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Macalester Today

November 1996



Macalester:
Many Flags,
One Community
(pages 18-19)

In Huntley and Virginia Dupre, students found inspiring friends

by Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83

WISDOM, ADVENTURE, idealist, master teacher, responsibility, concern — these are all words associated with J. Huntley Dupre. The “Whistling Dean,” as his students called him, used the Socratic method of teaching to challenge those in his history and political science classes to get at the core of ideas and act on their beliefs.

Dr. Dupre shook “the very roots of complacency, of opinion, of lazy minds, of chauvinism, of fatalism,” says Don Wortman '51, who is now retired after a distinguished career in the federal government. “To have vigorous, mental combat over ideas was the example he set — let man’s reason rule, not man’s fists!”

“His Socratic method helped us discover we knew more than we thought we did,” said Prudence Lanegran Cameron '56, a community and political activist. “His teaching inspired a belief in ourselves

J. Huntley Dupre, 1892–1968

Born: June 3, 1892, Columbus, Ohio

Education: Ohio State (undergraduate degree, 1914; law degree, 1916; master’s, 1927; doctorate, 1932)

Married: Virginia Anderson in 1919 (she died in 1994); children: Vladimir (b. 1920) and John (1923–44)

Macalester: professor of history 1946–64, academic dean 1951–61; Dupre Residence Hall is named after him

Died: Sept. 8, 1968, St. Paul

Notable quote: “Marshal your forces. Document your sources!” ●

that we could go on and make our mark in the political and social arenas.”

An authority on the French Revolution, Dr. Dupre had a strong interest in France. He considered himself, figuratively speaking, a citizen of France, of the United States and of the world. When World War I broke out, he volunteered for service as an ambulance driver for the French forces, and later did the same for the U.S. Army. After he married Virginia Anderson in 1919, they moved to Prague, Czechoslovakia, where he worked for the International YMCA. Their sons,



Virginia and Huntley Dupre: Their “genuine interest in each individual comfortably bridged any communication gap of age difference.”

Vladimir and John, were born there. John was killed in 1944 while serving in the U.S. Army medical corps in the Philippines.

Devout Methodists, Dr. and Mrs. Dupre became pacifists after World War I. They joined the United World Federalist movement following World War II. At Macalester, Dr. Dupre led the Student Project for Amity Among Nations (SPAN) group in 1950 and the Sherwood Eddy Seminars from 1951 to 1956. He led groups of college presidents, ministers and professionals to meet with international leaders. “He was opposed to McCarthyism and took students to Russia when that country opened up to outsiders,” Cameron recalls. “He believed in a world government, and that the best way to do that was to get to know about other countries.”

Dr. Dupre received the *Ordre des Palmes* citation from the French government in 1965 for his contribution to French culture. The Czechoslovakian government

presented him with the Order of the White Lion award in 1937 for his work helping to rehabilitate that country after World War I.

The lively conversation and inspiration that Dr. Dupre started in the classroom carried over into the Dupres’ home. “There were evenings at the Dupre home, a fine setting for hospitality and intelligent discussion,” wrote Nancy Robb Amerson '49 and Bob Amerson '50, who are now retired after Bob’s career in the U.S. Foreign Service. “Virginia’s and Huntley’s genuine interest in each individual comfortably bridged any communication gap of age difference. We drew inspiration from their cultural balance, their human thoughtfulness, their idealism.”

In 1967, post-World War II graduates of Macalester created a scholarship fund in honor of the Dupres’ commitment to stu-

dents. It is awarded to history or political science majors interested in teaching or public service.

The issues of Dr. Dupre’s time are no different from those that face students and alumni today: world peace, racism, poverty, violence, to name a few. No doubt he would move today’s students to action with these words: “An easy optimism in us must give way to recognition of the Long Haul and the need for the Long View. . . . We must be a part of the ‘creative minority’ that must have what it takes to meet the challenge and crisis of our age. Let us all think, plan and work together.” ●

This is the second in a series of profiles of notable figures in Macalester’s history. Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83, a free-lance writer who lives in Shoreview, Minn., wrote about Margaret Doty in the May issue.

Macalester Today

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On the cover

Beth Mulligan '99 (Waterloo, Iowa) and other students carry the flags of the more than 70 nations represented in Macalester's student body in the processional for this fall's opening convocation. Mike Habermann took this picture. For other photos of the colorful event, see pages 18 and 19.



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His work was the centerpiece of the Summer Olympics.



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Hughes grant aids students in sciences

Students of color will have more opportunities to earn degrees

MACALESTER IS RECEIVING a \$1 million, four-year grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to enhance undergraduate programs in the biological sciences.

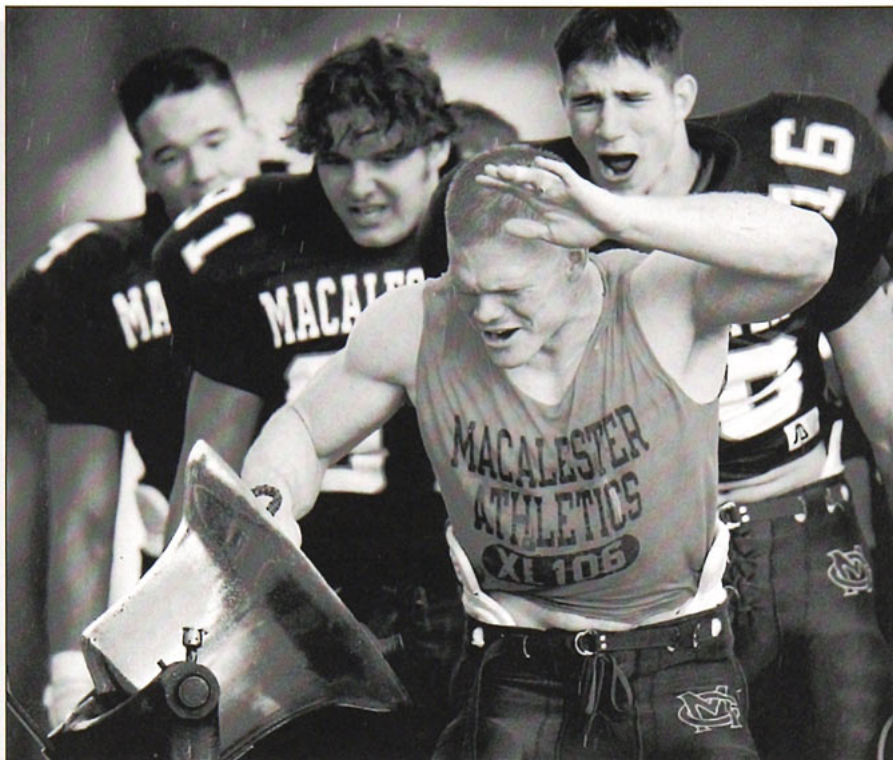
A large portion of the grant will expand opportunities for students to collaborate with Macalester faculty on research projects and increase the number of students of color earning degrees in the sciences.

Macalester is one of three Minnesota private colleges to receive funding. St. Olaf and Carleton were awarded \$1.3 million and \$650,000, respectively, from the nonprofit medical research organization.

"These colleges and universities do an excellent job of preparing students for careers in scientific research, teaching, medicine and related fields," said Purnell W. Choppin, president of the institute. "The grants will help them provide students with more opportunities to carry out research in modern laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment. Many of the campuses also will reach out to help science teachers and schools in their communities. Our goal is to get students of all ages, including women and minorities, involved in real scientific exploration instead of just memorizing facts from books."

With \$677,476 of the grant money, Macalester will provide more students with the opportunity for hands-on experience in the sciences by offering summer research stipends for 16 promising juniors and seniors each year. These students, called Hughes Scholars, will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty. During their senior year, they will attend at least one national professional meeting with their faculty collaborator.

Macalester will also provide an intensive, three-week program for students of color the summer before their freshman year. During this immersion program, eight students will spend three weeks in the lab working directly with faculty. They will live on campus and be assigned host



1996 STAR TRIBUNE / MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL

Victory sounds great

David Brice '97 (Tulsa, Okla.) upholds Macalester tradition by ringing the bell after the Scots defeated Gustavus Adolphus 14-12 on Sept. 21. It was Macalester's first conference victory in the MIAC since 1990. As this issue of *Macalester Today* was going to press, the Scots had also defeated St. Olaf 31-17 and had a 3-3 record under Coach Tom Bell.

families, recruited from Macalester alumni of color, who will provide encouragement until they graduate from Macalester. Following the summer program, students will continue working in the lab and will have opportunities to serve as teaching assistants.

An additional \$322,524 will help the college fund a new faculty position in

'Our goal is to get students of all ages, including women and minorities, involved in real scientific exploration.'

— Purnell W. Choppin,
Howard Hughes Medical Institute

developmental biology, develop a new American Chemical Society-approved major in biochemistry and support better integration of computer use in chemistry laboratories. In addition, the college will develop interdisciplinary courses that

strengthen links among biology, chemistry and mathematics.

This is the second time the college has been awarded a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. In 1988, Macalester received an \$800,000 grant in the first round of the institute's Undergraduate Biological Sciences Education Program. Through its grants program, the institute has awarded more than \$335 million in the last eight years to revitalize science classes.

Class of 2000

MACALESTER HAD a record 3,129 applications — about 200 above the previous high — for the class that entered this fall and admitted 54.9 percent. And for the first time ever, the entering class was oversubscribed by students meeting the national May 1 reply date.

The academic profile of the first-year class that enrolled this fall is "the strongest on record in many years, and perhaps ever," says Dean of Admissions Bill Shain. Shain, who has been dean since 1980, said

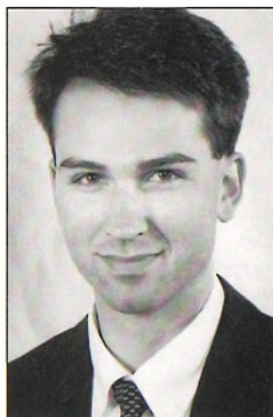
the Class of 2000 has more top-rated students than any class he has admitted.

Here are a few facts about the Class of 2000:

- **Number:** 491, largest entering class since 1977
- **Regional distribution by high school:**
 - 24.2% Minnesota
 - 26.7% other Midwest
 - 17.8% New England/Mid-Atlantic
 - 11.1% Far West and Hawaii
 - 5.7% Southwest/Rockies
 - 2.4% South
 - 11.7% from outside continental U.S. and Hawaii
- **Nations represented (by citizenship):** 38
- **Students of color:** 65, or 13.2% of class
- **Children of alumni:** 14
- **Academic distinctions:**
 - 50 National Merit Scholars (highest total since 1987)
 - 59 ranked 1st or 2nd in class
- **Extracurricular distinctions:**
 - 31 student body presidents or vice presidents
 - 53 publication editors-in-chief
 - 149 varsity sport captains and 24 all-state athletes, making this “the most athletically able class Macalester has ever enrolled”
 - 19 speech/debate captains
- **Commitment to service**
 - 54 chairs of service groups
 - 49 did peer counseling
 - 46 involved in environmental issues
 - 36 worked with hospitals or specific illnesses, including 9 in support of AIDS patients
 - 29 members of Amnesty International
 - 22 worked for racial understanding
- **Most popular names:** Sarah (14 first-year students) and Michael (9)

Shain told the entering class in his welcoming remarks Sept. 4 that

“Macalester students, as you already know, are hard to summarize with lists. . . . [You]



Terry Boychuck

bring here many qualities which will enrich the Macalester community.

“Indeed, many of the qualities which all of us cherish most can rarely, if ever, be quantified: curiosity, courage, enthusiasm for learning and for living, humility, and loyalty to friends, ideals and institutions.”

New faculty

FIFTEEN NEW full-time faculty members joined Macalester this fall, including seven in tenure-track positions.

Here are the new tenure-track faculty hired for 1996–97:

- Franklin H. Adler, Political Science. Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1980; M.A., University of Chicago, 1968;

New full-time faculty in 1996–97

Total: 15

Tenure-track: 7

Visiting international faculty: 3

Tenure-track faculty who are additions: 1 (Physics & Astronomy)

Tenure-track faculty who are replacements: 6 (Political Science, Sociology, Linguistics, Economics, Mathematics and Computer Science)

Number of full-time faculty this fall: 156 (up from 137 in 1993–94, toward goal of 165 by about the academic year 1999–2000) •

B.A., Antioch College, 1967. He joins the political science faculty as DeWitt Wallace Professor and chair of the department. He

has received a number of prestigious grants and fellowships throughout his career and has lectured at American and European universities and research centers. His emphases are political and social theory and comparative politics (Europe). He has been especially active in writing and editing for the important interdisciplinary journal *Telos*. This fall he is teaching a course in “Foundations of Political Theory: Plato to Marx.”

- Terry Boychuck, Sociology. Ph.D., Princeton, 1994; M.A., Princeton, 1990; B.A., Carleton College,

1986. His areas of specialization are health policy, historical and comparative political sociology, sociology of organizations and social stratification.



Sarah Dart

This year, he is teaching “Quantitative (computer) Data Analysis;” “Social Stratification;” and topics classes, “Comparative Health Care Systems” and “Sociology of the State.”

- Sarah Dart, Linguistics. Ph.D., University of

California, 1991; M.A., University of California, 1983; B.A., Pitzer College, 1979. She has done research on French Papago and Tamil. She will teach introductory courses in the Linguistics Program as well as “Acoustic Phonetics.” Next spring, she will also introduce a course on bilingualism never before offered at Macalester.

- J. Peter Ferderer, Economics. Ph.D., Washington University, 1989; M.A., Washington University, 1985; B.A., University of St. Thomas, 1983. A native of

St. Paul, he joins the Economics Department after six years as a highly regarded faculty member at Clark University in



J. Peter Ferderer

Worcester, Mass. His work is in macroeconomics, more specifically on empirical analysis of the effect of uncertainty on the economy. His broad range of interests is reflected in the courses he is teaching this year: “Introduction to International Economics”; advanced “Theory of International Economics” (trade); two sections of the introductory “Principles of Economics”; and an advanced “Topics in Macro-econometrics Course,” stemming directly from his research methodology,

to be taught in the department's computer lab.

- Tom Halverson, Mathematics and Computer Science. Ph.D., University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1993; M.A., University of Wisconsin, 1988; B.A., St. Olaf, 1986. He has been a visiting assistant professor in the Mathematics and Computer Science Department since 1993. His special interests are Lie algebras, representation theory and combinatorics, particularly symmetric functions. He is the faculty adviser for the Pi Mu Epsilon Honor Society. Halverson helped run the Konhauser Problem Fest held at St. Olaf College last February and participated as a faculty mentor in the



Tom Halverson

Bush Teaching Portfolio workshops. He is teaching "Discrete Math," "Multi-variable Calculus" and "Algebraic Structures" this fall semester.



Daniel T. Kaplan

- Daniel T. Kaplan, Mathematics and Computer Science. Ph.D., Harvard, 1989; M.S., Harvard, 1986; M.S., Stanford, 1982; B.A., Swarthmore, 1981. He has worked for Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories doing economic analysis and modeling of energy conservation. He has taught as an instructor in electrical engineering at MIT, and has taught summer courses at Harvard Medical School. His work involves chaos and fractals, and while it is very mathematical, it also entails practical applications in areas such as the determination of whether heart arrhythmias are truly random or are chaotic. He has two patents to his credit. He is teaching "Introduction to Statistics" and "Discrete Applied Math" this fall.

- Kimberly Venn, Physics and Astronomy. Venn is the recipient of a \$390,859 Clare Boothe Luce Professorship,

awarded to Macalester over a five-year period. The Clare Boothe Luce Program, established in 1987 and named after the American playwright, magazine editor and congresswoman, seeks "to encourage women to enter, study, graduate and teach" in science and engineering. Venn is an astrophysical researcher working at the forefront of experimental astronomy. She came to Macalester after serving as a postdoctoral fellow and research scientist at the renowned Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics and

the Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics at the University of Munich.

Macalester's three visiting international faculty members this year are:

- Ivan Vejvoda, a research fellow at the Sussex European Institute at the University of Sussex in England. A specialist in European political philosophy and the politics of the Balkans, Vejvoda received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Belgrade University. In addition to being the co-editor of *Libertas*, a series in political philosophy and theory, he is the author of five books. He is teaching two political science courses, "The Politics of East/Central Europe" and "Political Development," which focuses on democracy and the process of democratic transition.

- Mercio Gomes, an associate professor of anthropology at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niteroi, Brazil. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Florida-Gainesville. Gomes specializes in theory of anthropology, economic and political anthropology, social evolution, Indian ethnology, peasantry, Brazilian culture, and South and North America. He is the author of two books and many articles. A leading researcher on indigenous populations in Brazil, he has had an impact on Indian policy in that country. Gomes this fall is teaching an introductory course on Latin America and a course on Brazil's Indians.



Kimberly Venn

- Ola Rotimi, one of Africa's leading playwrights and directors. He is spending his second year at Macalester as the Humphrey Visiting Scholar. A professor of drama in one of his home universities in Nigeria, he has also been a visiting professor as well as a playwright/director in Europe and America. His publications include six full-length plays and a number of scholarly articles on theater and drama.

Maccess returns

Revived program serves promising students of color

MORE THAN 30 high school students of color from the St. Paul area enrolled in Macalester's revived Maccess program this past summer.

The program serves promising African American, Native American, Asian American and Chicano/Latino students by helping prepare them for a successful transition to college.

Maccess targets 10th, 11th and 12th grade students in the top half of their class, especially those who are the first generation in their family to attend college.

Maccess is supported by four-year grants from SUPERVALU INC. and the H.B. Fuller Company Foundation. Other Maccess funding includes grants from The Rathmann Family Foundation, Minnesota Mutual Foundation, the Lillian Wright & C. Emil Berglund Foundation, and a gift from Lamar Laster '72 and his wife, Patricia.

Maccess began in 1989 with a grant from the McKnight Foundation and continued each summer until 1995, when it was suspended for one year so that the program could be redesigned.

Over the four-week program, students took daily classes and participated in other activities designed to enhance thinking, speaking and writing skills, as well as their use of computer technology. For example, working in Macalester's International Research Lab, students accessed on-line information services and conducted research on the Internet. Students received a \$500 stipend when they successfully completed the program.

Maccess students will continue to meet at Macalester periodically throughout the year for activities and events. Their families will also meet with Macalester administrators to learn about the admissions and financial aid process. In addition, each student has been paired

with a person of color who is a leader in his or her community or profession. In many cases, mentors are Macalester alumni. Follow-up activities continue until students graduate from high school.

"The program provides students with an opportunity to be on a college campus, to be taught by college professors and inter-

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act with college students and to get a sense of what college life is all about," said Thad Wilderson, community relations coordinator, who co-directs the program with education Professor Ruthanne Kurth-Schai. In addition, Macalester Professors Adrienne Christiansen, Communication Studies, and Daphne Foreman, Biology, taught Maccess courses this summer.

Mary Lee Dayton

'An inspiration to the young women and men of Macalester,' she receives the Trustees Award for her service

MARY LEE DAYTON, former chair of the Board of Trustees, was presented the Trustees Award for Meritorious and Distinguished Service in October. She was a member of the board from 1979 to 1994 and chair from 1989 to 1992.

The award honors men and women who have served the Macalester community and the greater community.

"Your life's work has been remarkable, and it exemplifies the Macalester tradition of service and excellence," says the award citation. "Your leadership has shown Macalester students the importance of working to improve communities here and around the world. You are an inspiration to the young women and men of Macalester and to future members of the Macalester family."

The citation also mentions Dayton's many efforts on behalf of Macalester, including her leadership to raise funds for the DeWitt Wallace Library. The citation says

she performed her leadership roles "with enthusiasm, dedication and distinction" and that she served the community as a fundraiser, philanthropist, community leader and as an "advocate for the ideals and mission" of Macalester.

"She led with a personal touch that affected all of us deeply," said Timothy A. Hultquist '72, chair of the Board of Trustees. "She was an inspirational leader, hard working and well organized. When it came to big projects, Mary Lee was always at the forefront."

Dayton was awarded an honorary degree from Macalester in 1995. In addition to



Mary Lee Dayton

all her work on behalf of Macalester, the Trustees Award honors Dayton for her leadership, philanthropy and fund-raising efforts on behalf of a host of Twin Cities organizations.

She is the fifth recipient of the Trustees Award. The first was former Macalester President John B. Davis, Jr. The other recipients are former Vice President Walter

F. Mondale '50; Kofi Annan '61, undersecretary general for peacekeeping for the United Nations; and Carl B. Drake, Jr., a former trustee and friend of the college.

Major gift

MACALESTER TRUSTEE Warren Bateman '44 gave \$1 million to the college this fall to help fund construction of the new Campus Center and the renovation of Kagin Dining Commons.

"It feels so much better to give than anyone who receives could imagine," Bateman said. "If you don't give it away, you don't enjoy the fruits of your labor."

Bateman, a retired sales representative for West Publishing Co., is a generous contributor to Macalester and a consistent supporter of the Annual Fund. In 1995, he pledged a major contribution toward the renovation of Olin and Rice Halls of Science.

In an interview in the August 1995 *Macalester Today*, Bateman said that "Macalester did a lot for me, and I know Mac is doing a lot for every student who walks in here. I'm happy if I can help one. After all, somebody had to put up the \$25 scholarship for me [in 1940]."



Macalester Professor Ruthanne Kurth-Schai speaks with a student in the college's Maccess program this past summer.

JIM HANSEN

Scientific Progress

The first half of the Olin-Rice Halls of Science renovation is complete, dramatically improving research and research-teaching space for Macalester's Biology, Chemistry, Geology and Physics Departments. The second half — enhancing the Mathematics & Computer Science and Psychology Departments — will be finished by the summer of '97.

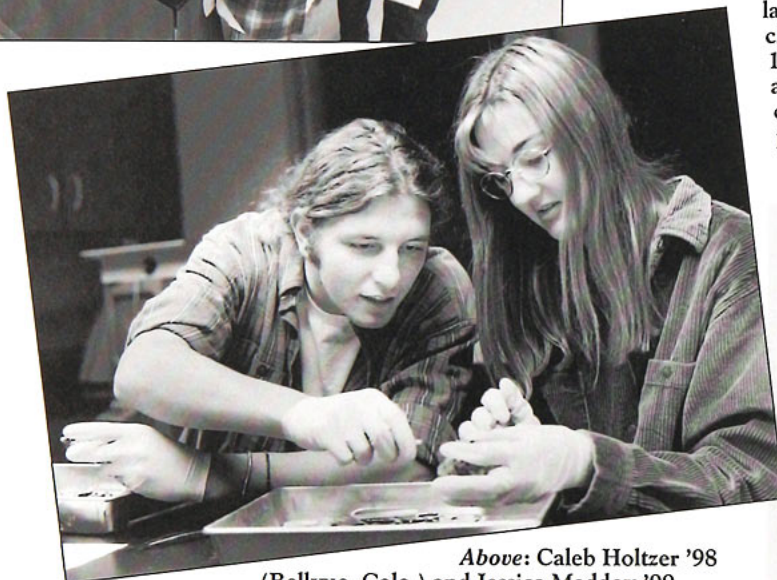
Photographs by Don Hamerman



Above: The skylighted corridors and stairwell open up the science complex and provide a comfortable environment. Faculty offices (at right) are in new space on the south side of the three-story science complex, freeing more of the existing space for research and research-training.



Left: Visiting chemistry Professor William Smit and his teaching assistant, Rachel Diephouse '98 (Grand Rapids, Mich.), discuss a lab procedure in a large teaching lab for organic chemistry. The lab can accommodate up to 16 people. Students work inside "fume hoods," allowing them to use potentially hazardous chemicals in their experiments without the problem of toxicity or fumes.



Above: Caleb Holtzer '98 (Bellvue, Colo.) and Jessica Maddox '99 (Colorado Springs, Colo.) perform a dissection in a behavioral neuroscience teaching lab taught by psychology Professor Eric Wiertelak.

Renovation and expansion of Olin and Rice Halls of Science

Completed: first phase of renovation (Rice Hall); faculty/staff of Biology, Chemistry, Geology and Physics Departments moved in this past summer

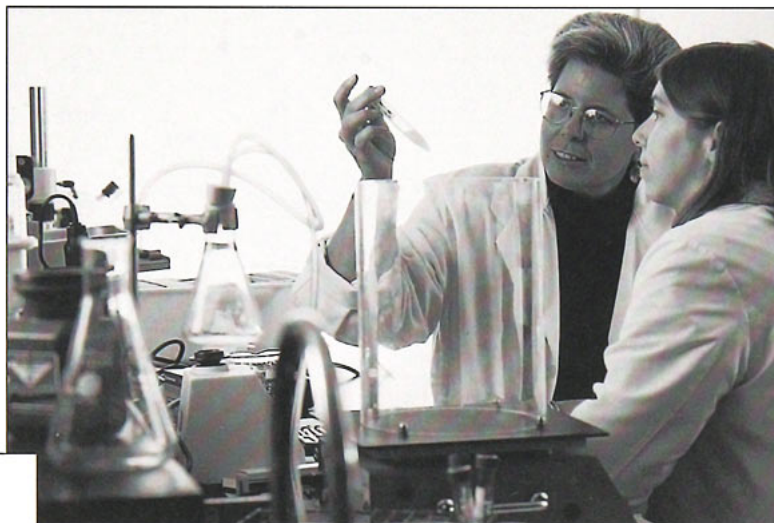
Main features: greatly increases lab space for research and research-teaching; provides direct access between departments to encourage interaction across scientific disciplines; replaces outdated and inadequate equipment; provides handicap accessibility to all areas

Under construction: Olin Hall is now vacated and its renovation will be completed in summer of 1997; for the 1996-97 academic year, Math and Computer Science and Psychology are in other buildings

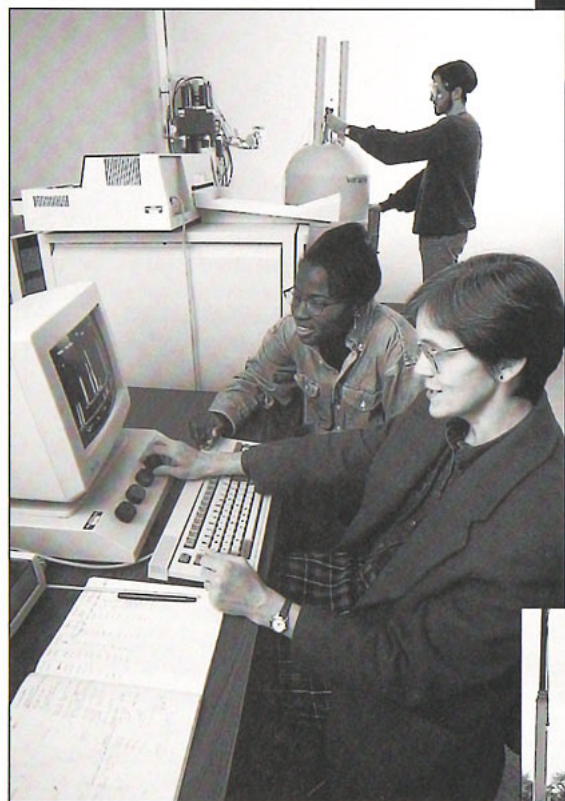
Total cost: \$22.25 million, largest construction project in Macalester history •

‘The whole renovation is spectacular. The wonderful thing is that it has given us lots of space to work with students — and also space for students to interact with us and each other more informally. I think it’s going to be one of the gathering places for small groups on campus.’

— Professor Lin Aanonsen,
Biology Department



Above: Biology Professor Lin Aanonsen collaborates on a project with Jennelle Durnett Richardson '92, one of her former honors students and now a graduate student in neuropharmacology at the University of Minnesota, in Aanonsen's new research lab.



‘We have greatly improved and enlarged research space. We have safer teaching laboratories. Overall, we’re going to have more student-faculty interaction as we jointly investigate scientific problems.’

— chemistry Professor Wayne Wolsey,
speaking of renovations affecting all of the sciences

Above: Chemistry Professor Rebecca Hoyer works with Martha Sarpong '97 (Lobatse, Botswana) and Patrick Braun '97 (McPherson, Kan.) in a third-floor lab that houses the college's nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer. Similar to a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) device used in hospitals for diagnostic imaging of body organs, the \$200,000 NMR is used primarily by organic chemists to see how atoms are put together in a molecule.

Above right: Taken from the southeast side of the newly renovated science complex, near Macalester's athletic fields, this photo shows half (Rice Hall) completed and the other half (Olin Hall) under construction. Northern States Power Co. awarded Macalester a \$200,000 rebate for installing energy-efficient equipment during the renovation. The entire science complex will have 26,569 more net square feet — an increase of 34 percent.



Engaging difference: Macalester and the Black Sea

By uncovering an ancient synagogue, Professor Andy Overman and his students make contemporary connections

CLASSICS PROFESSOR Andy Overman, who specializes in religion, culture and ethnicity in the Greco-Roman world, is an archaeologist and a leader of the Macalester Black Sea Project. For the past three summers, Macalester students and others have accompanied Overman to the Crimea to conduct excavations at the ancient city of Chersonesus. They have been searching for proof of a synagogue, outside modern-day Sevastopol, dating from the 2nd-4th century Common Era. Here are excerpts from an interview with Overman:

After three summers of archaeological digging, where does the project stand now?

We have established there was indeed a Jewish presence in the ancient Crimea dating from early in the Roman period. We have discovered a Jewish synagogue beneath a 5th century Christian basilica. It is one of the earliest diaspora synagogues ever found, and possibly the earliest. We have presented the results of our findings in Budapest, Oxford, Simpheropol, Kiev and Philadelphia, and we'll do it again [this month] in New Orleans. We're publishing two monographs next spring; one is our field report, the other is a monograph on [the discovery of] the synagogue.

What evidence do you cite for the existence of the synagogue?

Jewish artifacts that we've found either in the field or in the archives [in Ukraine]. [They include] a Hebrew inscription and menorah that might belong to the 1st century; a second menorah, which speaks to the broader issue of Jewish presence at Chersonesus; and an oil lamp fragment that appears to have a Torah shrine on it. And we're reconstructing the orientation of the building. It might be oriented north-south, and not east-west as we had thought. If it is north-south, one theory is that this building was consistent with the tradition in the diaspora of synagogues facing Jerusalem.

These pieces [and others] provide fairly overwhelming evidence that we have what one could refer to as Jewish public space. We're taking the pieces we've found



The Macalester contingent takes a break this past summer from their archaeological dig at Chersonesus on the Crimean Peninsula. The Black Sea is behind them. From left: Bob MacLennan, adjunct professor at Macalester; Olga Sheiko, a Ukrainian student who spent last spring semester at Macalester; Sarah Wallis '96 (Yellow Springs, Ohio); Rebecca Blom '98 (Porter Corners, N.Y.); Rachel Buck '97 (Upton, Ky.); Maura Dundon '98 (Davis, Calif.); Rachel Green '98 (Seattle); Professor Andy Overman; Bekah Savage '96 (New York City); Pablo Riquelme Rios '98 (Holland, Mich.), crouching in front; Greg Stoehr '98 (Evergreen, Colo.), standing in back; and Jesse Weiner '98 (New York City).

and we're constructing the narrative — the broader history — behind them. To me, the most plausible reconstruction is that these Jews came from the Bosporan kingdom east of Chersonesus, probably in the 1st century. Because of political developments, they became stranded in Chersonesus. Jews had a building or public space of their own by the 2nd to 4th century. It was a rather central place where there was a lot of commerce and cultural interaction. Sometime in that period they created mementoes of what was important to them. We have found a Hebrew slogan mentioning the Bosporus and the holy city of Jerusalem, menorahs and more.

The Jewish public space goes out of use in the early 5th century. The Jewish public space was dismantled, and the very stones from the Jewish public space were used in the building of a Christian basilica in the

5th century. That opens up a whole new chapter in Jewish history.

What is the significance of this archaeological discovery? What does it all mean to us today?

For me, there have always been at least two levels of significance: ancient research and reconstruction, and contemporary conversations and connections.

First, at the level of uncovering new knowledge, we can now demonstrate that there were Jews in a very important city in the Crimea centuries before the overwhelming majority of scholars and students of this period would ever have postulated. That is significant for understanding the history and spread of Jews and Judaism. And it is significant in understanding the diverse cultural milieu of ancient cities like Chersonesus.

Second, speaking as a teacher at a liberal arts college, for four years now a group of Americans and undergraduates have been working in a part of the world only recently opened up



Andy Overman

to the West. We have been part of a successful joint venture with Zaporozhye University in Ukraine. It's been truly collaborative. Last spring, [Macalester Professor] Jim von Geldern created and taught a special introductory class on Russian language and history [for Overman and students going to the Crimea]. That gave us that much more facility with the language and familiarity with the history [of the region]. Our students had confidence to try to speak Russian, freeing the Ukrainian students to try to speak English more.

We have built bridges to Zaporozhye University and to Ukrainian scholars and students. And we have been part of a cul-



Macalester students and faculty have been excavating on this site by the Black Sea for the past three summers. Visible are the remains of a 5th century Christian basilica, resting on top of an ancient synagogue.

tural and economic renewal in Sevastopol. As you think about Macalester and its *raison d'etre*, that's a perfect fit.

What happens now with the archaeological dig?

We always said we would take another look at it after three seasons. So we'll go there for only two weeks next summer. We are the main speakers at a symposium next August celebrating 175 years of excavations at the ancient city. There is a lot more archival research to be done associated with the secrets and repression of the Stalin era. It's like peeling an onion. Because of the trust we enjoy, we've been led into the intrigues and mysteries that had been enshrouded in the Stalin era and Cold War.

We're going to ask about the place of the Jewish community of Chersonesus in the broader context of this ancient city. Now that we've proven their existence, we're going to ask: How did this particular

minority function within this diverse city? That's always been the large question.

Do you have any clue what happened to the Jewish community of Chersonesus?

Based on the evidence, it would have to be your first guess that when Christianity became the dominant religious expression in this part of the world, in the 5th and 6th centuries, Jewish buildings went underground or were dismantled. That didn't happen at Sardis in Turkey, the largest synagogue we know of. It went out of business as a synagogue; no church superseded it, as in Chersonesus.

The Jews of Chersonesus participated in a form of Judaism that differed from rabbinic Judaism. They spoke and wrote Greek; they did not speak Hebrew. "Synagogue," by the way, is a venerable Greek title and idea. They appear to have constructed different relationships with Gentiles than is generally found in rabbinical Jews.

The really interesting story here is that of a type of Judaism that vigorously and creatively engaged the dominant culture, and did that while retaining its own identity — from, say, 300 B.C.E. to 500 C.E. Call it 800 years. But how they did that, who these people were, and those particular modes of engagement have been really lost in Jewish history. To me, that basilica consciously built on top of that Jewish public space in Chersonesus is a profound symbol of a significant kind of Judaism disappearing from the pages of history.

These Jews had some interesting ways of engaging difference. I think we could learn a lot from learning more about what those ways were. They believed in one god; people around them believed in many gods. You would think the Jews were pretty sectarian. But from all we can tell about these communities, they were out there, on the town councils, involved in social issues. These people weren't reclusive. They engaged — in a lively and creative way — the culture or cultures out there. And they did that for a good 800 years.

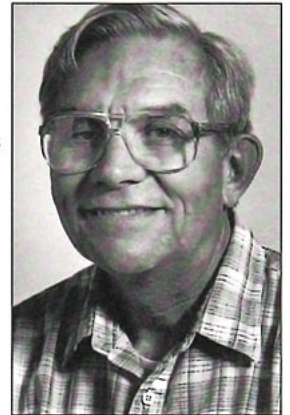
Provost continues

PROVOST Wayne Roberts has agreed to continue as Macalester's chief academic officer through the 1998-99 academic year.

"Wayne has served the college with distinction in a number of capacities for many years," President Mike McPherson said in September, "and we are all in his debt for his admirably steady and sound academic leadership during this time of transition. It will greatly benefit both me and the college as a whole to have stability in the provost's office during these first years of my administration, but more than just stability, Wayne brings to the office qualities of integrity, judgment and devotion to service which serve us all well."

McPherson said he intends, at the conclusion of Roberts' term as provost, to appoint his successor from the ranks of Macalester's faculty. "The practice of drawing academic administrators from the faculty, with the expectation that they will return to teaching and research after a term of administrative service, is, I believe, especially well suited to a college of our size and quality," the president said.

Roberts has taught at Macalester since 1965. He served as chair of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department from 1988 until being named provost by President Gavin on July 1, 1995. Roberts succeeded Professor Dan Hornbach, who had announced his desire to return to the biology faculty.



Wayne Roberts

Honoring Walt Mink

A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE, carrying the words "The Walter D. Mink Award," was presented to the Psychology Department in September by Marge Charmoli '74, president of the Minnesota Psychological Association.

The award was renamed in honor of Professor Mink, who died June 25 (see August's *Macalester Today*).

The award will be given annually to an outstanding undergraduate teacher in Minnesota. Professor Mink was a past recipient.

Hall of Fame, 1996

THE MACALESTER ATHLETIC Hall of Fame inducted four more outstanding alumni Oct. 11. They are:

• Ronald J. Stolski '62, one of the best quarterbacks ever to play for the Fighting Scots. Stolski started the 1957 Homecoming game as a freshman and threw two touchdown passes; Mac won that game and finished the season 6-1-1. In 1960, Stolski led the Scots as team captain to an impressive 7-2 record. As a senior, he was named to the All-Conference squad and was selected the team's most valuable player while leading the MIAC



Ronald Stolski '62

in passing and total offense.

• Darwin K. Klockers '66, who joins teammates Joseph Mannikko '66, John D. Van Winkle '66 and James DeWeerd '68 in the Hall of Fame. A member of relay teams which won six NAIA titles, Klockers



Darwin Klockers '66

helped Macalester win national championships three years in a row. He placed in the top six in every individual event he competed in at nationals and earned All-America honors all four years. Klockers also won events and set records at conference championships all four years.

• Donald W. Hoffman '71, who was a force to be reckoned with in MIAC basketball in the late '60s and early '70s. Currently the No. 6 career



Donald Hoffman '71

scoring leader at Macalester, Hoffman accumulated 1,120 points and is one of just 11 to reach the 1,000-point mark for Macalester men's basketball. He

received post-season honors regularly, including making All-Conference as a sophomore, junior and senior. Twice, Hoffman was named to the NAIA District 13 team and received Honorable Mention NAIA All-America honors. A standout baseball player as well, Hoffman made the All-Conference team as a sophomore and senior.

• David C. Hodge '70, who was one of the best middle-distance runners ever to compete in the MIAC.



David Hodge '70

spring season. He was also a conference champ in the mile and a member of a championship mile relay team. In cross country he placed second at the conference meet. ●

During a time when Division II and Division III runners shared a small-college national championship event, Hodge ran with the top competitors. He placed second nationally in the 880-yard run in 1968 and 1969 and fourth at this distance at the NAIA indoor meet. Hodge was a four-time conference champion in the 880, and in fact never lost a race at this distance during the

Quotable Quotes

HERE ARE SOME of the noteworthy comments made recently on and around the campus:

"[AS] NEW PRESIDENT Michael McPherson presides over his first Macalester school year, the college finds itself in an enviable position: well-funded and on the brink of higher-education stardom."

The Minneapolis Star Tribune in a Sept. 14 feature story on Macalester.

"WITHOUT QUESTION, the administration, and everyone else I have dealt with, wants the college experience for Mac students to be enjoyable and successful, academically and in extracurriculars. And that definitely includes football."

Tom Bell, Macalester football coach, quoted in the Sept. 25 St. Paul Pioneer Press after the Scots defeated Gustavus Adolphus 14-12. It was Macalester's first win in the MIAC since 1990.

"WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO face up to the fact that states are no longer willing or able to continue to provide the across-the-board access [to higher education] that they provided 20 years ago."

Mike McPherson, Macalester's president, quoted in a front-page story in

the Sept. 26 New York Times. The Times said that the cost of college is increasingly being pushed onto students and their families as government support shrinks. It quoted data compiled by McPherson and USC Dean Morton Schapiro, who have collaborated on several books and numerous articles about the economics of higher education.

"IT WASN'T AN ACT with Walt [Professor Walt Mink]. He didn't act enthusiastic about every question [from students in his psychology classes]. . . .

He genuinely felt enthusiasm, which was reciprocated by his students' enthusiasm to do good work for him and share his interest in the material. . . . Good-bye, Walt. May we all learn from your kindness and generosity."

Dan Gearino '98 (Norwalk, Iowa), editor-in-chief of The Mac Weekly, in a Sept. 12 column devoted to the late Walt Mink. Professor Mink, who taught at Macalester for 38 years, died June 25 of a lung disease.

"THAT SCHOOL changed my life. It was there that I started acting and got away from everything that I had known. I rediscovered and reinvented myself."

Peter Berg '84, film actor and co-star of the TV series "Chicago Hope," speaking about Macalester in the June issue of US Magazine ●



Shirl Ahrens '62: 'Values I still strongly believe in'

PHOTOS BY GREG HELGESON



of Macalester's Alumni Board, active in organizing alumni events, consistently generous donor to the college.

What she got from Macalester: "It totally opened the doors to a rich new world for me. It gave me a real sense of direction and purpose."

Macalester's faculty in the late '50s and early '60s: "They were really role models for me. They were always available and eagerly willing to help students. I had a lot of favorites: The Armajanis [Professor Yahya Armajani and his wife, Ruth] were wonderful; Huntley Dupre was great; Patricia Wiesner, in my own department of physical education, was a great role model; Fred Stocker, in chemistry, was then a recent Ph.D. nervously reading his notes —

I went to his [recent retirement ceremony]. [President] Harvey Rice [with whom she often played tennis] was a real human being, a warm, compassionate person who was interested in students."

On current Macalester students she's met:

"They just blow you away. Their travel experience, their command of languages, international thinking, command of their own disciplines — it's just staggering to us oldies."

How she sees Macalester today: "If somebody would pay my tuition and I

could get accepted, I would re-enroll as a freshman. I think it would be the greatest experience, to spend four years there at this time in history... It's just amazing to know what these students have in the way



"Macalester is one of two or three institutions that I strongly believe in," says Shirl Ahrens '62. She's shown at Reunion last May with Barbara Phillips Sullivan '71 (University, Miss.) and Professor Norm Rosenberg.

of opportunities, not only in the classroom but also their research capabilities with faculty members, their opportunities for hands-on experience that we didn't always have."

Why she gives back to Macalester:

"It's one of two or three institutions that I strongly believe in. Not everybody has the opportunity to go there, but it exemplifies the kind of values that I still strongly believe in... I was sort of taught at an early age by my parents to share and be a good steward of the resources that I was given. As a student, I realized that besides the tuition my parents paid, others were help-

ing to subsidize my Macalester tuition. And I firmly believe that I and every other Macalester graduate have a social and a moral responsibility to help students who come after us." ●

'Shirl's enthusiasm for Macalester is boundless. She is so energetic and hard-working in developing alumni clubs and making national club programs happen.'

— *Alumni Director Karen McConkey*

Grew up: South St. Paul
Post-Mac education: Ph.D., statistical analysis of behavioral science research, The Ohio State University
Career highlights: professor of physical education, Beloit College, 1966-78; co-owner of The Farmer's Daughters' Summer Kitchen restaurant in Wisconsin's Door County, 1977-90.
Currently: Retired in Oldsmar, Fla., after years in San Diego. Active in the Presbyterian Church, as a community volunteer and at the grassroots level of two professional tennis organizations. Member

Calendar of events

HERE ARE SOME of the events scheduled for alumni, parents, family and friends. More events are being added all the time. For more information on any of the following, call the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295, except where noted. The toll-free number is 1-800-662-6374. You may also call the campus events line, (612) 696-6900.

Macalester Galleries, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center: "Cloth Reveries," featuring nine leading American textile artists in exhibition curated by Mary Hark and Cynthia Williams, continues through Nov. 24; one-person exhibition by Gary Erickson, Dec. 10–Feb. 15 (696-6690)

Nov. 7: World Press Institute Fellows discuss travels in U.S., 11:30 a.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel

Nov. 9: Macalester Pipe Band and Highland Dance, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 12: lecture by Mara Liasson of National Public Radio, 7 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel (696-6203)

Nov. 13: Happy hour for recent grads in Washington, D.C., 6–8 p.m., Bardo Brew Pub, 2000 Wilson Blvd. (call Shelley Churchill '89 at 202-333-0751, Tami Nading '90 at 703-607-2335 or Cara Woodson-Welch '89 at 202-626-7442)

Nov. 13–14: "Work & Vocation: A Society at Risk," conference on what is happening in the world of work, with keynote address at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 13 by Louis Uchitelle of the *New York Times*, Weyerhaeuser Chapel (call 696-6298 for more information)

Nov. 14: Writer's Harvest, literary benefit sponsored by Share Our Strength to fight hunger and poverty, time TBA, Weyerhaeuser Chapel; readers will include Macalester faculty members Alvin Greenberg, Diane Glancy, Janet Holmes and many others

Nov. 15–17 and 22–24: Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, directed by Professor Sears Eldredge, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, 8 p.m. Nov. 15, 16, 21, 22 & 23, and 2 p.m. Nov. 17 & 24 (696-6359)

Nov. 16: Denver alumni event, Imperial Tombs of China exhibit and lecture by Professor Yue-Him Tam (call Caryn Davis Hanson '71 at 303-752-0715)

Nov. 16–17: Macalester Festival Chorale, 8 p.m. Nov. 16 and 3 p.m. Nov. 17 (696-6520)



Dinner on the lake

About two dozen alumni and friends enjoyed a dinner cruise Aug. 25 on Whitefish Lake in northern Minnesota. Pictured are (from left) Mary Grieser DeWerff '46 (Minneapolis), Steve VanDrake '65 (Brainerd), Mary's husband, Ken DeWerff, Lani Myers '90 (St. Paul) and Lani's husband, Keith. Hosts for the evening were Ken Awsumb '49 and Lois Critchfield Awsumb '46 of Bemidji and Stan Rude '46 and Peg Wulf Rude '46 of Crosslake. They were joined by Ken's brother, Roger Awsumb '51 of Merrifield. Roger, one of Macalester's 1996 Distinguished Citizens and better known as TV's "Casey Jones," led everyone in a sing-along.

Nov. 21: Happy hour for recent grads in Boston, 6–8 p.m., Whiskey's, 885 Boylston St., Boston (call Whiskey's at 617-262-5551 or Carrie Norbin '94 at 617-864-1869 or Julie Schultz '93 at 617-891-6116)

Nov. 22: Macalester Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 24: Macalester Symphonic Band, 3 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 29: Professor Diane Glancy reading from her novel, *Pushing the Bear*, 8 p.m., Barnes & Noble, Country Club Plaza, Kansas City (reading only)

Dec. 6: Flying Fingers, folk, bluegrass and other traditional music, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Dec. 6–7: Macalester Concert Choir, Festive Evenings' 20th Anniversary, 8 p.m. both nights (reservations required: 696-6520)

Dec. 7: African Music Ensemble, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Dec. 13: Sirens and Traditions, a cappella vocal ensembles, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Dec. 17: Sounds of Blackness concert at 8 p.m. at State Theater in Minneapolis, with reception from 6:45 to 8 p.m. at adjacent Rock Bottom Brewery (696-6295)

Jan. 18, 1997: Great Scots event (for alums 55 and older), "Risk Taking Throughout Life," 8:30–11:15 a.m., Weyerhaeuser Hall (696-6026)

Jan. 23: Mic Hunter '79, author of *The American Barbershop: A Closer Look at a Disappearing Place*, will speak about his book at the Marvy barber pole company, 7–9 p.m., St. Clair and Snelling Avenue, St. Paul (696-6295)

Feb. 1–8: Virgin Island cruise for alumni and friends (sold out)

March 15: Inauguration of Mike McPherson as Macalester's 15th president, 1 p.m., Macalester Field House

May 18: Minnesota AIDS Walk, from Minnehaha Falls, Minneapolis

May 23–25: Reunion and Commencement (Commencement is on Sunday, May 25, during Memorial Day Weekend)

June 3–16: Alumni trip to Scotland and England, hosted by Mary Smail and Sandy Hill '57 (see page 14)

July 12: 30th anniversary of Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth; Mac alums who attended its programs are invited to call (612) 696-6590 for more information

Two gay alums make a gift to Macalester

by Jon Halvorsen

IT IS A MEASURE of how far the country, and Macalester, have come that two gay alumni who graduated a generation ago have made a gift to Macalester to fund programming on gay and lesbian issues.

It is a measure of how far there is to go that one of them believes he must remain anonymous in order to protect his job security.

Bruce R. Fisher '71 and his partner, a 1972 Macalester alumnus, recently donated stock worth more than \$25,000 to Macalester. Their gift created an endowed fund for programming for the entire Macalester community on gay and lesbian issues. The fund's income will go toward a variety of activities, such as paying prominent speakers to make campus presentations, purchasing educational materials, and supporting travel to seminars and conferences.

"We're hoping that among a lot of other things, this fund could facilitate better communication between gay students and gay alumni," said Fisher. He and his partner were among the alums who helped organize Scots Pride, the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender affiliate of the Macalester Alumni Association (see following story).

Fisher, a psychotherapist at HealthPartners in the Twin Cities, and his

partner have been together since they met at Macalester in 1971. "People always sort of drop dead when they find out gay people actually have long-term relationships," he said with a laugh.

The idea of the gift to Macalester originated with Fisher's partner. The two see it as a way both to honor their 25th anniversary and to celebrate Bruce's 25th class reunion this past May. "It also expresses our respect for the kind of place Macalester is," Fisher said.

During his years on campus, from 1967 to 1971, "I was not aware of anyone being out at the time, and I certainly wasn't," Fisher recalls. "It was something that, at the time, many of us were still fighting with ourselves internally about. For a lot of people our age, the coming-out process happened after college. . . ."

"I think Mac was a wonderful experience, and so does [his partner]. But in terms of being gay in high school or college when I was in those places, I wouldn't wish it on my worst enemy. In high school, [the atmosphere] was openly abusive; in college, I was invisible."

Fisher says current Macalester students have told him that "the college environment is a lot safer [than when he was a student], and there's a visible support system for gay and lesbian students."

As for his partner's desire to remain anonymous, Fisher says, "I find it somewhat sad, but perfectly understandable,

that a successful person in his mid-40s making a significant donation to his alma mater has to remain anonymous because of realities that remain in the workplace. Some of us are in work settings that are not threatening, and may even be actively supportive, and that's the case with me.

"But that's certainly not the case with all gay and lesbian people. I think it's of some use to point out that in most of this country, it's perfectly legal to fire somebody on the spot for being gay or lesbian. Not in Minnesota anymore, but that's only been true in the last couple of years."

Scots Pride: Gay-lesbian group takes a new name

THE GAY, LESBIAN, bisexual and transgender affiliate of the Macalester Alumni Association has adopted a new name: Scots Pride.

Formerly known by the acronym MACGALBA, the group held its first event of the 1996-97 year Oct. 17 on campus. The evening featured a presentation by Adrienne E. Christiansen, associate professor of communication studies, on "'The Gay Agenda': How the Right Depicts Gays and Lesbians in Direct Market Videos."

As this issue of *Macalester Today* was going to press, tentative plans were being made for a film showing/lecture in January or February; attending an April 20 performance of Verdi's *Requiem* by the Macalester Festival Chorale during its 25th anniversary season; and a special table for Scots Pride members at the Saturday picnic luncheon May 24 during Reunion and Commencement Weekend.

Discussion also is under way about an all-class GLBT reunion in the fall of 1997.

The Alumni Association's Board of Directors voted last December to approve the organization as an official group. Scots Pride envisions itself as a group *within* the Alumni Association, in much the same way as a group of alumni who meet regularly in Boston or Seattle.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list — which is confidential — send your name and address to: Scots Pride, Campus P.O. Box 2393, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. Or call the Alumni Office at (612) 696-6295.

Meet Mike McPherson

ALUMNI IN SIX CITIES across the country will have the opportunity to meet Mike McPherson, Macalester's new president, at a series of receptions.

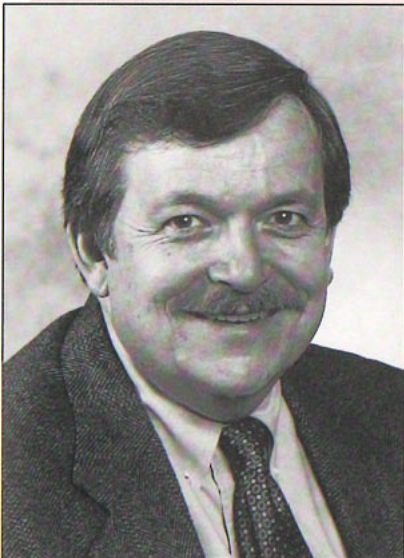
The first was held Oct. 10 in San Francisco. Here is the schedule for the other receptions:

- Nov. 22, San Diego, Del Mar Hilton, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 23, Los Angeles, Doubletree Inn in Pasadena, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Dec. 3, New York City, Century Club, 7 West 43rd St., 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- April 3 or 4, Seattle, location TBA
- April 14 or 15, Washington, D.C., location TBA
- April 29 or 30, Chicago, location TBA

The inauguration of McPherson as Macalester's

15th president will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 15, in Macalester's Field House. Details will be announced later.

For more information, call the Alumni Office's toll-free number: 1-800-662-6374; in the Twin Cities, call 696-6295. •



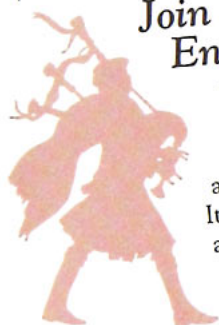
Alumni Leadership Conference

Right: President Mike McPherson, center, talks with John King '54 (North St. Paul) and Jennifer Snyder, Macalester's major gifts officer for reunion class giving, at a reception during the Alumni Leadership Conference Sept. 13-15. The annual event brings together alumni volunteers for the college from throughout the country. *Below:* Alumni Board members Jeff Conrod '92 (Minneapolis), Celine Clark '99 (Greenfield, Wis.) and Sarah Reid '97 (Ashland, Ore.) laugh at a joke by President McPherson during his first meeting with the board. *Below right:* Helga Ying '87 (San Francisco), left, Allison Deyo '94 (New York) and Tim Schar '92 (New York) are alumni admissions coordinators. *Bottom:* Roger Rohrbacher '42 (Kennewick, Wash.), shown with his wife, Mary Johnson Rohrbacher '42, is an Annual Fund representative.

PHOTOS BY GREG HELGESON



Join an alumni trip to Scotland and England, June 3-16, 1997



YOU CAN JOIN A JOURNEY BACK to Clan Macalester's homeland.

From June 3 to 16, 1997, Macalester alumni, parents and friends will travel through the British Isles on a unique tour. It will be hosted by Mary Smail, retired associate alumni director, and her husband, Sandy Hill '57. The two of them led a highly successful and enjoyable trip of alumni and friends to Japan in April 1995 (see August 1995 issue of *Macalester Today*).

The British Isles tour will take travelers to Edinburgh, Fife, the Isle of Skye, Tarbert, England's Lake District, York, Ely, Cambridge, Canterbury and London. Highlights of the trip include:

- walking the halls of Stonefield Castle, home of Clan Macalester
- viewing the panoramic scenery of Scotland's Isle of Skye
- exploring the streets of Edinburgh
- golfing at famed St. Andrew's Golf Course
- sightseeing in the Lake District, York, Ely and Cambridge
- an evening of theater in London, walking tour of Shakespeare's London, tour of the Houses of Parliament and British Museum
- special private dinner with Macalester alums in Great Britain at the Wig and Pen Club in London

Cost: \$2,695 per person from Minneapolis (based on double occupancy). Includes round-trip airfare, hotels, ground transportation and some meals. Single-room supplement is \$350. Gratuity fund is \$30, airport and departure taxes \$43.

For more detailed information and a descriptive brochure, call Associate Alumni Director Jennifer Patti '91 at (612) 696-6026, or write: Macalester College Alumni Office, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105. •



No time to read books? Join the club — Alumni Book Club

by Kathy Riggs Williams '87

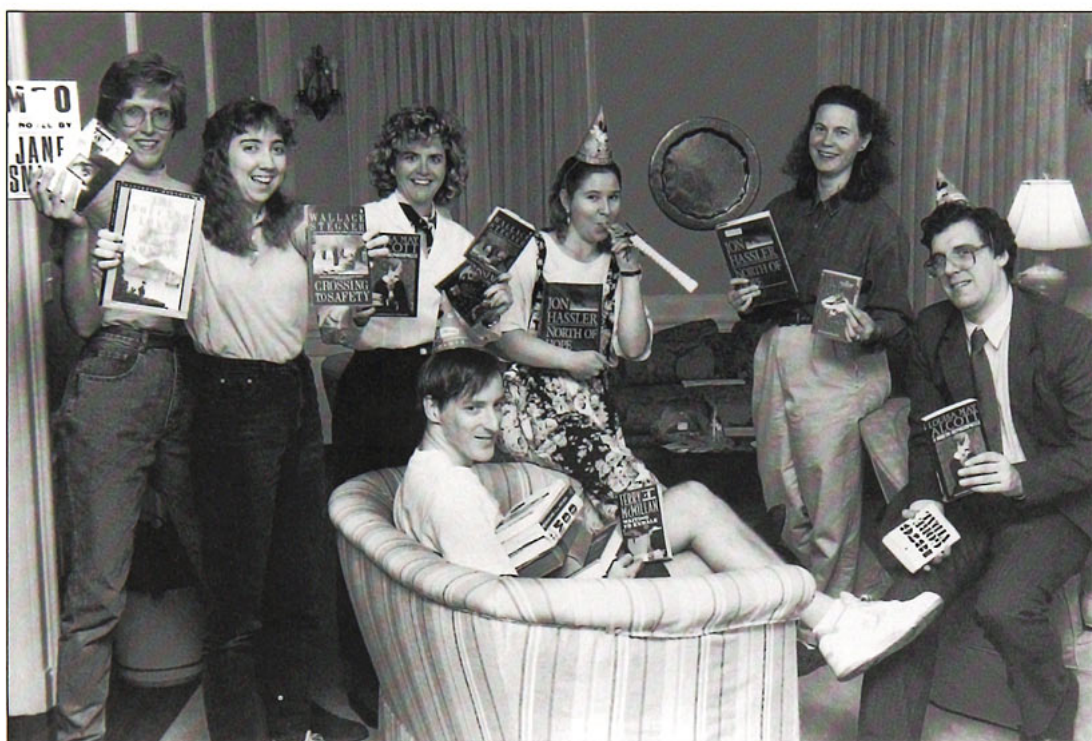
I JOINED THE Macalester Alumni Book Club because I hate to read fiction. Despite an entire adolescence spent with my head buried in any young-adult novel available, I had become an adult to whom any fiction seemed irrelevant.

But I was intrigued by the postcard I received from the Mac Alumni Office, announcing a newly formed book club. I had already found myself missing the stimulation of the liberal arts environment.

When I accepted the invitation to read *The Shipping News* by E. Annie Proulx and then attend an evening of discussion about it, both my worst fiction-related fear and highest expectation were met. I read a miserable book, but met a fascinating group of people. In time, through an agonizing voting process, we have chosen a variety of other books, many of which even a non-fiction lover such as myself can appreciate.

Our book list has been very international and has spanned about 300 years of literature. We seem, somehow, to have chosen a disproportionate number of books that have taken place on or near undergraduate colleges. We never let the lack of having chosen such books, however, stop us from using our common experience, Macalester College, as our point of reference for almost anything.

Although our group welcomes any new members, including those who may never have attended Macalester, the college's attitudes and traditions prevail in the book club. Not having done the assignment never stopped any of us from attending class. We



Some members of the Macalester Alumni Book Club celebrated the group's second anniversary in September at Alumni House. From left: Sonja Vogel Lyons '83, Kathy Riggs Williams '87, Ann Samuelson '85, Jim Kilborn '87 (seated), Melissa Marjamaa '86, Laura Robertson Rasmussen '85 and Paul Williams '87.

likewise encourage anyone to attend the discussion, even if they haven't finished (or started) the book. Just as we could never agree on what toppings to order on a pizza, we disagree strongly about which books each of us liked and the reasons for it.

We never miss an opportunity to overanalyze any detail. And, of course, when in doubt, take a road trip! Recently, unsure of which books to list for the next few months, we all spontaneously abandoned the Alumni House, marched one block to the Hungry

Mind Bookstore and searched for suggestions. We spent about 20 minutes threatening each other with some obviously absurd finds, before continuing our voting process over dessert from the Table

of Contents restaurant. All this, despite the fact most of us had never met before joining the club.

When about 15 of us attended that first meeting, in October 1994, we had no idea what the future would be for this club. Just one year later, the Macalester Alumni Book Club sponsored a public event so well-attended that we could not all find each other in the crowd.

After two years, about 10 men and women still meet each month to discuss a book. We still occasionally gather for films, usually at the Parkway Theater in south Minneapolis. And, of course, each member still seems to be a cornucopia of amusing personal anecdotes about his or her years at Macalester, and afterwards, that can frequently be stranger than fiction. ●

Kathy Riggs Williams '87 lives in St. Paul with her husband, Paul Williams '87, also a book club member, and their 3-year-old daughter, Hannah. She works as a customer service representative for a managed health care network.

Macalester Alumni Book Club

When: meets last Tuesday of each month, 7–9 p.m. (except this December)

Where: Alumni House, 1644 Summit Ave., St. Paul

Books read so far: primarily fiction, including *A Modern Mephistopheles* by Louisa May Alcott, *North of Hope* by Jon Hassler, *Crossing to Safety* by Wallace Stegner, *Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel and many other books chosen by members

How to join: call Laura Robertson Rasmussen '85 at 483-0647, or Ann Samuelson '85 at 927-7471 ●

May 23–25, 1997,
Memorial Day Weekend:
**Come back to Mac
for Reunion and
Commencement**

Macalester alumni and students started a new tradition this past May. They combined Reunion and Commencement into a single, collegewide celebration.

It was such a good idea that the tradition continues Friday through Sunday, May 23–25, 1997, Memorial Day Weekend.



PHOTOS BY GREG HELGESON

Reunion

ALUMNI WILL ENJOY traditional Reunion activities — class parties, alumni college programs and more — as well as activities bringing alumni and students together.

Senior Week

THE CLASS OF 1997 will have special activities for themselves and the chance to reflect on their college years. Seniors are planning those events.



Above, top and right:
Some scenes from
this year's Reunion
and Commencement



Commencement

COMMENCEMENT WILL TAKE PLACE at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 25, on Memorial Day Weekend, on the lawn in front of Old Main. Special festivities will follow to welcome Macalester's newest alumni into the fold.

Reunion classes

ALUMNI WHOSE CLASSES end in "2" or "7" will receive information through their classes; others should watch *Macalester Today*.

Questions?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please call the Alumni Office: (612) 696-6295, or toll-free: 1-800-662-6374



CELEBRATE!
SENIOR WEEK COMMENCEMENT REUNION '97



Insuring Lives, Insuring *the* Community

Lowell Anderson '63 is a CEO
with service on his mind

by Jack El-Hai

WHEN LOWELL ANDERSON '63 rose through the ranks to become CEO of one of the country's top insurance companies, he realized that the moment had come to make an investment in his community.

"It's payback time," observes Anderson, who heads Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America, which is owned by a European multinational corporate giant but based in Minneapolis. "I really believe in the importance of education, and the organizations I'm involved with deal with the education of youth and the welfare of families."

He has given the most time to the Minneapolis YMCA, serving three years as the chair of its board, and to the Viking Council of the Boy Scouts of America, serving as its president for two years. "The Y and the Boy Scouts were both instrumental in my development as a youth," Anderson observes. "I was president of the High Y organization in high school, and I went all the way from Cub Scout to Eagle Scout." In 1994, he was presented with the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. On average he spends 10 to 15 hours a month in his volunteer activities, and he has also lent his energies to such organizations as the Heart Fund, Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, United Way, Minnesota Prayer Breakfast and Rotary Club.

Anderson believes that one of the responsibilities of a CEO is to lead by example, and the 600 employees of Allianz (pronounced "All-ee-onz") are also involved in the community. "Our people invest a lot of themselves, in money and in time," he says. The company, for example, has "adopted" Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis, with employees pitching in to donate business instruction and scholarship funds.

Within the walls of Allianz's corporate headquarters, a building nestled on a hill behind Walker Art Center and the Guthrie Theater, Anderson spends much of his time as a builder of consensus. "We are a team here, and I believe that everyone feels able to raise their opinions without retribution," he says.

One of his favorite examples of consensus building came during Allianz's recent merger with Dallas-based Fidelity Union Life, a move that has already

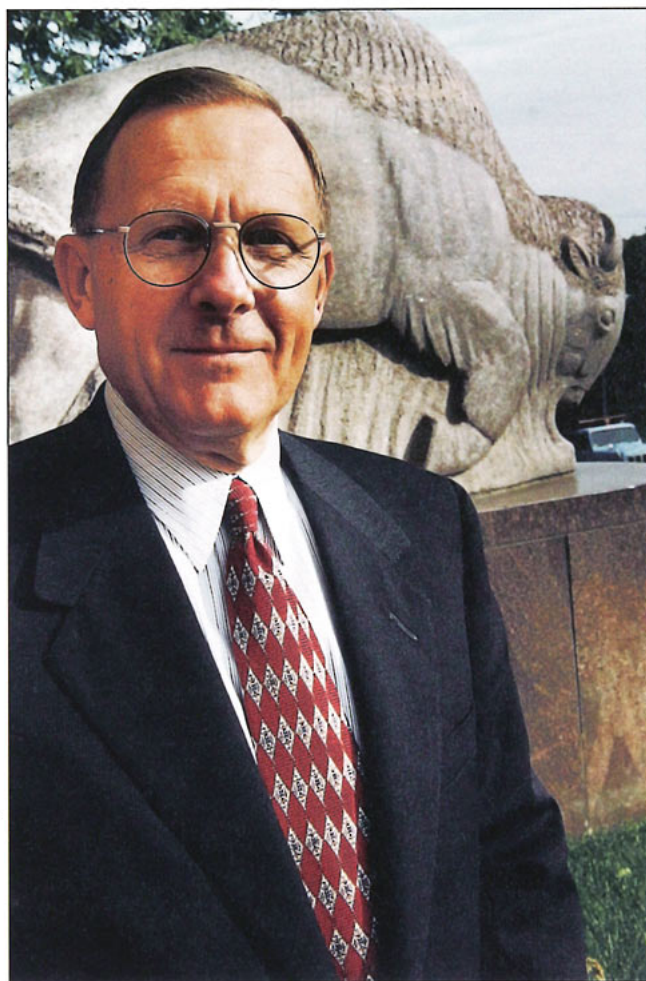
saved millions of dollars in administrative expenses by out-sourcing many of Fidelity Union's operations and transferring the rest to Minneapolis. "We brought together all of the senior people of Fidelity Union, and they made the recommendation to merge. That's a big decision, but it was done through consensus and it went smoothly."

Anderson credits Macalester with helping to build his self-confidence. A Minneapolis native, he dropped out of the University of Minnesota after spending much of his time "playing pool in the student union." After three years in the Navy, he was ready to try college again. "Because of my record at the University,

Macalester accepted me on probation, and I had to keep up a B average during my first semester. I'll never forget the reaction of Dr. David White, my English professor, when he found out I was on probation. He said, 'I can't believe it! A good student like you?' He gave me the confidence to take risks and participate more in classes."

He was also influenced by Macalester's internationalism. "That made me more open to the idea that we're not an island unto ourselves, that this is a world truly getting smaller," he recalls. That served him well in 1979, when his firm (formerly called North American Life and Casualty Company) joined the international family of German-based Allianz, one of the world's 25 largest publicly held companies and the world's sixth-largest insurance organization.

For Anderson, being a CEO seems an occupation of continuing challenges. "I'm still learning," he says, "there's no question about it, and I hope the journey never ends." ●



GREG HELGESSON

"It's payback time," says Lowell Anderson '63, CEO of Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America, referring to his community service.

Jack El-Hai, a Minneapolis free-lance writer, is a frequent contributor to Macalester Today.

A New Beginning

Below right: President Mike McPherson addresses the opening convocation of the 1996–97 academic year on a sunny September day.

Listening are Janet Rajala Nelson '72, left, a Macalester trustee and chair of the search committee that recommended McPherson as the college's 15th president; Gretchen Rohr '98, president of Macalester Student Government; Dean of Students Laurie Hamre; and Macalester Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith.

Above: The flags of the nations represented in Macalester's student body and the United Nations flag are always part of major convocations.

Cover photo: Beth Mulligan '99 (Waterloo, Iowa) carries a flag during the processional leading to the convocation.



MIKE HABERMANN



MIKE HABERMANN

President MIKE McPHERSON: A sense of common purpose

OVER THE SUMMER I had breakfasts and lunches with a good number of the faculty, probably 40 or 50 altogether, to try to learn what was on their minds, and to help me learn more about this college. . . .

Overwhelmingly what the faculty talked about was their concern for their students and for the life of this campus. Are we doing enough to challenge these young people? Is the intellectual life that we create for our students and for our faculty as rich as we can make it?

I could give many examples, but I recall in particular some comments from Diane Glancy from our English Department at one of those meetings. Diane talked about the importance of articulating our sense of common purpose, of

discovering and expressing a sense of community. She talked about our devotion to a meaningful undergraduate experience for all of our students.

Certainly one of our greatest assets is possessing a faculty like this: A faculty whose minds and spirits are focused on our students' welfare and on the quality of their intellectual life. And on forging a sense of common purpose.

GREG HELGESON





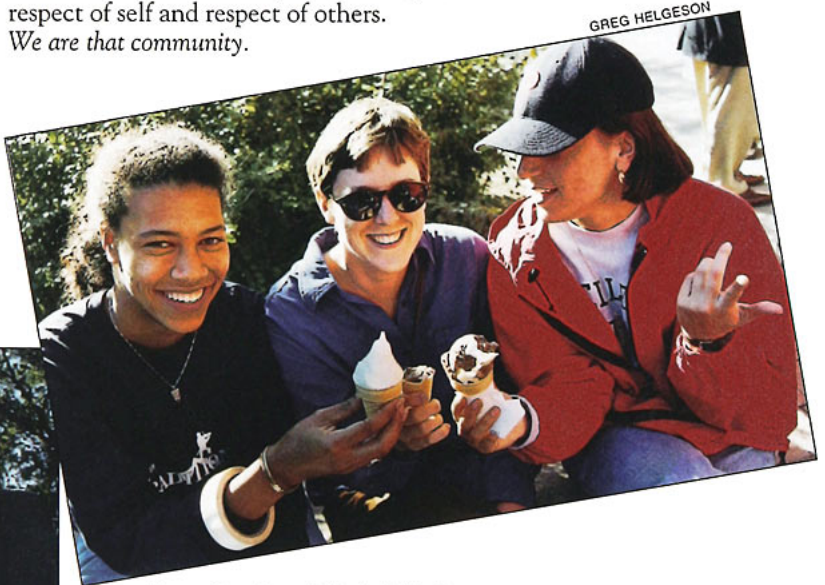
Student Government President
GRETCHEN ROHR '98:
Community and diversity
complement each other

WE MUST NOT LIMIT ourselves in assuming our diversity and our community contradict each other. This practice is dangerous. It leaves many of us attempting to sustain community by emphasizing homogeneity, and many others tearing apart the very foundation for which we stand in order to increase our diversity.

These two concepts are not mutually exclusive. In fact, they can't even be isolated. They function within each other. This year, on this campus, with this leadership — we must realize there is no room for community without diversity and there is no room for diversity without community. . . .

Most of all, community is about respect — respect of self and respect of others.
We are that community.

MIKE HABERMANN



GREG HELGESON



MIKE HABERMANN

Top: Gretchen Rohr '98 (Billings, Mont.), Student Government president, speaks as President McPherson listens.
Above: Sharing ice cream after the convocation are seniors Leontyne Mbele-Mbong (Gex, France), left, Caroline Schnieders (Houston, Texas) and Naomi Steinberg (Lock Haven, Pa.)
Left: Singing "America the Beautiful" are Concert Choir members Josh Collins '99 (Bemidji, Minn.), left, Anne Hohol '99 (Madison, Wis.), Andrea Lien '99 (Cokato, Minn.) and Thad Brink '98 (Lincoln, Neb.).
Opposite page: Macalester faculty.

An Activist Learns His Lessons

*Can a person
live in the suburbs,
wear a suit, use voicemail —
and still be an agent for change?*

*For Chuck Bean '86, the past 10 years have been a growing
experience as he combines savvy with commitment.*

by Carolyn Griffith

WITH A DOUBLE MAJOR in religious studies and political science, an honors thesis on liberation theology, and a commitment to political activism that grew during several stints in Latin America, Chuck Bean left Macalester in 1986 asking himself: "What does a white male from an affluent society have to say? What kind of contribution can he make?"

Ten years, a graduate degree, a few suits and a suburban lifestyle later, the way he answers those

'TODAY, I never think of liberation theology.

I think of strategic planning, fund raising, employee

handbooks, board development, grant proposals. . . .'

questions on a daily basis has changed. But the questions still hold as the yardstick against which he measures his life.

"Today, I never think of liberation theology," says Bean, who was profiled in the November 1986 *Macalester Today*. "I think of strategic planning, fund raising, employee handbooks, board development, grant proposals, voicemail messages, e-mail messages, faxes, the mail and all of the daily tasks that add up to [his work]" at Eureka Communities, a Washington, D.C.-based organization he helped create.

Bean brought a lot of experience to Eureka. He worked in Colombia with the Red Cross, at Nicaragua's Center for Global Service and Education, in El Salvador with the United Nations and as special assistant to the director of the New York City agency implementing the 1988 version of welfare reform. He also earned a master's degree in public policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

"My liberal views got hammered on," he says ruefully of his grad school experience. "The core curriculum was micro-economics, management, statistics and decision-making analysis. One of the most commonly used terms was 'counter-intuitive' — the lesson that if it 'seems' like the right thing to do, the numbers may prove otherwise. Rent control may actually make the housing stock worse, raising the minimum wage may actually eliminate some jobs, giving food in bulk to poor countries may actually be a disincentive to local production."

In 1991, Bean became the first employee of Eureka Communities. He helped Deborah Szekely, the former president of the Inter-American Foundation (IAF), which funds grassroots self-help organizations in Latin America, to start Eureka — out of her basement. For the last five years Bean has helped build the fellowship program, which enables directors of non-profits in several targeted cities to visit and study "best practice" organizations in other parts of the U.S.

With initial funding from the Michigan-based W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Eureka's first operations

Carolyn Griffith, a St. Paul free-lance writer, profiled novelist David Haynes '77 in August's Macalester Today.

began in Detroit. For example, Bean matched the executive director of a Detroit job training center that wanted to start an on-site child care facility with a Cleveland non-profit that had one. The Detroit organization now offers daycare, making it easier for mothers to get the training they need, and ensuring an enriched developmental environment for the 30 children served. The director of Operation Get Down, a youth center in Detroit, wanted to start a volunteer tutorial program. Bean learned how a similar organization in New York City recruits, trains and supports more than 400 volunteer tutors — with just six staff members.

With 11 employees and a million-dollar budget, Eureka Communities now has local operations in San Diego and Los Angeles as well as Detroit. And this fall, with a \$700,000 grant from the Irvine Foundation, it will begin awarding fellowships in San Francisco.

As vice president for programs, Bean oversees recruitment and selection of fellows and mentors, and maintains a database of exemplary non-profit organizations across the country. On some days he feels like a far cry from the bearded 22-year-old who went straight from Macalester to a world conference of “ultra-progressive” student Christians in Indonesia — and from there to Colombia, to help with Red Cross disaster relief efforts, and then to Nicaragua to get a look inside the revolution.

“I am happily married, I have a house in the suburbs, a baby, a dog, and a lawn that needs mowing. I wear suits and ties to meetings. What is guiding me now?” Bean asks rhetorically. “The quote that has been needling me this year is from Marianne Williamson, who said, ‘Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.’”

For Bean, that means worrying about the opportunities he may be missing to do good — to “really shine.”

“I’m not in the parks organizing the homeless, I didn’t fly off to South Africa to volunteer for Nelson Mandela,” he admits.

“After all that, though, I tell myself that I am doing the best that I can. I work as hard and as smart as I can every day in an organization that works as smart and hard as it can to help over

160 leaders of grassroots programs help the homeless, help kids, et cetera,” Bean says.

As Eureka Communities grows, it provides Bean with an ever-changing set of challenges.

“We’re five years old, we’ve provided 168 different fellowships and through the process have learned a lot. Now the question is how to move from benefiting hundreds of organizations, to helping thousands; our long-term vision is to be a national resource organization.” Eureka is developing its website, for example, to include specific lessons that fellows have learned about often-asked questions in non-profit management. Bean would like to hear from Macalums who are doing innovative work in non-

MARK CHARETTE



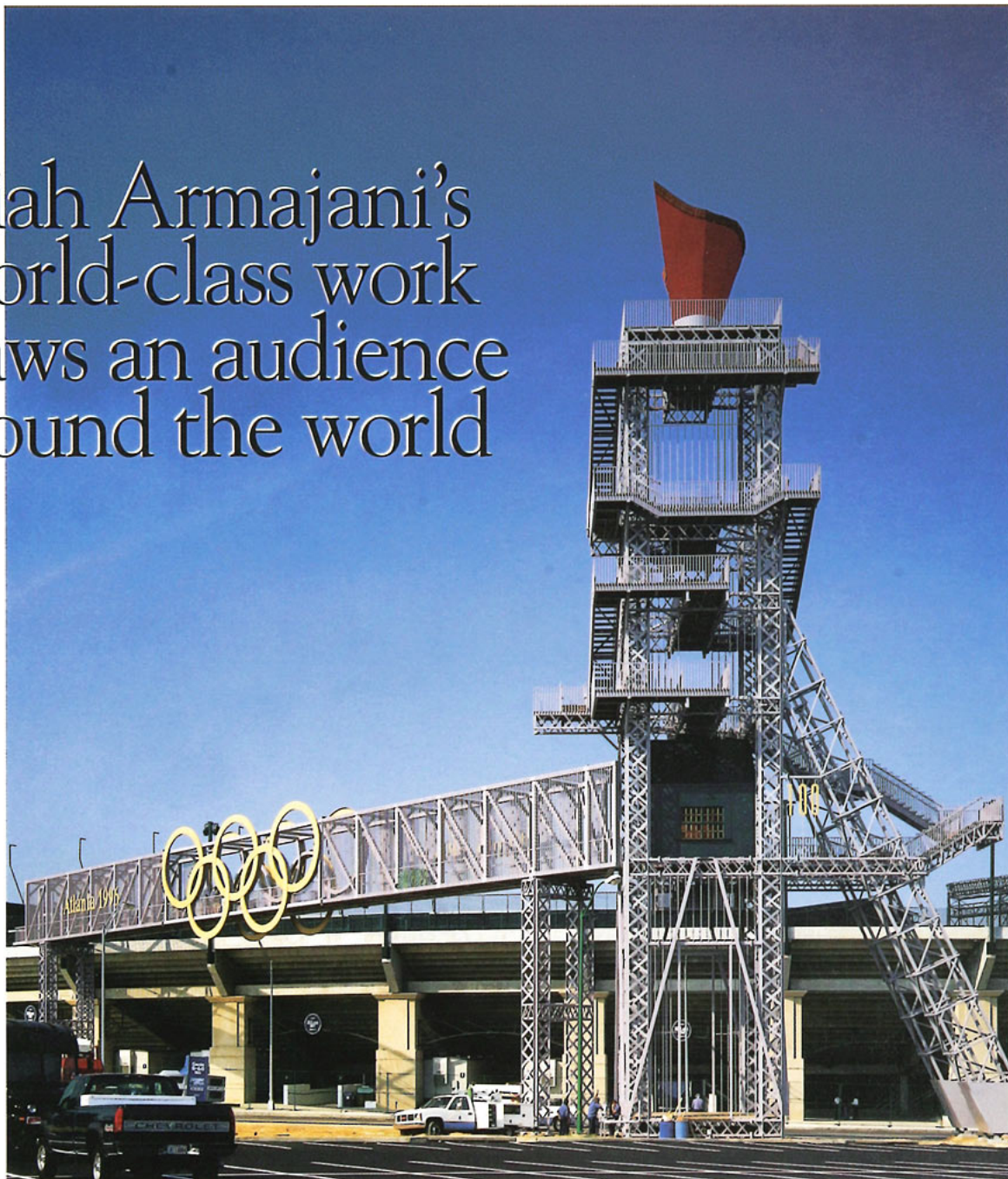
Chuck Bean '86 at Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center, an inner-city child and family development center in Washington, D.C. Bean and his wife, Betsy, are on the board of Calvary. Calvary is also one of the organizations that has participated in Eureka Communities' program, serving as a “best-practice” model of a bilingual child development center.

profit organizations (Eureka's Web address is <http://www.eureka-communities.com>; he can be reached via e-mail at: ChuckBean@aol.com).

As Bean tackles those challenges, he uses as role models two of Eureka's board members: Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund, and Norman Brown, the Kellogg Foundation's president emeritus. “Both lead passionate but I would say humble lives anchored in service,” Bean says. And both, he adds, combine commitment to service with a strong dose of political and organizational savvy.

“I guess that's it — service combined with savvy and hard work,” Bean says, describing the contribution he tries to make with his life. “I'm not there yet, but I'm only 32... At least the hard work is there.” ●

Siah Armajani's world-class work draws an audience around the world



SCULPTOR SIAH ARMAJANI '63 is celebrated for his "public art," but this year he gave new meaning to the term.

His work was the centerpiece of the Summer Olympics in Atlanta and was seen by hundreds of millions of people on television throughout the world.

The entire work is entitled "Bridge, Tower and Cauldron, 1996 Centennial Olympics, Atlanta." It features a 21-foot-high cauldron holding the Olympic flame, atop a 116-foot-tall tower connected to a 200-foot-long steel bridge leading to the stadium.

The work "stood as the symbolic center of the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta," said the *New York Times*.

Five of the Iranian-born artist's functional sculptures are permanently installed in the Twin Cities. They include the Irene Hixon Whitney Bridge uniting Loring Park and the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden; the Loring Park Gazebo; the General Mills walkway in Golden Valley; the skyway linking the Norwest Bank and Firststar Bank buildings in Minneapolis; and the recently completed Post Office Pocket Park in Wayzata. ●



Taking Europe by Song

In Poland,

their featured performance went out 'live' over the national radio network.

In Germany, a young audience called for two encores and eagerly sought their autographs. By any measure, the Concert Choir's tour was a huge success. Here are a few snapshots from 17 days of music-making on the road.

CONCERT CHOIR'S tour of Poland and Germany

Dates: May 20–June 7

Who sings in the choir: 31 students dedicated to quality performances and community outreach through choral music

Conductor: Macalester Professor Robert L. Morris, a composer/arranger who has arranged for Duke Ellington, prepared choirs for performance at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis, and conducted on stage at Orchestra Hall in Chicago and Carnegie Hall in New York.

Choir Manager: Martha Schlaeppi Davis '83

Impetus for tour: Morris' expertise in African American choral tradition led to an official invitation from Poland for the choir to participate in the Legnica Cantat Festival. Macalester's was the first choir from the U.S. ever to be invited.

Music performed: "Ain'a That Good News," "My Lord, What a Morning," "There is a Balm in Gilead" and many other songs from the African American choral tradition, as well as works by Handel, Debussy, Aaron Copland, and other European and American composers

Previous international tours: from the late 1960s to the mid-1980s, the choir visited Romania, participated in a study-concert tour of Poland and was invited to the tri-centennial celebration of J.S. Bach's birthday by the International Bach Academy. The choir also recently toured Scotland and Costa Rica. •



Top: In Legnica, Poland, a yellow banner on a building advertises the upcoming concert by the "Macalester College Concert Choir (USA)." The choir headlined the Legnica Cantat Festival, one of Poland's most prestigious national choral festivals. Although the students didn't know it until afterward, their performance went out "live" on Polish national radio.

Above: Most of the choir members gather outside the Dom St. Marion Cathedral in Erfurt, Germany, after their first performance of the trip. Professor Robert Morris notes that the Renaissance and Baroque music the choir sang "was written for those spaces [in Europe] and not for ours. So when we would sing certain chords and stop, you could hear the echo come back around. You could look at the students and see their eyes going, 'Wow, that was us!' That was very exciting."

'I DO THIS because I love the music involved so much...
 Just the *rush* that you get from a good concert, the euphoria of bonding with everybody
 in that moment to get this thing done. We had a couple of concerts
 where we had to do *two* encores because the audience would not let us go after one.
 Just the feeling of being that loved and that together...'
 — Nick Weininger '98
 (Claverack, N.Y.), double major in math and computer science



Left: The choir concludes its tour with a performance on a cobblestone street in Rothenberg ob der Tauber, Germany. "We just went to the square and took over a little spot, and we had a huge crowd for us that could come and go as we sang all of our material," says Andrea Lien '99 (Cokato, Minn.), who took most of the photos on these pages. Below: Molly Feigal '96 (St. Paul) and David Mao '97 (Ft. Thomas, Ky.) take a break — or at least Molly takes a break — in Leipzig, Germany.

BILL DENISON



Preparing for Poland: The Concert Choir rehearses at Macalester for Poland's prestigious Legnica Cantat Festival. Led by Professor Robert L. Morris, the group performed a wide range of American and European music on a three-week tour of Poland and Germany.



'IT WAS ONE of the most positive experiences of my life... It really made me learn a lot about relationships and people. It was such a concentration of different personalities. I learned a lot about how to deal with people in such situations.'
 — Andrea Lien '99
 (Cokato, Minn.), communication studies major

The choir celebrates after a performance in an art gallery, formerly a church, outside Lubin, Poland. Andrea Lien '99 (Cokato, Minn.) says: "Everywhere we went, we were treated so well. They had cookies and juice ready for us." In foreground from left: David Mao '97 (Fort Thomas, Ky.), Sarah Reid '97 (Ashland, Ore.), recent grad Marc Falk '94 (Minneapolis), Nathan Cook '99 (Silver Spring, Md.) and Andrew Fleischer '99 (Dover, Mass.).



'THE EUROPEANS genuinely want to hear more American music, and especially spirituals. . . . At the end of our opening concert [in Legnica, Poland], which was filled to capacity, I thought the people backstage were making a tape recording.

When we finished the concert, I found out that we were actually broadcasting "live" over Polish radio.'

— Professor Robert L. Morris,
director of the Concert Choir



The water in this mountain stream in the German Alps, near Austria, was so cold that "it hurt our feet," says Andrea Lien, left, shown with Kerry-Ann Francis '99 (New York City). "You can see the guys on the shore; they were being really wimpy," she added.

'THE MUSIC WE SING is the best music I hear in my life. It's great to be part of making it. . . . To be able to be there, making part of the music and hear the people standing right next to you singing other parts — that's incredible.'

— David Castro '97
(Lake Katrine, N.Y.),
mathematics major

Lives *in* Labor

Macalester is well represented in the progressive wing of today's labor movement. Four alumni explain why they believe unions offer solutions for America's future.

by Jack El-Hai

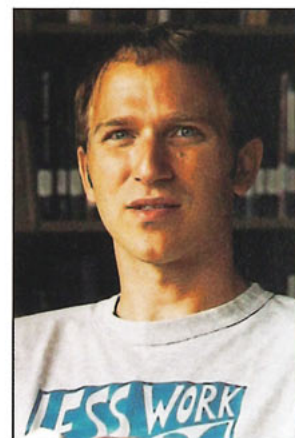
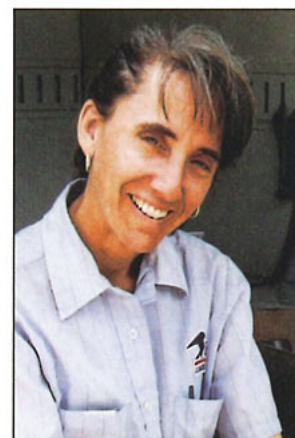
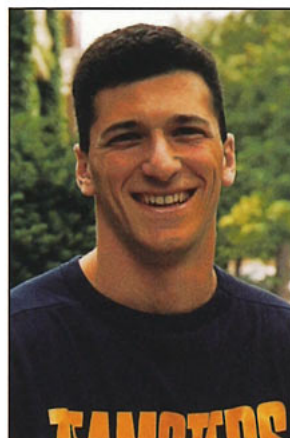
TO MOST AMERICANS, the 1990s have not looked like high times for the labor movement. Union membership has remained stagnant, Republicans and Democrats both seem uninterested in cultivating a pro-labor image, and high-profile strikes have ended in failure or with mixed results for the workers. Many of the industries with the greatest union representation have sharply reduced their workforces.

Union activists, however, see a brighter picture. Union representation has increased among certain groups — government employees, white-collar workers and home-based employees. At the same time, progressive leaders have taken control of the AFL-CIO and some of the largest labor unions, introducing a more democratic style of management. And once again, union activists are seeing themselves as the standard-bearers of such social justice and workplace equity issues as more stringent on-the-job safety requirements, a guaranteed living wage for workers and improvements to financial aid for students.

And don't forget the birth of the Labor Party, a new political party that held its inaugural convention in Cleveland last June. (Of the four Macalester alums profiled in this article, three served as Labor Party convention delegates, as did Macalester Professor Peter Rachleff.) Though not fielding candidates in the 1996 elections, the party hopes to become a powerful force in American politics.

Macalester has become fertile ground for the development of labor activists. "There are few schools of its size that I could compare to Macalester in generating so many [labor] organizers," says Allison Porter, director of the AFL-CIO Organizing Institute, based in Washington, D.C. "Its students have the activist orientation, interest in social change and self-confidence we look for."

Here's a look at four who have made labor their lives.

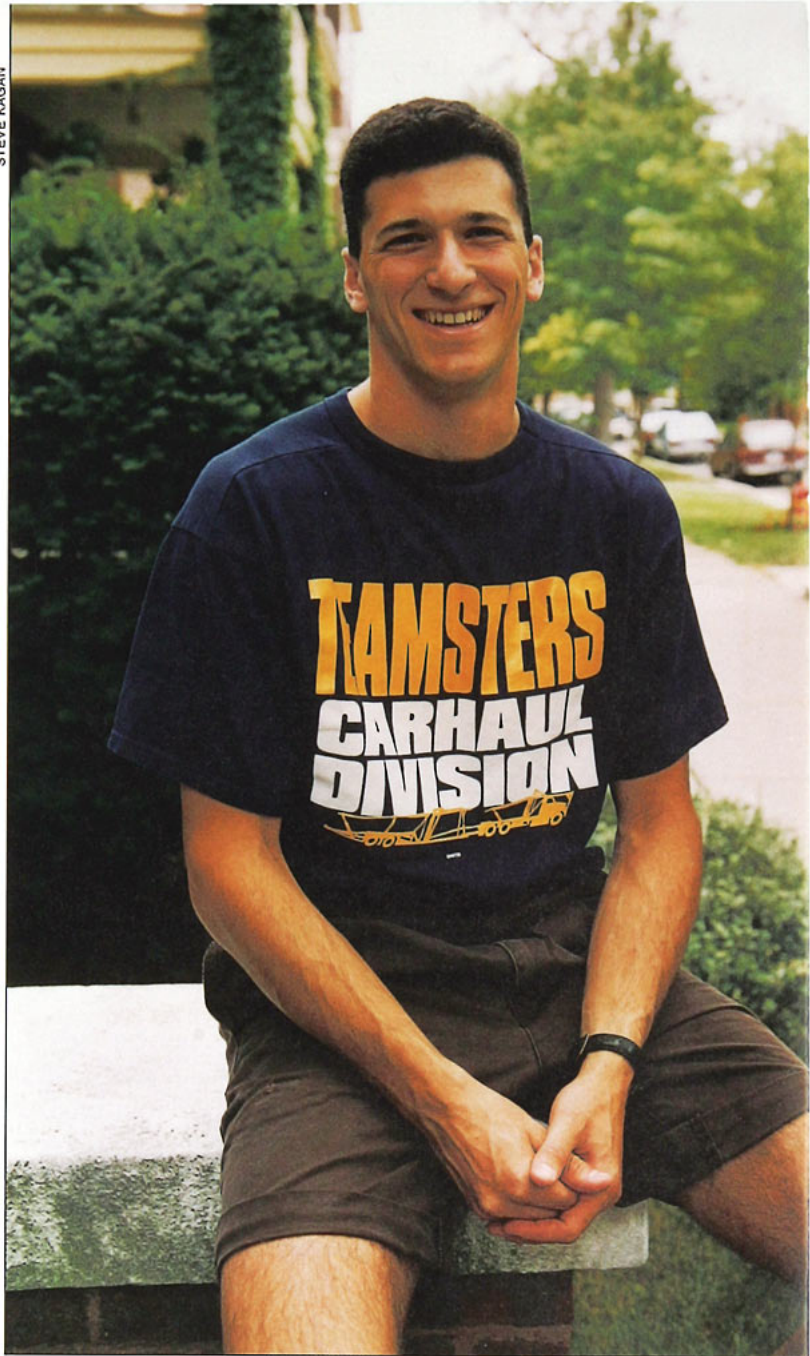


Transforming the Teamsters:

JEFF CAPPELLA '92

AT A RECENT labor conference, history Professor Peter Rachleff ran into two old acquaintances who work for the Teamsters. "Both of them said to me, 'You've got a responsibility to replace Cappella for us. We don't know how the heck we're going to replace him,'" Rachleff recalls.

They were lamenting the recent departure from the Teamsters communications department of Jeff Cappella '92, who left to begin work in the Ph.D. program in political communications at Northwestern University. For the previous three years, he had been a writer for the 1.4 million-member union, producing articles, newsletters, and videos that supported the transformation of the internal politics and culture of the Teamsters — a metamorphosis Rachleff calls "the sin-



"A big part of my work has been to restore members' faith in the union," Jeff Cappella '92 says of his job with the Teamsters. Pictured near his home in Chicago, he is now working toward a Ph.D. in political communications at Northwestern University.

gle most important thing going on in the labor movement right now."

When he began working for the Teamsters, the union was still in the early years of a government takeover designed to end decades of widespread corruption and dealings with organized crime. A reform-minded president was at the union's helm, but many local leaders resisted changing their way of doing things. "A big part of my work has been to restore members' faith in the union, to show them that this is an international union fighting for them militantly again, instead of making deals with employers, and to encourage members to get involved again," Cappella says.

His time at Macalester convinced Cappella to take up a career in the labor movement. "I have always carried with me a strong sense of what's fair and what's not, and my experience at Macalester showed me what's not fair in our society," he says. "Peter Rachleff's classes and his mentoring opened my eyes to folks who are fighting for more fairness. There's something about the principle that workers should have a voice in how they spend most of

their waking hours that really struck a chord in me."

As a student, he interned as a writer with the *St. Paul Union Advocate* and, fluent in Spanish, translated for Hispanic meatpacking workers in South St. Paul who had joined the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. Later experience as an affordable-housing advocate in Baltimore and fundraiser for a congressional candidate in Ohio persuaded him that he could reach people more effectively through mass communication than one on one. So when the opportunity came to write for the Teamsters, he jumped.

After his time there, especially at the Teamsters' recent convention in which the supporters of union President Ron Carey and his anti-reform opponent, James P. Hoffa, Jr., butted heads, "I'm less cynical about the labor movement," he acknowledges. "When I was at Mac just studying the movement, it was easy to criticize what labor was doing. Working



‘I’M LESS CYNICAL

about the labor movement. . . .

Working in the movement has made me

realize that there are people trying

to look forward to the future. . . .’

— Jeff Cappella ’92

in the movement has made me realize that there are people trying to look forward to the future and make up for past downfalls. I’ve seen what we’re up against — people who want to keep unions the way they were.”

Delivering a union message in Cleveland, Ohio:

APRIL STOLTZ PHILLIPS ’77

APRIL STOLTZ PHILLIPS ’77 grew up in Flint, Mich., which, as the birthplace of General Motors and the home of thousands of United Auto Workers members, was as strong a union town as you could find anyplace. “Everywhere around me was the fact that the union played a vital role in people’s lives,” Phillips says. “Still, it took leaving Flint for me to really appreciate where I grew up.”

Jack El-Hai, a Minneapolis free-lance writer who frequently contributes to Macalester Today, is a member of the National Writers Union, Local 1981 of the United Auto Workers.

She left Flint for Macalester, where two faculty members, historians Mahmoud El-Kati and Tom Ricks, helped her become “politicized” — interested in the struggles of working people and in doing something to make the world better. “By the time I got out of Macalester I wasn’t sure what kind of job I could do to be happy and make a political contribution without being a part of the problem,” she notes. “I didn’t want to be a lawyer, so I took a factory job at a printing company in Minneapolis, where we made *TV Guides*.”

In every subsequent job, she sought work in which she could see the results of her labor. She assembled fluorescent light tubes in a non-union, American-

owned factory in Puerto Rico in which any talk of organizing workers meant dismissal. Later Phillips counseled unemployed Spanish-speaking workers in Cleveland. But when the opportunity arose to take the Civil Service test for letter carriers with the U.S. Postal Service, she was attracted by the prospect of serving the public, getting to know the people on a delivery route, working outdoors, and having a well-paying job with benefits and union representation.

Almost as quickly as she became a Postal Service employee, Phillips became an activist in the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), one of four unions that represent postal workers. She currently serves as assistant union steward in her Cleveland post office. “This is an integrated union with a lot of women and a tremendous amount of African American and Hispanic members,” says Phillips, the mother of two young children.

As a member of New Vision, a grassroots movement within the NALC, Phillips advocates the unification of all the postal unions to make the Postal Service less successful “in having us fight among ourselves,” she says. She believes the biggest threat to postal employees is the oft-proposed privatization of first-class letter delivery, which, while possibly bringing lower delivery rates to profitable business routes, “would mean higher rates and worse service in inner-city and rural communities alike. The priority of private companies would not be providing service to the American people, it would be return on investment — their bottom line. I believe the way to fight privatization is to build solidarity nationally [among the postal

‘MACALESTER

STUDENTS

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look for.’

— Allison Porter,
director of the AFL-CIO
Organizing Institute

unions and other unions that represent other public service workers] and to be on the streets doing more informational picketing to educate the public," she says.

"If your union is not doing things for you, the answer is not to be inactive,

'I'LL ALWAYS BE

involved in the labor movement

because it's about the fight

for economic and social justice here

and around the world.'

— April Stoltz Phillips '77

but to become active and change the union from within," she declares. "I'll always be involved in the labor movement because it's about the fight for economic and social justice here and around the world. And it has the power to put an end to major corporations holding communities and nations hostage to their demands. It's about the survival of the planet."

Teacher's questions:

JOHN HINSHAW '85 of Bates College

SOON AFTER GRADUATING from Macalester in 1985, John Hinshaw went to Sri Lanka on a Fulbright fellowship and became eyewitness to the civil war that still wracks that island nation.

"There was something fundamentally not right about that society," he says. "I could see it every

day, the terrible side of an ethnic conflict and how it was manipulated in cynical ways by the ruling government." Fanatics abounded. "The only place you'd find people not frothing at the mouth was in the socialist and labor movements — they had a different vision. They believed in something more than what society or the media handed them. That was an important lesson for me." He returned home intent on learning more and teaching about the labor movement in the United States.

At Macalester, Hinshaw had read widely in labor history, but for his Ph.D. studies at Carnegie-Mellon University he focused on one union, the Steelworkers, and the impact of race on this singularly unprogressive union's response to industrialization. "I saw the labor movement at its

KAREN ST. JOHN-VIICENT



April Stoltz Phillips '77 at work in Cleveland, where she also helped organize the new Labor Party last summer: "Because we as working people create all wealth in society with our labor, we want a bigger slice of the economic pie and we need our own party to do it."

worst, at its most racist and red-baiting, and at its most stupid," he says. "Now I feel I better understand why the labor movement can continue to be progressive and how the role of radicals is to keep raising questions that the rest of the labor movement might forget. We're not just about cutting deals with employers."

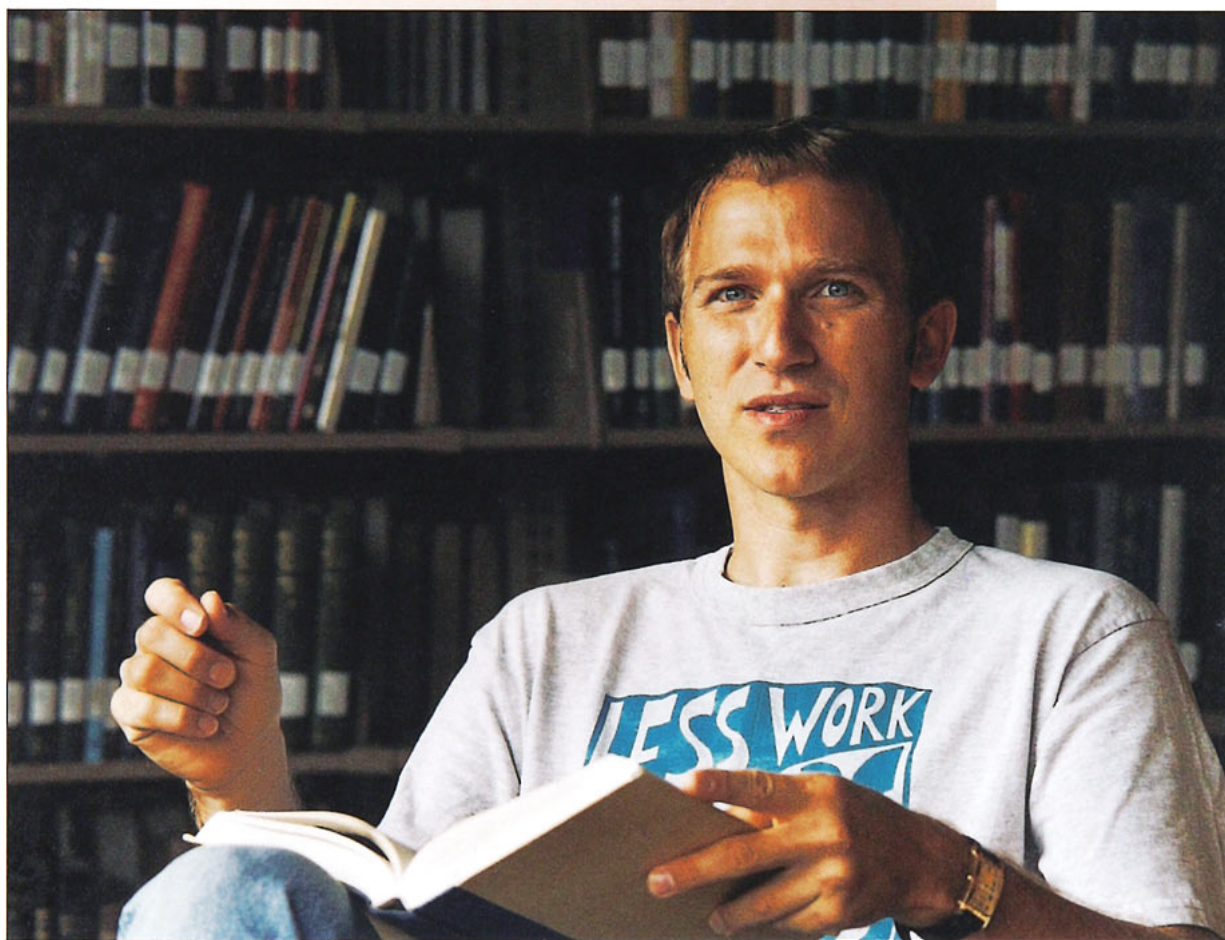
When Hinshaw says "we," he means it, despite his middle-class upbringing in Missouri with little union background. He strongly allies himself with working people's movements to bring about increased access to education, better standards of living for workers, and fiercer battles against racism and sexism. "The closer I get involved in the struggle, the more it becomes my issue," he says. "It becomes less and less objective. These have become my people, and that realization has in small and profound ways changed how I write. I'm not interested in complexity for the sake of it. I want to reach people and move them."

Hinshaw is now in his second year on the faculty of Bates College in Maine, where he teaches courses on 20th-century U.S. history, black revolutionaries in the Americas, poverty, immigration, and crime and violence. His students rarely show a strong initial interest in labor issues. "I talk about how every newspaper has a business page, but none has a labor page, and that gets their attention," he says.

He is optimistic about labor's future in the U.S. "In some ways, we've reached a low point and we'll keep taking a beating," he says. "But the worst part of the labor movement has been its top-down leadership, and day by day, that's being destroyed. We're

'I TALK [to Bates College students] about how every newspaper has a business page, but none has a labor page, and that gets their attention.'

— John Hinshaw '85



PHYLIS GRABER JENSEN

John Hinshaw '85 in the library of Bates College in Lewiston, Maine. He teaches courses on 20th-century U.S. history, black revolutionaries in the Americas, poverty, immigration, and crime and violence.

rebuilding the labor movement from the ground up. Hopefully, we won't have to begin at ground zero." That rebuilding, he believes, includes focusing the movement's energies on issues of social justice and human dignity that have an economic impact on workers. "Working-class movements have changed history and will again," Hinshaw says.

The veteran organizer:

SAMANTHA ERICKSON '91
of Massachusetts (and Alaska and West Virginia and Illinois and...)

"WHEN I WAS IN SCHOOL thinking about my future career," remembers Samantha Erickson '91, "I always wanted one in which I would feel challenged and would grow and learn in. Now I feel that I've found it, and I'm proud of that."

Erickson is an organizer for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal

Employees (AFSCME), a union that enjoys a reputation as one of labor's most innovative bodies. For the last five years, Erickson has worked with the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers in Cambridge, Mass., a cutting-edge local of the AFSCME whose members are largely female white-collar university employees. The union's organizational techniques depart from the traditional. "A lot of unions tend to identify hot shops where there's an issue that's upsetting people, and then go in and win an election in a blitz," Erickson explains. "We've found that you can't build a solid organization that makes a positive change if you build from anger. You need to sit down and explain to people what a union does, how it fits into their jobs and how it fits into their department. Then you'll have a stronger organization that lasts forever. I'm not interested in tearing down the workplace and being adversarial — I want to make a workplace work."

Erickson is now focused on another organizing task: unionizing health care workers at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester, Mass. The task is somewhat different from the work at Harvard. "When you organize health care professionals, you find that they have three different shifts, so there's always someone for you to be talking to. But their

Samantha Erickson '91 outside Harvard University: She worked with a local union whose members are largely female white-collar employees of Harvard.

reasons for joining a union are similar — issues of respect and being treated like a human being and an adult when they walk through the door of the workplace."

Erickson, a Philadelphia native, entered Macalester fully versed in union life. Her mother and father have experience as strike captain and chief negotiator, respectively, for their teachers' unions. "When I was a kid I thought I would want to negotiate contracts, too. The union was part of our dinner-time

conversation," she says.

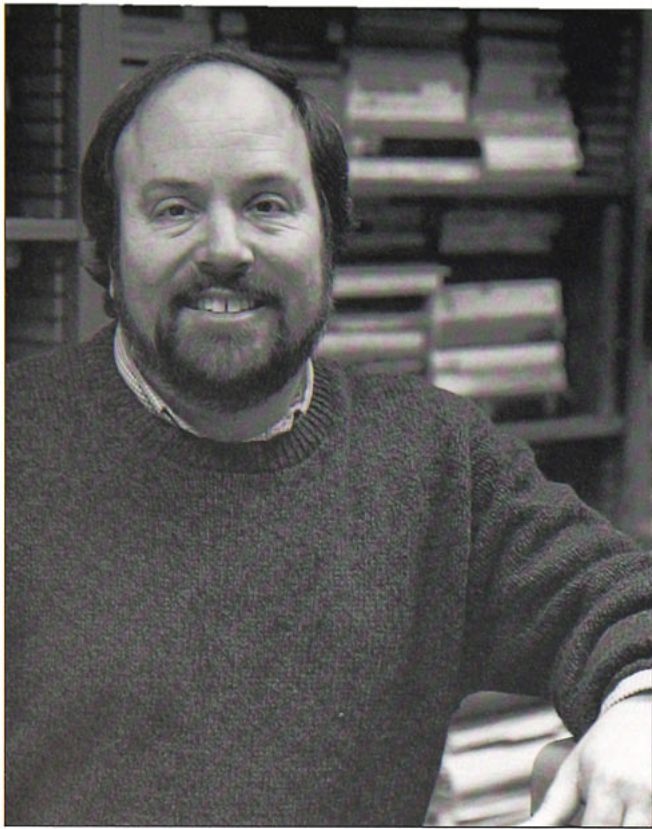
After focusing on American labor history at Macalester, she went through the AFL-CIO Organizing Institute. She then helped organize AFSCME workers in Illinois and West Virginia, American Federation of Teachers members in Alaska and members of the Service Employees International Union in Pennsylvania. For her, the most meaningful part of the work has always been keeping in touch with members and conducting education and training sessions. "I love talking to people," she says. "I'm always learning new things



LEE B. PELLEGRINI

'I'M NOT INTERESTED in tearing down
the workplace and being adversarial —
I want to make a workplace work.'

— Samantha Erickson '91



JIM BARBOUR

*For Professor
PETER RACHLEFF, a devoted
teacher and committed activist,
history is a labor of love*

WHEN HIS FORMER STUDENTS reflect upon Peter Rachleff's legacy, they usually cite the history professor's dedication to scholarship, community activism and, perhaps most of all, his students.

During the 14 years that Rachleff has taught at Macalester, he has chaired the Minneapolis/St. Paul P-9 Support Committee that championed the cause of union workers striking against Hormel in the 1980s, written a book chronicling the Hormel struggle (*Hard-Pressed in the Heartland: The Hormel Strike and the Future of the Labor Movement*), served as a delegate at the founding convention of the Labor Party, and lent his support and expertise to countless other facets of the labor movement.

Rachleff, who grew up in New London, Conn., earned his B.A. from Amherst and his master's and doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh. He teaches not only labor history, but also courses on immigration and ethnicity in America, and women and work.

Emilye Crosby '87, arriving at Macalester from a small town in Mississippi, was a math major until

History Professor Peter Rachleff: "A lot of people have written off young people as selfish slackers, but we turn out a very different kind of student at Macalester."

she took Rachleff's course on the American black migration. She changed to history, and is now an assistant professor of American history at the State University of New York at Geneseo. "Throughout graduate school, Peter continued to mentor me, reading much of my work and providing encouragement and tangible help," Crosby notes. "Having just completed my own Ph.D. in history and my first year of teaching, I appreciate Peter — as a scholar and as a teacher — even more. In my own attempts at teaching, I find that he is the model I most draw on, the teacher I most want to emulate. He was always available, helpful, interested and enthusiastic."

"One of Peter's best qualities as a teacher," says Matt Mulcahy '90, a Ph.D. candidate in American history at the University of Minnesota, "is that he continues to take an active interest in what his students do after they leave his classroom. When I was at Mac, he really encouraged me to pursue internships at various museums, and since I started in graduate school, he's been very supportive of my studies and offered me some invaluable suggestions about teaching and research."

"He brings an enormous amount of energy and passion into the classroom — and it's contagious," says Jeff Cappella '92, until recently a writer in the communications department of the Teamsters Union. "When he gets people inspired, he has the ability to stand back and give them the room they need to run off in their own direction."

The success of his former students, in the labor movement and in other fields, gives Rachleff a good feeling. "It makes me proud as hell that they're going to carry on and make an American society that they think is fair and just in their own terms," Rachleff says. "We've been through a bleak period in this country when a lot of people have written off young people as selfish slackers, but we turn out a very different kind of student at Macalester. That these kids with such great talent and spirit want to give part of their lives to the labor movement is a great gift." ●

'PETER is the model

I most draw on,
the teacher I most
want to emulate.

He was always
available, helpful,
interested and
enthusiastic.'

— Emilye Crosby '87,
history professor,
SUNY-Geneseo

about human nature. Being able to listen to people is a big part of [success]. In this day and age, when everything moves so fast, it means something to people to find someone who can sit down with you and understand what your work is like."

Erickson uses T'ai Chi, an ancient Chinese discipline of meditative movements, and optimism about organized labor's future to energize herself for her

long working hours. "We have some really good talent waiting to be tapped. We're also trying to figure out how to grow and expand, and I want to be a part of that. I think good times for unions are coming up," she says, "but I have to think that, or else I would go off the deep end." ●

Nazi films; Minnesota geography; African American family

Entertaining the Third Reich: Illusions of Wholeness in Nazi Cinema

by Linda Schulte-Sasse (Duke University Press, 1996. 408 pages, \$54.95 cloth, \$18.95 paperback)

In this reversal of previous scholarship on the subject, Linda Schulte-Sasse takes an unorthodox look at Nazi cinema. The associate professor in Macalester's German and Russian Department examines Nazi films as movies that contain propaganda rather than as propaganda vehicles that happen to be movies. Like other Nazi artistic productions, Nazi films have long been regarded as kitsch rather than art, and therefore unworthy of critical textual analysis. By reading these films as consumer entertainment, Schulte-Sasse reveals the similarities between Nazi commercial films and classic Hollywood cinema, and, with this shift in emphasis, seeks to demonstrate how Hollywood-style movie formulas frequently compromised Nazi messages. (See page 49 of this issue of *Macalester Today*.)

The book is part of a series, *Post-Contemporary Interventions*, edited by Stanley Fish and Fredric Jameson.

Schulte-Sasse and Clay Steinman, associate professor of communication studies at Macalester, each contributed to another book published this year, *Perspectives on German Cinema* (Macmillan-G.K. Hall & Co. Scholarly Reference). Part of the publisher's *Perspectives on Film Series*, which also includes volumes on such figures and films as Orson Welles, Alfred Hitchcock and *Raging Bull*, it is the first *Perspectives* volume to treat national cinema. The book collects classic and newly commissioned essays and articles that address a wide range of historical issues, including the Holocaust, feminism, Nazi propaganda films, and the politics of gender and sexuality. Steinman's essay, "Reception of Theory: Film/TV Studies and the Frankfurt School," considers the usefulness of the critical theory of Theodor Adorno, Herbert Marcuse, and other members of the German Frankfurt School for film and TV studies. It also reviews Anglo-American responses to this theory and analyzes why so many have been hostile. Schulte-Sasse's article examines how the 1940 Nazi film *Jew Süss* fantasizes the "Jew" as a threat to a healthy social organism, paying attention to the contradictions that emerge when anti-Semitism takes the

form of a movie: the film "wants" the Jew to be vermin, but ends up making him curiously admirable by virtue of his sexual, political and economic power.

Political Communication Research: Approaches, Studies and Assessments

edited by David L. Paletz (Ablex Publishing, 1996. 311 pages, \$69.50 cloth, \$32.50 paperback)

This is a revised edition of a book originally published in 1987. Clay Steinman, associate professor of communication studies at Macalester, contributed the article "Audience Research and the Wish for Science." He surveys recent research on audience response to television and its reporting by journalists. He concludes that journalists often make research seem more "scientific" than professional scientific standards would allow. Steinman also finds that audience researchers themselves may contribute to this, basing their conclusions on what they consider empirical evidence of responses that may not be measurable.

Minnesota Studies Teacher's Guide and Map Set

(Rand McNally, 1996. 137 pages, \$80)

The *Minnesota Studies* program is a geography curriculum for middle-school grades. Map activities are core components of its lessons about the physical, historical and cultural geography of Minnesota. Rand McNally asked the Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education and Macalester's Geography Department to create these new materials, and Carol Gersmehl, an instructor in geography, directed the cartography, writing and editing of *Minnesota Studies*. Laura Kigin, administrative assistant in the Geography Department, was the project coordinator. Macalester students and recent graduates who assisted with the project include Sara Rohde '93, Constanze Ruprecht '96, Isabella Pacchiani '97, Toni Schaeffer '96, Tim Fargo '96, Gwen McCrea '96, Eva Reid '96, Migdalia Loyola-Melendez '95, Krista Erickson '96, Tara Holden '97, Andy Beger '97 and Sarah Reid '97.

The Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education (MAGE), directed by Macalester Professor David Lanegran '63, sponsored this publication as part of its mission to Minnesota schools. MAGE works to enhance geographic understanding among teachers at all levels. The

publication is a cooperative effort by Minnesota middle-school teachers and Macalester geographers.

The Metaphysics of Nudity

by Eric James Miller '83 (The Ridge Press, 1996. 208 pages, \$12.95 paperback)

Miller's first novel is a comedic work about an actor and two actresses driving from L.A. to Manhattan.

Josh, a kleptomaniac, is hired by his platonically girlfriend and a beautiful celebrity to load up his truck and drive them to new lives in New York. For him, taking a short

Diane Glancy breaks

by Nancy Peterson

IN 1838, U.S. SOLDIERS rounded up 13,000 Cherokee in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and North Carolina and marched them 900 miles to the inhospitable Oklahoma "Indian Territory."

History tells us little about the tribal cultures that flourished in the American Southeast, and even less about the daily realities of the four-month winter journey known

'[In using bits of the Cherokee language] I wanted to show why Indians have had such trouble in the white world. I wanted a little bit of that authenticity.'

as the "Trail of Tears," during which at least 3,000 died.

For her first novel, *Pushing the Bear* (Harcourt Brace) — 18 years in the making — Macalester English Professor Diane Glancy takes us along on that journey. Her characters cope with the bewilderment of leaving their homes, belongings, and the land to which they are tied physically and spiritually; they struggle to survive the horrendous journey and the bitter cold; they grieve for their enormous losses and wonder what lies ahead. But in addition to their pain, we see their humanity, their strength, and the all-encompassing spirituality that binds them to nature, to their ancestors and to one another.

"When I first decided to write about the Trail of Tears, there was only silence," Glancy

vacation from the sexual, mental and spiritual chaos of his life in Hollywood proves to be more ambitious than just getting on Interstate 70.

The novel is available from: The Ridge Press, P.O. Box 1762, Venice, CA 90294.

Post-Realism: The Rhetorical Turn in International Relations

edited by Francis A. Beer and Robert Hariman '73 (Michigan State University Press, 1996. 429 pages, hardcover and paperback)

This volume contains 18 essays by scholars in political science and communication studies who challenge the dominant paradigm in international rela-

tions by examining the analytical, ethical and strategic conventions of the discourse of political realism. The essays focus on canonical texts, central concepts and specific policies in international relations in order to identify a broad range of persuasive practices affecting the theory and practice of foreign affairs.

Hariman is a professor of rhetoric and communication studies at Drake University.

Finding Makeba

by Alexs Pate (G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1997. 256 pages, \$21.95)

Alexs Pate's new novel tells the story of the relationship between an African

American man, Ben Crestfield, and the 19-year-old daughter he abandoned long ago. She comes to lay claim to her father and to find out why he left her behind. As father and daughter struggle to speak the truth to each other, they work toward emotional and spiritual healing, and toward being a family for each other once more. Set largely in Philadelphia in the 1970s and '80s, *Finding Makeba* is also a story about becoming a writer as Ben seeks to find his own literary voice.

Pate, a lecturer in English at Macalester, is the author of a previous novel, *Losing Absalom*, for which he won the First Novelist Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. ●

the silence about the Trail of Tears



THOMAS KING

horse-drawn carts slipping on an icy trail or sinking into muddy ruts. She visited museums and through a faculty research grant spent several months at Chicago's Newberry Library. In these places, she found factual documentation and felt a powerful connection with the past each time she held a button, a shard of pottery or a frail, fading letter written in Cherokee.

Gradually, the characters began to speak: Maritole, a young wife and mother who tells most of the story; Knobowtee, her estranged husband; dozens of family and friends, as well as conjurers, preachers and soldiers. "When you tell the story of a whole nation, it takes

Diane Glancy: "When you tell the story of a whole nation, it takes many voices."

many voices," Glancy points out. "This is truth, in the Native American experience. Everyone has a different point of view, and in those moving variables lies the truth, or as close as we can get to it."

Ultimately, she "broke some major rules" for a novelist. There is no narrator; each character simply speaks in the first person.

Rather than build to a climax, the book journeys through a series of smaller stories. There is little humor because "I could not find it in this story."

Glancy weaves bits of the Cherokee language through the novel, in part to illustrate that native people used very different language structures and thought processes from English-speaking people. "I wanted to show why Indians have had such trouble in the white world. I wanted a little bit of that authenticity."

The book, in its third printing, has received dozens of positive reviews in newspapers across the country, including the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, which called it "startling in [its] fresh, austere language . . . tough and graceful fiction," and the *Los Angeles Times*, which called it "a very powerful witness to one of the most shameful episodes in American history."

Glancy, whose great-grandfather was born in Indian Territory in 1843, hopes the book will help readers of all colors better understand the human dimensions of the Trail of Tears as well as the strength of its survivors. At the same time, she believes the story transcends history. "A loss of a way of life, and having to regroup and start again — that is not a new story," she observes. "It has happened to other tribes, other ethnic groups, to people who lose their jobs, to each of us in some way." ●

Nancy Peterson, executive editor of *Macalester Today*, took a *Native American Literature* course taught jointly by Diane Glancy and anthropology Professor Jack Weatherford in 1994.

For Elee Wood '93, work is truly child's play

by Andy Steiner '90

ELEE WOOD '93 describes herself as "gangly," and says she identifies with Grover, the blue, fuzzy "Sesame Street" character. "We have a lot in common," she explains. "Like Grover, I like to laugh, I like to play around. I'm still a kid at heart."

By most standards, Wood is hardly gangly, and her skin is a healthy pink. But she is tallish — about 5'8" — and friendly in a bashful, Groverish sort of way.

"I'm at a good point in my life right now," she says, confi-

'Working with kids, you are once again able to look at the world in a way most adults have forgotten.'

dently. "I'm actually doing what I said I was going to do. Not a lot of people can say that three years out of college."

What Wood set out to do when she graduated was find a job that combined her love of the dramatic arts with her desire to educate children. The result is a position as public programs coordinator at the new Minnesota Children's Museum in downtown St. Paul. The museum strives to develop a multisensory approach to learning. Wood, who took the job several months before the museum opened in the fall of 1995, is responsible for developing performing or visual arts programs designed to accompany museum exhibits and events.

"What I like about theater and working with children is that children have a sense of the world that everyone has lost," Wood says. "Working with kids, you are once again able to look at the world in a way most adults have forgotten. Doing theater with kids is a way to get back to that way of thinking, though I've been told that I actually haven't lost all of that childish sense of fun. . . . I like to do wacky things. I come up with these great ideas and make them happen."

Wood's ideas include commissioning the Twin Cities children's group Young Dance to choreograph and perform a dance with an Earth Day theme in one of the museum's galleries, and helping to produce a program for Kwanzaa, an African American winter



"I'm still a kid at heart," says Elee Wood '93, public programs coordinator at the new Minnesota Children's Museum in downtown St. Paul.

GREG HELGESON

celebration, created by Minneapolis elementary school kids. "It's a great building to work in. There's so much space to be creative with," Wood says.

After graduation, Wood kept her theatrical dreams alive by working as theater director for the St. Paul Jewish Community Center's Camp Artzi and as stage manager and assistant director for two SteppingStone Theater productions. The Children's Museum job came as a result of a well-timed recommendation from Wood's mentor, Carolyn Levy, a former Macalester theater professor. The two met in 1989, when Wood signed up for a January Interim class called "Teaching Drama in Elementary Schools."

A high school drama veteran, Wood entered Macalester with a stern warning from her parents — both Milwaukee-based teachers — to steer clear of "frivolous" subjects. "My mother told me that she would not pay for me to go to school and become a theater major."

Levy's class changed all that. With Levy's help, Wood discovered that her interests

could grow into an interesting career. "She made me realize that there are things I was doing that I could do in real life. I could take my energy and enthusiasm for the nutty and the zany and at the same time help young children do things. It was so exciting to learn that the things that interested me and made me happy could be useful to others and could eventually grow into a job."

By her sophomore year, Wood had scheduled a full load of theater classes. On her way to a theater major, she also befriended Professor Sears Eldredge, another mentor she describes as "one of those little elf-people who steps in and helps out when you least expect it."

Plans for graduate school loom in her future. But for now, Wood, who married fellow Mac grad Erik Peterson '93 in 1995, is satisfied.

"It's all so great," she says. "Every once in a while, I have to stop and think, 'Wow, this is my life.'" •

Andy Steiner '90 wrote about the Macalester Festival Chorale in the August issue of Macalester Today.

Second thoughts about the Third Reich's movies

Nazi films show us what even a murderous state cannot live without: its normalcy

by Linda Schulte-Sasse

I WILL NEVER FORGET the reaction of my elderly German neighbor to her second viewing — a half-century after World War II — of perhaps the most heinous movie the Nazis ever made, the anti-Semitic *Jew Süss* of 1940: "Boy! They don't have actors like Werner Krauss anymore!"

How, given that *Jew Süss* was designed to encourage extermination, was it possible that this woman could reminisce nostalgically about an actor? She had, moreover, never been a Nazi and by no means denied the Holocaust or the film's racism. Precisely the inappropriateness of her response holds, I believe, a key to understanding cinema under the Nazis: namely, for her and others like her, who went to such films without either the benefit of 20-20 hindsight or training in propaganda study, *Jew Süss* had been and always would be a movie.

It was a star-studded movie at that, featuring the above-mentioned Krauss, as well as Heinrich George, Kristina Söderbaum, Ferdinand Marion — huge names who drew audiences much as Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts or Harrison Ford do today. My point is not to dismiss the ideology in such films, but to suggest that "messages" are affected by the medium in which they're packaged. Nazi movies sometimes indoctrinated, but they always did what movies do — indulge fantasies, work through anxieties, make us happy.

Before I go further, let me counter the assumption you likely have that all Nazi movies were hate films. Quite the contrary, the vast majority were Hollywood-style entertainment: love stories, comedies, historical epics. Many were so similar to American movies that you can switch around a few facts and not know the differ-



Linda Schulte-Sasse

ence. The 1993 American movie *Swing Kids*, for example, tells us that people who love Beethoven are willing to die fighting Nazi Germany. The 1940 German movie *Request Concert* tells us that people who love Beethoven are ready to die fighting for Nazi Germany (so much for "cultural barbarism").

In 1942's *Casablanca*, Humphrey Bogart learns to sacrifice happiness for the "cause" (you remember how he sends Ingrid Bergman off in the plane with what's-his-name in symbolic white who stands for the Resistance). Germany's all-time blockbuster *The Great Love*, also 1942, merely reverses the genders: the singer played by Nazi cinema's premiere vamp, the Swedish Zarah Leander, learns that private happiness is selfish in a time of need. Both German movies drown the war out in a Big Show of music and spectacle — as did 1942's *The Star Spangled Rhythm*, 1943's *This is the Army*, 1944's *Follow the Boys* and *Casablanca's* unforgettable "Marseillaise" scene.

My book, *Entertaining the Third Reich*, grapples with the dilemma posed by all of the above: how to separate entertainment

from "political" movies when the latter entertain and when, on the other hand, the most trivial schmalz can be read in a political way. Drawing the propaganda-entertainment line in Nazi movies is a particular challenge, since the Nazi film industry was at once highly regulated and profit-oriented. If the government wanted a movie to be made, they privileged it with a mega-budget and rounded up the usual stars, as with *Jew Süss*. Not surprisingly, some of the most "political" movies were also the biggest popular hits.

This does not mean that propaganda movies were popular because of their propaganda, any more than *Casablanca* endures because of a 50-year-old campaign against isolationism. My own unscientific surveys of older Germans such as my Werner Krauss fan suggests that "in spite of" may be a more accurate phrase. What ordinary people remember most about Nazi movies (with or without political "tendency") are the stars, the romance and their own youth. The movies' indulgence of private needs may even have worked against Nazism's "totalitarian" desire to infiltrate the home. What I try to show in *Entertaining the Third Reich* is that the movies' role in Nazism's political success hinged largely on their apolitical appeal. Any honest political leader (an oxymoron, I know) will tell you that happiness is indispensable to "managing" consent; it keeps people from getting too interested in politics.

Why bother with movies that, when not propagating hate, abound with Hollywood-style kitsch? They offer a window on the thing even the most murderous state cannot live without: its normalcy, its everydayness. This is the part that Hollywood — in endlessly recycling a "Nazi Germany" of black boots and whips — forgets, maybe because normalcy isn't gripping and hence not lucrative.

The movies speaking Nazism's necessary normalcy tell us two paradoxical things: that we don't know "Nazi Germany" as well as we think and, more disconcertingly, that we know it better than we want to. And they provoke a question that doesn't get asked enough: is "history" just made by the Goebbels, Mengeles and (occasionally) Schindlers, or is it also made by nice people, just like us, watching movies while the unthinkable happens somewhere else? ●

Linda Schulte-Sasse is an associate professor in and chair of Macalester's German-Russian Department. Her book, *Entertaining the Third Reich: Illusions of Wholeness in Nazi Cinema*, was recently published by Duke University Press. The book is part of a series, *Post-Contemporary Interventions*, edited by Stanley Fish and Fredric Jameson. Portions of this article appeared in the Minneapolis Star Tribune last December.



Scot-free

Macalester quarterback Nathaniel Eyde breaks away from two St. Olaf players as he leads the host Scots to a 31-17 victory Oct. 5. Eyde, a senior history major from East Lansing, Mich., ran for touchdowns of 20, 25 and 62 yards — two of them in the fourth quarter — as the Scots rallied from a 17-10 deficit. Eyde was named MIAC Offensive Player of the Week. The August *Macalester Today* told of Eyde's recent internship on the "Late Show with David Letterman."

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