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## Macalester Today May 1998

Macalester College

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# Macalester Today

May 1998

G. Theodore Mitau,  
Legendary Teacher



*Nicholas David*



## Mactivists

THE article on "Legacy of two lives: Gwen Helgeson Huntress '68 and David Huntress '68" [November *Macalester Today*] was a wonderful memorial to two splendid people.

Yetta Levitt '74  
Sarasota, Fla.

## Bill Shain

I JUST had to write when I read that Bill Shain, the dean of admissions, is leaving Mac.

I will never forget how, in the fall of 1991, when I was a shy new transfer student from a public university in my hometown, full of uncertainty and new-school nerves, I met Bill Shain at the new-student reception at then-President Gavin's home. He smiled, shook my hand, saw my nametag and proceeded to tell me all about myself.

I couldn't believe that, in that night's crowd of hot, noisy, excited first-years, he could possibly remember my name from my admission file (let alone distinguishing characteristics about me!), but he did.

It may sound corny, but it really did make me feel at home, and like everything would be fine.

It was! It was so much more than fine! On the basis of that single encounter, I will always think of Bill Shain with fondness.

Shannon Hyland Tassava '94  
Chicago

## A letter from Bill

I HOPE you are able to provide me the space to communicate to the entire Macalester community for what is probably both the first and the last time.

It is difficult even now to believe I have actually left Macalester after 17 years as dean of admissions. Indeed, leaving will always be impossible because Macalester has had such a profound impact on me. Looking at Macalester now from the outside, it is even more clear to me that it offers an education second to none, and in addition steadfastly reminds all of us to remember what is really important in the world around us.

I want to thank so very many people for past kindnesses, stimulating conversation and friendship. My hope is that almost two decades of personal interactions will continue even now that I am at Vanderbilt. Indeed, I have shared time with several alumni in Nashville since I arrived here in February, and have been in contact with a number of others around the U.S. and the world.

It would be a great pleasure to hear from any members of the Macalester community. The best bet is via e-mail: w.shain@vanderbilt.edu. But I can be reached through mail or phone at the Office of Undergraduate Admissions as well. I very much hope that the pleasant interactions I have had with students, faculty, staff, alumni and trustees will continue long into the future.

Again, many thanks to the wonderful Macalester community for more things than I can list here. I truly hope we stay in touch.

Bill Shain  
Dean of Undergraduate Admissions  
Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, TN 37203  
e-mail: w.shain@vanderbilt.edu



Bill Shain

## Parenthood

IT WAS with a sense of gratitude and relief that I read the article by Kate Havelin '83 ["Big job, no paycheck: The story of a full-time parent"] in February's *Macalester Today*.

After the birth of our second son, I also opted to ditch the payroll job in favor of full-time mommyhood. It's a decision I will never regret but one that I have had to defend more than once — especially to other women. Creating a non-accusatory and thoughtful explanation of why I ditched my career for changing diapers, while trying to avoid guilt-tripping a working mother of being heartless for surrendering her children to daycare, was always a tricky conversation. My most exasperating effort was made when I was accused of having wasted time and money on my Macalester education if all I was going to do was raise babies! What's wrong with being an educated mother? I don't intend to raise babies all my life. What's wrong with giving of myself to the two

children I hope and pray will be responsible, productive, happy, innovative and creative citizens in the future? Arthur and Joren's formation depends largely on how their father and I nurture and educate them as children.

I applaud Kate for her candid article and her selfless and brave choice to stay at home. It isn't an easy choice, can be very lonely and frustrating, and certainly isn't the right choice for every mother. There was a time when my only lifeline to the adult world was playing bridge once a month with two women I met

in Hastings, before I was a mother, and Joanna Traver Johnson '85. We joked about how wonderful it was to carry on adult conversation and not have to answer the next "Why, Mommy?" question. I, too, have opted to work part time and have taken on volunteer work in the community to help keep my brain stimulated and to contribute on a small scale to our family income. Hastings Community Theatre and youth ministry at our local Episcopal church have become my away-from-home passion.

Now my children are 6 and 8 and in school all day. I feel as though I've emerged from the dark ages into a renaissance of freedom and time. I joined the gym last fall — and I actually go there and work out three times a week! But I still look forward to this summer, when we can hang out all day in pajamas, hike off into the woods surrounding our house, or pack up and head for the zoo. And I thank my husband, Dale, for insisting that no matter how tight finances get, we'll get by, and the boys will have their mommy at home.

Bronwyn Clark Skov '85  
Hastings, Minn.

SINCE I entered Macalester in 1975, this is the first time I've seen a "full-time mom" featured in *Macalester Today*. I applaud Kate Havelin for her courage in writing the piece.

I use the word "courage" because many women graduates since the '70s have felt emotions ranging from defensive (at best) to ashamed (at worst) about making the traditional choice to stay home with their children. These feelings can be especially acute coming from a place as deeply rooted

*continued on inside back cover*

## Correction

ECONOMICS Professor Gary Krueger coordinates Macalester's Russian, Central and East European Area Studies Program. An article in February's *Macalester Today* incorrectly identified him as the Macalester coordinator of the Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities program. •



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# Campus Center

*Construction to begin in 1999 on new facility intended to strengthen campus community*

**T**HE BOARD OF TRUSTEES has given the \$18.5 million Campus Center project the go-ahead, with construction expected to begin in the summer of 1999.

The new center will be built on the site of the present Student Union and the present Dayton Hall. Both buildings will be taken down to make room. Once the project is completed, work will begin on the \$5 million renovation of Kagin Hall to house student services and other offices and activities.

The Campus Center is expected to be completed by summer 2001, with Kagin renovations completed by 2002.

The center is the result of more than three years of planning by a team of faculty, students, administrators and trustees. The two-story building is intended to be a focal point of the community and will pro-

vide comfortable, accessible meeting spaces where students, staff and faculty can gather to share ideas and continue classroom discussions.

The Campus Center will also provide a host of services to draw the community together — from innovative dining facilities and a store to a post office and an auditorium with state-of-the-art technology for film, tape or computer presentation.

"I am excited that we have the backing of the board to move ahead on the

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**"The Campus Center is a concrete way of meshing the academic, co-curricular and residential needs of the community."**

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**— President McPherson**

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Campus Center," said President Mike McPherson. "It is a concrete way of meshing the academic, co-curricular and residential needs of the community. The lives of students at a place like Mac can't be compartmentalized. We are trying to provide a seamless experience where each aspect supports and strengthens

another. The Campus Center was designed as a place for that to happen, a place where faculty, students, staff gather informally to share ideas, information or a cup of coffee."

The Campus Center and Kagin project will be financed by \$4 million in college reserves, \$7 million in construction bonds and \$12.5 million in fund raising. So far, about \$5.4 million has been raised toward the project.

"Raising funds for this project is a big challenge," McPherson said. "But I'm convinced that it is an absolutely essential step in realizing this college's enormous potential for leadership in American higher education."

## Two tenured

*Frank Adler in Political Science and Jim Doyle in Physics earn praise as teacher-scholars*

Two Macalester faculty were recently approved for tenure: Frank Adler, Political Science, and Jim Doyle, Physics.

The comments below are taken from Provost Wayne Roberts' report to the Board of Trustees in support of their tenure.

Professor Adler's influence in the Political Science Department has been profound. He came to Macalester from Antioch College in the fall of 1995 to become the chair of the department.

Macalester students praise him as a "gifted lecturer." They say he is "challeng-



An architectural rendering of the exterior of the Campus Center. The view is from Grand Avenue.



ing" and "well-researched." The students say he is "good at explaining things so they can be understood." They also mention his "excitement and interest in his subject." Adler sets a standard of excellence in lecturing that is recognized as having an honored tradition in academic institutions, especially in introductory classes.

Adler is widely recognized for his scholarly articles in *Telos*, the internationally acclaimed journal. His 1995 book, *Italian Industrialists from Liberalism to Fascism*, received praise from reviewers. One remarked on Adler's solid methods of research and his intellectual capacities. All reviewers mentioned his specialties in comparative politics and political theory. He is an authority on Italian fascism. By using critical theory, phenomenology and hermeneutics, he has shed light on cataclysmic events in 20th-century European history.

Under Adler's leadership, the Political Science Department has successfully recruited two young faculty members, given much more structure to its curriculum and greatly improved morale in a department that has been discouraged by failures to tenure several of their young colleagues in recent years. He has brought renewed vision and a sense of expectation to the department.

Professor Doyle is an outstanding example of the teacher-scholar in the natural sciences. His research investigations in the area of surface science involving several student collaborators are highly regarded by the scientific community. His interdisciplinary interests and willingness to share his expertise with colleagues in chemistry, geology, biology and mathematics/computer science have made him a valued member of the science division.

Students have given him high marks as a teacher, commenting on his "enthusiasm and caring manner," his availability, his "ability to present material in an easy-to-understand 'package' and make it interesting," and his "dedication to improving the Physics Department."

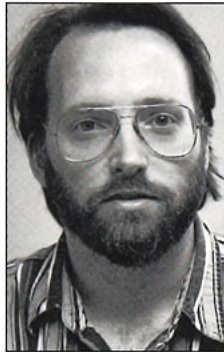
The high quality of Doyle's research publications gives him the potential for a long scholarly career. Reviewers have described his published student-faculty

research as "very thorough studies" which are "the most detailed investigations of the subjects," "first-rate work of which faculty at a university with technicians and grad students would be proud," and "carefully, even painstakingly done." His collaboration with industrial scientists should lead to a number of interactions and opportunities for students. His thin-film work is on a solid substrate.

Letters from colleagues at Macalester indicate that his expertise has been helpful to faculty and students in every department in the Olin-Rice Science Center. His willingness to help others is in the long tradition of service by members of the Macalester community. Colleagues admire his service to the Physics Department, and to the college in a number of areas, ranging from the library committee, Keck Laboratory electronics consultant and builder of electronic animal "activity boxes" for a biologist to service on the Benefits Advisory Committee and Curriculum Committee. Particularly noteworthy is his involvement with the pre-college sector which includes mentoring minority students in the Hughes Summer Institute, demonstrations for visiting students, and involvement in the Minnesota Science Bowl and Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.



Frank Adler



Jim Doyle

## Mellon grant

*College to host education forum, beginning in the spring of 1999*

MACALESTER has received a \$350,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for research projects on higher education policy and the establishment of a biannual national conference on education issues.

The Mellon Foundation grant will help fund The Macalester Forum on Higher Education, which will be held every other year beginning in the spring of 1999. The conference will bring together researchers and educational leaders from around the country to discuss and evaluate new research and other work on higher education policy. Conference topics would include issues such as selective admissions and enrollment management, higher education outcomes and the role and future of research universities.

Additional funding from the grant will help extend the research projects under way by President McPherson and his colleague Morton Owen Schapiro of the University of Southern California. McPherson and Schapiro are nationally known economists, writers and authorities on the financing and costs of higher education. They are the co-authors and editors of several books, including *Keeping College Affordable* and their new book, *The Student Aid Game: Meeting Need and Rewarding Talent in American Higher Education*.

While most of their current work focuses on student aid and college finances, the grant will allow McPherson and Schapiro to broaden their research and writing to include how higher education leaders can use analyses and data in managing universities and colleges.

## Peace Corps calling

SOME 245 Macalester alumni have joined the Peace Corps since it was founded in 1961.

Macalester thus ranks 11th among all small colleges and universities in producing Peace Corps volunteers. The Peace Corps, which came up with the numbers, defines "small" as schools with fewer than 5,000 undergraduates.

"By serving as Peace Corps volunteers, your alumni have made a difference in the lives of people overseas and here at home," Peace Corps Director Mark Gearan wrote in a letter to President McPherson.

The University of Chicago tops the list of small schools with 519 Peace Corps volunteers, followed by Dartmouth with 482 and Oberlin with 407.

More than 150,000 Americans have joined the Peace Corps. Today, nearly 6,600 volunteers are serving in 87 countries.

## Keck funds research

THE W. M. Keck Foundation has awarded the college a \$500,000 grant that will enable 10 Macalester students each summer to conduct one-on-one research in the sciences and other disciplines with faculty members.

"Our experience over the years has demonstrated that direct involvement of students in the scholarly work of their faculty mentors provides substantial benefit to the intellectual growth of our under-



graduates, preparing them for the rigors of graduate school or the practical application of knowledge that will be required of them in their lives after Macalester," said President McPherson.

The grant will also help Macalester raise additional private gifts to establish a \$1 million endowment that will provide a stable source of funding for the collaborative student research.

## Mac Ph.D.s

*College improves to 24th in number of doctorates earned by private college graduates*

MACALESTER ranks 24th among all private colleges in the number of doctorates earned by its graduates from 1986 through 1995 in all fields, a significant improvement over an earlier report.

The results are contained in the eighth edition of *Baccalaureate Origins of Doctoral Recipients*, published by Franklin & Marshall College in cooperation with the Higher Education Data Sharing (HEDS) Consortium. This is a significant improvement over 10 years ago when an earlier edition of the report showed that Macalester ranked 31st among all private colleges in the number of doctorates earned from 1977 through 1986 in all fields, according to Daniel Balik, registrar and director of institutional research at Macalester.

The current report shows that for all science disciplines, Macalester's ranking for the number of doctorates produced from 1986 through 1995 improved from 35th in the earlier report to 27th. Several individual disciplines showed large improvements in their ranking. For example, the ranking of the number of physics and astronomy doctorates improved from 75th to 18th, the ranking of the number of chemistry doctorates improved from 125th to 53rd, the ranking of the number of earth science (geology) doctorates improved from 102nd to 27th and the ranking of the number of economics doctorates improved from 49th to 12th.

For all non-science disciplines, Macalester's ranking improved from 31st in the earlier report to 20th. Among the individ-



ual disciplines showing large improvement in the rankings are foreign languages, whose ranking improved from 42nd to 16th, and education, whose ranking improved from 50th to 22nd.

The number of Ph.D.s earned in the period from 1986 through 1995 by Macalester graduates represents slightly more than 9 percent of all the college's graduates in the 10-year period from 1981 through 1990, when many of these doctoral recipients were likely graduating from Macalester. In the earlier report, the number of Ph.D.s earned by Macalester graduates represented about 8 percent of all Macalester graduates.

A copy of the table that summarizes Macalester's ranking for all disciplines reported in the *Baccalaureate Origins* report and for all four of the most recent editions of that report is available from the Institutional Research Office, (612) 696-6411, or e-mail to: balik@macalester.edu

## Perspectives on Japan

Walter Mondale '50 and Joan Adams Mondale '52 shared their knowledge of and experiences in Japan with 160 alumni and friends of the college at a special alumni event held March 8 in the newly renovated Olin-Rice Science Center. The former vice president, who recently served as U.S. ambassador to Japan, gave his political perspective; Joan discussed the art of Japan and women's role in Japanese society.

## NSF Fellowships

FOUR recent Macalester graduates were awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowships in the 1998 competition. The fellowships fund three years of graduate study.

The four graduates are as follows:

- Daniel Bain '96, a double major in chemistry and geography at Macalester, who will pursue a combined chemistry-environmental science program at Johns Hopkins University.
- Heather Evans '97, a physics major at Macalester, who is pursuing graduate work in material science at the University of Wisconsin.
- Heather McCune '97, a biology major at Macalester, now pursuing graduate work in genetics at the University of Washington.
- Zachary Naiman '97, a geology major at Macalester, pursuing graduate work in geochemistry at the University of Arizona.



Chemistry Professor Wayne Wolsey noted that five recent Macalester graduates — a record number for the college — were awarded NSF Fellowships in 1997. "With four this year, we can once again feel proud of our students and our programs," he said.

## Deja vu, squared

*Mathematics teams excel again in two major competitions, and win Konhauser Problemfest, too*

FOR the second year in a row, a Macalester team placed 11th — the highest ranking of any liberal arts college — in the prestigious Putnam Mathematics Competition for undergraduates in the United States and Canada.

In addition, for the second year in a row and the third time in four years, a Macalester team won the Mathematical Contest in Modeling, an international competition sponsored by the Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications (COMAP).

Teams from 313 institutions competed in the 58th annual William Lowell Putnam exam, which is sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and held on the first Saturday in December. The results were announced in March.

The top five teams were Harvard, Duke, Princeton, MIT and Washington University (St. Louis). Honorable mention went to five other schools (in alphabetical order): Cal Tech, Harvey Mudd, Stanford, the University of Toronto and the University of Waterloo.

This year's Putnam had 2,510 individual competitors. The Macalester students who spent six hours of the Saturday before fall semester finals working on Putnam problems included Vahe Poladian '99 (Yerevan, Armenia), 75th place; Tamas Nemeth '99 (Megyaszó, Hungary), 161st; Nick Weininger '98 (Exeter, N.H.), 223rd; Dan Nordquist '98 (Coon Rapids, Minn.), 530th; and Luis Cabrera Cordon '01 (Guatemala City, Guatemala) and John Renze '99 (Chicago), who each tied for 620th.

Professors Stan Wagon and Tom Halverson coached this year's team.

In the 14th annual Mathematical Contest in Modeling, the winning team consisted of Weininger, Nemeth and Paul Cantrell '98 (Fort Collins, Colo.). Their problem was to determine how to use data from an MRI scanner to create oblique cross-sections. They began working on this problem at 12:01 a.m. on a Friday morning in February and worked straight through the weekend until 5 p.m. on Monday.

Each of the member societies in COMAP selects one winner. This year, in an unusual occurrence, the Macalester entry was selected by two of the societies: the Institute for Operations Research and Industrial and Applied Mathematics (INFORMS) and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM).

Professors Karla Ballman '83, Susan Fox and Danny Kaplan coordinated this year's competition.

In a third competition with four other Minnesota colleges, the Macalester team of Nemeth, Poladian and Weininger won the sixth annual Konhauser Problemfest, held Feb. 28 at the University of St. Thomas. Teams from St. Thomas, Carleton, St. Olaf and Gustavus joined Macalester in the mathematics competition, which is dedicated to the memory of Macalester Professor Joe Konhauser, who started the "problem of the week" at Macalester in 1968. It has run continuously since then.

The Macalester team brought home the "pizza sculpture," which serves as a traveling trophy for the competition. The sculpture by artist-mathematician Helaman Ferguson depicts a dissection proof of the famous "Pizza Theorem." It is now on display in the Olin-Rice Science Center.

## Young leader

DUCHESS HARRIS, a visiting assistant professor in political science, was named



Duchess Harris

one of the nation's 30 young African American leaders of the future in *Ebony* magazine.

The magazine recognized Harris' work as an assistant professor at Macalester as well as her dedicated service as a member of the Minneapolis Commission on Civil

Rights, vice president of the board of directors of Genesis II For Women Inc. and member of the board of directors of the Model Cities Family Development Center.

Harris was also featured for her work as a research fellow and co-director of programs at the Institute on Race and Poverty at the University of Minnesota Law School and a former constituent advocate for Sen. Paul Wellstone.

Top mathematicians (from left): Paul Cantrell '98, Vahe Poladian '99, Tamas Nemeth '99 and Nick Weininger '98



# Making connections in Guatemala

*For 10 Macalester students, a service project opened minds and hearts*

**O**F THE 10 Macalester students who traveled to Guatemala in January, sophomores Sarah Harvieux and Rebecca Vanegas must have felt the keenest anticipation.

It was Harvieux's first chance to see her godchild, 9-year-old Maria Estela. For the previous two years, starting when she was a high school senior, Harvieux had sent monthly checks to Maria's family and corresponded with her regularly.

"When I went to her family's home," Harvieux recalled, "tacked up on the wall were all the letters [written in Spanish] I'd sent her, because I would make them really colorful, on construction paper and stuff. . . . She was excited; she came and hugged me. . . ."

"It was very exciting, but at the same time I felt kind of uncomfortable, because in our group we had been discussing issues of our involvement in other countries and issues of social justice, and do we really belong here? It was the first time that I actually saw, face to face, what my money was doing and what I was involved in. I felt kind of awkward."

But the two got together again later, when Maria's mother came to the clinic at the project site where Harvieux and other Macalester students were working.

"I got to play with her," Harvieux said. "We went upstairs and we read some books and we were coloring. That was a little more comfortable for me, just kind of doing kids' stuff and hanging out. That was nice."

For Vanegas, going to Guatemala was a little like going home, although it was her first visit. Both her parents emigrated from Guatemala more than 20 years ago, when they were about as old as she is now, and she grew up in a bilingual family in California. "It was amazing. Spanish actually has accents, depending on what country you come from. I didn't really realize that small thing until I was surrounded by people who spoke just like my parents," Vanegas said.

The Macalester students, together with Macalester Associate Catholic Chaplain Roc O'Connor and Betsy Hearn of the Community Service Office, spent a week with the Godchild Project, an organization that works with Guatemalan families

pound here is because the U.S. owns a lot of land in Guatemala and most of the people there don't own any."

An urban studies and history major with a strong interest in community development, Goldfarb would like to teach and



The Macalester work team at the Godchild Project in Guatemala. Back: Father Roc O'Connor, associate Catholic chaplain, Dan Roy '98 and Ben Goldfarb '99. Middle: Laura Kitchings '00, Christine Drake '00, Rebecca Vanegas '00, Rachel Hansen '99 and Sarah Harvieux '00. Front: Geoff Mak '01, Sara Beth Mueller '00, Betsy Hearn of the Community Service Office and Angie Sauer '98.

to provide education, housing and health care for the people of the villages surrounding Antigua.

Some of the students helped one family build a house; others performed a variety of tasks at the Godchild Project site, such as working on the roof of the clinic and sorting donated school supplies.

For Ben Goldfarb, a junior from New York City, the experience was "eight or nine days of general consciousness-raising. There were so many things that I know I had not thought about before." For example, "the reason you can buy bananas for 29 or 39 cents a

work with children after he graduates. Despite the poverty of Guatemala, he was

impressed by the strong sense of community in the small villages he visited. "A lot of what I learned and what I saw was that even people who are deemed to not have a whole lot of positives — they do. Everyone has assets and the potential to

help the community. If I was able to go back, I'd like to learn more about *how* those communities get to be so strong," Goldfarb said.

**'I see myself continuing to sponsor this child.**

**Because it's a really neat thing to be so involved in someone else's life.'**

**— Sarah Harvieux '00**



Harvieux, who is majoring in Spanish and Latin American studies and plans to study in Ecuador next fall, first went to Guatemala the summer before her senior year of high school in Fridley, Minn. Impressed by the Godchild Project, which is based in St. Paul, she "adopted" a godchild — who turned out to be Maria — soon after she returned. Her monthly donations of \$20 to \$30 provide school supplies for Maria and contribute to housing materials and health care, such as immunizations, for her whole family.

At Macalester, Harvieux met Joan DeJaeghere, coordinator of the international student program at the International Center, who had also volunteered with the Godchild Project. Through Harvieux's initiative, DeJaeghere, Hearn and Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith collaborated to make it a project for Macalester students to support.

Service is important to Harvieux, who does weekly tutoring. But she gives a lot of thought, especially, to Maria and their relationship.

"That's something I've been re-evaluating: What is my role in this little girl's life? I send a check, and does that make me her godmother? Because in the Latin American countries, the *compadre* — the godfather — is a very important person in the child's life, in terms of raising the child, and I am not doing that at all. I'm fully aware of that.

"I see myself continuing to sponsor this child. Because it's a really neat thing to be so involved in someone else's life, or to be involved like that. It's hard not to cross boundaries. But I definitely see myself staying connected in the future."

Vanegas, too, feels a connection to Guatemala because of her experiences. "It was thrilling. You just get so accustomed to being a minority [in the U.S.], it's amazing how much it colors the way you view things. And then, suddenly, you are not a minority. It was an odd experience. But at the same time, people know you're not from there.

"It was kind of awkward speaking with some of the workers sometimes. They wanted to find out what it was like in the United States, and they knew I could speak fluently with them. The longing they expressed to come here was kind of saddening to me. I was trying to explain to them what it was like growing up [in the U.S.], what the opportunities were like, or what it's really like for immigrants. They have these idealized conceptions."

Vanegas, who is majoring in environmental studies and Spanish with a biology



Sarah Harvieux '00 and her godchild, 9-year-old Maria Estela, in Guatemala

core, still has uncles and cousins who live in Guatemala. "It was a great experience to see where my parents came from. . . . I definitely will go back."

— Jon Halvorsen

## RDA stock

*Sale of 3.4 million shares goes a long way toward diversifying college endowment*

THE DeWitt Wallace Fund for Macalester College sold 3.4 million shares of Reader's Digest Association stock in February as part of the so-called TRACES program announced last December.

"The sale means that our endowment has become far more diversified," President McPherson said. "RDA holdings will now represent less than 15 percent of our \$460 million endowment, down from about 30 percent before the sale."

The net proceeds from the sale totaled \$59.2 million. "This money has now been invested in our diversified portfolio," McPherson reported to the campus community. "The college will continue to receive dividends on our current RDA holdings as well as the shares that were part of the TRACES program for the next

three years. We will continue to hold just under 2.6 million shares of RDA stock."

In all, 11.8 million RDA shares held by the DeWitt Wallace Fund for Macalester and five other charitable funds were sold. The transaction involved the formation of a trust which will issue hybrid equity securities, known as TRACES, which will be exchanged for common shares at the end of three years.

"While we will be eternally grateful for the wonderful gift of RDA stock from DeWitt and Lila Wallace, we have always known that our endowment needs to be diversified," McPherson said. "This sale moves us further in that direction and will help immeasurably as we plan for the future. I want to thank the RDA and Chairman George V. Grune for their willingness to undertake the sale and for the successful completion of the transaction. They did an excellent job."

## YWCA Award

MACALESTER received a 1998 Volunteer Award from the YWCA of St. Paul.

The award recognizes a continuing relationship which the College Advancement Office has had with the YWCA's Women's Transitional Housing Program for the past two years. Last winter, for example, College Advancement staff organized a campus-wide effort to provide holiday gifts for the women and children of the program. More than 30 families received gifts. Many people from departments all over campus participated in that effort and in others in the past.

## Debaters take third

THE Macalester debate team of Kiva Garen '00 (Minneapolis) and Jennifer Alme '98 (Bloomington, Minn.) finished in third place among more than 160 teams competing at the Cross Examination Debate Association's national tournament.

The Macalester debaters defeated the University of Puget Sound, Lewis and Clark, Southern Illinois and top-seeded Michigan State before losing a 2-1 decision to Emory University in the semifinal round of the national championship, held in March at the University of Rochester.

Both Alme and Green were given All-American awards by the association. Alme is a three-time All-American and Garen is a two-time All-American.



## Winter sports review

### Four win championships in MIAC competition

FOUR Macalester athletes earned Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) championships this past winter, one in women's swimming and three in indoor track.

Karin Halvorson (first-year, Mililani, Hawaii) became the first Macalester swimmer to win an MIAC women's championship when she placed first at the conference meet in the 1,650-yard freestyle. Outstanding all season in the freestyle and butterfly events, she set new school records nearly every meet. She won races at invitational meets hosted by Lawrence and St. Benedict, and in addition to her first-place MIAC finish in the mile, took third in the conference in the 500-yard freestyle and fourth in the 200-free. Halvorson's 17:58.62 time in the 1,650-



Karin Halvorson '01

freestyle was 18 seconds faster than the runner-up and an NCAA provisional national qualifying mark.

Brandon Guthrie (sophomore, Salem, Ore.) became the first men's indoor track conference champ at Macalester since Scott Meier in 1988 when he captured the MIAC 2-mile run in 9:33.68. The women's track team boasted a pair of conference champs in sophomores Holly Harris (Redondo Beach, Calif.) and Megan Auger (Eden Prairie, Minn.). Harris won the 55-meter dash in 7.39 and Auger placed first in the 3,000-meter run in 10:37.69.



Brandon Guthrie '00



Holly Harris '00



Megan Auger '00

### Men's basketball

New head Coach Curt Kietzer and the men's team made great strides over the course of the season and finished at 8-16

overall and 5-15 in the MIAC. The eight wins were the most by Macalester since 1988-89 and equalled the win total from the previous four years combined. The Scots defeated MIAC rivals Carleton and Hamline for the first time in a decade.

The most improved team in the conference, the Scots were led by center Rob Sader (senior, Ham Lake, Minn.) and forward T.J. Mahony (junior, Boulder, Colo.). Sader was the team's leading scorer with a 12.7 ppg. average and was among the conference leaders in rebounding (9.0 rpg.) and shooting percentage (.532). Mahony was named to the MIAC All-Defensive team while averaging 11.7 points. Jordan Barnhorst (senior, Barnsdall, Okla.) scored 11.8 a game and finished his career as the school's No. 5 all-time scoring leader with 1,164 points. His 226 career three-pointers are the second-most ever by an MIAC player.

### Women's basketball

The women finished at 7-18 overall for the second year in a row and had to settle for 11th in the final conference standings. The Scots won their final two games of the season over Carleton and St. Catherine, but lacked the offensive firepower to be more consistent throughout the winter.

Amy Amundson (senior, Sioux Falls, S.D.) finished her career ranked third on Macalester's all-time list in career points (1,215) and second in career rebounds (725) and became the school's first four-time All-MIAC selection in women's

basketball. Amundson averaged 14.1 points and 7.6 rebounds per game.



Amy Amundson '98

### Women's swimming and diving

Halvorson's successes highlighted the swimming season, but others had good seasons, too. Annie Hallberg (first-year, Faribault, Minn.) was another newcomer who made a big impact. Hallberg made the conference finals in the 400-yard individual medley, where she placed sixth, and was reliable all winter in the sprint freestyle races. Macalester had a pair of dependable divers in Aislynn Griffin (senior, Racine, Wis.) and Margie Goodwin (first-year, Terre Haute, Ind.). Macalester went 3-6 in dual meets, defeating St. Catherine,



Amy Amundson '98 (Sioux Falls, S.D.) became Macalester's first four-time All-MIAC selection in women's basketball. She averaged 14.1 points and 7.6 rebounds per game.



Hamline and St. Mary's, and placed seventh at the conference meet.

### Men's swimming and diving

The men's team went 2-5 in dual meets — picking up wins over Hamline and St. Mary's — and placed sixth at the

MIAC Championships. Oncu Er (junior, Izmir, Turkey) was the team's top point scorer and earned high finishes at the Lawrence Invitational and St. John's Invitational in the backstroke and individual medley events. Mac's highest conference meet finish was by Erik Swenson (sophomore, Fergus Falls, Minn.), who placed fifth at the MIAC Championships in the 200-yard butterfly with a 2:06.13 time. Teammate Sean Andrews (sophomore, Nassau, Bahamas) was sixth in the same race at the conference meet.

### Cross country skiing

Macalester's second season as a varsity cross country skiing program was delayed because of a lack of snow. The Scots did not race until Jan. 17 when the St. Mary's University Invitational was moved to Duluth. Mac also competed in the Carleton Invitational, the St. Mary's ski race, the Telemark Invitational in Cable, Wis., and the season-ending NCAA Central Regionals in Marquette, Mich.

Lindsey Tuominen (first-year, Duluth, Minn.) was the top skier for the women's team. She placed 15th out of 41 participants in the Carleton Invitational 5-kilometer classic race

and was fourth at the St. Mary's Ski Race 15-kilometer freestyle. Mikkel Conradi (sophomore, Moelv, Norway) was the top skier for the Macalester men for the second year in a row.

### Indoor track

The tracksters enjoyed an outstanding winter. The women posted their best conference finish (fifth) since 1987 and the men ended a string of 10 straight ninth-place finishes by placing seventh. In addition to the conference titles won by Guthrie, Harris and Auger, several Macalester athletes had productive seasons. For the men, hurdlers John Shepard (sophomore, Absarokee, Mont.) and Eric Klinker (first-year, Estelline, S.D.) each made the MIAC finals, while Shepard was one of the league's best high jumpers. Andres Leza (junior, Muscatine, Iowa) was strong in the 800-meter run, as was Joseph Mukurazita (first-year, Harare, Zimbabwe) in the triple jump.

Top performers for the women's track team during the indoor season, in addition to Harris and Auger, included Alex Phillips (senior, Montclair, N.J.) in the sprints, Amanda Pischke (sophomore, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.) in the distance events and Megan June (sophomore, New York City) in the high jump.

— Andy Johnson, sports information director



Center Rob Sader '98 (Ham Lake, Minn.) led the Scots in scoring (12.7) and was among the conference leaders in rebounding (9.0) and shooting percentage (.532).

## Quotable Quotes

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

"IN recent years... the Nobel [Prize] committee has honored work that is increasingly inward-looking and technical. Thus today, Robert K. Merton is not alone among major scholars in social science who have been passed over. Harvard's John Rawls, probably the leading social philosopher of the century; the Institute for Advanced Study's Clifford Geertz, whose writings have revolutionized social anthropology; and the late Thomas Kuhn, whose work in the history and philosophy of science rivals Merton's in its range of impact — all these great thinkers share with Robert K. Merton one disqualifying characteristic: They are not economists...."

"We suspect that we are not the only economists who think that a Nobel Prize in Social Science would make a wonderful counterpart to the other Nobels. In our field, a little competition is almost always thought to be a good thing."

Michael S. McPherson, president of Macalester, and Morton Owen Schapiro, a professor and dean at USC, in an opinion piece in the Jan. 30 Chronicle of Higher Education

"I HAVE opportunities to work with and learn from men and women who I consider to be great leaders. Working with them and talking with them about their vision for higher education and

perspectives on organizational leadership have significantly influenced how I have tried to manage my own career."

Richard Ammons, vice president for college advancement at Macalester, quoted in the January/February issue of Change, the journal of the American Association for Higher Education. The journal named him one of the 40 "Young Leaders of the Academy."



"THE Kofi Annan you see today is very similar to the Kofi Annan we knew 40 years ago [at Macalester]. He was always so likable and engaging. He never took a strong, confrontational position before he sought out the other person's viewpoint... I don't think anyone has ever heard him raise his voice about anything."

Macalester Professor Roger Mosvick '52, quoted in a Feb. 28 Washington Post profile of the U.N. secretary-general. Annan is scheduled to be the principal speaker at Macalester's Commencement at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17.

"PEOPLE shouldn't play [soccer] to get stuff or to receive awards, or to be better than others. They should play for fun. If kids do play for fun, and don't become arrogant, all the awards and stuff will come to them in time."

Dan Welch '98 (Greeley, Colo.), Macalester's All-American soccer goalie, in an interview in the Feb. 19 Mac Weekly after being drafted by the professional Minnesota Thunder soccer team. Mark Abboud '92 plays sweeper for the Thunder. •



# Update on the Anthropology and Sociology departments

**Editors' note:** This new department of Mac Today features brief updates about faculty members. The Mathematics & Computer Science faculty were featured in February; the Physics & Astronomy and Chemistry faculty in November; and the English faculty last August.

## Anthropology

Arjun Guneratne joined the department in 1995, after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1994 and his A.B. from Dartmouth in 1985. "My main research interests are in issues of ethnicity and nationalism in Nepal and Sri Lanka; in addition, I am interested in problems of development and modernization in Asia, Africa and Latin America; I teach in all these areas and also teach an area course on South Asia for the department. I am currently working on two books on ethnicity, the state and modernization in Nepal."

David McCurdy, the first anthropologist to join the Macalester faculty, continues to enjoy teaching his "Cultural Anthropology" and "Ethnographic Interviewing" courses every semester. Last year, he ended his terms as president of the General Anthropology Division and member of the Executive Board of the American Anthropology Association. Last fall, he was awarded the association's first Mayfield Prize for outstanding teaching. He is currently working on the revision of his books, *Conformity and Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology* and *The Cultural Experience: Research in Complex Society*.

Anna Meigs is finishing her second year as director of Women's Studies. The program now has 30 majors and minors and its own location on the fourth floor of Old Main. Currently involved in teaching and research on issues of race in the United States, she is one of the organizers of the Bush Grant which is working toward extensive curricular transformation around the topic of race.

Anne H. Sutherland (D. Phil., Oxford University) has been a professor of anthropology at Macalester for 17 years and is an international expert on Gypsies. She has recently written a book, *The Making of Belize, Globalization in the Margins* (Bergin & Garvey, 1998). A major thesis of the book is that the transnational environmen-

tal movement, although highly successful in putting more than 40 percent of the country into nature reserves, has left the local population without access to the country's natural resources. Sutherland teaches courses on "Culture and Globalization," "The Anthropology of Tourism," "Contemporary Anthropological Theory" and the senior seminar.

Jack Weatherford, chair, is the author of seven books, including *Indian Givers* and *The History of Money*. He has appeared on "The Today Show," "ABC Evening News," "Larry King," "All Things Considered," and many other TV and radio programs. His numerous grants and honors include a special award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews for his work combating racism and prejudice. His favorite courses are "Introduction to Anthropology" and the first-year seminar. His anthropological research has taken him to more than 100 countries, but he says that the strangest tribe he ever encountered was the United States Congress when he worked as an assistant to Sen. John Glenn.



David McCurdy

## Sociology

Terry Boychuk joined the department in 1996 after earning his Ph.D. from Princeton and teaching at the Center for Health Policy at Duke. He is finishing his first book, *The Making and Meaning of Hospital Policy in the United States and Canada*, to be published this year by the University of Michigan Press. He has recently offered classes in "Qualitative Research Methods," "Social Stratification," "Comparative Health Systems" and "Comparative Development of Modern Governments." He will lead students in three new courses in the 1998-99 academic year, including "Introduction to Sociology," "Medical Sociology" and the senior research seminar. His research interests focus on the comparative history of social policy in Europe and North America and the historical transformation of occupations, careers and organizations.

Mahnaz Kousha joined the department in 1991. Her area of specialization is race, ethnicity and gender. She teaches classes on social problems, race and ethnicity, and women in the Middle East. Her advanced

classes include qualitative sociology, Asians and Asian Americans in the media, and immigration. She has published material on labor relations and stratification among African American private household workers and European American employers. She has also written pieces on the changing status of women in Iran. Her present research focuses on life satisfaction among Iranian men and women, and women's place in the family in modern-day Iran. She is a member of the board of directors of



Mahnaz Kousha

*Critique: Journal for Critical Studies of the Middle East*, and organizes an annual conference on "Life and Politics in the Middle East."

Michal McCall has been a member of the department for almost 17 years. She currently offers courses in beginning and advanced "Social Theory," "The Political Economy of Food" and "Images in Consumer Society" (with Ruthann Godollei of the Art Department). This semester she is offering a senior seminar on "Writing Sociology," and chairing three students' honor theses. She recently completed a video, "Slow Food: Sustainable Agriculture and Responsible Eating," based on two years of research funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Council. Her intellectual commitments are to sustainable agriculture/healthy food research, education and activism, and to theories of postmodernity.

Michael Obsatz looked forward to meeting alumni at Reunion and giving a talk, "Building Stronger Families," at 2 p.m. Friday, May 15, in Weyerhaeuser Chapel. His book, *From Stalemate to Soulmate: A Guide for Mature, Loving Couples* (Augsburg Fortress), is selling worldwide. His second book, *Raising Non-Violent Children in a Violent World*, is due out this August, also from Augsburg Fortress. In addition to teaching "Human Sexuality" and "Death, Dying and Bereavement," he has sponsored three students' interdisciplinary interdepartmental majors. He is also the chair of the Males in Family Section of the Minnesota Council on Family Relations, and helping to plan the Ordinary Hero Award program for men who serve their communities. ●



# A father reflects as his child graduates from college

by Michael S. McPherson

**B**Y THE time you read this, Marge and I will have watched our oldest son Steve receive his bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University in Connecticut. Wesleyan is in many ways much like Macalester: a college of modest size with an intense focus on high-quality education in the liberal arts. We're looking forward to a day of great joy and pride, mixed perhaps with a bit of relief at a respite from those impressive tuition bills.

But such small-minded matters aside, I find myself rather overwhelmed by what these four years have meant to Steve's development as a thinker and as a person.

Last month, our family flew out to Wesleyan to see Steve's senior recital. (As a music major, this lucky fellow gets not only to write a senior thesis, but to lead a performance that serves as companion to the written document.) Steve played with and led an ensemble of musicians, mostly Wesleyan students, in a set of original arrangements of jazz and blues tunes.

The sophisticated musicianship of these young folks was truly something to see, but I must confess that is not what impressed me most deeply about that evening. What did come through was the powerful sense of comradeship and mutual support displayed not only by the musicians on stage but by the audience as well, many of whom were friends — students and faculty —

with whom Steve became close during his time at Wesleyan. The sense of mutual participation in one another's achievements and excellences was palpable that evening. It helped me appreciate even more than before how these human relationships with classmates and teachers had contributed to the growing sense of self-command, maturity of judgment and richness of perspective I have seen our son develop through his college years.

It's tempting to say that this personal growth I have seen in Steve is more important than the "book learning" he has accomplished at college. After all, five years from now, Steve may not remember the atomic weight of argon, or the notes of



a diminished seventh chord, but I'm sure that the profound experience of creating original music with a group of trusted colleagues will still be alive in him, and still be shaping his life.

Yet, tempting as it is to elevate personal growth above subject matter learning, I believe that that formulation is fundamentally misleading. For part of what makes a residential college like Macalester or Wesleyan such a powerful instrument for personal growth is precisely that it is so demanding of intellect and energy.

This year, Steve has worked through weekends and college breaks and bad colds — at least a few times working through the night — in an all-out effort to produce a senior thesis that his advisers, and, more importantly, he himself could be proud of. Without all that toil and sweat, Steve's little recital wouldn't mean much. And without a sense among the students that they were all engaged together in an enterprise that asks each of them to give their best, their hard-won sense of comradeship and mutual support would have no grounding. This is why a strong college needs to have faculty who care passion-

ately about their subjects, as well as about their students, and who can instill that passion for learning in their students. For it is through immersion in matters larger than oneself that personal growth occurs.

At Macalester, I've known students to go through similar rigors as they combine performing in an ambitious theatrical production with a full schedule of classes, or buckle down to their homework after a demanding soccer practice, or work straight through the weekend on a mathematics competition. Our students throw themselves into the life of the college and, through community service and participation in the arts, into the life of the broader St. Paul community as well. Much of what makes these four years so special and so valuable is that students' capacities and interests are so fully engaged in the varied tasks of learning, achieving and exploring their world and their potentials.

**W**OODROW Wilson said many years ago, when he was president of Princeton University, that you can't consciously cultivate good character. Wilson, addressing the all-male entering class at Princeton, said: "I hear a great deal about character being the object of education. I take leave to believe that a man who cultivates his character consciously will cultivate nothing except what will make him intolerable to his fellow men. Character, gentlemen, is a byproduct. It comes, whether you will or not, as a consequence of a life devoted to the nearest duty; and the place in which character would be cultivated, if it be a place of study, is a place where study is the object and character is the result."

The best things that happen to young people in college happen when they are not looking, when their devotion to the "nearest duty" — the wholehearted effort to master differential equations or to perform a difficult piece of music — carries them beyond what they would have thought possible, and so allows them to grow. To see that occurring for our own son and to play a role in making the same thing possible for students at Macalester are among the greatest satisfactions of my life. ●

*Mike McPherson, the president of Macalester, writes a regular column for Macalester Today.*

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**The best things that happen  
to young people in college happen  
when they are not looking, when  
[their] wholehearted effort...  
carries them beyond what they  
would have thought possible.**

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## College seeks nominations for Young Alumni Award and Distinguished Citizens

**M**ACALESTER welcomes nominations of alumni for the following awards, to be given at Reunion in May 1999.

- The Distinguished Citizen Citation recognizes alumni who have clearly and actively exercised leadership in civic, social, religious and professional activities. It is given because the Alumni Association, the Board of Trustees and the faculty of Macalester hold that a college education should be the training and

inspiration for unselfish and effective service to the community, the nation and the world. Recipients of the citation have demonstrated a practical acceptance of these obligations in their lives and work.

- The Young Alumni Award recognizes alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years. This award seeks nominees who are making an effective contribution to the community in which they live, or moving forward rapidly in their career, and living the kind of unselfish, caring life for which

their Macalester education prepared them. Service to the college since graduation will be considered as part of the nomination.

Because recipients of both awards must agree to receive them in person, Macalester is especially interested in nominations from reunion classes: in 1999, classes ending in "9" and "4" will be celebrating reunions.

Nominations for 1999 must be received by Nov. 1, 1998. For a nomination form, please call the Alumni Office at (612) 696-6295, or toll-free at 1-888-242-9351.



### Macalester goes Down Under

Macalester Professor Lynda LaBounty led a group of 14 alumni, parents and friends of the college on a Jan. 6-19 trip to Australia which focused on the country's wildlife. "It was a great group," said LaBounty, who has been to Australia twice before, once with Macalester students. "People looked out for one another and at the same time were quite independent in using free time — kind of like Macalester." LaBounty added: "I would be delighted to travel with them again — how about tomorrow?"

*Above left:* Androo Kelly, right, who runs Trowunna Wildlife Park in northern Tasmania, shows the Macalester group an echidna, or spiny anteater.

*Above right:* Alice Perry Wagner '50 feeds a wild parrot in a eucalyptus forest near Melbourne.

*Right:* The Macalester group poses by the statue of a Tasmanian devil at the wildlife park. In front: Mary Briggs (Eau Claire, Wis.) and Alfred Owyang '43 (Schaumburg, Ill.). Second row, from left: Allen Berndt (Cedar Rapids, Iowa), Alice Perry Wagner '50 (Anoka, Minn.), Barbara Berndt Skrdla '71 (Las Vegas, Nev.), Marjorie Paulson (Cheney, Wash.) and Pearl Owyang (Solana Beach, Calif.). Back row: Professor LaBounty, Rollah Kelly (atop statue), Danya Stettler '90 (Dillingham, Alaska), Kathleen Jing Mei Owyang (Springfield, Va.), Dean Pershing (Springfield, Va.), Julie and Bruce Bjork (St. Croix Falls, Wis.) and Nelson Fish (Las Vegas, Nev.). Not pictured: Cynthia and Alicia Jing Yi Owyang, both of Schaumburg, Ill.







## Calendar of alumni events

**H**ERE 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. You may also call the campus events line, (612) 696-6900, or visit the Web site: [www.macalester.edu](http://www.macalester.edu)

May 14-15: field trip with geography Professor David Lanegran '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 begins at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17, on the lawn in front of Old Main, with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan '61 as the principal speaker

May 21-23: NCAA Division III Track & Field Championships, 11 a.m. each day, hosted by Macalester; volunteers needed; for more informa-

## College to broadcast Kofi Annan on the Internet

**I**N AN experimental use of the Internet, Macalester hopes to present the first part of the Sunday, May 17, Commencement ceremony, including addresses by Kofi Annan '61 and Ted Turner, on the Web.

The Web audio broadcast will begin at 1:30 p.m., Central Daylight Time, and end at the completion of the honorary degree ceremony, about one hour later. The college will not broadcast the awarding of undergraduate degrees. This is an experiment and, because of the complex technologies involved, the possibility of a glitch is always present.

In order to tune in to the Internet broadcast, listeners must:

- have an account with an Internet Service Provider to access the Internet;
- install and be familiar with the use of a Web browser, such as Netscape Navigator, Internet Explorer, America Online browser (version 2.5 or later), NetCruiser 2.0 or later (for Macintosh), etc.;
- have at least a fast 486 or Pentium (Windows) or Power PC (Macintosh) with at least a 14.4 Kbps modem and 2 MB disk space;
- download and install the free RealAudio Player from <http://www.real.com/> (note that Windows 3.1 users must obtain the RealAudio Player Plus);
- open the browser with RealAudio plug-in to <http://www.macalester.edu/~commence/> at the appropriate time for your time zone.

The experimental broadcast is a cooperative endeavor by Macalester's student-led Internet Underground, WMCN, and the Computing and Information Technology Department. ●

## Thankathon '98

Some 25 alumni joined 70 students, eight staff and faculty members during Macalester's annual "Thankathon" in March. Among them were economics Professor Vasant Sukhatme, far left, and Sinan Arel '00 (Istanbul, Turkey). During eight nights of phoning in Weyerhaeuser Hall, the student, faculty and alumni callers spoke with 3,112 donors and pledgers to thank them for supporting Macalester through the Annual Fund.

tion call Vanessa Seljeskog at 696-6736 or Martin Peper at 696-6167

June 4: Happy hour for recent grads in Washington, D.C., 6-8 p.m., Madam's Organ, 2461 18th St., Woodley Park Metro (Red line); questions? contact Marin Hagen '91: (202) 328-7558; e-mail: [mhagen8554@aol.com](mailto:mhagen8554@aol.com)

June: date TBA, picnic and St. Paul Saints baseball game (696-6295)

July 1: Happy hour for recent grads in Washington, D.C., 6-8 p.m., Sequoia, 3000 K Street, on Georgetown waterfront; questions? contact Marin Hagen '91: (202) 328-7558; e-mail: [mhagen8554@aol.com](mailto:mhagen8554@aol.com)

Aug. 8: alumni event at Cambridge University in England, with Cambridge Professor John Keith Rose '50

Aug. 8-15: Alumni cruise of Alaska's "Inside Passage," led by Macalester geology Professor Jerry Webers; sold out

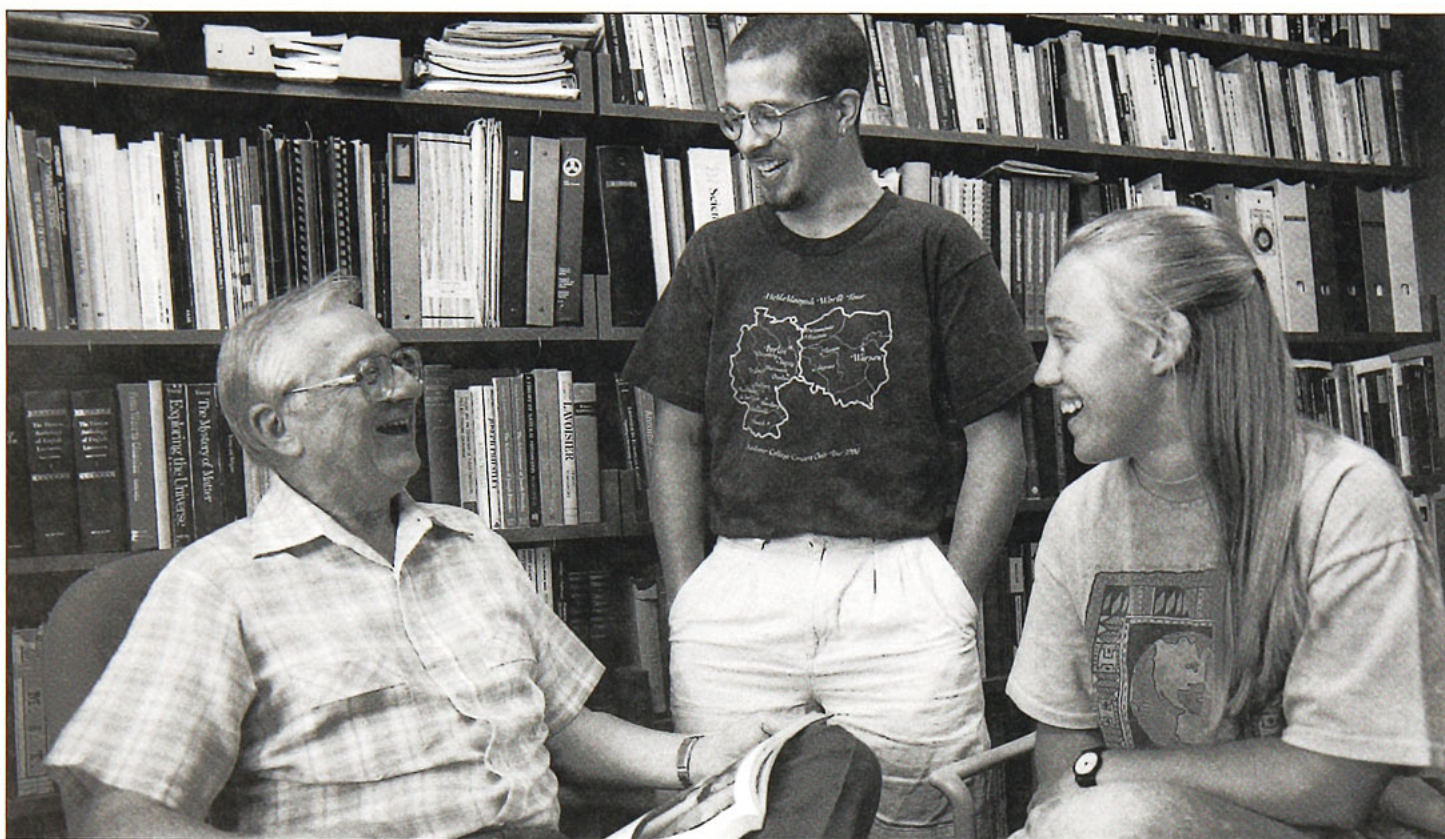
Sept. 16: opening convocation of 1998-99 academic year, with speaker Johnnetta Cole of Spelman College, 3:30 p.m.

## D.C. Club wins Outstanding Local Chapter Award

**T**HE Washington, D.C., Alumni Club was named the Outstanding Local Chapter by the Macalester Alumni Association's Board of Directors.

Criteria for determining the Outstanding Local Chapter include providing an opportunity to involve alumni in a life-long relationship with Macalester; increased attendance at events; frequency of events; innovative programming; and a wide spectrum of alumni class years in attendance. ●





GREG HELGESON

Truman Schwartz with Thaddeus Brink '98 (Lincoln, Neb.) and Rachel Diephouse '98 (Grand Rapids, Mich.).

## What I've learned from my students

by A. Truman Schwartz

ONE OF the most important lessons I learned from my students came early in my career. It is possible to teach students who are smarter than you are. Thank goodness! Otherwise I'd be out of a job.

This moment of truth came during my second year at Macalester, when David Huestis '68 was one of two students in a seminar in advanced physical chemistry. It soon became apparent to me that David's brain could do all sorts of things mine couldn't.

Of course, I had met many of my intellectual superiors before, but I had never admitted to myself that such a person might be in my classroom. After a brief moment of panic, I rationalized that I was older, had more education and experience, and had acquired a few tricks along the way. So I assigned David problems in quantum mechanics that I couldn't solve. At least I knew enough

to recognize the right answers when I saw them and to make occasional suggestions when I didn't. David did not appear to suffer from this method of instruction, as an NSF Graduate Fellowship and a Ph.D. in chemical physics from CalTech subsequently confirmed.

I have also found that students who are beginners in chemistry can ask profound and insightful questions that would never occur to a major. That's one reason why I have dedicated so much of my career to non-science majors. Never underestimate the insight of students, including those who do not aspire to

careers in science and technology. It is a grave mistake to be condescending and patronizing to any students. They must all be treated with empathy and respect. Indeed, I suspect that much of the chemophobia that we decry may have its origins in our attitudes.

The most telling indictment of the image projected by chemists came from a

political science major in my course for non-scientists. On the first day of class, I generally ask beginning students to call out words that they associate with chemistry and I record them on the board. Some of the responses are negative: "difficult, smelly, boring, dangerous." Other students, who have had good experiences

*continued on page 48*

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**It is a grave mistake to be condescending and patronizing to any students. They must all be treated with empathy and respect.**

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A. Truman Schwartz, who has taught chemistry at Macalester for 31 years, received the 1997 James Flack Norris Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Teaching of Chemistry. The prestigious national award is given annually by the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society. This article is excerpted from his acceptance remarks last November at MIT, where he earned a Ph.D. in physical chemistry in 1963. Schwartz was introduced by one of his former students, Chad Rienstra '93, who is working on a Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry at MIT. Rienstra said he has "hopes of some day earning the privilege of having broader influence on my students and society, in a manner similar to how Professor Schwartz has influenced me."



# St. Paul; meditation; dystopias; family history; Japan

**Until They Bring the Streetcars Back**  
by Stanley Gordon West '54 (Lexington-Marshall Publishing, 1997. 276 pages, \$12 paperback)

"If I'd never run into Gretchen Luttermann I wouldn't have landed in that crummy jail. And better still, her father wouldn't be trying to kill me. I know it sounds pretty normal that a girl's father wants to kill some kid, but he really wanted to kill me..."

Thus opens Stanley West's novel, which is set in his native St. Paul. The year is 1949, when streetcars graced the city, drive-ins bloomed, shopping centers didn't exist and people hadn't yet fled to the suburbs. The story concerns young Cal Gant. Despite the shelter of his idyllic life, he stumbles into a lair of violence, incest and murder.

West, who graduated from Central High School in St. Paul in 1950, attended Macalester and earned a degree from the University of Minnesota in 1955. He moved to Montana in 1964 and has lived there ever since. His novel *Amos* was produced as a "CBS Movie of the Week" starring Kirk Douglas and stirred national controversy over abuse of the aged in America.

*Until They Bring the Streetcars Back* is available from Lexington-Marshall Publishing, P.O. Box 339, Bozeman, MT 59771; phone: (406) 586-1002

**Scenic Driving Wisconsin**  
by Aaron Cieslicki '93 (Falcon Press, Helena, Mont., 1997. 168 pages, \$14.95 paperback)

Self-described "cheesehead" Aaron Cieslicki has written a guidebook for car touring in America's Dairyland. "It ain't *Light in August*," he wrote, "but parts of it are funny."

**Pocket Guide to Meditation**  
by Alan L. Pritz '77 (The Crossing Press, 1997. 95 pages, \$6.95)

This book focuses on meditation as part of spiritual practice, as a universal tool to forge a deeper connection with spirit. Classical information about meditation is provided in a fashion and language that Westerners can apply to their own culture or religious heritage.

Alan Pritz has studied and taught meditation, yoga and martial arts for more than 25 years, and runs a consulting business, Human Resource Enhancement, in Minneapolis. His book is available in bookstores and from The Crossing Press, P.O. Box 1048, Freedom, CA 95019; or call 1-800-777-1048

**All American Dream Dolls**  
by David Haynes '77 (Milkweed Editions, 1997. 255 pages, \$21.95 cloth)

"Being a black woman these days, you've got to develop a strong sense of irony," observes Deneen Wilkerson, the heroine of David Haynes' new novel. She is a "college educated, hard working, advertising phenom, friend of the earth and owner of major appliances." When her sister becomes a serious contender for the All American Dream Dolls beauty pageant, Deneen

finds herself caught up in a world of handsome promoters, bad Whitney Houston sound-alikes and wicked hot oil treatments. It gives her cause to re-evaluate her life as well as the men and women around her.

Haynes, a former elementary school-teacher in St. Paul, was named one of the 20 best young novelists in America by *Granta* magazine in 1996 (see August 1996 *Macalester Today*).

He has also written the first two novels, published simultaneously by Milkweed in 1997, in a new series for ages 8-14. *Business As Usual: The West 7th Wildcats* and *The Gumma Wars: The West 7th Wildcats* (each \$6.95 paperback) follow the adventures of six boys, ages 11 and 12, who live in a working-class, racially mixed part of St. Paul.

Haynes is also the editor, with Julie Landsman, of the forthcoming *Welcome to Your Life: Writings for the Heart of Young America* (Milkweed, \$15.95 paperback), a cross-cultural collection of writing for young adults. The anthology includes fiction, memoirs and poetry from a variety of cultural and ethnic perspectives discussing emotional issues that confront young adults today. Among the authors represented are Macalester English Professor

Diane Glancy and novelist and short story writer Charles Baxter '69.

**Thin Ice**  
by Marsha Qualey '75 (Delacorte Press, 1997. 261 pages, \$14.95 cloth)

This is the fifth novel for young adults by Marsha Richardson Qualey '75. The story concerns 17-year-old Arden, who is being raised by her brother, Scott, the only family member she has left. After a snow-mobile accident, Scott is presumed drowned. Arden is convinced that he has staged the accident and sets out to find him.

Qualey's books have been included among the American Library Association's Best Books for Young Adults and Quick Picks, the New York Public Library's Books for the Teen Age, and *The Bulletin's* and *School Library Journal's* Best Books of the Year. She has also won two Minnesota Book Awards.

**Transformations of Language in Modern Dystopias**  
by David W. Sisk (Greenwood Press, 1997. 224 pages, \$57.95 cloth)

Dystopian literature extrapolates terrifying futures from disturbing current trends. Writers in the overtly didactic genre commonly see language as both the primary tool by which repressive societies stifle dissent and the primary weapon used by rebels bent on resisting such oppression.

David Sisk's book traces the evolution of language's centrality in 20th century dystopias in English, beginning with Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* and George Orwell's 1984 and continuing with works like Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* and Russell Hoban's *Riddley Walker*. While other scholars have often alluded to the

importance of language within specific literary dystopias, this book seeks to transcend earlier studies by presenting a generic model of dystopian language use.

Sisk, assistant director for academic computing at Macalester, received his Ph.D. in English from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. His scholarly interests include film, modern drama and Southern literature.



Stanley Gordon West '54



David Haynes '77



**Flutie**

by Diane Glancy (*Moyer Bell, 1998.*  
\$18.95 cloth)

Diane Glancy, a professor of English at Macalester, sets her third novel in Oklahoma, where she spent much of her life before coming to Macalester. The title character is a young girl who is so shy she sometimes cannot speak. Her life on a dirt road, her father's job repairing old cars and tractors, her brother's betrayal and her mother's indifference are all parts of a story Flutie wants to tell if she can find the words. The novel describes the bleakness of the western Oklahoma landscape and the emotional fallout of a fractured and disillusioned Indian culture.

Glancy teaches Native American literature and creative writing at Macalester.



Diane Glancy

**The Green Tuxedo**

by Janet Holmes (*University of Notre Dame Press, 1998.*  
72 pages, \$12 paperback)

This second book of poems by Janet Holmes, a lecturer in English at Macalester, explores the everyday life of the late 20th century for what exists beneath its often seductive appearance. The splendid green tuxedo of the title, for example, may disguise a heart that harbors racism, fear and violence. In the second half of the book, Holmes draws on recently discovered diaries kept by her journalist father nearly 50 years before her birth. Sifting through evidence and memory, she entwines actual diary entries with speculation and invention to generate a portrait that discovers her father, and reinvents him, as a young man.

*The Green Tuxedo* is the winner of the 1999 Ernest Sandeen Prize in Poetry, named after a longtime Notre Dame professor and poet. Her book *The Physicist at the Mall* won the 1994 Anhinga Poetry Prize.

**Salt Lantern:****Traces of an American Family**

by Bill Morgan '55 (*University of Iowa Press, 1997.* \$29.95 cloth, \$14.95 paper)

In *Salt Lantern*, Bill Morgan revisits the houses, farms, letters and heirlooms of his ancestors as well as his own childhood to create a narrative history of the Morgan family.

As a child growing up in Pipestone, Minn., in the 1930s, Morgan marveled

over his great-grandmother's salt-filled chimney lantern. The Victorian artifact became the inspiration both for Morgan's pilgrimage to find the original salt lantern house and, after many journeys both external and internal, for this multifaceted family history. The book is part of the *American Land and Life Series*, edited by Wayne Franklin.

Morgan is a professor of American studies at St. Cloud State University and co-author of *Light from the Hearth: Central Minnesota Pioneers and Early Architecture*.

**Asia in Japan's Embrace:  
Building a Regional Production Alliance**

by Walter Hatch '77 and Kozo Yamamura (*Cambridge University Press, 1996*)

Walter Hatch and his co-author examine the way in which Japanese capital and technology have sewn together the economies of East and Southeast Asia. The book analyzes the expansion of Japanese manufacturing industries into East and Southeast Asia, and suggests that Asian economies have become dependent on Japanese capital and technology for their own development. It also suggests that rival multinational corporations, including U.S. firms, are finding it difficult to penetrate Japanese-dominated production networks in some sectors, such as automobiles, in some economies in the region.

Hatch, a former journalist, is the managing editor of *Social Science Japan*, a new English-language journal published by Tokyo University (with Oxford University

Press). He is also teaching part time at Temple University Japan, and completing his dissertation in political economy at the University of Washington in Seattle while living in Tokyo with his wife and three children.

**Blue Bossa**

by Bart Schneider (*Viking, 1998.*  
244 pages, \$24.95 cloth)

In his debut novel, Bart Schneider tells the story of a Chet Baker-like jazz trumpeter. Ronnie Reboulet, once famous for both his stunning looks and his breathtakingly lyrical style, has quit playing because of a drug habit. His companion, herself a cancer survivor, has helped him put his life back together, away from the music business, even though she wants to hear him play again. After his estranged daughter re-enters his life, Reboulet attempts a comeback. The novel, composed in short scenes that segue into one another like a songman's medley, takes place against the shadow of Patty Hearst's kidnapping in 1970s San Francisco.

Schneider is editor of the *Hungry Mind Review*, a national book magazine published at Macalester.

**Calling the Circle:  
The First and Future Culture**

by Christina Baldwin '68 (*Bantam Books, 1998.* \$13.95)

This is a revised edition of Christina Baldwin's original small-press book, which became a key resource of the rapidly growing "circle" movement. The circle has been a social form since humankind huddled around the first campfires to hold council, create community, make cooperative decisions and take action.

Baldwin describes a circle with three components: rotating leadership, shared responsibility and a reliance on the spiritual.

Baldwin lives on Whidbey Island in Washington state.

**Rebel Women:  
Feminism, Modernism and  
the Edwardian Novel**

by Jane Eldridge Miller '76 (*University of Chicago Press, 1997.* 242 pages, \$15.95 paperback)

With the rise of women's suffrage, challenges to marriage and divorce laws, and expanding opportunities for education and employment for women,

*continued on page 18*

**Math best sellers**

BOOKS BY THREE Macalester faculty were among the Mathematical Association of America's 24 best-selling books in 1996-97.

They include *Which Way Did the Bicycle Go?* by Stan Wagon and the late Joseph Konhauser (also co-authored by Dan Velleman) and *A Radical Approach to Real Analysis* by David Bressoud.

In the past three years, four books by Macalester faculty have made the MAA's best-seller list, including Wagon's *Old and New Unsolved Problems in Plane Geometry and Number Theory* (written with Victor Klee) and *Resources in Calculus*, a five-volume work edited by Wayne Roberts, now Macalester's provost.

Joe Konhauser died in 1992. The recent book co-authored with Wagon and Velleman is based on his notes for the "Problem of the Week" which has been a feature at Macalester since 1968. •



# Eleanor Ostman Aune '62 shares 30 years of Pioneering recipes

**Always on Sunday: Eleanor Ostman's Best Tested Recipes**  
by Eleanor Ostman  
(Sunday Press, 1998. 360 pages,  
\$19.95 paperback)

For more than 30 years, Eleanor Ostman Aune '62 was a food writer for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. This book includes her favorite recipes, as well as stories about crashing a banquet held for Walter Mondale '50 at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, having tea at the White House with Rosalynn Carter and lunching with Paul Newman after winning his recipe contest.

Ostman joined the *Pioneer Press* in 1962, shortly after graduating from Macalester with a degree in journalism. She began her coverage of food in 1967, and penned a popular weekly column, "Tested Recipes," from 1968 through September 1997. Winner of the



James Beard Journalism Award in 1994 and six-time winner of the Golden Carnation Nutrition Writing Award, she is currently a feature writer for the newspaper.

"My mission has been to make food fun, and my approach has been enthusiastic," Ostman writes in the introduction. "The style of this book could be likened to Erma Bombeck meets the *Reader's Digest*. It's stuffed with vignettes and amusing stories and is meant to be left by the bed or bathtub for moments of miscellaneous reading time. But do try the recipes, too. They're keepers."

To order the book, call 1-800-484-6288 (code 3435), or in the Twin Cities area, 227-2277. A portion of each sale will be donated to the Ivan Burg Journalism Scholarship at Macalester. ●

## Salad on the Wild Side

makes 6 servings  
(invented by Eleanor Ostman)

### Salad:

- 1 cup wild rice
- 2 tablespoons salt-free chicken flavor instant soup mix (or use 2 chicken bouillon cubes)
- 4 ounces nearly fat-free cooked ham or turkey ham, cut in julienne strips
- ¾ cup hot pepper cheese, cut in julienne strips
- ¾ cup broccoli florets, broken into small pieces
- 1 carrot, peeled and cut into thin rounds
- ¾ cup red pepper strips
- 4 green onions, cut into thin rounds
- ¾ cup walnut halves
- Freshly ground black pepper

### Dressing:

- ½ cup canola oil
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons white-wine vinegar
- ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- ½ teaspoon curry powder (or more to taste)

**To cook wild rice:** Rinse wild rice with hot water. Drain. In saucepan, combine rice with 3 cups hot water and instant soup mix

or bouillon. Simmer, covered, for 35 to 45 minutes, or until water is absorbed and rice is tender. Cool.

**To mix salad:** In large mixing bowl, toss rice with ham, pepper cheese, broccoli, carrot, red pepper, onions and walnuts. Add a few grinds of black pepper.

**To make dressing:** In small bowl, beat dressing ingredients until emulsified. Taste to see if more curry powder is needed. Pour over salad. Toss to mix well. Chill before serving. ●

## Alaska Carrot Cake

makes 12 to 15 servings

### Cake:

- 2 cups granulated sugar
- ¾ cup vegetable oil
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup buttermilk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 cups grated carrots
- ½ cup drained crushed pineapple
- 2 cups shredded coconut
- 1 cup Rice Krispies
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

### Orange cream-cheese frosting:

- 4 ounces cream cheese
- 6 tablespoons margarine
- 4 cups powdered sugar
- 2 teaspoons orange extract
- 2 tablespoons milk

**To make cake:** In large mixing bowl, cream sugar and oil. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well. Combine flour, soda, cinnamon and salt. Add alternately with buttermilk. Mix until smooth. Add vanilla. Fold in carrots, pineapple, coconut, cereal and nuts.

**To bake cake:** Pour into 3 greased and floured 8- or 9-inch round cake pans. Bake in 350-degree oven for 55 to 60 minutes, or until done. Cool in pans.

**To make frosting:** Put cream cheese and margarine in mixing bowl. Set out at room temperature until softened. Add powdered sugar, orange extract and milk. Using electric mixer, blend until smooth. Spread between cake layers, on top, and, if desired, around cake. ●



# Mothers and daughters: Ordinary and remarkable

**Connections & Reflections:  
Mothers & Daughters In Their Own  
Light, In Their Own Words**

by Catherine Pinkerton Koemptgen '68  
(Pfeifer-Hamilton, 1997. 144 pages,  
\$22.95 cloth)

"Our best efforts to love and understand each other, one generation of women to another, are at times, imperfect; such is the nature of sacred work," Catherine Pinkerton Koemptgen writes in the introduction to her book. "This communal photo album of portraits, mementos, and recollections celebrates what is both ordinary and remarkable about mothers and daughters."

The book began in 1995 as a photography exhibit at the Duluth, Minn., Art Institute. An educator and visual artist whose work is represented in galleries throughout the Midwest, Koemptgen, who lives in Duluth, spent three years photographing mothers and daughters "in their own space," using natural light, with the participants agreeing to wear just simple attire.

She and her subjects, who ranged from young children to elderly women, collaborated on the photographs. " 'Taking portraits,' a term which implies a giving up or a loss of something, didn't interest me," she writes. "Shared ownership of the creative process did. The portraits were freely and mutually 'entered into' rather than 'taken.' "

The 65 photos of mothers and daughters are accompanied by brief quotes from her informal interviews with them, their



MELISSA IRICK

Catherine Pinkerton Koemptgen '68 of Duluth, Minn., with her daughter, Andrea Koemptgen '98. The photo was taken by her other daughter, Melissa Irick. This month is both Catherine's 30th reunion at Macalester and Andrea's graduation. Catherine's mother, Mary Wigginton Pinkerton '34, who lives in West St. Paul, also attended Macalester.

letters and other mementos. Although only first names are used throughout the book, three of the women pictured are Macalester alumnae: Shahnaz Yusefzadeh Coyer '68 of Minneapolis with her daughter, Freya Coyer '97, and Tamera Noble Andersen '60 of Grand

Marais, Minn., with her daughter, Eva.

Koemptgen dedicates the book, which won a 1998 Minnesota Book Award in the category of illustrated books, to her husband, Joel, and their daughters, Melissa Irick and Andrea Koemptgen '98. ●

*continued from page 16*

the early years of the 20th century were a time of social revolution. Examining British novels written from 1890 to 1914, Jane Eldridge Miller demonstrates how these social, legal and economic changes rendered the traditional narratives of romantic desire and marital closure inadequate, forcing Edwardian novelists to counter the limitations and ideological implications of those narratives with innovative strategies. The original and provocative novels that resulted depict the experiences of modern women with unprecedented variety, specificity and frankness.

Miller teaches English literature at Princeton University.

**Policing Space: Territoriality and the Los Angeles Police Department**  
by Steve Herbert '84 (University of Minnesota Press, 1997. 160 pages, \$44.95 cloth, \$17.95 paperback)

Steve Herbert, an assistant professor of criminal justice and adjunct professor of geography at Indiana University, spent eight months observing one patrol division of the Los Angeles Police Department on the job.

The result is his first-person account of the way a powerful police department attempts to control its vast, heterogeneous territory. His fieldwork with the officers in the Wiltshire Division offers a close view of the complex factors at play in how the police define and control territory, how they make and mark space.

**Transforming the Cotton Frontier: Madison County, Alabama, 1800-1840**  
by Daniel S. Dupre '80 (Louisiana State University Press, 1997. \$40 cloth)

Daniel Dupre, associate professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, offers a history of the first generation of one community on the cotton frontier. He examines settlement, banking, land relief, internal improvements, crime, religion, slave disorder and other facets to reveal the tensions and bonds among opposing groups. Intended as more than a local history, the book is an exploration of the intersection of community and ideology and offers a glimpse of the broad forces of change sweeping the early American republic. ●



# Daughters and mothers

*Before she graduated from Macalester, Rachel Coyne '98 had a story to tell*

by Jon Halvorsen

**R**ACHEL COYNE graduates from Macalester this month after earning a degree in French and international studies, being admitted to law school — and, oh yes, a few weeks after publishing her first book.

Even her editor was surprised to learn the author was still in college.

Her children's book, *Daughter, Have I Told You?*, published by Henry Holt and Co. in New York, is an illustrated poem in which a mother expresses her love for her daughter and passes on a universal sense of female history. Coyne dedicates the book to her mother, Kathleen Alana Coyne, a nurse who lives in Chisago City, Minn.

Coyne wrote the poem originally in high school, revised it in her first year at Macalester and sent it off to the publisher. The book jacket makes no reference to Macalester, identifying Coyne only as "a native of Minnesota [who] currently lives in St. Paul, where she teaches writing and art to children."

"When they asked for the biographical material, that was still true — I was teaching every summer," Coyne said. "I really didn't want people to know I was that young. In fact, I was concealing that

of different groups to the building of prairie history."

Mostly of Irish and Scotch-Irish heritage herself, Coyne has an older

half-brother and cousins who are members of the Sand Lake Anishinabe Tribe in Wisconsin. "It's always been something that's very important to me — the connections between my family

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**'I'll always write — that's just what I am. It's always been a question of finding something to do — a career — that could complement that.'**

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and his family," she said. Coyne had no contact with the book's illustrator, Virginia Halstead, but was pleased that the illustrations show racial diversity.

Coyne plans to enroll this fall in law school at American University in Washington, D.C. She is working on a second children's book, too.

"I'll always write — that's just what I am," she said. "It's always been a question of finding something to do — a career — that could complement that. . . . The French degree is essentially a literature degree. The international studies [major] and law school have to do more with public activism and my concern for women's and social issues. I think that's a good literary tradition, to be the social activist-writer — to be a good writer who is very concerned about the world externally as opposed to internally."

Coyne's role models include the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, the French writer Emile Zola and the Martinican writer Amie Cesaire, now in his 80s. "I went to see Cesaire when I was in Martinique; that was one of the highlights of my life so far."

Coyne works part time at the Hungry Mind Bookstore, next to Macalester, which ordered copies of her book. "We just got it in," she said in early March, "and we put it up front where people would come in and read it. We sold five copies to strangers. I just didn't conceive of anyone who didn't know me buying it. It was really cool!" ●

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*Jon Halvorsen is the managing editor of Macalester Today.*



GREG HELGESSON

Author Rachel Coyne '98 and her children's book, *Daughter, Have I Told You?*

from my editor for a long time. She thought I was well into my 30s. I was going to Martinique and I was worried that the book would come out while I was studying abroad, and I told her, 'I'll be out of the country.' She said, 'Oh, why?' I said, 'I'll be at the University of the Antilles and Guyana.' She said, 'Oh, you'll be a teaching there?' At that point, I would have had to lie directly to her. I said, 'No, I'll be a student.' She said, 'What!'"

Coyne, who grew up in Andover and Circle Pines, Minn., has been writing since she was a child. She finished her first novel last year and also writes poetry. She wrote *Daughter, Have I Told You?* out of a longtime interest in women's issues and because of her racially mixed family. "I wrote the book to reflect, one, strong girls, and then to show the different contributions



by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

**I**F YOU EAT Post Alphabits, or drink Ocean Spray juices; if you own the *Emancipation* CD by the artist formerly known as Prince, or your kids watch the Disney video "James and the Giant Peach"; if you clipped a certain coupon for Nestle's Toll House Morsels, you own work by Chank Diesel '91.

Chank, a designer and alphabetician formerly known as Charles Anderson, always loved drawing the alphabet and playing video games. In designing fonts, he found a way to combine those interests.

Fonts, or typefaces, are sets of alphabet characters whose style conveys a message as surely as

the words themselves. No longer an unknown subsisting on coffee and fast

food, Chank has work on display in the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt

National Design Museum as well as a worldwide spectrum of clients and protégés.

At Macalester, Chank (a childhood nickname; a friend later added Diesel just because it sounded good) worked on the *Mac Weekly* and completed the courses necessary for an art major, but the prospect of "making stuff" seduced him away before he graduated. "Stumbling onto this font thing was really nice," he said. "It's a wonderful little industry



GREG HELGESON

"Stumbling onto this font thing was really nice," says Charles "Chank" Anderson '91.

that I can make these little typefaces and sell them myself."

Chank's fonts are wonderfully varied, and call forth an emotional response, a quality perennially sought by advertisers. The popular "Mister Frisky," used by Disney, Taco Bell, Welch's Grape Soda and others — including *Macalester Today* in the headline and opening initial of this story — is zesty and spirited. "CrustiWacky" is surrounded by a cloud of dust reminiscent of the "Peanuts" character Pigpen. "Launderette," "Luncheonette" and "Parkway Motel" recall the neighborhood signs of the '50s.

At first, Chank said, "I was making them just for my own designs, and people kept bugging me, asking for copies. I was just a punk kid living in the basement. I couldn't think of myself as a software developer; I couldn't sell these things. But if they worked for me for my design work, and I could put them on a floppy disk, it must be functional software, so I started giving them out to my friends, and it just went from there." Soon Chank was giving out a new

*continued on page 48*

# Typecast

Font designer  
'Chank' Anderson '91  
is a character

Jan Shaw-Flamm '76, a Twin Cities writer, profiled the four Samanant siblings—alumni in last August's *Mac Today*.

**CHANK FONTS**

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# AT HOME IN HANOI

Nine years after her first visit, Sarah Pfeiffer '94 navigates easily in the capital of the new Vietnam

by Peter Jon Lindberg

**H**ANOI, VIETNAM—Fifty or sixty motorbikes careen down Ly Thai To Street, and it seems only one of the riders is not madly honking her horn. Sarah Pfeiffer '94 calmly negotiates the rush of noisy midday traffic and eases to a stop outside her favorite cafe. With her light brown hair tucked into her helmet, she almost blends into the crowd; then again, no one else is wearing a helmet.

The sight of an American woman riding a motorbike through Hanoi is not all that unusual these days, though Pfeiffer remembers a different time.

"I came first in '89, with a group from my high school in Maine, and I was stared at constantly," she recalls, over a cup of thick Vietnamese coffee. "People would point and say, 'Lien Xo, Lien Xo,' meaning Soviet Union. They assumed that's where you were from."

"Three years later, I came back for a semester in college, on a School for International Training program. I did my independent study project on children's street games. I focused on the rules — yup, rock, paper, scissors is universal — and how they'd developed; the attitudes of the children

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*Peter Jon Lindberg has written for Travel & Leisure, Details, Us and the New York Times. After interviewing Sarah Pfeiffer in Hanoi, he e-mailed this story from Ho Chi Minh City.*



PAMELLA KLEIN ODHNER

playing them; the police directing traffic with tops spinning under their feet. . . . It was a pretty easy project. I only had to step out in front of my guest house and I was immediately immersed in the subject."

After the program, Pfeiffer stayed on through the summer, eager to hone her language skills. "Back then, Hanoi didn't have many distractions — no Apocalypse Now [a popular bar/club], no CNN, no go-cart courses. So I hung out at sidewalk tea and sunflower-seed stands and practiced my Vietnamese. In fact, that was my most productive time,

*Sarah Pfeiffer at a typical market on a back street in Hanoi*



*This park is across the street from Pfeiffer's office in downtown Hanoi. She has been working for the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation since March 1996.*



and when I went back home I regretted not being able to keep it up.”

She got her chance, however, not long after graduation. In December 1994, she left the States for St. Petersburg, Russia, took the Trans-Siberian Railway and ended up back in Hanoi. She's been here ever since. Her first year she worked various jobs teaching English, and continued with her Vietnamese; that fall she was involved with a UNICEF project to educate street children about HIV. There was also a brief stint managing Hanoi's American Club, but as she says, “serving Johnnie Walker to businessmen from New York was not my idea of international experience.”

At that time, Vietnam was drawing more Western travelers, as well as an increasing number of expatriates, now unhindered by the former U.S. trade embargo. With its gold-rush reputation in the

“I like to think that my being here... just living everyday life and then bringing those experiences back to friends, family, and colleagues in the U.S. has helped them move on from the Vietnam they still envision.”

mid-'90s, Ho Chi Minh City, which Americans know as Saigon, was (and still is) the focus of most foreign investment and tourism. Meanwhile, tradition-bound Hanoi was slower opening to the world. As a result, the capital today is much more pleasant than its raucous southern rival, though long-timers groan that Hanoi is fast becoming Ho Chi Minh City.

Still, differences persist. Most humanitarian groups, foreign journalists and, of course, all diplomats are based in the capital. This has created a more diverse (if smaller) expat community than the largely business-driven one in the south.

One of the many humanitarian groups operating in Hanoi is the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, whose grants and programs deal with the consequences of war. During her first year in town, Pfeiffer kept running into VVAF's director, veteran Chuck Searcy, at dinners and functions, and when an opening came up in March '96, she was thrilled to take it on.

“I started as a program assistant, overseeing work at a local orthotics clinic and lab, which we helped upgrade to provide thermoplastic braces,” she says. In just over two years the clinic has fitted nearly 2,000 kids with braces, to correct the effects of polio, cerebral palsy, and other diseases and birth defects. Now, she says, “I'm heading up our new monitoring and evaluation team, which will basically follow up on all the clinic's patients, to make sure they got or are still getting the right treatment, and to see if and how the braces have changed their daily lives.” Her knowledge of Vietnamese will obviously help immensely in this.

Does she have plans to return home? “It's funny,” she replies, “but I'd been wondering what would mark the end of my time here in Vietnam — it was hard to set a time limit. I'm excited by the new position, which has a clear goal and a clearly defined ending. [After two years, the duties will be turned over to the Vietnamese staff.] Beyond that? I'm thinking I'll go back for more education, this time in a totally different field — physical rehabilitation. For VVAF, I've only been involved in administration of the programs. I'd really like to do more hands-on work.”

Pfeiffer has visited or lived in Vietnam over a span of nine years now. She has seen many changes as the country develops and opens its doors to the world. During that period, the United States lifted its trade embargo, opened a liaison office and then a full-blown embassy.

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# THE LASTING LEGACY OF TED MITAU

*The legendary teacher, whose mother perished in the Holocaust, inspired countless students to excel and to serve*

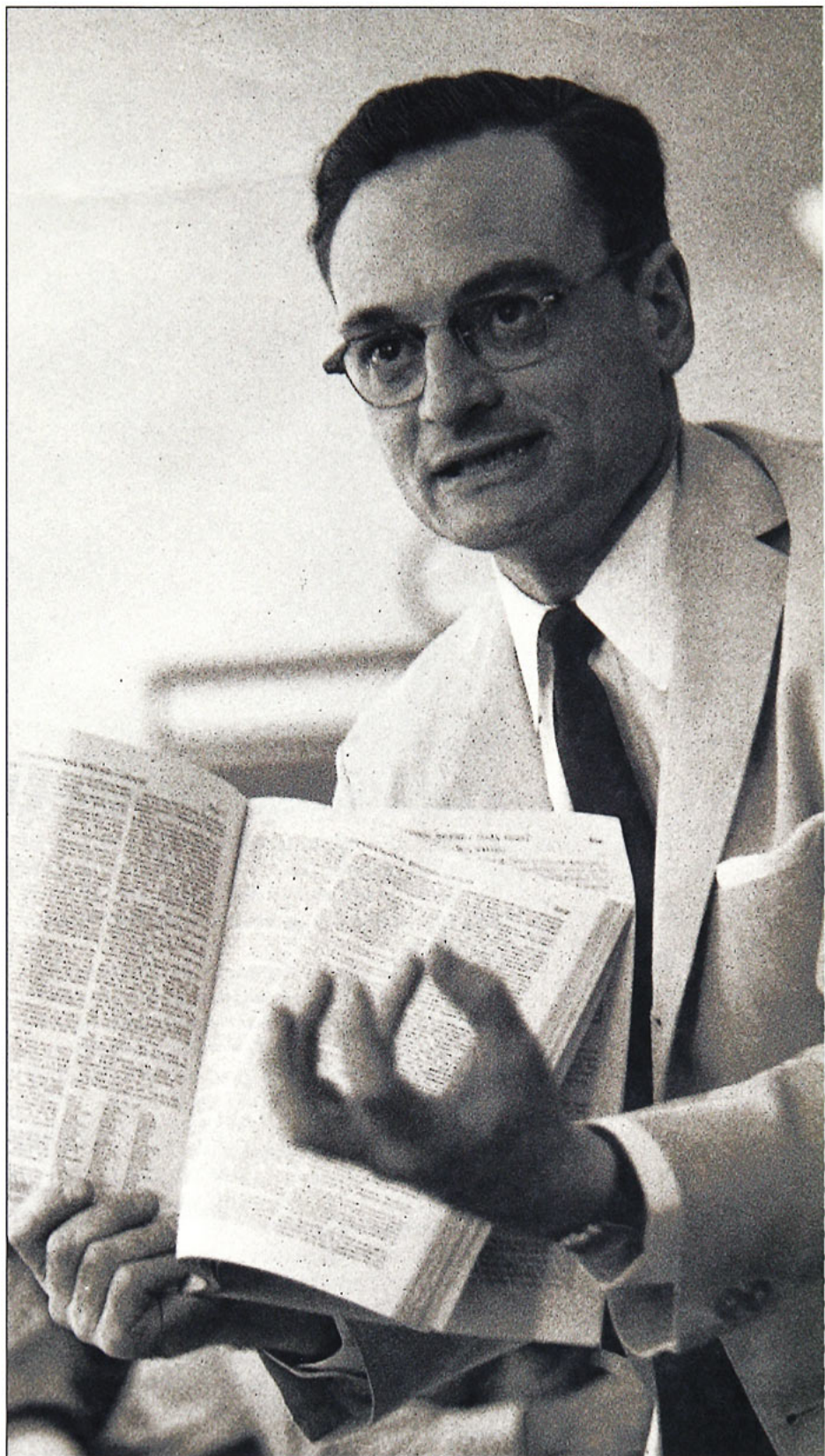
by Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83

**G**THEODORE MITAU believed it is possible for human beings to build a good society by using ideas to change communities. Nearly 20 years after his death, his influence on public policy is still felt, thanks to his many students who live out his convictions.

Ted Mitau liked politicians. "I'm one of these people who respects politicians. I don't belong to this cynicism school of politics. I think the politicians shape the very ambiance of our lives. If we get good politicians, we will have good leadership and we will have a good society," he said in an interview with the *Minneapolis Star*. "When we deride our politicians, demean our politicians, we demean ourselves. And when we demean ourselves, we will have a cynical, a narcissistic society that is far from the democratic ideal."

Mitau's own contributions to society were numerous and far-reaching. In a rare foray into partisan politics, he formed the "Diaper Brigade," a group of student volunteers, in 1948 to work for Hubert Humphrey's faction in a fight within Minnesota's young Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party. But he was usually bipartisan, serving as an adviser to many in government on both sides of the aisle. The first chancellor of Minnesota's State University System, he was proudest of developing Metropolitan State University, the "college without walls" designed to provide a college education to working adults.

First and foremost, however, he was a teacher. Energetic, demanding and passionate, he insisted upon the best from his students. Some of them joked that the "G" in G. Theodore Mitau stood for "God"; hardly anyone knew that his first name was Günter,



*This photo captures some of Mitau's passion as a teacher. "He'd walk around the room and come up behind you and ask a question. He'd pounce," recalls Tom Harbinson '80, one of Mitau's last research assistants.*





Mitau often invited students over. Here, students in his "Political Parties" class gather in the basement of the Mitaus' home on Montreal Avenue in St. Paul in 1951. Mrs. Mitau is at left.

which he dropped because he thought it was too hard to pronounce. No one ever fell asleep during his classes, even the ones held first hour. Most students came prepared. And few were late more than once.

"He'd walk around the room and come up behind you and ask a question," recalls Tom Harbinson '80, one of Mitau's last research assistants and now the Scott County (Minnesota) attorney. "He'd pounce. He had a wonderful knack of picking out the bright students and he'd play them off each other like a concert pianist plays a piano."

A small, wiry man with boundless enthusiasm, Ted Mitau had a voice that boomed in the classroom. Though he might have been intimidating at times, he was respectful of students and didn't try to embarrass them. "He didn't have favorites when he taught in class," says Charlton Dietz '53, a retired 3M executive. "He didn't discriminate in who he called on. He tried to engage everybody. It was always a mystery as to how he'd get the quiet students to answer."

Dietz recalls students gathering in Mitau's basement recreation room in St. Paul's Highland Park

to continue class discussions. "He was so open-minded about the students' views. He had the ability to get you to drop your inhibitions to discuss major issues."

His Socratic teaching style and his belief in one's obligation to community service can be linked, in part, to his Jewish heritage. While he was not religious, according to his family, Mitau was shaped both by Jewish principles and by his experience coming of age in Nazi Germany. Like so many

other German Jews who survived the Holocaust, Mitau shared few stories about his youth with family and friends. "I tried to ask him about his

childhood toward the end of his life," recalls his daughter, Andrea Mitau Kircher. She learned little. "I think he buried it all. I do think that because he was the sole survivor of his family, he may have struggled with guilt, like many Holocaust survivors. It made

"He tried to engage everybody [in class]. It was always a mystery as to how he'd get the quiet students to answer."

— Charlton Dietz '53, a Mitau student

This is the sixth in a series of profiles of great figures in Macalester's history by Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83, a writer who lives in Shoreview, Minn.

him that much more determined to accomplish something, to try to make the world a better place."

His family knows that Mitau came from a well-established family in Berlin. His father, Alexander, who held a top-level position with the telephone company, died when Mitau was 9 or 10. His older brother, Werner, died a few years later at age 17 in a bicycle accident, leaving Mitau and his mother, Rosel Streim Mitau, on their own. Mitau was 13 when Hitler came to power in 1933.

"He had to wear the Star of David on his clothing and go to a separate school [for Jews] in Berlin," says his widow, Charlotte Mitau-Price. Eventually, he went to a school somewhere in Eastern Europe to be an engineer, but gave that up, recalls Andrea. "All he said was it became clear to him that he had no future there," she says.

In 1937, when Mitau was 17, he decided to get a student visa to go to the U.S. His mother couldn't believe anything bad would happen to the Jews in Germany, and refused to go with him to New York. "Imagine this young child knowing he had to leave Germany and his mother not believing it," Mitau-Price says.

Mitau connected with relatives in New York and got a kitchen job to support himself. "He told us he was the one who had to climb in the big pots and pans to clean out the caked-on food because he was the smallest," says Andrea. "This is why he never wanted to wash dishes at home." To improve his English, Mitau went to movies. Eventually he began attending classes at New York University. There he

"He may have struggled with guilt, like many Holocaust survivors. It made him that much more determined to accomplish something, to try to make the world a better place."

— Andrea Mitau Kircher, his daughter

met Ed Mottershead, a teacher whose family lived on Grand Avenue and who was well acquainted with Macalester. He was impressed with Mitau, one of his speech students, and encouraged him to transfer to Macalester, where he could get more attention and a good education.

Charles Turck, president of Macalester when Mitau arrived, helped Mitau

make financial arrangements to get Mitau's mother to the U.S. However, Mitau found out through the people he had hired to help get her out that she never made it. After the war ended, Mitau learned for certain that his mother was dead. It was only a few years ago, long after her husband's death, that his widow discovered that Rosel Mitau had died in the Theresienstadt concentration camp in Czechoslovakia.

To help pay his tuition at Macalester, Mitau taught German. To tide him over the summer

break, the local refugee committee suggested he work as a camp counselor. He met Charlotte Cutts, another camp counselor, in June 1939 at Camp Sophie Wirth on White Bear Lake where he was in charge of arts and crafts. They married in 1941.

Except for two years in the Army during World War II, based in the Midwest and the South, Mitau spent his entire adult life in academe, most of it at Macalester. Mitau loved ideas and was a voracious gatherer of information through all types of media, from all perspectives. Every day he read the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Congressional Quarterly*, and the morning and

evening editions of both Twin Cities newspapers, recalls Andrea. "At dinner, we had to be quiet so he could listen to the radio," she says. Mitau would listen to news commentary programs across the political spectrum. "He wanted to know what the other side was doing," says his son, Lee, who remembers listening to endless local and national newscasts. "To this day, I cannot watch television news," Lee adds with a laugh.

Being an academic was time-consuming, to be sure. However, Lee recalls family road

Young Günter Theodore Mitau with his mother, Rosel, on the streets of Berlin. She died in the Holocaust.



COURTESY CHARLOTTE MITAU-PRICE

## Günter Theodore Mitau

**Born:** April 4, 1920, Berlin, Germany

**Education:** B.A., Macalester, 1940; M.A., 1942, and Ph.D., 1948, both from University of Minnesota

**Family:** married Charlotte Cutts, 1941; children, Andrea Mitau Kircher (born 1943) and Lee (born 1948); four grandchildren

**Macalester career:** instructor, professor, later holder of the James Wallace Chair of Political Science, 1940–68; resigned as chair of Political Science Department to become chancellor of Minnesota State College system in 1968; adjunct professor at Macalester, 1968–79

**Books:** *Politics in Minnesota* (1960); *Proximate Solutions* (1964); *Insoluble Problems* (1964); *State and Local Government: Politics and Processes* (1966); *Decade of Decision: The Supreme Court and the Constitutional Revolution, 1954–1964* (1967)

**Died:** July 6, 1979, St. Paul



trips out west and frequent summer trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in northern Minnesota. "He had this wanderlust in the summer,"

Lee says. The family would pack up everything in the car and take long trips, visiting national parks and monuments on the way to other colleges and universities where Mitau would teach summer school. "That was when we spent the most time together," Lee says.

Mitau could be demanding at home as well as in the classroom. "I remember him asking us at dinner how we did on a quiz," says Lee, going on to quote his father's half-joking words: "I didn't

say you have to be No. 1 in the class — No. 2 is OK, too."

Like many of Mitau's students, both his children went into the legal profession. Andrea is a lawyer with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office; Lee is executive vice president, general counsel and secretary of U.S. Bancorp. "He was

the pre-law adviser at Macalester," says Lee. "He told everybody to go to law school. There's this whole subculture of Macalester graduates in the Twin Cities who are in the law profession because of him."

Two of Mitau's students were Walter Mondale '50 and Joan Adams Mondale '52. It was Mitau who introduced Walter to Hubert Humphrey, with

whom Mitau once shared a fac-

ulty office at Macalester. "Looking at the tapestry of Ted's accomplishments, it's hard to believe that one single person could have a career so diverse and with so profound an impact," Mondale said during a Macalester convocation honoring Mitau not long

"He had to wear the Star of David on his clothing... Imagine this young child knowing he had to leave Germany and his mother not believing it."

— Charlotte Mitau-Price, his wife

COURTESY CHARLOTTE MITAU-PRICE



Ted Mitau and Charlotte Cutts on their wedding day, Sept. 7, 1941. Both were 21.

before he died. "... Ted and Charlotte almost provided a family web for young people coming up in this institution, to encourage them, to help them find their way when they were lost. He helped me feel confident that if I tried, I could be part of the political life of this state and of this country."

In the fall of 1978, after 58 years of what he called "perfect health," Mitau was diagnosed with inoperable cancer in his pancreas. The cancer, radiation treatment and an unrelated pinched nerve in his neck left him fatigued and in pain. "It is so frustrating," he told a *St. Paul Dispatch* reporter, recalling the "tremendous energy" he had once enjoyed. But he also said: "I have been a lucky man. ... Think of all the young people who have had [cancer]. Think of the people who haven't had a chance to make a contribution."

On July 5, 1979, G. Theodore Mitau died at his home at age 59. There has never been any doubt about his contribution. ●

COURTESY CHARLOTTE MITAU-PRICE



The Mitau family, Thanksgiving, 1976: Andrea, Lee, Charlotte and Ted

## Endowed lecture, professorship continue the Mitau tradition

**I**N ADDITION to the profound influence he had on countless students during 28 years of teaching at Macalester, Ted Mitau's legacy lives on in a visible way at Macalester.

The annual G. Theodore Mitau Endowed Lecture, created in 1979, brings distinguished scholars and other special guests to campus to share their ideas, in the Mitau tradition. His colleague and friend, Professor Dorothy Dodge, proposed the idea to Mitau after he became ill as a way to honor him, and led the effort to establish it. Walter Mondale '50, his former student, was the first Mitau Lecturer. This year's lecturer was Randall Kennedy, a Harvard law professor and author of the recently published book *Race, Crime and the Law*.

In addition, Macalester is in the process of establishing a permanent endowed professorship — the G. Theodore Mitau Distinguished Professorship in the Social Sciences — through a \$2 million gift from Timothy Hultquist '72 and his wife, Cindy. The professorship is intended for a faculty member in the Political Science or Economics Department, although it could be awarded to another faculty member in the social sciences.

Hultquist, chair of Macalester's Board of Trustees, was inspired to attend Macalester after hearing Mitau speak at a Boys State Conference when Hultquist was a senior at Anoka High School. ●





# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO TAMANI

*The Voices of Tamani, a student choir, take their faith and their music on the road*

by Carolyn Griffith

photographs by Greg Helgeson

**G**OSPEL MUSIC — the foot-thumping, hand-clapping, body-swaying variety — is a lifelong passion for Sean Palmer '98 and Alicia "A.J." Bowman '99. But don't ask them just to talk about it. What they can and will do is sing about gospel — anywhere, anytime. At

a Grand Avenue coffee shop, in separate interviews about the Macalester gospel group they co-direct, neither Palmer nor Bowman could go for more than a few minutes without bursting into song.

They lead the Voices of Tamani, which means "faith" in Swahili. At a rehearsal of the Voices of Tamani, it is easy to see — to hear — Palmer and Bowman communicate their passion for the music to the choir, transforming members' voices into instruments of faith.

*"The presence of the Lord is here, here in this place."*

Palmer sings the first line of a new piece for the dozen or so members clustered around the grand piano in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center's rehearsal hall. Palmer's snapping fingers punctuate his lustrous tenor voice. Bowman picks out the notes on the piano, and the choir members sing them, first sopranos, then altos, then tenors.

*"Can't you feel His anointing and His power?"*

As the group sings in unison, the word "power" swells to fill the room.

This gospel hymn, "The Presence of the Lord," written a few years ago by David Lewis, is one of the pieces that Voices of Tamani performed during its first out-of-state tour. This spring, 30 choir members and musicians took two mini-vans and drove to Columbia, S.C., with stops in Charleston, Myrtle Beach, Indianapolis and Chicago along the way. It was a homecoming of sorts, since the tour focused on performances at New Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Columbia, where Palmer started singing gospel at the age of 8. Next year, Bowman hopes to take the choir to visit her



Committed Christians and co-directors of the group, Sean Palmer '98, right, and Alicia "A.J." Bowman '99, left, communicate their passion for gospel music to the choir during a rehearsal. Here they demonstrate the correct way to hold the hands in prayer during the group's procession.

own home church, St. Stephen Missionary Baptist in La Puente, Calif. She grew up in Oklahoma and, from age 10 on, California's San Bernardino Valley.

"Our church homes have a part in Tamani — we get a lot of our musical background and ongoing support from the directors at home," explains

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Carolyn Griffith, a St. Paul free-lance writer, profiled Las Vegas eye surgeon and musician Loren Little '63 in February's Macalester Today.



Bowman, a religious studies major who is working on a teaching certificate, plus studying American Sign Language off campus.

There's more than new music to learn; the trip cost about \$5,000, which the group is working to raise through bake sales, performances, a Valentine's Day balloon bunch promotion, and donations from local businesses and churches. And Bowman is worrying about Tamani members'

**“In a black church you need to dress your best for the Lord, the women in dresses — not too short, either! — and stockings, men in nice slacks and ties.”**

— Alicia ‘A.J.’ Bowman ’99

performance attire. “We have a hard time with the dress code,” she says wryly, alluding to Mac students’ preference for very informal attire. “In a black church you need to dress your best for the Lord, the women in dresses — not too short,

either! — and stockings, men in nice slacks and ties.”

If it sounds like there's a lot of energy involved in running Voices of Tamani, well, energy is something that Bowman and Palmer have in abundance, especially where gospel music is concerned. When they talk about gospel, their passion for the music shines through their words.

*“Come in His presence with singing and praise, enter His courts with thanksgiving*

*The presence of the Lord is here, here in this place.”*

*As the rehearsal continues, the sopranos, altos and tenors master their parts and thread their voices, one phrase at a time, into a textured tapestry of sound. Palmer is diligent, even relentless in his insistence on getting it right. Yet at the same time there is much camaraderie and constant feedback among the singers. “Are we going up? Cause I’m not hearing it if we are. What do you guys think?” one woman asks.*

Gospel is part of what drew Sean Palmer, who is majoring in African American studies and English, to Mac. When he visited as a high school senior from South Carolina, he saw a campus performance by the Sounds of Blackness, the Grammy Award-winning ensemble which was founded as the Macalester College Black Choir in 1969 and is still directed by Gary Hines '74. The next fall, Sean

joined the Concert Choir, under the direction of Professor Robert Morris. “That was awesome. But then I looked around and thought, where's the

gospel choir? I just assumed there was one,” Palmer explains, a bit sheepishly. Along with Marika Pfefferkorn '96 and Dameun Strange '95, a musician who still plays keyboards with Tamani,

Sean decided to start a gospel singing group.

“We just asked people to join; we started out with seven,” he relates. “Our first concert was in January 1995 to celebrate Martin Luther King Day, and KARE 11 [TV] was there. After that we just grew and grew.” The entirely student-run Voices of Tamani has ranged from 25 to 50 members in the last couple of years, with about 35 active right now.

To be a chartered campus organization, the choir had to be open to all students. Voices of Tamani is predominantly African American, but also includes white, Asian American, Latin American and African Caribbean members. Palmer has sung gospel since he was 8, Bowman since she was 10; both began directing youth choirs at 13, but leading a culturally diverse choir at a largely secular institution, while maintaining a traditional African American gospel sound, posed new challenges.

“Gospel is based in a dialect; you have to pronounce the words a certain way to get the sound,” Palmer says, noting that this was something members of his South Carolina church

knew automatically. In one song, Tamani members kept singing the word “jewelry” with three syllables, throwing the rhythm off, until Palmer stopped them and showed them how to smooth the word into two syllables.

*The Voices of Tamani rehearse. Visible are (from left) altos Jenny Harrison '99 (Minneapolis), Linn Posey '00 (Spring Valley, Minn.), Joy Palomo '00 (Tinley Park, Ill.) and Jennifer Jordan '01 (Springfield, Ill.).*



*Tamani and the tradition: The Grammy Award-winning Sounds of Blackness, which began in 1969 as the Macalester College Black Choir, performs at Reunion in 1996. The group is led by founder Gary Hines '74, speaking at the microphone at right, who has attended rehearsals by the Voices of Tamani.*







Bowman, left, shown going over notes with Palmer, gives a lot of credit to Tamani manager Roselyn Trice '98 (San Francisco): "She keeps us thinking straight. We couldn't have done the tour without her." Trice is often assisted by Aishah Jackson '99 (Kansas City, Mo.), another longtime Tamani member. The two roommates are pictured on page 1 (Trice is at left).

Then there are the various rocking and clapping techniques that must be taught, since gospel is a physical as well as vocal experience. "To get Asians, Latinos and whites to sing, and clap, and rock, all at once, it's very difficult," Palmer says, shaking his head ruefully.

"Having to move when you sing is hard — I have terrible rhythm," confesses Tamani member Celine Liu, a sophomore

majoring in math and French, who was born in Taiwan and moved to Boulder, Colo., with her parents as a toddler. "I'm always off when we rock and clap."

"There's a big debate in the black community at large as to whether whites should be singing gospel or not. How do we do this with other races and still maintain the sound?" Palmer notes. "If 80 percent of Tamani

members are black, the sound is there, and people learn it from each other." Explaining his own motivation for teaching non-blacks to sing gospel, Palmer says: "I think part of the Macalester experience should be that people do things that are not comfortable for them. I see Tamani as representative of what the Macalester experience can be, in terms of diversity."

But I want my students to understand all the complexities of this style of music. If we do this, we're going to do 110 percent, or we're not going to do it."

To expose Tamani members to different kinds of gospel sounds, Palmer and Bowman take them to hear choirs at black Baptist and African Methodist Episcopal churches in Minneapolis

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— Sean Palmer '98





Sean Palmer, right, founded the group with Marika Pfefferkorn '96 and Dameun Strange '95.



and St. Paul. Tamani's co-directors are constantly looking for new music and different

teaching and singing techniques, attending gospel retreats and workshops as well as consulting the choir directors at their home churches for advice. In addition to directing Tamani, they

sing with Spirit of David choir at Minneapolis' Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church.

*"In His presence there is love,  
In His presence there is power,  
In His presence there is peace."  
Palmer is energized, constantly in motion, a human metronome as he rocks and claps and taps his foot to the music.  
"In His presence there is healing,  
In His presence there is joy,  
In His presence there is hope."  
"Let's etch it in your skin and your souls!" he exhorts.*

A part of that "110 percent" that gospel singing demands is faith, or belief, or spirit — pick the idea you're most comfortable with, but don't imagine you can come to Tamani and "just sing." Bowman and Palmer are upfront with new members about the need to embrace and express spirituality in the music.

"We want people to feel the songs; you can totally tell the difference," Bowman says. "Sean is always stopping us during rehearsal and saying, 'I do not believe you!'" While Tamani's co-directors are committed Christians, they encourage other members to find their own source of spiritual energy. And they strive to make Tamani a spiritual, nurturing place, opening and closing rehearsals with prayers for members' families and concerns.

"We all have our personal Gods, and we're not singing to the same one," is how they explained it,"

notes Celine Liu, a self-professed "pseudo-Buddhist," comfortable with Buddhist tenets but not with certain aspects of organized religion. Explaining how non-Christian singers tap into the emotion they

— Celine Liu '00

need to fuel gospel music, she says: "I think everyone has his or her personal struggles. Everyone's had an experience when it seemed like the world was so hard and you wouldn't be able to keep going."

And on a campus uncomfortable with outright religiosity, at a time in their lives when students are struggling to establish their own belief systems, many Tamani members draw the same kind of spiritual succor from the group's two-hour Sunday afternoon rehearsals that you might from going to church.

"When I go to rehearsal, it reminds me how much I need it," says Liu. "It's a release — an atmosphere of praising a higher being and leaving behind petty personal concerns. And it's a great support network. Some of my best friends are in Tamani."

"We're a very 'touchy' group," Bowman says.

*The ...  
The presence ...  
The presence ...  
The presence presence ...  
The pre ... sence ...*

*Under Palmer's direction, the Voices of Tamani truncate the hymn's last sentence, playing rhythmic games with its beginning and then leaving a silence that forces you to hear, to sing, the rest of the words in your head. Infused with Sean's and A.J.'s contagious spirit, the singers sway and tap out the beat on the piano's gleaming black surface. And despite their baggy jeans and the disorder of the room and the fact that this is the first time they've sung this, the sound is sublime, heartfelt.*

The presence of the Lord is here, here in this place. ●



"Having to move when you sing is hard — I have terrible rhythm," says Celine Liu '00, above. But she finds the gospel group "a great support network. Some of my best friends are in Tamani."



## Mary Winston Smail, former associate alumni director, 1935–1998



Mary Smail, with the “crown” she wore on the day she retired from Macalester in 1995

**M**ARY W. SMAIL, former associate director of the Macalester Alumni Office, died March 18. She was 63. Mrs. Smail, who lived in Minneapolis, had been in good health until mid-February. She was diagnosed March 2 with an aggressive form of cancer.

Mrs. Smail’s warm personality, radiant smile and devoted work on behalf of the college won her — and Macalester — countless friends in the Twin Cities, throughout the United States and, indeed, around the world. She served as associate alumni director for 11 years, retiring in August 1995. Even then, she remained active on behalf of the college.

“She was so beloved by alumni,” said Karen McConkey, former director of the Macalester Alumni Office and a close friend. “We worked together at least 10 of those years. She loved Macalester, and she was able, out of her own kind of spirit, to relate easily to students, recent grads and older alumni. She was a terrific representative of the college. She lived and loved Macalester. She was wonderful to work with, and she had such a good sense of humor. I never heard her speak ill of anyone, and that’s amazing.”

Nancy Slaughter ’58 was a close friend for more than 30 years. “Mary’s been my extended family. We’ve spent our holidays together, particularly in the last few years. When I think of Mary, I think of her warmth and caring, her welcoming smile and her delight in being with you. She took great joy in living, in doing things. I think particularly, in her later years, of her going back to playing the piano and the joy that it brought her and so many of us,” Slaughter said.

The Rev. Sally Abrahams Hill ’51 was the principal minister at her funeral service, attended by several hundred friends and admirers, March 22 at Westminster Presbyterian Church. “Every time I see you — even for only a quick wave — I leave feeling better,” Professor Jack Weatherford wrote in a note to Mrs. Smail which was read at the service. “You always have a smile and something nice to say no matter how difficult the circumstances. Some people change the world with one great act — you change the

world with many small acts of everyday life. I thank you for making this world more gentle and for the sunshine you bring into our lives.”

Born March 7, 1935, Mary Winston grew up in Steubenville, Ohio. She attended Winchester-Thurston School in Pittsburgh and Holton Arms School in Washington, D.C., before earning a bachelor of music degree from Oberlin College in 1957. Music was a lifelong passion. She worked as secretary to the dean of the University of Illinois School of Music and for 10 years was self-employed as a private piano teacher. She also volunteered for the Minnesota Orchestral Association and the Women’s Association of the Minnesota Orchestra (WAMSO) as well as the Children’s Home Society of Minnesota. She served for many years on the WAMSO Young Artist Competition Committee. Last Nov. 10, as the culmination of her renewed serious study of piano and 40 years after her last piano recital, she gave a recital in her Minneapolis home for 50 friends and family members.

As the wife of longtime Macalester biology Professor Jim Smail and an active member of the Macalester Women’s Club and other campus groups, Mrs. Smail was already well known on campus when she began working as associate director of the Alumni Office in 1984.

Professor Smail, a professor of biology at Macalester for 30 years, died Feb. 24, 1993. Mrs. Smail married a longtime family friend, Alexander “Sandy” Hill ’57, who is assistant to the president of Macalester, on March 25, 1995. Hill’s first wife, Mary McLaughlin Hill ’58, died Aug. 17, 1979. The wedding took place just four days before Mrs. Smail and Hill led a Macalester-sponsored trip of alumni and friends to Japan which included a special reception in Tokyo hosted by U.S. Ambassador Walter Mondale ’50 and his wife, Macalester Trustee Joan Adams Mondale ’52.

Mary Smail and Sandy Hill also led an alumni tour of Scotland and England in June 1997. Last November, Mrs. Smail attended and spoke at the dedication of the James R. Smail Natural History and Science Gallery in Macalester’s newly renovated Olin-Rice Science Center. The gallery is being created to display the diversity and visual beauty of nature that Professor Smail loved and shared with his students as a biology teacher.

**A** MEMBER of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Smail was a former co-president of the Twin Cities Oberlin Alumni Club, a past president of the Macalester Women’s Club and former program chair of the Twin Cities Small College Alumni Association.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Smail is survived by her daughter, Katherine Smail, of Minneapolis; her sons, David Smail ’87, of Washington, D.C., and Peter Song Ho Hill ’85, of St. Paul; her granddaughter, Sophia Song Mi Hill; her mother, Elizabeth Kendall Winston Prior of Columbus, Ohio; her nieces, Elizabeth Winston and Nancy Fashbaugh; and her nephew, John Winston.

Memorials may be given to the James R. Smail Natural History and Science Gallery at Macalester; the Mary Winston Smail Memorial for Young Artists’ Competition at WAMSO, Minnesota Orchestra Association, 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis 55403; or the Children’s Home Society of Minnesota, 1605 Eustis St., St. Paul 55108. •



MACROCOSM continued from page 14 with chemistry in high school, call out: "interesting, challenging, important." But I was completely unprepared for "anti-septically arrogant." It stopped me cold. Think of the meaning of those two words. If that is how we project chemistry to our students and to the public, we are doing our science a terrible disservice.

I have come to the conclusion that the attitudes we model as teachers and, by extension, the attitudes our students acquire are probably at least as important as the facts we convey. For one thing, attitudes are generally longer lasting. All students bring them as part of their baggage, but we need not passively and grudgingly accept them. Where necessary, we must endeavor to change preconceived notions — that's what education is all about.

I have found that when I visit with my former students, they almost never comment on specific facts that I tried to teach them. They do mention the skills they have acquired and continue to use daily. Like attitudes, skills are probably more significant than course content. Very often,

former Macalester students who have entered challenging Ph.D. programs report that some of their fellow graduate students, who did their undergraduate work at research institutions offering more advanced courses than Macalester can provide, arrived with a stronger factual base. However, after a semester or so, the advantage is erased, and the ability to think, study and learn becomes more important.

Although skills and attitudes are vitally important, they cannot be taught in isolation. Content is the necessary substrate on which these attributes must be developed. I happen to believe that not all facts, all works and all subjects are equally fruitful in generating these habits of mind. Some sources are simply richer than others. To me, the phenomena and concepts of chemistry are particularly fertile ground for conveying essential attributes of the examined life.

If the greatest human delight comes from learning something new, the second

greatest thrill certainly must be teaching someone something new. I have been blessed with a career that has given me the opportunity to experience both of these joys. I am fully aware of the great tradition of the James Flack Norris Award.



Truman Schwartz

I hope I will not appear ungrateful when I say that I have received hundreds of awards that I value even more highly than this. They are human rewards like Chad Rienstra '93, a Howard Hughes Fellow who is now working on a Ph.D. here at MIT; Hameka Rajapakse '96, another Howard Hughes Fellow, who is doing synthetic organic chemistry at Harvard; Holly Vande Wall '97, who

completed an honors thesis with me last year and is now enrolled in the Boston University science writing program; and Rick Binzel '80, a professor in the Planetary Science Department at MIT.

My students represent my best and perhaps only chance for immortality; it would be greedy to expect more. ●

CHANK continued from page 20 free font every week on his Website: [www.chank.com](http://www.chank.com)

When the Cooper-Hewitt curated its typography exhibit, the museum contacted the Charles Anderson who is a long-established Twin Cities designer, but was re-directed to Chank, who quickly e-mailed friends, asking for \$10 toward gas money to drive to New York with a car full of his fonts. Last November, the *Wall Street Journal* featured Chank in its Marketplace section, and hits on his Web site soared to 1,500 to 2,000 per day.

Now Chank is The Chank Company and sells a single font for \$30, five for \$59, or, for \$299, the Dentalpak of more than 50 fonts, funds from which are dedicated to paying for the young designer's much-

needed dental work. A sought-after designer, Chank now has a board of directors that includes Mac alumni Scott Fares, Tim Teichgraeber and Steve Cohen, all '90 grads. Another '90 grad, Dan Long,

"I was just a punk kid living in the basement. I couldn't think of myself as a software developer."

works as the "generalist" for the Chank Store. In addition to being friends, they contribute their experience in small business ownership, law, accounting and office management.

With direct on-line sales, as well as several distributors handling his fonts, Chank

is beginning to see some income from his work. From his Minneapolis warehouse office, furnished with a computer, a green antique barber chair and a print of Gainsborough's Blue Boy, Chank is launching his Font of the Month Club. For \$99, members, including a division of Better Homes and Gardens, Minnesota Public Radio and individuals from Minneapolis to Amsterdam, will receive a new font every month for a year.

If this fame should bring fortune? "I'll give great gifts. And I'm real American, I'm really into being a consumer." With a faraway gaze, "I want to get a Cadillac, and one of those nice, big St. Paul mansions."

"And," he added, hanging out the warehouse door by the loading dock, "I'll pay off my student loans." ●

PFEIFFER continued from page 22

"I like to think that my being here on the ground, making friends, speaking Vietnamese, wearing an ao dai [the traditional female dress] from time to time — just living everyday life and then bringing those experiences back to friends, family, colleagues and even strangers in the U.S. has

helped them move on from the other Vietnam they still envision and knew.

"But ultimately," she says, "my goal for being here is not necessarily to change government policies and relations. It's to grow a little, gain a little from living internationally and learning about and adapting to a new culture."

It's getting late, and Pfeiffer has errands to run for work. The waiter appears with

the bill, which comes to something like 60 cents for two coffees and a croissant. In fluid Vietnamese, Pfeiffer asks how he's been lately. They talk in the winding tones and circular vowels of the native tongue; he's clearly happy to hear her use it. Then she's back on her motorbike, slipping into the clamor of the street, and never once honking her horn. ●



*continued from inside front cover*

in feminism as Macalester. While men who choose to stay home have been characterized as progressive and sensitive, women have often been ridiculed as "June Cleaver throwbacks" for making the same choice.

During the 11 years I stayed home with my children, I often joked about the "quarterly depression" I experienced every time *Macalester Today* arrived on my doorstep. Unless they had a home business, women "at home" were non-existent on alumni pages. There was an underlying sense that somehow we were wasting our education, that we were embarrassments to our institution.

Despite this, for many women the conviction that they should be at home is a strong one. They are consciously saying "no" to alarms, daycare, constant rushing, guilt and total burnout. More important, they are saying "yes" — not just to their children but to their own simple, heartfelt desire to be with their children when they are small.

Articles like Kate's confirm the choice of thousands of bright women graduates. The choice is sane and intelligent. Thanks for finally recognizing this.

Annette Chopin Lare '80  
Bethlehem, Pa.

I, TOO, stay home with my children and feel like I'm the only Mac grad not "doing something" with my life and degree. I wouldn't trade it for the world, though.

Katherine Koehler Moriarty '87  
Chesterfield, Mich.

## Cover

EVERYONE who contributed to producing the cover of the February issue of *Macalester Today* should be congratulated. That is a perfect picture of a woman in her world.

The Macalester campus is soon going to miss the richness of the presence of Gretchen Rohr '98.

Michael Keenan  
Professor of English  
Cottonwood, Ariz.  
e-mail: mkeenan@sedona.net

## Felipe Garcia-Beraza

IT WAS 1943, in the midst of World War II. We were milling around the courtyard of Kirk Hall, not quite sure what to do, as the news had just come that the Army Air Force was moving in and the

few males still left on campus would have to find other housing. I began to talk to Felipe Garcia-Beraza '44 and we decided to go in search of housing together. Our search ended at 1780 Goodrich, where we took two rooms with elderly sisters. Many were the moments when the Catholic Mexican ethnic clashed with the Protestant Midwestern ethic in trying to solve the problems of the world. We both learned. Thus began a friendship of 54 years that ended last Nov. 25 with Felipe's death after a long fight with emphysema.

In 1948, with a Navy discharge and my mustering-out pay, I decided on the big adventure. I would go to Mexico for two months to visit my Macalester roommate. Culture shock! It was my first real exposure to a different world. Felipe opened the world to me. It hurt, but I began to accept a different way of life, a different method of doing things, a different outlook. My life became broader, richer. His friends became my friends, his family my family, Mexico my other country.

Felipe served his country with love all of his life. He even refused to stop when he became very ill in his last years. However, his service to Mexico was tempered with a sense of internationalism. For many years he was the director of the Mexican-Northamerican Institute for Cultural Relations where he worked hard to further understanding between our nations. One of the events he arranged to do just that was an appearance at the institute of the famous Macalester Choros of Professor Mary Gwen Owen. He served as the secretary of the Mexican Center of Writers, which was formed to give opportunity to young writers and which opened the door for many well-known Mexican writers of today. He was a founder and executive vice president of the Society for the Defense of the Artistic Treasures of Mexico, which has done great work in saving many of the architectural gems of Mexico from colonial times to the 20th century. He worked with the Academy of History of Mexico and was a cultural adviser to the Banco Nacional de Mexico. His life was packed with service to his country and the world.

He also loved Macalester. There were always wisps of nostalgia for the "good old days" at Mac whenever the conversation turned to the alma mater. He helped to coordinate the Mac Caravan trips to Mexico and did other things to strengthen ties between Mexico and Mac. In 1975, he was named a Distinguished Citizen by Macalester, an award

of which he was very proud and richly deserved.

Felipe was a little man, barely five feet tall, but in spirit of truly grand stature. The world may not realize it, but it is far richer for his having been here and much poorer for his having left us. He was my friend.

Gordon L. Deegan '46  
San Carlos, Calif.

## Premature birth

AS THE parents of a premature baby, we were interested to read Anne Valentine Marino's profile of Stanley Berry '76 and his work in the field of perinatology [February *Macalester Today*].

However, in the interest of accuracy, we need to differ with Marino's sentence: "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."

Scientists may not know exactly what causes some premature births, but there are many cases in which perinatologists elect to deliver a baby prematurely because of deteriorating conditions in the uterus or danger to the mother's health. In our case, placental insufficiency, which was caused by pregnancy-induced hypertension, made it necessary for doctors to deliver our baby Ethan by emergency C-section at 31 weeks' gestation in order to give him a chance at life. Preterm labor was not a factor in our case.

Berry's area of research is preterm labor. It is important to note that not all premature births are the result of preterm labor. Many premature births, like Ethan's, are due to placental problems, which are often caused by a maternal health problem. When Berry makes the statement, "If we could write prescriptions for jobs, housing and food, we could stop half of it," he is probably referring to preterm labor, not to premature births. This distinction is important to us because of our personal experience with a premature birth, and we think that some clarification might be helpful to readers.

Sabrina Rood-Sinker and  
Howard Sinker '78  
Minneapolis

Editors' note: *Ethan George Sinker died Jan. 19, 1997. See page 46.*





## Student aid

These 10 students were among more than 50 Macalester students and 10 staff who pitched in to clean up rubble and debris April 4 at Gustavus Adolphus College after a tornado struck St. Peter, Minn. It was both a chance to help others and a mini-reunion for the 10, most of whom attended United World Colleges, a two-year program in international education with 10 locations around the world. The students include (standing from left) Anamaria Chalco '00 (Lima, Peru), Chad Jones '01 (Denver, Colo.), Kannika Damrongplisit '01 (Bangkok, Thailand), Anthony Agadzi '99 (Accra, Ghana), Amy Yuen '01 (Hong Kong), Erin Holden '00 (Geneva, Switzerland), Sherman Wu '99 (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan) and Nathan Armogan '01 (Cape Town, South Africa). In front: Wanda Troszczyńska Van Genderen '01 (Warsaw, Poland) and Jason Sonnenfelt '99 (Oakland, Neb.).

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Measuring  
*Macalester*

1984-  
1994

- **An interview with President Gavin •**
- **The college in a decade of change •**
- **Mac people look to the future •**



# M

Measuring  
Macalester  
1984-1994

GREG HELGESON



The Gavins' daughter Anne teases her parents at the inaugural dance in 1984 after they spent a long day being photographed.

**On Oct. 20, 1984, Robert M. Gavin, Jr., was formally inaugurated as Macalester's 14th president. In a recent interview, he reflected on the past and looked to the future of Macalester.**

**A**S YOU LOOK back over the past decade, in what three broad areas do you believe Macalester has made the greatest gains?

I think the most important thing is that we have taken a look at what we have done well in the past, and decided to focus on being the best Macalester we can be. We have come up with a mission statement that is clear, consistent and to the point. ["Macalester is committed to being a pre-eminent liberal arts college with an educational program known for its high standards for scholarship and its special emphasis on internationalism, multiculturalism, and service to society."] Those are the distinctive elements which our faculty and staff have emphasized over the years, and which our alumni have appreciated.

Two things have come out of the focus on our mission. One is an emphasis on developing support for and building the faculty. Ten years ago, faculty compensation had deteriorated. Our first strategic plan was to try to provide adequate compensation so we could keep the good faculty that we had and also attract the best new faculty.

The second emphasis is the environment in which faculty teach. Some of our buildings were in deplorable condition. You just can't teach well under those conditions. So we worked to improve the campus facilities.

Luckily for us, everybody now is looking to what Macalester has emphasized for a long time as the key elements for educational excellence. When we talk about wanting to be the best Macalester we can be and wanting to have an outstanding academic program, we are talking about building upon the elements that have been part of the Macalester tradition, elements that are crucial today and will be crucial for the next 10, 20, 30 years.

Is it important for Macalester to move into the ranks of the U.S. *News & World Report* list of top 25 national liberal arts colleges? If so, why?

In our strategic plan, our goal is to be pre-eminent among liberal arts colleges. That does not mean being rated one of the top 25 by *U.S. News* or the *Fiske Selective Guide to Colleges* or anyone else. It means to be among a select few that are the leading institutions of our type in the country.

We want to be the best Macalester we can be, and we think in doing so, others will recognize that. I think the *U.S. News* top 25 list is biased in a number of ways toward Eastern schools. But overall, it is not a bad list. They are the same colleges that Fiske gives a five-star rating and that other guides rate highly. I do think it is important for us to have external evaluation if we are to continue to attract

outstanding students, and external evaluation is what leads to many of these rankings. So sure, even though I can criticize the *U.S. News & World Report* methodology, in some ways it is important for us to have outside reference points. Those outside reference points evaluate academic quality, and we ought to be able to stand up to the very best institutions in terms of academic quality.

That goal is not new here. Our founder, Edward Duffield Neill, said he wanted Macalester to have the standards for scholarship equivalent to the very best academic institutions in the country. That was in 1874. The theme has been around for a long time.

**Jack Rossmann,  
psychology professor:**

*"Our greatest challenge during the next decade will be to help alumni, friends of the college, foundations, etc., to understand that their continuing financial support is essential if we are to become (or remain) one of the very best liberal arts colleges in the country."*

Occasionally you hear alumni express concern that as Macalester attracts more and more top students and becomes better known for high academic standards, the college runs the risk of becoming "elitist" or somehow losing its distinctive character. What is your response?

GREG HELGESON







**John B. Davis, Jr.,** who became president of Macalester in 1975, shakes hands with his successor in 1984.

to have educated people who are committed in these ways.

To be sure, anybody who goes to an undergraduate liberal arts college has a very special privilege. And at Macalester, we say, "Because of that privilege, you have an obligation to give back to society." If that is elitist, it is elitist in a very positive sense.

**As a former chemistry professor, what do you think are the**

**most important things Macalester has done in the sciences in the past 10 years? And what must the college do in the next 10 years?**

Whenever anybody asks about the sciences, I like to discuss the topic in the overall context of Macalester. Science is a crucial element in driving change — for better or for worse. A top-quality academic institution has top-quality science — there's no getting away from that. I also think that if you want to be a strong liberal arts college, that college has to have equal strength in the humanities, the social sciences and the natural sciences.

Most importantly, our faculty must be able to do science and science education in a way that's most effective. All sorts of national studies have indicated that the way people learn science is not so much through lectures and reading textbooks as through hands-on, lab-rich, experimentally based science programs. The faculty and administration have worked together to purchase the equipment necessary for labs that are up to date and that will allow our students to learn science in the best way.

If you want to know what the science faculty think is important and where the curriculum is going, all one has to do is look at the planned renovation of Olin Hall and Rice Hall. The big emphases are opportunities for students to have hands-on, experimental laboratories as a way to learn about science.

A program that [Professors] Jan Serie and Lin Aanonsen developed is a national model for doing that with introductory biology. The students really learn science by doing science, not reading about it. The science facilities are being modified in such a way as to emphasize many more opportunities for doing that, at the introductory level right up to the senior level. Of course, by the time they get to the

It seems to me that the character of Macalester is something which is connected to academic excellence, to developing global citizens, to a commitment to diversity and multiculturalism and service to society. If those qualities are elitist, then I plead guilty. But I do not think they are elitist in the pejorative sense. I think it is important for society



COURTESY OF JENNIFER MCKEAND

**Studying abroad:** Jennifer McKeand '92, right, originally from Bloomington, Minn., went sightseeing with a friend near Munich, Germany. McKeand participated in a Biology Department-sponsored program in 1990 at the Goethe Institute and the University of Munich.

---

**Alvin Greenberg,**  
**English professor:**

*"We'll have a wonderful opportunity to shape the long-term future of the college through the new faculty we'll be bringing in during the next decade. The large portion of our present faculty that joined the college during the Sixties (myself included) will be retiring over the coming decade, creating openings for exciting new appointments in many fields. Our national reputation continues to grow, and there are a great many highly qualified individuals who could make a fit with our undergraduate liberal arts focus."*

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senior level, students are doing research projects with faculty members that often result in publication in the scientific field.

That is the way I see science education changing — it is going to be more research-based. The thrill of discovery is the exciting part about science, and that should not be reserved only for those who go to graduate school.

Is Macalester's large endowment sometimes as much of an obstacle for the college as an opportunity?

When I say, "Yes, that is the case," to other college presidents, they laugh at me and say I'm making fun of them. We are fortunate to have a strong endowment. It is something Mr. Wallace wanted us to use to build an outstanding academic institution, to build an international student body and faculty, to build international programs, to keep this institution accessible, especially to middle-income students, through financial aid. So we have an endowment that can help us in just the directions we want to go.

We were a strong institution before the Reader's Digest stock went public and the value of the endowment went up considerably. The endowment

**1984-1994:  
Enduring  
values  
in a world of  
extraordinary  
change**

**You could draw a host of comparisons between Macalester now and Macalester a decade ago. Consider a few:**

- In 1984, a citizen of South Africa told Macalester students about the low turnout by voters of all races in parliamentary elections in the land of apartheid.

In 1994, South Africa held its first free election, and the voters included six Macalester students who call South Africa home. The Macalester student body in 1994 also includes several students who grew up in a country, Yugoslavia, which war has erased from the map.

- In 1984, Macalester alumni and students left their mark on national and state politics. Some campaigned for presidential candidate Walter Mondale '50, while others worked for the re-election of U.S. Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (father of Dan Boschwitz '86, Kenneth Boschwitz '82 and Thomas Boschwitz '90).

In 1994, the man who defeated Sen. Boschwitz in a subsequent election, Paul Wellstone, has several Macalester alumni on his staff.

- In 1984, when Macalester had nine faculty of color (five full-time and four part-time), the campus debated — not for the first or the last time — how it could hire more.

In 1994, students are being taught by 31 faculty of color (19 full-time and 12 part-time), and the college began implementing its plan to

hire 28 additional, full-time faculty over the next five or six years; at least 10 will be faculty of color.

- In 1984, Bill Shain, the dean of admissions at Macalester, told the *Mac Weekly* he had left an Ivy League job because "Mac is smaller and infinitely more personal." He added, "I wish more people would stop by [the Admissions Office]. Students tend to think to themselves, 'I'm not a star; they won't remember me.'"

In 1994, Shain is renowned for remembering students' names and personal histories. He is one of the people students often seek out on a campus that has always prided itself on being small and personal.

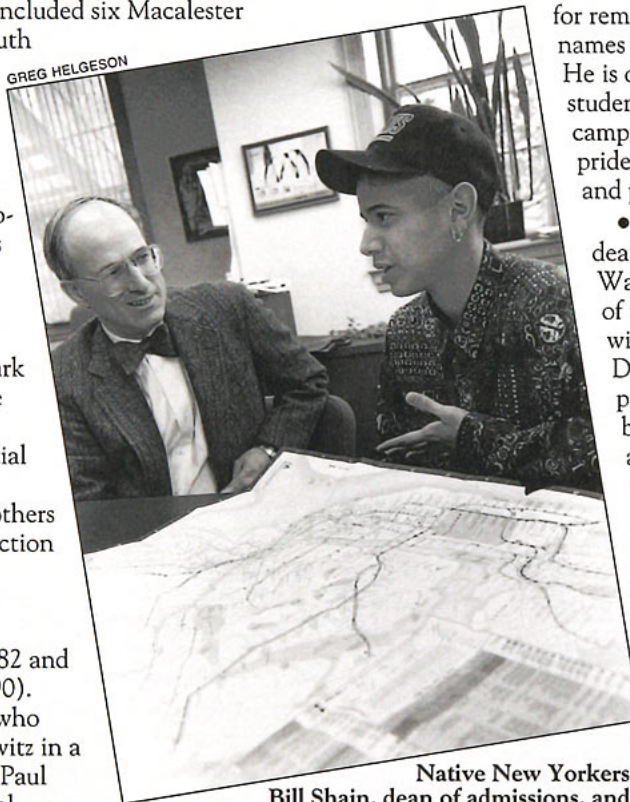
- In 1984, the death of Lila Acheson Wallace, co-founder of the Reader's Digest with her late husband, DeWitt, ended the long personal relationship between Macalester and the Wallace family. The family had played a major role in the life of the college since 1887, when DeWitt's father, James Wallace, arrived on campus to teach Greek and courses on the Bible.

In 1994, assured of its financial stability by the Wallace legacy, the

college is striving to transfer "ownership" of Macalester to its more than 23,000 living alumni.

- In 1984, the college was profoundly committed to academic excellence, multiculturalism, internationalism and service to humankind.

In 1994, it still is.



**Native New Yorkers Bill Shain, dean of admissions, and Angel Rodriguez '94 study a subway map of their hometown.**



## The faculty

**1984-85: 118 full-time faculty**  
**women faculty: 25 (21%)**  
**faculty of color: 5 (plus 4 part-time)**  
**average salary (all ranks): \$30,671**

**fall 1994: 131 full-time faculty**  
**women faculty: 45 (34%)**  
**faculty of color: 19 (plus 12 part-time)**  
**average salary (all ranks): \$52,790**

Macalester, and you quoted from historian Arthur Schlesinger to that effect at the opening convocation two years ago. Why is it so important to have a stronger sense of community at Macalester?

Any institution that has a strong commitment to social concerns must be concerned about community. As an academic institution, we must have an active, committed group of people who are engaged in discourse. In order to be engaged in that discourse, we need to know each other, to have ways of dealing with each other.

If we have students from 68 countries and virtually all 50 states, as we did this year, and all kinds of diversity — geographic, ethnic, racial — and yet when they come to campus they do not interact with each other, then it means absolutely nothing as an academic institution. As a student once wrote in the *Mac Weekly*, we must avoid the “zoo” syndrome, where everyone has a label and each person is in his or her own cage and we never interact with each other.

The quote that I took from Schlesinger’s book, *The Disuniting of America*, had to do with whether

**Jeremy Hanson '95**  
**(Ada, Minn.), student**  
**government president:**

*“The greatest challenge facing Macalester in the next decade can be summed up in one word: identity. We have established the college as an academic community worthy of respect. Nonetheless, often our image is flimsy and our identity weak. It is time to not only say what we are, but to prove it. It is time to realize that the values of academic excellence, multiculturalism, internationalism and service are not products we own, but processes we build. Our values will shine through only when we adhere to them and work together to truly build a community of diversity, cultural acceptance and respect for others.”*

Faculty-student collaboration in research: biology Professor Lin Aanonsen, left, and Christie McNickle '93.

places a great responsibility on us. We should be one of the best institutions in the country, given the resources we have. If you look at the institutions that have the strongest support from alumni and friends, those are the same ones that have the largest endowments per student. And the reason is that those institutions are committed to do things that the other institutions cannot afford to do.

We want the very best students, regardless of their ability to pay. If we simply took ability to pay into consideration, we would have a lot more net revenue from our students and our families than we have. We deliberately choose students on the basis of their academic qualifications and what they can bring to the student body here. So, we need an endowment of that size, and we need continued alumni support, if we are going to continue all the Macalester traditions we have talked about.

You and others have spoken of the need to strengthen a sense of “community” at



Alumni involvement: Stephanie Smith '90 (Chicago), left, an alumni admissions coordinator, and other alums talk with Bob Gavin at the Alumni Leadership Conference this past September.



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or not one can have an intellectual community without having some common discourse on ideas. That is essential.

How do we achieve community? What steps can we take in a society, not just this campus, that has so many divisions?

I thought Walter Mondale stated this very well when he gave his acceptance speech for the Trustees' Distinguished Service Award last year. He said no matter what our differences, we all begin from the same point — we are all

human beings. And we have far more in common than the accidental differences that separate us.

Those themes have to be reinforced here. After all, if you think about the international, multi-

**Anne Sutherland,**  
professor of anthropology and dean  
of international faculty development:

*"Macalester enters the 21st century as one of the best liberal arts colleges in the country. We still face numerous challenges. For me the overriding question is:*

*How do we take the fortuitous and timely endowment from DeWitt Wallace and create an academic program of the highest quality without endangering Macalester's particular character, which embraces the spirit of free thought and individual choice?*

*An ongoing threat to that Macalester spirit is the suffocating small-mindedness of political correctness on campus, which stifles debate and demeans the academic program."*

cultural and service elements in the Macalester mission statement, they are all premised on common human characteristics. We make certain assumptions and we have to admit that we do: that all human beings are created equal, that they are

endowed with certain rights and so on. The reason we are concerned about people in Rwanda or Cambodia or Bosnia is that they are human beings. They may have different religions and philosophical backgrounds, and may have different goals and ambitions. But it is that human tie that makes them part of us.

You've spoken of the gains that Macalester has made in the past 10 years. As you look ahead to the next 10 years, what are Macalester's top three priorities?

I think it is very clear that, first of all, we have to find a way and have the courage to maintain leadership in internationalism and developing global citizens. That is probably the No. 1 need for higher education — to develop a new way of doing business in a global scholarly community. This will involve everything from being aware of different parts of the world and different traditions to using technology. Satellite communication, the Internet — that is just the beginning of that communication. We must be in that dialogue, we cannot be bystanders.

We also need to find ways to continue to build alumni ownership of Macalester. Institutions are



**Internationalism:**  
Ozlem Ersin '94 of Turkey dishes up a plate for young Andrew Morley at the International Student Organization's annual International Dinner in 1992.

## The student body

Freshman applications	Percentage admitted
fall 1984: 1,197	79 percent
fall 1994: 2,752	58 percent

### Ethnic group enrollment

	FALL 1984	FALL 1994
American Indian	13	13
Asian American	23	97
African American	70	68
Hispanic	45	74
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>252</b>

### International student enrollment (by citizenship)

1984: 233, from 69 countries  
1994: 171, from 68 countries

### Five departments with most graduates (majors and cores)

#### 1984

**Economics (57 graduates)**  
**Political Science (37)**  
**Psychology (31)**  
**English (30)**  
**Mathematics (30)**

#### 1994

**History (43 graduates)**  
**Psychology (38)**  
**Economics (33)**  
**International Studies (33)**  
**Biology and English (27 each)**





This pedestrian path connects the new Campus Drive to Princeton and Vernon streets in Macalester's "Tangletown" neighborhood.

composed of individuals. If we only talk about the individuals and never talk about the institution, those individuals do not have anything to be a part of. So that is a major challenge for us — to continue the Alumni Soundings and other activities that we are engaged in to have the alumni more involved with the institution.

I think the third and most difficult challenge is to see if we can serve the kind of student body that

reflects the full diversity of the population of this country. Over a third of the high school graduates 10 years from now will be persons of color. Our student body hopefully will reflect that. I have also suggested that we expand our

## College finances

### Operating budget

1984-85: \$20.4 million

1994-95: \$49.4 million

### Student financial aid

1984-85: \$3.3 million

(16% of budget)

1994-95: \$11.1 million

(22% of budget)

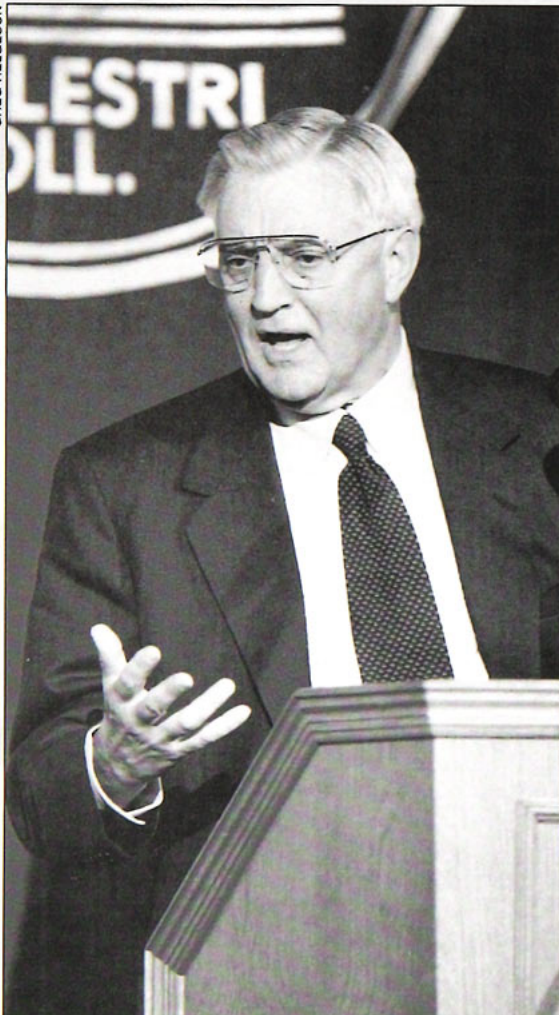
international tradition so that international students make up, say, 20 percent of the student body instead of 10 to 12 percent. That way, our campus will be more representative of the world at large and of our United Nations flag. In order to do that and to have all the resources, we need to have alumni support and financial support. Those things all tie together.

As the president of Macalester, you've had countless conversations with alumni and students over the past 10 years. Macalester people pride

*"The most important challenge facing Macalester over the next 10 years is to recognize, honor, encourage and strengthen the spiritual, the 'soul' dimension of human existence across the whole life of the college, including the academic side.*

*The college, if it is to breathe life into its commitment to internationalism, multiculturalism and service, leading to a greater sense of community on campus, needs to be in touch with the Source of Life in a way that is true to the faith of the college's founders and sensitive to the variety of religious persuasions among students and faculty."*

**Ties that bind:** When he was honored at Macalester in 1993, Walter Mondale '50 spoke of the bonds between people — "the joy which flows from discovering that common humanity which is to be found in all of us."





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themselves on being individuals, but how would you describe the "typical" student or alum?

The typical Macalester student with whom I interact is, first, very bright. And second, they are people who really live, in their daily lives here and after graduation, our international, multicultural and service commitment.

These are people who want to make a difference after they graduate, and that difference is always expressed, at least to me anyway, in a social context. They are not interested in just their own private gain. They see their time at Macalester as valuable in terms of broadening their perspective, getting a good education, and they see the importance of being able to share that in a society which is an international society. The students I see on campus today embody what I think is the Macalester tradition, but it is expressed in terms of the 1990s.

If you meet alumni from the 1920s, '30s, '40s and '50s, moving closer to the present day, I find many of the same elements were present when they were on campus. They left Macalester with greatly broadened perspectives, with interests that were

**Janice Dickinson '64,**  
assistant to the  
director of Macalester's  
International Center  
and a 1993 recipient  
of the Alumni Service  
Award for her  
contributions  
to the college:

"One of our biggest  
challenges and opportunities  
is to increase alumni  
involvement in the college.

We need to do more for  
alumni and, in turn, ask  
more of them. The college  
has a worldwide network  
that alumni can tap into —  
for such things as job  
opportunities, internships  
for current students,  
continuing education,  
admissions and fund-raising.

Macalester must use its  
endowment wisely, but it's  
just as important for alumni  
to participate in the life of  
the college if we're going to  
grow and build on the  
Macalester tradition."

## Major construction and renovations, 1984-2005

**1984: five-year capital campaign,  
completed in 1984, raised more  
than \$33 million for physical and  
academic improvements**

**1984-85: Old Main exterior  
renovation**

**1988: DeWitt Wallace Library opened**

**1992-93: Carnegie Hall interior  
renovation; Kirk Hall exterior  
renovation; two-story addition to  
and renovation of first two floors of  
Humanities wing of Janet Wallace  
Fine Arts Center**

**1993: interior renovation of  
Old Main; track and field facility  
renovation**

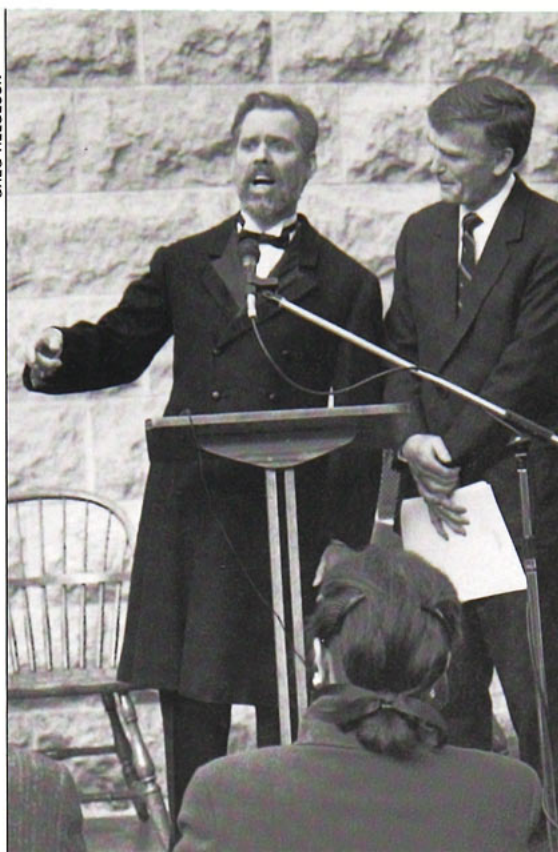
**1994: Campus Drive/athletic field  
expansion; Alumni House renovation**

**1995-1997: renovation of Olin/Rice  
science buildings**

**1997-1999: construction of  
Campus Center**

**2000-2005: renovation of Field  
House; renovation of Janet Wallace  
Fine Arts Center complex**

GREG HELGESON



Macalester's fifth president, James Wallace (actor Michael Miner), showed up in October 1990 to help the college's 14th president dedicate the library in honor of Wallace's son, DeWitt.

far-ranging. Generally, they went out well prepared. Whatever field they went into — business, law, various professions, public service, education — they went out to make a difference.

One of the nice things about coming together with alumni in Alumni Soundings — I think I attended 54 of them — was to have the opportunity to meet a group which would have, typically,

## Alumni giving

**1983-84**

**Total giving from alumni: \$697,908  
Alumni participation: 31%**

**1993-94**

**Total giving from alumni: \$1,533,933  
Alumni participation: 37%**

one or two alumni who graduated in the last three or four years, and alumni who graduated as far back as 40 or 50 years ago. At the start of the conversation, there would be much concern about whether or not things today had changed, whether current students had lost their values. At the end of the conversation, almost every time the group agreed that the traditions we were talking about today were the ones that had really made a significant difference for them in their lives and careers and were the things that we ought to be emphasizing at Macalester. ●