The New Era Continues

UW-Superior breaks ground on the biggest building project in campus history

Pages 8-9
Recognizing friends of UW-Superior

The 2007-2008 University of Wisconsin-Superior Foundation Inc. Annual Report incorrectly listed several friends of the university. We apologize to these donors and have corrected our records. We appreciate their support this year.

- Steven Therrien and Deborah DeVanez were donors at the Century Club level
- Mrs. Dorothy F. Hostad was a donor at the Century Club level
- Mr. Joseph and Dr. Kathleen Miller were donors at the Founders’ Club level and also members of the Black and Gold Society

The University of Wisconsin-Superior
2007-2008 Annual Giving Clubs

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<th>Club</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chancellor’s Club</td>
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<td>Regents’ Club</td>
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A special message to our readers

These days nearly everyone is making changes at work and at home to weather the current economic difficulties. Superior Alumni is no exception.

To help shoulder our share of state budget reductions, we are reducing Superior Alumni from three editions a year to two. Superior Alumni will now be published in summer and winter.

We don’t do this lightly. We know many of you value Superior Alumni as a means of staying in touch with your university as well as your friends and fellow alumni. And we value Superior Alumni as a means of sharing with you important news about UW-Superior. But cutting one edition a year offers a considerable savings and that money can best be used elsewhere to serve students.

You can still expect to find a quality edition of Superior Alumni in your mailbox every July and February. You also can get alumni and university news with these options:

- By e-mail through our bi-monthly Buzzword newsletter. If you aren’t already receiving Buzzword, send your name and e-mail address to us at alumni@uwsuper.edu.
- On the alumni website at www.uwsuper.edu/alumni. This site is updated throughout the week.
- On Facebook by searching for the “Official University of Wisconsin-Superior Alumni Association” page.

We hope to return Superior Alumni to three editions a year when the economy recovers. Until then, we appreciate your readership and your support of UW-Superior.

A Year of Excellence

The past academic year was a remarkable one for UW-Superior students in earning academic achievements, posting athletic successes and volunteering to help others. It’s impossible to name everyone, but here are a few examples of what today’s students are doing:

- Melissa Hpakloski, a Teacher Education major from Duluth, was one of three students in the state to win this year’s University of Wisconsin System Liberal Arts Essay Scholarship Award. Her essay was chosen by a special committee from around the UW System based on her “original articulation of the value and purpose of a liberal arts education.”
- Brad Povey, a Transportation and Logistics Management major from Luxembourg, Wis., was named the Wisconsin Transportation Student of the Year by the National Center for Freight, Infrastructure, Research and Education Center at UW-Madison.
- The Yellowjacket women’s cross country team earned All-Academic Team honors from the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division III. Team members posted a combined 3.40 cumulative grade point average.
- Current and former students reporting for KUWS-FM last spring earned a total of 18 broadcast journalism awards from the Northwest Broadcast News Association, Wisconsin Broadcasters Association and the Milwaukee Press Club.
- Ryan Leer of Eden Prairie, Minn., won his second nationwide video contest by conjuring a zany Star Wars-style “light saber” to dispense Carmex lip balm. His imagination and skill earned him $5,000 and a high-end video camera. A year ago he won first place in video contest promoting a new product for Kentucky Fried Chicken. Leer is majoring in Communicating Arts with a concentration in video production. He also produces sports videos for the university’s athletic office.
- Ten students spent a week in Kalispell, Mont., helping to build affordable housing during the university’s annual Alternative Spring Break trip. Working with Habitat for Humanity, the students chose to work in Kalispell because it’s a popular resort city where high-priced housing is beyond the reach of many local residents.

Summer 2009

Superior Alumni is published in June and February for alumni and friends of the University of Wisconsin-Superior.

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www.uwsuper.edu/alumni

A member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges

The University of Wisconsin-Superior is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and educator.
Family creates student center fund to honor alumnus Ed Rutledge

UW-Superior is a tradition in Joan Laughlin's family. Her mother, Julia Johnson MacKenzie, enrolled during the Depression years and later returned to complete her degree. Joan earned her degree there, too, as did her son Ed Rutledge and daughter Cherie Rutledge Rossing, who lives in Superior, hopes her grandchildren will follow along to also earn degrees at UW-Superior.

“I love that school,” Joan said. “I love the way it’s grown. It’s my school, ‘The College,’ as we call it in our family.”

When Ed passed away in February, Joan decided to honor her son by setting up a memorial fund at UW-Superior.

Ed loved movies ever since he was a youngster, and worked full time as a projectionist at Superior’s old Palace and Beacon movie theaters while going to college. During those years he worked for AMC Theaters, and helped design the sound system for the then-new theater complex in Superior’s Mariner Mall.

After graduating in 1983 with a major in business management, Ed continued working for AMC Theaters, managing several of its theaters around the Midwest. He later returned to Superior, where he worked in retail and was a well-known and well-liked figure around town.

Just how well known and well liked became clear after his passing. “I have been amazed by the outpouring of support and grief,” Joan said.

Joan and daughter Cherie gave the matter considerable thought and decided to dedicate gifts made in Ed’s memory to UW-Superior’s new student center.

To Joan, the student center fund is a fitting memorial for Ed. “That’s where he would have been most involved,” she said.

It’s also another piece of Joan’s family tradition. “He loved the university,” she said.

Almost there

Student center taking shape for January opening …

Work on UW-Superior’s new student center is racing along, and the building is expected to be finished this fall. Once the university accepts the building, employees will begin moving into the center with the goal of opening it for student use in January.

With its dynamic, airy design, the student center is expected to have a significant impact on students. At 80,000 square feet, the new student center is smaller than Rothwell Student Center, but it will be more versatile than the old building and have more usable space. It will be a focal point of student activity, providing dining services, study areas, meeting rooms available for students and the public, and offices for student services and student organizations.

The student center will be among the first state buildings in Wisconsin to meet the rigorous environmental and energy conservation requirements to receive LEED Silver Certification.

To see more photos of the student center, Jim Dan Hill Library and Swenson Hall projects, go to the UW-Superior alumni website at www.uwsuper.edu/alumni.

… while amazing JDH Library will be ready for fall semester

Renovation of Jim Dan Hill Library was expected to be finished in early July. University employees will move the library’s contents back into the building during the summer and the building will re-open to students in late August.

The library’s transformation to a 21st century information center will be astonishing – there simply is no other word for it. The previously little-used basement is transformed into an area where students and faculty access books and journals. The main floor boasts an “information commons” where students can access computers and other technology. The top floor includes classrooms and smaller study rooms, and a reading lounge with a fireplace. Two large “glass walls” bring in natural light to save energy and make the library’s interior a bright, attractive study location.

The student center’s street-side entrance, taking shape in the center of this photo, will face into a new parking area built off Castlin Avenue. This portal will serve as a distinctive main entrance to the university for many campus visitors.

How you can help

Your gifts to Campaign Superior: Higher Expectations will help complete and equip the new student center, the renovated Jim Dan Hill Library, and the new Swenson Hall academic building.

To make a gift, use the envelope inserted in this publication or go online to www.uwsuper.edu/campaignsuperior and select the Make a Gift Now link. If you prefer to speak with someone, please call us toll free at 888-893-8593.
ALUMNI DAYS

OCTOBER 9-10, 2009

We’re following the advice of alumni and focusing our fall gathering on the events you want most. Please join us as we celebrate the past and the future of UW-Superior!

Return of the Beer Bar
Last call!

Marvel at the changing campus!

See your friends!

Marvel at the changing campus!
**ALUMNI DAYS EVENT REGISTRATION FORM**

**Reservations and RSVP must be made by Sept. 28, 2009**

Name (please print)
First ___________________________________________ Last ___________________________________________

Last name while in college (if different than above) ___________________________________________

Graduation year ___________________________ Phone number ___________________________

E-mail ________________________________________________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________ State __________________ ZIP ___________________________

- Are you a former Residence Life student employee? ________ If yes, what years? __________

- Names of people attending the Communicating Arts Reception for John Munsell
  (Free but your RSVP is needed)
  ________________________________________________________________

- Names of people attending the Residence Life Luau ($20 per person)
  ________________________________________________________________

Total Amount Due ________________________________

Payment method:

☐ Check payable to the UW-Superior Alumni Association

☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card number ___________________________ Exp. Date ___________________________

Signature ____________________________________________________________________________

Three-digit security code (on back of card) ________________________________

Please return the registration form to the UW-Superior Alumni Association at the following address:

UW-Superior Alumni Association
Belknap & Catlin, PO Box 2000
Superior, WI 54880-4500

OR register online at www.uwsuper.edu/alumni under “Events and Activities”

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**ALUMNI DAYS EVENTS**

**Friday, Oct. 9**

Communicating Arts Reception honoring John Munsell
4 - 6 p.m.
Holden Fine Arts Center lobby
Free (RSVP required by Sept. 28)

**Saturday, Oct. 10**

Jim Dan Hill Library Ribbon-Cutting
5 to 6 p.m.
Jim Dan Hill Library Lobby
See the amazing changes that you’ve helped make to this vital campus building
Program at 5 p.m. Tours and refreshment to follow.

Residence Life Luau
6 to 8 p.m.
Rothwell Student Center Concourse
Open to everyone! Past and present student center employees and Student Activities Board members are encouraged to attend.
$20 per person (Reservations required by Sept. 28)

Return of the Beer Bar – Last Call!
8 p.m. to midnight
Rothwell Student Center lower level
Your last chance to meet friends at this campus landmark
Cash bar (No RSVP required)

---

TO ATTEND:

To RSVP for the Communicating Arts Reception and to make reservations for the Residence Life Luau, please fill out and mail the form below or go to www.uwsuper.edu/alumni and register under Events and Activities.

FOR INFORMATION:

Contact the Alumni Office
at 888-893-8593
or alumni@uwsuper.edu.

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Meet your friends, talk to your professors, and see the progress your university is making when you join us on campus Oct. 9-10 at Alumni Days.

Alumni Days is for everyone who ever attended
UW-Superior, Wisconsin State University-Superior,
Wisconsin State College-Superior, Superior State Teachers College or Superior Normal School.

TO ATTEND:

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Wisconsin State College-Superior, Superior State Teachers College or Superior Normal School.
Outstanding educators retire

’65 grad lauded for her work as educator, scholar and leader

Dr. Shirlyn Olson McKenzie, Class of 1965, last winter retired as professor and chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

During her 28 years at the center, McKenzie is credited with developing a nationally ranked program in clinical laboratory sciences, earning state honors for teaching, conducting research and providing national leadership in her field.

“Dr. McKenzie’s reputation across this country is stellar and people are in awe of her accomplishments,” Marilyn Harrington, dean of the School of Health Professions, told HSC News.

At the UT Health Science Center, McKenzie spent 23 years as director or chair of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Science. Today, that program ranks in the top 15 in terms of research productivity, according to a national survey.

In 2007, McKenzie was inducted into the University of Texas Academy of Health Science Education, formed to recognize and reward outstanding educators in the University of Texas System. In 2008 she was one of six Health Science Center faculty members named distinguished teaching professors.

Yellowjacket athletics named Chad Beiswenger of Moorhead, Minn., the Male Athlete of the Year and Katee Rosburg of Superior and Becky Crane of Altoona, Wis., the Female Athletes of the Year. Beiswenger (hockey) was named an All-American, a finalist for the Sid Watson Award (best college player in Division III), NCHA Player of the Year and NCHA and WIAC First Team, while setting several school goaltending records. Rosburg (track and field) was named first-team All-Conference the past three seasons along with leading her team in several offensive categories. Crane (softball) was named first-team All-Conference the past three seasons and set two school records in the 400-meter relay.

Chad Beiswenger of Moorhead, Minn., ended his Yellowjacket hockey career as one of the top goalies in team history. He’s third all-time in games played with 75, third in wins with 50, and sixth in saves with 1,801. He celebrated his 25th birthday by breaking a team record with the 13th shutout of his career, and added another later in the season.

The Yellowjacket softball team pulled off a shocker in the WIAC conference tournament when it became the first 8th-seeded team in tournament history to advance to the championship game. The Yellowjackets posted a 3-1 tournament record to reach the top bracket, only to fall to UW-La Crosse for the second time that weekend.

Five runners set two new school relay records in April while competing at the famed Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa. Katee Rosburg of Superior, Megan Belger of Bloomer, Wis., Nancy Hudack of Ashland, Wis., and Jenna Halverson of Barnum, Minn., set the new mark in the medley relay with a time of 12:47.05. The next day, Rosburg, Hudack and Halverson teamed with Cassey Hoffman of Waukesha, Wis., to shatter a 9-year-old mark in the 800-meter relay with their time of 9:38.25.

Coach Dave Buchanan’s feisty young men’s basketball team – fresh off another strong recruiting season – hits the big time when the Yellowjackets play an exhibition game against the Wisconsin Badgers on Nov. 11 in Madison. This is the first time the Yellowjackets have played the Badgers.

‘‘Mr. G’’ wraps up a career that touched thousands

Music teacher Dan Gucinski flourished his conductor’s baton for the last time on May 15, ending a career that touched the lives of thousands of students.

Gucinski, Class of ’78, MSE ’92, taught music for 30 years, including a 25-year stint at Superior High School.

“This has been a tremendous job,” Gucinski told the Superior Telegram.

“It’s hard to walk out of rehearsal where I’m not walking two feet off the ground,” Gucinski continued, praising his students’ energy and dedication. “They’re able to take the concepts I give them and work it through their instruments. When it happens, that’s when you know success as a conductor.”

Gucinski’s retirement from teaching won’t take him entirely out of the music business. He sings with the Duluth-Superior Symphony chorus and a church choir, and his trumpet will still ring out at performances of the Big Woods Big Band.

Follow your Yellowjackets online at www.uwsuper.edu/athletics
Several relatives of the late Thorpe Langley, a long-time UW-Superior administrator and professor for whom the auditorium in Old Main is named, visited campus in May for a re-dedication ceremony of the auditorium.

Family members attending, pictured here from left, included Dr. David Ottensemeyer; Katherine McNamee; Linda McNamee; Mary Langley Ottensemeyer (Thorpe Langley's daughter); Kary Ottensemeyer; Neil Langley; and Nathan Langley. Family members commissioned the painting of Mr. Langley that now hangs outside the auditorium.

Thorpe Langley attended Superior Normal School – UW-Superior's original name -- and then returned to serve as registrar from 1922 to 1946 and to teach geography from 1948 to 1960. The auditorium was named in his honor in 1967.

"This auditorium – which bears Thorpe Langley's name – is a physical reminder of his legacy at UW-Superior," Chancellor Julius Erlenbach told those attending the re-dedication. "This portrait will be an ongoing and permanent reminder of the man who dedicated himself to this university and its students. Student leaders dedicated the 1958 Gitche Gumee (yearbook) to Thorpe Langley. Their words aptly describe the true legacy of this man: ‘Able hands, ready hands and helpful hands … these are the hands of a friend and confidant, Thorpe M. Langley.’"

Save money with your alumni benefits

Once you’ve earned your UW-Superior diploma, you’re eligible to reap money-saving benefits available through the UW-Superior Alumni Association:

• Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. offers Group Savings Plus, which enables alumni to purchase high-quality auto, home and renters insurance at low group rates.

• American Insurance Administrators (AIA) offers graduates and friends of UW-Superior group life insurance and health insurance plans, including short-term medical insurance and life insurance.

• The Bank of America WorldPoints credit card enables you to earn points and get rewards such as cash, travel, merchandise, and gift certificates.

Learn more about these alumni benefits at www.uwsuper.edu/alumni/benefits, or call us toll free at 888-893-8593.
The New Era Continues

UW-Superior begins work on Swenson Hall.
The biggest construction project in university history will produce the premier academic building on campus.

The third – and biggest – step in UW-Superior’s current campus building program began April 17 when a host of special guests broke ground for Swenson Hall, the $32 million, 144,000-square-foot academic building that will transform campus.


“Many people in Superior, northwestern Wisconsin, Madison, and around the country have worked very hard over the past several years to make Swenson Hall a reality,” Chancellor Julius Erlenbach told the spectators.

“They understand the importance of investing in education and they believe in the future of the University of Wisconsin-Superior. On behalf of many thousands of students who will benefit from this building, I emphatically thank them all for their wisdom and perseverance.”

The Swensons, in particular, were singled out for praise. It was their $5 million gift to Campaign Superior: Higher Expectations that enabled the building project to win approval in Madison.

“It’s a humbling experience to be in the company of two people who set the gold standard for giving,” Jauch told the audience.

“They represent the America we love.”

Addressing the audience, Jim Swenson said he and Sue – both UW-Superior alumni—“couldn’t think of anything better than to help people in the area where we grew up.”

“We are thrilled,” Swenson added. “This will be a fabulous facility for the university. I thank you for assisting us in making this possible.”

Erlenbach also singled out for recognition Superior attorney Toby Marcovich, former president of the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, and Mark Casper, vice chair of the UW-Superior Foundation, for their roles in the making the Swenson Hall project successful. He also thanked the people from Superior and northwestern Wisconsin who built support for the project through the region’s annual Superior Days lobbying effort in Madison.

Swenson Hall is the third major building project that UW-Superior has launched with financial assistance from Campaign Superior. The campaign, begun in 2004, has raised gift money needed to win approval for a new student center and renovation of Jim Dan Hill Library. (See Page 3 for updates on these projects.)

When the nation’s economic downturn slowed fund-raising efforts, the Swenson Hall project was put back on track by determined support from UW-Superior backers from around the state. Gov. Doyle, with strong support from northern Wisconsin legislators, was able to apply money saved from other state projects to the Swenson Hall project so it could proceed.

Construction of Swenson Hall was scheduled to begin late this spring in the northwest corner of campus. Once the new building opens, the university will raze Sundquist Hall, a former dormitory now used as an office building, and McCaskill Hall, a former elementary school now serving as a classroom building. Both have been declared obsolete by the state. In addition, a new greenhouse will be built adjoining Barstow Hall.
Design and technology will maximize new building’s impact on students

When completed, Swenson Hall will become UW-Superior’s premier academic building, featuring 21 classrooms along with a lecture hall, labs and faculty offices.

The new building will provide many advantages to students and faculty, said Dr. Joel Sipress, professor of history and president of the Faculty Senate.

“With flexible classroom design and state-of-the-art technology, Swenson Hall will provide a superb environment for the type of student-centered learning that is the hallmark of a UW-Superior education,” he said. “The close proximity of classrooms, faculty offices, and student study spaces will provide even greater opportunity for interaction between students and faculty.”

Logan Campa, student body president, said students are pleased that construction of Swenson Hall is beginning this year as expected.

“Swenson Hall will provide a superb environment for the type of student-centered learning that is the hallmark of a UW-Superior education.”

“This building will begin a new chapter for UW-Superior,” he said. “Not only will it have up-to-date facilities for labs, classrooms, offices and more, but it will also be more eco-friendly with more efficient lighting and heating, which is important considering the governor's goal of environmental sustainability.”

As part of UW-Superior's ongoing effort to increase its environmental sustainability, Swenson Hall will be built according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards. Features of the building include:

- **Light conservation**, achieved by locating and designing the building to make maximum use of natural light, and using daylight sensors and motion sensors to dim lights inside the building when not needed.

- **Energy savings**, achieved with “green screens” that use native vines to block out excessive sunlight in summer and allow more sunlight to enter in winter after leaves drop. Exterior sun shades also will block excessive sunlight in summer and allow more heat gain in winter. New, energy-efficient mechanical systems will reduce energy use and lower costs.

- **Re-use of materials**, achieved by using bio-based floor tile, and terrazzo, carpet, and ceramic tile made with recycled materials.

Be part of the future

Your gifts to Campaign Superior: Higher Expectations are needed to ensure the success of Swenson Hall and other building projects on campus. Invest in the future of your university and the students who are following in your footsteps.

To make a gift, use the printed envelope included in this issue of Superior Alumni, go to the Campaign Superior website at www.uwsuper.edu/campaignsuperior and select the Make a Gift Now link, or call toll free 888-893-8593.
1941
Iris Defin Nigg Lundin taught high school in Minnesota, earned her navigator wings in the Marine Corps, taught English in Taiwan, was adopted into a Nigerian tribe, taught geography at Minnesota’s Mankato State University and served as that school’s foreign student advisor. She notes that now, over age 90, she is still busy and still travels. Iris lives in Savoy, Ill.

Walton Johnson graduated from Bethel Seminary in St. Paul in 1949 and spent 35 years serving as a minister at seven churches in the Midwest. He retired in 1983 but is still active in ministry when requested. Walton and his wife Marit live in Superior.

1949
Dolores Gross Levy is searching for a publisher for her novel “Roads Taken” and for a collection of her short stories, which were read over National Public Radio in Fresno, Calif., in its series “Valley Writers Read.” Dolores lives in Lodi, Calif.

1960
Ann Leyda Sowaske spent eight days in Peru, her group from the La Crosse Catholic Department of Foreign Missions, which screened 2,800 children, a record for that mission. She described the experience as “life-changing.” While in Peru, her group screened 2,800 children, a record for that effort. Ann lives in Madison, Wis.

1961
Jim Patritto and wife Darlene celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 18, 2009, at the top of the creators Aweezy for their non-profit group in Nebraska. This was the first time she accompanied a group from the La Crosse Catholic Orphanage to work in another country, and she described the experience as “life-changing.” While in Peru, her group screened 2,800 children, a record for that effort. Ann lives in Madison, Wis.

1966
Keith Young, EDAD ’79, retired in 2003 but remains active as a field representative for the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators. He began his career teaching high school English in Coleman, Wis., but soon moved to Rhinelander, Wis. He spent the remainder of his career there and retired as high school principal. Keith and wife Pati have two children and seven grandchildren. They still live in Rhinelander but spend winters at Dauphin Island, Ala., and Daytona Beach, Fla.

1967
Dr. Harry Johansen last winter awarded the prestigious Morris Hayes Award for lifetime achievement from the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association. During his career Harry directed choral programs at Westminster College, the University of Idaho and UW-Whitewater, where he later became chair of the music department. Harry and his family live near Luck, Wis.

Bruce Brunette has a new business that enables a user to compose a custom greeting card online and then send the recipient a real greeting card through the mail. His website is www.sendsourcards.com/bruce. He lives in Venice, Fla.

1968
Dave Ovist received the Humanitarian of the Year Award in February from the Superior Jaycees in recognition of his work over the years for UW-Superior and Superior High School athletics and for the community at large.

1969
Maynard Fossum retired in 2006 from a career that included publicity photography, audiovisual production, display and sales. He’s pursued studies in gerontology and volunteer activities with the elderly since 1998. He lives in Chicago.

1970
Dr. Pat Trokan, a professor emeritus at UW-La Crosse, is spending his retirement caring for his wife Yvonne, to whom he has been married for 58 years. He also oversees their Bir and Brindle horse stable, and trains and rides horses Justin and Bo. Pat lives in Onalaska, Wis.

Duane Lahti recently retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources after more than 28 years of service. He served as water management specialist in the Brule area for more than 21 years before becoming watershed supervisor for the Lake Superior basin in fall 2001 and serving in that role until retiring. During his career he received several honors, including the John Brogan Award for Environmental Excellence and the Lake Superior Binational Stewardship Award for his contributions to protecting and restoring Lake Superior. He remains active in amateur baseball and historic preservation as well as with his four grandchildren. He and wife Barbara Maki Lahti, Class of ’73, live in Oulu, Wis.

Laurel Johnson LaJoie is a care specialist for Northern Bridges. She and husband Gary live in Iron River, Wis.

1971
John Metsala is a developmental disabilities client advisor who has been working with people with developmental disabilities for 30 years. He and his wife also have been foster parents for 20 years. Their hobby farm and Christmas tree plantation near Brantwood, Wis., is on property that has been in John’s family for 105 years.

Glenn Tridgell, MSE, became a proud first-time grandfather in February. He is retired and living in Duluth.

Richard Bonnem married Ja-Ling Ma on Jan. 18, 2009, at the Top of the Stratosphere in Las Vegas. Richard teaches for the Bernalillo Public Schools. They live in Rio Rancho, N. M.

Laura White Krome is a clinical social worker and a marriage and family therapist in private practice. She and husband Alan live in Louisville, Ky.

1972
John Haugen, MSE ’76, is retiring in June from his post as superintendent of the Tomorrow River school district in Wisconsin, ending a 38-year career in education. John and wife Donna expect to move to their farmhouse near Wolford, Wis.

1973
Tom Christiansen was chosen to be a recipient of the Year Award in February from the Superior Jaycees in recognition of his work over the years for UW-Superior and Superior High School athletics and for the community at large.

We invite you to send news about yourself to Classmates. You can mail the form on Page 15, submit the Update Your Alumni Information form on the alumni website at www.uwsuper.edu/alumni, or send e-mail to alumni@uwsuper.edu. Because of space limitations, we edit items for style and length. If your news does not appear in this issue, it likely will appear in the next. Classmates listing as of May 12, 2009.

John “Pete” McIntyre, Class of 1964

After completing his UW-Superior bachelor’s degree in 1964 and a master’s degree in 1965, John “Pete” McIntyre spent his career rising through the ranks of railroad management. He worked in the operating department of a Midwestern railroad for 29 years, the last of which he spent as vice president. He co-founded a large regional railroad and served as its president and chief executive officer until 1996, then continued as board chairman until retiring in 2001.

Pete reconnected to UW-Superior in 2002 when he attended an alumni event in Cable, Wis. Since then he’s regularly attended alumni events.

“After I retired I had more time to reflect on the factors in my life that influenced me,” he said. “Right there among the items at the top was my experience of attending UW-Superior. That experience formed a foundation upon which I built my career and life. This realization led me to feel that I should give something back by assisting present-day young adults in an opportunity to gain from an educational experience at UW-Superior.”

“My volunteer activities consist mainly of giving financial support to the UW-Superior Foundation,” he added. “When given the opportunity to speak directly to students who benefit from that program and listen to their expressions of gratitude for the assistance, it makes me feel that I’m thanking UW-Superior for what it did for me.”
Alumni meet again in the Big Apple

New York City is a pretty big place, but not so big that you won’t find somebody you may know from campus. That happened last fall when Sandra Gregory, Class of ’77, and her husband Tom Bradley arranged to meet Class of ’08 grad Anuradha “Anu” Khanal to renew their acquaintance. Sandra tells the story:

“At UW-Superior’s May 2008 Commencement, Sandra Gregory and her husband Tom Bradley met one of the top graduates of 2008, Anu Khanal from Nepal. Both Sandra and Anu were speakers for the ceremony. After the Commencement program, Tom and Sandra enjoyed meeting Anu’s parents, who had flown from Nepal to attend their daughter’s graduation.

“Since their meeting on campus, Sandra, Tom and Anu have exchanged e-mails and stayed in touch – promising to reconnect on the East Coast. Well, it happened.

“On a November 2008 trip from Washington, D.C., to New York City, Tom and Sandra hosted Anu at a dinner at the famous Tavern on the Green in Central Park. Anu was completing her graduate degree at New York University, and lives in nearby Long Island.

Alumni meet again last fall at Tavern on the Green in New York City are Sandra Gregory, Class of ’77, center, and Anuradha “Anu” Khanal, Class of ’08. They’re accompanied by Sandra’s husband Tom Bradley, a supporter of UW-Superior, at left.

“Here’s the real difference between a ’77 grad and a ’08 grad – after a wonderful dinner at Tavern on the Green, Tom and Sandra were ready to retire to their hotel room – while Anu was ready to start hitting the party scenes at the many clubs in Manhattan. It was a great evening. We asked Anu if the nightlife in New York City was somewhat different than what she experienced in Superior – we’ll let you guess that answer.

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Rhonda Peterson Rushing: Class of 1972

As a successful businesswoman, Rhonda Peterson Rushing believes her UW-Superior education has served her well.

“I came to UWS as a music major to study the organ with Lucille Webb. Today I am in business. So, I’ve always felt that the excellent liberal arts education that I received also prepared me to succeed in my role today,” she said.

Rhonda is president of Berntsen International in Madison, the world’s leading manufacturer of survey markers, survey monuments and related materials. She reconnected with her university in 2006 when conducting research for a book she was writing about surveying. Since then she’s become a member of the UW-Superior Foundation Board of Directors and a frequent participant in alumni events around Madison.

“Serving on the board gives me an opportunity to give back to my school,” said Rhonda, a Sun Prairie, Wis., resident who graduated in 1972. “UWS was a wonderful choice for me when I started in 1968, and it is a wonderful choice for students today. I am so impressed with today’s UWS, and it is fulfilling to be involved in this way.”

“I’ve also enjoyed attending the Madison area alumni events,” she added. “It’s amazing to find out how many people in this area attended UWS. What has surprised me is how strong a connection this provides, even if we didn’t attend at the same time. It is a common bond that gives us an instant connection.”
from Hamline University School of Law in 2000 and spent six years as a clerk for federal judges. She taught at the University of St. Thomas Law School before returning to Hamline, where she has spent the past three years teaching at its law school. She and husband Scott Iffer, Class of ’82, live in Birchwood Village, Minn.

1982
William Olson recently retired and is now a substitute teacher for the Meas Public Schools and Gilbert Public Schools. He notes that he’s “still utilizing my degree from UW-Superior – even in retirement.” He lives in Apache Junction, Ariz.

Melanie Hill received a Fulbright Scholarship after graduating that she used to attend the University of Trondheim in Norway to study languages. She has lived there ever since and is married to Knut Loras and has two daughters. She is an adviser for the European Employment Services division of Norway’s public employment service. Earlier this year she was named an instructor for the European Commission’s training program on international labor mobility issues. Her job takes her all over Europe, but she hopes to find time this summer to visit family and friends in the United States.

Donald Brew Jr. lives in El Cajon, Calif., where he is a delivery driver for AKW Medical Inc.

1984
Edwin Olson retired from the U.S. Army and is starting a new career with the U.S. Postal Service. He and wife Brenda have two daughters. They live in Somerset, Wis.

1985
Laurel Jewell Rosin, MSE ’93, ’94, is a psychologist for the Milwaukee Public Schools working with students from elementary school through high school. She also is a church musician and currently is affiliated with the Episcopal Church choir in Milwaukee. She and husband Dan have two teenage sons. She is an avid reader and a member of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee chapter of the American Psychological Association.

Jeffrey Rowan, who graduated from UW-Superior in 1982 with a major in chemistry, last spring was named president and chief executive officer of Fleet Laboratories, a global manufacturer of personal care and healthcare products.

Rowan has spent 11 years at the Lynchburg, Va.-based company, most recently as its chief operating officer. Before taking that role in 2007, he was responsible for overseeing the company’s global marketing and international operations.

Rowan grew up in Spooner, Wis. After graduating from UW-Superior, he earned a master’s degree from Purdue University’s Krannert School of Management in 1983. His career included a variety of U.S. and international brand marketing positions with General Mills, Bayer Corp. and other companies before joining Fleet in 1998.

Rowan anticipates a smooth transition and continued growth for his company.

1987
Sue DeBrough-Pappas moved to northern Arizona five years ago. She teaches a combined 4th-6th grade class at a charter school in Prescott Valley. She lives in Prescott.

Jeffrey Rowan

“I’m very optimistic about the future of Fleet Laboratories,” he said. “We’ve been placing focus on improving organizational efficiency and strategic alignment, in preparation for our next phase of expansion in the U.S. and abroad. We anticipate growth will come from both our existing brand portfolio, as well as potential acquisitions of businesses in strategically important markets.”

‘82 chemistry grad picked to head Fleet Laboratories

Dr. Renee Reijo Pera: Class of 1983

Dr. Renee Reijo Pera is internationally known for her scientific accomplishments involving the study of human development and reproduction, and the pursuit of knowledge that could make fertility treatments safer for women and prevent birth defects.

She spent a decade as a faculty member of the University of California San Francisco, rising to the position of co-director of the university’s Human Embryonic Stem Cell Center. In 2007 she joined the faculty of Stanford University’s School of Medicine, where she is director of Stanford’s Center for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research and Education, and professor of obstetrics and gynecology. Because of her cutting-edge scientific work, Renee has been featured in Newsweek magazine as one of 20 influential women leaders in America.

And she began her science career in UW-Superior’s biology program.

The Class of ‘83 graduate is grateful for the opportunities to learn and succeed that she received while at UW-Superior. She’s now giving back to the university by offering opportunities to others – specifically, a summer research internship in her lab to a UW-Superior student majoring in science.

“I have the luxury of asking questions of people at two levels. ‘UWS provided the entry point for me into my current professional life,’ Renee said. ‘As it is said ‘All journeys begin with a single step.’ The single step that began my journey in science was to attend UWS.”

Al Champagne lives in Las Vegas, where he is an account representative for USA Mobility. He has an 11-year-old son, Jack.

1988
Craig Balfany was promoted to art therapy program director and developed a graduate-level art therapy training program at the Adler Graduate School in Richfield, Minn. He continues to perform clinical art therapy work at the University of Minnesota Children’s Hospital. He lives in Blaine, Minn.

Jane Stock last winter completed her master’s degree in organizational leadership. She lives in San Antonio, Texas.

Beth Clark was the honorary chair of Women’s Walk 2009, a fundraiser for Yellowjacket women’s athletics held each February in the Lydia Thering Field House in UWS-Superior’s Health & Wellness Center. An outstanding basketball player as a Yellowjacket, Beth is now a teacher, coach and dean of students at Hermantown High School in Hermantown, Minn.

1989
Wendy Buhr Corry and husband Tim Corry, Class of ’91, report that their son Austin will attend UW-Superior this fall to study biology and play basketball. The Corrys live in Lake Nebagamon, Wis.

1990
Loralee Olson-Arcand and husband Jeff Arcand recently announced the birth of their daughter, Jadyon, on Dec. 12, 2008. Loralee is a purchasing agent for Shopko. They live in Brillington, Wis.

Kristin Swanson Vatter has spent the past seven years at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., where she is director of student activities. In her job she’s worked with everyone from Bob Dole
to The Black Eyed Peas, charted it up with the Princess of Norway, and rubbed elbows with Jimmy Carter. She reports that she’s also enjoyed working with a lot of great students there. Kristin and husband Adam live in Dundas, Minn.

1991

Peter Werner, MSE, retired in June from his position as an elementary school principal for the Stevens Point, Wis., school district. He lives in Plover, Wis.

1992

Michael Udovich is acting part time in independent films and reports you can find him in trailers by doing a Google search for “America’s Next Felon” and “Hagstone Demon.” He also stays busy running his lounge and restaurant in West St. Paul and raising his 22-month-old son Samuel. He invites classmaters to contact him at michaelud@hotmail.com. He lives in Inver Grove Heights, Minn.

Francoise Lory Bush has retired from the Barron County Alternative School but continues tutoring there along with teaching night school English at Barron High School in Barron, Wis., and volunteering with the Barron County Restorative Justice program.

1994

Scott Davis is executive officer for Xeta Technologies. He and wife Wendy Walker Davis, Class of ’92, live in McKinney, Texas, with their son Michael and daughter Madison.

1995

Sharon Olson died recently and was elected to the school board of Harbor City International School, a charter school in Duluth. Sharon lives in Cloquet, Minn., with her husband and two sons. She manages a physician’s office in Duluth.

Steven Nelson is a commercial real estate broker for Hoyt Properties Inc. He and wife Kari live in Minneapolis.

1997

Larry Oinumite, EDAD, superintendent of the Lac du Flambeau School District, last winter received the Wisconsin State Superintendent’s Outstanding Administrator Award. The award recognizes Wisconsin administrators who create school communities of students, families, and staff dedicated to excellence in literacy. In presenting the award, the association described Larry as “a literacy leader and learner.” He is working on his doctorate degree and is involved in research on early childhood literacy. Because of his leadership and promotion of reading as a priority, his school district has seen a significant increase in reading proficiency as measured by state testing.

1998

Heidi Sorensen Franz is a preprint coordinator for Gannett. She and husband Dustin live in Visalia, Calif.

1999

Calee Moe married Wesley Weckes on Aug. 16, 2008, in Duluth. Calee is an accountant for Andersen Windows Corp. They live in the Twin Cities area.

Patty Cleary Rothamel and husband Jeff Rothamel, Class of ’99, have a new son, Evan, born Nov. 6, 2008, in Duluth. He joins their first son, 3-year-old Seth. Party teaches physical education for the Cloquet, Minn., public schools and Jeff is a programmer for SMDC. They live in Carlton, Minn.

Ted Matheson has retired from his position as Superior’s fire chief.

2000

Lisa Michelson Kovac is aquatic director for the YMCA of Greater St. Paul. She and husband Amanda live in Woodbury, Minn.

2001

Marisa Meger Hagg and husband Tom have their first child, Madelyn, who was born Dec. 15, 2008. Marisa is a policy and annual reporting manager for the University of North Dakota. Marisa and her family live in East Grand Forks, Minn.

Jeremy Egnash and LeAnn Bodendorfer Egnash, Class of ’02, have a new daughter, Claire, who was born June 20, 2008. The Egnash family lives in Superior, where Jeremy is vice president-controller of National Bank of Commerce.

Will LaBreche last winter opened Creekbed Digital Productions, a digital marketing and public relations company serving northern Wisconsin and northeastern Minnesota. By spring he had three employees and was planning to expand further by this fall. His company website is www.creekbeddigital.com. Will is a board member of the Sawyer County Development Corp. and chairs its Public and Community Relations

Grads making an impact with Minnesota State Patrol

Four graduates of UW-Superior’s criminal justice and political science programs were in the news recently for their roles with the Minnesota State Patrol. Mark Baker, a 1982 graduate of UW-Superior’s political science program, received one of the state patrol’s top awards in recognition of his 25 years of outstanding work as a trooper.

Also, Erick Sjodin, Class of ’99; Matthew Respet, Class of ’08; and Phillip Bogojvic, Class of ’09, were sworn in as troopers.

Baker, who lives in Hermantown, Minn., received the Minnesota State Patrol’s Leadership Award, which is given annually to a patrol employee “who consistently exhibits leadership and excellence in public safety through their personal actions, guidance, direction and professional involvement.” Baker was chosen for the award for his contributions in 2008 and for work throughout his career. He developed the state patrol’s first Citizens’ Academy, chaired the equipment committee for 10 years — where he helped decide how squad cars are equipped — and served as the state’s northern delegate for the troopers’ union.

Sjodin, Respet and Bogojvic are among 72 men and women who took the oath April 3, 2009, to become the newest troopers. All are graduates of UW-Superior’s Criminal Justice program.

Sjodin, who lives in Duluth, will serve in the State Patrol’s Cloquet office. Respet is from Duluth and Bogojvic is from Superior.

Bill Venné: Class of 1993

When he enrolled at UW-Superior, Bill Venné never expected to someday find himself in a management position at a bank. Today, the Class of 1993 graduate oversees a $350 million student loan portfolio for AnchorBank in Madison. Bill attributes his success to his education. “The degree from UW-Superior was the key to me being in the position I now occupy,” he said.

As a banker, Bill understands the importance of repaying an obligation. He’s doing that through his work with the UW-Superior Alumni Association’s Madison Area Chapter.

Bill works with chapter leader John McNeil to plan alumni events and encourage other local graduates to attend. He calls fellow alumni to encourage them to consider making a gift to the UW-Superior Foundation’s Superior Fund when a student contacts them during the annual phone-a-thon. He also encourages state legislators to support UW-Superior, and he attends the annual Superior Days lobbying event in Madison to connect with other alumni.

Bill decided to get involved with the university after attending local alumni events. “Meeting and having an opportunity to talk to the chancellor, alumni director, and other people involved in the university made it easy to help out once I saw what their goals were and how my involvement could help,” he said. “The appreciation for your time is really shown by the leadership of the university. You may not be able to donate as much money as you would like, so a little of your time is next best thing.”
Committee. He also donates time to help non-profit organizations and churches with their website development needs. Will lives in Hayward, Wis., with wife Amy and their son and daughter.

Amy Carlson was hired as a customer service representative at Carter Agency Inc. in Duluth. She will assist clients with questions regarding their insurance coverage.

2002

Jennifer Kumbera Tanner and husband Joseph have their first child, Lillian, born in December. They live in Greenville, S. C., where Jennifer teaches for the Greenville Country Schools.

Jennifer Ginkel lives in Baltimore, where she works in medical sales for Ambu Inc.

2003

Tash Baker is nearing completion of her doctorate degree in phenomenological philosophy. She works for the Archdiocese of New York and supervises a psychiatric unit in New York City. She lives on Staten Island.

Amanda Johnson married Scott Wirta on Oct. 7, 2006. She became a certified professional coder last year and now works for Grand Itasca Clinic and Hospital as a health information assistant and medical coder. She also performs as a vocalist. The Wirtas live in Grand Rapids, Minn.

Stephanie Mannela Holewa and husband Jedediah announce the birth of their son Tristan on March 3, 2009.


Laura Beglinger Bowden (1935, ME 1966), Superior, Jan. 4, 2009

Janet Rabe Sindelaar (1938), Santa Fe, N. M., Aug. 13, 2008

Mary Girzi Ferguson (1940), Herrington, Kansas, March 27, 2009

Rodney Billerbeck (1950), Sister Bay, Wis., March 18, 2009

Norman Aderhold (ME 1960), Two Rivers, Wis., March 23, 2009

Michael Bonacci (1958, MSE 1961), Antigo, Wis., Feb. 25, 2009

Jane Sanders Haath (1958), Ashland, Wis., April 18, 2009

Gerald Annet Sr. (1961), Wilmington, Del., March 31, 2009


Dorothy de Jong Burland (1965), Washburn, Wis., Feb. 11, 2009

Marjorie Sorensen Celentano (1965), Spooner, Wis., Dec. 18, 2008

Jane Hnath (MSE 1967), Ashland, Wis., April 18, 2009


James Unseth (1966, MA 1973), Drummond, Wis., March 2, 2009


Pauline Kolbe (MST 1972), Crandon, Wis., April 4, 2009

Paul Dorow (attended graduate programs in 1973), Waupaca, Wis., March 23, 2009

Donald Judnick (MA 1975), Spooner, Wis., Jan. 20, 2009

Edward Rutledge (1983), Superior, Feb. 28, 2009

James Adams (EDAD 1986), Chilton, Wis., March 8, 2009

Lynn Danielson Furlong (1994), Superior, Feb. 25, 2009

Tracy Wight-Spelling (1994), Chanhassen, Minn., May 2, 2009

Frederic Poupard (1998), Lac du Flambeau, Wis., March 16, 2009

In Memoriam

Frederic Poupart, Chilton, Wis., March 8, 2009

Lynn Danielson Furlong, Superior, Feb. 28, 2009

Edward Rutledge, Spooner, Wis., Jan. 20, 2009

James Adams, Chilton, Wis., March 8, 2009

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Memorial Gifts

Gifts to the University of Wisconsin-Superior in memory of deceased alumni, faculty and friends are a means of honoring and perpetuating their memories. Such gifts may be unrestricted or restricted for use in the area or activity of your choice.

Gifts should be made through the University Advancement Office and are tax deductible. If possible, please include the name and address of the deceased’s closest surviving relative so that we may inform them of your kindness. To learn more, contact University Advancement, Belknap & Carlin PO Box 2000, Superior W1 54880-4500, call toll free at 888-893-8593, or email alumni@uwsuper.edu

We now post photos of campus news and sports on Facebook. Go to flickr.com/photos/uw-superior to see photos of alumni events, Yellowjacket games, and sports. Stay in touch, talk to friends and fellow alumni, get updates and enjoy campus news and sports when you visit official UW-Superior pages on Facebook and Flickr. You can find us on Facebook by searching for the “Official University of Wisconsin-Superior Alumni Association” page.

We now post photos of campus news and sports on Flickr. Go to flickr.com/photos/uw-superior to see photos of alumni events, Yellowjacket games, campus construction, news events and much more.
international organization. She lives in New York City.


2007

Deborah Jaffe was assistant stage manager for the play "The St. James Infirmary" performed last spring with The Congo Square Theatre Company in Chicago.

Nathan Goetsch is serving as a communications and information officer with the U.S. Air Force in the United Kingdom.

Jason Risper married Jessica Chyan on Nov. 28, 2008, in Des Moines, Iowa. Jason is attending Creighton University School of Law and plans to practice law in the Des Moines area.

Megan Hoel and Michael Vorsa, Class of '07, were married June 27, 2009, in Duluth. Megan recently earned her master's degree in biomedical science from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and currently is a medical student there. Michael is a professional driver for Schneider National based out of Carlisle, Penn. They live in Philadelphia.

Jennifer Tweet, MSE, married John Shader on June 28, 2008, in Frederic, Wis. They live in Culman, Wis.

Peter Wyeth and wife Anita have a new son, who was born Nov. 17, 2008. Peter is news director for WIFR-TV in Rockford, Ill. They live in Janesville, Wis.

Sean Quinlan and wife Heather have a second son, Joseph, who was born April 23, 2009.

Anna Christensen Waring teaches kindergarten at West Valley Elementary School in Utah’s Granite School District. She and husband Timothy live in Salt Lake City, Utah.

2008

Amuradha Khandel graduated in May from New York University with a master's degree in social work. She lives in Forest Hills, N. Y.

Candice Currier, a Transportation and Logistics Management major, now works for Midwest Energy Terminal in Superior.

Darren Gordon, a Transportation and Logistics Management major, works for Marten Transport in Mondovi, Wis.

Gabriel Henriques, a Transportation and Logistics Management major, now works for Walgreen's at its distribution center in Window, Wis., near Madison.

Matt McCahan, a Transportation and Logistics Management major, accepted a position with BNSF Railway in Seattle, Wash.

Chenthuran Jayachandiran is a residence director at Western Washington University, where he is working with students and teaching freshman seminar classes. He lives in Bellingham, Wash.

David Lemaster is a tax associate for RSM McGladrey Inc. He and wife Amy Wilson Lemaster, Class of '06, live in Superior.

Dustin Coughran now lives in North Richland Hills, Texas. He works for Matsusanti America Inc.

2009

Laramie Rapp this fall will attend the University of Minnesota to pursue a doctorate degree in pharmacology. She hopes to pursue a career in research that contributes to the understanding of how molecular mechanisms give rise to behavior, learning, emotion, and consciousness, and ultimately use that knowledge for prevention and treatment of neurodegenerative disorders.

Mike Sullivan, Class of '09, from the Whitefish community at Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in northwestern Wisconsin, this fall begins working on a doctorate degree in linguistics at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Sullivan will spend about five years in the program, earning a master's degree and then a doctorate. After completing the program, he plans to return to Lac Courte Oreilles to teach the Ojibwe language to future generations of native speakers.

Sullivan has a long-standing interest in the language. “I can remember grandma speaking Ojibwe and other old-timers speaking it, so it’s always been of interest to me.” His research project for the McNair Scholars program examined the state of the language at Lac Courte Oreilles.

Sullivan said the last of the language’s “first-speakers” — people who spoke Ojibwe as their primary or first language — are passing away. Now, the generation of “second-speakers” — people like himself who learned Ojibwe as their second language after English — must step forward to learn and preserve the language and to train a new generation of first-speakers.

The McNair Scholars Program was established nationwide in 1986 to prepare first-generation college students, low-income students and students from under-represented groups for graduate study.

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Name ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________
  first            middle            last            maiden

Spouse’s name ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________
  first            middle            last            maiden

Class (or last year attended) ___________________________

Spouse’s class (if applicable) ___________________________

Address ___________________________

City ___________________________ State ___________ ZIP ___________

Country ___________________________ Telephone ___________________________

E-Mail ___________________________

Employer ___________________________ Occupation ___________________________

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Go to the alumni web page at www.uwsuper.edu/alumni

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May 17-28, 2010