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Macalester Today

February 1998



Gretchen Rohr '98:
Her Rhodes to the Law

Please send letters intended for publication to *Letters to the Editor*, Macalester Today, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. You can also send your letter by fax: (612) 696-6192. Or by e-mail: mactoday@macalester.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

Racism

OUR CULTURE — family, ethnic, national, collegiate — allows us to know who we are and gives us our sense of identity. When we encounter those who seem “different” to us, we naturally think they are inferior, if not wrong.

As a person of color, the big word in my upbringing was “respect.” Even if you disagree with another’s ways and differences, you respect them and their right to another point of view. During my years at Mac, we dorm residents did some pretty stupid stuff, but the recent racial incident [November *Mac Today*] is shocking, sickening and frightening. And this is exactly what the perpetrator intended.

The written message, however, reveals a very immature individual who is really sending a cry for help. He/she needs our compassion, prayers and forgiveness, deserved or not. He/she is still very much a reflection of limited experience and development.

Macalester has always offered rich opportunities to share diversity and grow with the experience. This was one of my great joys as a member of that community.

Jacqueline Parker Craigo '48
Pine River, Minn.

IT IS deeply disturbing that racial insults were written outside a dorm room at Macalester, but it is also comforting to know that the college responded in the same vigorously humane way which has characterized its policies and actions in the past.

That ours is a racist society is no secret. That the nation has made great progress in this area in the 50 years since I enrolled at Mac is also true. Macalester has played its part in this progress, and without the influence of Macalester, many of us would have

been less aware and less active throughout our lives.

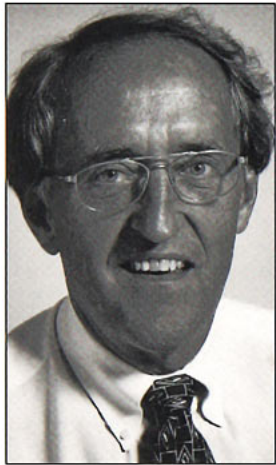
This latest and deplorable incident is a painful reminder that in spite of some victories, the war has not yet been won. I am proud to be united in spirit with the college and with the young woman at whom the insults were aimed. I share her “hope for Macalester and hope for our nation.”

Charles Schiller '51
Berkeley, Calif.

Walt Mink

THANKS for the article on Walt Mink [November's *Macalester Today*]. I think fondly of meeting him in a freshman seminar, “Paradigms of Consciousness.” His gentle, yet insightful, intellect has remained an inspiration through the years.

Steven C. Bennett '79
New York



Karl Egge

Karl Egge

BRAVO for your article on Karl Egge, “Good Work,” in November's *Mac Today*.

Karl has been a wonderful friend and mentor for more than 20 years. In fact, it was Karl, in the dead of winter, 1977, sitting at his desk, who so impressed my father and

me that I decided right there that Macalester was my choice for college. It was probably the best decision of my life.

For many of us, Karl continues to be a resource of information, support and caring that true teachers provide. Lucky for us and Macalester that Karl chooses to sculpt the minds and hearts of business leaders rather than cash in on his obvious business acumen.

Indeed, indeed, keep up the Good Work!

Tim Murray '82
President and Chief Operating Officer
Interpool Corp.
Arden Hills, Minn.

Marsh Nelson

I READ in the August issue of *Macalester Today* that Marshall Nelson '54, a classmate of mine, had died. I deplore his passing.

Marsh Nelson was a natural athlete. He excelled in every sport in which he partici-

pated. He was lucky to be able to extend his love of sport into his working career. As he enjoyed a life pretty close to heaven on earth, I hope wherever he is now he might be just as happy, but I doubt it.

As I said, Marsh was a complete jock. I competed with him in just about every sport offered in intramural athletics, and some, like ping-pong, that weren't. He beat me in all of them, every time. Marsh was a hearty fellow and effusive in his speech. I did not follow his broadcasting career as I was out of state most of the time. But I know that Marsh would never exaggerate his own accomplishments, not on his Nelson, as they say around here.

Thus I wish to offer a correction to Marsh's obituary, as printed in *Macalester Today*. Marsh earned his letters in hockey and baseball in each of his four years at Macalester. However, he never “lettered” (your verb) in football or basketball, as the magazine reported, and therein lies an anecdote.

Marsh and I were in agreement that football was much too untidy and violent; we both enjoyed the “touch” variety, but not the “tackle.” He never even contemplated going out for football, but served as water boy for the team.

As for basketball, Marsh was what they call an “offensive” specialist, as contrasted with the “defensive” variety favored by the then-coach. Marsh Nelson was surely a good enough athlete to have made it to the basketball teams, and he did try out, at least twice. The coach, however, would have none of it. He didn't want to listen to the complaints of his colleague, hockey Coach Hank Frantzen, all winter and thus frustrated Marsh's quest for a basketball letter. This deficiency noted, Marsh was nevertheless an outstanding athlete and a gentleman.

Harrison Sherwood '54
Cambridge, England

Nice place

JUST A short note to say how much I enjoy *Macalester Today*. You seem to be able to give it just the right flavor of the liberal but nice place I attended 50 years ago. I didn't agree with the politics then and I still don't, but I remember the grand times I had in the halls of Old Main and the shaded areas by the Bell Tower. Whoever you are, you are doing a good job!

Pete Hughes '52
Redwood City, Calif.

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On the cover

Steve Voit photographed Rhodes Scholar Gretchen Rohr '98 in the old courtroom of the Minnesota Supreme Court at the state capitol. See page 2.

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Macalester's newest Rhodes Scholar

Poised and passionate, Gretchen Rohr '98 plans to serve the disadvantaged

GRETCHEN ROHR was laughing, and shedding a few tears of happiness at the same time, as dozens of friends and well-wishers gathered in Weyerhaeuser Hall in December to celebrate the news of her latest achievement: a Rhodes Scholarship.

"Thank you, everyone, for coming," Rohr said. Then, seemingly just as moved by the campus reception for her as by winning the Rhodes, she added: "Wow!"

Wow, indeed. No one who has known Gretchen Rohr during her four years at Macalester was the least surprised when she was one of 32 Americans to be named a Rhodes Scholar for 1998. Less than a year before, the then-student government president was one of 75 college juniors nationwide to be chosen as a Truman Scholar.

"Gretchen has been a wonderful contributor to our community," President McPherson said at the reception. "She is obviously an enormously talented student. . . . She is a leader on campus, a leader in the community, the kind of person you can always rely on, showing incredible poise in a variety of situations.

"At our first fall convocation after I arrived [as president], Gretchen spoke before me," McPherson continued. "She spoke about diversity and community, and the way those two went together to complement one another rather than being alternatives to one another. I thought it was a truly wonderful speech. After the event was over, I took the programming people aside and said, 'I never want to follow Gretchen again.'"

Rohr said she recognizes that the Rhodes Scholarship is both a great honor and a great responsibility.

"The responsibility comes in making certain that I give it back, not only to the community, to the college [but] to the groups that I am really dedicated to work for — the traditionally disadvantaged," she told her well-wishers. "I just hope that everything I've learned through my experience at Macalester, as well as my experience at Oxford, I will be able to apply to my work in law, and that I will be able to pass on all that knowledge, and hopefully all this privilege, to a few others."

Rohr is the ninth student in the college's history to receive the honor, and the second in three years. Abigail Noble '96, an



STEVE WOIT

English major from New Haven, Ind., was a 1996 Rhodes Scholar and is currently studying English literature at Oxford University. Rohr, who will also receive a full scholarship for two years, plans to enter Oxford's jurisprudence program.

The Rhodes program was established in 1903 to provide outstanding students with opportunities for an international education. Each year students from 18 countries and five continents study at Oxford. Rhodes Scholars are selected

based on high academic achievement, integrity, unselfishness, respect for others, leadership and physical vigor.

Here are excerpts from an interview with Gretchen Rohr:

Many people on campus who know you have been impressed by

'She is a leader on campus, a leader in the community, the kind of person you can always rely on, showing incredible poise in a variety of situations.'

— President McPherson

your maturity and poise, which seem far beyond your years. Where does that come from?

"I don't get offended when people say I'm mature. Oftentimes I think we label people

as 'mature' and that means they don't act their age. I think that just makes a statement about how 21-year-olds are supposed to act. So I don't know if I'm necessarily any more mature. It's part of my character and also, I'm sure, part of my experiences. I've had a lot of internships and classes and different living environments and met a lot of really interesting people in my life. That probably makes me a bit more well-rounded individual, but I don't know if I'm any more mature than I'm supposed to be. . . .

"People can say I'm mature, but I definitely recognize I'm 21. I'm not trying to be any older. I recognize that it's a privilege being this age, too, that there's a lot I can get away with [she laughs], but there's also a lot of responsibility."

When you won the Rhodes, the Twin Cities news media wrote a lot about your growing up as an adopted child in a multicultural family. What are some other things that are important to you but perhaps not so readily apparent?

"My love of learning and academics. [People often ask] 'Why are you doing two to three more years of school?' Obviously, I must like something about it.

Gretchen Rohr

grew up: Post Falls, Idaho

majors: political science and communication studies

family: father, Carl, is a Lutheran minister; mother, Lois, is a teacher; siblings include a Japanese American brother, a biracial sister and a white brother

campus activities: student government president; student representative on two Board of Trustees committees; teaching assistant for two courses; chair of the Shades of Color student organization which deals with issues surrounding women of color; chair of HIV & AIDS Awareness & Action Coalition; several work-study jobs to help pay her tuition

off-campus: researcher with the National Center for Youth Law in San Francisco; intern for U.S. District Court Judge Michael Davis '69 in Minneapolis

hobbies: member of women's weightlifting group; bassoonist; pianist

career plans: to become a lawyer and work for the traditionally disadvantaged •

"I'm also really intrigued with people who are completely different from me and love engaging in long dialogues. I spent too much time procrastinating yesterday with a friend, talking for about four hours. He's a Muslim and he was telling me all about the Muslim religion. I study it, but actually speaking with people who are Islamic — I just love it. I love learning



MIKE HABERMANN

Rohr, then president of Macalester Student Government, addresses the opening convocation of the academic year in September 1996. She spoke of how diversity and community "are not mutually exclusive [concepts]. In fact, they can't even be isolated. They function within each other."

about different religions and different cultures that I haven't been able to interact with so far, and hopefully will in the future. I'm intrigued with theology. . . . I think part of it is that my father is a minister. That definitely introduced me to the power that religion can hold on people and the power of religion in transforming society. I try to break off from just [studying] Christian religions and look at all the others, too."

Who are some of your role models, the people you most admire?

"bell hooks is a big one for me. Audrey Lord. A lot of the feminists who stood at

the intersection of gender and race and class and sexuality. A lot of the people I look up to happen to be black women, but I don't think that's the reason. Because a lot of the ones I really focus on — like Ntozake Shange — try to address forms of oppression other than just race and gender. They try to address class and sexuality.

"Within my field, I would love to sit down and talk some day with Derrick Bell. He probably sparked my interest in civil rights law. Kimberle Crenshaw sparked my interest in the idea of doctrinal exclusion [in the law]. . . .

"[I admire] a lot of liberation theologians. . . . And then the people around you, like my family. Working out in California,

**'I don't get offended
when people say I'm mature. . . .
I think that just makes a statement
about how 21-year-olds
are supposed to act.'**

there have been some phenomenal people I've been engaged with, like Erica Huggins of the Black Panther Party, who has lived this long life struggling to ensure racial equality."

In your Rhodes application, you spoke of your "headstrong goal setting" and your passion for the law and social change. Do you think of yourself as headstrong and passionate?

"I think I am. I'm very specific about what I want to go into in law [the legal needs of disadvantaged groups]. I've no doubts in my mind. I know there are a variety of different types of jobs where you can serve the traditionally disadvantaged, but I can't envision myself in any job — in or outside of law — without working with or for the traditionally disadvantaged.

"An interesting question they asked me with the Rhodes was: why not corporate law? [Some Rhodes committee members suggested] that you can still work against discrimination *within* the corporation, as a representative for the disadvantaged. I gave logical answers, did some deductive reasoning. But they kept breaking it down: 'OK, understanding that, why though?'

"It's just one of those things I cannot answer. I cannot see myself not working in that type of job. I finally realized that is just who I am."

McCurdy's excellence

ANTHROPOLOGY Professor David McCurdy received the 1997 American Anthropological Association's Mayfield Teaching Award at the group's annual meeting Nov. 22 in Washington, D.C.

McCurdy is the first recipient of the award, which recognizes excellence in teaching. He

was honored for his innovative teaching methods and his best-selling books, including *Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology*, which has been in print more than 25 years, and *Anthropology: The Cultural Perspective*. The organization, the world's largest association of professional anthropologists, called McCurdy "equally at home behind a piano, banjo, guitar or classroom podium."

McCurdy, a cognitive anthropologist, specializes in ethnographic methods and the cultures of India and the U.S. He has served as president of the General Anthropology Division of the Anthropological Association and is a former member of the association's executive board. He is also the recipient of the 1995 Macalester Teaching Award.



David McCurdy

Wallace Professors

Hammarberg, Hornbach, Samatar honored for teaching, scholarship and commitment to the college

THREE Macalester faculty members have been appointed Wallace Professors by President McPherson. They are Gitta Hammarberg, who was named DeWitt Wallace Professor of Russian; Dan Hornbach, named DeWitt Wallace Professor of Biology; and Ahmed Samatar, named James Wallace Professor of International Studies and Political Science.

The endowed chairs honor faculty who are distinguished in their fields. "These three faculty are marked by their effective and passionate teaching, their exceptionally valuable and influential

scholarship, and their wonderful commitment to this college and its values. I am pleased that they now join the distinguished company of Macalester's Wallace Professors,"

McPherson said in December.

Hammarberg joined the Macalester faculty in 1983. She teaches courses in Russian language and literature, specializing in 18th- and 19th-century literature and in recent Slavic literary theory. She is also interested in the "feminization" of late 18th-century Russian literature. Her latest book is *From the Idyll to the Novel: Karamzin's Sentimentalist Prose*. See page 24.

Hornbach began teaching in Macalester's Biology Department in 1984. He also served as the college's provost from 1993 to 1995 and has chaired the Faculty Personnel Committee and the Faculty Advisory Council. Hornbach, a freshwater ecologist, and several Macalester students are currently studying factors that influence freshwater mussels in large river systems, such as the St. Croix River. His work has been written about by the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and other Twin Cities area newspapers. In addition, Hornbach is director of the college's Katherine Ordway



Gitta Hammarberg

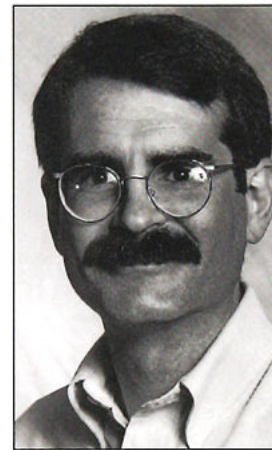
Institute. Samatar's research and writing focus is on the challenges of globalization.

He specializes in international relations between developed nations and the Third World, primarily Africa. He has written and edited several books and numerous articles on Somalia and African studies.

The James Wallace Chair is named for the former president, who served from 1894 to 1906. Wallace joined the Macalester faculty in 1887 and taught religion, Greek and political science until shortly before his death in 1939. He left the college a legacy of academic excellence and service to humanity. The DeWitt Wallace Chair was created in 1978 and honors James Wallace's son, who was also a Macalester alumnus and founder of

Reader's Digest.

Other Wallace endowed chairs are held by: James Stewart, James Wallace Professor

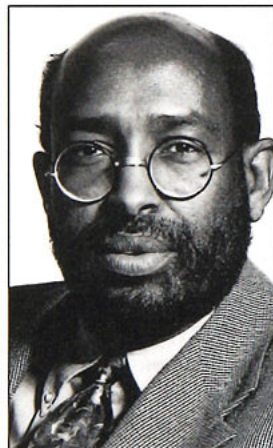


Dan Hornbach

of History; David Hopper, James Wallace Professor of Religious Studies; Frank Adler, DeWitt Wallace Professor of Political Science; David Bressoud, DeWitt Wallace Professor of Mathematics; Ellis Dye, DeWitt Wallace Professor of German; Emily and Norman Rosenberg, DeWitt Wallace Professors of History; Truman Schwartz, DeWitt

Natural History Study Area.

Samatar joined Macalester in 1994 as dean of International Studies and Programming. Under his guidance, the college's International Roundtable was established later that year. Samatar also formed the Macalester Advisory Committee on International



Ahmed Samatar

Studies and Internationalism. He is chairman of the G. Theodore Mitau Endowed Lecture Committee and a member of the board of directors of the World Press

Wallace Professor of Chemistry; and Gerald Webers, DeWitt Wallace Professor of Geology.

Bill Shain departs

After 17 years and 7,344 students — each of whom he remembers — dean takes job at Vanderbilt

DEAN of Admissions Bill Shain, who is well known for his bow ties, beaming smile and phenomenal ability to remember the name of every student admitted to Macalester in his 17 years at the college, is leaving to become dean of undergraduate admissions at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

Shain began his new job this month (February). President McPherson said in November that he was announcing Shain's departure "with deep regret because Bill

Quotable Quotes

HERE are a few of the noteworthy comments made recently on and around the campus:

"TEN YEARS ago, nobody heard of us. Five years ago, we were emerging. Now we are a top-notch power. With people checking Web sites for soccer news, I am getting calls from recruits and parents, including more local inquiries. That's eased my load as far as traveling around recruiting."

John Leaney, coach of both the men's and women's soccer teams at Macalester and MIAC Coach of the Year in both divisions this past season, quoted in a profile of him in the Nov. 4 St. Paul Pioneer Press. See page 6.

"IT'S an alarming statistic. Many meetings are mind-numbing in their mundaneness."

Roger Mosvick '52, professor of communication studies at Macalester, quoted in a Dec. 8 USA Today article on how companies are overburdened with meetings. For business professionals, the average number of meetings has jumped from seven to about 10 a week, based on Mosvick's surveys between 1981 and 1995. He is the co-author of *We've Got to Start Meeting Like This: A Guide to Successful Business Meeting Management*.

"I AM a descendant of those who were strong enough to survive the middle passage, but not strong enough to stop themselves from being slaves. I give my honor and respect to the people who survived slavery. But I must admit, there was a moment when I thought, if I were really in this story I'd be jumping [off] the ship. I'd have gone down to the bottom."

Alexs Pate, a novelist and lecturer in English at Macalester, who was commissioned by Steven Spielberg's production company to write the novel of Spielberg's film *Amistad* about an 1839 slave-ship revolt. Pate was interviewed in the Nov. 5 Minneapolis Star Tribune. •

has been a key trusted colleague during my short time at Macalester. But as a friend, I share his sense of excitement to take on this new admissions challenge and add to his life's adventures.

"He has led Macalester's admissions operation with imagination, grace and consummate professionalism since 1980,

when he came here from Princeton University. Throughout that time, he also has been a valued counselor to the college's leaders, an excellent colleague to staff and faculty, and a friend to many, many students. In fact, he probably knows on a personal level more Macalester students, past and present, than any other living person," McPherson said.

During Shain's tenure, the Admissions Office set records for the number of applications and has experienced a steady increase in the academic qualifications among enrolled students. Shain made it a practice to read every applicant's file and to meet personally with hundreds of prospective students and applicants each year in Minnesota, on the East and West coasts, points in between and around the world.

During his tenure, Shain reviewed more than 39,000 applications and welcomed 7,344 students, according to Nancy Lane Mackenzie '69, an assistant dean of admissions who has worked with Shain for many years. "Bill brought us a strong sense of professionalism, a willingness to teach and staff meetings with humor. One more thing — he is a truly decent human being," Mackenzie told the *Mac Weekly*.

Shain said, "While I depart for Vanderbilt with excitement over a fasci-

nating set of new professional and personal challenges, I leave Macalester with sadness and real regret. I did not know before I came here that I could care about an institution so deeply and respect it so much. I will enjoy watching from afar Macalester's continued success in admissions and other areas, and will welcome continued contact with members of the community even though I am no longer on campus."

Trustee Award

'Sensitivity, grace, enthusiasm' mark the life and service of Margaret Harmon

MARGARET Weyerhaeuser Harmon, a former member of Macalester's Board of Trustees and longtime community volunteer, was presented the Trustee Award for Meritorious and Distinguished Service on Oct. 3.

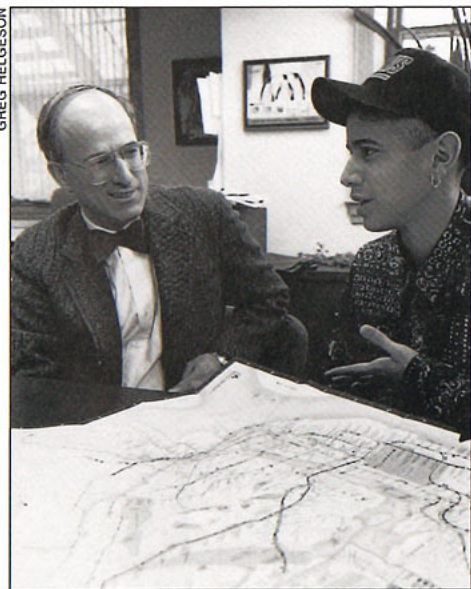
Harmon, of Inver Grove Heights, served on the board from 1968 to 1976. The award honors men and women who have served the Macalester community and the larger community.

"You have performed with sensitivity, grace and enthusiasm as a Macalester trustee, honorary trustee, benefactor, fund raiser and board member for many groups," says the award citation. "Your participation on the board and as an active member of the Macalester community represents a family tradition of support and involvement that spans three generations. . . . Your longtime commitment to the college and to the community exemplifies the Macalester tradition of service."

The citation notes Harmon's support for the college's Chapel, named in honor of her late husband, Frederick Weyerhaeuser. It also commends her for her support of the construction of the college's DeWitt Wallace Library.

Following her tenure as a trustee, Harmon was made an honorary trustee. She was also awarded an honorary degree from the college in 1981.

In addition to her work on behalf of Macalester, Harmon has been an active member of the boards of Princeton Theological Seminary, United Presbyterian Foundation, Children's Hospital of St. Paul, Neighborhood House, Merriam Park Community Center and the American University in Cairo. She has been named the Outstanding Individual Philanthropist by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Philanthropist of the Year by Presbyterian Homes and WCCO Radio's Good Neighbor.



Bill Shain and Angel Rodriguez '94 study a subway map of their hometown, New York City.

Soccer teams shine in a season to remember

Coach of the Year John Leaney leads both men and women to MIAC titles

by Andy Johnson

MACALESTER'S soccer teams achieved tremendous success last fall, each earning conference championships, high national rankings and berths in the NCAA Division III playoffs.

John Leaney, who coaches both the Macalester men and women, has had outstanding teams over the past 11 years, but last fall was the best season the Scots have ever had. Combined, the two teams went 33-2-4 while outscoring their opponents 99-11. Each was ranked No. 4 in the final national regular-season poll.

Leaney was named men's and women's conference and region Coach of the Year. "Each team was outstanding, especially defensively, and showed they can play with the nation's best teams," he said. "It will be tough to repeat what we did next year, but we have a good chance to be very strong again. The key to our success was playing together as a team. The women have always had great team chemistry, but the men had to work real hard on it before coming together."

Macalester enjoyed its best women's soccer season ever, setting school records for wins (19), shutouts (16) and fewest goals allowed (8). A perfect 10-0 MIAC record gave the Scots their second conference title in five years. They won six out of seven games against teams selected for the national playoffs. Macalester defeated Wheaton (Ill.) and conference rival St. Thomas with a dramatic rally to win the Central Region playoffs before losing a heartbreaking 2-1 decision to Washington University of St. Louis in the NCAA quarterfinals.

Forward Brook Epperson (senior, Sandy, Utah) saved her last season for her best



ERIC MILLER PHOTOS

Above: Macalester midfielder Mandy Brettingen, left, goes for the ball against Washington University.

Right: All-American Kate Reiling sets up an attack for Macalester.

and was named MIAC Player of the Year. She had a goal or assist in the team's final 14 games and finished with 12 goals and a school-record 18 assists. In four years, Epperson had 33 goals and



Women's soccer team

Record: 19-2 overall, 10-0 MIAC

Final national regular-season ranking: 4th

Goals/opponents: 60-8

All-Conference players: forward Brook Epperson, who was also named MIAC Player of the Year, midfielders Mandy Brettingen and Kate Reiling, defender Ellen Dully. Honorable Mention: defender Carly Androff.

All-Region: five above and goalkeeper Anna Bacho

All-Americans: Brook Epperson, Kate Reiling •



Men's soccer team

Record: 14-0-4 overall, 9-0-1 MIAC

Final national regular-season ranking: 4th

Goals/opponents: 39-3

All-Conference players: goalkeeper Dan Welch, midfielders Armin Heuberger and Roland Broughton, forward Larry Griffin (see back cover).
Honorable Mention: Iain Morris.

All-Region: Dan Welch, Armin Heuberger, Larry Griffin

All-Americans: Dan Welch, Armin Heuberger •

the All-America team, with Epperson receiving first-team honors for the second time. Midfielders Brettingen and Reiling scored five goals apiece, while Dully anchored Mac's tough defense. Tawni Epperson (junior, Sandy, Utah) chipped in 10 goals, Stine Larsen (senior, Stavanger, Norway) scored seven and Holly Harris (sophomore, Redondo Beach, Calif.) added six.

Over the last two years, the Macalester women have gone 35-5-2 and outscored their opponents 137-16 while playing one of the nation's toughest schedules.

in the NCAA West Region Finals after the two teams battled to a 0-0 tie in four overtimes.

Midfielder Armin Heuberger (junior, Augsburg, Germany) scored 12 goals and

The men were just as impressive. The Scots gave up just three goals all season and finished without a loss at 14-0-4 while earning their first MIAC championship since 1990. The men have gone 22-0-5 since midway through the '96 season.

The season's only disappointment was when California Lutheran University advanced past the Scots in a penalty kick shootout

All-American midfielder Armin Heuberger on the attack. See back cover for photo of All-Region forward Larry Griffin.

a record 42 assists for 108 points. Epperson was joined on the All-MIAC squad by teammates Mandy Brettingen (senior, Eagan, Minn.), Kate Reiling (sophomore, St. Paul) and Ellen Dully (junior, Portland, Ore.).

Epperson and Reiling were named to



Coach of the Year John Leaney

assisted on six others to lead the attack. Larry Griffin (junior, Belleville, Ill.) had nine goals and Franc Slapar (sophomore, Oakland, Calif.) added six. Dan Welch (senior, Greeley, Colo.) finished an outstanding career as Mac's goalkeeper, giving up just three goals while posting a 0.15 goals-against average. The defenders were nearly flawless all season, led by All-MIAC Honorable Mention pick Iain Morris (senior, Corvallis, Ore.), Erik Fuller (junior, Dublin, Ohio), Jason Sauser (senior, Milwaukee, Wis.) and Rob Nachtwey (sophomore, Berkeley, Calif.).

Andy Johnson is sports information director at Macalester.



Macalester's Brook Epperson, No. 6 in dark jersey, beats a Washington University defender to set up a goal for Kate Reiling in their regular-season game. Epperson, the MIAC's Player of the Year, and Reiling were both All-Americans.

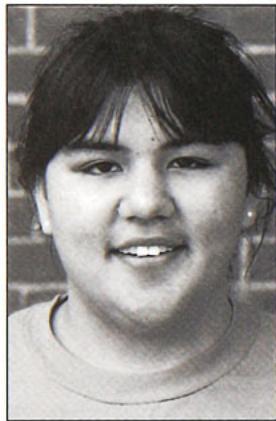
Fall sports review

Volleyball

Under the direction of fourth-year Coach Bob Weiner, the Macalester volleyball team enjoyed its best season in more than 10 years. After winning just two conference matches between 1988 and 1994, the Scots showed steady improvement in '95 and '96. This past season they became competitive with the top teams in the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC).

Macalester finished 14-17 overall and 5-6 in conference matches, and stunned many by knocking off St. Mary's, Gustavus and Bethel to claim fifth place at the MIAC tournament.

Team setter April Peniata (junior, Plymouth, Minn.) was named to the All-MIAC team. Peniata, the heart of the



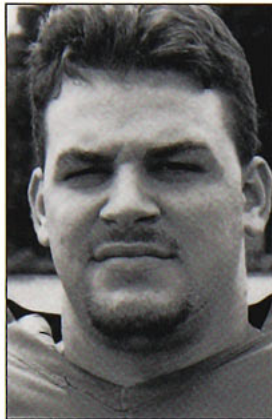
April Peniata '99, All-MIAC in volleyball

team, averaged 8.7 assists per game to go along with 169 kills and a team-leading 49 serving aces. "This was the first season we've had real leadership and that was because April Peniata took over as the emotional leader of this team," Weiner said. "There were some close matches that she wouldn't let us lose at the end."

Jenn Hodges (sophomore, Juneau, Alaska) came on very strong over the season's second half and was solid in all aspects of the sport. TiAnna Jones (first-year, Woodland, Wash.) led the defensive effort. Jones was sixth in the conference with 4.1 digs a game. Jaime Miller (junior, Fargo, N.D.), Melinda Goodwin (junior, Phoenix, Ariz.) and Melanie Blom (sophomore, Bricelyn, Minn.) provided good support at the net, combining for nearly 600 kills and 150 blocks.

Football

Macalester opened the season with a 28-20 win over Crown College, but failed to win the rest of the way and ended up with a 1-9 mark and last-place 0-9 conference finish. It was a disappointing season after 1996, when the Scots won their first



Chris Seufert '98, All-MIAC lineman

two conference games in years. Defensively, Macalester was solid. The Scots led the MIAC in fewest passing yards allowed per game and were effective in games against high-powered offenses from Concordia, Bethel, St. Thomas and Augsburg. Line-men Ben Harris (senior, Boulder, Colo.) and Chris Seufert (senior, Tonganoxie, Kan.) were named to the All-MIAC team after combining for 142 tackles and 13 quarterback sacks. Harris is a two-time All-MIAC pick. Linebacker Eddie Ray (junior, Three Rivers, Texas) racked up 140 tackles to lead the team and was a second-team All-Conference pick. End Ben Hampstead (junior, Mattawan, Mich.) and safety Mike Raketich (senior, Kingsford, Mich.) were named Honorable Mention.

Women's cross country

Macalester enjoyed a successful season, placing sixth at the MIAC Championships for the third straight year and 11th at the Central Region meet.

Seniors Barb Snow (Portage, Wis.) and Emilie Miller (Tualatin, Ore.) were solid all season. Megan Auger (sophomore, Eden Prairie, Minn.) emerged as Macalester's No. 1 runner and by the end of the year established herself as one of the conference's best runners. Auger placed 10th at the MIAC Championships, and by doing so kept Macalester's streak of producing an All-Conference runner alive at eight straight years.

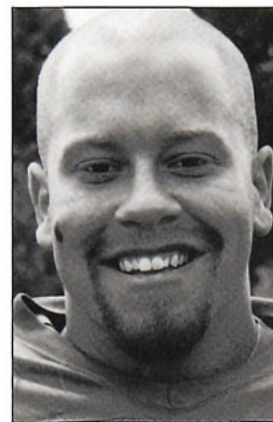
Auger was followed in the championship race by Miller, who placed 23rd (just seven seconds out of All-MIAC range), and Amanda Pischke (sophomore, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.), who was 37th. Kayla Hayford (sophomore, Iowa City, Iowa) was 49th at the MIAC

meet. Pischke also did well at regionals, finishing 45th.

Men's cross country

Macalester was one of the youngest teams in the MIAC and made good strides throughout the season, despite an injury to No. 1 runner Brandon Guthrie (sophomore, Salem, Ore.) late in the year. Last year's No. 2 runner, Tim Shively (sophomore, Seattle, Wash.), was injured in a bicycle accident and missed the entire season.

Guthrie was again Macalester's top runner when healthy. He placed 11th at the Wisconsin-River Falls Invitational and 20th at the St. Olaf Invitational. When Guthrie was out in October, Tim Pavlish (sophomore, Shakopee, Minn.) took over as the team's top runner. Pavlish placed 41st at the



Ben Harris '98, All-MIAC lineman

Region Preview Meet, 38th at the LaCrosse Invitational and 26th at the MIAC Championships. Guthrie and Pavlish ran together during the season's final race, the NCAA Central Regionals, and came across the finish line together, Guthrie in 35th place and Pavlish in 36th.

Men's golf

Justin Johnson (junior, Yankton, S.D.)

and Tim Mak (junior, Toronto, Ont.) enjoyed solid seasons. Mak started by placing 15th at the Carleton Invitational with a two-round 158 score and Johnson followed that a week later with a 163 score at the St. John's Invitational. Johnson played outstanding golf at the Macalester Invitational, leading the Scots to a third-place team finish. He shot a blistering 75 on the second day, four shots better than anyone else in the field, to finish with a 158. That was good enough for second place out of 24 competitors. The season ended with a 10th-place finish at the MIAC Championships.

Women's golf

Jennie Whitehouse (sophomore, Apple Valley, Minn.) capped the best Macalester women's golf season ever when she won medalist honors at the MIAC Championships, leading the Scots to a fourth-place team finish. Whitehouse shot a one-and-a-half round score of 126 despite terrible weather conditions and won the tournament by eight strokes.



Jennie Whitehouse '00, MIAC champion golfer

Leading by three strokes with an 83 following the first 18 holes, Whitehouse walked away from the competition by firing a 43 nine-hole score, becoming Macalester's first women's conference golf champion.

— Andy Johnson,
sports information director

Hall of Fame

Four superb athletes left marks in six sports, from volleyball to track

THE MACALESTER Athletic Hall of Fame inducted four more outstanding alumni in October at its 18th annual banquet. The awards are sponsored by the M Club in partnership with the Alumni Association.

The four new members are:

• **Eric Anderson '75.** One of Macalester's best athletes of the Seventies, he starred in baseball, basketball and football. In basketball, Anderson played under Coach Doug Bolstorff and is still ranked in the top 10 in Scots career scoring with 1,038 points. A two-time team MVP, he was named to the All-Conference team twice and was All-District 13 as a senior. He averaged 15.5 points a game as a junior

to lead Mac to a 16-11 record. His 418 points scored that winter was at

the time the second-most ever scored by a Scot. Anderson followed that with an identical 15.5 scoring average as a senior and was later drafted by Cleveland in the NBA. He was also a baseball standout, earning All-Conference honors three times and All-District 13 status once.

• **Jane O'Brien '85** was one of the best athletes in the MIAC in her time and a star on some of the best volleyball, basketball and track teams Macalester women's athlet-

ics has produced. She scored 1,349 points in basketball — second on Macalester's all-time list — and is by far Mac's all-time rebounding leader with 852. As a senior, she averaged 19.6 points and 11.2 rebounds a game, while leading Mac to its first winning season. A three-year volleyball letter-winner and All-MIAC selection, O'Brien played on some outstanding teams, including first-place and third-place MIAC squads. She also excelled in track and earned All-Conference status all four years. Her school-record :59.25 time in the 400-meter dash is the longest-running school mark still going. O'Brien was a winner of

both the Pat Weisner Award and Dorothy Michel Award.

• **Paul Mausling '81** earned eight All-America certificates, three in cross country and five in track, and is one of the best distance runners ever produced not just by Macalester, but by the MIAC. He still owns the fastest cross country time, by nearly a full minute, ever posted by a Macalester runner, and his track times in the distance events are still fast enough to

be competitive with the top national performers. Some of his school track records may never be broken, such as his 4:19 mark in the indoor mile run, 14:29 time in the 5,000-meter run and 29:59 in the 10,000 meters. Mausling was Macalester's last conference cross country individual champion, winning those races in 1978 and 1980. His winning time of 25:05 in '78 has been surpassed just once in nearly 20 years by an MIAC runner.

• **Julia Kirtland '87** was one of the most accomplished athletes ever to wear the Macalester colors. Eight national championships in cross country and track, 22 MIAC titles and 16 All-America certificates attest to her dominance in the mid-Eighties. In addition to winning the cross country nationals in 1984, Kirtland won NCAA Division III track championships seven times, including both the 5,000 meters and 10,000 meters as a junior and senior. Her academic achievements

were just as noteworthy and she is one of only five Macalester athletes ever to receive Academic All-America recognition. Kirtland was given one of the highest awards presented to athletes in Olympic sport events — the Olympia Award — in 1986. She also won the March of Dimes Individual Athlete of the Year that same year. Still an elite distance runner, Kirtland won the U.S. National Marathon Championships and represented the U.S. team at the World Championships in Athens in 1997. ●



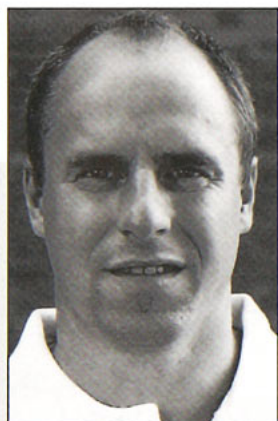
Eric Anderson '75



Jane O'Brien '85



Julia Kirtland '87



Dennis Czech '83

Dennis Czech '83 takes over as new football coach

DENNIS Czech, a 1983 graduate of Macalester who was a standout running back for the Scots in the early '80s, is returning to head Macalester's football program.

Czech succeeds Tom Bell, who left after the 1997 season.

Czech is ranked second on the school's all-time career rushing list with 2,394 yards. He served under Tom Hosier as assistant coach at Macalester from 1985 to 1987 and was running backs coach for the Scots this past season. A 1977 graduate of St. Paul's Cretin High School, Czech was an assistant varsity coach and head ninth-grade coach at Cretin for two years following his graduation from Macalester.

Czech has been employed in the Twin Cities business community since 1984, most recently as sales manager for Universal Capital Funding in Plymouth.

"Macalester's football program can be successful again," said Czech. "I am familiar with the college and realize the value of a Macalester education. I believe I will be able to effectively communicate the unique aspects of a Macalester education to prospective recruits in a positive light. I also hope to generate essential alumni support for the program."

"We are delighted to have a Mac alum rebuild our football program," said Athletic Director Ken Andrews. "Besides a wide range of football experience, Coach Czech's local connections and reputation should enhance our regional recruiting." ●

Update on the Mathematics & Computer Science Department

Editors' note: This new department of Mac Today features brief updates about faculty members. The English Department faculty were featured in the August issue; the Physics & Astronomy and Chemistry departments in November.

FIRST, a "warranty" from the department's statisticians: "Statistics is one of the most widely taken math subjects at Macalester. Since some alumni may have forgotten a few of the more esoteric details of the t-test or the design of surveys and experiments, we invite you to contact us when faced with a vexing statistical problem, whether simple or complex. We consider this an 'extended warranty' on the statistics education offered at Macalester."

— Karla Ballman,
Danny Kaplan, Robert Leduc

Karla Ballman '83, who joined the department in 1991, says her primary responsibility is the statistics program. "In addition to expanding our statistics offerings, I am involved in establishing a statistical consulting center on campus. Consulting presents opportunities for student involvement in real projects, adding a valuable component to the academic experience, and often gives rise to interesting research issues." She added: "It is great to be back at Macalester and I view this as an opportunity to repay this community for my wonderful undergraduate experience." See page 20.

David Bressoud, who came to Macalester in 1994, is now department chair. He is finishing his latest book, *Proofs and Confirmations: The Story of the Alternating Sign Matrix Conjecture*, which will be published by Cambridge University Press. It combines his interests in combinatorics and the history of mathematics. His textbooks on number theory, vector calculus and real analysis are each on at least their second printings. Recently, he has offered courses that explore topics in mathematical history: "Newton's Principia and the Scientific Revolution" and "The Life and Mathematics of Srinivasa Ramanujan" (team-taught with Joy Laine of the Philosophy Department).

Susan Fox joined the department in 1995, after completing her Ph.D. in computer science at Indiana University. Her main research interests are in artificial intelligence and cognitive science. Her

current work focuses on learning techniques and representing reasoning processes. She has taught introductory computer science, including a new "concepts and functional language" course, and advanced courses in artificial intelligence, compiler design, and database systems. She is currently working on the creation of a robotics laboratory, available for artificial intelligence course use and student research projects.

Tom Halverson joined the department in 1993 after earning a Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He teaches courses both in mathematics and computer science and does research in



Joan Hutchinson

algebra and combinatorics. He occupies the rest of his time working on interdisciplinary projects with Macalester faculty and enjoying his family, Kristi and Ella (age 2).

Joan P. Hutchinson, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 1973; B.A. Smith College, 1967.

She has written a book on discrete mathematics and is the author of more than 50 research articles, on chromatic and topological graph theory. She was the winner of the 1994 Allendoerfer Award for expository writing and in 1998–99 will be a Sigma Xi distinguished lecturer.

Danny Kaplan joined the department in 1994 after earning his Ph.D. at Harvard in 1989 and working in the Physiology Department at McGill University. He teaches courses in applied mathematics, statistics and computer science, and has a particular interest in nonlinear dynamics ("chaos") applied to biological and medical problems.

Richard K. Molnar teaches both mathematics and computer science courses. His primary interests are in abstract algebra and combinatorial mathematics on the mathematics side, and formal models of computation, algorithms, semantics and artificial intelligence on the computer science side. In his leisure time, he likes to jog, read, cook and travel.

Wayne Roberts, currently on leave from the department to serve as Macalester's provost, continues as director of Minnesota's High School Mathematics League. Just prior to leaving the department, he completed his second term as chair of the committee of the Mathematics Association of America which has guided the national effort to reform the teaching of calculus in this country, in which capacity he edited *Calculus: The Dynamics of Change*.

Karen Saxe, who earned her Ph.D. in 1988 from the University of Oregon, joined the faculty in 1991. She teaches courses at all levels of the curriculum, mostly in the field of analysis. These courses lay the foundation for her research areas of operator theory and functional analysis. She recently participated in a workshop on operator theory in Cefalu, Italy, and has also recently joined the editorial board of the *College Mathematics Journal*.

G. Michael Schneider has been at Macalester since 1982 and is currently the coordinator of the Computer Science Program. He teaches advanced courses in parallel processing, distributed systems, and, beginning with the 1998–99 academic year, a new upper-division course in the design and implementation of computer networks. This year he was the recipient of an \$80,000 National Science Foundation grant to set up a high-performance Computational Science Laboratory. This lab will be used in two



Michael Schneider

new departmental courses in scientific programming and computational modeling. He is also finishing the writing of the second edition of his textbook, *Invitation to Computer Science*.

As a participant in the Macalester Senior Faculty Employment Option, John Schue is now in the third year of a four-year half-time appointment, with retirement by 1999. He is continuing research in lie algebras and will soon have a paper appearing in the *Journal of Algebra*. He is editor of the department newsletter and particularly

Teaching at Macalester: A report from the front

by Michael S. McPherson

EVERY Monday evening this past fall, a few minutes before 7 p.m., I would slip into Carnegie Hall, Room 305, and for the next three hours assume the familiar role of classroom teacher. I've decided in this my second year as Macalester's president that a little first-hand experience of the real work of our college would do me some good without, I hope, doing my students any harm.

I suppose I should allow my students equal time in assessing this adventure, but as for me I had a ball. One source of pleasure has been my colleague and co-teacher, Humphrey Doermann. Last year Humphrey, who once served as director of admissions at Harvard, retired following a distinguished career as president of Minnesota's Bush Foundation. When, over lunch a while back, Humphrey allowed as how he might like to try his hand at teaching, I jumped at the chance to bring him onto the Macalester faculty on a part-time basis.

The upshot is that he and I have been jointly teaching a seminar in the Economics Department on "Higher Education Policy" to about a dozen Mac students. Along with teaching for us, Humphrey is using his base of operations here to conduct a research project on the future of the nation's historically black colleges and universities — an important study whose subject has already found its way into our course.

Based on my small sample, I'm delighted to tell you that Macalester students prove to be everything they are cracked up to be. I can't remember teaching a group of folks who are more open, more curious, more fun than this one. We have our measure of informal banter in the give and take of the classroom, but the seriousness of their commitment to the hard work of learning comes through loud



and clear. I think what I like best is the willingness of our students to ask questions, to acknowledge that there are things they don't understand. One expects at a college of Macalester's quality to find students who think, write and speak well, and we're certainly finding that. (OK, I admit it: in some cases the writing could use a little help!) It's perhaps more rare to find a group of young people who have the self-confidence and maturity to make themselves vulnerable by admitting

their ignorance; our students' willingness to do that makes my job as teacher both easier and more rewarding.

This classroom experience has brought home to me in very concrete ways the great educational value of the range of backgrounds and experiences our students bring to the classroom. During the course

of the semester, we have been enlightened by students who drew on their experience of study abroad to draw comparisons to American higher education; we have heard about the big differences in educational experiences of students from public and private high schools, from urban and rural settings, from the Coasts vs. the Midwest. A student from Japan has talked instructively about his decision to come to the U.S. for college because of the strong liberal arts tradition that is largely missing in Japanese higher education.

Our students have also displayed an encouraging willingness to engage with the realities of our subject. We sent them out in teams to campuses around the Twin Cities area, to spend a bit of time discovering for themselves how remarkably various American higher education is. Their reports, from schools as different from Mac as the adult commuter campus of Metro State and the massive enterprise of the University of Minnesota, were alert and imaginative. We found the students to be alive to the important work these schools do and perhaps also a bit more aware of the extraordinary opportunity their Macalester education provides.

I CONFESS that as my head would hit the pillow Monday night at 11 to rest up for the next day's six o'clock start, I sometimes wondered if I was in my right mind when I decided to add this bit of teaching to an already busy (albeit rewarding) life. But I'm glad I did: I've learned things about our students and our school that I probably couldn't learn in any other way.

What's more, I find myself called back to our real purpose — the bedrock reason I, like other faculty, got into this business: to share in and to help in guiding the opening of young minds. ●

Mike McPherson, the president of Macalester, writes a regular column for Macalester Today. He has more than 20 years of classroom experience as a college teacher.

welcomes any news of alumni; e-mail: schue@macalester.edu

Daniel Schwalbe, who earned his Ph.D. in 1986 from Brown University, joined the department in 1993 as professor/computer lab manager. He was co-investigator on two successful grant applications this past year to develop a computational science course at Macalester. He is co-author of

two books using symbolic computational software in the mathematics curriculum.

Stan Wagon joined the department in 1990. He is the author of seven books and more than 50 papers, most of them inspired by the tremendous power inherent in modern software. Thus his main interest is seeing how computers can be used to allow us to see and understand

mathematical objects that have been difficult to visualize. His favorite example along these lines is the existence of a road on which a square-wheeled bicycle can travel smoothly, and he hopes to have a large-scale model installed in Olin-Rice in the near future. ●

Calendar of alumni 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 1-888-242-9351.

Please note: The Spring 1998 Arts & Events Calendar was mailed to all Twin Cities area alumni in January. It lists music, dance, theater, visual arts events and lectures on campus. If you would like a copy, please call the Alumni Office: 696-6295.

Feb. 17: Happy hour for recent grads in New York City, 6–8 p.m., Chelsea Brewing Company, Chelsea Piers, Pier 59, West 23rd St. and West Side Highway (questions? call Jackie Cohen '91 at 212-229-2944 or Caroline Cuningham '92 at 212-244-5627, ext. 157)

March 3: Alumni event in Washington, D.C., with political science Professor Chuck Green, at U.S. Capitol; call Tami Nading '90 at 202-363-9090

March 7: Meeting of all reunion committees, 8:30–noon, Weyerhaeuser Hall

March 8: Twin Cities alumni event with Joan '52 and Walter Mondale '50, 4–6 p.m., Olin-Rice Science Center Gallery (696-6295)

March 10: Alumni event in St. Louis with political science Professor Chuck Green, at University Club; call Jan Roberg '81 at 314-576-7973

March 10: Happy hour for recent grads in New York City, 6–8 p.m., Temple Bar, 332 Lafayette, between Bleecker and Houston (questions? call Jackie Cohen '91 at 212-229-2944 or Caroline Cuningham '92 at 212-244-5627, ext. 157)

March 19: Alumni event in Chicago with English Professor Alvin Greenberg, at Newberry Library; call Susan Perry '83 at 312-857-7139

March 21: Great Scots event (for alumni 55 and older), "President's Roundtable" with President McPherson and other guests discussing the state of the college, 8:30–11:15 a.m., Weyerhaeuser Hall (696-6026)

April 15: Happy hour for recent grads in New York City, 6–8 p.m., Tenth Street Lounge, 212 E. 10th St., between 1st Avenue and 2nd Avenue (questions?

call Jackie Cohen '91 at 212-229-2944 or Caroline Cuningham '92 at 212-244-5627, ext. 157)

April 23: Reception for President McPherson and alumni, Boston, location TBA

May 1: Scottish Country Fair, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Shaw Field, Macalester (696-6239)

May 14–15: field trip with geography Professor David Lanegan '63 through scenic Whitewater State Park, including overnight stay in Wabasha, Minn.; call 696-6295 or 1-888-242-9351

May 15–17: Reunion Weekend and Commencement; Commencement takes place at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17, on the lawn in front of Old Main

May 21–23: NCAA Division III Track & Field Championships, 11 a.m.

each day, hosted by Macalester; volunteers needed; for more information call Vanessa Seljeskog at 696-6736 or Martin Peper at 696-6167

July 12–17: Elderhostel Program (ages 55 and up) at Macalester. Call (612) 624-7004 for more information.

Aug. 8–15: Alumni cruise of Alaska's "Inside

Passage," led by Macalester geology Professor Jerry Webers (696-6026 or 1-888-242-9351) •

Golden Scots to march

MEMBERS of the Class of '48 who return for their 50th reunion are cordially invited to march with the Class of '98 in Commencement at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17.

More information will be available in Reunion Weekend mailings for members of the 50th reunion class. They will also become members of the Golden Scots Society, a name which replaces the 50-Year Club. •



Renoir in Chicago

Alumni in the Chicago area met with Macalester English Professor Robert Warde, center, and took a tour with him of the Renoir exhibit at the Art Institute of Chicago in October. Pictured (from left) are Molly McGinnis Stine '87, Anton Malygin '93, Susan Perry '83 and Katherine Siggerud '85. Warde is teaching and doing research at the Newberry Library in Chicago during the current academic year.

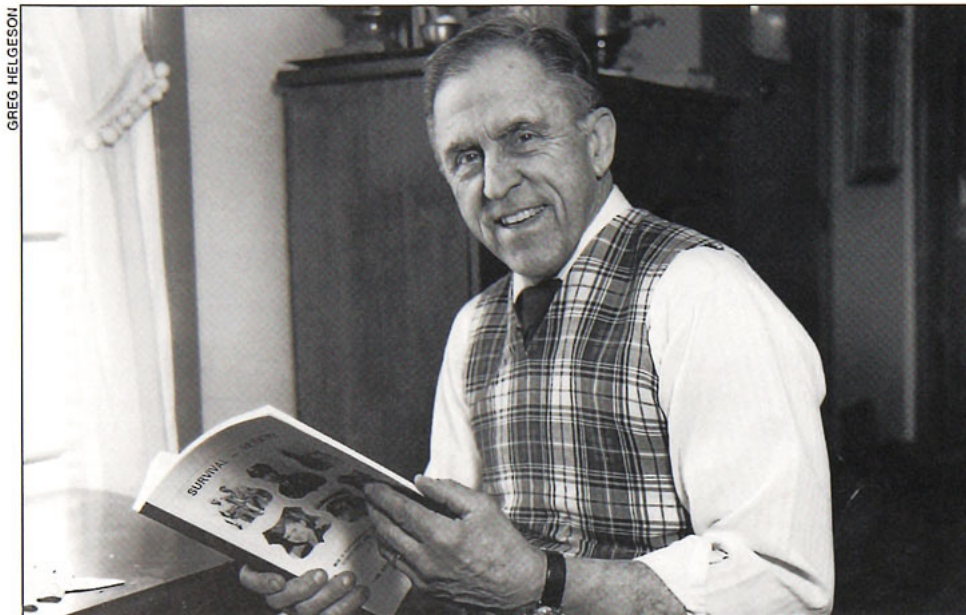
Shakespeare in Oregon

Professor Sears Eldredge, far right, shared his insights about theater and Shakespeare at an alumni event held Aug. 22–24 at the Ashland, Ore., Shakespeare Festival. Alumni had the opportunity to see three plays. Eldredge is chair of Macalester's Dramatic Arts and Dance Department.



The memories they've carried

Al Taylor '59 interviewed 44 veterans for an oral history of World War II



GREG HELGESON

Al Taylor '59: "This generation is getting older, and when they die, they take this piece of history with them."

by Mary Ann Grossmann '60

AL TAYLOR '59 was playing touch football in the empty lot across the street from his family's home on Minnehaha Avenue when he heard that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. He was too young to enlist, but he watched the young recruits train at Fort Snelling, where he'd been taught to swim by an Army lifeguard.

Taylor is 66 now and retired from a long career with the U.S. Forest Service. So he had time to work on *Survival and Re-Entry*, an oral history he compiled and self-published to honor all veterans of World War II.

"I started this book when I decided there must be another life after forestry," says Taylor, who lives in Bloomington, Minn. "I'd always wondered what it was like to go into battle, and I wanted to know how they survived against two major powers [Japan and Germany]. I realized, too, that this generation is getting older, and when they die, they take this piece of history with them."

Taylor himself served in the Army from 1953 to '55, during the Korean War, working as a clerk/typist and aide to a colonel in Japan. When he returned to the United States, he earned his degree in journalism at Macalester. By 1967, he was a writer/editor for the U.S. Forest Service at the

North Central Forest Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus. He also spent seven years in Alaska and two years in Louisiana.

He used the journalistic skills he honed during his years of writing about forests, streams and conservation when he interviewed 44 World War II veterans for his book. Their ages range from 70 to 85, and they represent all branches of the service.

"I didn't seek out heroes, and I never use that term. It denotes some macho Rambo-type guy," Taylor explains. "Everybody who did military duty merits credit. They went out and preserved the world. And I didn't leave them on the battlefield. I brought them home." That's why his book is subtitled *WWII Experiences of Vets Who Survived Combat Conditions and Returned to Civilian Careers*.

THE GENERATION that fought World War II was shaped by a society that valued strong and silent men. That's why many of these veterans came home and never spoke of their combat experiences. The wife of one of Taylor's interviewees admitted she'd never heard some of the memories her husband shared for the book.

Taylor asked everyone the same 16 questions, including: "What was your most traumatic incident?" and "If you are religious, what did it mean to you when you faced harm?"

For Joe Gomer, who flew with an all-black fighter squadron, the most traumatic experience didn't happen in the cockpit. He was a first lieutenant when he boarded a troop ship to go home, and the white captain made him go to the end of the line.

"We had two enemies in the war: the Germans and discrimination," Gomer told Taylor.

Since the book is organized alphabetically, it's ironic that the first entry is for

'I didn't seek out heroes, and I never use that term. It denotes some macho Rambo-type guy.'

Yoshio "Bill" Abe, a Japanese American who was treated as a virtual prisoner in the United States before serving in China, Burma and India.

Stan Nelson, a Macalester classmate of Taylor, tells of serving with the Marine Raiders Replacement Battalion behind Japanese lines on Guadalcanal and Okinawa, and former Alaska Gov. Jay Hammond reminisced about being a Marine pilot in a unit that lost 18 planes in the first two weeks of training.

Taylor doesn't neglect the women who served. Peg Clune, for instance, was in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps in Europe, and she continued volunteer work after the war by logging 27,000 hours at St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center.

Survival and Re-Entry is not a glitzy book. The cover is simple, and the typefaces inside don't all match. But the many snapshots, some taken during the war, will bring these experiences home to any reader who fought in World War II.

Taylor says this book was turned down by four publishers, but he was willing to pay for printing 250 copies. (For copies, call him at 612-888-1723.)

"It was worth it to me to get this story out," he says. "I feel I've done a service by highlighting contributions of these men and women." ●

Mary Ann Grossmann Thomsen '60 is the book critic of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, where this article was published Nov. 9. It is reprinted with permission.

Nature, People and Globalization

At the fourth annual Macalester International Roundtable, eminent scholars joined the Macalester community in exploring key questions: What are the major ecological questions of the age? What are the local manifestations of these issues and their global implications? How might we respond effectively, and what is the role of science in this task?

Macalester biology Professor Dan Hornbach responded to a paper by Ali Memon, a professor of geography at the University of Otago in New Zealand. An excerpt from Hornbach's response:

I BELIEVE that for any significant change in attitudes to occur we must invest heavily in education. As Dr. Thomas Lovejoy [Roundtable keynote speaker] said while discussing climate change, we are all a part of the problem and we must all be part of the solution. For this to occur the public must be educated. Not only environ-

mental education (e.g., recycling, protecting endangered species, etc.) but in economic and community education.

As Dr. Memon pointed out, most enlightened governments, such as New Zealand, use the model of sustainable development in restructuring the government's role in resource management and in the development of various resource management laws. As listed by Chris Maser, there are 10 elements for sustainable development. Eight of the 10 start with the term "understanding." It is by having citizens understand the consequences of their actions that they can make informed decisions. It is inevitably up to individuals to make the changes necessary to improve the environment. Through continued discussion and education, including such venues as this International Roundtable, progress can be

made. As Vice President Al Gore stated, "if the global environmental crisis is rooted in the dysfunctional pattern of our civilization's relationship to the natural world, confronting and fully understanding that pattern, and recognizing its

Roundtable participants

IN ADDITION to Professor Dan Hornbach and Natalie Powell '98, the other discussants at the 1997 Roundtable were:

- Macalester faculty Mark Davis, Biology, David Hopper, Religious Studies, and Julie Bunn, Economics
- Macalester students Rachel Coyne '98 (Andover, Minn.), Paul Gerdes '98 (Denver, Colo.) and Melissa Cowell '98 (Madison, Wis.)
- World Press Institute Fellows Ding Zhaolin (China), Angela Ureta (Philippines), Denis Mzembe (Malawi) and Malgorzata Rzepka (Poland)
- Presenters Danilo Anton, International Development Research Center, Montevideo, Uruguay; Sallie McFague, Divinity School, Vanderbilt University; Bina Agarwal, Institute for Economic Growth, Delhi University, India; and Ali



Professor Dan Hornbach

Memon, Department of Geography, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

- Keynote speaker Thomas Lovejoy, Smithsonian Institution

The papers presented will be published this spring in *Macalester International*. To order a free copy, write: International Studies and Programming, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 •



JIM HANSEN PHOTOS

Thomas Lovejoy of the Smithsonian Institution delivers the keynote address at the Roundtable, held Oct. 2-4 in Weyerhaeuser Chapel, as President McPherson listens.



Students applaud one of the speakers.

destructive impact on the environment and on us, is the first step toward mourning what we have lost, healing the damage we have done to the earth and to our civilization, and coming to terms with the new story of what it means to be a steward of the earth."

Education is the key to this understanding. And as [Roundtable speakers] Dr. Danilo Anton and Mr. Ding Zhaolin reminded us, the environmental movement is growing worldwide — we don't need to lose hope. We do need to accept that there are unequal responsibilities for the cause of environmental degradation and thus there must be unequal accountability for making improvements. However, we must focus on solutions and lessen the "rhetoric of blame." Moving forward to find solutions must be done with a sense of urgency so that we hasten the pace of improvement. The Rio Earth Summit was a historic one for the environment, providing many agreements on how to carry out improvements to the environment. However, this conference occurred five years ago and it appears that while some progress has been made toward reaching the goals set forth, this progress is not "significant" and time is running out. Important efforts, such as the ambitious experiment taking place in New Zealand, are needed and they must be expanded throughout the world.

Natalie Powell '98 (Menomonie, Wis.), who is majoring in biology and chemistry and minoring in Spanish, was one of the respondents to a paper by Danilo Anton of the International Development Research Center in Montevideo, Uruguay. An excerpt from Powell's paper:

NONE of the signed statements, created laws nor the implemented programs will work until the environment holds a more sacred place in the global mind. Anton's essay demonstrates that much of the world's thoughts on the environment are rooted in Western imperial thought. Land is viewed as a commodity and for many people, developing the land and using it to

the fullest extent has become a human right. Within the last few decades, the global community has begun to realize the damage humans have caused to our surroundings and the need to limit that damage or even repair it. Some individuals were enlightened before the majority of the population. For example, Aldo Leopold discussed the need for land ethics in 1949. He writes:

A land ethic then reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land. Health is the

capacity of the land for self-renewal. Conservation is our effort to understand and preserve this capacity. . . . The evolution of a land ethic is an intellectual as well as emotional process. To the laborer . . . the raw stuff on his anvil is an adversary to be conquered. But to the laborer in repose, able for the moment to cast a philosophical eye on his world, the same raw stuff is something to be loved and cherished, because it gives definition and meaning to his life.

Out of this "raw stuff" civilizations were built. Its diversity was and remains the main source of life. Then why do humans concentrate on destroying biodiversity by replacing rich, stable ecosystems full of biotic diversity with mono-specific plantations that require an extreme amount of energy to be sustainable? Why have humans relied on exterminating or subduing specific human groups to create a more uniform global culture? These acts seem counter to the natural system. Thus, the most important element in environmental preservation and protection is realizing that human societies are interconnected with the natural environment and derive our means of existence from it.

How do we reconnect with the environment as individuals to make a change? In the United States and in many parts of the world, recycling, although not a perfect program, is helping to promote environmental consciousness. . . .

For a person who consciously recycles, a message that what he or she is doing is small but significant for the environment and that less waste is ending up buried in the land is actively demonstrated. These developments in waste management are now based on the individual's responsibility to limit wastes and increase that which can be recycled. As a result, the number of landfills constructed has most likely decreased and resources such as aquifers are less in danger of contamination. That is what Aldo Leopold calls for — a moment to stop and think about how one can be a part of conserving the health of the land. ●



Natalie Powell '98

A Gathering Of Friends



Reunion Weekend and Commencement May 15 – 17, 1998

*Photos: Some scenes
from the 1993 Reunion*



A few highlights of the weekend:

- Commencement address by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan '61 at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17
- Special field trip with geography Professor David Lanegran '63
- Popular Mac Hac golf outing
- "Meaning and the Millennium: Sketching the Future of Religion," lecture and discussion led by Macalester Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith
- Alumni Awards Social and Banquet honoring 1998 Distinguished Citizens: Kenneth Breckner '38, David Kachel '53, James Jensen '63, Susan Haigh '73 and Susan Ousley '73
- Class parties and much more



Questions?

ALUMNI whose classes end in "3" or "8" have already received information through their classes. But if you have questions or want more information, please call the Alumni Office: (612) 696-6295, or toll-free: 1-888-242-9351



by Anne Valentine Martino '75

STANLEY BERRY is at the peak of a career path that started in the depths of uncertainty. A Detroit obstetrician and leading investigator of premature birth, Berry studied at Macalester from 1972 to 1978. At 6 feet 5 inches and 260-plus pounds, he is a mighty researcher, a respected teacher and a gentle doctor.

Scientists don't know exactly what causes babies to be born early, but they do know that "preemies" are disproportionately afflicted with lung problems, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and developmental delays. For that reason, Berry calls prematurity the No. 1 health problem in the world.

Anne Valentine Martino '75 profiled writer Charles Baxter '69 in the February 1997 Macalester Today. She wrote in The Mac Weekly about the 1974 takeover of the Macalester administration building by dissidents protesting cutbacks in financial aid for minority students.

"If we could write prescriptions for jobs, housing and food, we could stop half of it," says Berry, an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Wayne State University in Detroit, with a practice at Hutzel Hospital, one of the main pre-natal diagnostic and therapy centers in the region.

'I had — what are the terms? — lots of baggage and issues I needed to work through. I was trying to decide where I was going to fit into society as a black male.'

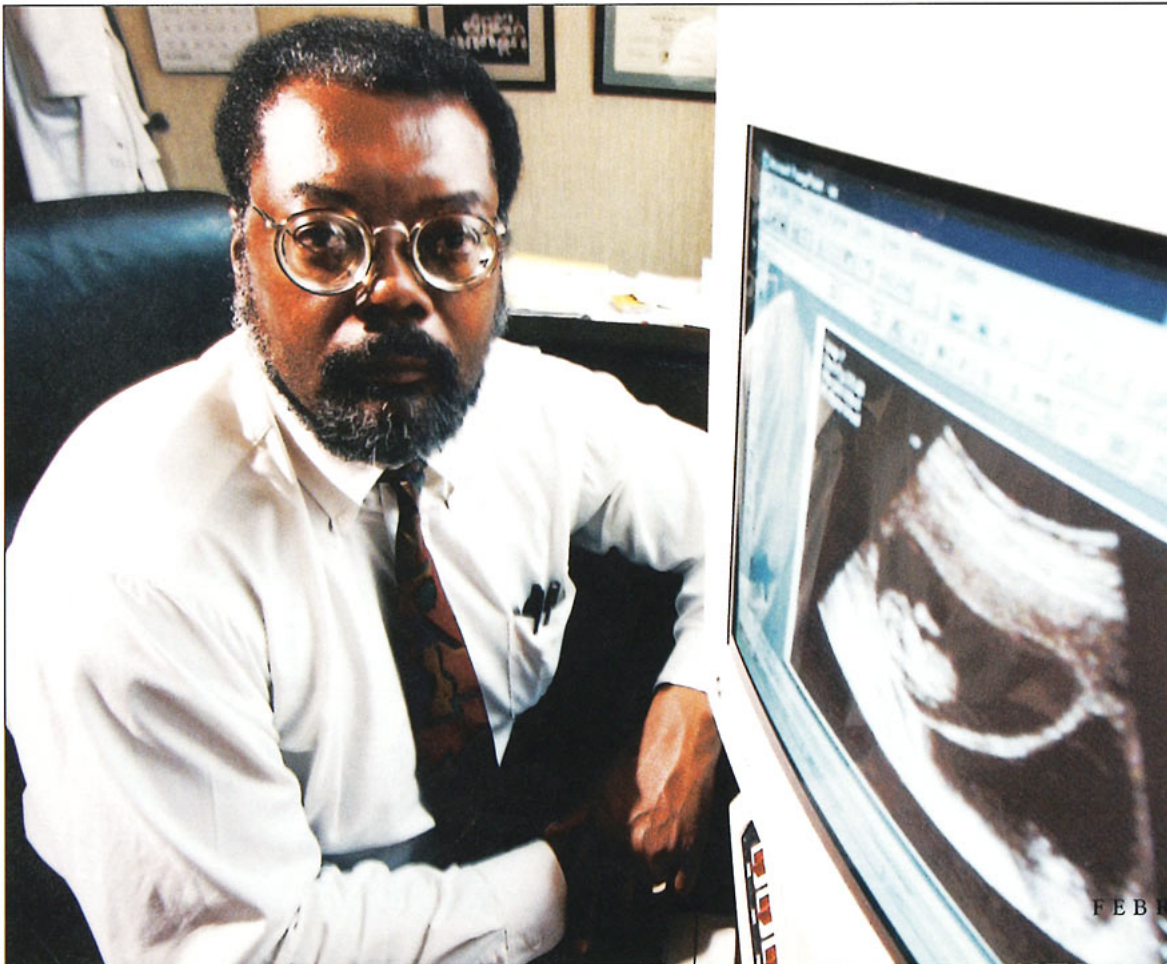
Berry and his colleagues are investigating premature labor with cordocentesis, a technique in which a needle is directed into the fetal umbilical cord. Blood samples drawn this way are suggesting new solutions to the problem.

Raised in Minneapolis, Berry headed for Kenyon College in Ohio after high school, but moved back home after a year and started to take courses at Macalester. In 1974, when dissidents took over the Macalester administration building to protest cut-

continued on page 48

Born Too Soon

Giving premature babies a better chance is the life work of Stanley Berry '76



BILL JORDAN

"If we could write prescriptions for jobs, housing and food, we could stop half of it," Detroit obstetrician Stanley Berry '76 says of premature births. The ultrasound display on the screen shows a set of twins in a high-risk pregnancy.

The Doctor Is In Today. Tonight, he's Got a Gig.

An innovative eye surgeon and passionate musician, Loren Little '63 is definitely not leaving Las Vegas

by Carolyn Griffith

OPTHALMOLOGIST LOREN LITTLE '63 loves to improvise, on the trumpet and in his life. While he loves any kind of music, it's improvisational jazz that really blows his horn. "There's nothing greater than improvisation; that's composing at the instant that you're playing," he declares.

On the face of it, ophthalmology and playing a jazz horn would seem to have little to do with each other. In fact, says the Las Vegas eye surgeon and professional musician, his aptitude for making it up on the fly was key in adapting to rapidly changing cataract-surgery techniques.

"Within five years, I had to learn three totally different surgical procedures," he says. Among the innovations was the artificial posterior chamber lens, developed in Las Vegas in 1977, which freed cataract sufferers from the need for Coke bottle-bottom glasses. "I was the second person in the world to put in the posterior chamber lens. At first, there were no protocols — each time we did

it, we did it a little differently, tried to do it a little better."

Doctor by day, musician by night: during those same years, Little performed in pit orchestras on the Strip with bright lights like Tony Bennett, Burt Bacharach, Jerry Lewis, Johnny Carson and Sammy Davis, Jr., and played solo trumpet for jazz groups. There was a long stretch when he played 300 nights a year or more.

"Loren was always the driven one in our family," relates younger brother Tom Little '65, a professor of special education at the University of Northern Iowa. "When I was out playing, he was down in our dark dungeon of a basement, practicing his horn." Music is a family tradition; their mother and father met when his band backed up her vocal trio, and Loren's first professional gigs, at age 13, were with his dad's jazz band in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Loren financed a good portion of his Macalester education with his trumpet, playing with his own group, the Swinging Scots. Tom played sax — until Loren "fired" him. "The guy who replaced him was Moose McIver," Loren recalls, laughing. "He was better, plus he played the bagpipes and didn't mind wearing a kilt!" After many years, the brothers played together again in 1996, doing a two-week stint with the band at Las Vegas' Gold Coast Hotel.

Loren was also a running back on Mac's football team for four years, and co-captain as a senior. "He never did need much sleep," Tom jokes.

In 1968, after he had finished med school at the University of Washington and his internship residency back home in Sioux Falls, Loren was drafted. There was plenty of demand for doctors in relatively safe, behind-the-lines Army hospitals in Vietnam, but Little opted to become a paratrooper. "I knew it would be rigorous, and I wanted to get back in shape — I hadn't done anything athletic in med school," he says, with wry understatement.

Little earned three Bronze Stars and, for his performance during his last hours in Vietnam, a Silver Star when a 1,200-man North Vietnamese Army regiment bombarded his firebase. He treated the

'I was straddled over this one guy [in Vietnam], and his eyes were big as saucers. I realized that blood was coming out of my chest and spurting over his head in a big arc; that's why his eyes were so big.'

men around him despite his own critical wounds. "I was straddled over this one guy, and his eyes were big as saucers. I realized that blood was coming out of my chest and spurting over his head in a big arc; that's why his eyes were so big."

With the help of another soldier, he stuffed Vaseline into the hole in his collapsed lung, wrapped his chest tightly — and went back to



TONY SCODWELL

‘There were three places then that had a lot of music going on. New York and L.A. were too big; the travel time was prohibitive. Here [in Las Vegas] I could get anyplace in five minutes.’

“There’s nothing greater than improvisation,” says Loren Little, who has played jazz trumpet in Las Vegas orchestras for such luminaries as Tony Bennett and Burt Bacharach. He also plays the flügelhorn, left.

work. “After a while I knew I wasn’t going to die. I was a doctor; I was just doing my job.”

After the never-ending adrenaline high of Vietnam, Little says, he was ready to pursue a specialty that didn’t involve a lot of blood. “It was going to be dermatology or ophthalmology,” he says, chuckling now about his choice, pointing out that there’s still quite an adrenaline surge involved in eye surgery. “That’s a really small place when you’re in there operating,” he notes. In 1976, he opened his private practice in Las Vegas.

Music was the initial draw. “There were three places then that had a lot of music going on,” Little recalls. “New York and L.A. were too big; the travel time was prohibitive. Here I could get anyplace in five minutes.” He remembers weighing the pros and cons of various cities, when it came to pursuing two careers at once. “In ophthalmology, most of the time you can name your hours. When I played a lot, I wouldn’t work until noon.”

Serendipity made Las Vegas the place to be for a cataract surgeon, first with the local invention of the revolutionary posterior chamber lens. Because

Little was one of the pioneers in this surgical technique, medical manufacturers often asked him to test their products. Then, the city’s retirement boom began to bring in a flood of cataract patients. “Before I started to slow down, a normal day would be 70 patients.”

Little lives with his wife, Christy, and stepdaughter, Nicole. He and his first wife, Karla Erickson Little ’63, who also lives in Las Vegas, have two children, Rich and Laurie. He’s cut back on his hours behind the scalpel, and with economic developments in the Las Vegas music scene, he’s only performing about three times a week now. So with a little extra time and energy burning a hole in his psyche, Loren Little has focused his laser-like drive on a new challenge: the recording industry. He’s produced one CD for fellow horn player Carl Saunders (available by writing S&L Music, 3230 E. Flamingo, Suite 181, Las Vegas, NV 89121), and is at work on another, pitting his own creative zeal against the labyrinth of music distribution. “If I could get Carl on the Jay Leno show, he’d knock ‘em dead,” he says.

“So much of it is luck,” Little says of commercial musical success. But if his history in the city where chance rules is any indicator, Lady Luck smiles on those who, like Loren Little, can seize a moment’s opportunity and pursue it intensely, never looking back. ●

Carolyn Griffith is a St. Paul free-lance writer. She wrote about alumni community activists in November’s Macalester Today.

Great Chemistry



DON HAMERMAN

...and great Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Computer Science, Psychology and Geology, too. Macalester's newly renovated Olin-Rice Science Center brings students and faculty together as collaborative scientists and mathematicians.

Above: This view of the completed building is from the southwest side of campus.

Right: Professor Karla Ballman '83, second from left, with students in the skylighted foyer of the Olin-Rice Science Center, which also serves as a lounge. Ballman "mourned the loss of the huge auditorium between Rice and Olin" because of the many Mac Cinema movies she saw there as a student. But, she adds, "its absence in the renovated space is actually a good thing because now Rice and Olin really feel connected."



DON HAMERMAN

Right: Instead of a traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony, Macalester faculty performed a chemistry experiment to dedicate the new science center. Professor Tom Varberg ignited a series of hydrogen balloons, the last of which held the two ends of the ribbon together. When the last balloon burst, helium balloons attached to the ribbon lifted it up like a drawbridge.



GREG HELGESON



DON HAMERMAN

Alumnae perspectives

Academic Dean and Professor Kathleen Kutzke Parson '67 at the dedication:

"I am perhaps the only one present who learned chemistry in the crowded attic labs of Carnegie Hall where fuming flasks would occasionally be vented on the fire escape stairs. In the summer of 1965, I helped in the move from Carnegie to the newly constructed Olin laboratories and completed my undergraduate chemistry education in Olin Hall. . . .

"The expansion and renovation of the Olin-Rice Science Center has created an integrated science complex that supports laboratory-rich, research-based learning and increasingly interdisciplinary areas of study. . . .

"As science faculty, we now enjoy contemporary accommodations and the resources to present and participate in science with our students as active collaborators. We look forward to meeting the needs of generations of students to come."

Professor Karla Ballman '83, mathematics and computer science:

"The renovation has served to make Rice Hall a much brighter building on the inside; gone are the dark spooky halls and dreary, windowless classrooms in Rice.

"My new office opens to the original exterior of Olin, which produces a kind of odd feeling; now when I daydream, I look into rooms which I used to look out of.

"Overall, the new space is wonderful. It not only physically brings the two buildings together but also brings the different disciplines together at an intellectual level because its design encourages faculty and students of all the departments to interact." •



GREG HELGESON

No one has a better perspective on the sciences

at Macalester than Academic Dean Kathy Parson, who graduated from Macalester as a chemistry major in 1967, joined the faculty in 1975 and is now a professor of biology and chemistry. She represented the faculty at the dedication.

Above: Psychology Professor Chuck Torrey talks with a student at the south side of the three-story complex. All faculty offices are on the south side, overlooking the athletic fields.

Below right: The Mathematics and Computer Science Department now has a new Reading Room for both students and faculty.

Olin-Rice Science Center

Dedication: Nov. 21, 1997

Cost: \$22 million, largest construction project in Macalester history

Added space: 26,000 net square feet, an increase of 34 percent

Main features:

- greatly increased lab space for research and research-teaching
- direct access between departments
- brighter and more welcoming gathering spaces
- replacement of outdated and inadequate equipment
- handicap access to all areas

Conference: On the occasion of the dedication, Macalester sponsored a conference Nov. 21-22, "Shaping the Future: New Expectations for Undergraduate Education in Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology." The focus of the conference was the National Science Foundation report which bears the same title. •



DON HAMERMAN



This third-floor classroom overlooking Shaw Field is used primarily by the Psychology and Chemistry departments. Here, psychology Professor Jaine Strauss convenes a class.



The James R. Smail Natural History and Science Gallery is being created to display the diversity and the visual beauty of nature that Professor Smail loved and shared with his students during his 30 years as a Macalester biology teacher. Here, Mary Smail, his widow, and a friend, art Professor Don Celender, confer in the second-floor space where the gallery will be located.

Recognizing science and math

A few recent examples, out of many, of students and faculty who have achieved national recognition in mathematics and the sciences:

- Five recent graduates received 1997 National Science Foundation (NSF) graduate fellowships.
- Since 1984, the science faculty has received 34 NSF Instrumentation and Laboratory Improvement grants. No other liberal arts college has received more.
- Books by three Macalester faculty, David Bressoud, Stan Wagon and the late Joseph Konhauser, were among the Mathematical Association of America's best-selling books in 1996–97.
- Four students have received Howard Hughes Medical Institute graduate fellowships since 1991.
- A team of students placed 11th in the nation in the prestigious Putnam Mathematics Competition, higher than any other liberal arts college.
- Professor Truman Schwartz received the national 1997 James Flack Norris Award for outstanding achievement in the teaching of chemistry.
- Macalester has added an astrophysicist, Kimberly Venn, to its faculty under a prestigious Clare Booth Luce Professorship awarded by the Henry R. Luce Foundation, which supports women in science. •

A student's view

Natalie Powell '98 (Menomonie, Wis.),
biology and chemistry major:

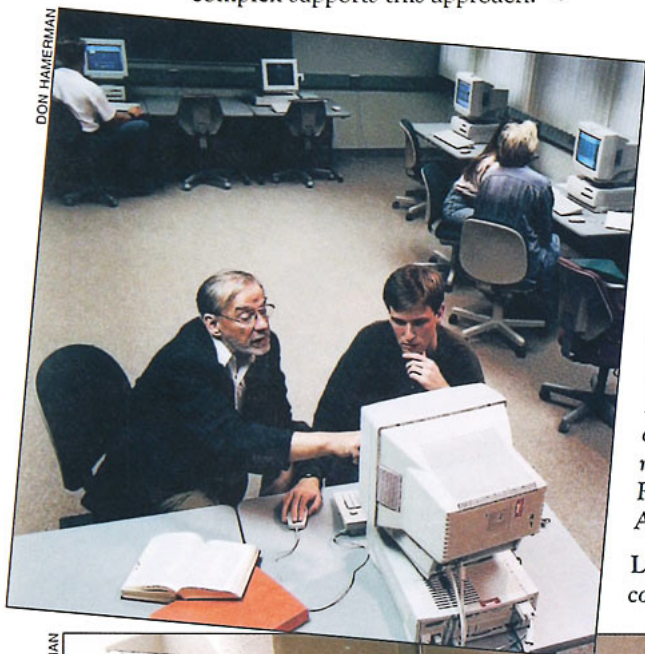
"Listening to the commentary at the International Roundtable [see pages 14–15], I have realized that solving some of the global and overwhelming problems requires more multidisciplinary action. Environmental problems, for example, involve aspects of biology, chemistry, psychology, physics and mathematics. The new Olin-Rice complex supports this approach." •



GREG HELGESON

Above: Geology Professor John Craddock '80 shows the Keck Laboratory to Ruth Robson Andersen '73 of Elmhurst, Ill., her friend Sue Petrosky and Ruth's daughter, Emily. The Keck Lab, made possible by a grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles, helps Macalester faculty in geology, chemistry, physics and biology analyze the structure and composition of nearly all organic and inorganic materials. The nearby computer lab in the Geology Department is named after Ruth's late husband, Mark E. Andersen '74, who was a scientist with McCrone Associates Laboratory in Chicago.

Left: Psychology Professor Chuck Torrey and Darren Couillard '99 (Duluth, Minn.) confer in the large psychology computer lab.



DON HAMERMAN



DON HAMERMAN

Left: Psychology Professor Lynda LaBounty and a student, Ben Barry '99 (Arlington, Va.), in her new research lab. LaBounty says the larger lab helps her be more productive and also gives her more flexibility in working with advanced students who may want to conduct a specialized research project.



A Moscow subway map connects a few things Russian, both old and new. They include a 1923 Soviet poster (right) promoting literacy (it reads: "Women! Learn Your Letters!") and a 1990 English-language poster; the Russian humor magazine Crocodile (left); a children's book about an alien who lands in Moscow (top left); a "DiskLand" video game; a box of "Hercules" oats; a picture of Lenin as a child; several matryoshki or nesting dolls, including one of Gorbachev (lower right); and a picture book showing strolls in Moscow for children (bottom).

Rethinking Russia

With the breakup of the Soviet Union,

Macalester's 'Russianists' reinvent their field

by Jon Halvorsen

THE DEATH of the Soviet Union shook the world. It shook a lot of scholars, too — the "Russianists" who have devoted their careers to teaching and studying things Russian, from language to history to culture. With the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet state, many of the reasons people

had for going into the field became irrelevant: the intellectual frisson of Communism; patriotic injunctions to "know thy enemy," or, conversely, the desire to build friendships across hostile frontiers; the sheer fascination of trying to learn something about a closed society. Some Western scholars, or at least their works, became outdated, too. "Some disciplines within the field, like political science, have taken a real hit," says Macalester history Professor Peter Weisensel. "To talk about

mechanisms of power, mechanisms of control, the idea of the dictatorship of the Communist Party — that whole line of thought seems fallacious now that it's been shown, in the end, that the party didn't have that much power." Weisensel, who specializes in the study of tsarist Russia, was himself surprised by the Kremlin's collapse and he faults no one for failing to predict the future. "If a mistake was made," he says, "it lay in taking Soviet propaganda about Soviet power too seriously." The study of things Russian has been undergoing a crisis or a redefinition, depending on your point of view. Enrollments in Russian-language courses have dropped off dramatically nationwide, and some colleges and universities are eliminating their Russian programs. To cite just one telling statistic: Russian-language enrollments in U.S. secondary schools — which, of course, affect the numbers at the college level — dropped 40 percent between 1989–90 and 1994–95, "and are still dropping," a Harvard scholar wrote last year in *The Newsletter of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies*.

Macalester Professor Jim von Geldern, who has made nearly 10 trips in all to the former Soviet Union, freely admits he was surprised at its demise. "If you had asked me the day before, I would have told you it's going to be there a hundred years from now." He has never been the least dismayed, however, about what that might do to the popularity or viability of his field. "It's been exciting, it's been great," he declares. "I can get in and do things I've never done before. I keep thinking, 'I could have picked all these fields that never change.' We have this really interesting, developing, evolving and exploding place to think about all the time." Von Geldern and his fellow "Russianists" in Macalester's Russian program — Professors Gitta Hammarberg and Rachel May — have reasons to feel good about their work. In 1996, an outside review team, composed of prominent scholars from Princeton, Grinnell and the State University of

New York at Stony Brook, had high praise for them and their program. "Most departments in the Russian/Soviet field have some faculty trained in the Cold War-binary mentality, [which is] rapidly retreating into history; Macalester has none," the reviewers wrote. "... Macalester has an outstanding Russian program. All three of the faculty members are serious scholars well known nationally in their field. They



Kristin Hayden '92 laughs as a Russian woman falls asleep on her shoulder in the Moscow subway. "When my friend whipped out her camera to capture that classic moment," Hayden recalls, "all of the stone-faced Muscovites sitting near me couldn't maintain their Russian public grimace and they burst out laughing with me. The babushka never woke up."

Two roads to Russia: language and area studies

Macalester has two separate majors: one in Russian language and literature, offered through the Department of German Studies and Russian, and the other in Russian, Central and East European studies, giving students a multidisciplinary knowledge of the geographical area. The latter is a joint

program of the ACTC — Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities.

Like many others who began studying Russian literature in the 1970s and '80s, Rachel May did so "partly because Russian literature was one of the few ways to get at what Russian life was really like. Historians, sociologists, anthropologists — nobody was writing anything that was reliable. If it was called 'factual' material, it wasn't going to be very factual about Russian life. It was through fictional literature that people were really exploring some of the issues about daily life, politics, economic problems. . . .

"Now we have much better access to information about those things than literature. A lot of people

went into the field for reasons that are no longer relevant. So we're all having to re-think why we do this and what it means," May says.

But if the reasons to study Russian are different than they were 10, 20 or 30 years ago, the language is still profoundly important. Russian is still the *lingua franca* — or in this case, the *obshchy yazyk* — of a large portion of the world's population, including all the former Soviet states, which communicate with the rest of the world in Russian. The opportunities for travel, study, work and business in Russia are growing. And, of course, "Russian literature is part of world literature," Hammarberg says. "It raises basic human questions of aesthetics and ethics from its unique cultural perspectives. It

Building a strong reputation: Gitta Hammarberg's road to Russian

GITTA HAMMARBERG arrived at Macalester in 1983, charged with reinvigorating the college's Russian program. "I'm happy to say that national trends at the time were on my side. Our enrollments grew by leaps and bounds in the '80s," she says.

Her colleague Rachel May is more explicit about Hammarberg's role: "She pretty much built this program. She did heroic things." Indeed, the Russian program grew from one tenure-track professor to three. Hammarberg helped hire the other two — May and Jim von Geldern — and initiated the regular hiring of native speakers from Russia.

And the program began to build the reputation it enjoys today. "Even though I graduated with a degree in English, I count my classes with Gitta among the most memorable and valuable learning experiences of my student years," wrote Kevin Brooks '89, who took four courses from her. A Russian major, Laird Cenotto '90, who worked in Moscow for six years, said that "if not for Gitta's enthusiasm in the early semesters of my Russian studies, I might not have pursued Russian for more than a semester or two. . . . Gitta and Jim [von Geldern] may not even realize to what degree they have influenced my life."

Growing up in Finland, in a Swedish-speaking family, the bilingual Hammarberg never considered

learning the language of the giant next door. The Finns, including her father, had fought against the Russians during World War II, and there was still a lot of animosity toward Finland's traditional enemy. It wasn't until the 1960s, when she was doing post-graduate work in economics at Indiana University, that she became interested in the Russian language while studying the Soviet budget. She ended up earning a Ph.D. in Russian literature from the University of Michigan.

Hammarberg, who was recently named DeWitt Wallace Professor of Russian (see page 4), is a highly regarded scholar in a field — 18th century Russian literature — that is never taught in any depth at the undergraduate level. "That's when Russian literature really became modern, through a wave of volatile Westernization much like the one we're experiencing now. It's a tremendously dynamic period. My research has been pretty much separate from my teaching. That's been good and bad. It's harder to keep up with 18th century scholarship. But on the other hand, I've learned a lot about other periods through my teaching."

HAMMARBERG has helped broaden the definition of what "literature" was then. Her work on Nikolai Karamzin, a major literary innovator, led to a theoretical redefinition of Russian Sentimentalism. Her current research addresses popularizers of Sentimentalism, who have generally been dismissed as marginal figures, and equally marginal "feminized" salon genres, such as amateur album verse — from doggerel to witty madrigals — and improvisational domestic verse and prose.

"One of my aims is to affirm the potency of trivia and to show that frivolity and lighthearted wit were positive aesthetic values in 18th century Russia," Hammarberg says. "My focus is literature, but I espouse a wider view of literature than has been traditionally taken." •



Professor Gitta Hammarberg: "She did heroic things" in building Macalester's Russian program, says a colleague, Rachel May.

In the nature of things, Rachel May finds a fresh way to see Russia

RACHEL MAY is "one of the country's leading young experts on translation and translation theory," according to the three scholars who reviewed Macalester's Russian program. Her 1994 book, *The Translator in the Text: On Reading Russian Literature in English*, analyzes how translations of Dostoyevsky, Solzhenitsyn and other writers color the reader's view of Russian texts and, in the end, of Russian literature itself.

Despite her expertise in that field, May "knew I needed to do something different [after her book came out]. I thought, 'What do I love and what would sustain me? And what would students be interested in, so I could help our [Russian] program branch out from the language and literature model and get into interdisciplinary teaching?'"

Combining her passion for the outdoors and her fondness for nature writing, May is at work on a book comparing American and Russian cultural attitudes toward nature. She went to Russia to do research on its national park system, and was recently awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship for 1998–99 to support her project.

Despite Russia's vastness and its abundance of wild animals and uninhabited regions, there is no real equivalent in the Russian language for the word "wilderness," May says. "That's what made America different — we had this wilderness. When Russian hunters describe the environment, they say how 'Russian' it is. It has nothing to do with challenging their manhood or going off and finding God. It has to do with getting in touch with the heart of Russia and going back to places that feel quintessentially Russian. And that means people."

allows us to ponder the role of literature in a society radically different from ours."

Although enrollments in Russian-language courses at Macalester are down from their peak in the late 1980s — only one section of elementary Russian is offered now compared with three formerly — the language "path" has been revitalized and the curriculum revamped in other ways. There is more emphasis now on functional usage and language proficiency rather than root learning. For example, with a grant from the Culpeper Foundation, May teamed up with a native Russian speaker, visiting Professor Tamara Mikhailova, and Tom Browne of the college's Humanities Resource Center to develop a visually compelling piece of software for advanced students. It introduces them to masterpieces of Russian art while simultaneously developing their vocabulary and listening comprehension. The software will eventually be turned into a CD-ROM.



Throughout her academic career, May has felt "all the political ups and downs" of the Cold War and its aftermath. She wanted to work as a journalist at the Moscow Olympics in 1980, but the American withdrawal dashed those hopes. Returning from Oxford University after earning a master's degree, she found a dismal job market for Russian scholars because of the war in Afghanistan. She taught high school math until going back to get a Ph.D. in Slavic languages and literature.

"THE 20 YEARS since I first went to Russia have been the most exciting 20 years anyone could possibly imagine, in any discipline," says May, who joined Macalester's faculty in 1992. "I believe that no matter what field I chose, I would have been constantly rethinking its place in the intellectual world and its relevance to students. To be in a field that forces us to do that all the time is a challenge, but it's a wonderful challenge. And the reasons I chose to be a Russianist are still valid: it's still a beautiful language and a fabulously rich literary tradition." •

Professor Rachel May won a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship for 1998–99 to support her research project comparing Russian and American cultural attitudes toward nature.



STEPHEN SPARTANA

'[During the Cold War] Russian literature was one of the few ways to get at what Russian life was really like.'

— Professor Rachel May

A variety of study-abroad programs are open to today's Russian majors, including the ACM (Associated Colleges of the Midwest) semester program in Krasnodar in southern Russia, which Hammarberg will direct in the fall of '98. Some students live in Macalester's Russian House, where they have daily conversation with a resident native speaker and other students of Russian. The Russian House is also where residents perform skits based on Russian folk tales, prepare festive meals for the community on Russian holidays, hear guest speakers and learn more about Russian culture generally.

The Russian faculty have also broadened their own interests. Hammarberg's recent senior seminars have turned to the more contemporary Russian literature with its abundance of talented women writers and distinctly Russian variations on feminism and post-modernism. Last year, for the first time, Hammarberg taught a course on the Russian empire

and the literature that went with it, an approach that also crossed into history and geography. May teaches a seminar every spring entitled "Translation as Cross-Cultural Communication," open to advanced students of any language. Last spring, 10 students, who spoke seven languages among them, took the course, and 19 signed up for it this spring. This past fall, she taught a first-year course comparing American and Russian nature writing. Just as her translation course is cross-listed with Macalester's International Studies Program, her nature writing course was linked with a course that geography Professor Jerry Pitzl is teaching on environmental problems in the U.S. and Russia. Except for the language courses she teaches, "it seems like everything I teach is somehow cross-disciplinary," May says.

Indeed, other Macalester faculty who were not trained in Russian have also crossed over into the field and done work in the former Soviet Union. For example:

- Pitzl, who actually learned Russian with Macalester students, teaches courses on the geography of the former Soviet Union. In 1994, he took a group of Minnesota high school geography instructors to Moscow for a three-week workshop.

- Economics Professor Gary Krueger is the Macalester coordinator of the ACTC's Russian, Central and East European studies program. He is studying the restructuring of formerly state-owned enterprises in Russia and is at work on a book, *The End of the Beginning: Russian Industry in Transition*.

To Russia with love and passion: Recent grads find compelling experiences in Moscow, Siberia and Stalin's library

IN ADDITION to CIA analyst Rebecca Hanson '95 and Muscovite-turned-Londoner Kristin Hayden '92, here are four other recent graduates who are doing interesting things with their Russian-language and Russian/Soviet studies majors. See page 32 for a story on how history major Jed Sunden '92 became a publisher in Ukraine.



Jennifer Abel '93, middle, hiking along the shore of Lake Baikal in Siberia in 1994

Jennifer Abel '93

majors: international studies and Russian

since graduation: spent a year in Siberia in the region of Lake Baikal, the world's oldest and deepest lake, working for the U.S.-based Rural Enterprise Adaptation Program; worked principally on a farmer-training program, helping people who live near the lake to develop economically and encour-

aging them to protect the area's fragile natural resources; then spent two and a half years managing agricultural development projects in Russia and Senegal at Rodale Institute, a sustainable agriculture research and education organization in Pennsylvania.

currently: working on a U.S. Information Agency-sponsored program in the same area of Siberia, developing specific projects that Americans can work on there to help villagers generate income; has acquired expertise and strong interest in sustainable agriculture, especially at the community level.

quote: "It's the people there [in the former Soviet Union] who keep drawing me back. I've never met people who are so resourceful and resilient, [despite] all of the hardships they have to deal with. . . . It's so remarkable to see how they're so adept at dealing with crises and difficulties, and always with cheerfulness."

Laura Adams '90

majors: sociology, Soviet and East European Area Studies (Russian core)

since graduation: spent 10 months in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Studied Uzbekistan's national holidays: how they express new and old identities, how their production demonstrates the idiosyncrasies of the Soviet approach to how culture works, and how the Soviet experience fundamentally shaped the way Uzbekistan's cultural elites understand Uzbek national identity and culture.

currently: writing dissertation; hopes to receive Ph.D. in sociology from Berkeley in 1998.

quote: "The language and literature classes I took at Mac, the experience of living in Russian House and Professor [Jim] von Geldern's continuing support for my interest in festive culture have all made a big difference in my life and career."



David Brandenberger '92

majors: Soviet and East European area studies and history; minor in Russian

since graduation: worked as a curricular consultant teaching English and journalism at Moscow State Linguistic University for a year; then entered Ph.D. program in Soviet history at Harvard; spent 1996-97 academic year ferreting through former Com-

Laura Adams '90 with her research adviser in Samarkand, Uzbekistan

• David Chioni Moore, professor of international studies and English, is editing for publication a 1934 book, *A Negro*

Looks at Soviet Central Asia, by the African American poet Langston Hughes. The book was published in Moscow and Leningrad and has not reappeared since. Hughes, who traveled extensively in Soviet Central Asia in 1932, treats the situation of the “colored peoples” of the U.S.S.R. from an African American

‘I am tired of friends asking me, “If you tell me, will you have to kill me?”’

— Rebecca Hanson ’95, who works for the CIA



David Brandenberger '92 in Vologda, a city far to the north of Moscow.

complete dissertation in 2000; also a fellow at Central European University's Institute of Record in Budapest.

quote: “I would ultimately like to teach at a small liberal arts college similar to Macalester.”

Laird Cenotto '90

major: Russian

since graduation: worked in Moscow from 1990 to 1996, mostly sales/marketing for a telecommunications company and a coffee-roasting business and eventually in human resources for the Moscow office of Baker & McKenzie, the world's largest law firm.

currently: working with a large law firm in San Francisco as a project coordinator for a \$10 million office refurbishment; expects to pursue M.B.A.

quote: “Once this [M.B.A.] degree is under my belt, I will most assuredly end up in Russia, either with a multinational or seeking my own niche.” •

munist Party archives in Moscow while conducting research on ideological indoctrination under Stalin for doctoral dissertation; worked in Stalin's personal library and with Red Army files produced by the NKVD, predecessors to the KGB; in many cases, was the first Westerner to view the materials.

currently: affiliated with study groups at Harvard focusing on diverse ethnic cultures and political issues; expects to

perspective. Moore has also published articles in which he looks at Russia's own colonial empire — the former U.S.S.R. republics and East European satellites — from the “postcolonial” perspective which has been used for Africa, South Asia, the Caribbean and other regions since the 1960s.

• Classics Professor Andy Overman is director of the Macalester Black Sea Project near Sevastopol, Ukraine. Last summer, Hammarberg and von Geldern joined him, two other Macalester faculty and three Macalester students at the site (see November's *Mac Today*).

Like faculty in other disciplines, Macalester's Russianists have also reached out to students who are not majoring in the field. Hammarberg's survey course on Dostoyevsky and Gogol drew 16 students — a large number in the Russian program — and most literature and culture courses, by tradition, are taught in English. “[We want] to attract students from other disciplines who *should* know about Russian culture,” she says.

The large Russian immigrant population in the Twin Cities is also a potentially rich resource for students to understand the culture at first hand. For example, students in May's fourth-year Russian class last year interviewed Russian immigrants for an oral history project. This year, visiting Professor Mikhailova organized a meeting between fourth-year students and Russian veterans of World War II living in



Lenin looms over Rebecca Hanson '95 in St. Petersburg in 1994.

‘My Russian studies major — or shall I say the entire process of studying Russian, which led to a natural interest in the country and culture — changed my life.’ — Kristin Hayden ’92

Comic books, movies, songs: Jim von Geldern examines Soviet ‘culture’ from the ground up

DOSTOYEVSKY, TOLSTOY, PUSHKIN: These and other great figures in Russian culture have been examined, pored over, revised and reconsidered by generations of Western scholars.

Professor Jim von Geldern studies writers like Anna Ulyanova-Elizarova, Lenin’s older sister, whose articles about the young Vladimir and their family carried moral lessons; books like *The Great Soviet Encyclopedia* of 1953, which exalted all things Russian; popular songs like “March of the Happy-Go-Lucky Guys,” a huge hit in the 1930s. As a “Russianist,” von Geldern has carved out his own specialty: popular culture — what most people read and enjoyed, from the sentimental songs and patriotic movies to the children’s stories and detective novels.

“I work in a way that’s halfway between history and literature,” says Von Geldern, who joined the Macalester faculty in 1988. “What the historians are trying to do is to rewrite the history of the Soviet Union so that it’s not a totalitarian state, like out of George Orwell, but a living, bumbling state in which there is some relationship between the people in power and the people below. A lot of people loved Stalin. It’s tough to figure out why. The way you do this is to go through the culture which they used themselves and start to figure out the values in it.

“The other question that’s made the study of mass culture very big in the field right now is the question of 1991 [when the Soviet Union broke up]. It used to be that all the bad practices we associate with the Soviet Union were blamed on this massive police state. Well, the state disappeared and a lot of those practices are still there. Suddenly, you have to find new causes; you have to start looking at attitudes and cultural traditions and see how they’re passed along and what they are in the first place. Then there are also questions like national identity.”

The first scholar to look extensively at “low” Russian culture, Von Geldern is the author of *Bolshevik Festivals, 1917–1920*, a study of how elaborate socialist festivals helped build a new political culture in the U.S.S.R., and the co-editor of two complementary anthologies of popular culture: *Mass Culture in Soviet Russia: Tales, Poems,*

St. Paul. The meeting was a great success and will be the subject of a student-made film.

Back in the U.S.S.R.: How to stand out

Most importantly, given the upheavals in the former Soviet Union and in their own field, Hammarberg, May and von Geldern encourage Russian majors to acquire both a language skill and



GREG HELGESON

“I work in a way that’s halfway between history and literature,” says Professor Jim von Geldern.

Songs, Movies, Plays and Folklore, 1917–1953, and Entertaining Tsarist Russia: Urban Entertainments, 1798–1917.

VON GELDERN was studying physics and math at Tufts University when he took Russian and “fell completely in love with the language, the culture and everything.” In the late ’70s, at the height of the Cold War, the Tufts junior went to St. Petersburg with a few other Russian-speaking American students. “You were a 20-year-old kid, you really know nothing, and suddenly you go to this place where they think you’re so important they follow you, listen to your conversations and write them down. . . .

“Just because it’s a dysfunctional country doesn’t mean it’s not a fascinating place to be.” •

‘A lot of people loved Stalin. It’s tough to figure out why. The way you do this is to go through the culture.’

a discipline. Often, that means two majors. “That combination makes them so distinct when they get out [of college], they’re eminently hireable,” von Geldern says. “We see our students getting jobs that people just don’t get without both. You stand out above all the other candidates.”

Rebecca Hanson ’95, who majored in history, Russian and Russian area studies, said her Russian courses at Mac were “fabulous. I’m getting my master’s degree [in Russian, Central and East European studies] at Georgetown right now and I have to say

Mac prepared me extremely well. I feel like there's just more work now [in grad school], not a higher quality." Hanson says it was probably the language preparation she had at Mac as well as her experience of studying in St. Petersburg that helped her land a job as an analyst with the CIA. She works in the CIA's Directorate of Intelligence, where most of the analysis is done. She researches and writes intelligence products and delivers briefings for senior U.S. policymakers. "I love the fact that I get paid to delve deep into topics that are of great interest to me — just don't ask me what I know!" she said. "I am, however, tired of my friends asking me, 'If you tell me, will you have to kill me?'"

Kristin Hayden '92 made herself stand out. She, too, was a triple major, in Russian, international studies, and Soviet and East European area studies. She lived in Russian House for one semester, assisted refugee children from the former Soviet Union at a St. Paul elementary school and spent a semester studying in Moscow as the Soviet Union was on the verge of collapse. After graduation, her internship at the Foundation for Russian-American Cooperation in Seattle led to another internship at the newly opened Russian consulate in Seattle. That experience, in turn, helped her gain a job with a Seattle company, which then sent her to Moscow to



For historian Peter Weisensel, it's no secret: Russia's tsarist past offers a host of clues to 1917–91

IN 1996, Professor Peter Weisensel walked into a Moscow archive which had once been so sensitive, even longtime Soviet Academy scholars and Communist Party members had been forbidden access. It was "like the black hole inside concentric steel rings that *nobody* got into," he recalls.

In the 1970s, Weisensel and other Westerners had been assigned Soviet "roommates" and confined to the same dormitory even when researching the most innocuous material — if permitted to do research at all. Yet here was an American historian, 20 years later, allowed into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs archive to look at once top-secret diplomatic documents after merely sending a letter of request.

"The folder in the inventory, to me, had a really racy title. I thought, 'Wow, this is going to be full of good stuff!'" Laughing at the memory, Weisensel added, "It was merely copies of documents that I'd already seen in other ministry archives in St. Petersburg. There were some interesting new documents, but there were no great revelations."

A Macalester faculty member since 1973, Weisensel specializes in Russian imperial history, from the 18th century to 1917. It was a field he was drawn into after the then-chemistry major at the University of Wisconsin read Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*. "I think it was a kind of insight into human nature that I sensed there, and a clarity that perhaps I hadn't appreciated in other writers," he says.

After 25 trips to the Soviet Union and former Soviet Union — Weisensel estimates he has spent five to six years there — three books and a fourth in the works, Weisensel believes the U.S.S.R.'s collapse has made it even more important to study pre-revolutionary Russia.

"At first glance, the tsarist era may appear to be even more remote, more disconnected from the problems of today, than before, because we've now got another layer of history, the U.S.S.R., that stands between our

time and the time I study. But we must try to understand and accurately describe the *culture* that could produce something like the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and its relationship with society. It came from somewhere; it wasn't invented out of thin air in 1917. It came in significant measure from the tsarist past."

WEISENSEL is immersed in studying how the tsarist state was an empire, and comparing it with the British and other 19th and early 20th century empires. That includes understanding how imperial Russia treated different ethnic groups. He has found "a perfect case study" of how the Russians dealt with a non-Russian, non-Christian people while doing research in the national archive of the Republic of Tatarstan, in Kazan, 500 miles east of Moscow.

"If there was ever a multinational state in the world," he says, "it certainly was tsarist Russia and its successor, the U.S.S.R. Here's a place to study what happens when people of different races, religions, cultures and languages keep

bouncing up against each other day after day. There are a lot of people studying that, and rightfully so. Indeed, the role of national identity and national uprising in the last days of the Soviet Union makes it clear that diversity and separate identities are very much implicated in its collapse.

"If we study how, in the tsarist era, Russian culture built up an idea of the identity of a Muslim, or what Muslim society was like, then we can understand a great deal about why the Soviet Union was an empire, too, and why in the end it collapsed." •



Peter Weisensel has spent five to six years of his life, all told, in the Soviet Union and former Soviet Union.

develop and manage its Russian pharmaceutical business.

"This was an amazing opportunity for a recent grad with no business or medical background.... Thank you, Macalester," Hayden wrote via e-mail recently from London, where she is now with a U.K.-based charity focused on humanitarian work in the former Soviet Union. ●

Jon Halvorsen is the managing editor of Macalester Today.

DOUG STONE



Read all about it: Jed Sunden '92 creates a thriving publishing business in the heart of the former Soviet empire

by Doug Stone

KIEV, UKRAINE — In the fall of 1995, a 25-year-old Macalester graduate and six colleagues set up shop in a two-room apartment in this historic East European city and began publishing, of all things, an English-language newspaper.

"It was tough to sell ads," says Jed Sunden '92. "There was a lot of sweat and tears. Three days before the first issue, a computer virus took out our design computer. We yanked the computer apart. We had a million unexpected problems like that. But we got the issue out."

The *Kyev Post* was born.

Two years later, Sunden is still at it. Only now he is the publisher of the *Kyev Post* and a sister paper called the *Odessa Post*, as well as a quarterly English-Ukrainian business directory and a monthly Russian-language women's magazine. He publishes more than 20,000 newspapers twice weekly, 20,000 business directories quarterly and 50,000 copies of the magazine twice monthly. He has more than 50 employees (about half the 15 editorial employees of the paper are Americans or British, the rest Ukrainians) and a revenue stream that is "five times what we thought was sustainable" when he started the newspaper, he says.

"Our timing was fortuitous," Sunden says. "You couldn't have done this business 10 years ago. It would have been strictly impossible. There are basic human rights now. Education. Freedom to travel. It's an established concept that Ukraine is an independent country. When I got here in 1993, that was not established or taken for granted. No one would argue now that Ukraine should go back to the Soviet Union or Russia, as some did in 1994. Moscow, Budapest, Prague and St. Petersburg all had English-language papers. Having one in Kiev seemed like a really straightforward idea."

Sunden's original idea was to focus on three subjects: international news for foreigners; a com-

"I tend to be one of the more optimistic on Ukraine," says newspaper publisher Jed Sunden '92, pictured in his office in Kiev.

munity guide for restaurants, movies and events; and business news for the business community. The paper, while now larger and more thorough, has stuck to that philosophy. The lively and well-written *Post* is a tabloid, usually 32 pages. In a typical issue last August, it covered subjects ranging from Ukrainian independence day to the murder of a newspaper editor in Odessa, along with features and business news.

On the editorial page, his staff has taken strong stands. In an editorial and an opinion column prior to independence day in August, the paper questioned the lack of progress towards political and economic reforms. Sunden takes part in editorial discussions, but he doesn't always agree with what his editors may write.

"I tend to be one of the more optimistic on Ukraine. I am very slow to criticize because those achievements are major, something we tend to forget."

ANATIVE OF New York City and a history major at Mac, Sunden long has been interested in Russian and East European history. His Macalester experiences reinforced those interests. Sunden fondly remembers his Macalester professors, such as Jim von Geldern and Gitta Hammarberg in Russian and Peter Weisensel and David Itzkowitz in history. "My studies helped me know the country quite well. They led me to want to come over here."

When Sunden arrived in Kiev, he planned to spend six months. "Then I stayed another six months, then a year," he says. "Now I am married [Anya Sunden, a Ukrainian, works for an American advertising agency] and I just bought an apartment. I'll be here at least three more years. I like living here." ●

Doug Stone, director of Macalester's College Relations Office, interviewed Jed Sunden in August while in Ukraine to report on the Macalester Black Sea Project (see November Mac Today).

'You couldn't have done this business 10 years ago. It would have been strictly impossible.... No one would argue now that Ukraine should go back to the Soviet Union or Russia, as some did in 1994.'

Appetizing Europe

Jennifer Wesman '93 finds career openings in Germany, Holland, Sweden...



Jennifer Wesman '93 is responsible for overseeing the opening of Applebee's restaurants around the U.S. and the world. Here she's at the Roseville, Minn., branch of the 900-restaurant chain.

by Andy Steiner

JENNIFER WESMAN '93 helped lead an American invasion of the former East Germany.

In 1994, a year out of Macalester, she was making serious plans to attend medical school. Instead, the German and political science major used her language skills to help open three all-American Applebee's restaurants in the land of bratwurst, wienerschnitzel and spatzel. Since then, she's traveled around the globe, opening restaurants in places as far away as Sweden and Holland, and as close to home as Elk River, Minn.

After taking a temporary job waiting tables at a new Applebee's restaurant in Stillwater, Minn., Wesman learned that the national restaurant chain had plans to spread overseas. "They were looking for people who spoke German to go help them open new stores

in Germany," she recalled. "They needed people to train employees, to help organize the store openings. It sounded like fun, so I applied."

Wesman, who is fluent in German, had lived in Germany for a year between high school and college. "As it turned out, when Applebee's sent out word to all their 900 restaurants that they needed German-speaking trainers, only three people in the entire chain said they could speak German, and I was one of them. It was a good match."

In the U.S., the restaurant specializes in a carefully crafted "casual dining atmosphere," she explains, an American concept that is foreign to many European food servers and diners.

"What we strive for is a place that is somewhere in between a family restaurant and a fine dining experience,"

Wesman says. "We offer a full bar, but we're not stuffy. It's fun, laid-back, casual. The guest can expect a fair amount of interaction with their server. In Europe, the service can be stiffer, more formal. We have to teach not only how Applebee's creates this kind of atmosphere, but also what it's like to have this kind of dining experience. We do a lot of role playing."

The first German Applebee's Wesman helped open was in Dresden. She stayed for three weeks, helping turn a stiff and nervous crew into close approximations of their more casual, fun-loving American colleagues.

Her first trip to Germany was such a success that she's played key roles in the opening of two other German Applebee's. All three are in the country's eastern half.

"They love American things there. For each store opening, we go through hundreds of applications. The restaurants are all incredibly popular."

What started as a means to an end has developed into a career. Wesman's been promoted to training team leader, meaning she is now responsible for overseeing Applebee's openings around the United States and the world.

Lately, Wesman's been spending a big chunk of her life on the road, living in hotels and working 'round the clock. All that time away from home can be tiring, but she's making the best of it, meeting new friends, seeing new places, making herself at home wherever she lands.

"It's a great opportunity, and I'm having a blast," she says. "Sometimes I even forget that I'm working." •

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Andy Steiner '90, a St. Paul writer and editor, wrote about attorney Cean Shands '89 in the May issue of Macalester Today.

Big job, no paycheck: The story of a full-time parent

by Kate Havelin '83

It's 9:30 Monday morning, and I'm not at the office. I don't have an office anymore, I don't have a job. Correction: I don't have a job that pays a salary. A year and a half ago, I quit my \$44,000-a-year job as a producer at WCCO-TV to stay home with my kids, Max, then age 2½, and William, 1.

If anyone had told me 15 years ago, when I was at Macalester, that I would walk away from a good job in journalism to stay home with kids, I would have been shocked. In college, I focused on my career. I knew I would be a journalist. I walked into the *Mac Weekly* office my second day on campus and wrote a front-page story that first week. By my junior year, I was the *Weekly* editor.

So what happened to that driven journalist? It's too simplistic to say she grew up and had kids. I'm still a feminist with strong goals. I still want and need to write, to do work, and at least sometimes, get paid for that work.

But at age 36, I've learned to value the parts of my life that will never end up on my résumé. For a while at least, having time to enjoy life with my family is more important than writing a top story.

Being home full time isn't all milk and cookies. It's stupid fights over who gets to play with the fire truck first. Filling countless juice cups and changing yet another diaper. I'd feel frustrated if my only job were taking care of toddlers. Parenting full time is hard, and lonely, and a seemingly endless job. I don't think I could be happy — feel fulfilled — if I didn't have some work like most other adults. So to keep myself sane, I squeeze in a little freelance writing and editing around my kids' schedules. Sometimes I work at midnight. Other times I get up at 5:30 a.m. and skip my morning run to write. When Max goes to preschool three mornings a week, sometimes William goes to a drop-in daycare. The part-time work keeps me satisfied, but it barely pays the bills.

Last year, I earned about \$10,000, less than a quarter of my former income.

Instead of money, we have time. Time when I don't have to rush my kids out the door to daycare. Time to hang out, to do my own thing, to read books and exercise.



Kate Havelin

Sometimes even time to talk to my husband or write a letter to a friend. No, I don't have enough time. The to-do list is still longer than the day. But my days are my own.

AND QUITTING work has given me a chance to better understand my kids. Before I quit my job, I would not have believed that I could have known my kids any better than I already did. But it makes a difference to be with them all day. I see how they play, and sometimes, although

not always, play with them. I've learned to slow down a bit, to let them sometimes pace the day.

We have the luxury to visit zoos and museums on weekdays when they're rarely crowded. Max loves

books, so last summer we visited all but one of St. Paul's 13 libraries. William wants to go to the playground, and since I get bored going to the same place everyday, we've explored playgrounds all over the Cities.

I didn't realize how much I would miss being around adults. I feel separated from

my friends who work full time. My pals at 'CCO say it's fine to call them, but I remember how hectic the work world is. I think sometimes being around me makes my friends feel guilty, as if they are not good mothers because they work. I don't want to make anyone feel guilty. I know there is more than one way to be a good parent. But I see my friends feeling torn for not choosing to spend more time with

I crave grown-up conversation,
and the luxury of an
uninterrupted phone call.
Above all, I miss going to the
bathroom by myself.

their kids. It's weird, though: I *still* feel guilty about getting a sitter to watch my kids so I can work. And my older son Max is savvy enough to pick up on my guilt. When I try to make a few work calls or finish a quick project when he's around, he's quick to say, "Mommy, you're not paying attention to me." Still, I know I need to work, and that over the course of a day or a week, I do pay enough attention to him.

I'm learning to pay attention to me as well. It's isolating to be alone with little kids. Now, I schedule play dates for my kids so I can talk to another mom. I run into lots of other moms at Early Childhood class, the playgrounds and the other usual kid-mom haunts. But in the time since I left 'CCO, I haven't made a new close friend. It's surprisingly tough to coordinate schedules between naps, preschool and part-time work. I crave grown-up conversation, and the luxury of an uninterrupted phone call. Above all, I miss going to the bathroom by myself. Yet, despite the lack of privacy, the endless interruptions, I'm glad to be home, glad I have the chance to be with my kids when they're little and want to be with me.

I know I made the right choice for me when I quit work to be with my kids. It's a big job with no paycheck, a job that won't improve my résumé and will never earn me a promotion. But it's the right job for me now. Long after the paychecks are spent and the videotapes of the TV shows I produced turn to dust, the results of this job will stay with me. Forever. ●

At age 36, I've learned
to value the parts of my
life that will never end
up on my résumé.

Two teams, two champions

Macalester's Larry Griffin, center, resists a challenge from two St. Mary's players. The Macalester men's and women's soccer teams both achieved huge success last fall, winning conference championships and berths in the NCAA Division III playoffs. Combined, the two teams went 33-2-4. See pages 6-7.



ERIC MILLER

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