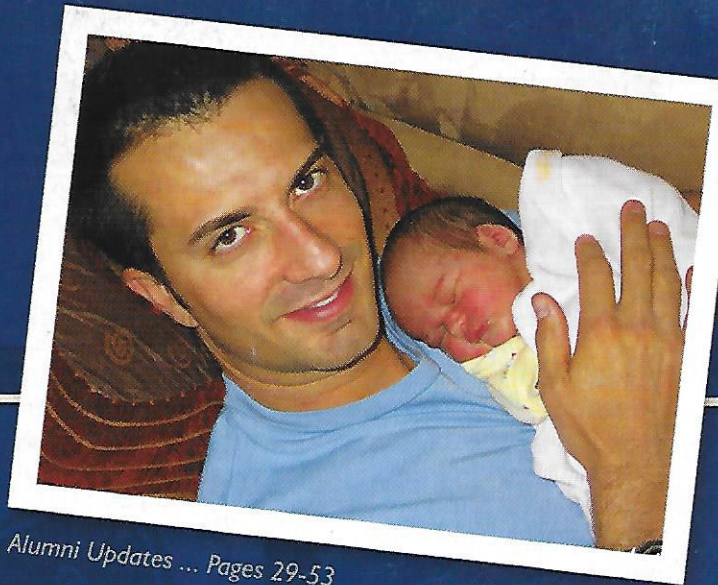
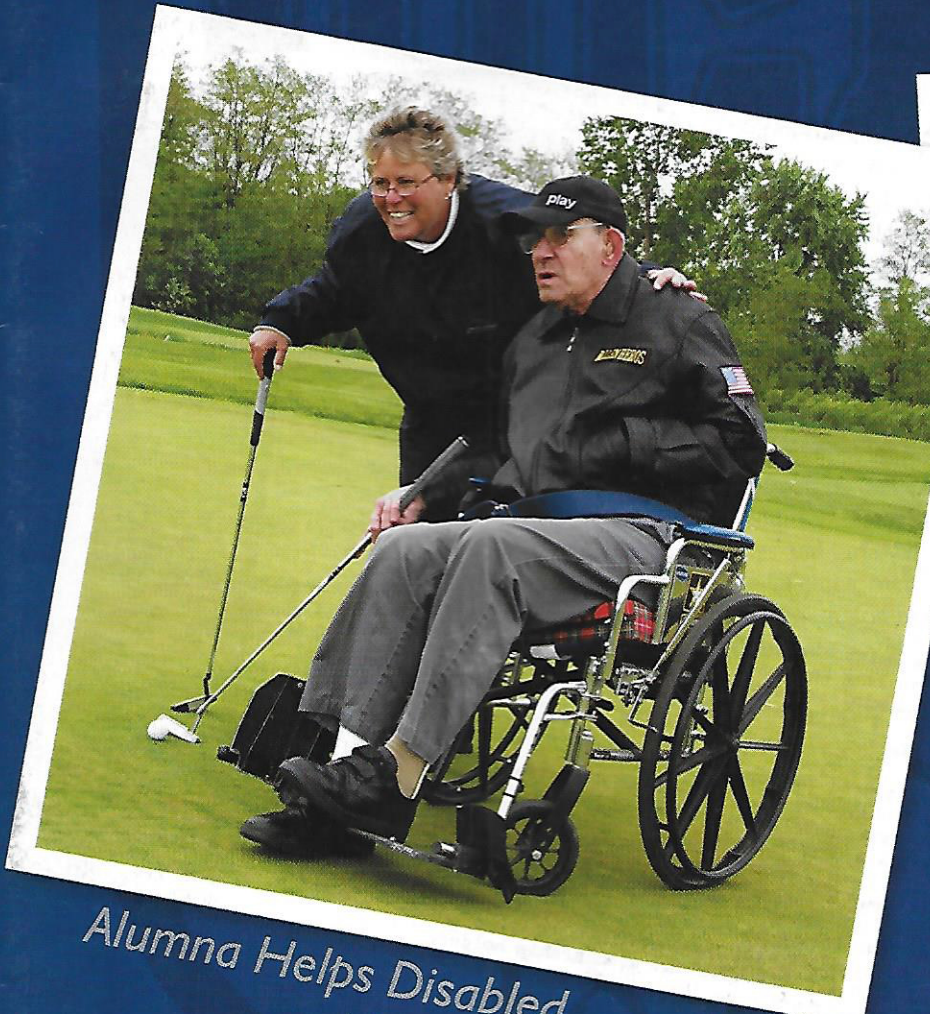


# MAC REPORT

SPRING/SUMMER 2008



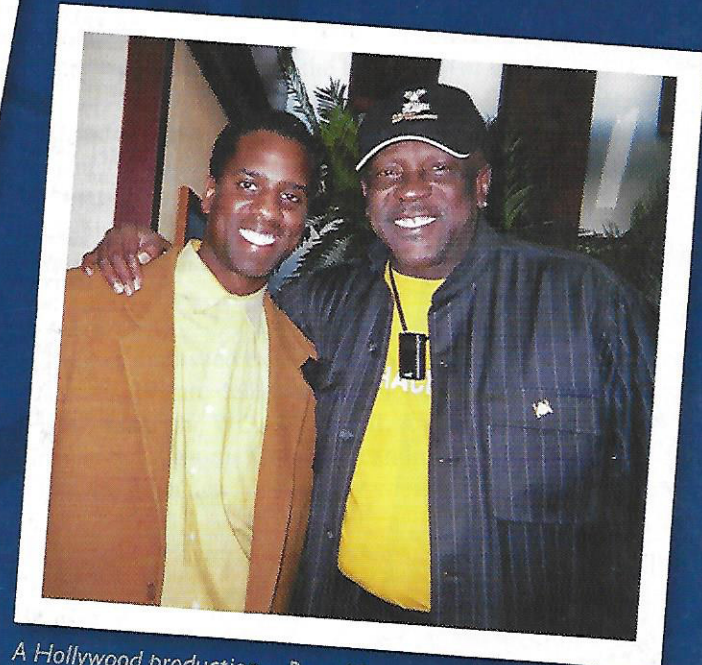
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# Coming full circle

**T**here's a simple theme that can be found in pretty much everything Kathy Williams (Minn. '81) has done in life. That theme is golf.

Williams began playing when she was 8 and caddied as a teen at Valley High Country Club in La Crescent, Minn. She became the first female Scholar to attend the University of Minnesota, living in the dorms. "The (guys) didn't know what to do with me," she jokes.

She was an All-American on the women's golf team, and later, the head golf coach at her alma mater. In 2000, the University of Minnesota Hall of Famer came to the Chicago area to be an LPGA instructor. She currently teaches private lessons at Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago, Ill.

Now, she has found a way to use her passion to give back.

In 2006, she helped co-found RevelationGolf, a nonprofit that teaches the game of golf to people with disabilities. The group has helped more than 350 people, with needs ranging from blindness to drug addictions, enjoy a social activity and build confidence.

On a recent chilly May day, Williams helps veterans from the Hines VA Hospital in Maywood, Ill., practice putting at the Chicago District Golf Association's Sun-

shine Course. Korean War veteran Jeff Boerman, for one, is happy for a break from the hospital, despite the weather. "Army people never said cold was too bad," he says. On this day, Boerman, who was shot twice in the head and is paralyzed on his left side, laughs and jokes with Williams. He putts one-handed, yelling excitedly, "Oh, man! Oh, yeah!" after he makes it. "I'm better off with one hand," he tells the group.

Golf companies have made great strides in creating equipment geared toward people with disabilities, Williams said. Many can golf from their carts, which have seats that tilt or use clubs with special grips. And their efforts have received plenty of positive feedback, she said. "The (golfers) always wish they had more time," she said.

In many ways, Williams has come full circle with golf, first playing and caddying and now teaching it to people who never thought they'd learn to play. "It's cool how everything worked out," she says.

The job can be a challenge – for some golfers, there's just as many mental barriers as there are physical – and it's often exhausting. But the rewards are plenty. For one, she says it helps put small problems into perspective, and she has learned to appreciate every day.

"Once you work through the (challenges), it's a great day," she says. "It's a wonderful day."

*"The golfers always wish they had more time."*



*Kathy Williams (Minn. '81) introduces golf to people with disabilities. She helps veterans Bill Wade (top) and Jeff Boerman (right), line up putts, as well as a youngster (above), in an indoor clinic.*

To support RevelationGolf or make a donation, call (630) 253-7703 or visit [www.revelationgolf.org](http://www.revelationgolf.org).