

UNO

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FALL 1998

alumn

A black and white portrait of Daniel E. Jenkins, an older man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white collared shirt, and a dark tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

**FORGOTTEN
FOUNDER**

*Daniel E. Jenkins: The Man Who Helped
Build the University 90 Years Ago*

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FORGOTTEN FOUNDER

A profile and tribute to Daniel E. Jenkins, the "intellectual giant" instrumental in the founding of the University of Nebraska at Omaha 90 years ago this October. By Editor Anthony Flott. Photo courtesy University Archives.

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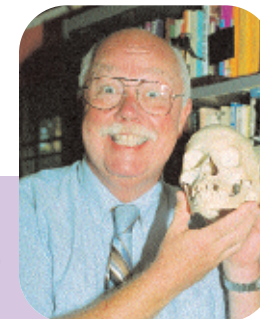
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Changes, Changes, Changes...

"Nothing endures but change," observed the Greek philosopher Heraclitus (540-480 B.C.).

Perhaps that should serve as the official motto of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. For throughout its history—and especially the last 20 years—change has been a constant.

Today, for instance, UNO is busy constructing new residence halls, a feat that will forge a sense of community heretofore largely absent on campus. And over at our new south campus at Aksarben, the fabulous high-tech building for the College of Information Science and Technology inches closer to completion—ahead of schedule, apparently.

The res halls and IS&T building are merely the latest in a boggling number of advancements made at UNO of late. The changes aren't limited to the physical infrastructure, either. UNO continues to be an institution of academic vigor, perhaps best exemplified by an expanding doctoral program.

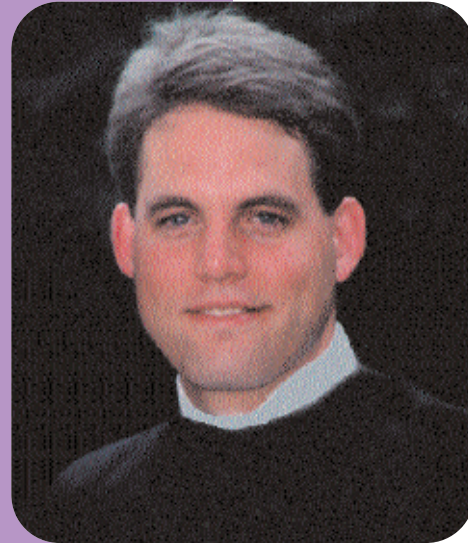
As we celebrate the university's 90th anniversary Oct. 8, we should pause to reflect on UNO's evolution from a struggling, financially-strapped institution that couldn't afford to pay its president for its first 12 years of existence to one of the Midwest's most respected metropolitan universities (we can assume Chancellor Belck draws a paycheck).

In light of this new era at UNO, and in the spirit of change, the UNO Alumni Association presents you with a revamped *UNO Alum*. The improvements are immediately apparent: slick paper (no more black fingers from ink-soaked newsprint!); full-color capabilities; and a design overhaul. As for content, we have re-dedicated ourselves to providing comprehensive coverage of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, its alumni, students and faculty.

The new-look *Alum* is symbolic of the

mature, vibrant university UNO has become.

This is not the first time the UNO Alumni Association—which celebrates its 85th anniversary this year—has altered its alumni publication to reflect changes in the university. In the mid-1940s, the association began offering its first publication, the *Alumni Gateway*. From 1950 to 1952 we published the quarterly *Injun*. After that it was the *Alumni Newsletter* (1953-70), a monthly publication that at various times was printed in tabloid and magazine format. From 1970 to 1990 we published, in turn, *UNO*, the *Quarterly Journal*, *UNO Alumni News*, and *UNO Today*. The current *UNO Alum* first appeared in 1990.



Our first effort at a full-color, slick-paper magazine was this summer's *Profiles*, a look at 40 of UNO's best and brightest graduates. The publication received numerous kudos and was mentioned by several of Omaha's media outlets.

The success of *Profiles*, however, goes beyond the fancy printing. That publication was driven by the impressive alumni featured on its pages. The same thing

holds for the *UNO Alum*. It is a publication first and foremost about alumni.

It is important that you keep in mind that the *Alum* is your magazine. This is most evident by the flood of Class Notes submissions we receive each issue that bring us up to date on the achievements and whereabouts of our spectacular alumni body. I encourage you to keep the Class Notes coming; they are the backbone of the magazine. I also encourage you to forward letters to the editor. Let us know what you think of the magazine, the university, the association, etc.

Of course, more changes loom ahead. We hope to soon expand the *Alum* to 48 pages, allowing us fuller, more complete coverage. After that, we will consider a move from the quarterly format to a bi-monthly mailing. Currently, UNO alumni receive the publication each May, September, November and February.

And sometime this fall the UNO Alumni Association hits the Internet with a comprehensive website that will include an on-line version of the *UNO Alum*, e-mail contacts for fellow alumni, rental information on the W.H. Thompson Alumni Center, a listing of activities, award information and much more.

I hope you enjoy your new *UNO Alum*. Its mission is not only to inform, but to foster a sense of pride in our alma mater and the various persons who have contributed to its fantastic rise.

Remember, the times they are a-changin'.

UNO Alum Editor Anthony Flott

UNO alum

FALL 1998

EDITOR: Anthony Flott

CONTRIBUTORS: Sonja Carberry, Tim Fitzgerald, Eric Frances, Don Kohler, L. Dennis Smith, Eric Stoakes, Kevin Warneke, University Relations.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS: Chairman of the Board, Michael De Freece; Past Chairman of the Board, Gerald Karlin; Chairman of the Board-elect, Michael Jones; Vice Chairmen of the Board: Adrian Minks, Rodney Oberle, Sue Shipley, Michele Sperle; Secretary, Kathleen Olson; Treasurer, Dan Koraleski; Legal Counsel, Michael Jones; President and Chief Executive Officer, Jim Leslie.

ALUMNI STAFF: Jim Leslie, President and CEO; Roxanne Miller, Executive Secretary; Sue

Gerding, Joyce Sheibal, Kathy Johnson Records/Alumni Cards; Lori Bechtold, Activities Coordinator; Greg Trimm, Alumni Center Manager; Anne Packard Kotlik, Accountant; Anthony Flott, Editor; Loreta Wirth, Receptionist.

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• Member, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) • Direct all inquiries to Editor, W.H. Thompson Alumni Center, (402) 554-2989 • Send all changes of address to attention of Records • Views expressed through various articles within the magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the UNO Alumni Association.

Amendment Threatens Education Funding

Charles F. Kettering once said, "We should all be concerned about the future because we will have to spend the rest of our lives there."

The future of public education in Nebraska should be of concern to us all as we head to the ballot box this fall. In addition to choosing candidates for public office, Nebraska voters will decide whether to enact or reject a proposed constitutional amendment that would result in a significant reduction in state support for elementary, secondary, and higher education.

We estimate that state appropriations for the University of Nebraska

would have to be cut at least \$20 million in the first year alone if the amendment is adopted, seriously jeopardizing our ability to provide quality, affordable, and accessible education.

The constitutional amendment was proposed by a group of citizen activists with ties to the Nebraska Business Leader's Summit, a coalition of business executives. They contend that the level of taxation in Nebraska to support state and local government programs is excessive and inhibits economic development. Their goal is to limit growth in government spending by linking future revenue increases to growth in inflation and population. They say the constitutional amendment will not result in "harmful cuts" to existing state or local budgets.

University officials and legislative researchers who have studied the fiscal impact of the constitutional amendment disagree. Analyses prepared for the NU Board of Regents and the Legislature have concluded that state spending on non-mandated programs such as higher education would have to be cut by about \$75 million in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999. Of that amount, the University's budget would likely be cut at least \$20 million, an amount approximately equal to 5.6 percent of the funds the University received from the state this fiscal year. To further illustrate the magnitude of such a reduction, it would require a 1.1 percent increase in tuition to replace every \$1 million cut in state aid if we were to attempt to maintain current programs.

Education will become increasingly important to our state's economic competitiveness and prosperity in the knowledge-based 21st Century. The University of Nebraska has at least two significant roles in that regard. First, our primary mission is to educate most of Nebraska's postsecondary students, the pool for a quality workforce. Second, the University is a partner with business and industry in research and training. Perhaps the best example is the new Kiewit Institute for Information Science, Technology and Engineering at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The \$23 million in state funds we received last year to construct IST&E was greater than the University's entire operating budget increase for the biennium. If the Summit

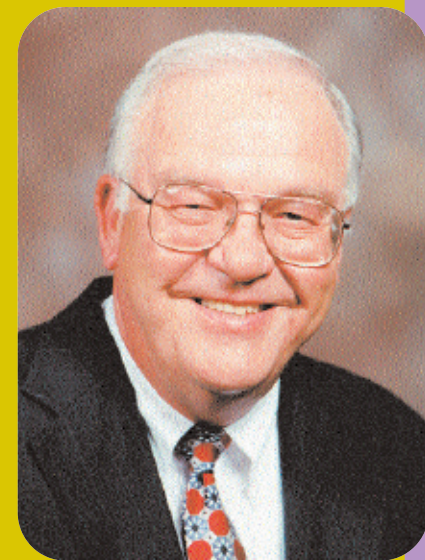
amendment were in place, the state's commitment to this project would not have been possible. We need the ability to do more partnerships with business, not fewer.

We understand the frustration with the tax system. The 12,000 full-time employees of the University are also Nebraska taxpayers. However, growth of the University's budget is not the issue. NU has fallen from 21.7 percent of the state's budget in 1988-89 to just 16.3 percent this year. On the other hand, we also recognize that we cannot expect significant increases in funding until we demonstrate increased efficiency and effectiveness. And we are working toward that end.

Almost two years ago, the university began operating under the provisions of a strategic plan designed to help us become more efficient while maintaining or enhancing our productivity and accessibility. We have, for example, developed a university-wide information and technology plan at a total investment of approximately \$24 million — more than three-fourths of which will be paid from internally reallocated funds. In this context, the four campuses and Central Administration have reallocated \$20 million in the current biennium and plan to reallocate an additional \$9 million in the next biennium, saving the taxpayers of Nebraska a total of \$29 million which would have otherwise been requested from the state.

In addition, we are looking at significant restructuring of the University, including performance-based budgeting, interdepartmental business centers, increased interdisciplinary cooperation, and elimination of duplicative courses on our undergraduate campuses. We believe we are responsible stewards of the public funds entrusted to us.

In the next few months, we should ask ourselves whether a constitutional amendment limiting revenue growth is the most appropriate way to resolve concerns about government spending. Under this proposal, non-discretionary budget items will be protected and unprotected items such as the University budget will bear the brunt of the cuts. I for one believe education is the wisest investment we can make with public funds because it will pay major dividends far into the future.



NU President L. Dennis Smith

Hot Ticket Winner

Edward R. Young, a 1964 University of Omaha graduate, has two more reasons to root for his alma mater when the UNO hockey team takes the ice this season: A pair of season tickets.

Young won the tickets as part of a 1998 UNO Annual Fund promotion. All donors who submitted their gifts by June 30 were entered in a random drawing for the pair of season tickets, good to the Mavericks' 21 home matches at the Omaha Civic Auditorium. A Century Club member, Young has been a donor to the UNO Annual Fund for more than 20 years.

Another hockey ticket drawing will be made at the end of December. All donors who have submitted their gifts by Dec. 1 will be entered in random drawings for one pair of single-game home tickets to a UNO hockey match. Ten winners will be chosen. UNO's 1998-99 home schedule features matches against Maine, Army, Harvard and Air Force.

The drawings are just one of many enticements for UNO Annual Fund donors. All donors of \$35 or more — the Cardholder's Level — receive a UNO Alumni Card (good for many benefits on campus), mention in the Annual Report and a 1999 UNO Calendar. The 1998 UNO Calendar received a Gold Award from the National Calendar Marketing Association.

Donors of \$50 or more — the Builder's Level — receive all benefits of the Cardholder's Level plus a UNO Alum Commemorative Key Chain and a UNO window decal. Century Club donors of \$100 or more get all that plus a memento corresponding to their giving level and mailings/invites to select events throughout the year.

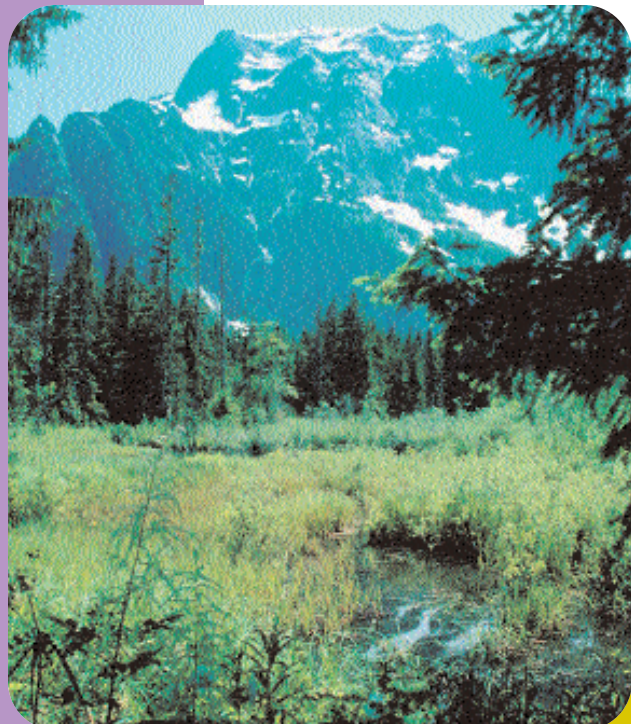
To make a pledge to the 1998 UNO Annual Fund, call Sue at the UNO Alumni Association, (402) 554-2444.

Alumni Travel Opportunities

In the spirit of campus cooperation, the UNO Alumni Association and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Alumni Association are teaming up to offer graduates of both institutions opportunities to participate in alumni travels beginning in 1999.

Alumni of both UNO and UNL can choose from nearly 12 travel packages abroad. Destinations include: Trans Panama Canal Cruise, Jan. 25 to Feb. 5; Paris Escapade, Jan. 28 to Feb. 4; Bombay/Singapore Cruise, March 16-30; Swiss Winter Escapade, March 21-28; Poros, Greece, May 17-26; Ireland, June 9-17; Passage of the Caesars (Paris to Rome), July 6-20; Spain, July 12-20; Scotland, Aug. 25 to Sept. 2; Cruise Europe, Aug. 31 to Sept. 16; China Yangtze, Sept. 26 to Oct. 12; Tuscany, Oct. 27 to Nov. 4

For a full description of trips and additional information, all the UNO Alumni Association's travel coordinator at (402) 554-2444.



Colorado Reception

In honor of UNO alumni living in the Denver and Colorado Springs, Colo., area, Chancellor Nancy Belck will host a reception Saturday, Oct. 24. The reception, to be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Denver Marriott Southeast, is part of the Chancellor Outreach Program.

Alumni interested in attending this event should call Lori Bechtold at (402) 554-4802.

Homecoming Excitement Continues

UNO Homecoming '98 has grown so popular it's become a two-day affair.

The weekend of fun begins Friday, Oct. 9, with a Beefclub Homecoming Dance from 8 p.m. to midnight at Crown Hall. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door.

The excitement continues Saturday, Oct. 10, with a Family Picnic/Tailgate Party beginning at 11 a.m. at the William H. Thompson Alumni Center. The Alumni Association-sponsored event will include free face painting, children's games and prizes, "The

Great Zucchini" magician, pictures with mascot Durango, performances by the Power Play band and UNO cheerleaders and a pep talk with Coach Pat Behrns.

After that, guests will take Ollie the Trolley over to Al Caniglia Field for national championship contender UNO's clash with Augustana at 1 p.m. Tickets for Saturday's festivities are \$10 per adult, \$7 for children ages 4-12 (3 and under free). The price includes food, drink and tickets to the game.

To reserve tickets, call Lori Bechtold at (402) 554-4802.



Wilson Speaks at Summer Graduation

More than 500 graduates heard words of wisdom from four-star General Johnnie E. Wilson during UNO's summer commencement ceremonies Aug. 15.

Wilson, returning to campus 25 years after graduating from UNO through the Bootstrapper Program, was the university's summer commencement speaker. He also received the UNO Alumni Association's Citation for Alumnus Achievement, presented to graduates who have achieved distinction in their careers.

Wilson, only the third black four-star general in the U.S. Army's 223-year history, is commanding general of Army Materiel Command, responsible for providing supplies and equipment to troops around the world. He began his career

in 1961 as a 17-year-old enlisted soldier.

He spoke to a crowd which included UNO's latest graduating class. The summer alumni included Terry



Haddock of Omaha, who graduated with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Also at the ceremony, Chancellor Nancy Belck presented the Chancellor's Medal to John Farr, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs at UNO. The Chancellor's Medal was established to recognize faculty and administrative staff who have demonstrated unusual excellence.

Farr has been at UNO since 1969 when he joined the faculty of the political science department. He since has served on more than 25 university and intercampus committees. He assumed his current position in 1989.

Hockey Makes Move

UNO Athletic Director Bob Danenhauer made an expected but still somewhat surprising announcement in June when it was revealed that the UNO hockey team will join the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA).

UNO becomes the 12th CCHA member beginning in 1999-2000, joining Notre Dame, Michigan, Michigan State, Ohio State, Bowling Green, Miami of Ohio, Lake Superior State, Ferris State, Western Michigan, Northern Michigan and Alaska Fairbanks. Some had expected UNO to join the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, which included national powers such as Wisconsin, New Hampshire and Colorado College.

According to Danenhauer, however, "The strongest attractions for us to join the CCHA were the financial benefits, the fact that we can begin play next season, and the fan appeal that the CCHA member schools will have in our area."

The CCHA also has a television package with Fox Sports Net, which last year included 16 regular season games and four playoff games, including the semifinal and championship games from Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Formed in 1971-72, the CCHA has produced seven national championship in the past 15 years, including Michigan, which won last season's title. No other league has won more than four national titles in that same period.

UNO launched its NCAA Division I hockey program in 1997-98 as an independent, finishing its first season with a 12-18-3 record. The Maverick's had 19 consecutive sellouts of 8,314 per match, the second highest attendance figure in the nation.

UNO will be eligible for the CCHA post-season playoffs and will share in the playoff revenue in the 1999-2000 season.

ABC Fall Lecture Series Will Feature, Elders, Bernstein

Four nationally and internationally acclaimed speakers have been scheduled to address the popular Academy, Business and Community (ABC) Breakfast series.

The ABC series, sponsored in part by UNO's College of Continuing Studies, began Sept. 9

with a presentation by consumer activist Ralph Nader. Nader spoke on "Virtual Reality: Government, the Corporation and Education?"

Next in line is author and essayist James Reston Jr., who comes to ABC Nov. 3 with a speech entitled "The Last

Apocalypse: The Next Millennium." He will be followed by Jocelyn Elders, former U.S. Surgeon General. Elders will give a Feb. 8 address about "Wellness and Healthcare: Can They Coexist in the 21st Century?"

The series closes March 4 with

author and editor Carl Bernstein talking on "Use and Abuse of Media Power." Tickets to the breakfasts (7 a.m. to 9 a.m.) are \$10 and can be purchased by calling CCS at (402) 595-2300.

Send us news of your baby – we'll send a T-shirt and certificate and publish the good news. Include address, baby's name, date of birth, parents' names and graduation year(s). Please send the announcement within one year of the birth to Future Alums, UNO Alumni Association, 60th & Dodge, Omaha, NE 68182. FAX (402) 554-3787.

Ador-A-Bull T-Shirts have been sent to the following future alums:

- Gina Eileen and Melissa Jo-Ann Comstock, daughters of Darrin Comstock and Sharie Jorgensen-Comstock ('85, '92) and granddaughters of Richard C. Jorgensen ('61, '68) and Jo-Ann (Bentley) Jorgensen ('60, '75), all of Omaha.
- Alexander Michael Corson, son of Jim Corson ('86) and Allison Brown-Corson ('88) of Omaha.
- Isaac Saul Schlossman Ferber, son of Jenni Scholossman and Jeffrey Ferber ('95) of Omaha.
- Rachel Marie Sorensen, daughter of Brent ('88) and Teresa ('88, '93) Sorensen of Omaha.
- Cameron Kaye Oltmanns, daughter of Kristi and Jay ('86) Oltmanns of Elkhorn.
- Erin Marie Circo, daughter of Cindy (Beeks, '86) and Alan ('87) Circo of Columbus.
- Owen Thomas Godberson, son of Mary (Hartigan, '86) and Joseph ('93) Godberson of Omaha.
- William Clifford Meyers, son of Suzy and Tom ('88) Meyers of Omaha and grandson of Nancy ('87) Meyers.
- Daniel Meyer Erickson, son of Lois and John ('94) Erickson of Papillion.
- Sean Anthony Lynch, son of Mary and Sean ('91) Lynch of Omaha.
- Clare Elizabeth Kinkaid, daughter of Shaun (Krasser, '93, '95) and David ('92) Kinkaid of Oceanside, Calif.
- Scarlet Julia Rush, daughter of Diana (Smith, '94) and Dennis ('95) Rush of Scio, Ore.
- Alexander Shomaker, son of Cindy Haber-Shomaker ('88, '92) and Adam ('92) Shomaker of Omaha.
- Dana Elizabeth Knoblauch, daughter of Patricia Lee (Jensen, '78) and Tom ('77) Knoblauch of Lindenhurst, Ill., and granddaughter of James C. Jensen (dec.).
- Johana Claire Josoff, daughter of Eli and Corin (Flood, '95) Josoff of Ashland.
- Elisabet Marie and Connor Donald Tucker, twin daughter and son of Joan and Jon ('91) Tucker of Omaha.
- Shannon Blaire Hertel, daughter of Patricia and James D. ('87) Hertel of Elkhorn.
- Tara Lynn Cannon, daughter of Linda and Bob ('86) Cannon of Omaha.

- Adam Emanuel Starzec, son of Ron and Donna ('94) Starzec of Columbus.
- Elena Ann Blusys, daughter of Kerry and David ('88) Blusys of Omaha.
- Weslyn Elyanna Ahl, daughter of Chris ('90) and Katrina ('90) Ahl of Elkhorn.
- Emily Kara and Natalie Sara Bremers, twin daughters of Eric ('92) and Janet ('93) Bremers of Omaha and granddaughters of Roland ('69) Bremers of Omaha.



- Andrew Steven Bogenrief, great-grandson of Gloria Bogenrief ('79) of Summit, S.D.
- Paige Anne Epperson, daughter of Malaura and Robert ('89) Epperson of Wichita, Kan.
- Andrew Carter Adams, son of Kirsten and Dan ('81) Adams of Fort Worth, Texas.
- Danielle Marie Stubbs, daughter of Michelle Strain-Stubbs ('93) of Marshalltown, Iowa.
- Owen Michael Conley, son of Melanie (Marquis, '94) and Mike ('94) Conley of Amherst, N.Y.
- Noah Scott Carroll, son of Sam and E. Scott ('87) Carrol of Mt. Laurel, N.J.
- Maxwell David Lunt, son of Teresa A. ('93) and David S. ('87, '92) Lunt of Maple Grove, Minn.
- Scott Edward McKinley, son of Blake and Dana ('95) McKinley of Spokane, Wash.
- Ashleigh Diane Bainter, daughter of John and Denise ('97) Bainter of Malvern, Iowa, and granddaughter of Duane ('70) Clay.
- Matthew Randall Walters, son of Raymond and Debora (McDonald, '87)

Walters of LaVista.

- Joseph James Wilk, son of Lisa and Jim ('81) Wilk of San Diego.
- Lucas Satoshi Kerr, son of Dennis and Naoko (Okumura, '96) Kerr of Omaha.
- Jenna Lee Wachowiak, daughter of Lee and Jill (Suing, '93) Wachowiak of Arlington, Texas.
- Molly Elizabeth Maloy, daughter of Shawn and Stacey (Eaton, '93, '95) Maloy of Omaha.
- Abigail Marie Siadek, Gene ('93) and Cindy (Swanson, '88, '93) Siadek of Omaha.
- Elissa Sue Slizoski, daughter of Steven and Valorie ('91) Slizoski of Newman Grove.
- Liana Elizabeth Chapman, daughter of Heather and Matt R. ('93) Chapman of Bloomington, Ind.
- Haley Nicole and Hannah Michelle Pence, twin daughters of Holly and Mike ('81) Pence of Danville, Calif.

Danville, Calif.

- Jack Ryan Begley, son of Pamela and Brian ('92, '96) Begley of Omaha.
- Rachel Nicole Speckmann, daughter of Carol Stevenart-Speckmann ('93) and Troy Speckmann ('93) of Omaha.
- Robert Jay Saylor, son of Terri Thompson-Saylor ('95) of Nacogdoches, Texas.
- Morgan Rae Krist, daughter of Carrie and Jim ('86) Krist of Papillion.



TIM FITZGERALD

From left: The 1998 recipients of the association's Alumni Outstanding Teaching Awards, presented during Honors Week last April. From left, Peter Wolcott, Karen Falconer Al-Hindi, Gordon Mundell, Donald Grandgenett, Jack Armitage, Judith Harrington, James Wood. Not pictured, W. Kenton Bales.

UNO Teachers On and Off Campus Make the Grade

Once again, spring was a time for UNO teachers on and off campus to show they're truly at the head of the class.

In May, UNO graduates once again dominated the Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Awards. For each of the past 11 years the Buffett Foundation has selected 15 Omaha School District teachers to receive the award. Each winner receives \$10,000 with no restriction on how the money is spent. The awards were established by Warren Buffett, chairman of Berkshire Hathaway, in honor of his aunt, who taught in Omaha schools for many years.

UNO alumni typically receive the majority of the awards, and it was no different in 1998 when 11 of the 15 recipients possessed UNO degrees. The list includes: Judy Bednarz, Beveridge Middle School; Mary Grossman, Skinner Magnet Center; Andrea Jensen Hopkinson, Picotte Elementary; Thomas Jodlowski, South High School; Marvin Lodes, Burke High School; Christine Pfeifer, Lewis and Clark

Middle School; Kathrin Rank, Dundee Elementary; Peggy Seibel, Beals Elementary; Vicki Smith, Wakonda Elementary; Linda Templeton, Florence Elementary; and Keith Thiessen, Bryan High School.

In April, eight teachers on the UNO campus were honored with the UNO Alumni Association's second annual Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award. The awards were presented during Honors Week.

"They are a collective expression of the alumni body's recognition of the importance and value of instruction in higher education," said Michael De Freece the association's chairman of the board. "These are the individuals who inspire and make a real difference in the lives of UNO students."

Receiving awards were: Karen Falconer Al-Hindi, assistant professor of geography-geology; Jack Armitage, associate professor of professional accounting; W. Kenton Bales, professor of music; Donald Grandgenett, professor teacher education; Judith Harrington, associate professor in the

Goodrich Program; Gordon Mundell, associate professor of English; Peter Wolcott, assistant professor of information systems and quantitative analysis; James Wood, professor of chemistry.

Recipients were chosen by a committee of their peers in each college and received a \$1,000 award.

In March, four UNO graduates received 1998 Nebraska Teacher Achievement Awards from the Peter Kiewit Foundation in recognition of outstanding achievements in curriculum development, student motivation and commitment to teaching. UNO alumni receiving the award included: Erik Chaussee (UNO '88) of Spring Lake Elementary School; Susan Schall ('70), Bess Streeter Aldrich Elementary School; Marianne Hall ('68), Holy Cross School; and Terrie Saunders ('81), Central High School.

Each of the honorees received a \$6,000 prize, \$3,000 of which is to be used to expand their school's program, \$2,000 to be used in the same way or to enhance professional credentials or abilities, and \$1,000 unrestricted. ■

The woman died from lupus.

The obituary written by Larry King, a rookie reporter for the *Omaha World-Herald*, stated otherwise.

"It was a fairly routine obituary," King recalled, "but my mistake was misidentifying the cause of death. I blew it."

Fallout first came from the deceased's family. Then King's editors.

The lesson learned remains with King today: "No story in a newspaper is routine to the people in the story."

The *World-Herald's* new executive editor relies on just such experiences as he helps set the tone for Nebraska's largest newspaper. King, a 24-year veteran at the Omaha daily, was named executive editor in July. He oversees a newsroom of 200 full-time and 25 part-time employees, and

er of internal communications for Union Pacific Railroad in Omaha. "He had a nose for news — all instinct."

Fogarty recalls the time he and King followed a hunch, and ended up breaking the story about an Omaha police chief's retirement.

Larry King

By Kevin Warncke

all news functions except the editorial pages.

King's newspaper career began in the early 1970s, first as a student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, followed by time working for a suburban newspaper near Minneapolis. In November 1975, King joined the *World-Herald* as its night police reporter.

The experience opened his eyes. Not only did he hone his reporting skills, King also experienced a side of Omaha seen by few others. "I was awakened to what happens to Omaha after dark," King said. "I encountered people left on the outside, the life of the downtrodden."

King developed an instinct for sniffing out a story, said Jim Fogarty, a former colleague.

"He was absolutely a natural, in a baseball sense," said Fogarty, manag-

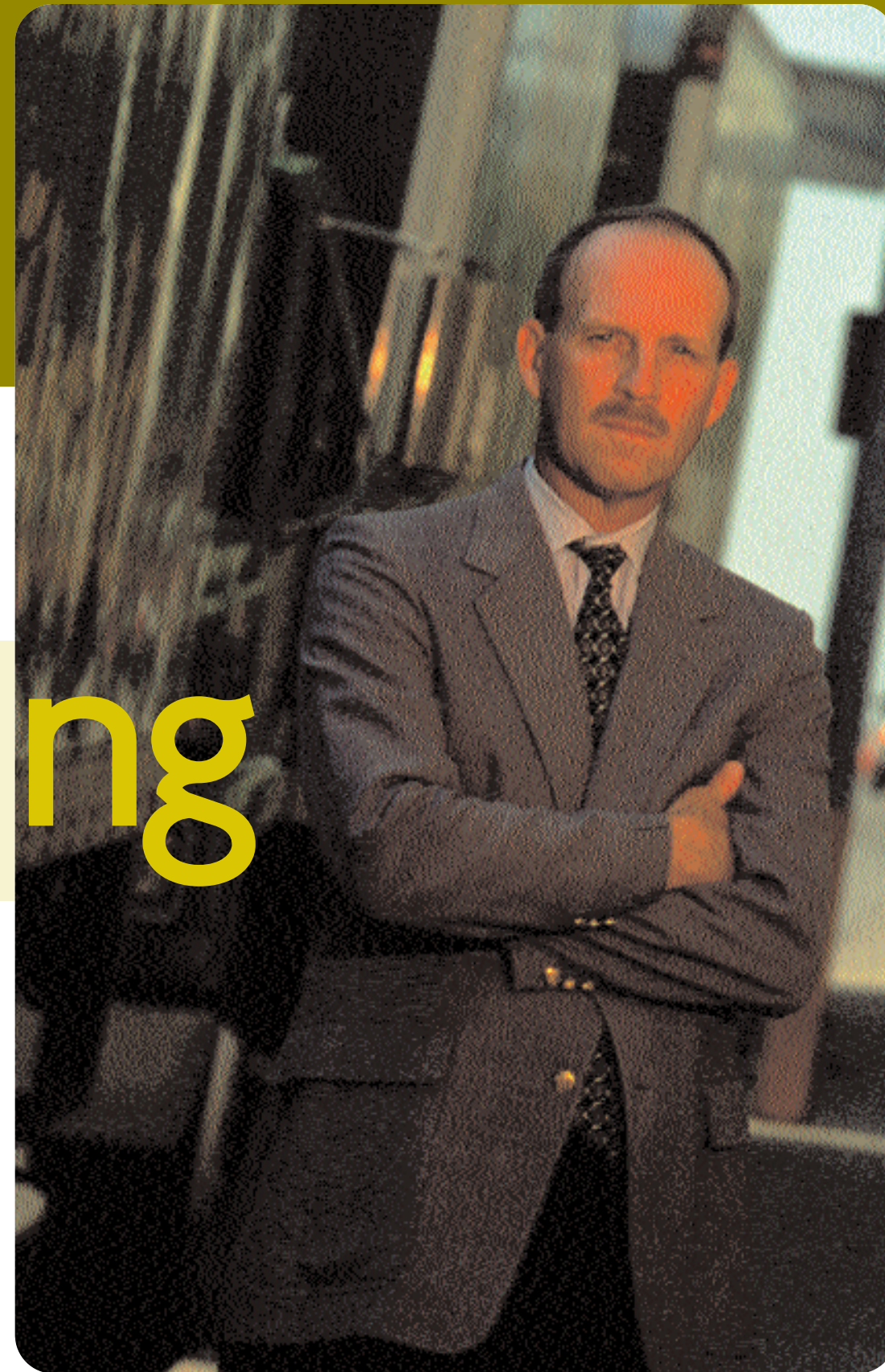
King and I were talking one day and we both agreed that things didn't seem right," Fogarty recalled, "but we couldn't even come up with a decent rumor to follow." So they headed to the press room at the downtown Omaha police station. "Out of the cosmos, it hit us both at the same time: Chief (Dick) Andersen's going to retire."

They were right. When asked, Andersen admitted he was going to retire — and the announcement was coming that afternoon at a 2 p.m. news conference.

Andersen made his announcement at the news conference, but revealed that the story already had been told — as he held up the evening edition of the *World-Herald*.

"We scooped the holy heck out of everyone else," Fogarty said.

King must have been a happy man



ERIC FRANKS

that day, said Henry Cordes, a *World-Herald* general assignment reporter. More than anything else, Cordes said, King hates to get beat on a story.

"He is the consummate newsman,"

Cordes said. "He loves a good story — and he loves getting it before anyone else.

"Anytime we get beat on a story, he thinks we lost."

From night police reporter, King served as the *World-Herald's* day police reporter, then covered the courts, Nebraska Legislature and city hall. He also worked as a general assignment reporter. King especially attracted his editors' attention while reporting on the Legislature, Fogarty said. "He shined like the sun. His stuff was sparkling."

In 1982, King's editor, Roger Oglesby, informed him his reporting days were over. "He told me 'You're going to be an assistant city editor,'" King said. "I had never given the possibility much thought."

Oglesby, now a vice president for the *Los Angeles Times*, said the move just made sense. King had earned a reputation for being a level-headed reporter.

"We needed someone on the city desk who understood what it was like in the trenches," Oglesby said.

Oglesby made a good choice, said Cordes and his colleague, Jena Janovy. Both tell stories of times when King used his expertise to guide their reporting.

"I think Larry King is one of the finest journalists I've ever known."

Roger Oglesby, vice president, *Los Angeles Times*

Cordes recalled he was about to leave for an interview, when King pulled him aside. King offered some simple advice: "He's going to try and tell you this. He's going to try and tell you that, but don't let him do that."

Janovy, the *World-Herald's* higher education reporter, was just months into her reporting career, when King helped her learn a valuable lesson. Janovy, who had no formal journalism training in college, admits she was green.

A man carrying a sign promising that he would work for food had been patrolling along Dodge Street near Crossroads. Janovy bought his hard-luck story. She returned to the newsroom and told her editors she had a gem.

The finished product, however, failed to live up to her billing, and the paper later discovered the man was running a racket. "My story had no attribution," she said. "I didn't question what the man said. I didn't know any better." Now she does. "Larry taught me about the importance of attribution. He taught me not to believe everything someone said. I learned to be skeptical, yet open."

King first served as an assistant city editor, followed by a decade as the *World-Herald's* metro editor. In 1993, he was promoted to assistant managing editor. Along with the promotions came issues that challenged the newspaper's staff and management. Former Mayor Mike Boyle's recall in the 1980s was one. "It was a traumatic time for the city and newspaper," King recalled.

The *World-Herald's* coverage of the mayor and recall efforts drew the ire of Boyle's supporters. King called the coverage honest and straightforward. "I think to this day I have a decent relationship with Mike Boyle. He and I can agree to disagree."

Another challenge came more recently when the *World-Herald* investigated the presence of E. coli in Nebraska beef. The newspaper received criticism from the beef industry, but again King said the coverage was appropriate.

An overriding issue faced by the *World-Herald* and all newspapers throughout the country, King said, is a change in reading habits among Americans. People are spending less time reading newspapers.

"My goal is a simple one: to produce the best newspaper we can for our readers."

The *World-Herald* selected the right man to enhance the paper's status, Oglesby said. "I think Larry King is one of the finest journalists I've ever known," he said. ■

Annunciata Garrotto sits reclined in the living room of the Cathedral-area home her father built decades ago. Here, the bedridden retired opera star and Omaha University alum graciously receives company with the dignity of one who has earned a lifetime of accolades. She doesn't have to boast, however; critics from all over the world already have sung her praises.

In Melbourne, Australia, a reviewer cited her as, "a great favorite . . . singing all luscious and ringing, flexible and excellently phrased."

A Caracas, Venezuela, performance of "La Boheme" earned this recounting, ". . . her hearers will never forget her grand voice and exceptional art."

ter you get," the 90-year-old says. Pressed to choose a favorite among the 31 operas in her repertoire, Garrotto reluctantly relents, "Madame Butterfly was one of my favorites. But I liked them all."

Today, the frailties that have accompanied her advanced age and

Opera Star

By Sonja Carberry

In New York City, her performance in "Madame Butterfly" was described as ". . . an admixture of youthful timidity and coyness superimposed upon subtle tragedy, delightfully sung and dramatically convincing . . . a gifted artist."

Often eliciting such acclamation was Garrotto's portrayal of "Madame Butterfly's" tragic Cio-Cio San, performed by her more than 500 times during a quarter-century career. No other opera singer has come close to topping that distinction in the 40-plus years since her retirement. She holds another landmark of 300 appearances in "La Traviata."

Garrotto, her red lipstick and matching fingernail polish applied with curtain-call precision, says the repetition never was tiring.

"The more you perform it, the bet-

ter you get," the 90-year-old says. Pressed to choose a favorite among the 31 operas in her repertoire, Garrotto reluctantly relents, "Madame Butterfly was one of my favorites. But I liked them all."

Today, the frailties that have accompanied her advanced age and left her homebound make it a struggle to fill a day's 24 long hours. There was a time when her days were filled with the beautiful things, exotic places and cultured surroundings afforded by her career. But it was not the prima donna existence some might imagine. She remembers the hours of practice and intense rehearsal required to learn new roles in different languages, sometimes over a matter of days.

"You had to be a quick study . . . but it was never a chore for me," she says proudly, her brown eyes shimmering with recalled youth. "I did it with such gusto."

"I loved to sing."

The only child of Sicilian immigrants, Annunciata "Nunce" Garrotto was born into a home



resounding with arias. Her parents were typical of the early 1900 Italian-Americans, Garrotto says. "They all loved opera."

Her father, Alfio Garrotto, turned a downtown Omaha fruit stand into a grocery store on the current site of Pettit's Bakery on north 16th street. "My father was a successful man," Garrotto says. "He had over 1,000 items in his store."

Alfio also had big plans for his only child. "I knew from the day I was born that I would go to college. My father didn't have the opportunity. He wanted me to have what he didn't have. He encouraged me to go to school and finish college," Garrotto says.

Nunce's career goals were clear. "I loved to sing," she says simply. But a university education was mandatory.

Janet Power, Garrotto's daughter and caretaker, explains how her grandfather put it: "She had to get her education in case she didn't make it, 'Or you'll be at Woolworth's all your life.'"

Madame Butterfly nods and adds a slight amendment: "He said the dime store."

Garrotto enrolled at Omaha University in the mid-1920s, a time when trolleys still took students to the campus at 24th and Pratt streets. She recalls her OU days with affection. She studied languages and, of course, music. Fellow students often were treated to Garrotto's impromptu performances. "I would sing at lunch hour . . . all the popular songs," Garrotto says, "I was a showoff."

The Sicilian immigrant's only daughter was popular amongst her 40 classmates, though she says discrimination against Italians was prevalent at the time. Her Omaha University yearbook includes her picture as a senior attendant in Queen of Gala Day. Garrotto had wanted the crown. "I often wondered why I only lost by one vote," she says.

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In 1928 the 20-year-old Garrotto graduated with a fine arts degree. Seventy years later it remains an obvious source of pride, the base of her successful singing career. "You can tell people who are educated and who aren't," she says. "You can see the difference."

"He gave me confidence."

After graduation Garrotto traveled to Italy with her mother, Concetta, to study singing. She clearly recalls being astounded by the culture and antiquity of the land. But, "It was so long ago, I can't remember how I got into opera."

Daughter Janet helps fill in the gaps. "You auditioned for a famous impresario, Mother. Who was that famous impresario? He said, 'With

The two married in 1935. Janet described her father as a romantic man who would say to his wife, "Have I kissed you in this city before?" A photo from their courtship carries his inscription, "To my only true love Nunce with all the truest love in my heart." The couple made a New York brownstone home and raised two daughters, Diedre Power-Lacina, an estate tax attorney, and Janet, a retired schoolteacher.

In 1954, Garrotto retired from performing and the family moved to



Garrotto is pictured in several poses from an early original program brochure.

"To sing an opera, you had to have very good diction or they wouldn't take you."

your voice, you should go into opera."

"I said, 'I don't know how to act,'" Garrotto remembers, "'They can teach you,' he said."

They did, and Garrotto caught on quickly. Today she still speaks with the precision cultivated from 10-hour-a-day practices. "To sing an opera, you had to have very good diction or they wouldn't take you," she explains.

During the next year the young Garrotto made her debut in "La Boheme" outside Milan, Italy. The career landmark also holds a personal significance; the production was where Garrotto met her future husband, tenor Lawrence Power.

"I had never sung with an orchestra before," says Garrotto. "I told him I was nervous. He said, 'You have the most beautiful voice I ever heard.' He gave me confidence."

Lawrence's native Australia. Almost a decade later, Garrotto returned to Omaha with plans of moving her ailing parents to live with her in Australia. Before they could make the trip, however, her beloved Lawrence died of a heart attack.

Garrotto returned to Omaha for good. Though absent more than 30 years, Garrotto said she always remembered her Omaha roots. "I liked everybody. They were all my friends . . . I never put on any airs. But I loved beautiful things and beautiful clothes."

"Why Am I Here?"

After singing countless operas and portraying the most dramatic roles, Garrotto finds her current state frustrating. "Why am I here?" she asks.

It is a difficult irony to swallow. The dynamo who performed the tragic death of Cio-Cio San more than 500

times is now trapped in a paralyzed body. The eyes that saw the world can't make out small objects. Fingers that danced across the keyboard are bent and crippled. Ears that detected perfect pitch now struggle to pick up spoken words.

"What am I supposed to do with 24 hours in a day?" she asks vehemently.

Wistfully, she explains what sense she makes of her life. "God gives you a lot of things. He bestowed on me a great gift. Then he takes it away. That's life. You can't have it all."

Such acceptance helps. But it doesn't ease her desire to revisit the first two acts of her life and skip the third. "People have to follow what they want. You have to love it. When I think about it now, it just came easy. I loved it and I couldn't live without it." ■

When the University of Nebraska at Omaha kicked off its 1998 football season against Central Missouri State, the Mavericks carried more than the weight of their shoulder pads into Warrensburg, Mo. Lofty expectations of conference and national championships have put added pressure on a resurgent UNO football program.

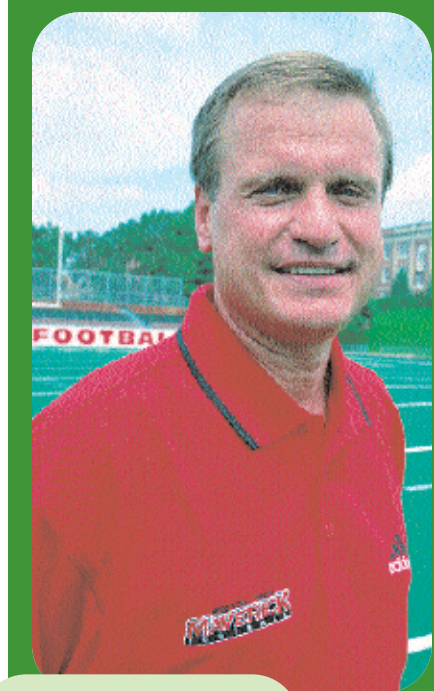
"Do we feel pressure? I hope so," said fifth-year coach Pat Behrns. "I want us to feel that type of pressure of winning a championship, because we need that to compete on the field. There's a certain level that you need to compete at to win a championship, and I want us to compete at that level every week."

When Behrns arrived on campus in 1994 the talk focused on re-establishing UNO as an North Central Conference contender. Today, the Mavs are again talking championships, and with good reason. Eighteen returning starters arrived for fall camp, including Harlan Hill Trophy candidate Ed Thompson at quarterback and 37 letter winners from

1998 with the help a dedicated senior class that led by example over the summer. "With 13 seniors this is the largest class we've had and they will provide excellent leadership," he said. "There is a lot of excitement internally amongst the players and coaches because of the day-to-day commitment put forth throughout the summer."

Mav Attack

By Don Kohler



Fifth-year UNO Mav Football Coach Pat Behrns.

a team that finished 8-3 and No. 19 in NCAA Division II last season. Adding to the preseason excitement is a six-game home schedule which brings NCC powers North Dakota, North Dakota State and two-time defending national champion Northern Colorado to Caniglia Field.

"Five years ago we were looking to get off of people's homecoming schedules," said Behrns, who watched his first teams struggle through 1-10 and 3-8 campaigns before guiding the Mavs to their first outright NCC crown, a No. 4 national ranking and a 10-2 record in 1996. "Right now we're being considered as one of the top teams in the league, so we've definitely come a long way. It's satisfying for myself, our coaches and our program. I feel good about what we've done, but I'll probably feel better if we can maintain this for 10 years or longer."

Behrns said the Mavs have a chance to build on that winning tradition in

We're finally at a point with our program that we can say we've been there. We've got the maturity and experience, and I think our players know what it takes to be able to compete on a winning level week in and week out. That is the hardest thing to accomplish in a program."

Stepping to the front of a talented senior class is Thompson, a 6-foot-1 195-pounder from Cambridge, Neb. Thompson, voted the conference's most valuable player in 1997, became the first player in NCAA II history to rush and pass for more than a 1,000 yards in a season. The durable, fleet-footed quarterback passed for 1,164 yards and 13 touchdowns and rushed for 1,075 yards and nine scores.

"I'm not looking too much at what I have to do this season," Thompson said when asked if he could duplicate his 1997 performance. "I'm just going to do what I need to do, whether it be to run the ball or pass, to lead the

The dynamic duo of Ed Thompson (left) and MarTay Jenkins just may help the UNO Mavs make a huge impact in the North Central Conference.

team. We have 13 seniors who are all anxious to win and our young guys are thinking the same way. Everyone has a positive attitude heading into the season."

A strong cast of running backs, a huge offensive line and the return of injured wide receiver MarTay Jenkins should help take the load off UNO's All-American quarterback candidate, Behrns said. "The thing that we're hoping is that we can give Ed a very realistic supporting cast this year so that all the pressure of 2,000 yards is not on his shoulders," Behrns said. "Of his 1,000 rushing yards last year, 435 came on called passes, so you have to take that pressure off him or it doesn't help the versatility of the offense."

UNO boasts a solid supporting cast in the backfield this season. The Mavs, who led the nation in rushing offense last season with 313.8 yards per game, welcome back 220-pound sophomore running back Adam Wright of Omaha, who finished with 748 yards and four touchdowns as a freshman. Senior Micky Koory (6-0, 240) of Omaha, who rushed for 326 yards and two scores last season, and sophomore Gary Barrineau (5-9, 222) of West Harrison, Iowa, lead the fullbacks.

All-American center Bob Wegner graduated last year, but UNO's front line shouldn't miss a beat behind senior tackle Brian Donohue (6-4, 300) of Des Moines; juniors Nick Prescott (6-2, 320), Dan Potmesil (6-6, 330) and Chris Bober (6-5, 290) of Omaha; and Brian Jarrett (6-3, 270) of Lincoln. Donohue is a three-year letterwinner, while Prescott, Potmesil, Bober and Jarrett have each lettered twice. "We lost Bob, but we have a couple of guys coming up and the line looks great the season," Donohue said. "Everybody worked hard in the weight room over the summer and everyone got stronger across the board."

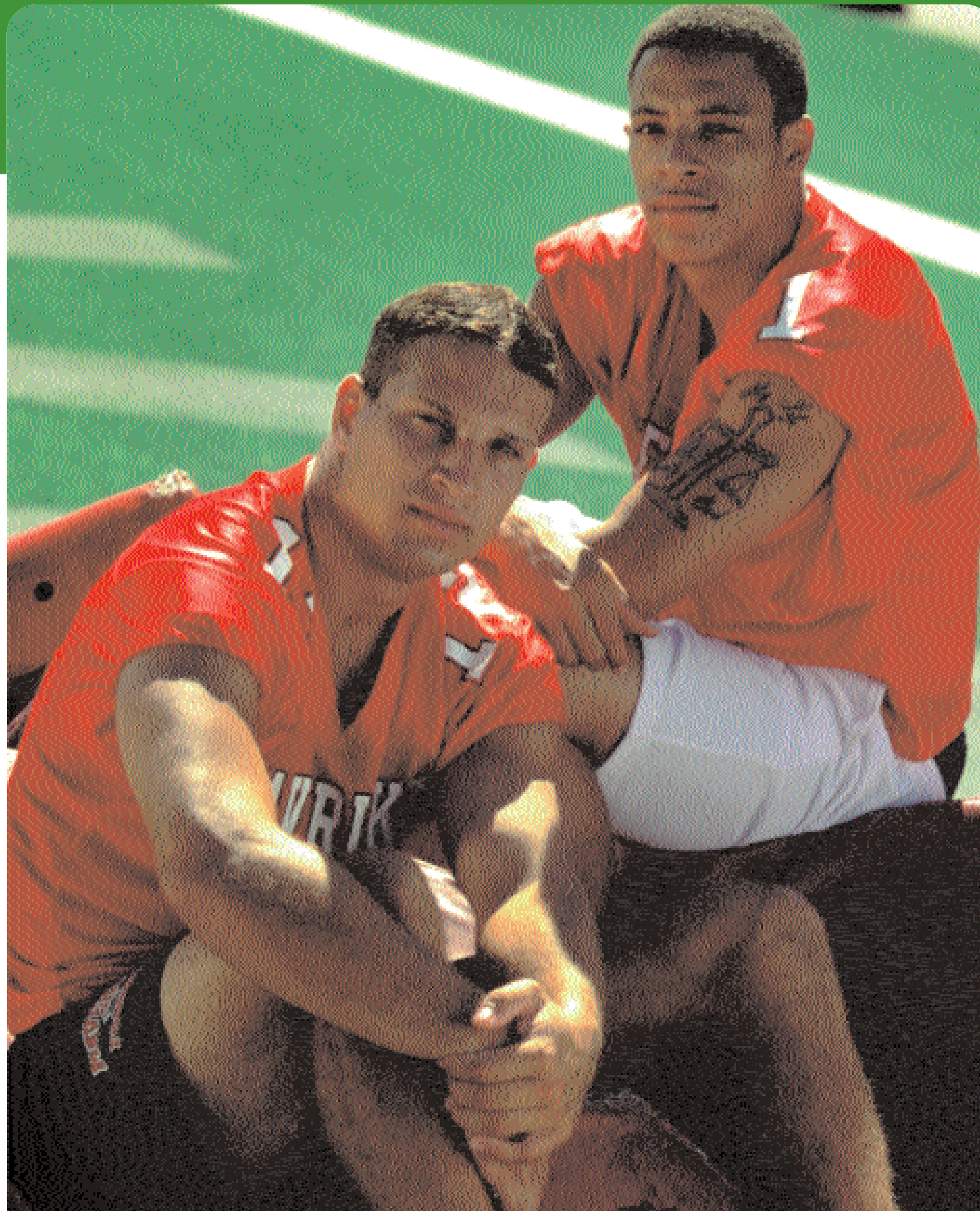
Thompson should have plenty of targets in 1998 with the return of

Jenkins and the team's top two receivers from last season, Tony Kreis of Papillion and Brian Benjamin of Stockton, Calif. Kreis (5-9, 175) caught 23 passes for 335 yards and two touchdowns and Benjamin (6-0, 255) piled up 323 yards and six scores from the tight end position. Senior tight end Pete Coniglio (6-3, 245) provides added punch on offense, but Jenkins is expected to be the big playmaker once again in 1998. The 6-1, 190-pound senior from Waterloo, Iowa was the Mavs' leading receiver in 1996 after catching 36 passes for 848 yards and eight touchdowns. He entered last season as a promising National Football League prospect before injuring his knee after making a diving touchdown reception in a season-opener victory against Central Missouri State. Jenkins entered fall workouts this season at nearly full speed, a testament to his perseverance during a grueling yearlong rehabilitation.

"He was considered to be the surprise of the NFL draft last year, not just as a receiver but the entire draft," Behrns said. "When you get hurt like that you could think for all intent and purposes that your career is over, but not MarTay. Think about your world at that time and how everything is collapsing on you. Then think about the type of character that you must have to get yourself another opportunity like that. MarTay had the ambition and drive to come back, and on top of that he's also only six hours away from earning his degree."

Jenkins said the support he received from UNO coaches and players helped in his quest to return to the football field. "It's been a long, long road to get mentally prepared for this season," he said. "I had a lot of family support and support from the players and coaches. When you have that kind of backing, the road back is a lot smoother."

After being restricted to sideline



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cheerleading duties last season, Jenkins said he's looking forward to getting his hands on the ball in 1998. "Last year I was the team captain and I tried to carry out that role on the sidelines. Now I can lead by example again and hopefully some of the younger guys will follow my lead," Jenkins said, adding that he plans to keep his NFL aspirations on hold until season's end. "There is nothing I can do about the pros until the end of the season. My goal right now is to help our team win a national championship."

Several returning veterans on defense should boost the Mavericks' championship chase. Junior linebacker Jason Bartling (6-1, 225) of Sidney, a second-team all-NCC player in 1996, is back after sitting out all but two games last season with an injury. Junior Terrell Spears (6-1, 240) of Brooklyn, N.Y., will team up with Bartling at the linebacker position. Senior nose tackle Jay Wineinger (6-3, 275) of North Platte will be front and center on a defensive line featuring both size and speed. The defensive backfield will be in good hands with junior Nate Sullivan (6-2, 220), a pre-season All-American candidate, and Ben Titus (6-0, 190), a talented free safety who had a team-leading 74 tackles last season while grabbing four interceptions.

"I would say this is the most talent we've had in the three years that I've been here," Sullivan said, adding that the Mavs expect to improve on last season's 8-3 mark. "After what happened last year, I'm sure a lot of people are underestimating us, so we've got something the prove in 1998."

Behrns believes the Mavs will prove themselves on the field in what promises to be an exciting season for UNO football. "Our home schedule with North Dakota, North Dakota State and Northern Colorado coming to town is unbelievable," he said. "There are a lot of things in place for us to have a great season. I've been telling our fans for the last five years to come out and take a look and if they like us, come back. We're going to be an exciting football team, and I believe if they come watch us they will come back. We're going to have fun this year." ■

Daniel E. Jenkins: The Man Who Founded the University 90 Years Ago

Little surprised the University of Omaha Board of Trustees anymore when Daniel E. Jenkins delivered his customarily detailed reports.

For 18 years, the prominent group of mostly Omaha businessmen had listened to Jenkins' accounts of a seemingly endless litany of financial crises always threatening the young university. Tales of unpaid faculty salaries, overdue bills and failed fund-raising campaigns had become commonplace.

Not that his reports were banal. Though just 5-foot-8 and of slight build, the handsome Jenkins was a commanding presence even in a room filled with Omaha's power brokers. A gifted, powerful orator, he spoke in rich vocabulary flowing from a rich,

announcement was near at hand. Still, they sat dumbfounded by his words.

"You must find someone to carry on the work," Jenkins continued. "I'll stay and help all I can, but the time has come for another man to head the university."

Henry F. Kieser, a trustee and longtime intimate of Jenkins, would later recall the meeting breaking up in silence.

"Afterwards, Dr. Jenkins sat two hours and talked of many things," Kieser said. "He laughed at humorous incidents connected with his long struggle, and at other times he cried. Tears rolled from his eyes when he told of the university staff of teachers — how they had served through pure loyalty, receiving in pay barely enough to exist."

Forgotten Founder

By Anthony Flott

deep, authoritative voice.

But when Jenkins convened the board in the early part of November, 1926, it was for more than business as usual. Enrollment had increased again that fall, Jenkins reported, and the need for a new facility — perhaps even a move to a new campus — had become even more pressing.

When he finished his summary, the solemn, gray-haired OU president removed his glasses, surveyed the room full of friends and associates, and, taking a deep breath, issued a most heart-wrenching announcement.

"I'm tired . . . tired," Jenkins said. "I can't go on."

Some of the trustees had suspected Jenkins was not well and that such an

It was the humble exit of one of Omaha's most respected and influential men of the early 20th century. He was founding president of the upstart university on 24th and Pratt streets, but so much more: a devoted family man; an eminent theologian; a Presbyterian minister who spellbound many a congregation; a philosopher; an idealist; a dreamer.

Shortly after his speech to the trustees, Jenkins suffered a nervous breakdown and was hospitalized. His son and namesake, Daniel E. Jenkins Jr., was just 10 at the time. He recalls riding his bicycle to the hospital to visit his father.

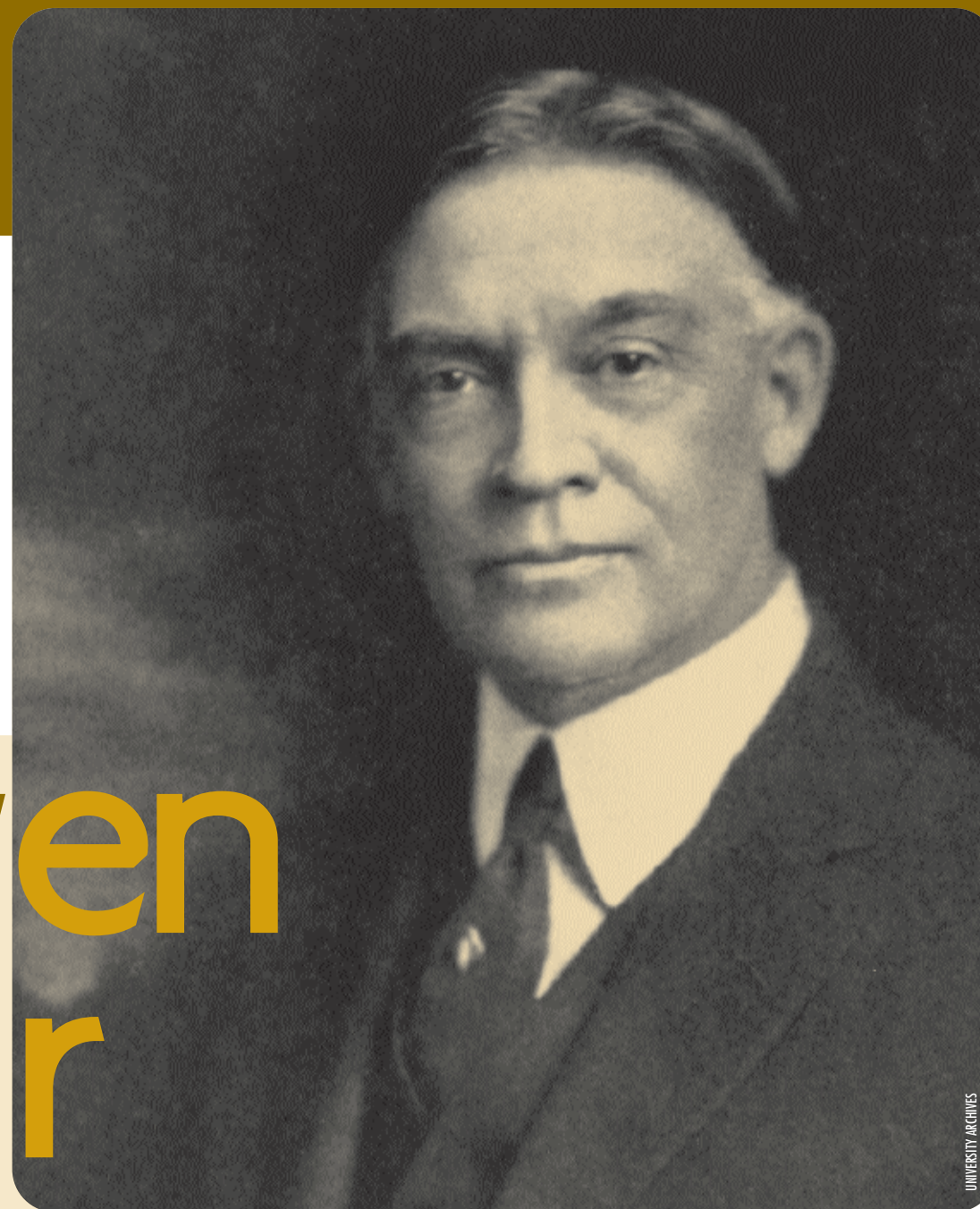
"I remember he wasn't smiling. His countenance was sad," says his son, who has outlived his father by 71 years. "He did-

n't talk at all."

The younger Jenkins used to sit for hours in the family's north Omaha home entranced by Dictaphone recordings of his father dictating letters. But now, the man of great speech had been struck silent.

Daniel Jr. stayed but 15 minutes at the hospital before hopping on his bike and riding home. It was the last time he saw his father alive.

Later that fall, Daniel E. Jenkins Sr. was sent east to Johns Hopkins hospital in Baltimore. After a brief stay there he was transferred to a private sanitarium in Trenton, N.J., where he was visited frequently by his oldest son, Finley, also a Presbyterian minister and the chair of systematic theology at Princeton Theological



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Finley accompanied his father's body home by train for the funeral service at Omaha's North Presbyterian Church. Daniel Jr. can still recall the burial service at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

"It was a rather chilly winter day, but sunny" he says. "Mrs. James, the wife of the dean of the university (W. Gilbert James) walked me from the end of the funeral up to the car."

There is perhaps no more fitting of a final resting place for Jenkins than Forest Lawn. Its ornate mausoleums and gravestones are etched with many of Omaha's greatest family names: Durham; Joslyn; Kountze; Kiewit; Storz. Though not possessing the earthly riches of such families, Jenkins' legacy is on par with theirs.

"He will be remembered as long as the university stands," penned an obituary writer in *The Omaha Bee-News*, "and it is destined to endure for ages, just because it is well founded. By his act he devoted himself to a work that sapped his vitality, expended his energy, and yet he gave it all because he believed in his work."

For all intensive purposes, however, Daniel E. Jenkins is not remembered. No building on the beautiful University of Nebraska at Omaha campus bears his name, an honor accorded several other important university figures, including two of the men who followed him in office. There is no statue, plaque or other monument. Nothing, save a framed picture hanging in a corner of the Eppley Administration Building and bearing the simple inscription: "Daniel E. Jenkins, First President of the University of Omaha, 1908-1927."

Thousands of students, faculty and staff pass the photo each year, few realizing the man's significance. Only two others can match his tenure at the university's helm, but no one can equal his contributions.

Ninety years since UNO's founding Oct. 8, 1908, — and 71 years since his death — Daniel E. Jenkins has become the Forgotten Founder.

Son of a Preacher Man

Daniel Edwards Jenkins was born Dec. 13, 1866, in Flintshire, North Wales, to Jane and John Mortimer Jenkins, a teacher and Presbyterian minister. Grandson Daniel E. Jenkins III recalls being told that John Mortimer, a U.S. citizen, had returned to North Wales specifically so he and his son could share the same birthplace. One year later, the family returned to the United States, where John Mortimer assumed the pastorate of Cincinnati's Sixth Presbyterian Church.

Daniel attended local grade schools in Cincinnati and a high school in nearby Orrville, Ohio. In 1882 he began studies at Wooster College, a Presbyterian institution

55 miles southwest of Cleveland.

John Mortimer uprooted his family once more, however, this time to Melbourne, Australia, apparently for the health of his wife. Daniel enrolled at the University of Melbourne and began to flash the academic prowess for which he later would become noted. He earned his undergraduate and master's degrees in logic and philosophy, graduating with first honors and being awarded \$500 upon commencement.

He used the money to return to the United States and enrolled at Princeton Theological Seminary. In 1891 he graduated from Princeton and, like his father, was ordained a Presbyterian minister.

Jenkins landed a heady post as pastor of New Salem, Pennsylvania's, New London Presbyterian Church, the oldest Presbyterian church in the United States. There, he met Annie Finley, a New Salem native from a wealthy family. The couple married June 15, 1892, honeymooning in Colorado.

In 1894, Annie gave birth to the couple's first son, Finley DuBois. Two years later, the 30-year-old Jenkins was appointed president of Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa.

A son, John Laurie, was born in 1899. One year later, daughter Anne was born. That same year, Jenkins left Parsons to join the staff of the recently founded Omaha Presbyterian Theological Seminary as a professor in systematic theology and apologetics. Shortly thereafter, in 1902, William Robert Jenkins was born.

Throughout this time of personal and professional advancement, Jenkins kept honing his sharp mind. In 1899 he had earned a doctorate in philosophy from Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pa. In 1906 he was awarded a doctor of divinity degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

In 1908, he would rely on his extensive body of knowledge and experience to form something new.

In the Beginning

Jenkins did not like the scene of higher education in Omaha in the early 1900s. There was Bellevue College (named Omaha University 1891-1908), the Jesuit-controlled Creighton University and the land-grant University of Nebraska. Jenkins sought something else for the young men and women of Omaha — something affordable, co-educational and non-sectarian in nature.

A Protestant movement composed mostly of Presbyterians but also some Baptists and Congregationalists began pushing for the formation of a private university along those lines. Though it was a collective effort, there was no doubt that Jenkins was the primary champion.

"This institution was his very own, in its inception and development," the *Bee-News* would later comment.

Among the early OU traditions was Gala Day. Daniel E. Jenkins Jr., second boy from the bottom, took part in the 1917 Gala Day.



On Oct. 8, 1908, the dream of Jenkins and others was incorporated as the University of Omaha. Though free from ecclesiastical control, it had a definite evangelical flavor.

"The purpose of this organization," Jenkins wrote in the articles of incorporation, "shall be to establish, endow, conduct and maintain a university for the promotion of sound learning and education under such influences as will lead to a high type of Christian character and citizenship with the Bible as supreme authority."

Initial plans were ambitious. The campus was to be 10 acres large and house 23 buildings, including a gymnasium, library, four dormitories and residences for the president and professors. The Carnegie and Rockefeller foundations pledged \$300,000 to its formation, contingent on another \$200,000 being raised in Omaha. The trustees never came close.

Instead, when classes began in September 1909, the entire university was housed on a single-square block at 24th and Pratt streets in Redick Mansion, a revamped Victorian house donated to the university by Oak C. Redick. The parlor was converted into a chapel and a resting room made available for female students.

Most of the faculty came from the seminary, who were paid \$50 annually. Students rode to campus on the 5-cent-fare streetcars that ran nearby.

"Its beginnings were very humble," Jenkins later wrote in the 1922 *Gateway Annual*. "No blare of trumpets announced its advent. No munificent endowment started it on its career."

Though money frequently was pledged by wealthy Omaha benefactors such as Redick, George and Sarah Joslyn, Oak C. and Lillian Maul, the efforts more often than not fell short.

"It started on a shoe-string, without a nickel, a pure adventure based on faith, or foolhardiness" Jenkins commented.

Olga Strimple, a 1917 graduate and later the first paid employee of the alumni association, remembered cold winter days when Jenkins on a Friday would announce to students that classes would not resume on Monday because the school's coal supply was exhausted. "We students weren't smart enough to be happy with our time off," Strimple said. "Instead, we went out and told our parents about it. After that, we had plenty of fuel."

Jenkins would not further burden the school's precarious financial situation and refused to take a salary, relying instead on

year-old father and 47-year-old mother. "You might say that," his son says with a laugh. "I was almost an only child."

His closest brother in age, Robert, was 14 years his senior. Finley, the eldest Jenkins child, was old enough to be his father.

Life at the family's home at 1921 Binney Street was what you might expect from a household run by a Presbyterian minister.

"When the founder worked in his study at home, as he had much of the time since were born, we kids had to be quiet — or else," son John told a Founders' Day crowd 34 years after his father's death.

That sternness, though, was tempered somewhat by his new duties at the university.

"He was busy at Redick Hall and not in his study so often, so life at home was a little freer," John said. "And, in the summer of 1908, I will remember my sister and I could go up to Redick Hall where we would play hide-and-seek endlessly in the secret passageways, stairways and towers of that vast Victorian labyrinth, while the founder worked at the founding in remote recesses of that labyrinth, and supervised the remodeling of the Redick garage into a chemistry laboratory. Tough for him, gay for us."

Daniel Jr. has similar recollections of his father.

"He was always very strict about things in the house," he says. "Prayers before dinner, always say grace and to church and Sunday school."

Their spread in age did not diminish their relationship.

"We were pretty close. I attended Locust Grade School, and a lot of the time when school was over I'd walk over and hang around my father's office. When he got through work, he'd take me home.

"And I remember I always used to go up in the morning and he'd be shaving at the back window and we'd talk. We'd talk about the neighborhood, things I liked to do. I remember we had a cat that howled around the neighborhood and he used to complain about that cat howling at night. So I went out and searched for that cat. I'd sneak out there early in the morning and try to find it, but I never did."

By his account, his mother and father were a happy couple.

"Though I was very used to her complaining about his working too much," he says. "We weren't rich but we lived comfortably. I remember our house being full of books, just full of them. Books, books, books, everywhere."

An Intellectual Giant

That Jenkins' house would be full of books comes as no surprise considering that many viewed him as an intellectual giant. He often spent his limited spare time in the bookstore owned by his friend and university trustee Henry Kieser. There, Jenkins would engage fellow customers in conversations that often lasted past closing hour. And it didn't matter to whom he was talking.

"Profoundly erudite, he yet was simple and easily approached," remarked an editorial at the time of his passing. "He could deliver an address to a group of theological students, discuss doctrinal points with seminarians or talk to a body of labor union men, with equal address and sympathetic knowledge. It was this that endeared him to all he came into contact with."

It is striking how often his eulogizers praised his mind.

Julius F. Schwarz, vice president at OU, said of Jenkins, "His great brain, set in his square, capacious head, mastered with a giant's grip whatever it attacked."

J. B. Wootan, editor of *Public Service Magazine* in Chicago and a friend of Jenkins, said "His mind was profound, never content to linger long on the surface of any proposition which to him seemed worthy of his consideration. Yet it was keen, incisive, analytical. He was seldom deceived by a person or a problem. Fortunately, in early life his splendid intellect was submitted to a process of training which never ended and made him, in many respects, the intellectual superior of most of us."

At his funeral service, James W. Bean, a Presbyterian minister from St. Paul, Minn., and a former pupil of Jenkins, lauded his teacher as "furnished by nature with an excellent mental equipment . . . his was an intellect of exceedingly high order. His logic, his reasoning, seemed almost without flaw." Bean recalled a speech Jenkins had made in 1925 at Parsons College and how a nearby man remarked, "There is a man who knows how to think upon his feet!"

Not that Jenkins was without shortcomings. Like others blessed with impressive mental acuity, Jenkins was given to fits of forgetfulness. He once forgot about a church service he was to conduct, arriving an hour later after a messenger had been sent for him. On another occasion, he forgot about a wedding at which he was to officiate. And he once preached a sermon which was to end at noon, but became so interested that he talked until 1:30 p.m.

His focus often was elsewhere. "He could sit at his desk, with bills due scat-

tered over it, and close his eyes to all but the future," Kieser recalled.

When Jenkins was not applying his mind to matters of the university, he more often than not was addressing theological concerns. In 1906 he delivered a speech as part of the "Stone Lecture" series at Princeton. The youngest man ever accorded the honor and only the second from west of the Mississippi, Jenkins spoke on "The Function and Right of Anthropomorphism in Religious Thought."

William L. McEwan, a minister in the Third Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, called Jenkins "one of the great theologians of this generation."

Added to his heavy slate of activities at the seminary and university were several other appointments. He was a member of the Omaha School Board, the Council of the National Economic League, the American Academy of Political and Social Science and the National Association of Charities and Correction; a delegate to the Congress of American Prison Association; appointed by the governor to a special vice commission; and an author of textbook chapters on theology and philosophy.

Schwarz said Jenkins' "was a hand of silk when it grasped that of a friend or bestowed a courtesy; it was a hand of iron when it flung from his path an obstacle or struck a foe to the highest type of intelligence and efficient citizenship."

Financial woes

For the last 19 years of his life, though, theological and other concerns took a backseat to keeping OU solvent. He was the preacher constantly parting a red sea of deficits. And he worked tirelessly to that end.

Asked how many hours he worked, Jenkins once replied, "Well, I've averaged from 12 to 14 for so long I've forgotten. It has agreed with me. I have never been seriously handicapped by sickness."

He knew the demands of his post were steep. In his inaugural address to Parsons College in 1896, Jenkins remarked that "While on my journey to his place a reverend gentleman warned me with a very solemn shake of the head — so solemn indeed that it would tend to make the healthiest man dismal — that he knew from his own experience that a college presidency is no sinecure."

He would "spend to be spent," he said. Creditors knocked on the university's door as frequently as prospective students. Daniel Jenkins Jr. remembers accompanying his father to ask for funds from Sarah Joslyn.

"She lived in a very pretentious place," he recalls. "I don't know how successful he was in later years getting money from them, but he tried. It was troublesome for him."

And he was sorely tempted by other offers. The American Bible Society asked him to become its secretary. Southern University offered him its presidency, as did San Pablo University in South America. In 1920, the Presbyterian Seminary of Louisville, Ken., recruited him as president at an annual salary of \$4,000.

Jenkins declined (his son, Finley, later took the post). When the OU Board of Trustees heard of the offer, they forced him to accept a \$2,000 salary.

It was clear that Jenkins wanted to see his baby through the hard times.

The Death of Daniel E. Jenkins

That a man possessed of such vitality and great thought should be struck down made his loss cut more deep.

His downfall may have been precipitated by an attack of appendicitis in May of 1926. Jenkins underwent an operation and quickly resumed his duties.

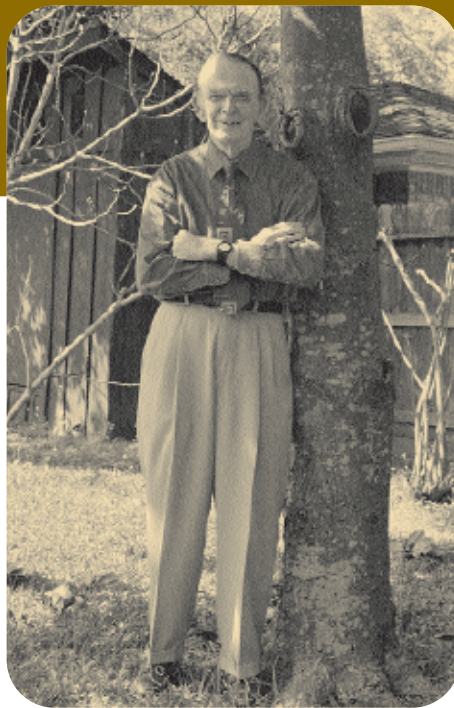
"He left the hospital too soon in order to be at his desk, laden with work," Julius F. Schwarz said. "He was very weak, but continued his habit of long hours and paying little attention to meal times."

When the term concluded that spring, Jenkins began planning for a trip to England in the summer. He left New York



Jenkins' gravestone at Forest Lawn: "Wait on the Lord, he of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord." (Psalm XXVII)

Daniel E. Jenkins Jr., right, at his home in Houston. He moved to Texas with his mother shortly after his father's death. The Founder's son went on to become a professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine.



by boat July 4 and spent the next two months studying ancient bibles and that country's education system.

He returned in early September. It was apparent to Schwarz that the time away did Jenkins no good. "I could see that he still was broke and weary."

Jenkins' condition worsened. In November, he gathered the trustees for his final meeting, requesting a six-month leave of absence summarily granted. W. Gilbert James was named acting president in his stead.

After a brief hospitalization in Omaha he headed to Johns Hopkins, then to the private sanitarium 20 miles near his son Finley. There was the brief rally, then the collapse.

At his funeral Nov. 28 at North Presbyterian, more than 50 wreaths from churches, institutions and individuals filled the church. Seven days later, more than 700 people attended a memorial service for Jenkins at First Central Congregational Church. Telegrams and letters poured in from all over, including Bermuda, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Iowa.

A short time later, Daniel Jenkins Jr. and his mother moved east to be with Finley in New Jersey. After a couple of months there, they moved to Dallas to stay with John and his family.

It had been proposed at the memorial service by Larimore C. Denise of the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary to establish "a permanent memorial to Dr. Jenkins, possibly in the nature of an endowment fund." If such a fund ever was created it is long forgotten.

As the years passed, the ties linking Jenkins to the university dissipated.

The Redick Mansion had long since been dismantled, its pieces shipped to Keely Cure Island on Lake Shetek in Minnesota. It became the Valhalla Dance Pavilion and Cafe before burning to ashes in 1950. Its original site at 24th and Pratt streets now is a public housing project for the elderly.

In 1930 Omaha voters narrowly passed an issue to take over Jenkins' university. By 3,000 votes it became the Municipal University of Omaha, a tax- and tuition-supported institution.

In 1938, thanks to one of the many federal grants President Roosevelt doled out during the Great Depression, the university constructed a new building on its current Dodge Street site, then on the out-

skirts of the city limits. In 1968 OU joined the University of Nebraska.

Today, it is a campus of more than 13,000 students, one of the most respected metropolitan universities in the Midwest.

Olga Strimple recalls a 1960 visit to the campus by Jenkins' son, John.

"Oh, Olga," Jenkins recalls John saying, "this just isn't our university anymore."

The family did their part to keep the founder's memory alive, but they, too, faded.

In 1935, Finley died from pneumonia. Of Daniel Jenkins' five children, he was most like his father, apparently endowed with many of the same gifts. He had studied at the University of Berlin and attended Strassburg University in France on a fellowship from Princeton. The *Omaha World-Herald* referred to his post at Princeton as chair of systematic theology as "the most commanding position in the whole field of Presbyterian education." He had assumed the position at 26, younger than any other man to do so.

Jenkins' wife, Annie, returned to campus in 1942 in celebration of Founders' Day. She died in Dallas in 1955, her body returning to Omaha to be buried next to her husband.

William Robert also returned for a Founders' Day, in 1961, joining OU President Milo Bail and Gerald R. Ford, then Michigan's fifth district congressman, as a speaker. His speech was entitled, "A Man Had a Dream." William H. Thompson, an early OU graduate and one of the university's most important figureheads, followed with "The Dream Becomes a Reality."

"There have been others who captured and were inspired by that same dream of

his," said Robert, a 1923 OU alum. "The whole community rallied to save the dream from the oblivion of most dreams."

Robert, who had become president of *Columbia Life* in New York, died eight years later.

John Laurie, a 1920 OU graduate and a successful ear, nose and throat specialist in Dallas, died in 1981. Anne Jenkins, a 1920 OU alumna who briefly headed the university's home economics department before marrying, passed away in October 1997.

That leaves Daniel Jenkins Jr. as the only direct link to the Founding Father. He married in 1942, had three children (including Daniel Jenkins III, who in turn fathered Daniel E. Jenkins IV) and became an assistant professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine.

He's now retired from his general practice, living in the Houston home he bought 40 years ago. He spends his time occasionally visiting former patients, traveling extensively or working on his computer (considering the era in which his father began the university, it is interesting to note that the younger Jenkins now has his own e-mail address).

He last visited UNO in October 1997 when he came to Omaha to bury his sister. He spent two days visiting the campus with his wife, Dora, no blare of trumpets accompanying the visit of the Founder's son.

"I was very pleased with what I saw," he says. "Tremendous growth."

His father, Daniel Jr. says, "would be amazed" at the changes. "All the buildings and contributions people have made to it. I think he'd be pleased. I certainly was."

Still, something was decidedly missing. The man who made it all possible is nowhere to be found, save the obscure photo. Daniel Jenkins Jr. remembers the university once had an oak chair of his father's on display, but it's nowhere to be found.

Daniel Jenkins Jr. is hesitant to criticize the oversight. But there are hints of his disappointment. The picture, Jenkins says, "didn't even have his degrees or anything. It just said 'First President,' and it gave the dates. That was the only thing I saw."

Perhaps, however, a memorial to Daniel E. Jenkins is unnecessary.

"He built a monument in the hearts of men," went his obituary in the *Bee-News*, "by his inspiring words and example. The University of Omaha will endure, a visible and outward evidence of his great labor and devotion. Students there should achieve much, for its founder set a noble example to inspire them to their very utmost endeavor." ■

"Age is strictly a case of mind over matter; If you don't mind it doesn't matter."

— Jack Benny

Listening to his shtick in a cluttered office at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, I can't help but wonder if Jim Thorson has missed his true calling. Though he is distinguished as one of the nation's most respected and widely published gerontologists, it's his theatrical flair, not his academic prowess, that commands your attention.

This is no surprise to those who know Thorson away from the beautiful tree-lined campus where he's taught since 1977. He sings bass with the Omaha Symphonic Choir and acts with the Grande Olde Players Theatre. But it is stand-up comedy

that seems best suited for his talents. Like his comedic hero W.C. Fields, Thorson is quick with one-liners — some profane, some politically incorrect, but nearly all knee-slapping hilarious.

Even when speaking in the dry, arcane jargon of academicese, Thorson manages to pepper the conversation with impeccably timed zingers.

For instance, here's Thorson on a recent conference gathering of English Literature professors: *There was a tremendous outbreaking of tweed, elbow patches and guys sucking on pipes trying to look thoughtful.*

On having more than 100 books and

drawn attention for his research into — what else? — humor. In a 1997 *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, Thorson wrote that humor "can be intimately related to quality of life."

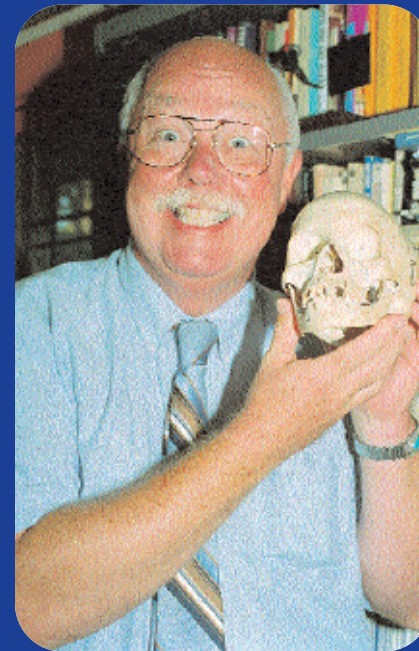
Elsewhere, in *Humor*, the International Journal of Humor Research, Thorson surmised that, "Perhaps those with a robust sense of humor are in fact likelier to survive into later life."

Thorson demands our attention not just because he makes us laugh, but because to laugh is to live.

"I think there's a weeding out effect," he says. "I think grumps die sooner."

Last Laugh

By Anthony Flott



TIM FITZGERALD

UNO Gerontology Professor Jim Thorson, left, is prone to a little goofing around.

articles in print: *It's death anxiety. In another 100 years from now they're certainly not going to be buying videos of me, so being on a library shelf is the best kind of immortality I can find.*

Or on a previous form of capital punishment: *If they were burning people at the stake today, I'd be the first one in line for a ticket because I've never seen anyone get burned at the stake.*

Thorson is the class clown, only he's at the head of the class. The Chicago native relishes any opportunity to infuse humor into his daily life.

"It's part of my job to drive humorless people crazy," the dry-witted Thorson says with a half-smile that barely manages to lift his white, bushy mustache. "If I can drive even one humorless person crazy, I feel like I've made a contribution."

He's also quite good at the other part of his job — studying aging and the elderly. The chairman of one of the largest gerontology departments in the Midwest, his extensive work ranges from "Love in the Later Years" to "Geriatric Respiratory Care."

Most recently, however, Thorson has

Laughing at life—and death

"I don't want to gain immortality by my humor. I want to gain immortality by not dying."

— Woody Allen

Given his gerontological expertise and quick wit, it's no wonder Thorson is a favorite at AARP chapter meetings. He often preps such crowds with the same question: "How many of you here would like to live to be 100?"

Typically, relates the 51-year-old Thorson, he gets the same reaction. "They hoot and they moan and they throw stuff and yell, 'HECK, NO!'"

"But I did have one lady hold up her hand once, and I asked a guy, 'What's with her?'"

"Well," said the guy, "she's 99."

When Thorson asks the same question of third-graders at the elementary school where he volunteers, all hands shoot up in hope of becoming a centenarian. It is one of the strange paradoxes in Thorson's field.

"People become accustomed to the

notion that death will happen to them," Thorson says. "Invariably, older subjects have much lower death anxiety. You'd expect different. The closer to death, why shouldn't they be more afraid of it?"

I relate the story of my grandfather who — literally on his deathbed — called for Michael, his grandson. Michael had been living with "Gramps" for some time and the two had grown quite close. My cousin knelt beside my grandfather's cancer-ravaged body and leaned close, expecting a final parting of wisdom.

"What's the date?" Gramps asked.

"It's the 3rd. May 3rd," said Michael.

My grandfather paused, then looked at Michael and said, "The rent's late."

Thorson chuckles. "Being able to laugh at your own aging and being able to laugh at your own death . . . that's pretty good."

The Laugh Doctor

"A beautiful girl walked into my hotel room. She said, 'Oh, I'm sorry. I must be in the wrong room.' I said, 'No, you're in the right room. You're just forty years too late.'"

— George Burns

Thorson, whose academic interest in humor began in the mid-1980s when he was asked to write an article on gallows humor, says little is known about the subject. "We've written volumes about creativity but we don't know a whole hell of a lot about humor."

When Thorson set out to study humor among the elderly, he found that the few scales available to him were inadequate.

For instance, Thorson says, one scale seemed to measure likelihood to laugh, not sense of humor.

"My Aunt Mabel's been laughing like an idiot for 82 years," Thorson says, "and she's never gotten the joke yet, much less made a joke."

Other scales were administered

mostly to college-age students and yielded little useful information for gerontologists.

So Thorson, along with UNO colleague Chuck Powell, developed his own scale, the Multidimensional Sense of Humor Scale (MSHS). The 24-item self-rating scale measures individuals on four factors: 1) Humor creativity; 2) Use of humor to cope; 3) Appreciation of humor; and 4) Appreciation of humorous people.

Respondents agree or disagree with statements such as "People look to me to say amusing things," or "People who tell jokes are a pain in the neck."

It has proven so reliable that it is being used across the world, translated into nine different languages. Thorson admits that tweaking is sometimes necessary in the translations. For instance, item No. 1, "I can often crack people up," translates into German as "I can break people with sticks and stones."

When the test is administered to groups of men and women ranging from teens to octogenarians, the findings typically reinforce humor's importance. As sense of humor increases, death anxiety and depression decrease. And the more humorous one is, the more optimistic or religious they are likely to be.

More fruitful conclusions emerge when MSHS scores are compared between age groups. Humor, Thorson says, does not develop linearly, but instead becomes more diverse as we age.

"Humor creativity is a young man's business," Thorson says, "I think coping humor increases with age, but overall, sense of humor certainly does not. The need to be creative goes down."

As an example of coping humor Thorson cites his mother, who died in March 1997 at age 84. She once sent him to buy her a freezer and quipped, "Don't bother to get one with a 20-year guarantee."

Thorson says there also seems to be cohort effects to humor, that is, we mirror the humor of our peers. Today's elderly were less exposed to humor than today's youth. Thorson notes that people born near the turn of this century "had to cope with people who were born in the 1840s who had the social norms of Andrew Jackson, who I don't think was a very funny guy at all. He killed 10 people in duels, so he must have been a fairly stern stick."

As for findings related to gender, Thorson has written that the remarkable thing is how similarly men and women use humor. There are subtle differences, however.

"If you break it down into its component parts, women are higher in coping humor and men are higher on creative humor," he says.

Can You Learn to Be Funny?

What are the implications of all this funny talk? If it's true that humor helps one cope with the indignities brought on by age, can you train yourself to be more humorous, and thus enjoy a better quality of life?

Big businesses think you can. Many of them are shelling out big bucks to humor consultants in the belief that happier workers make better workers. The Humor Potential, Inc., of Plymouth, Mass., for instance, lists clients such as IBM, Microsoft, NASA, and — believe it or not — the IRS.

I ask Thorson what older adults can learn from his research.

"It hasn't even occurred to me the elderly would get anything out of it," he says. "Hardly any of our research is useful, you know."

Thorson is joking, of course. He's just following comedy's golden rule:

Always leave 'em laughing. ■

classnotes

Fall 1998



1931

John L. Barber Jr., BA, recently celebrated his 65th wedding anniversary with his wife, Derelle. A grandfather of four and great-grandfather of three, he is retired and lives in Eugene, Ore.

1937

Robert R. Anthes, BA, lives in Lincoln and is retired, having served as the administrator of nursing homes until 1984. He is married to 1939 alumna Elsie Stahmer Anthes (see below). The couple has two daughters.

1939

Elsie Stahmer Anthes, BA, lives in Lincoln. She taught in Omaha Public Schools from 1937 to 1947. She is married to 1937 alum Robert Anthes (see above). The couple has two daughters.

1943

Marjorie J. Winter, assoc., lives in Glenwood, Iowa, where she tends to her 103-year-old mother on the family farm. Marjorie retired as an elementary school teacher 20 years ago.

1944

Wallace Rankin, BA, lives in Glendale, Ariz., with his wife, Sue. He recently was elected president of the Phoenix Unit 354 of the American Contract Bridge League. The Phoenix unit has about 2,000 members and sponsors six duplicate bridge tournaments a year. Wallace plays duplicate bridge at a local club about four times a week.

1948

James A. Steiger, BS, lives in Sacramento, Calif. He writes: "My OU educational experience has served me well all my life. I'm grateful."

1950

Richard E. Polenske, BS, recently celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary in Phoenix, where he lives. He retired in 1993 after 42 years as president and director of the Arizona Water Company.

1951

Lawrence Haman, BS, says his recent Class Note submissions have generated mail from classmates. "I've had a couple of real nice letters, including some photos from UNO alum Tom Jauss. Tom, who is in the Boston area, won the Fire Parsons Memorial Hockey Trophy as an outstanding hockey player for OU. Another thought that comes back to me often is the memory of Wayne Wilson — a great business law prof. who used to pound the desk to make an important point. The one I remember most was when he said, "If you do not keep every piece of written papers — signed or not — YOU WILL GET WHAT YOU DESERVE!" Since I was into real estate out here, his desk-pounding advice came in real handy many times! I would like to hear more of the professors who helped other careers. Nobody ever dozed off in Wilson's Bus. Law class!!!"

Thomas N. Townsend, BA, is a retired pastor in the United Church of Christ. He recently received the 1998 Distinguished Alumnus Award from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities (New Brighton, Minn.). He is a 1960 graduate of Mission House Theological Seminary, a predecessor institution to United. He and his wife, Ruth, live in West Bend, Wis.

Long lines at the registrar like the one pictured from 1948 are a thing of the past. Today, UNO's gone electronic, eliminating long waits.

1952

Barbara J. Johnson (Schmidt), MS, was honored by the Alegent Health/Mercy Hospital Foundation for her contributions to arts and humanities. She was a music teacher for 36 years for Council Bluffs Public Schools and continues to teach piano and voice to more than 40 students. For more than 30 years she also has been music director of the Broadway Methodist Church Bell Ensemble and Chancel Choir.

1953

Larry Boersma, BA, recently completed four books in the "Wildcats of North America" series, covering bobcats, lynx, cougars and feral cats. Larry and his wife, June, wrote and took photographs, publishing under the pen names Jalma Barrett and Larry Allan. The books are being published by Blackbirch Press. Next up are books on wolves, coyotes and foxes. "We love those critters," Larry says, "Even got 'kissed' by a black bear in Montana recently! No, he didn't have 'bear breath.'"

"I think coping humor increases with age, but overall, sense of humor certainly does not. The need to be creative goes down."

But laughing at what Thorson calls the "thousand natural shocks associated with getting old" is not an easy feat. Some simply don't cope with the inevitable changes.

"There are a lot of old cranks, but there are a lot of things to make people cranky," Thorson says. "About half of the elderly have arthritis. It's hard to be jolly if you're in constant pain."

"That's why I have such great respect for people who are because look at what people are adapting to — loss of stature, loss of status, loss of physical power, sensory loss, widowhood, loss of income, isolation, denture breath — you name it. Humor allows you to adapt and cope with things."

The concept is nothing new. Sigmund Freud suggested that to face death on a daily basis and yet still be able to laugh at one's own petty finiteness was the application of philosophical thinking. Dartmouth psychiatrist George Valliant has described humor as among the most mature and elegant of the defense mechanisms.

"Somebody who has a good sense of humor can see the ridiculous and see how petty we are," Thorson says, following with one of his many punch lines, "One thousand years from now, who's gonna give a rat's ass? You might as well laugh at it."

"Regards to all at UNO, a great university!"

Richard W. Nicholson, '59

1953

Manette Fokken, BA, retired from teaching in Oceanside, N.Y., and moved to Carlsbad, Calif. "Southern California is a fabulous place to live," Manette writes. "The weather is ideal. The people are friendly and courteous and remind me of my many years living in the Midwest. After living in N.Y. for 37 years I had forgotten the beauty of living at a slower pace."

1956

Galen Lillethorup, BS, is "semi-retired" from an advertising agency in Omaha. He still flies and publishes children's books.

Clarence Sage, BS, lives in Spring City, Ind., and is twice retired — from Lockheed Martin Energy Systems in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and from the U.S. Navy Reserve. He recently visited fellow alum Bill Barnes ('56) in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., in February. He returns to Omaha several times each year to visit family and friends.

1957

Jim Fishback, BS, has been married to fellow alum Joan (Fitzwater) Fishback (BS, '53) for 43 years. Jim retired in 1994 from First National Bank in the Trust Department. Joan retired in 1996 as a legal secretary with Katskee, Henatoch, et al.

Irene Pence, BS, lives in Dallas. She recently published her second book, "Triangle," a true crime story.

1958

Jeanne Giles, BS, is a speech-language pathologist and lives in South Sioux City, Neb., with husband and fellow alum Bob Giles ('61, see below).

Marilyn Crandall Schmidt, BS, retired in December 1997 from Samaritan North Health Center's rehabilitation and sports medicine department. She lives in Vandalia, Ohio, and is filling her time baby-sitting her newborn grandson.

1959

John Atherton, BA, has taught at Nebraska Methodist College for the past 10 years and has run a private counseling practice for the past 25. He also is an adjunct instructor at UNO.

A. Toby Jadowski, BGS, lives in Omaha and is retired from the City of Omaha's planning department as chief electrical inspector.

Richard W. Nicholson, BGE, is enjoying retirement with his wife, Kim, in Memphis, Tenn. He keeps busy working on nine journal article manuscripts and a book, playing the violin and recovering from recent heart bypass surgery. "Regards to all at UNO, a great university!"

1960

Bob Willice, BA, recently completed a retirement goal of touring in all 50 states. "What a wonderful country this is! Next goal is to revisit favorites." Bob lives in Gulf Breeze, Fla., with his wife and fellow alum Chris Willice ('61).

1961

Bob Giles, BA, lives in South Sioux City, Neb., with wife and fellow alum Jeanne Giles ('58, see above). Bob retired Jan. 31 as pastor of the Hopewell and Palmyra Presbyterian Churches after 34 years in the Presbyterian Church (USA). He is still employed as stated clerk of Homestead Presbytery, Lincoln.

Doug Van Horn, BS, has worked in middle management for Mangelsen's Enterprises (wholesale) since 1972. He spends his spare time biking and traveling from his home in LaVista.

1962

Joe R. Hooper, BGS, lives in Coronado, Calif., and is retired after 30 years of service with the military. He began with the U.S. Navy as a seaman third class. He then joined the Army as a first lieutenant, eventually retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

Ralph Chimelis, BGS, is 85 and in good health, living in Chicopes, Mass. A Bootstrapper, he spent 26 years in the military, serving in three wars. He won the Bronze Star in the Vietnam War. He retired in 1968, then became a Spanish teacher for the next 14 years. He's been retired from teaching since 1983.

1963

Joe Maddalena, BGE, spends his time writing fiction and playing golf after twice retiring. The first time came in 1988 when he left the U.S. Air Force Reserves following 32 years of service (14 active, 18 reserves). Last year, the former Bootstrapper retired from teaching at St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkhill, N.Y., where for 20 years he taught economics and business and was the originator and first director of the Weekend College. After leaving St. Thomas he went on to earn

a master's degree from Fordham University (Bronx, N.Y.) and his doctorate in education from Fairleigh Dickenson University (Teaneck, N.J.).

Jack L. McClaran, BGE, received the Meritorious Service Award from the Lakeway Civic Corporation in Texas. He retired from the U.S. Army highly decorated, leaving as a colonel in 1975 after 31 years of service.

David W. Parke, BS, has spent the last eight years as the lead pilot for the Bureau of Aircraft, State of Florida. He also has completed the certified public manager program at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla., where he lives.

1964

Mary Helen Adams, BS, has been retired for 17 years after 45 years of teaching junior high math and junior/senior high learning disabilities. "I've been exceptionally busy doing volunteer work," she writes. She lives in Missouri Valley, Iowa.

John L. Jennings, BGE, lives in Tampa, Fla., a retired lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Army. He writes, "When I attended OU, it was a very liberal school. I hope the actions of our very liberal President Clinton has caused many of the professors to change their minds."

Dona (Picking) Cooper, BA, works as a home health care specialist, a career taken up after 17 years teaching physical therapy at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Dona, retired from the U.S. Army Reserves with the rank of colonel, lives in Estes Park, Colo.

Jim Horky, BA, lives in Pagosa Springs, Colo., and is the owner of Sweetwater Video, a television production company based in Hollywood and San Francisco. He also is busy building a ranch in Colorado.

1965

Carol E. Thompson, BGE, is retired and lives in Papillion.

1966

Wendell Jinright, BGE, recently retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida where he was director of information operations. It was his second retirement, having previously left the U.S. Air Force in 1978. He currently serves on the board of directors in the Association of Information Technology

"UNO definitely made a difference—thanks!"

Elton Grapes, '67

Professionals and lives in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

1967

Thomas L. Upton, BS, was promoted to vice president of finance at Sitel Corporation's Insurance Marketing Services Group.

Elton Grapes, BGS, retired from the State of Texas in 1995, his second retirement after leaving the U.S. Air Force as a lieutenant colonel in 1974. He lives in Round Rock, Texas, and writes, "UNO definitely made a difference—thanks!"

1968

Marvin W. Lintner, BGS, was named the 1998 Flight Instructor of the Year for South Carolina by the Federal Aviation Agency. Lintner retired in 1971 from the U.S. Air Force after 23 years of service. He went into teaching in South Carolina public schools, eventually retiring again in 1994. He now is the chief flight instructor for Midlands Aviation Corporation in Columbia, S.C.

1969

Mellanee Kvasnicka, BA, completed her doctorate work in English in 1997 at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She has served as the chair of the South High School English department since 1983.

Larry G. Alexander, BFA, was selected Colorado High School Art Educator of the Year for 1997 by the Colorado Art Education Association. He is in his 23rd year teaching art, 20 of which have been spent at Douglas County High School in Castle Rock, Colo. He lives in Sedalia, Colo.

1970

Thomas W. Peckinpugh, BGS, lives in Livingston, Texas, and is "a full-time 'RVer' with a 35-foot fifth-wheel trailer with all the comforts of home." Life on the road for Peckinpugh began after he sold his horse ranch operation. Prior to that he had been in private practice as a psychotherapist, establishing Country Counseling Center in Copperas Cove, Texas from 1991 until retiring in 1996. It was his second retirement. His first came in 1981 when he left the U.S. Army as a major with military intelligence. He went on to earn a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Central Texas, where he worked from 1981 to 1991 as a counselor and dean. He writes: "P.S.: Very saddened to hear about my geography professor, Chris Jung's death in the last issue. He talked about Kabul a lot!"

Arlene M. Mitchell, BS, is retired after

teaching for 25 years, 19 with Omaha Public Schools. "Enjoying the family and some traveling!"

Robert J. Quinn, BGS, is director of operations for the Visiting Nurse Association of Florida, which serves six Florida counties. He lives in Stuart, Fla.

Sidney L. Strickland, BGS, is president of the Southside Fire/EMS Department in Savannah, Ga. He also is quartermaster and service officer of VFW Post 660 and a voluntary assistant as needed for veterans and widows of veterans.

Daniel A. Ebert, BGS, is director of manufacturing for the Kohler Co., engine division. He lives in Cedarburg, Wisc.

1971

Robert D. Scott, BGS, retired in January as chief of plans and operations division, personnel information systems directorate, for Total Army Personnel Command. He had more than 45 years of combined federal service (military and civilian) and was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal for exemplary achievement and service. It is the U.S. Army's second highest award for civilians. "Current plans are to adjust to the new lifestyle and continue to be very active in community service." He lives in Reston, Va.

Roger Young, BGS, is a licensed professional counselor in Arkansas (he lives in Van Buren) and accredited by the National Board of Certified Counselors. He recently completed a three-year term on the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling. He teaches at Westark College in Fort Smith, Ark., and also conducts seminars and workshops nationally on stress management and memory improvement.

Mary Hilfiker, MS, was one of two award honorees cited by the Federal Executive Board on Martin Luther King Day in January. She was cited for "keeping alive the philosophy and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King through her understanding, committed leadership and unselfish service." She was nominated by the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion with recommendation from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She lives in Shoreview, Minn.

Susan Haas Tiehen, BS, was elected president of the Ralston Board of Education. She previously served as board secretary for

two years, having been appointed to the board in 1995 and elected in 1996. She is a part-time preschool teacher.

Carl E. Carr, BGS, was awarded the Muller Award by the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) for Outstanding Chapter Service. He previously was elected a fellow and selected for the Educational Excellence Award. Carl is senior contracts analyst for Westinghouse Savannah River Company. He lives in Martinez, Ga.

1972

J. Patrick Anderson, BS, was awarded the Silver Beaver Award by the Last Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America in March 1998. He has served in various volunteer leadership positions, including council vice president three times and council president once. He lives in Edmond, Okla.

Richard S. DiMeo, BS, is president of a multi-concept restaurant company based in Dallas, where he lives.

James H. McNeil, BGS, is retired from the U.S. Air Force and from First Data Corp. Since then he has put a lot of miles on his bicycle, including during two Bike Ride Across Nebraska (BRAN) events. "Other modes of transportation are used to visit family members around the country and our son," says James, who lives in Bellevue.

Randall Aragon, BGS, is chief of police for Whiteville, N.C. He retired from the South Carolina Army National Guard in 1987 as a lieutenant colonel.

1973

George J. Matuella, BGS, retired from the National Weather Service with more than 40 years of government service.

1974

Kim Pepperell, BGS, is the library systems administrator for the RAND Corp., in Santa Monica, Calif. He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1981, then worked for different companies in various fields, including aerospace, systems and software engineering. He earned a master's degree in information systems at Golden Gate University in 1988 and a master's in library/information science in 1997. He can be reached via e-mail at kpep@technologist.com

1974

Beverly J. Hansen, MS, retired after 32 years

"Looking forward to introducing my older son, Ben, to UNO and all of its wonderful programs."

Clif Banner, '85

of teaching, 27 of those in Omaha. She was a contestant in the recent Ms. Senior Arizona Pageant and is very active in several music groups in the Sun Cities area. She lives in Sun City West, Ariz.

1975

Art Chernak, BM, was promoted to regional development manager for west Oklahoma and northwest Texas for the Dallas General Co. He has relocated from San Antonio to the Oklahoma City area.

1976

Robert W. Taylor, BGS, was appointed publisher for the European and Pacific Stars and Stripes newspapers in February. The First Amendment newspapers are headquartered in Washington, D.C., and are printed in six sites in Europe and the Pacific for U.S. military and Department of Defense personnel serving overseas. Taylor is a retired Army officer and former deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs and lives in Haymarket, Va.

Linda "Kelly" Wanzenried, MS, received a doctorate degree in educational administration from UNO with a focus in special education. She lives in Omaha.

1977

Sharon Ballenger, MS, has been in private practice for 10 years as a licensed mental health professional in Iowa and Nebraska. She previously worked for Immanuel Mental Health Center and Kids, Inc. She lives in Council Bluffs.

1978

Verlan K. Kline, BGS, is retired from AT&T and now works for J.C. Robinson Seed Co., as informational support and supply manager.

Dan Kane, BS, started a business along with his wife, Becky, called Scarlet Thread Embroidery. The business has a computerized 12-color embroidery machine which embroiders on hats, jackets, towels and other apparel. His customers include corporations, small businesses, sport teams, etc.

1981

Lois (McConkle) Neeses, BSBA, lives in Costa Mesa, Calif., and is controller for the Goodwin Co., a chemical manufacturing company.

1982

Alice Meilman, MSW, moved to Ithaca, N.Y., in 1997 with her husband, Phil. She is

a part-time therapist at the Counseling Center at Ithaca College.

Therese Hollwitz, MSW, is a senior mental health therapist at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore.

James Perry, lives in Oceanside, Calif., and is a published author, automobile crash reconstructionist, computer whiz and sometime inventor. He has devised a system for recording the amount of intrusion or crush that can occur in a vehicle occupant compartment after a crash. His method, the Interior Deformation Classification (IDC) scheme, allows researchers to compare damage among all types of motor vehicles involved in all types of crashes within a single database.

Constance Jaros, MS, received the Professional of the Year award for 1997 from the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association. She is manager of the recreation department for Health South Rehabilitation of Fort Smith, Ark.

1983

Cheryle M. Jenson, BS, completed the graduate program at Oregon State University and currently is a first-grade teacher in Mangilao, Guam.

1984

Rose Kallin, MA, teaches special education in Colorado Springs, Colo.

David L. Teal, BS, lives in Singapore with his wife, Michelle. He works there as a senior consultant with ACI (Singapore) PTE Ltd., a transaction systems architecture company. "We will be living here for two years," he reports via e-mail. "My main responsibilities include creating, delivering, and administering ACI's Asia/Pacific, ACI university curriculum as well as educating customers, distributors and employees on ACI's software products. Friends can send e-mail to TealD@tsainc.com."

Kimberly D. Hyndman, BFA, is the owner/operator of Wild Hare Graphics of Chugiak, Alaska. She also is the graphic designer for the Third Services Squadron at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska.

Brad J. Hyndman, BS, is the training records manager and a flight crew instructor at Peninsula Airways, a local carrier operating in southwest Alaska and the Aleutians. He

also is a U.S. Air Force Reserve major assigned to 611 Air Support Squadron, Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska.

1985

David Pedersen, BS, works for Cincinnati Bell, Omaha division, on the Hallmark Cards Customer Service Account. He is on the Cyber Response Team handling more than 200 e-mail messages a day.

Clem E. Mewmaw, BGS, is a project manager and sales representative for Marcoa Publishing, Inc., a job he took after retiring from the U.S. Air Force following 26 years of service. He also was appointed part-time pastor of Trapper Creek Methodist Fellowship Church in Trapper Creek, Alaska. He lives in Anchorage.

Clif Banner, MPA, is a senior engineer for GDE Systems, Inc. (San Diego) as project manager of New England Operations, Nashua, N.H. He also is the lead systems engineer for the U.S. Air Force's Expeditionary Forces Experiment. "Enjoying life in New England with my two sons and wife, a quilt artist and quilting business owner. Looking forward to introducing my older son, Ben, to UNO and all of its wonderful programs."

1986

Edna Brooks-Pittman, BS, is community development director in Toppenish, Wash., and was elected as one of three regional representatives to the American Society for Public Administration.

Dan O'Halloran, BS, is an account executive at Marcotte Insurance in Omaha. He previously served as general manager of TJO Inc., and as a writer/producer at television station KPTM Fox 42.

Beth Herr, MPA, is assistant director of grants administration at Creighton University. She formerly was accountant for the UNO Alumni Association.

Mary Jane Payne, MA, is an associate professor at LSU Medical Center in New Orleans. She is married with two children and lives in Mandeville, La.

Christine Erkman, BA, is director of sales and marketing with Educational Loan Management Resources, headquartered in Long Beach, Calif. Erkman, however, works out of her home in Tucson, Ariz.

1987

Maxine Fawcett-Yeske, MM, received a doctor of philosophy degree in music at the University of Colorado at Boulder in May 1997 and currently teaches at Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo.

Kerry-Martin Sinclair, BGS, manages a convenience/gas store in Chesapeake, Va. Previously, he put in two tours with the U.S. Navy, opened a business, Sinclair Enterprises, that sold vending and game machines, and began a nightclub (The Zone) that folded in less than a year. "I am working toward returning to the ranks of the 'non-employed' (self-employed)," he writes. "It is very liberating being able to make decisions and schedules that directly affect your own income. With any luck, I'll be totally self-employed again in 6 to 12 months."

Ed Johnson, BSBA, is a production underwriter for MSI Insurance in Arden Hills, Minn., working in commercial agriculture in the western United States. He lives in Mahtomed, Minn., with his three daughters.

1988

Mike Carr, BA, lives in Papillion and works at First National Bank of Omaha. He also has had some writing published recently. "He is also the best dad and husband in the world," writes a fellow alum (his wife; see below).

Holly (Chase) Carr, BS, is teaching "and continually growing as a mom." She is married to fellow alum Mike Carr (see above).

Rod Matukewicz, BS, graduated from Washburn University Law School in Topeka, Kan., with his juris doctorate degree in December.

Keith Fox, BSW, is an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Iowa School of Art.

R.L. Kerrigan, BS, is a real estate broker who specializes in buying and refurbishing residential real estate for his own company, Stetson Corporation, located in Omaha.

Marc A. Boone, BGS, is an assistant vice president with Bankers Trust Company in its New York, N.Y., headquarters. He works on co-investment plans, carried interest plans and special projects in the executive and international compensation planning

"He is also the best dad and husband in the world."

Holly (Chase) Carr, '88, on fellow alum (and husband) Mike Carr, '88

and consulting department.

1989

Scott Mateer, BS, finished his doctorate work in biomedical sciences at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, where he lives. "Now I'm looking for work."

Christine North, BA, finished his doctorate work in communication from the University of Oklahoma. She is an assistant professor at Jamestown College, developing and overseeing the school's communication program. "I love what I am doing! And I love North Dakota almost as much."

Mark Elliott, BS, was transferred to the Des Moines office of "USA Today" as a zone manager. He and his wife and two sons live in Urbandale, Iowa.

1990

Ralph M. Monico, BGS, was named a partner in the Hollidaysburg, Pa., law firm of Evey, Rutch, Black, Dorezas, Magee & Leine, LLP. The practice focuses on insurance defense and insurance coverage litigation. Ralph graduated in 1993 from Dickinson School of Law of Pennsylvania State University.

Edward T. Stewart Jr., BGS, moved to Dayton, Ohio, where he is a substitute teacher and substitute librarian. He and his wife, Hedi, have four children.

Timothy M. Kerrigan, BSBA, was awarded the Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) designation by the Commercial Investment Real Estate Institute. The CCIM is earned upon completion of graduate-level curriculum and attainment of a level of qualifying experience. He lives in Omaha.

Bruce F. Berg, BSBA, is an investment executive with Stifel, Nicolaus & Co., Inc., in St. Louis.

Spencer L. Pastorin, BGS, is district supervisor for the Unemployment Compensation Appeals Bureau in Tampa, Fla. He can be reached via e-mail at slpastro@hotmail.com. He lives in Winter Haven, Fla.

Linda Williams, BSBA, recently moved into a new house in Phoenix.

Julie Ebers-Moreno, MBA, was promoted to administrative director of pathology/micro-

biology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Cynthia Buxton, BS, is a JAG in the U.S. Air Force. She recently moved to her new station in Seoul, South Korea, at the OSAN Air Force Base.

Timothy M. Chavez, BGS, was promoted to captain in the U.S. Air Force. He lives in Ocean Springs, Miss., and is recently married.

Patricia Perry, BGS, is a public relations specialist for events management at Creighton University. She can be reached via e-mail at pperry@creighton.edu. She lives in Papillion.

1993

Walter Gordon Finley, BA, lives in Kiev, Ukraine, with his wife, Tatyana, and their 2-year-old daughter. He works with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Agricultural Land Sharing Project and is responsible for project management information system, including data management, reporting, training, media and public relations, production manager of project publications (including a bi-monthly magazine) and agricultural sector study publication. The agency provides technical assistance to former collective farms, private farmers and other agricultural entities throughout the Ukraine.

1994

Angela Athy Sherman, MA, is a doctoral candidate in the English department at Bowling Green State University. She hopes to finish her work by August 1999 and move on to her next job. She specializes in modern British and American Literature/literary theory. She lives in Maumee, Ohio.

Annette Cochrane, EMBA, was promoted to first vice president of shared services for Health Care Management Operation of Mutual of Omaha. Her duties include management of market research, marketing communications and project management staff.

1994

Jill Billingsley, MM, is coordinator of administration and budget for Union Pacific Railroad in the mechanical locomotive department. She also is an organist at Cavalry Baptist Church.

"UNO's electronics/computer engineering department prepared me well for my profession."

Joseph Waszgis, '97

1996

Scott A. Christensen, BSBA, is a human resource consultant at Gar Troutman & Associates in Omaha.

1997

Joseph Waszgis, BS, lives in New Hope, Minn., and writes that he "finally graduated from UNO only to re-enroll in graduate school at the University of Minnesota." He is seeking his master's degree in manufacturing systems. He also is a product manager/electronics engineer for a startup company in Minneapolis that builds device-level networks for automation systems. "UNO's electronics/computer engineering department prepared me well for my profession. I travel a lot, do many educational seminars and use my inherent BS skills to their fullest."

Adrienne M. Rabick, BA, has been working at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch for nearly a year.

Richard Carney, BGS, immediately after graduating left for a one-year tour of duty with the U.S. Air Force at Suwon Air Base in South Korea.

Venesa Torres, BS, received her master's degree in dietetics and nutritional science from the University of Central Oklahoma in May 1998. She also became a certified health/fitness instructor through the American College of Sports Medicine as of June 1998. She lives in Papillion.

1998

Deanne Carey, BS, is a sales manager in training at Younkers in Omaha.

Melanie Trecek, BS, is attending Iowa State University's veterinary school. She lives in Logan, Iowa.

Ken Estee, BS, is a fire fighter/emergency medical technician for the Elkhorn Fire and Rescue Department. He lives in Omaha.

DECEASED

1920 Anne Schering
1928 Merriam Benecke
1935 Franklin Buxton
1936 Susan Stork
1939 David Fenstermacher
1940 John W. Forman

1941 Paul Gaer
1942 Robert Clizbe
1942 Robert H. Claudius
1943 Lucile Evans
1943 Hollie Bethel
1943 Ronald A. Peterson
1946 Frances Delaware
1947 Joseph Peterson Jr.
1948 Richard J. Carlson
1949 Fred Johnson
1950 Eunice Nesheim
1951 Lad Brezacek
1952 Avery I. Hiddleston
1953 Bruce E. Cowgill
1954 Harlan Cain
1955 Mark O. Gautier
1956 William Graddy
1957 James Holmquist
1957 Robert Ethington
1958 Nora Carr
1958 Janet Larson
1958 Ramona A. Cramer
1959 Paul T. Hutchinson
1960 Donald R. Stanley
1961 Elizabeth Arnold-Khatri
1961 H.T. Earl Tollett
1962 Irene W. Hoover
1962 Oliver Thomsen
1962 Fay M. Averill
1962 Jose M. Galdiano
1963 Eldridge Estes
1963 Donald Severance
1964 Harold A. Lagasse
1965 Ideal McCluster
1965 Donald J. Elmore
1965 Alfred Clarke
1966 Michael Evanco
1966 Barbara Burkhardt
1966 Donald Hanson
1966 John "Jack" Duffy Jr.
1968 Malcolm Blankenship
1968 Roy Bracken
1968 Valdis Skuja
1968 Gilbert S. Schnack
1969 Charlotte D. Jackson
1969 Margretta Burke
1969 John Biggio
1969 Ernest Allen
1969 Philip Baker
1969 John Munson
1969 John W. Hays
1970 William Canfield
1970 Linda Mellin
1970 Samuel Kaplan
1970 Roberta Berg

1971 Beverly Blackburn
1971 Randy Kilzer
1971 Billy D. Chandler
1971 Franklin R. Marine
1971 James Wills
1971 Bruce H. Abraham Jr.
1971 Frank Finch
1971 Frederick R. Adams

1972 Richard Baker
1972 Walter H. Skierkowski
1972 Ronald Herzoff
1972 Billy G. Hartzell
1972 William Glover
1972 Richard A. Downing
1972 Elliot Bloomberg
1972 Garth Dawson
1973 John Dyer
1973 Harold Bickett
1974 Timothy Andrews
1975 David Blazel
1975 Jerry Bates
1975 Paul Arnold
1975 Tom Nurnberger
1975 Calvin R. Rheam
1976 Joann Betterman Holmes
1976 Morris F. Miller
1976 Richard W. Grape
1977 Gregory Gambill
1977 Gloria Renee Weinman
1977 Scott G. Hickman
1978 Kenneth E. Johnson
1978 Jan Bankenbusch
1978 Elsie A. Kalthoff
1978 Clara Ambrose
1980 John H. Becker
1981 Robert B. Scruggs
1981 Charles Harding
1982 Jeffrey A. Dunn
1987 Steven Oetken
1988 Rapheal Alexander
1990 David S. Hughes
1990 La Rue Anderson
1993 Mark Kruger
1994 Jason Foster
1997 Tatiana Longe

Faculty

George Taylor Harris and **Frederick W. Kayser**, both longtime faculty members at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, passed away in July. Harris, 81, died July 30 after a lengthy illness. He grew up in Waterloo, Iowa and joined then-Omaha University in 1955 as a finance professor. Kayser was a Professor of Finance in 1964. He served as acting dean of the UNO College of Business Administration from 1971 through 1973. He retired in 1983, and an annual award was established in his name to honor an outstanding graduate student each year at UNO.

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