black, Latino, and American Indian drivers were stopped and searched by Minnesota law enforcement officers more often than white drivers, according to a recent University of Minnesota study on racial profiling. But during discretionary searches, illegal substances were more likely to be found on white drivers.

Researchers at the U's Institute on Race and Poverty discovered that black drivers were stopped more often than expected based on the proportion of black drivers in 64 out of the 65 jurisdictions that participated in the study. White drivers were stopped at a greater than expected rate in only eight out of 60 jurisdictions. (Five jurisdictions did not provide enough information to be included into the comparison.)



If officers in the 65 jurisdictions had stopped drivers of every race and ethnicity according to their proportion in the driving population, the outcome of the study would have been different, says Myron Orfield, executive director of the institute. About 18,800 fewer blacks, 5,800 fewer Latinos, and approximately 22,500 more whites would have been stopped, he says.

According to the study, the greatest differences between actual and expected stops and searches rates for black drivers are found in suburban and central cities other than Minneapolis. These drivers were stopped 310 percent more often than expected, and once they had been stopped, officers subjected these drivers to searches at a rate of 108 percent greater than expected. Of those black drivers, only 11 percent were found to have contraband, compared to 18 percent of the white drivers who were searched.

"The significant disparities in search rates are of particular concern, given that contraband is found on black and Latino drivers at a much lower rate," says Tom Johnson, president of the Council on Crime and Justice, an independent nonprofit organization that collaborated with the U on the study. And although there is more variation in the results for American Indian drivers across jurisdictions, "data for this group also raise concerns of bias," he says.

In 2002, law enforcement officers in the participating jurisdictions were asked to collect traffic stop data such as the driver's age and gender and reason for the stop. The officers were also asked to report if they knew the race or ethnicity of the drivers before stopping them.

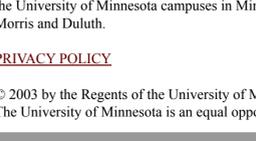
To read a report about the study or to learn more about the Minnesota Law School, based at the University of Minnesota Law School, see www.umn.edu/irp.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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Alumni Association provides gift for stadium, scholarships

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) recently announced it will give \$1.5 million to the University of Minnesota for scholarships and a new stadium complex.



"For the last two years, the UMAA National Board has been exploring opportunities for leaving a lasting alumni legacy in 2004, our 100th anniversary year," says Jerry Noyce, UMAA national president. "With the stadium initiative gaining momentum and the great need for scholarships during these difficult economic times, we saw this contribution as a meaningful way to build pride and community on our campus for years to come."

The UMAA will contribute \$1 million to a new stadium complex, contingent upon Board of Regents approval for the stadium project. The UMAA's \$500,000 gift toward scholarship will be matched by the University for a total contribution of \$1 million to the U's scholarship fund.

Throughout its 100-year history, the UMAA has made significant contributions to scholarships and building projects at the U, including Memorial Stadium, Northrop Memorial Auditorium, Coffman Memorial Union, and the McNamara Alumni Center.

"To say we are excited about supporting students and a new on-campus gathering place is an understatement," says Margaret Carlson, UMAA executive director. "The UMAA is here to support academic excellence and keep the University's spirit strong."

To learn more about the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, which has 57,000 members, see www.alumni.umn.edu.

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Safeguard your home from fire

In light of the recent deaths of three University of Minnesota students in an off-campus house fire and in preparation for National Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5-11, the U's Parent Program has compiled some safety tips.

- Check your smoke detectors. Do you need to change the batteries? According to the U.S. Fire Administration, more than 39 percent of residential fires and 52 percent of residential fatalities occur in homes without smoke alarms.

- Do you have fire extinguishers? Make sure you know how to operate them, and place them where you can reach them easily.
- Think about an escape route from each room. If the doorway is blocked, what is your alternative route? If you had to exit the room through a window, would you need a fire ladder?

- The most common causes of a fire are candles, cigarettes, and halogen lights. Never leave candles burning unattended, and do not put anything, such as paper or fabric, over a halogen light.
- If you notice exposed wiring or problems with your light fixtures or appliances, repair them immediately or call your landlord at once for repairs.

Editor's note: For more fire safety tips, especially what to do if you see fire or smoke while on a University of Minnesota campus, see the Department of Environmental Health and Safety Web site at www.dehs.umn.edu/safety/fire.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Domestic violence front-and-center

The U's Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education will observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) with a "Silent Witness National Initiative" Oct. 7-9, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. Life-sized figures with stories of domestic abuse victims will be displayed in front of Coffman Memorial Union. To learn more about the initiative, call Melissa Schmidt at 612-626-3433.

Moore on current affairs

Michael Moore, director of the Academy Award-winning documentary *Bowling for Columbine*, is coming to the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. He will deliver a lecture, answer audience questions, and sign his newest book, *Dude, Where's My Country?*, on Saturday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m., in the Sports Pavilion. U Bookstores and the Minnesota Planning and Activities Council are cosponsoring Moore's visit. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Coffman Memorial Union information desk (612-624-INFO) or at the pavilion on the night of the event.

Eagles, clothing, fossils, and more...

If you missed the U's first "Culture Crash" this summer, here's another chance! During "Culture Crash Tour 2," Friday, Oct. 10, or Saturday, Oct. 11, participants will visit the U's Raptor Center, Goldstein Museum of Design, Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, Bell Museum of Natural History, and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The guided tour (from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.) costs \$27, which includes admission fees, transportation, and lunch. Space is limited. To reserve a spot or to learn more, call Nichole Neuman at 612-626-5302 or e-mail neuma035@umn.edu.

Science in a nutshell

"Super Saturday Science," a University of Minnesota, Morris, science education program for girls in fifth through eighth grades will take place on Saturday, Nov. 1, 9 a.m.-noon, in the Science Building on the Morris campus. Participants will work with female scientists on a variety of experiments and meet other girls who like science. There is a \$6 registration fee (or 2 for \$10), and the deadline to register is Wednesday, Oct. 15. To learn more or sign up, see www.mrs.umn.edu/satsci or call Margot Rudstrom at 320-589-1711.

Oct "SOBER" Fest

Alcohol and drug issues take center stage during Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week Oct. 6-9 at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. Public events include a forum by Polk County Attorney Greg Widseth on DUI laws and underage consumption on Monday, Oct. 6, at noon in Sahlstrom Conference Center and at 7:30 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium; a discussion on alcohol recovery by Tom Fuchs, director of Glenmore Recovery Center, on Tuesday, Oct. 7, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the conference center; and a comedy act on alcohol abuse by Bernie McGrenahan McGrenahan on Wednesday, Oct. 8, 8 p.m. in the auditorium. For a full list of events, see www.crk.umn.edu/newsevents/notices03_04/octSOBERfest2003.htm.

Husky dogs and Arctic explorers

Visit the McNamara Alumni Center on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis on Monday, Oct. 13, 3-6 p.m., and you're likely to walk into an Arctic base camp--complete with dogs, tents, and other camping material. The campsite is part of the "Arctic Transect 2004 Kick Off Event" to introduce an Arctic education program between the U's College of Education and Human Development and NOMADS Adventure and Education. The free event will also include a presentation by renowned polar explorer Will Steger.

Apples galore

Sample and buy Minnesota-bred apples from an inventory of 150 varieties, including Haralson and Honeycrisp, at the U's Apple House located one mile west of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhausen. While you're there, visit the gift shop for items such as Arboretum-made apple butter and maple syrup, cookbooks, and apple-peeling machines. The Apple House is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. For a daily update of the apple varieties available, call the Apple House Hotline at 952-443-1409.

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Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Connecting alumni for a century.

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

U of M eNews 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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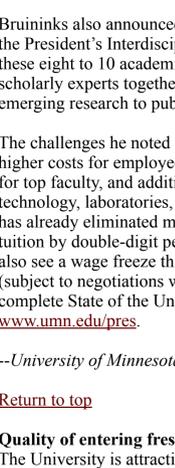
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U NEWS

Bruininks announces academic priorities

In his Oct. 2 State of the University address, University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks spoke about the opportunities facing the University in a time of "fiscal austerity" and the challenges this time presents. Among the opportunities, he identified eight academic areas for focused investment of new and existing resources.



President Robert Bruininks

Bruininks said the University will be seeking state support to focus on the biosciences and biotechnology; environment and renewable energy; translational research in human health; healthy foods, healthy lives; and brain development and vitality over the life span. The other three academic areas--children, youth, and families; arts and humanities; and law and values in health, environment, and the life sciences--will be supported through private gifts and the reallocation of existing resources.

These priorities represent opportunities for the University to build upon its successes, and they "are central to our land-grant mission and research enterprise and reflect the needs and resources of Minnesota," Bruininks said.

Bruininks also announced the creation, with private funds, of the President's Interdisciplinary Conference Series. The goal of these eight to 10 academic discussions would be to bring scholarly experts together to help the University connect emerging research to public concerns.

The challenges he noted include declining state appropriations, higher costs for employee health care premiums, competition for top faculty, and additional cost for services related to technology, laboratories, and student services. The University has already eliminated more than 500 positions and raised tuition by double-digit percentages. University employees will also see a wage freeze this year and pay more for health care (subject to negotiations with represented employees). For the complete State of the University address, see www.umn.edu/pres.

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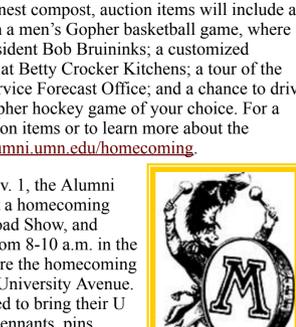
Quality of entering freshmen on the rise

The University is attracting more and better students, as measured by enrollment, high school rank, and ACT scores.

This year, the average high school percentile rank of freshmen on the Twin Cities campus is 79.9, up from 77.8 last fall and up nearly 10 percentage points since fall 1990. The average ACT score went from 22.8 last year to 24.8.

"This is great news," says University President Bob Bruininks. "Demand from outstanding students is stronger than ever, reflecting the high-quality academic experience the University offers at an affordable price."

University-wide enrollment figures for fall 2003 are up to 63,769 from 62,789 last year. Enrollment of freshmen students of color has also increased, from 14.5 percent to 16.1 percent (with an increase of 20.8 percent on the Twin Cities campus). At 49,474, enrollment on the Twin Cities campus will likely again be the third largest of any U.S. campus, behind the University of Texas at Austin and Ohio State University. For the first time, enrollment on the Duluth campus has topped 10,000 and enrollment in Crookston's baccalaureate programs is at a record 1,000.



More students on the Twin Cities campus are also on track to graduate in four years. The average credit load for undergraduate students is now 14.2, up from 13.3 in fall 2001 and 13.9 last year. This increase is attributed to the fall 2002 implementation of a 13-credit tuition band ("band," in this case, means students who take more than 13 credits pay no additional tuition) and a 13-credit minimum requirement for new students.

"Raising graduation rates is an important University priority," says Craig Swan, vice provost for undergraduate education, "and it appears that the policies we've put in place to achieve this goal are working."

For detailed enrollment data, see www.irr.umn.edu.

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Alumni Association hosts homecoming weekend events

Nearly 150 unique items, from a wine and chocolate party at Chocolat Celeste to a truckload of compost, will be up for bid at the University of Minnesota Alumni Association's (UMAA) first Spirit Night Scholarship Auction on Friday, Oct. 31, 5-8 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center.



In addition to the wine and chocolate party and the truckload

of the University's finest compost, auction items will include a limo ride to and from a men's Gopher basketball game, where you'll sit next to President Bob Bruininks; a customized cooking class for six at Betty Crocker Kitchens; a tour of the National Weather Service Forecast Office; and a chance to drive the Zamboni at a Gopher hockey game of your choice. For a complete list of auction items or to learn more about the auction, see www.alumni.umn.edu/homecoming.

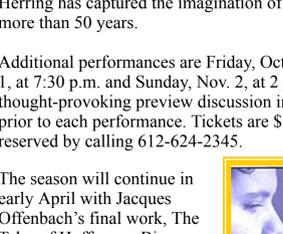
And on Saturday, Nov. 1, the Alumni Association will host a homecoming breakfast, Gopher Road Show, and Membership Expo from 8-10 a.m. in the Sports Pavilion, before the homecoming parade passes by on University Avenue. Guests are encouraged to bring their U of M memorabilia--pennants, pins, programs, and posters--to be appraised by Gopher Road Show experts. The cost of the breakfast is \$5 for UMAA members, \$7 for nonmembers, and \$3 for children under 10. The UMAA breakfast is sponsored by Emerald Gardens in collaboration with the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences and the University Parent Program. For more information, visit www.alumni.umn.edu/homecoming.



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A course for the puppies

With activities like "pass the puppy" and "puppy playtime," the Puppy Classes taught by University of Minnesota veterinary students are so much fun that it's easy to overlook the animal behavior principles that underlie each exercise.



Since 2002, students from the University of Minnesota Behavior Club in the College of Veterinary Medicine have played an integral role in teaching the very

popular course offered by the U's Veterinary Medical Center. The students complete a 14-hour training program and work with puppies under the supervision of U veterinarian Pam Hand and animal behaviorist Petra Mertens, both of whom developed the Puppy Class curriculum.

"Our hope is that students who graduate from University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine will be advocates of puppy socialization classes within the veterinary profession," Hand says. Socializing a puppy, she adds, is crucial to preventing many behavior problems, including aggression towards humans and other dogs.

"For dogs, puppyhood is either a stepping stone or a stumbling block," says junior Donnell Hofeld. "Puppy classes are one of the most valuable things people can do for and with their dogs. [The owners] learn about fun, safe, and effective training methods and get a dog that is well-mannered and socialized--a pet they can be proud of."

In addition to working with a variety of dog breeds, Hofeld says that teaching a class allows her the chance to hone her communication skills with pet owners. "I gain invaluable experience interacting with--and hopefully improving--both the animal and human aspect of veterinary medicine," she says.

Each Puppy Class consists of five, 75-minute sessions. Puppies must be between 7 and 14 weeks old at the first class and should be current on vaccinations and veterinary health exams.

The next two Puppy Classes will start on Wednesdays, Oct. 22 and Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. in the Small Animal Hospital on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. The cost is \$55, which includes 5 sessions and free handouts. Books, training aids, and toys will be available for sale at the classes. To register or for more information, call 612-624-0797.

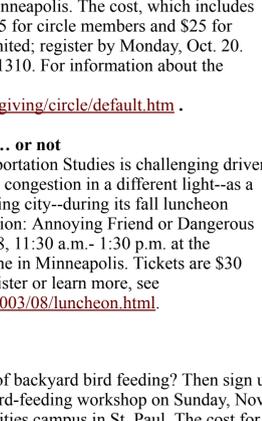
Edited from an original story by Sue Kirchoff in Profiles, fall 2003.

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Managing fall leaves

It's time again to don the warm fall jackets and rake the leaves. The following are some tips from the University of Minnesota Extension Service for managing leaves in your yard.

- Shredded leaves decompose faster on the lawn than whole leaves. "We have found that some mulching lawnmowers do a good job of shredding leaves into small chips," says Tom Halbach, a water quality and waste management educator with the Extension Service. You can also shred leaves by running them through a shredder or chopper. Halbach recommends several passes with the mower, with or without a leaf-shredding attachment.
- Fertilizing the lawn will help decompose leaves and give the grass a good start next spring.



Halbach says your last fall fertilizer application should go down about Oct. 27. Leaves are high in carbon, and "a carbon-to-nitrogen ratio of about 30-to-1 is ideal to speed decomposition of leaf chips," he advises. To calculate the amount of actual nitrogen in your fertilizer, see www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG3338.html.

Halbach and Extension educator Robert Mugaas have written Options for Disposing of Leaves, which discusses your choices for at-home and off-site disposal. This publication (item number 5570), and other U of M Extension Service publications on composting, mulching, and home yard chippers and shredders are available free online at www.extension.umn.edu, or for a fee when you order a print copy by phone, 800-876-8636 or 612-624-4900.

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Two servings from new opera director

A pair of seldom-performed operas--a satire and a parody--will mark the University of Minnesota's 2003-04 opera season and second year at the helm for new University opera theatre director David Walsh.

University Opera Theatre and Workshop Director David Walsh (center) with some of his students during a dress rehearsal. Photo by Diana Watters

Benjamin Britten's chamber opera Albert Herring will open on Thursday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m. in Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. This dark but comic satire examines the theme of outsider in an unforgiving world. The story of a simple grocer boy from a small English village who is crowned

May King (in the absence of a suitably virtuous May Queen) "is the antithesis of grand opera," says Walsh, who replaced long-time opera theatre director Vern Sutton last year. Yet despite this contrary, Albert Herring has captured the imagination of opera audiences for more than 50 years.

Additional performances are Friday, Oct. 31, and Saturday, Nov. 1, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. Walsh will lead a thought-provoking preview discussion in the lobby 45 minutes prior to each performance. Tickets are \$13 to \$15 and can be reserved by calling 612-624-2345.

The season will continue in early April with Jacques Offenbach's final work, The Tales of Hoffmann. Bizarre but fascinating, this parody of artistic genius is an eloquent testimony to Offenbach's own quest to achieve greatness. The Tales of Hoffmann follows the life of a poet as he goes through lost loves and experiences insanity and drunkenness.

Two U of M orchestral students practice for the opera.

"The idea this season is to delight audiences while giving students an education experience they can really use," says Walsh, who also teaches opera history, acting, and directing at the U. A native of Canada, Walsh has had a professional directing career spanning more than 25 years and two continents.

To read more about Walsh, see www.music.umn.edu/news/info/press_12.htm. To learn more about the U's opera theatre program, see www.music.umn.edu/degrees/degreesensembles.htm or e-mail walsh057@umn.edu.

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Health problems plague childhood cancer survivors

About 44 percent of childhood cancer survivors face moderate to severe problems with anxiety, pain, regular activity, general and mental health, according to a nationwide study coordinated by the University of Minnesota Cancer Center.

Researchers compared the health status of 9,535 adult survivors of the most common forms of childhood cancer, including leukemia; brain, bone, and kidney tumors; Hodgkin's disease; and soft-tissue sarcoma with a randomly selected group of the survivors' siblings. They discovered that the cancer survivors were significantly more likely to report adverse general health (2.5 times more likely), adverse mental health (80 percent more likely), activity limitations (2.7 times more likely), and functional impairment (5.2 times more likely), compared to their siblings.

The study also revealed that, despite the large number of survivors affected by adverse health, 88 percent of all patients still reported that they considered their health to be good, very good, or excellent.

"The general health as perceived by adults surviving childhood cancer is very good, with only 10.9 percent reporting fair or poor health, [yet] long-term adverse effects in specific aspects of health were relatively common," reported the researchers. "Factors that were associated with impaired health status included being female, not completing high school, having a household income less than \$20,000, and having a diagnosis of bone tumor, central nervous system tumor, sarcoma, or Hodgkin's disease."

The study is published in the September 24 issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association.

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Life lessons from wheelchair-bound athlete

Former paralympian Judy Siegle of Fargo, N.D., will speak about "Living a Life that Matters" and discuss "Ten Strategies for Overcoming Obstacles in Your Life" on Monday, Oct. 20, at noon and 1 p.m., respectively, in Brown Dining Room on the Crookston campus. Siegle has set several national wheelchair racing records and competed as a member of the 2000 U.S. Paralympics Team. Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, call Laurie at 218-281-8587.

Politics of health care

The Humphrey Institute Policy Forum's fall conference, "The Politics of Health Care: Prescriptions for Change," will feature Colorado Governor Richard Lamm, author of The Brave New World of Health Care, and Doug Badger, President Bush's health care policy adviser. The conference begins with a dinner and a keynote address on Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 6 p.m. and continues on Oct. 23, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. For complete program and registration information, call Liz at 612-625-8330 or see www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/policy-forum.

The classics at Morris

The 5th annual Morris Classic Film Festival will run Oct. 23-26 at the theatre on the Morris campus. The offerings this year are Funny Face on Thursday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m.; The Maltese Falcon on Friday at 7 p.m.; The Wizard of Oz on Saturday at 2 p.m.; The Bicycle Thief on Saturday at 9 p.m.; and Lifeboat on Sunday at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$3 (\$2 for seniors and under 18) for each movie or \$10 (\$7.50) for a five-movie pass. Tickets are available in the student activities office or at the door. To learn more, call 320-589-6080.

Money: saving and giving

If you're a woman and want to learn more about financial management, philanthropy, and estate planning, then mark your calendar for Saturday, Oct. 25, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The U of M Women's Philanthropic Leadership Circle is sponsoring a workshop by author Ruth Hayden and former estate planning lawyer Robert Peterson at Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The cost, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$15 for circle members and \$25 for nonmembers. Space is limited; register by Monday, Oct. 20. Call Betty Jo at 612-625-1310. For information about the leadership circle, see www.education.umn.edu/giving/circle/default.htm.

Hooray for traffic jams... or not

The U's Center for Transportation Studies is challenging drivers in the Twin Cities to view congestion in a different light--as a sign of a successful, thriving city--during its fall luncheon seminar, "Traffic Congestion: Annoying Friend or Dangerous Foe?" on Tuesday, Oct. 28, 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome in Minneapolis. Tickets are \$30 (\$10 for students). To register or learn more, see www.cts.umn.edu/news/2003/08/luncheon.html.

Bird feeding 101

Want to get the most out of backyard bird feeding? Then sign up for the Raptor Center's bird-feeding workshop on Sunday, Nov. 9, 2-4 p.m. on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. The cost for the workshop is \$7 (\$5 for children), or you may buy one of the following packages, which include the workshop fee, a donation to the center, and a gift to help you feed birds in your yard: \$20 Goldfinch Level, \$40 Chickadee Level, or \$75 Woodpecker Level. To register or learn more, call 612-624-4745.

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U NEWS

Strike at the U

On Monday, Oct. 20, negotiations with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) clerical units—representing 1,900 of the University of Minnesota’s 18,000 employees on all campuses—broke off and AFSCME announced its decision to go on strike.

“We were very disappointed that we couldn’t come to a negotiated settlement,” says Carol Carrier, vice president for human resources. “Our proposal is consistent with the market, it is equitable and it reflects the deep budget reductions the University of Minnesota must manage over the next two years.”

Last May, the state Legislature reduced the University’s budget by 15 percent, or \$185 million over two years. To manage the reduction and maintain academic excellence, the University increased tuition by nearly 15 percent, reduced operating costs, and asked employees to take a one-year wage freeze and pay additional costs for health care coverage.

The University’s offer to the AFSCME clerical units is consistent with the contracts successfully negotiated with the two other largest bargaining units.

Specifically, the University proposed to the AFSCME clerical units a salary freeze in year one of the contract, a 2.5 percent salary increase in year two, and an increase in the employee share of the health premium cost totaling approximately \$15 a paycheck for single coverage in the base plan. To offset the increased health care cost, the University offered a \$200 one-time payment to cover the increased premium cost for the six months in which there would be no wage increase.

Carrier said AFSCME clerical unit salaries, which average \$32,000 annually, are competitive with both the public and private sector markets in Minnesota and nationally.

“As evidenced by our low turnover rates and high demand for open positions, the University is a very good place to work,” says Carrier. “In addition to competitive wages and health benefits, University employees have many professional opportunities, the ability to take classes for credit at no cost and a good deal of job security.”

On the first day of the strike, 55 percent of AFSCME clerical unit members were at work, according to University officials. As of Wednesday, October 29, that figure had grown to 64 percent. Faculty members were encouraged to hold classes at regularly scheduled times and at on-campus locations, and the vast majority did.

“Everyone is pitching in, and we’re getting the work done,” says Carrier, noting that in most units, work was being spread out among non-striking employees. “We have a responsibility to students, faculty, and the people of Minnesota to advance the work of the University, and we’re committed to delivering on that promise.”

This is the first strike at the University in more than 50 years.

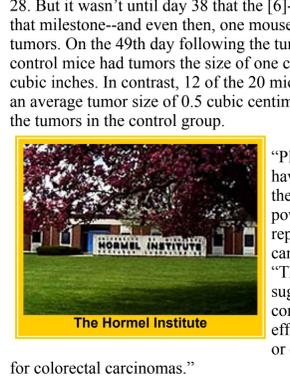
For more information on the strike, see <http://www.umn.edu/ohr/er/strike.htm>.

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One-stop site for traveling Gopher football fans

What does it take to hit the road and support maroon and gold in enemy territory? Find out on the new University of Minnesota Gopher football fan Web site created by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.



The Web site, at

<http://www.alumni.umn.edu/fan>, complements the sports news and statistics currently available on [Gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com) by providing specific information for the Gopher football supporter who wants to go to away games.

<http://www.alumni.umn.edu/fan>, complements the sports news and statistics currently available on Gophersports.com by providing specific information for the Gopher football supporter who wants to go to away games, says U athletic director Joel Maturi. “We have great fans, and we want to make it as easy as possible for them to travel with the Gophers,” he says.

In addition to tips such as where to stay or how to buy game tickets, this Web site gives the Gopher fan details about special pregame events and a chance to share photos or memories from a past roadtrip or bowl game in an online scrapbook. The site will also feature personal player profiles and fan bios and follow the progress of Gopher football prospects for postseason play.

“Supporting University athletics is one way alumni reconnect with their alma mater,” said Jerry Noyce, UMAA volunteer president.

“This new Web site will be a valuable resource to fans and will support the team by bringing more enthusiastic supporters to the away games.”

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Ginger as an anti-cancer agent

The substance that gives ginger its distinctive flavor appears to inhibit the growth of human colorectal cancer cells, according to research at the University of Minnesota’s Hormel Institute in Austin, Minn.



Plants of the ginger family have been credited with therapeutic and preventive powers and have been reported to have anti-cancer activity.

Research associate professor Ann Bode and her colleagues fed 20 mice a half-milligram of [6]-gingerol, the main active component of ginger, three times a week before and after injecting them with human colorectal tumor cells. The mice consuming the [6]-gingerol lagged behind the mice that were not fed the substance (the control group) in both the number of animals with measurable tumors and the average size of the tumors.

All the mice in the control group had measurable tumors by day 28. But it wasn’t until day 38 that the [6]-gingerol group reached that milestone—and even then, one mouse still had no measurable tumors. On the 49th day following the tumor cell injection, all the control mice had tumors the size of one cubic centimeter or 0.06 cubic inches. In contrast, 12 of the 20 mice given the ginger had an average tumor size of 0.5 cubic centimeter or half the size of the tumors in the control group.



The Hormel Institute

“Plants of the ginger family have been credited with therapeutic and preventive powers and have been reported to have anti-cancer activity,” says Bode. “These results strongly suggest that ginger compounds may be effective chemopreventive or chemotherapeutic agents for colorectal carcinomas.”

Preliminary results also suggested that tumors in the control mice had spread (metastasized) more than the tumors in the [6]-gingerol-treated mice, but whether a significant difference actually exists remains to be verified, says Bode.

In their next round of experiments, the researchers plan to feed ginger to mice only after they have grown tumors to a certain size.

“The new experiments should be more clinically relevant,” explains Bode. “They will get at the question of whether a patient could eat ginger to slow the metastasis of a nonoperable tumor.”

The University of Minnesota has applied for a patent on the use of [6]-gingerol as an anti-cancer agent, and the technology has been licensed to Pediatric Pharmaceuticals in New Jersey.

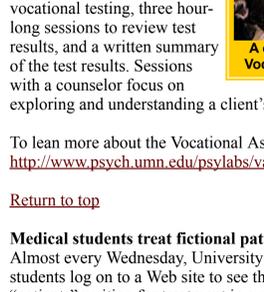
To learn more about anti-cancer research conducted at the Hormel Institute, see http://www.hi.umn.edu/zd_lab.html.

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Saving millions for small towns

Local municipalities can spend more than \$1 million to build a treatment facility to reduce the levels of arsenic in its water supply to meet federal regulations. But University of Minnesota student Mindy Erickson has found a cheaper, long-term solution for some small towns.



University of Minnesota graduate student Mindy Erickson in Clay County, Minn., collecting sediment core samples for geochemical analysis.

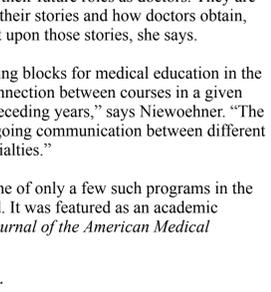
Erickson, a doctoral candidate in the U’s water resources science program, developed a “site investigation procedure” to look for low-arsenic aquifers.

“This is an innovative idea because a ‘site investigation’ procedure has typically been used to find out where contamination is, say around a hazardous waste site, not where it isn’t,” she explains.

“Implementing a site investigation is relatively easy because Minnesota has an excellent public database of well records. It takes a couple days of one person’s time to identify and sample wells and a couple hundred dollars to analyze a dozen water samples.” The method increases the viability of drilling new wells with low-arsenic levels.

“In Minnesota alone, thousands of public and private wells fail to meet the new arsenic maximum contaminant level,” she says. “Most arsenic in Minnesota ground water is not connected to a specific source, such as mining waste, hazardous waste sites, pesticide use, or geothermal features. Rather, arsenic contamination in Minnesota ground water is a widespread, naturally occurring phenomenon.” According to the Minnesota Department of Health, the health risks from arsenic at the levels typically found in Minnesota are from long-term exposure.

Neilsville is one community that has already benefited from Erickson’s research. Next spring, it will drill a new, low-arsenic well that will meet the new federal regulation at one-tenth the cost of building a treatment plant. Erickson has also worked with other communities in Minnesota such as Cosmos, Climax, Frost, Ulen, and Elizabeth.



Erickson giving several Clay County high school students an overview of the arsenic research that is taking place in their community.

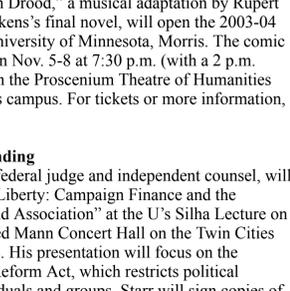
To learn more about the project titled “Arsenic in Minnesota’s Groundwater,” see <http://www.cura.umn.edu/programs/FRP.html> or e-mail Erickson at eric0984@umn.edu. For a map of arsenic concentrations in public water supplies in the Upper Midwest, see <http://www.umn.edu/urelate/newsservice/erickson-map.html>.

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Eating with class

At a recent Etiquette and Image Dinner hosted by the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, more than 400 University students learned the following formal dining tips.

- Place your napkin on your lap within 10 seconds of sitting down at the table.
- Use utensils farthest from your plate first (usually the salad fork), and work your way in as the different courses are served. Dessert utensils are placed above the plate.
- Taste your food before adding seasoning.
- Rest your knife as you use it with the blade facing you, either at the top of your plate or across the plate at a 12 and 4 o’clock angle.
- Place bread on the bread plate and break it in half immediately after receiving it.
- Place butter on the bread plate and use it from there. Remove butter completely from the foil wrapping and place the wrapper under the bread plate.
- Place liquids (drinks or soup) on your right and solids (salad or bread) on the left.
- Cut food a bite-size at a time.
- Pass dishes clockwise.
- Pass salt and pepper together.



Corporate etiquette consultant Darcy Matz led the students through a three-course meal and spoke about topics such as professional behavior and table manners, and representatives from Nordstrom gave tips on dressing for an interview and building a career wardrobe. The annual event, designed for graduating seniors, was cosponsored by the Alumni Association, the U’s Career Development Network, Ingersoll Rand, and Nordstrom.

--University of Minnesota Alumni Association

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U center offers vocational assessment

What do you want to be now that you’re grown up? That’s the question the University of Minnesota’s Vocational Assessment Clinic has helped individuals answer for the past three decades.



A team of Vocational Assessment Clinic counselors during a consultation meeting.

Since its inception in 1974, the clinic in Elliott Hall on the Twin Cities campus has been a place for the public and people within the University to seek career advice, or more specifically, to identify a career that fits his or her interests, personality, abilities, needs, and values.

“Individuals may find our services especially useful if they are experiencing dissatisfaction in their current job, re-entering the workforce, considering returning to school for additional training or needing some guidance to enhance their current position or evaluate career alternatives,” says Jo-Ida Hansen, University psychology professor and center director. The clinic is part of the U’s counseling psychology doctoral program.

The clinic offers a five-session package at \$400 (University of Minnesota alumni receive a 15 percent discount), which includes a one-hour orientation, four hours of vocational testing, three hour-long sessions to review test results, and a written summary of the test results. Sessions with a counselor focus on exploring and understanding a client’s assessment information.

A counseling session at the Vocational Assessment Clinic.

To learn more about the Vocational Assessment Clinic, see <http://www.psych.umn.edu/psylabs/vac> or call 612-625-1519.

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Medical students treat fictional patients at virtual clinic

Almost every Wednesday, University of Minnesota medical students log on to a Web site to see the medical records of “patients” waiting for treatment in a primary care clinic. Fictional characters range from newborn babies to 90-year-old grandmothers, and health concerns are related to courses the students are taking.

The Minnesota Virtual Clinic debuted a year ago to medical students in the class of 2006, and it was created to provide clinical context for the basic science courses taught at the U’s Medical School.

The Minnesota Virtual Clinic debuted a year ago to medical students in the class of 2006, and it was created to provide clinical context for the basic science courses taught at the U’s Medical School. For example, a patient with a foot laceration would appear when the students are studying muscles of the feet and leg in anatomy. Doctors who teach at the Medical School create the patients and the details—health history, laboratory results, and medications—that go with each medical case. Students follow the patients through each course that they take during their undergraduate education.

According to program director Catherine Niewoehner, the cases are intended to illustrate interaction with patients, major medical conditions, and the principles of medicine. In essence, the students are preparing for their future roles as doctors. They are learning how patients tell their stories and how doctors obtain, evaluate, describe, and act upon those stories, she says.

“One of the major stumbling blocks for medical education in the past has been a lack of connection between courses in a given year and courses in the preceding years,” says Niewoehner. “The virtual clinic provides ongoing communication between different subjects and medical specialties.”

The U’s virtual clinic is one of only a few such programs in the United States or the world. It was featured as an academic innovation in the Oct. 1 *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

--Academic Health Center

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U OF M HAPPENINGS

Oddities at the Bell

Come one, come all! Costumed interpreters will turn the Bell Museum of Natural History on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis into a circus sideshow of the bizarre and mysterious on Saturday, Nov. 1, 10-4 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 2, noon-4 p.m. Among the attractions are a 40-foot human tapeworm, a six-legged pig, a three-bodied pig, and a goose egg with a golf ball inside. Admissions is \$2. For general information, see <http://www.bellmuseum.org/>.

Birthday bash by the river

The Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum on the Twin Cities campus will celebrate its 10th anniversary with an “Off the Wall” after-hours party on Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Part of the museum will be transformed into the WAM! Nightclub with costumed models as live sculptures. Tickets are \$25. To reserve your ticket, call 612-626-4747. For general information, see <http://hudson.acad.umn.edu>.

Speaking up for the public good

Winona LaDuke, founder of the Indigenous Women’s Network and former Green Party vice presidential candidate, will present “Voice and the Public Good” on Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 8 p.m. in Kiehle Auditorium on the Crookston campus. Admission is \$2. Following her presentation, LaDuke will sign copies of her books at a reception in the rotunda. She is author of *Last Standing Woman* and *All Our Relations: Native Struggles for Land and Life*. For more information, call Pam at 218-281-8505.

Dickens in Morris

“The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” a musical adaptation by Rupert Holmes of Charles Dickens’s final novel, will open the 2003-04 theater season at the University of Minnesota, Morris. The comic murder mystery will run Nov. 5-8 at 7:30 p.m. (with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday) in the Proscenium Theatre of Humanities Fine Arts on the Morris campus. For tickets or more information, call 320-589-6249.

Starr on political spending

Kenneth Starr, former federal judge and independent counsel, will speak about “Political Liberty: Campaign Finance and the Freedoms of Speech and Association” at the U’s Silha Lecture on Thursday, Nov. 6, in Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. His presentation will focus on the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act, which restricts political contributions by individuals and groups. Starr will sign copies of his book *First Among Equals* following the lecture. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, see <http://www.silha.umn.edu>.

Remembering the dead

Several “ofrendas” or altars commemorating “Dia de los Muertos” or Day of the Dead, a Mexican tradition based on the belief that souls of the dead return to the world of the living, are on display through Sunday, Nov. 9, at the Tweed Museum of Art on the Duluth campus. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, Nov. 1, 1-3 p.m. For general information, see <http://www.d.umn.edu/tma/generalinfo.htm>.

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- [Duluth Bulldogs](#)
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Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.

University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Connecting alumni for a century.

U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University’s legislative request and how you can help.

University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page

U of M eNews 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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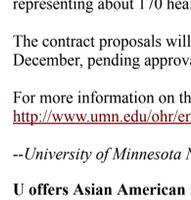
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Editor's note: eNews will not be published on Thursday, Nov. 27, because of the Thanksgiving holiday. You will receive the next issue on Thursday, Dec. 4. Happy Thanksgiving.

U NEWS

Tentative agreement ends strike

The University of Minnesota reached a tentative agreement with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) clerical units on Tuesday, Nov. 4, ending a 15-day strike by the union. The AFSCME clerical units represent about 1,900 employees on all U campuses.



"We value our clerical employees and are very pleased to have them return to work," says U President Bob Bruininks. "There is no doubt that a strike is disruptive, and we are hopeful that we can quickly return to our normally collegial environment."

Bruininks says the University is satisfied with the outcome and that parameters of the agreement are consistent with those accepted by other employee groups. In general, over the biennium, all employee groups are assuming a greater level of cost sharing for health care benefits, a one-year wage freeze, and wage increases of 2.5 percent in the second year.

"This is a very fair proposal that addresses the concerns of AFSCME members and will ensure that these positions remain competitive in the market," says Bruininks. "At the same time, it is financially prudent and responsive to the huge budget challenge the University is facing."

A state mediator called the parties back to the bargaining table on Sunday, Nov. 2. After an all-night session, bargaining resumed the next day at 6 p.m. The University also reached a tentative agreement of comparable terms with AFSCME Unit 4, representing about 170 health care workers.

The contract proposals will go to the Board of Regents in December, pending approval by AFSCME members.

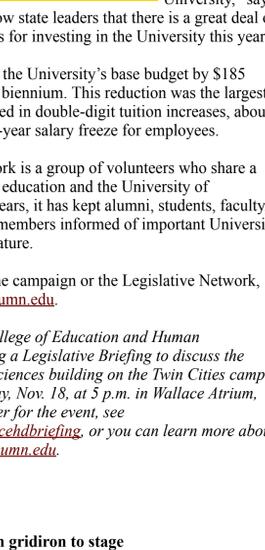
For more information on the strike, see <http://www.umn.edu/ohr/er/strike.htm>.

--University of Minnesota News Service

U offers Asian American minor

How do the experiences of Asian descent compare to those of other immigrant groups that make up this country? Undergraduate students can explore this question and many others when they minor in Asian American Studies at the University of Minnesota. The U is the only school in Minnesota to offer this program.

The program, which falls under the Department of American Studies, focuses on the history, politics, and culture of Americans of Asian descent. Its courses are designed to help students explore the diversity of Asian American communities, explains Josephine Lee, an English professor and driving force in establishing the program.



"Our Asian American Studies program recognizes the uniqueness of Minnesota's Asian American populations and their commonalities with each other and with other Asian American communities across the nation," says Lee.

Once known for its cultural homogeneity, Minnesota has become a magnet for immigrants from countries throughout Asia. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the state's Asian American population increased by 108 percent in the 1990s (from 78,000 to more than 168,000). The U's undergraduate Asian American student population makes up 11.6 percent of its total student body.

"It's high time it's happening," says Lee. "It's not just for Asian American students. It's also a field of interest all kinds of people are getting into. It's an academic field that's coming of age."

Having a minor is the first step toward a possible Asian American Studies Department, says Lee.

To learn more about the U's new Asian American Studies minor, see www.cla.umn.edu/aasi/home.html.

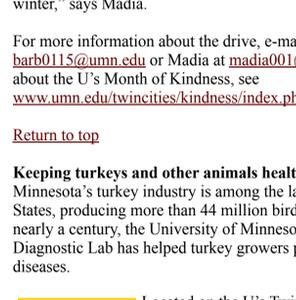
--University of Minnesota News Service

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Petition for the U

The University of Minnesota's Legislative Network launched an online petition campaign (you can sign the petition at www.thedatabank.com/dpg/1634532/default.asp) last week to ask Governor Tim Pawlenty to invest in the University.

The campaign will help to demonstrate how important the University is to the state, says Mike Dean, Legislative Network coordinator. The University educates students, trains Minnesota's health care professionals, attracts businesses and employers to the state, develops cures and conducts research that improves our quality of life. The University of Minnesota is critical to the state's long-term success, and without adequate funding every family in the state will be affected.



"The goal of the campaign is to build a grassroots movement in support of the University," says Dean. "We need to show state leaders that there is a great deal of support among citizens for investing in the University this year."

Last year, the state cut the University's base budget by \$185 million for the current biennium. This reduction was the largest in U history and resulted in double-digit tuition increases, about 500 layoffs, and a one-year salary freeze for employees.

The Legislative Network is a group of volunteers who share a commitment to higher education and the University of Minnesota. Over the years, it has kept alumni, students, faculty, staff, and community members informed of important University initiatives at the legislature.

To learn more about the campaign or the Legislative Network, see www.supporttheu.umn.edu.

Editor's Note: The College of Education and Human Development is hosting a Legislative Briefing to discuss the proposed Education Sciences building on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis Tuesday, Nov. 18, at 5 p.m. in Wallace Atrium, Burton Hall. To register for the event, see www.alumni.umn.edu/cehdbriefing, or you can learn more about it at www.supporttheu.umn.edu.

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Marching band: from gridiron to stage

The lights dim. You hear the thundering sound of drums. And before you can say, "Let's go, Gophers!" 300 maroon-and-gold-clad musicians explode through the doors and storm down the aisles of Northrop Memorial Auditorium. The Minnesota Marching Band's 42nd annual indoor concerts fall on Saturday, Nov. 22, and Sunday, Nov. 23.

"It's an incredible experience," says band director Jerry Luckhardt. "Witnessing a Big Ten marching band up close connects you to the University in a very powerful and emotional way." The concerts, which will feature selections from the band's 2003 halftime performances and traditional University school songs, will be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday.



THE PRIDE OF MINNESOTA
 Since their inception, the indoor concerts by the Minnesota Marching Band have grown in complexity. Today, the band incorporates big-screen video projection, computerized lighting, and other theatrical effects.

The idea of bringing an entire marching band indoors was conceived in 1961 by former band director Frank Benciscutto. Many other colleges in the United States have since adopted the idea. Even the Tony Award-winning musical "Blast!," which features a cast of performers executing intricate drill movements while playing on brass and percussion instruments, can be traced to the creativity of the late Benciscutto.

Since their inception, the indoor concerts by the Minnesota Marching Band have grown in complexity. Today, the band incorporates big-screen video projection, computerized lighting, and other theatrical effects. According to Luckhardt, these concerts are now a combination of high-tech and high-tradition. "There's really something for everyone, especially families, and it's also a great way to encourage interest in the arts and in music," he says.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for children (12 and under). Concertgoers will receive a \$5 coupon toward the soon-to-be-released Marching Band Gold Doublehead. Proceeds from sales will support the marching band program. For tickets or group discounts, call 612-624-2345 or see www.northrop.umn.edu. To learn more about the Minnesota Marching Band, see www.music.umn.edu/marchingband.

Editor's note: The University of Minnesota, Morris, will host its Annual Band Festival on Monday, Nov. 17, at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium. The event features performances by high school students in the Festival Honor Band as well as by the UMM current Band. Tickets, which are \$3 for adults and \$1 for senior citizens and students, will be available at the door and in the Student Center the week prior to the concert. To learn more, call John Ross at 320-589-6236.

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A drive to fill a bus

Two University of Minnesota students want to fill a bus with clothing. And they'll take anything you can offer, except underwear. Their "Winter Warmth from U" clothing drive for Twin Cities children and families will mark the end of the U's Month of Kindness celebration.

The bus, a University of Minnesota Campus Circulator, will be parked in front of Coffman Memorial Union on Wednesday, Dec. 3, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to receive donations from the public and the University community. (The drive will begin in residence halls and University apartment buildings on Monday, Nov. 17.) Hillsbury United Communities, a Twin Cities nonprofit organization, will then distribute the items to local children and families in need.

"Although warmer clothing is preferred, we'll also take T-shirts, and everyone has a few of those that they don't want anymore," says Surbhi Madia, a psychology and elementary education senior. "A couple of T-shirts under a sweater is a great insulator."

Madia and John Barber, a premed senior, envisioned the drive a year ago while walking downtown on a first date. "It was a very cold day, and we had on hats; big, warm jackets; and gloves," says Madia. "We were talking about how we lead selfish lives in school, when the conversation turned to how people who don't have the little luxuries we have stay warm during the winter."

They began discussing what they could do in the dorms--as both were residence hall advisers--and before long, they found support around campus and across town.

On Dec. 3, donors will receive hot chocolate and gift certificates from local businesses, including Applebees and Ben and Jerry's; radio station KDWB will broadcast live from Coffman Union; and Susan Hagstrum, the wife of President Bob Bruininks, will speak at 1 p.m.

"More than anything, we hope families can be warm this winter," says Madia.

For more information about the drive, e-mail Barber at barb0115@umn.edu or Madia at madia001@umn.edu. To learn about the U's Month of Kindness, see www.umn.edu/twincities/kindness/index.php.

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Keeping turkeys and other animals healthy

Minnesota's turkey industry is among the largest in the United States, producing more than 44 million birds annually. And for nearly a century, the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Lab has helped turkey growers pinpoint and test for diseases.

Located on the U's Twin Cities campus in St. Paul, the 65-person lab is the state's primary animal health laboratory, handling more than 56,000 cases and 1 million tests annually. Aside from animal breeders, farmers, and pet owners, its clients include the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and local zoos--Minnesota, Lake Superior, and Como Park.

"Animals are submitted to us for diagnosis," says James Collins, lab director. "We make discoveries... and we develop products that are beneficial to the industry and can even play a role in public health."

One of the lab's most significant contributions to the turkey industry in recent years is a vaccine for turkey respiratory disease. The lab created the vaccine with a Kansas pharmaceutical company to combat the avian pneumovirus, which decimated flocks in 1997 and continues to cause millions in lost sales.

To learn more about services at the U's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, which is part of the College of Veterinary Medicine, see www.mvdl.umn.edu.

According to Heidi Kassenborg, supervisor of the Minnesota Department of Health's Bioterrorism, Epidemiology, and Surveillance Unit, the lab's expertise in animal disease could prove increasingly important as the state works to protect humans from anthrax and other diseases transmitted by animals.

"Diseases that happen in animals today can happen in humans tomorrow, and vice versa," Kassenborg says.

To learn more about services at the U's Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, which is part of the College of Veterinary Medicine, see www.mvdl.umn.edu.

Edited from an original story by Joel Hoekstra in Pictures of Health, winter 2003.

Editor's note: If you're looking for tips on how to buy and cook turkey, the University of Minnesota Extension Service has some to offer; [click here](#).

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Gifts to U result in MBAs for 38

Thirty-eight executives from the Guangdong Province in China wrapped up a whirlwind 10-day visit to the Twin Cities on Monday with a University of Minnesota graduation ceremony--an event delayed six months by the SARS outbreak in China.

The CHEMBA partnership between Carlson and the Lingnan College of Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou city was made possible by gifts from U donors with strong ties to the South China region.

The Chinese visitors were part of the Carlson School of Management's inaugural class for its China Executive Master's in Business Administration (CHEMBA) program, which was based in Guangdong Province--the epicenter of the SARS outbreak early this year.

The CHEMBA partnership between Carlson and the Lingnan College of Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou city was made possible by gifts from U donors with strong ties to the South China region: Gene Sit, CEO of Sit Investment Group, whose family is from Guangdong Province; Jean Ip, a 1966 alumnus whose mother graduated from Lingnan; and Michael Illbruck, a 1985 Carlson graduate whose company has operations in China.

"In Eastern cultures, an American MBA is highly respected," says Mary Maus Kosir, director of international programs at Carlson. "We're among the elite who offer it in China."

The program, which began in 2001, is modeled after Carlson's domestic executive MBA program and consists of 16 courses (taught in English) over 16 months, including a 10-day overseas residency. During their trip to the Twin Cities, the CHEMBA grads met with the CEOs of Carlson Companies, H.B. Fuller, Medtronic, Sit Investment Group, and General Mills, and toured 3M and the Federal Reserve Bank.

During their trip to the Twin Cities, the CHEMBA grads met with the CEOs of Carlson Companies, H.B. Fuller, Medtronic, Sit Investment Group, and General Mills, and toured 3M and the Federal Reserve Bank.

The Carlson School first offered global executive MBAs in 1996, beginning with the Warsaw School of Economics (Warsaw Executive MBA program). This was followed by the Vienna Executive MBA program established in March 2000 with the Vienna University of Business Administration and Economics in Austria.

To learn more about the Carlson School's new China Executive MBA program, see www.csom.umn.edu/Page619.aspx. For information about giving to the U, see www.giving.umn.edu.

--University of Minnesota Foundation

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ETCETERA

Mother Nature and the U

University of Minnesota alumnus and noted nature photographer Jim Brandenburg has donated another photo for the University's Even Mother Nature Loves Maroon and Gold poster series. "Sunset Over Moose Lake" is from Brandenburg's new book, Looking for Summer, and represents Day 42 between the summer solstice and the autumnal equinox. For copies of the poster and notecards with this photo, see www.umn.edu/urelate/mothernature.

EVEN MOTHER NATURE LOVES MAROON AND GOLD

Minnesota magazine fiction contest

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association magazine's fifth annual fiction contest is open to all U alumni. The winner will receive \$1,000, and the winning story will be published in the March-April 2004 issue of Minnesota. The deadline for submissions is Friday, Dec. 5. To learn more or for contest rules, see www.alumni.umn.edu/fictioncontest. [Click here](#) to read last year's winning story, Fausto's Afternoon, by Jarda Cervenka.

U OF M HAPPENINGS

Gathering for book enthusiasts

If you're looking for more good books to read, check out the U's Community of the Book on Saturday, Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Earle Brown Continuing Education Center on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. U English professor Patricia Hampl and Graywolf Press publisher Fiona McCrae will present "Regarding the Art of Reading" and "Getting Good Books into Your Hands, Head, and Heart" as well as offer ideas for reading lists and book club discussions. Tickets are \$80; book club member discounts are available. To register or learn more, see www.cce.umn.edu/scholars or call 612-625-7777.

Meet a wolf expert

David Meeh, U adjunct professor and founder of the International Wolf Center, will be available to discuss wolf behavior and conservation efforts during the launch of his new book, *Wolves: Behavior, Ecology and Conservation*, on Wednesday, Nov. 19, at 2 p.m. in the University of Minnesota Bookstore in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. To learn about other free book-launching events by U authors, including *The Hippocratic Oath and the Ethics of Medicine* by clinician and ethics professor Steven Miles on Nov. 18, see www.bookstore.umn.edu/genref/authors.html.

Cat day for the family

You can touch a tiger skull, make a lion's mane, learn about Minnesota's Wild Cat Sanctuary, and hear about a lion researcher's adventures in Tanzania on Saturday, Nov. 22, noon-4 p.m. at the Bell Museum on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The "Cats Family Day" is free with the regular museum admission. For general information, see www.bellmuseum.org.

Holiday brunch at Glensheen

How would you like to have smoked turkey and wild rice quiche for brunch? The Glensheen Historic Estate in Duluth is serving this treat and more than 10 other goodies during its holiday buffet starting at 10:30 a.m. every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from Dec. 2-21. The U-owned mansion, which is currently outfitted with festive décor, will be open for self-guided tours on those days beginning at 9:30 a.m. The cost of the brunch is \$22.95 or \$13.95 for children ages 6-11. Reservations are required; call 218-726-8910. For general information, see www.d.umn.edu/glen.

Maroon and Gold Fridays!

When you're dressing for casual Fridays, think school colors. The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) initiated Maroon and Gold Fridays in 1994 to build University pride, spirit, and tradition on campus and in the greater community. And if you're caught on the Twin Cities campus wearing maroon and gold, you'll be rewarded. Golly Gopher and members of the UMAA Student Alumni Leaders roam the campus every Friday to hand out candy to the unsuspecting dressed in maroon and gold.

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U of M eNews is a biweekly e-mail newsletter for alumni and friends of the University of Minnesota. The newsletter, a free information source prepared by the 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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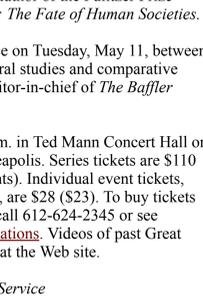
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U NEWS

Another year of Great Conversations

As with great books, great conversations allow us to explore the world through the experiences of others and feel energized, inspired, and humbled. That's the purpose of the University of Minnesota's Great Conversations series, which in 2004 will include best-selling authors Gail Sheehy, Richard Florida, and Jared Diamond.

The series, in its third year, pairs leading University faculty with eminent world authorities to explore topics in today's headlines. This year's Great Conversations series will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 20, when U President Bob Bruininks chats about a city's viability and creativity with Florida, author of *The Rise of the Creative Class: How It's Transforming Work, Leisure, Community, and Everyday Life*.



On Wednesday, Feb. 25, family social science professor Pauline Boss will discuss the effects of 9/11 with Sheehy, whose landmark *Passages* was named one of the 10 most influential books of our time by the Library of Congress. Jeffrey Kahn, director of the U's Center for Biomedical Ethics, will talk about ethics, policy, and society on Tuesday, March 23, with Harold Shapiro, former chairman of President Clinton's National Bioethics Advisory Commission. On Tuesday, April 13, David Tilman, Regents Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior will speak with Jared Diamond, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fate of Human Societies*.

The final conversation takes place on Tuesday, May 11, between Catherine Liu, professor of cultural studies and comparative literature, and Thomas Frank, editor-in-chief of *The Baffler* magazine.

All five events will be at 7:30 p.m. in Ted Mann Concert Hall on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. Series tickets are \$110 (\$85 for U employees and students). Individual event tickets, which go on sale Monday, Jan. 5, are \$28-\$23. To buy tickets or learn more about each event, call 612-624-2345 or see <http://www.cce.umn.edu/conversations>. Videos of past Great Conversations are also available at the Web site.

--University of Minnesota News Service

Seeing inside the breast

University of Minnesota researchers have developed a way that could lead to accurate, non-invasive breast cancer diagnoses. The magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) method combines magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to detect breast lumps with spectroscopy to measure molecules in cancer cells.

In an ongoing study, MRS allowed the researchers to measure levels of choline compounds (Cho). "We found tCho concentrations to be significantly higher in malignancies than in benign lumps and normal breast tissues," says Michael Garwood, lead investigator and radiology professor with the U's Cancer Center. Previous studies limited a researcher's ability to distinguish between benign and malignant lumps because they could not quantify tCho levels in breast masses.

"Using high magnetic fields and this spectroscopic technique may produce a powerful way to diagnose breast cancer and to monitor its response to treatment," says Garwood. "We hope this technique will eventually be used to avoid unnecessary biopsies."

The researchers measured tCho levels of 105 women, and more study participants are needed. The study is open to women with a suspicious breast lump (MRI and MRS scanning must occur before a biopsy or surgery have been performed). To participate, call 612-273-1944.

Preliminary findings were published in the Nov. 21 online version of *Magnetic Resonance in Medicine*.

To learn more about the U's Cancer Center, see <http://www.cancer.umn.edu>. For information about the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research, see <http://www.cmrr.umn.edu>.

--Academic Health Center

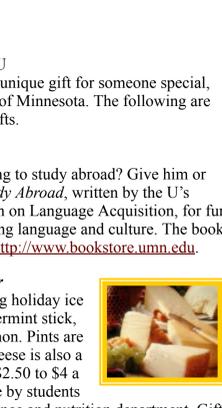
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Alumni and friends show support for the U

After witnessing the effects of the state's \$185 million budget reduction on the University of Minnesota, the U's Legislative Network ramped up its efforts this fall. On Tuesday, a representative from the group delivered a petition signed by nearly 6,500 alumni and friends to Governor Pawlenty, asking him to invest in the U.

In addition to the online petition campaign, the Legislative Network launched a five-day letter-writing campaign on Monday with the goal of generating 5,000 letters from University advocates to legislators. The letters ask legislators to support the U's 2004 capital request. (You can submit a letter at <http://umn.e-actionmax.com/showalert.asp?aid=465>.)

"Funding for the U is the best investment legislators can make, even when dollars are scarce and demands are acute," says Margaret Carlson, University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) executive director. The UMAA sponsors the Legislative Network, which advocates to state policy makers on behalf of the University.



According to Carlson, the U is a cornerstone of the state's economy. It trains a majority of the state's healthcare professionals and much of the state's workforce. Last year, it received \$600 million in public funding, which yielded nearly \$10 billion in state economic activity. "That's a 16-fold return on the state's investment in the U," she says. "When the state supports the U, it is supporting all Minnesotans--today and tomorrow."

2004 is a bonding year when funds are designated by the state legislature for buildings and capital projects. The University is 152 years old, and many of its classroom and research facilities are more than 70 years old. Projects in the U's \$155 million capital request will improve the health and safety of its buildings and, therefore, strengthen the student experience.

To learn more about the Legislative Network or the U's capital request, see <http://www.supporttheU.umn.edu>. For information about the UMAA, which is celebrating 100 years, see www.alumni.umn.edu.

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Holiday gift ideas from the U

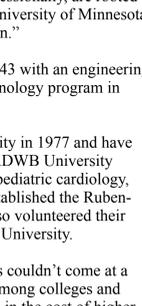
If you're still looking for that unique gift for someone special, try shopping at the University of Minnesota. The following are our suggestions for holiday gifts.

For the overseas-bound

Know a student who's planning to study abroad? Give him or her a copy of *Maximizing Study Abroad*, written by the U's Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition, for fun and informative tips on learning language and culture. The book is \$12 at the U Bookstore or <http://www.bookstore.umn.edu>.

For ice cream or cheese lover

The U's Dairy Store is offering holiday ice cream flavors including peppermint stick, eggnog, pumpkin, and cinnamon. Pints are \$1.50; half gallons are \$4. Cheese is also a specialty here and runs from \$2.50 to \$4 a pound. The products are made by students and faculty from the food science and nutrition department. Gift certificates are available in \$5 and \$10 increments. The store is open on Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. and is located on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul (166 Andrew Boss Meat Science Building). For more information, call 612-624-7776.

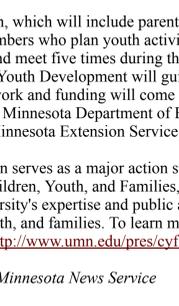


For the knowledge-starved

Have friends who want to learn how to end world hunger, grow a better garden, and eat healthier with herbs? Then register them for the College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences's "Classes Without Quizzes" on Saturday, April 3, on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. The cost is \$20 (\$15 for UMAA members). To reserve a spot, call Mary Buschette at 612-624-1745.

For those with a green thumb

The 2004 *Minnesota Gardening* calendar explodes with color and serves up numerous gardening and landscaping tips. It's published by the U of M Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station and is available for \$7 at the U Bookstore or online [here](http://www.umn.edu/urelate/postcards/). And to make this gift extra special, get it autographed by gardening expert Deb Brown. She'll sign copies and talk shop on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to noon at the bookstore in Coffman Memorial Union on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis.



For the Gopher who has it all

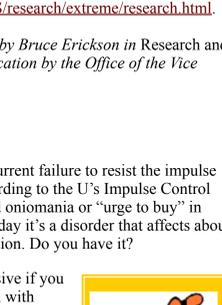
What do you get the Gopher who has too many maroon and gold T-shirts, mugs, and golf socks? A University of Minnesota leather executive desk chair, his or her name on a tree, or the chance to release a bird of prey.



The chair is made with top-grain cowhide and features an embroidered Goldy Gopher on the headrest, along with leather padded arms, a pneumatic lift, and 360-degree turning capability. To learn more about this chair and services like custom engraving or embroidery at the U Bookstore, call 612-625-6000.

Tribute allows you to hang a personalized message on one of its many trees. For about \$1,000, you get the option of selecting the tree or giving someone a private golf-cart tour to choose his or her own tree to hang that message. To learn more, call 952-443-1440 or e-mail Lcooney@arboretum.umn.edu.

Through the U's Raptor Center, you can buy the opportunity to release a rehabilitated eagle, hawk, owl, or falcon to the wild. The cost ranges from \$500 for a small falcon or hawk to \$1,500 for an eagle. In addition to releasing the bird, your gift includes Patron member benefits for one year, a photo of the bird, and a certificate of recognition. To learn more about this and the center's Adopt-a-Raptor program, call 612-624-6146 or e-mail pommi001@umn.edu.



For all

Buy holiday CDs and ornaments or all-season waterproof jackets in a variety of colors at the Bulldog Shop on the Duluth campus. Also available is a collection of new hats, mittens, and scarves. For more information, see <http://www.umdstores.com/public>.

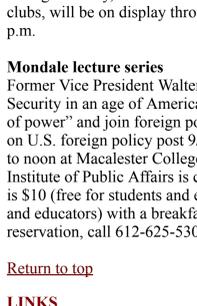
Postcards featuring four University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, campus scenes by U photographer Tom Foley are available from University Relations. To see the photos and to order a set, go to <http://www.umn.edu/urelate/postcards/>. Each set of 16 is \$5. For copies of the 2003-04 Even Mother Nature Loves Maroon and Gold poster and notecards, see <http://www.umn.edu/urelate/mothernature>.

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U receives its largest scholarship gift

In 2002, Nancy and Larry Bentson made a \$10 million request to Campaign Minnesota to fund undergraduate scholarships at the U. But the Bentsons were able to give their money much sooner than expected--allowing them to meet the students they're helping. Their gift is the U's largest ever for scholarships.

The Bentson Family Scholarships will provide students with at least \$5,000 a year for four years and will eventually support about 100 students annually. The scholarships will be awarded to promising incoming students with a financial need, and a preference will be given to students of the Jewish faith.



Larry and Nancy Bentson gave the U a \$10 million gift--its largest ever for scholarship.

"We are delighted to be able to make this gift now so that we can help the University and its students sooner than expected," says Larry Bentson. "Our interest in helping students dates back generations in our family, when my maternal grandmother established an endowed scholarship in 1949. Also, our many successes, personally and professionally, are rooted in our University of Minnesota education."

Larry Bentson graduated from the U in 1943 with an engineering degree and his wife from the medical technology program in 1945.

The Bentsons began giving to the University in 1977 and have supported the pediatrics department, the KDWB University Pediatrics Family Center, a fellowship in pediatric rubigen, and student scholarships. In 1989, they established the Ruben-Bentson Chair in Pediatrics. They have also volunteered their time in many fund-raising activities at the University.

"This extraordinary gift from the Bentsons couldn't come at a better time, given increased competition among colleges and universities for top students, and increases in the cost of higher education," says U President Bob Bruininks. "[It] will make it possible for us to attract many more talented students every year and keep the doors of opportunity open for future generations."

To learn more about how gifts are used and who gives to the U and why, see <http://www.giving.umn.edu>.

--University of Minnesota Foundation

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Keeping Minnesota youths busy

Most young people in America have nearly 2,000 hours of discretionary time without structure or supervision each year, according to the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development. University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks is creating a commission to study the role that time away from school plays in a young person's learning and development.

Bruininks will announce the formation of the Minnesota Commission on Out-of-School Time on Friday, Dec. 5. The commission will craft the vision and strategies needed to ensure that Minnesota's youth--ages 8 to 18--have engaging opportunities to learn and develop while away from school. "How and where young people are spending their out-of-school time is a major concern for working families, businesses, communities, schools, and neighborhoods throughout Minnesota," says Bruininks.

The commission will craft the vision and strategies needed to ensure that Minnesota's youth--ages 8 to 18--have engaging opportunities to learn and develop while away from school.

Research indicates that students who participate in after-school programs have better school attendance, better grades and test scores, and a more positive attitude toward schoolwork. Time spent in dance lessons, sports programs, summer programs, and similar constructive activities also make a difference.

The commission, which will include parents, researchers, and community members who plan youth activities, will convene in January 2004 and meet five times during the year. The U's Center for 4-H Youth Development will guide and support the commission's work and funding will come from the McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

This commission serves as a major action step in Bruininks's Initiative on Children, Youth, and Families, a three-year effort to focus the University's expertise and public attention on the needs of children, youth, and families. To learn more about the initiative, see <http://www.umn.edu/pres/cyf.html>.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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U-developed garment to regulate body heat

For the bone-chilling months of winter and the dog days of summer, try the Shortened Liquid Cooling and Warming Garment. This name describes a new suit invented at the U that circulates heated or cooled water to maintain the body temperature of the wearer.

Applications for the garment go beyond space travel, say the researchers.

The garment, which consists of a water pump and strategically placed plastic tubing, is the result of NASA-sponsored research. Since 1994, NASA has wanted more energy-efficient cooling and heating apparel for its astronauts to prevent thermal imbalance and discomfort during their space missions.

Kinesiology senior fellow Victor Koscheyev, who was part of the Russian space program, collaborated with psychology professor Gloria Leon and others at the U to create the final product.

Applications for the garment go beyond space travel, say the researchers. It's appropriate for those who handle hazardous nuclear, chemical, or biological materials. Military personnel can don it under their uniforms for added protection and safety in extremely hot or cold conditions. Even people with certain health problems could find relief with the suit. The garment demonstrated an ability to increase blood circulation to the upper and lower limbs during lab tests--valuable for treating people with diabetes and other circulatory problems, preventing bedsores, and regulating body temperature during emergency situations such as hypothermia.

The University has licensed this technology to Trans-Ocean Technology and Business for further development.

To learn more about the development of the garment, see <http://education.umn.edu/KLS/research/extreme/research.html>.

Edited from an original story by Bruce Erickson in Research and Inventions, fall 2003--a publication by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

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Do you have oniomania?

Compulsive buying is the recurrent failure to resist the impulse to buy needless objects. According to the U's Impulse Control Disorders Clinic, it was called oniomania or "urge to buy" in past medical literature, and today it's a disorder that affects about 1.8 percent of the U.S. population. Do you have it?

Buying is considered compulsive if you have a frequent preoccupation with buying or your impulses to buy are irresistible, intrusive, and senseless; if you continually buy more than you can afford; and if you habitually shop for items you do not need. Additionally, if those preoccupations, impulses, or behaviors cause you marked distress, are time-consuming, significantly interfere with social or occupational functioning, or result in financial problems, you may have oniomania.

Oniomania or a compulsive "urge to buy" is a disorder that affects about 1.8 percent of the U.S. population

Only a few studies have been conducted using medication to treat compulsive buying. According to the clinic, citalopram (Celexa) and fluvoxamine (Luvox) have shown the most promise in relieving the symptoms of compulsive buying because they give increased control over thoughts, urges, and behaviors.

Uncontrollable buying may be a symptom of several problems, including other psychiatric illnesses. The clinic, which is part of the Department of Psychiatry, recommends that you see a psychiatrist or speak to your primary physician if you feel you are suffering from the disorder.

For more information about the treatment of compulsive buying, call the U's Impulse Control Disorders Clinic at 612-627-4879.

Editor's note: If you're looking for tips on holiday budgeting, the University of Minnesota Extension Service has some to offer. [Click here](#).

U OF M HAPPENINGS

Sale at the Arboretum

You can find a limited-edition holiday ornament, dried floral arrangements and wreaths, pouprouri pillows, fresh Oregon greens, and more at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Auxiliary Holiday Sale on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Arboretum gate admission of \$5 for adults will apply. For general information, see <http://www.arboretum.umn.edu>.

Sounds of the season

University of Minnesota, Morris, "Noel Nouveau" Carol Concerts will be held Dec. 5-7, at 7:30 p.m. (Friday and Saturday) and 2 p.m. (Sunday). Tickets are \$5 (\$3 for senior citizens, students, and children). A traditional French meal normally served on Christmas Eve will be available for an additional \$15 per person prior to all concerts. For tickets, see <http://www.mrs.umn.edu/%7EChoir/concerts/carol.htm>.

The Twin Cities campus men's and women's choruses and Trumpet Choir will present a free "Sounds of the Season!" concert on Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m. in the Ted Mann Concert Hall. For more information, see <http://www.music.umn.edu>.

Dance and laugh in the same breath

The University Dance Theatre presents "Serious Fun" from Friday to Sunday, Dec. 5-7, at 8 p.m. (with a 2 p.m. matinee on Friday). "Lost, Found, and Lost" is a tongue-in-cheek tribute to 1950s elevator music. "Brimful of Ashé" references the exoticism of Bollywood musicals, a story of newlyweds is fashioned in retro style, and "Corporeal Mortification" offers a glimpse into the garish fantasies of Catholic schoolgirls. The performances are held in the Rarig Center on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. To buy tickets, call 612-624.2345. For more information, e-mail uthetheatre@umn.edu.

Bright lights in Crookston

The second Annual Light Up the Mall at University of Minnesota, Crookston, kicks off on Friday, Dec. 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. Canned goods will be collected for the local food shelf, and cookies and hot cocoa will be served at the Peterson Gazebo through Sunday, Dec. 7. The light sculptures, courtesy of student clubs, will be on display through Sunday, Dec. 14, from 7 to 10 p.m.

Mondale lecture series

Former Vice President Walter Mondale will speak about "U.S. Security in an age of American preeminence: the responsibilities of power" and join foreign policy experts for a panel discussion on U.S. foreign policy post 9/11 on Friday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to noon at Macalester College in St. Paul. The U's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs is cosponsoring the event. Admission is \$10 (free for students and educators), or \$35 (\$25 for students and educators) with a breakfast at 8 a.m. To make your reservation, call 612-625-5309 or e-mail cgage@hhb.umn.edu.

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LINKS

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

[Gophers](#)

[Duluth Bulldogs](#)

[Morris Cougars](#)

[Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

[Give to the U: Learn more about this fund-raising effort to build excellence in every corner of the U.](#)

[University of Minnesota Alumni Association: Your membership makes a difference.](#)

[U of M Legislative Network: Read about the University's legislative request and how you can help.](#)

[University of Minnesota Systemwide Home Page](#)

U of M eNews 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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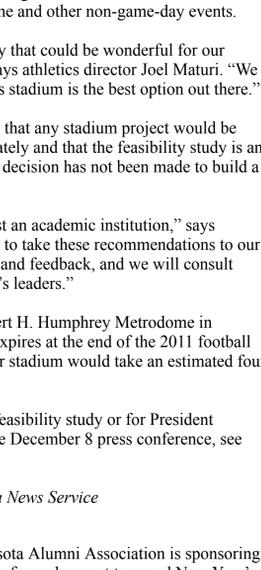
Editor's note: eNews will not be published on Thursday, January 1, because of the New Year holiday. You will receive the next issue on Thursday, January 8. Happy Holidays!

U NEWS

U study says on-campus stadium is feasible

A new University of Minnesota study concludes that a new, on-campus stadium for Gopher football may be feasible. The study, released December 8, is part of a broader effort by University officials to examine options for a future home for Gopher football.

The study suggests that a 50,000-seat, open-air stadium could be built northeast of Williams and Mariucci arenas on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The projected construction cost is \$180 million; another \$42 million for site preparations and infrastructure improvements brings the total project cost to an estimated \$222 million.



The stadium would be built to allow for a total seating capacity of 80,000 and include a 30,000-square-foot indoor club, a hall of fame, team facilities, media facilities, and rehearsal and storage space for the 300-member University Marching Band.

University president Bob Bruininks describes the stadium plan as a "modest" by current standards and noted that it is based on an analysis of the local sports market. The stadium would be built to allow for a total seating capacity of 80,000 and include a 30,000-square-foot indoor club, a hall of fame, team facilities, media facilities, and rehearsal and storage space for the 300-member University Marching Band. There would also be two outdoor plazas for pregame and other non-game-day events.

"This is a fantastic facility that could be wonderful for our program and our fans," says athletics director Joel Maturi. "We believe that an on-campus stadium is the best option out there."

University officials stress that any stadium project would be substantially funded privately and that the feasibility study is an important first step, but a decision has not been made to build a new stadium.

"We are first and foremost an academic institution," says Bruininks. "We are going to take these recommendations to our communities to get ideas and feedback, and we will consult carefully with Minnesota's leaders."

The U's lease at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in downtown Minneapolis expires at the end of the 2011 football season, and a new Gopher stadium would take an estimated four to five years to complete.

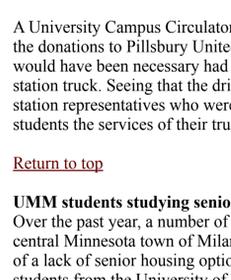
To learn more about the feasibility study or for President Bruininks's remarks at the December 8 press conference, see www.umn.edu/stadium.

--University of Minnesota News Service

Sun Bowl fan tour

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association is sponsoring the Official Bowl Tour for fans who want to spend New Year's Eve cheering for the Gopher football team at the Wells Fargo Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas.

The tour package includes airfare, lodging, and Gopher fan events. To learn more about it or for information about bus tour and airfare-only options, see www.alumni.umn.edu/bowl.



Gopher fans planning to go to the Sun Bowl are strongly encouraged to buy tickets through the Gopher Athletics Ticket Office instead of through the Sun Bowl organizers or Ticketmaster. Purchasing a ticket through the U will generate more revenue for the Gopher athletics department, and it will also ensure that you get a seat in the Gopher fan section.

This will be the U's fourth appearance in a bowl game in the past five seasons, marking the first time in school history that a Gopher team has accomplished this feat. The Gopher football team finished the regular season 9-3 overall. It will play against the Oregon Ducks (8-4) at the Sun Bowl.

For more information about tickets or to buy your ticket, see <http://www.gophersports.com> or call the Athletics Ticket Office at 612-624-8080 or 1-800-U-GOPHER.

--University of Minnesota Alumni Association

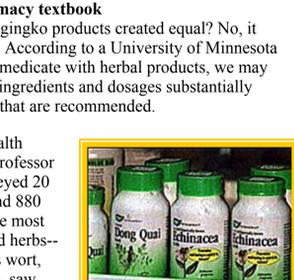
Editor's note: The University of Minnesota Bookstore has commemorative Gopher Sun Bowl T-shirts for sale; [click here](#).

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Spirit of giving is alive at the U

In October and November 2003, the University of Minnesota community opened up their checkbooks and closets to help those less fortunate. The 2003 Community Fund Drive raised about \$950,000 and a new event--Winter Warmth for U--resulted in four busloads of donated clothing.

"The Community Fund Drive makes a powerful difference in the lives of Minnesotans," says Terri Anthony, president of Community Health Charities.



President Robert Bruininks holds a check representing this year's total raised: \$950,381.06.

"And in the midst of a challenging economic landscape, U of M employees contributed mightily to support the important issues facing our community, including health, human services, and affordable housing."

The drive is an annual tradition organized by University faculty and staff. Each year, about 250 employees volunteer to assist with the fund-raiser by organizing college- or department-level activities. This year, the drive raised \$950,381.06, which was distributed to several Minnesota charitable organizations.

The Winter Warmth for U clothing drive for Twin Cities children and families, was conceived by two University students, Surbhi Madia and John Barber. The two-and-a-half week drive collected donations of new and gently used clothing from residence halls, student housing near campus, and a Coffman Memorial Union location.

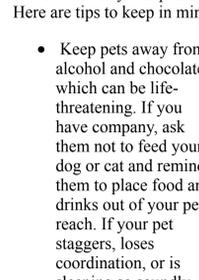
A University Campus Circulator bus made three trips to the trip off the donations to Pillsbury United Communities, and a fourth trip would have been necessary had it not been for the KDWB radio station truck. Seeing that the drive had exceeded expectations, station representatives who were covering the event offered the students the services of their truck.

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UMM students studying senior care facilities

Over the past year, a number of older residents in the west central Minnesota town of Milan were forced to move because of a lack of senior housing options in their community. Two students from the University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM), want to help keep area residents in familiar surroundings.

Senior Jeff Janca and freshman Amanda Jacobson have been working with the city of Milan and Ben Winchester, coordinator of data analysis and research at UMM's Center for Small Towns, to study the feasibility of building a senior care facility in Milan. The city has identified a vacant building on Main Street that it would like to convert to an assisted living facility, complete with bedrooms, a community dining room, and scheduled recreational activities. The students' research will include a marketing study, analysis of code and staff requirements, facility layout, and ownership and financing options.



Janca and Jacobson began their project this fall by visiting different types of senior care facilities in small towns and talking with people involved with seniors. They examined how communities in west central Minnesota such as Sunburg, Glenwood, and Starbuck operated and managed their facilities. "This project has been a major wake-up for us as far as how much demand and overall need there is for senior care," says Janca.

In mid-January, the students will survey the senior residents of Milan to gauge their level of interest in an assisted-living facility and to determine the types of services in which they would be interested.

"We hope the research can provide our city and other small towns with the information they need to create senior care facilities for residents," says Ron Anderson, Milan's mayor. "Having the option to remain in your own town is important because the familiarity of family, friends, and your home is important in your later years."

The students will present their research and survey findings at a community meeting in the spring. Their project is supported by the Center for Small Towns and the U's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) on the Twin Cities campus.

To learn more about the Center for Small Towns at UMM, see <http://www.centerforsmalltowns.org/>. For information about CURA, see <http://www.cura.umn.edu/>.

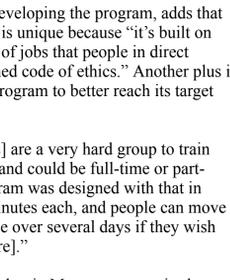
--Jessica Beyer, community program assistant in the Center for Small Towns.

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Bring out the pharmacy textbook

Are all echinacea or ginkgo products created equal? No, it appears they are not. According to a University of Minnesota study, when we self-medicate with herbal products, we may unknowingly ingest ingredients and dosages substantially different from those that are recommended.

School of Public Health researchers, led by professor Judith Garrard, surveyed 280 retail stores and found 880 products for 10 of the most commonly purchased herbs--echinacea, St. John's wort, ginkgo biloba, garlic, saw palmetto, ginseng, goldenseal, and Siberian ginseng, and valerian. They examined the labels of these products and discovered wide variations in the ingredients as well as in the recommended daily doses for the same herbs.



According to a University of Minnesota study, when we self-medicate with herbal products, we may unknowingly ingest ingredients and dosages substantially different from those that are recommended.

The researchers also found that the ingredients for each herb differed in many respects from textbook benchmarks for ingredients and dosages. Specifically, 37 percent of the 880 products were either not consistent with scientific research or had insufficient information on the labels for the researchers to decide.

"The results of this field study illustrate some of the difficulties the public faces in choosing among myriad products of commonly used herbs," says Garrard.

"Because of the lack of clinical trials and outcome studies, health care providers face an even more daunting task in advising patients about the responsible use of herbal preparations and other dietary supplements."

The study is published in the October 27, 2003, issue of *Archives of Internal Medicine*.

--Academic Health Center

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Making a case for child welfare

The Child Welfare Research Agenda for the State of Minnesota, codeveloped by the University of Minnesota, is the state's first-ever compilation of the most pressing issues related to Minnesota children and families.

The agenda, created in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), presents research priorities and descriptions of ongoing child welfare studies in Minnesota. It focuses on seven child welfare categories--program planning and administration, prevention of child maltreatment, child protection, child and family custody, out-of-home care, reunification, and adoption or relative services.



"The aim of the project was to show what is most needed [when establishing research projects]," says Susan Wells, the U's Gambale-Skogmo Professor in Child Welfare and Youth Policy. "Ultimately, the agenda will help ensure child welfare research conducted in Minnesota better meets the needs of the community, she adds.

"This is a tremendous step forward," says Maria Gómez, assistant commissioner of Children and Family Services for DHS, "not only because [the U and DHS] are working together on behalf of children, but because we will be clearly focusing on the same issues."

For a copy of the *Child Welfare Research Agenda for the State of Minnesota*, see http://ssw.che.umn.edu/gamble-skogmo/GS_CWRA.htm. To learn more about the U's School of Social Work, see <http://ssw.che.umn.edu/>.

--University of Minnesota News Service

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Holiday hazards for your pets

'Tis the season to be jolly, and your pets may enjoy it as much as you do. But according to the University of Minnesota Extension Service, pet encounters with certain holiday treats and decorations may dampen the merry-making and call for the vet. Here are tips to keep in mind.

- Keep pets away from alcohol and chocolate, which can be life-threatening. If you have company, ask them not to feed your dog or cat and remind them to place food and drinks out of your pet's reach. If your pet staggers, loses coordination, or is sleeping so soundly during or after a party that you can't wake it, take it to the vet immediately.

- Holiday turkeys and hams can make your pet sick. Dogs are especially prone to severe pancreatitis from eating foods they are not accustomed to.

- Be careful with poinsettias. Although not severely toxic, poinsettias can give your cat an upset stomach and cause some vomiting. Give the kitty wheatgrass to chew on. This may keep it happy and away from your houseplants.

- If you have a Christmas tree, secure it to a wall to prevent it from falling over. Cats like to climb it while dogs prefer to rub against it. Avoid edible and breakable ornaments. Tape light cords against the tree or a wall, so they aren't lying on the floor for Spot and Puff to chew on.

- Avoid tinsel altogether if you have young, playful pets. They'll see it as a moving, irresistible toy.
- Give your pets plenty of attention and exercise during the holiday season. This may lessen the chances that they'll get into mischief.
- Check with your veterinarian for more suggestions.

Edited from original material by Info-U. To learn more about this University of Minnesota Extension Service program, see <http://www.extension.umn.edu/info-u>.

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Direct support training: toward a national standard

What does it take to properly care for someone with developmental disabilities? You can find out, or at least get a sense, through the College of Direct Support. This online program, developed by the U's Research and Training Center on Community Living (RTC), is the first national course for preparing those who support people with developmental disabilities.

The program is highly interactive--combining multimedia and text on the computer screen--and offers 55 hours of instruction. Lesson plans delve into such topics as maltreatment of vulnerable adults and children, community inclusion, and direct support professionalism. For Minnesotans who must care for a developmentally disabled family member, or who have an interest in the field, a mere \$25 will buy you those 55 hours. RTC director Charlie Lakin says the program is innovative in its attempt to standardize the way all direct support professionals are trained.

"The role of direct support professionals does not have standard academic training," explains Lakin. "Typically, those who care for people with developmental disabilities are trained by the agencies they work for."

Lakin, who was involved in developing the program, adds that the College of Direct Support is unique because "it's built on scientific analysis, on content of jobs that people in direct support have, and on established code of ethics." Another plus is that it's online, allowing the program to better reach its target audience.

"[Direct support professionals] are a very hard group to train because they work odd hours and could be full-time or part-time," says Lakin. "This program was designed with that in mind. Lessons are 40 to 50 minutes each, and people can move through them at their own pace over several days if they wish [because of a bookmark feature]."

Since this program made its debut in May, state agencies have been jumping on the bandwagon and providing the program to their direct support staff. The program is recognized by five states and the District of Columbia, with contracts pending in four additional states and ten other states expressing strong interest.

To learn more about the College of Direct Support or the Research and Training Center on Community Living, which is housed in the Institute on Community Integration on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis, see <http://rtc.umn.edu>.

HAPPENINGS

Skip among the evergreens

An indoor winter wonderland complete with twinkling white lights and the sounds of chirping birds is what you'll get when you visit the "Festival of Trees: A Bird Sanctuary" at Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chanhassen during January, January 4. The event is free with gate admission (\$5 adults; free for members and children under 18). For hours or directions, see www.arboretum.umn.edu or call 952-443-1400.

Dissecting synchronicity

What causes the moon to orbit Earth? Why did hundreds of Japanese children have seizures watching an episode of Pokemon? Why do female roommates sometimes find their menstrual periods occurring at the same time? Find out at "Sync: The Emerging Science of Spontaneous Order," a public lecture hosted by the U's Institute for Mathematics and its Applications on Wednesday, January 7, at 7 p.m. in 100 Smith Hall on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. To learn more, see <http://www.ima.umn.edu/public-lecture/2003-04/strogatz/index.html>.

The evolution of a designer

At what point does a student of graphic design become a force to be reckoned with? The "FORM\INFORM" exhibit at the Goldstein Museum on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul features past and present works of several successful graphic designers (with an essay connecting their school and professional work). The exhibit runs through Sunday, January 4. For general information, see <http://goldstein.che.umn.edu/exhibitions.html>.

Women in the U.S. Senate

Photojournalist Melina Mara has captured the presence of women in the Senate in 38 photographs on display at the "Changing the Face of Power: Women in the U.S. Senate" exhibit at The Humphrey Forum on the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. The exhibit, through Friday, February 20, is accompanied by videotaped interviews conducted by White House correspondent Helen Thomas.

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LINKS

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

- [Gophers](#)
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- [Crookston Golden Eagles](#)

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U of M eNews 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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