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Macalester College

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Macalester Today

August 1999



A Macalester Family:
Seven Cervantes Siblings

MACALESTER TODAY welcomes letters from alumni, the primary audience of this magazine, as well as other members of the Macalester community. Exceptions are letters that personally malign an individual or are not related to issues at Macalester or contents of the magazine.

Please send letters intended for publication to Letters to the Editor, Macalester Today, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. You can also send your letter by fax: (651) 696-6192. Or by e-mail: mactoday@macalester.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

Two losses

IT WAS SAD to read about the deaths of two people who had special meaning for me during my years at Macalester.

Beverly Werbes White '41 was my yoga instructor at Macalester as well as the wife of my favorite professor, David White. She was always a warm and friendly presence. The world is less without her.

I didn't know Bernice Flemming very well, but she used to greet me every time I would go over to the president's house to play a game of pool with her husband, Arthur. At the time, I was living next door in a house that is now torn down. Although I was one of the long-haired hippies of that time, neither she nor her husband ever judged me badly for my appearance. She always welcomed me into her home, even though I would almost always come around at 9 or 10 at night unannounced. What a wonderful woman. I miss her and her husband. They were good people.

John Kremer '71
Fairfax, Iowa

Editors' note: The Beverly White Community Outreach Program is being organized to share meditation with people new to meditation in varying community settings. The outreach program will be sponsored by the Buddhist Peace Fellowship and will meet quarterly at different Buddhist centers in the Twin Cities area. The next meeting of the



Correction

A STORY on the World Press Institute in May's *Mac Today* included a photo of the 1962-63 class of WPI Fellows with the U.N. flag. The caption erroneously identified them as "the first class" of WPI. In fact, that group was the second class. This photo, which appeared in the 1962 *Mac* yearbook, shows the first class, which arrived at Macalester in 1961. Front row (from left): Hennecke Graf von Bassewitz, Germany; Niklaas Heizenberg, The Netherlands; Ignatio Puche, Spain; and Samar Kumar Pal, India. Middle row: Mustafa Danbatta, Nigeria; Giorgio Gabbi, Italy; Reimei Okamura, Japan; and J. Edilberto Coutinho, Brazil. Back: Antonio Rodriguez-Villar, Argentina; Hernando Orozco, Colombia; Anthony Paul, Australia; WPI founder Harry Morgan and his wife, Catharine; and Nicolas Ulloa, Ecuador. Both Morgan, who is now teaching journalism in Romania, and Heizenberg, who lives in Amsterdam, wrote to correct the error. •

outreach program will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19, at Dharma Field Zen Center in Minneapolis. In addition, a collection of Mrs. White's writings is being compiled and will be made available to participants in the outreach program. For more information, call Cal Appleby, a friend of Mrs. White who co-taught her Macalester yoga class, at (612) 929-0901.

less complacent and getting involved in the political process and voting.

I sincerely hope this is the future and not a fluke.

Thomas S. Robertson '63
Eden Prairie, Minn.

Jesse Ventura

PETER FENN'S article in May's *Mac Today* ["The Ventura victory: Fluke or future?"] seemed to me a "politics as usual" response from the political establishment. I hope the election of Mr. Ventura was more than the stars being in alignment. Like a Japanese general's comments about awakening a sleeping giant after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, maybe the electorate is being nudged awake by two political parties which continue to pursue failed policies and cannot see reality.

To some of us, Mr. Ventura represents a breath of fresh air and proof that we the people can effect our future by becoming

German program

I TRULY enjoyed your May *Macalester Today* cover article on Macalester's German Study Abroad Program. I was a member of the group that went in 1974-1975 to Arolsen, Germany, for the summer, then Vienna for the fall and Interim semesters. It truly was one of the most broadening experiences of my life. As Linda Schulte-Sasse describes, I did not understand how American I was until I was immersed in another culture.

Thanks also for the updates on Dan Soneson '75 and Peggy Russell Skopec '73. I was there to watch Dan Soneson fall in love with the German language. I remember a class towards the end of our time in

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On the cover

Steve Wolt photographed the Cervantes siblings—all Macalester graduates—at their mother's residence in St. Paul. Clockwise from front center, they are Raquel '74, Ramona '76, Juan '84, Ricardo '81, Manuel '74, Guadalupe '78 and Jose '84. See the family photo on page 25.



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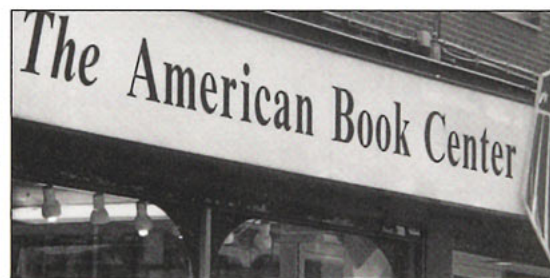
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\$25 million

The late John Holl, former trustee, makes one of the largest gifts in Macalester's history

MACALESTER has received a \$25 million gift from the estate of the late John S. Holl, a longtime supporter of the college and former president of Seeger Refrigerator Co. and Whirlpool Corp. executive.

The gift will be managed separately as part of a special trust fund and the college will receive the annual income from the trust.

Holl, who died April 26 at the age of 93 in Arden Hills, Minn., was a member of the Macalester Board of Trustees from 1949 to 1975. He was named an honorary trustee in 1975.

"We are honored that a man of John Holl's standing had the faith and confidence in Macalester to bestow such a wonderful gift—a gift that will serve many generations to come," said President McPherson. "He was a great friend of the college and a distinctly generous man who, like Macalester, believed strongly in public service. He led by example. He gave his energy, his heart and his treasure to Macalester and many other organizations."

Holl's gift is among the largest the college has ever received. (A 1981 gift of privately held Reader's Digest Association stock from the late DeWitt and Lila Wallace was valued at \$10 million at the time. When the stock later went public in 1990, it was worth more than \$200 million.)

The gift to Macalester was one of three \$25 million gifts Holl made. The St. Paul Foundation and the Presbyterian Homes & Services each received \$25 million. He was a trustee at the foundation and lived his final years at the Presbyterian Homes.

The trust established by Holl's gift "has restrictions on how much income we will receive each year and how it will be used," President McPherson said in a letter to members of the Macalester community in June.

"We anticipate that, when all arrangements are in place, this gift will contribute

about \$1 million per year to the college's income, which corresponds to about 2 percent of the college's annual budget of \$50 million (net of financial aid)," McPherson said. "In terms of our budgeting and financial planning processes, this flow of income will allow us to recover



John S. Holl

"This is an extraordinary gift, a great encouragement to all of us on campus, and an inspiration to all those who love Macalester. We will work hard to make sure that everyone understands that the college will continue to need the financial support of alumni, faculty, staff and

some of the ground that was lost through cutbacks in the Reader's Digest dividend and stock price. Thus, rather than releasing funds for new spending, we expect that this funding will assist us in our return to long-run financial equilibrium.

friends. The Touch the Future campaign remains active, and we will continue to seek support for the needs we have identified: the Annual Fund, endowed scholarships, endowed faculty support and construction of the new Campus Cen-

ter," the president said.

Although he was not an alumnus of the college, Holl was a longtime supporter and the largest contributor to the Macalester Annual Fund. In addition to his Annual Fund gifts, he supported the construction of the DeWitt Wallace Library and endowed scholarships that have benefitted scores of students.

In an interview in 1993 in *Macalester Today*, Holl explained his motivation for giving. "I'm always glad to help young people get along," he said. "I get letters of appreciation from some of the stu-

dents who have been helped. It makes you feel so good. Macalester is a great college. I think it does an excellent job. It gives people a good general education, and an opportunity to go almost any place [after graduation]. And students seem to like it."

Holl was the former president of Seeger Co., which was founded by his grandfather and which made iceboxes and later electric refrigerators. He helped negotiate the merger of Seeger into Whirlpool in 1955 and he remained at Whirlpool as an officer until he retired in 1961. He served as a director until 1970.

Holl was president of the St. Paul School Board, a contributor to and director of the St. Paul United Way for more than 40 years, president and trustee of St. Paul Children's Hospital, and a trustee of the House of Hope Presbyterian Church. He was also president and a director of the St. Paul Athletic Club, a director of First National Bank of St. Paul,

Touch the Future, The Campaign for Macalester College

Goal: \$50 million

Allocation:

- \$24 million to endow faculty and academic programs and student financial aid and student programs
- \$16 million toward capital projects, including new Campus Center that will become focal point of community activities
- \$10 million for current giving, including the Annual Fund

Raised so far: more than \$45.2 million as of June 30, of which about \$14 million has been raised since the campaign's public kickoff last October

Campaign ends: May 31, 2000

Campaign co-chair Mardene Asbury Eichhorn '53:

"What is exciting about the progress so far is that we are meeting both goals we wanted to achieve.

"First, we've done very well towards the financial goal. And we've done equally well in bringing to the forefront of our alumni the needs of the college and the importance of being part of the college. We set out to change the culture of giving here and the campaign is achieving that. We've had great participation and excitement at the campaign kickoff and at the regional kickoffs.

"Dick [Eichhorn '51, campaign co-chair] and I are confident we will meet and exceed our \$50 million goal as we continue the campaign with regional events this fall. We still have needs to meet and we have to remain focused to meet our goals the rest of the year. But because of the enthusiasm we've seen, we know we will meet these goals and that volunteers and staff will work diligently towards that end." •



GREG HELGESON

It takes a village, and village elders

Mahmoud El-Kati, a lecturer in Macalester's History Department for nearly 30 years, is revered by generations of African Americans and other students of color as a mentor, community activist and role model. Hundreds of people gathered this past spring for several community celebrations in his honor, including this one at the Penumbra Theater in St. Paul, where El-Kati's family members were among the well-wishers. "[His] dedication to black culture and community has earned him the respect of people across the country," the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* said. An authority on race, culture and ethnicity, El-Kati is well known as a fighter for civil rights and social justice. See Quotable Quotes on page 8.



Dayton Rogers Manufacturing Co. and the St. Paul YMCA.

"St. Paul was his home and he was very proud of this city," said Gaylord Glarner, a friend and adviser to Holl since 1954 and now a trustee of his estate. "He was a wonderful person to be around. He was very generous with his time and talents, and very unassuming. He did not look for credit for his charitable endeavors. It's exciting to think about what he has done for the organizations that he has contributed to."

Tragic accident

Beloit College student dies during rock-climbing expedition

A BELOIT College student died June 16 in a fall during a rock-climbing expedition in Wyoming with other students from Beloit and Macalester.

Sarah Wallbank of Howell, Mich., was one of 15 students—six from Beloit and nine from Macalester—who were participating in a geology field methods course sponsored by Beloit College. The course was led by Macalester geology Professor Karl Wirth, a Beloit graduate. Ms.

Wallbank fell while working on a mountain-mapping project north of Pine-dale, Wyo.

No one else was injured in the accident. However, Macalester student Josh Miller '00, who was her climbing partner when Ms. Wallbank fell, was hospitalized briefly for shock.

The other Macalester students are Bryan Kennedy '00, who was the teaching assistant for the course, Avery Cook '00, Emily Harris '00, Lauren Hesse '01, Gabrielle Kurth '99, Nick Miller '00, Colin Robins '01 and Travis Sandland '01.

The Beloit course has been offered each summer for more than 20 years, and begins with several weeks of preliminary studies and safety training on the Beloit campus.

Ms. Wallbank's family went to Wyoming to be with the Beloit and Macalester students. The students attended a memorial service for her in Michigan in late June.

Macalester is also preparing an appropriate tribute to Ms. Wallbank, who had completed her first year of study at Beloit. An active and popular student, she was a member of the Beloit orchestra, participated in softball and soccer, and assisted as a trainer in the athletic department.

"We at Macalester extend our deepest sympathies to her family," Provost Dan Hornbach wrote in a letter to the Macalester community in June. "When Macalester students return to campus this fall, the college will seek ways in which the campus community can come together to express its grief for the death of Sarah Wallbank and its support for the Beloit and Macalester students who were with her."

Appreciation

Praising his 'outstanding' performance, trustees support President McPherson with reappointment to five-year term

MIKE MCPHERSON, who became Macalester's 15th president in 1996 and just completed his third year at the college, has been reappointed to a five-year term by the Board of Trustees.

"We are extremely pleased with the outstanding job Mike has done these past three years and we wanted to express our appreciation and show him our complete support," Timothy A. Hultquist '72, chair of the board, said in May. "Mike's contributions to the college have been enormous. He's a wonderful leader, emissary of the college and scholar. One of his best qualities is his ability to engage and to listen to the members of the community, including students, faculty, staff and alumni."

Janet Rajala Nelson '72, vice chair of the board, said McPherson had helped generate a "tremendous amount of excitement and enthusiasm" at Macalester and that in extending his contract by five years, the board was showing its commitment to his leadership.

In his first three years, Nelson said, McPherson has helped lead a \$50 million capital fund-raising campaign, provided strong academic leadership and addressed a number of key issues on campus, including multiculturalism and long-term planning.

"This is a wonderful liberal arts college and community," McPherson said. "My wife Marge and I are very happy here, and there is no place we'd rather be."

McPherson is a nationally known economist, writer and authority on the financing of higher education. He is the co-author of seven books, most recently *The Student Aid Game: Meeting Need and Rewarding Talent in American Higher Education* (1998).

The trustees also praised Mrs. McPherson for her grace, charm, sense of humor and hard work. A "consummate volunteer," she

is "an enthusiastic supporter of all things Macalester. She represents all the best for which Macalester stands." The trustees expressed their "heartfelt thanks and recognition to Marge McPherson for the generous gift of her wisdom, her time, her warmth and herself."

Jerry Rudquist

'One who knows without question why he was placed on this earth'

JERRY RUDQUIST'S paintings and commissions hang in the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis and grace the walls of major corporations across America. His works have been exhibited in museums and galleries from Nigeria to New Guinea, from Canada to Ceylon, from Munich to Madrid, and from Tokyo to San Francisco, Portland and Pomona.

Over the years, 12 major colleges and universities, as well as more than 20 galleries, have sponsored exhibitions of his prints, paintings, drawings and photographs.

The Macalester art professor won this year's Thomas Jefferson Award. Rudquist's "life has been marked by indefatigable energies and enormous productivity, by the dedication of a true teacher-scholar, and by that rare serenity and centeredness of one who knows without question why he was placed on this earth," the citation said.

Rudquist joined the Art Department faculty in 1958. His students cite "your positive encouragement, constant challenge, and gentle criticism, the time and attention you give to each individual, and the enormous respect you hold for the artistic bent of each student—traits which embody professionalism most deserving of the Macalester Excellence in Teaching Award," which he received in 1991.

As a painter, Rudquist is known for his legendary attention to detail. He has made numerous trips for first-hand observation, "whether to country landscapes or Cape Canaveral, to European war memorials and battle sites, or to confer with a colleague in biology for an exhaustive afternoon of questions about stems and flower petals," the citation said. "Such diligence produced impeccable drawings which rivaled the old masters in accuracy and complexity, as well as abstract paintings and landscapes which



Jerry Rudquist

have made a major contribution to the Modern school of Abstract Expressionism."

Jan Serie

Minnesota Academy of Science salutes biology professor

BIOLOGY Professor Jan Serie was named the 1999 College Science Teacher of the Year by the Minnesota Academy of Science. She shared the award with Duane Sea, a recently retired science professor from Bemidji State University.

The award honors an outstanding professor for excellence in teaching, scholarship and service.

Serie is an immunologist with expertise in physiology, cell biology and neuroscience. She is currently researching the immune system's reaction to viral infections, focusing on interactions between the nervous, endocrine and immune systems. She is internationally recognized for her transplantation

research. She is the program director for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Macalester, which includes a summer session for first-year students of color interested in the sciences.

In addition, Serie has received local and national awards for teaching and curricular innovations, including the development of a research-based approach to introductory biology which has been a model for science departments around the country.

Vasant Sukhatme

'You challenge, engage, inspire and in the end nurture students'

AN ADMIRING group of students once presented economics Professor Vasant Sukhatme with a T-shirt featuring a series of favorite quotes from his lectures, a larger-than-life photo and the simple legend: "I survived Sukhatme!"

Sukhatme, who joined the faculty in 1978, won the 1999 Macalester College Excellence in Teaching Award.

Born and raised in Jamshedpur, in the Indian province of Bihar, Sukhatme comes from a distinguished family of academics. He earned a Ph.D. in economics at the University of Chicago and then sought an opportunity to teach at a liberal arts college.

"You challenge, engage, inspire and in the end nurture students to think clearly, crisply and critically about economics," the

award citation said. "Your intermediate micro course challenges students with seemingly enigmatic puzzles such as why grocery carts are the size they are, but it is through such exercises that students develop a rigorous understanding of funda-



Vasant Sukhatme

mental economic principles. A recent student wrote that she had prized the course for its sheer 'intellectual elegance.' You, in turn, watch for a glimmer of comprehension and appreciation on the faces of your students and prize those students who exhibit not only a mastery of the course material but also an intuitive gift for economics. Your goal, quite simply, is to teach your students 'to think like economists.' "

With Sukhatme's guidance, many students have gone on to graduate work in economics at some of the nation's top graduate programs. One student wrote not long ago, "Professor Sukhatme's influence on my life is probably second only to that of my parents."

Many economics majors are international students who, like Sukhatme, come from developing countries. They take his "signature" course, International Economic Development. One student said, "I'll never forget the last day of class. It's easy to get depressed about the 'plight' of developing countries, but Vasant was very hopeful. He talked about the effect people can have on outcomes. It was very inspiring!"

Outstanding

'An inspiring person and dedicated to the spirit of Macalester,' Jayne Niemi '79 wins staff award

ASSOCIATE Registrar Jayne Niemi '79, a tireless advocate and supporter of the college, won this year's Outstanding Staff Award.

Niemi's "marvelous sense of humor and infectious zest for life make it a pleasure

for all of us to work with her," said the citation for the award, which was announced at the faculty-staff dinner April 24.

Seriously injured in an auto accident in 1995, Niemi was barely home from the hospital when she began making plans to get connected to the college via a modem and telephone line. "Her long-distance participation in the Registrar's Office during her recuperation provided everyone with a benchmark for measuring a person's institutional loyalty," the citation said. "The quality of the service provided by the office during this long period is testimony to Jayne's organizational and planning skills and to her ability to hire and nurture a skilled staff. The steady stream of faculty and staff who came to her home during this period with nourishment for the soul (and sometimes nourishment for the body) is proof of the special regard that many have for her."

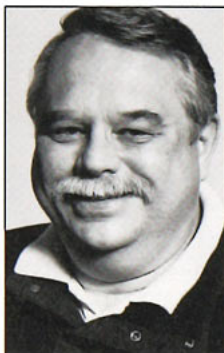
Niemi's presence has been felt at alumni phonathons, on the Staff Advisory Council, in professional organizations, and numerous other occasions where staff are asked to contribute their

time and energy. Staff and faculty members who nominated her for the award described Niemi as "a person of tremendous courage and great character—a perfect example of what we would like our graduates to become," and "an inspiring person and dedicated to the spirit of Macalester."

New trustees

THREE ALUMNI were elected to Macalester's Board of Trustees in May. They are:

- Allen Parchem '67, president and CEO of RHR International Co., a pioneering firm in the field of corporate psychology, headquartered in Wood Dale, Ill. He has a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Vermont. He is a member of the American Psychological Association, a director of the Society of Psychologists in Management, a member of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and has served on Macalester's Alumni Board.



Allen Parchem '67

- Gülüm Özüstün Williams '92, a consultant in the New York office of the Boston Consulting Group, a management consulting firm. Her prior work experience includes three

years as a financial analyst at Morgan Stanley. She earned an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School in 1997. Originally from Istanbul, she is fluent in Turkish, has intermediate knowledge of German and a basic understanding of French.

- Susan M. Haigh '73 of St. Paul, who has twice been elected to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. She is very active in the community, serving on the boards of Regions Hospital, the St. Paul Riverfront Corporation and the St. Paul/Ramsey County Children's Initiative. She has a law degree from William Mitchell. She received a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in 1998.



Susan Haigh '73

World Press Institute

Nine international journalists chosen for 1999 fellowships

JOURNALISTS from Nigeria, Russia, Italy and Venezuela are among the nine international reporters and editors chosen to be 1999 Fellows of the World Press Institute at Macalester. The WPI Fellowship offers experienced journalists from around the world a chance to explore the United States in depth.

David Mazzarella, editor of *USA Today* and former president of Gannett International, is among the four journalism professionals and educators recently elected to WPI's Board of Directors. The others are Ronald Clark, editorial page editor of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*; Kathleen Hansen, director of the Minnesota Journalism Center at the University of Minnesota, and Terry Hynes, dean of the College of Journalism and Communications at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

The WPI Fellows will spend three months traversing the U.S. on a rigorous schedule of meetings and interviews with people in all walks of life. The fellowship, which began in late June with one month of backgrounding sessions at Macalester with members of the college faculty, includes several home stays in different regions of the country.

WPI was founded at Macalester in 1961. Since then it has offered nearly 450



Happy anniversary

Harris Wofford, who helped launch the Peace Corps in 1961 and is now CEO of the Corporation for National Service, spoke to Twin Cities college students about higher education and community service during a special lunch May 11 at Macalester. The former U.S. senator from Pennsylvania also helped celebrate the 10th anniversary of Macalester's Community Service Office, which is directed by Karin Trail-Johnson, left. Kate Stebbins '00 (North Bend, Ore.), center, is the office's tutoring coordinator. During the 1997-98 academic year, 46 percent of Macalester students volunteered at Twin Cities agencies, schools and other organizations.

These members of the Class of '99 were honored April 30 at a dinner at Mike and Marge McPherson's home. From left: Fernando Oliveira, Kiki Papageorgiou, Sherman Wu, Katie Murphy, President McPherson, Christian Campbell, Anthony Agadzi, Marie Zemler and Katie Carothers. Not pictured is Richard Cawood (who was featured in February's *Mac Today* article on the International Roundtable).



journalists from 92 countries unparalleled opportunities to gain first-hand knowledge of the U.S.

WPI's 1999 Fellows are:

- **India.** Radhika Dhawan, special correspondent, *Business Today*, Mumbai, covers telecommunications and pharmaceuticals and does investigative reporting.

- **Israel.** Dov Gil-Har, morning news anchor, Channel 2 Television, Jerusalem, produces documentaries in addition to anchoring a morning news program.

- **Italy.** Roberto Baldini, deputy bureau chief, *La Nazione*, Florence, manages the Florence edition of one of Italy's leading daily newspapers.

- **Nigeria.** Cordelia Onu, assistant news editor, *Daily Champion*, Lagos, is the first woman among a total of 11 Nigerian journalists to be named WPI Fellows.

- **Philippines.** Susan A. de Guzman, reporter, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, Makati City, focuses on arts and culture as a lifestyle reporter.

- **Romania.** Mircea Opris, staff photographer and reporter, *Monitorul de Timisoara*, Timisoara, is a founding member and the first elected president of the Romanian Association of Press Photographers.

- **Russia.** Elena Maizel, editor-in-chief, Radio Russia, St. Petersburg, produces and hosts public affairs programs and runs the

news department of Radio Russia in St. Petersburg.

- **Tanzania.** Japhet Sanga, chief reporter, *Daily News/Sunday News*, Dar es Salaam, covers major news and serves as deputy news editor.

- **Venezuela.** Carlos Camacho, reporter, *Bloomberg News*, Caracas, was the first Venezuelan reporter hired by the international business-oriented news agency.

WPI is a nonprofit, educational organization supported by foundations, corporations, individuals and Macalester.

Nine from '99

Presidential Leadership Award recognizes contributions by nine graduating seniors

NINE GRADUATING seniors received the Presidential Leadership Award. It was initiated four years ago to recognize seniors for their outstanding contributions to the Macalester community throughout their college careers.

The nine, all of whom excelled in the classroom, are:

- **Anthony Agadzi** (Accra, Ghana), a biology major, was an International Center student mentor, officer with the Macalester International Organization, active in AFRICA!, chair of the HIV/AIDS Action Awareness Coalition and tutor at the Learning Center. He plans to enter medical school.

- **Christian Campbell** (Nassau, Bahamas) served as captain of the swimming and diving team, was a member of the Voices of Tamani gospel group, officer in BLAC, founding member of the Caribbean Student Association, *Mac Weekly* columnist, Poetry Slam winner and writer/performer for the Black Theater Group. He majored in English and communication studies. He will begin a Ph.D. program at Duke this fall.

- **Katie Carothers** (Oklahoma City, Okla.) was an Orientation coordinator, member of Judicial Forum, chair of Hall Council, member of WHAM, student government officer, College Events Committee student member and leader on the Senior Week Committee. Her volunteer experiences include tutoring, serving as a Ramsey County Court-appointed guardian, Maction co-coordinator, Blood Drive coordinator and animal shelter volunteer. She majored in communication studies and urban studies.

- **Richard Cawood** (Tarkastad, South Africa), an economics and international studies major, was the co-recipient of the Macalester Internationalism Award. He served as the International Speakers Program coordinator with the Community Service Office, Kidsfest volunteer, president of the Macalester International Organization, and student speaker at the Hunger and Homelessness program.

• Katie Murphy (Caledonia, Minn.) majored in history and urban studies. She served as editor in chief, managing editor, associate editor and sports editor of the *Mac Weekly* during her four years. She was a volunteer admissions tour guide and host, and preceptor in the Geography Department. She also served as a co-editor of the book *Pride of Place*, a result of the Action Research work of the Urban Geography Field Seminar class.

• Fernando Oliveira (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) majored in economics and international studies. He was chair of the Student Government Financial Advisory Commission, a member of Omicron Delta Epsilon Economics Honor Society, co-editor of the *Journal of Economics*, student representative on the Travel/Program Fund Committee and also served on the search committee for a new assistant dean of students. He is beginning his profession in banking this summer.

• Kyriaki "Kiki" Papageorgiou (Larnaca, Cyprus) majored in anthropology and international studies. She was an Orientation coordinator, a Leader in Service program coordinator, mentor to international students, Campus Programs programmer, community assistant in Residential Life and was the co-recipient of the Macalester Internationalism Award. She will begin graduate studies in anthropology at the University of California-Irvine this fall.

• Sherman Wu (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan) majored in international studies and economics. He was a Leader in Service program coordinator for a local tutoring program, volunteer for the Blood Drive, Cultural House manager and member of the Asian Student Association, and served as student speaker for the college's Touch the Future fund-raising campaign. He will participate in a two-year leadership development program with General Electric.

• Marie Zemler (Sauk Centre, Minn.) majored in psychology and communication studies. She served as a student representative on the Alumni Board, student speaker for the Touch the Future fund-raising campaign, participated in mock trial at the national level, precepted a Research Methods course, was an officer of Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society and played a leadership role with the Senior

Week Planning Committee. Her community service involvement included Kids on the Block Puppeteering, volunteering at Chrysalis, co-organizing the Monte Carlo Night Benefit for Catholic Charities and the House of Hope tutoring program. After a year of work, she plans to study law at New York University.

Farewell

Nine faculty members enter retirement program

NINE faculty members are entering Macalester's phased retirement program this year, exercising their option to begin a period of reduced service to the college. They are:

• Donald Betts, Music Department. He came to Mac in 1959. A composer and pianist, he has headed the piano program at Macalester. He is a founding member of the Macalester Trio, whose noted recording, Chamber Works of Women Composers, was recently reissued on compact disc. His own compositions have been performed internationally at colleges and universities. A compact disc of his selected works was released in 1997 on the Centaur label.

• Giles Gamble, English. He came to Mac in 1967. A medieval scholar, he teaches Chaucer, Old and Middle English literature, and Shakespeare, as well as contemporary fiction. He has a special interest in the folk music and folklore of the American South.

• Alvin Greenberg, English. He came to Mac in 1966. He has written in a wide variety of genres: poetry, novels, short stories, creative nonfiction, and opera librettos, as well as reviews and literary essays. His work has appeared twice in the well-known annual collection *Best American Short Stories* and in numerous national journals. He has received the Pablo Neruda Prize in Poetry, the Chelsea Poetry Award and the Loft McKnight Award of Distinction in Poetry. "Alvin has worked hard as a devoted and gifted teacher of creative writing and from it has made a program that enjoys considerable prestige. He really will leave Macalester with a lasting legacy," said Pro-

fessor Harley Henry. Greenberg plans to move to Idaho, where his wife has taken a job in the M.F.A. program in creative writing at Boise State University and where he'll continue, as always, to write.

• Harley Henry, English. He joined the faculty in 1966. "I've been privileged to have Macalester colleagues who were great teachers and generous in their learning," he said. He was one of the founders of The Generation Gap, the faculty and staff jazz band with whom he plays clarinet, and is a longtime member of the Macalester Symphonic Band. "Harley Henry is in the very best sense a faculty member with a college-wide view," said Wayne Roberts, former provost. "He has team-taught with colleagues across the college, he has served the college in numerous administrative positions, he has been active in committee work and in faculty meetings, and everyone will miss his presence in The Generation Gap. He has been a real citizen of the college." Henry plans to continue his research, mainly in his hometown of Atlantic Beach, Fla., but is planning frequent returns to Minnesota to study at Macalester.

• Eddie Hill, Biology. He came to Mac in 1964. "We have the best job ever perceived by the human mind; don't botch it." This, Hill said, is his philosophy, and it is one that he tells his colleagues. Long considered a leader in the Biology Department, he was named the O.T. Walter Professor of Biology in 1985, holding an endowed professorship established to recognize professors who have a fundamental belief in biology as an integral part of a liberal arts education. Although Hill has been a regular at Macalester's gym for years, his talents rest not only on his racquetball and handball techniques but also on his ability to work one-on-one with students. "Eddie has assisted countless students with their independent biology projects and from that has launched them into careers in research," said Professor Mark Davis. Hill's plans include working on a research project involving events (molecular/physical) that trigger the germination of heat-activated ascospores of *Neurospora*.

• Jerry Rudquist, Art. He was honored this spring with the Thomas Jefferson Award—see page 4.

• John Schue '53, Mathematics and Computer Science. He came to Mac as a



Eddie Hill



Alvin Greenberg

student 50 years ago, and since then has spent only nine years away from campus, taking time off for graduate school, his first teaching job and a sabbatical leave. He cherishes the friendships that have grown out of the contacts with colleagues, students and staff. Also, "I have enjoyed immensely the countless hours of sitting at my desk just thinking about mathematics. Teaching gave me the chance to expose



Jim Simler

others to it and to give them a chance at the same excitement and satisfaction it has given me." In 1989, Schue received the Thomas Jefferson Award for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education. The recognition came at a particularly significant time, since the award was given on his first day back from cancer surgery. His plans include more research on Lie algebras, some travel with his wife, Barbara, to continue as the family cook and to enjoy his eight grandchildren. He will also continue his daily run.

• **Jim Simler**, Economics. He came to Mac in 1991 to serve as chair of the Economics Department after holding the same position at the University of Minnesota for many years. He came into the department during a time of flux. "Under his leadership," said former Provost Wayne Roberts, "the department has made some wonderful hires and has stabilized in a way that has enabled it to again take its place as one of the strong departments in the college. We are greatly in his debt." Simler plans to read all sorts of books that have nothing to do with economics, take up tennis again and continue to enjoy the things he's always liked to do in the Twin Cities: see good theater, eat in fine restaurants, and listen to great music like traditional jazz and chamber music.

• **Chuck Torrey**, Psychology. He came to Mac in 1966. Throughout the years, Torrey has served the college in a variety of ways, including as the presiding officer of the Macalester faculty, chair of the Psychology Department and participant on many committees. "Chuck has been a key member of the Psychology Department," said Jack Rossmann, current chair of the department. "Students see

him as someone who gives well-organized and clear presentations about complex ideas and as someone who cares deeply about scientific psychology. In addition, Chuck has brought important interdisciplinary perspectives to the department through courses in cognitive science, evolutionary psychology and ecological psychology. His presence as a full-time colleague will be missed in many ways, but I am delighted that he will continue to be around the department as an MSFEO [Macalester Senior Faculty Employment Option] participant." Torrey's plans include reading, travel and theater, where he has distinguished himself as an actor in recent years in several Twin Cities productions.

Also retiring are two staff members:

• **Tom Miller**, custodial supervisor in the Physical Plant. He came to Mac in 1978. Many employees that he oversaw were students. One student worker, Cain



Chuck Torrey

Christian '88, moved to China and asked Miller to visit. He did just that in 1995, traveling on buses and trains until he reached a small town on the border of Tibet and China to stay with Christian and his wife. "Being at Macalester has really broadened and liberalized my education—students, faculty and staff alike," said Miller. His plans include doing deferred

maintenance on his cabin and traveling to Europe and Belize in the next couple of years.

• **Nancy Jones**, administrative assistant, Economics Department. She came to Mac in 1991. "She is without any question the most organized, effective, best person I've worked with," said retiring department Chair Jim Simler, "and I've worked with a lot of people over the last 50 years." Her plans include extensive travel and more visits with her 2-year-old grandson.

Quotable Quotes

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

"HE INTRODUCED ME to the African American experience in 1968. I came from a rich black family with a strong tradition, but what he did is he made me see the link between my family and the rest of Afro-America, the rest of black folks. He also introduced me to the idea of community service."

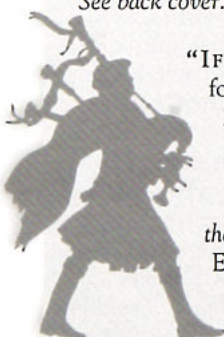
Seitu Jones, Twin Cities artist, speaking about the course he took from Mahmoud El-Kati in 1968 at the then-Twin Cities Institute for Talented Youth at Macalester. Jones was quoted in the April 30 Star Tribune. See photo of El-Kati on page 3.

"I AM CERTAINLY NOT against patriotism. We should love our country at least as much as we love our family, our village or town, our profession, as well as the planet on which we are destined to live and on which we have, among other things, the country that is our home. I am only against nationalism—a blind elevation of national affiliation above everything else. Nor am I against any religion, any culture or any specific tradition of the human civilization. I am only against all kinds of fanaticism or fundamentalism which, again, blindly elevates one level of human identity above all its other levels."

Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic, speaking April 26 at Macalester. His lecture inaugurated the Vaclav Havel Civil Society Symposium, sponsored as a cooperative venture by Macalester, the University of St. Thomas and House of Hope Presbyterian Church. See back cover. The full text is on the Web: www.macalester.edu/~colrel/havel/index.html

"IF SALES TRENDS continue, sport utility vehicles are expected to account for more than half of the United States' global warming gases by the year 2010. Ironically, the vehicles are usually advertised as wandering through beautiful wilderness landscapes. But literally, they are adding to the destruction of those natural landscapes."

Clay Steinman, professor of communication studies at Macalester, quoted in the April 7 Highland Villager. He is the co-author of a new book, Consuming Environments: Television and Commercial Culture, which argues that TV has fostered overconsumption and the accelerated destruction of the natural environment. •



Spring sports review

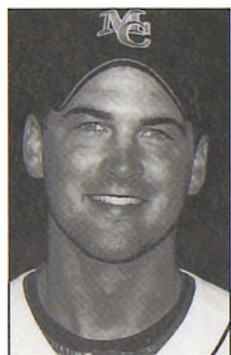
Macalester's spring sports season saw the Scots gain their best conference finishes in two decades in baseball, men's track & field, and men's tennis.

As a result, Macalester's MIAC all-sports point total continues to climb to its highest level in years. Two tracksters were All-Americans, two tennis players reached the conference finals in singles play and two baseball players were named to the All-Region team.

Baseball

The Scots lost some key players to graduation the year before, but surprised the MIAC by moving up from ninth to third in the conference standings and finishing with a 22-17 record after winning eight of their final 11 games. Only national runner-up St. Thomas and St. Olaf finished

above Macalester in the league. Macalester's pitching staff improved tremendously as Christian Blanck '00 (Minneapolis) and Tom Gillespie '00 (Lake Park, Iowa) enjoyed big seasons. Blanck went 8-3 while Gillespie posted a 4.08 earned run average as he finished second in the MIAC in strikeouts. Outfielder R.T. Luczak '99 (Greenfield, Wis.) and shortstop Keenan Sue '01 (Honolulu) were named to the All-Conference and All-Region teams. Luczak, Mac's all-time RBI leader, hit .398 with a school-record 48 RBI, and Sue hit .434.



R.T. Luczak '99,
All-Conference outfielder

Softball

Macalester made some strides under new Coach Tina Johnson, finishing 18-25-1 overall and 7-15 in the MIAC. The team played well over the final couple weeks of the season, defeating a very good St. Benedict team and nearly knocking off powerhouse St. Mary's.

Infielder Kat Miles '00 (Surrey, British Columbia) picked up All-Conference honors for the second year in a

row after hitting .350 and leading the team in nearly every offensive category. Catcher



Kat Miles '00,
All-Conference infielder

Cristin Beach '02 (Colton, Calif.) hit .336 and was one of the top newcomers in the league. Jaimi Stejskal '99 (Spring Valley, Minn.) hit .306 and joined Beach as honorable mention All-MIAC picks. Carson Hildreth '99 (Fairfax, Calif.) and Jackie Chavez '01 (Santa Fe, N.M.) did a dependable job anchoring Mac's pitching staff.

Women's tennis

Macalester finished with a 13-6 record during the spring season and took sixth at the season-ending MIAC tournament. Once again, the Scots were led at the top of the singles lineup by Academic All-District Five standout Betsy Colby '00

Scots on the 'Net

You can follow Mac sports, and get complete team schedules and other athletic news, on the Internet: www.macalester.edu/~athletic

(Roseville, Minn.). Colby went 13-8 at first singles and boosted her career record to 38-18. Colby and Karen Martin '00 (Westford, Mass.) formed one of the conference's best doubles teams, while Leela Lavasani '99 (Minnetonka, Minn.) was steady at No. 2 singles.

Men's tennis

Tats Kanenari '99 (Tokyo, Japan) and Mads Sorensen '00 (Lyngby, Denmark) made it to the finals at first and second singles, respectively, at the conference tournament to lead the Scots to a third-place MIAC finish—their best since the '70s. The Scots went 13-7 overall and 6-3 in the MIAC under new Coach Eric Eberhardt. Kanenari coasted to the conference finals at No. 1 singles before losing a close match in the finals and finished his outstanding career with a 48-19 record at Macalester. Sorensen, who will take over at No. 1 next year, reached the conference finals at No. 2 singles before bowing out.



Tats Kanenari '99,
standout at first singles

Women's track & field

Macalester earned 10 top-six finishes from individuals and relay teams to close out the season at the MIAC champion-

ships, while Yarrow Moench '00 (Bellingham, Wash.) and Holly Harris '00 (Redondo Beach, Calif.) ran at the NCAA championships at the end of May. Moench made All-America for the second year in a row after taking eighth in the 1500 meters at the national championships. At the con-



Yarrow Moench '00 (M on jersey), All-American for second year

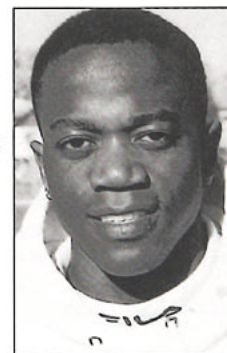
ference meet, the Scots were led by Harris, who took second in the 400-meter dash, and Liz Connors '00 (Albany, Ore.), who was second in the 3000-meter run. Moench was third in the conference in the 1500 meters, while fifth-place MIAC finishers include Liz Hajek '02 (Stillwater, Minn.) in the 100-meter hurdles and Joelle Farrell '01 (Boardman, Ohio) in the high jump.

Men's track & field

Everything came together for the Scots at the MIAC championships as Macalester jumped five spots up to fourth place. Kajerero Ssebbaale '02 (Tutume, Botswana) won the conference triple jump crown and added another All-America certificate with an eighth-place national finish. Eric Klinker '01 (Estelline, S.D.) and Brandon Guthrie '00 (Salem, Ore.) also enjoyed outstanding seasons.

Klinker took second in the conference in both the 110-meter and 400-meter hurdles, while Guthrie took second in the steeplechase. Both came up just short in qualifying for nationals. Fourth-place MIAC finishers were John Shepard '00 (Absarokee, Mont.) in the high jump, Bengo Mrema '00 (Gaborone, Botswana) in the triple jump and Denis Foo Kune '99 (Union-Vale, Mauritius) in the 100-meter dash.

—Andy Johnson, sports information director



Kajerero Ssebbaale '02,
triple-jump champion

Alumni of Color Reunion, Oct. 15-17

MACALESTER'S first Alumni of Color Reunion will feature a concert by the Sounds of Blackness, a celebration of the historic Expanded Educational Opportunities program, alumni panel discussions on "The Myth of Race" and "The Role of Affirmative Action," a family-style barbecue and much more.

A group of alumni have been planning the event, with two goals in mind: to reconnect with classmates and to help shape Macalester's multicultural mission. The reunion co-chairs are Kathy Angelos Pinkett '75 and Melvin Collins '75, both of St. Paul.

The weekend begins with a welcome reception at Alumni House on Thursday evening, Oct. 14. The opening celebration will be held at 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 15, in the Gymnasium. Activities continue Friday and all day Saturday, Oct. 16, through Sunday morning.

For a brochure about the weekend or more information, call the Alumni Office, (651) 696-6295 or toll-free: 1-888-242-9351. Or check the Website: www.macalester.edu/~alumni

Calendar of alumni events

FOR MORE INFORMATION on any of the following, call the Alumni Office, (651) 696-6295, except where noted. Toll-free: 1-888-242-9351. Or see the alumni Web page: www.macalester.edu/~alumni/calendar. For campus events, see the on-line campus events calendar: www.macalester.edu/whatshap.html. Or call the campus events line: (651) 696-6900.

Aug. 22: welcome for new students and parents, 3-5 p.m., home of Helga Ying '87 in Piedmont, Calif., near San Francisco; call (510) 601-6102; e-mail: hying@levi.com

Aug. 31: Macalester Book Club, 7-9 p.m., location TBD; (651) 696-6295 or e-mail: alumnioffice@macalester.edu; or www.macalester.edu/~alumni/bookclub

Aug. 31: Meet 1999 World Press Institute Fellows, National Academy of



Good day out

Alumni from the San Francisco Bay area came together for a service project May 22 at Slide Ranch, a Park Partner of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. A nonprofit teaching farm, Slide Ranch provides environmental programs through hands-on experiences. Volunteers for a day were (from left) Jonah Levy, Helga Ying '87, Megan Lehrkamp '97, Emily Stone '98, Wesley Knitter '76, Michelle Smith '95 and Tim Lohnes '95. "The beautiful setting and friendly staff provided us with a wonderful opportunity to make our alumni connections stronger while also providing a valuable service," wrote Emily, the event coordinator.

Sciences, Washington, D.C. Reception at 6 p.m., program at 7. Hosted by Wendy White '75 and Dusty Cowan Kreisberg '51. Call Dusty for more information: (202) 966-0165.

Sept. 10: 7 p.m., opening reception for "American Alchemists," joint exhibit by artists Chank (Charles Anderson '91) and Spunk, Macalester Galleries. Exhibit runs Sept. 1-Oct. 1. (651) 696-6416.

Sept. 17: St. Louis alumni event, Cardinals baseball game and tailgate. Contact: Roger Scherck '86 at (314) 862-4612

Sept. 18-19: Alumni Board of Directors meet on campus

Oct. 1-3: Family Weekend

Oct. 7-9: Macalester International Roundtable, "Contending Gods: Faith and Religion in the Age of Globalization" (651-696-6332)

Oct. 15-17: Alumni of Color Reunion

Bay Area Happy Hours: Contact: Emily Stone '98, (510) 420-6958 or Emilysvt@aol.com

Boston Happy Hours: Contact: Mary Kate Little '97 and Lauren Paulson '97, (617) 713-2971

New York Happy Hours: Contact: Nora Koplos '93, (212) 222-4102 (h) or nkoplos@scholastic.com

Washington, D.C., Happy Hours: Contact: Paul Batcheller '95, (202) 224-7306 or Batchster@aol.com; and Chuck Szymanski '91, (202) 473-5733 or cszymanski@worldbank.org ●

Alumni Association Board of Directors

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David C. Hodge '70, vice president
Grant Killoran '86, president-elect
Edward Swanson '64, secretary-treasurer

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Georga Larsen Parchem '67
Linda Karrer Trout '69
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Margaret J. Westin '74
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Karan Singh '00
Diya Malarkar '01
Harmony O'Rourke '01
Christine Swanson '01

The ROAD from HELL

A new play by Professor Sears Eldredge dramatizes the unlikely reconciliation between two WWII enemies: a British POW and the translator for his Japanese torturers

by Carolyn Griffith

TIME PAST and time future meet
in time present." —T. S. Eliot

Time past: In 1943, two men meet as mortal enemies, as victim and tormentor, in horrific circumstances that will forever change them both. Half a century later, they meet again, and the story of the healing between them moves a drama professor to write, at the age of 62, his first play.

Time present: On April 30, 1999, *Return to Kanburi* by Sears A. Eldredge, chair of Macalester's Dramatic Arts & Dance Department, premieres at Macalester. In the audience, weeping silently, is Takashi Nagase, the Japanese Secret Police interpreter whose voice was the only one that British POW Eric Lomax remembers during his interrogation and torture.

"I can only understand the arcs of these men's lives as some sort of spiritual journey on both their parts," Eldredge muses.

Eldredge's own journey on the road to Kanburi began in 1995, when a *New York Times* review sparked his interest in Lomax's award-winning memoir, *The Railway Man*. Lomax's book describes the brutal treatment, during World War II, of British, Australian, American and Dutch POWs who were forced by their Japanese captors to build the Burma-Siam Railway, intended to support the Japanese conquest of India. Housed in leaky bamboo huts whose dirt floors turned to mud during the rainy season, fed meager amounts of poor-quality rice, and forced to dig out rocks, cut down trees and construct the railway using only the most basic hand tools, the prisoners died by the thousands—"one for every sleeper," or railroad tie.

While imprisoned at Kanchanaburi (known familiarly as Kanburi), Thailand, Lomax was tortured for helping to hide a secret radio and making a map of the railway, with Nagase translating the interrogator's questions and Lomax's replies. For many years Lomax was obsessed with the desire for revenge against the man whose voice was the only one he remembered hearing during his ordeal. Instead, the two re-established contact, and met again at Kanburi in 1993, beginning the healing process.

After Japan surrendered, Nagase, whose education in English literature at an American university in

Japan qualified him to serve as an interpreter with the Japanese army's Secret Police, was used by Allied forces to help locate the graves of those who died building the railway. Confronted by this evidence of the extent of Japanese brutality, and haunted by his role in Lomax's torment, Nagase wrote his own memoir, *Crosses and Tigers*. He twice attempted suicide, has revisited Thailand 100 times to atone for his and his nation's

'What Eric Lomax came to realize is that to kill and seek vengeance on others means you're also killing yourself. Lomax lived with this hatred, but also discovered it was destroying him.'

actions, built a Buddhist temple and financed a mobile health clinic there, and brought dozens of former POWs and captors together with the help of more than \$800,000 donated by remorseful Japanese to his River Kwai Peace Foundation.

Eldredge read both memoirs. "What struck me was, here was this person in Japan who had associated with this terrible torture, and he can't forget Eric Lomax. And on the other side of the world, there's Lomax, fixated on this same event, who can't forget Nagase. I think Mr. Nagase would say that their meeting again was all guided by mysterious forces that we're not aware of."

Those same mysterious forces, it might be said, drew the theater professor into the psychological orbit of the events at Kanburi. While Eldredge first heard of the two men's shared story in 1995, the influences that would eventually make him the person to write this play arise from the same history that brought Lomax and Nagase together. Eldredge's



GREG HELGESON

Professor Sears Eldredge and Takashi Nagase, who came from Japan for the premiere of Eldredge's play, *Return to Kanburi*.

Carolyn Griffith is a St. Paul free-lance writer.

much-older stepbrother came home from WWII service in the Pacific with a trunk full of Japanese silk, lacquer plates, a child's kimono and other treasures that fascinated the not-yet-10-year-old Sears. "I still remember these things vividly, and I've had a love affair with Japanese art and culture ever since." It wasn't until years later he learned that his stepbrother had piloted one of the first planes into Japan after the war to bring out Allied POWs who had been taken there.

While the *New York Times* reviewer likened *The Railway Man* to Euripidean tragedy, Eldredge saw the story in terms of a traditional Japanese theater form: Noh. "I immediately associated it with a 15th century Noh play, *Atsumori*, in which a warrior-

turned-priest confronts the ghost of a man he killed to seek forgiveness," he notes.

Eldredge took a year's sabbati-

"thus saith the Lord." Appropriate lines from T. S. Eliot's *The Four Quartets*—including "Time past and time future meet in time present"—came to Eldredge as he was writing, but it wasn't until later that he discovered the poems were written during World War II, about an old man's coming to terms with his past. An Interlude, "Kanburi Kapers," between the two parts recreates songs and comedy skits actually performed, in British variety show-style, in theaters built by the POWs in some of their railway concentration camps.

In the judgment of Eldredge's Japanese guests, his experiment succeeded. "This drama, for me, is so realistic," Takashi Nagase said. "I could see my behavior in the past, and understand it better, as an observer." In the first act, in particular, he was surprised at the force of Eric Lomax's anger, which his meetings and correspondence with the Englishman had not revealed. His wife, Fujiwara Yoshiko, has long been interested in Noh, and was impressed with the way Eldredge used its traditions.

"Mr. Nagase told me I really captured his soul, and that he now understands better why Eric Lomax focused on him," says Eldredge, who notes that

Jacques Roy '01 (Hersey, Mich.), left, portrayed Takashi Nagase and Stephen Soldan '02 (Pelkie, Mich.), right, played Eric Lomax. Julia Stemper '01 (Carbondale, Ill.), left, played Nagase's wife, and Emily Arsenault '00 (St. Peter, Minn.) played Lomax's wife.

cal to research and write *Return to Kanburi*, traveling to Japan and to the site of the railroad in Thailand, and studying exten-

Nagase offered some important suggestions to the actor portraying his character, while his wife corrected the hand positions of the actress who played her. "It was difficult, conveying the importance of minute movements and correct postures to the cast," the professor notes ruefully. "They really had to learn to move in very particular ways."

Nagase brought with him a Japanese videography team to film the production; a behavioral science professor from Okayama University, with a special interest in British POWs from WWII; and the staff announcer from the local NHK (National Broadcasting Company) station. Eldredge, Nagase, and Lomax are also exploring the possibility of staging the play in London. It is easy to envision the widening impact of this long-ago story, now a play, in Time Future.

Many members of the Macalester community helped Eldredge realize *Return to Kanburi*, including colleagues from the French, Music, Japanese, and Dramatic Arts & Dance departments, as well as former students from his Asian Theaters classes. People from the Center for Victims of Torture in Minneapolis and the Veterans Medical Center "were instrumental in helping all of us understand the psychological context of the story," Eldredge says.

Now, having seen the work staged, he is reworking the ending to heighten the sense of risk the two men take in reaching out to each other, and convey the spiritual achievement of their reconciliation.

"How these two former enemies found a way to become friends seems terribly important for us to know about in our world. These men had both been through hell. Then how could forgiveness and reconciliation happen between them? That's what my play tries to explore," Eldredge says. ●

DAVID SCHEELE



sively at the Minnesota Zen Meditation Center in Minneapolis to further his understanding of the Buddhist philosophy embodied in the two men's reconciliation. "What Eric Lomax came to realize is that to kill and seek vengeance on others means you're also killing yourself. It's a Buddhist concept. Lomax lived with this hatred, but also discovered it was destroying him. Most people can't get there," Eldredge says.

The play, which Eldredge describes as an experiment in intercultural theater and a dialogue between Christian and Buddhist values, unfolds in two parts depicting the two meetings, 50 years apart. These segments combine elements from highly stylized Noh theater with Western theater conventions. Noh, for example, typically incorporates quotations from poems, songs, Buddhist sutra and other sources to create a widening resonance in the minds of those familiar with those sources and their meanings. In Part II, "The Bridge," the character representing Eric Lomax screams "vengeance is mine" at his enemy—and thus evokes, on the part of anyone with even rudimentary knowledge of Judeo-Christian tradition, the recognition that he is gravely mistaken: the completion of the quote is

1999 YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

The purpose of the Young Alumni Award, which is being given this year for the first time, is to recognize alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years. This award pays tribute to those 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.

Alicia R. Phillips '92

IN 1996, when *City Business* included Alicia Phillips in its "40 under 40" list of young, influential leaders, she was only 27. "While at Macalester, Alicia developed the idea of Next Innovations and raised start-up funds from a few faculty, trustees, alumni and friends," wrote Richard E. Eichhorn '51. "Next Innovations has become a highly visible and viable young adult leadership program." Next Innovations teaches leadership and alliance building skills to young non-profit professionals in the Twin Cities. Each Next participant spends 130 hours over nine months learning these skills. With the May 1999 class, graduates now total 153—80 percent of whom still work in non-profits, says Phillips, now executive director. "I believe that if you can tap into, direct and leverage the idealism of people in their 20s, we can make the Twin Cities the way we want them to be," she says. She should know. By the time Phillips graduated with majors in political science and history, she had gained experience from internships with

Alumni are invited to make nominations for next year's Distinguished Citizen Citations and Young Alumni Award—see postage-free reply card in this issue.



GREG HELGESON PHOTOS

the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry; Policy Research and Action Group and Management Cornerstones in Chicago; Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis; and with Massachusetts Rep. Kevin Fitzgerald and St. Paul City Council member Bob Long '81. She even taught a Macalester course, "Nonprofit Leadership and Management." "I've

Alicia Phillips '92

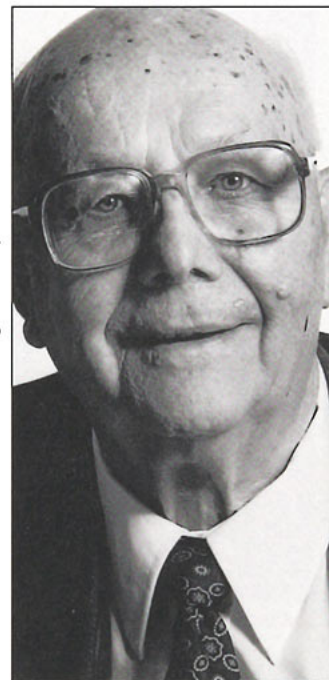
had enormous encouragement and mentorship," says Phillips, "so I've seen the value of investing in people strategically, having high expectations of them and giving them tangible information about how to move forward on their visions."

1999 DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS

The Distinguished Citizen Citation recognizes alumni who have 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 demonstrate a practical acceptance of these obligations in their lives and work.

Edwin E. Stuart '49

EDWIN STUART completed high school during the Great Depression. He later married his hometown sweetheart, Margaret Johnson, and served nearly four years in the military before the G.I. Bill enabled him to graduate from Macalester with a history major. He subsequently completed two advanced counseling degrees at the University of Minnesota while working as a secondary school teacher, counselor and special education administrator in North St. Paul, Roseville and Stillwater, Minn. While serving as Roseville's special education administrator in 1964, when no such services were yet mandated, he implemented the Lake Owasso School for children with moderate to severe mental impairments. He has been a leader in a variety of professional organizations, serving as a founder and/or president of the St. Paul Suburban Counselors Association, the Minnesota Counselors Association and the Minnesota Personnel Guidance Association. Since his retirement 19 years ago, Stuart has been a prodigious volunteer. Active in the Retired Educators Association, he served as local chapter president and as president and 11-year board member of the Minnesota REA. He has worked as a tax aide to seniors for 12 years, and served his church both locally and nationally. In 1984 Washington County named him Outstanding Senior Citizen. Currently co-chairing his 50-Year Reunion Committee, Stuart sees nothing exceptional in crowning a distinguished professional career with nearly two decades of volunteer work. "Why not?" he says. "When you retire from certain occupations, and counseling is one, you feel lost if you're not working with people."



Edwin Stuart '49

John A. Williamson '54

JOHN WILLIAMSON, professor of applied mathematics at the University of Colorado, Boulder, majored in mathematics and psychology at Macalester, and was active in SPAN, the Student Project for Amity among Nations, serving as student president of the Minnesota SPAN Association. He taught high school mathematics in Lamberton, Minn., and, as a Fulbright teacher, in Lusaka, Zambia. Deteriorating vision led him to earn his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota, allowing him to concentrate on the challenge of mathematical theory. After a stint at Cornell University, in 1967 Williamson joined the faculty at the University of Colorado, where he teaches new generations of mathematicians, and has conducted research supported by NASA, NIH, NSF, Italy's National Research Council and Colorado's Institute of

Behavioral Genetics. "His career truly epitomizes much of what Macalester strives for. In addition to his distinguished research career, he is valued by his university as a superb teacher," says Macalester Professor Stan Wagon. In the early 1990s, Williamson moved from pure to applied mathematics, specifically to statistical linkage analysis used in locating genes—for example, susceptibility genes for hereditary cancers. A paper he co-authored was judged the best paper published in 1995 by the International Genetic Epidemiology Society. His international interests and his scholarship have dovetailed nicely in several sabbatical sojourns in Europe, this year taking him to Britain for the fall and Italy for the spring.

George W. Yu '69

BORN IN SHANGHAI in 1947, George Yu lived in Southeast Asia, Europe and South America before settling in New York. While attending Northfield Mt. Hermon School, he met DeWitt Wallace and was influenced to come to Macalester, from which he graduated in biological chemistry. After attending Tufts University School of Medicine, he did a medical missionary tour in Cameroon, before continuing his general surgery residency at Peter Bent Brigham-Harvard Medical School. In 1976, he did a second medical missionary tour in Malawi, and then was sent as a reciprocal doctor under Harvard surgical services to the People's Republic of China. From 1977 to 1981, he finished his subspecialty training in urology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Medical Center. Since that time, he has been professor of urology at the George

Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and maintained a private clinic in Annapolis, Md., specializing in urological oncology and reconstructive surgery. He has co-authored a number of scientific papers as well as the landmark text *Critical Operative Maneuvers in Urologic Surgery*, which incorporates innovative three-dimensional digitized surgery illustrations. He and his partner hold three patents on surgical instrumentations. Yu is a

George Yu '69

regular consultant in medical technology, which frequently takes him to the Far East. His latest research commitments include oxalobacter formingenes (the missing bacteria leading to kidney stones), selenium relationship to prostate cancer, new instrumentation for perineal prostatectomy for prostate cancer, and collaboration with Macalester Professor Wayne Wolsey on kidney stone inhibitors. In his spare time, he surrounds himself with the beauty of nature at his home in Jackson Hole, Wyo.

LaVon M. Lee '77

A MEMBER of the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota, LaVon Lee '77 grew up convinced that education was vital to the survival of American Indian people and knowing she would use her education in her community. Recruited to Macalester from Rapid City, Lee majored in sociology, later earning her master's in educational administration from Penn State. She returned to Macalester as adviser,

later director, of the American Indian students' program, then becoming minority program coordinator, providing academic counseling and culturally relevant support to students. In 1991 she became consultant to the Saint Paul Foundation's program "Supporting Diversity in Schools." Currently executive director of the American Indian Family Center, part of St. Paul/Ramsey County Children's Initiative, Lee collaborates with 16 agencies providing



John Williamson '54



LaVon Lee '77

GREG HELGESON PHOTOS



support in areas of child health and development, school readiness and family functioning. "We build on the strengths families already possess, supporting families in nurturing and educating their children to reach their full potential within traditional cultural values," she says. Kathleen Vellenga '59 calls the center "a trusting, welcoming place" and credits Lee: "She is not only bright and highly educated, she exudes a common, warm friendship to all." Lee serves on the American Indian Magnet School Site Council, and the boards of Ain Dah Yung Center, a shelter for American Indian youth, and St. Paul Area Council of Churches. In 1996 she was named a Minnesota TRIO Achiever for realizing the promise of educational opportunity and excellence, and successfully working in her community. Lee herself considers her most important work to be "being a mom" to her son, John.

Carlos Mariani '79

THE SON OF IMMIGRANTS from Puerto Rico, Minnesota State Rep. Carlos Mariani became an organizer at an early age, providing activities for West Side Chicago youth. Recruited to Macalester from his low-income neighborhood, Mariani was a committed student activist, graduating with a major in history. After working as a paralegal at the Neighborhood Justice Center, he became a community organizer with Ramsey Action Programs. In 1986 he joined the Minnesota Council of Churches as director of Hispanic Ministry, working statewide on such issues as AIDS awareness and prevention, rural economic crisis and racism. First elected in 1990, Mariani is now serving his fifth term representing a blue-collar

area of St. Paul. He calls it "a great district, a very diverse district, tolerant and accepting." Focused on housing and education but well known for his work on numerous committees, Mariani was named Legislator of the Year by the Minnesota Alliance for Progressive Action in 1993. He has also served on the boards of the National Conference of Hispanic State Legislators, West Side Neighborhood Services and West Side Health Center. He is a past board chair and current executive director of Minnesota Minority



Carlos Mariani '79

Education Partnership, whose mission is "to increase the success of Minnesota students of color in Minnesota schools, colleges and universities." Mariani urges commitment to educational opportunities for low-income students, particularly those of color, saying, "I clearly attribute where I am now in large part to Macalester reaching out and making that opportunity available."

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD 1999

The Alumni Service Award is presented to an alumnus or alumna of Macalester whose significant service and consistent loyalty to the college has set an outstanding example of volunteerism.

Esther Torii Suzuki '46

ESTHER TORII SUZUKI is a much-admired friend to many members of the Macalester community. Alumni of every generation cherish her warmth, her wonderful sense of humor, her energy and her profound commitment to Macalester. Although she retired in 1991 from her 24-year career in social work with Ramsey County, she has hardly slowed down. Macalester has been one of the greatest beneficiaries of her wise counsel and strong involvement. She has been a class agent, a Phonathon volunteer, an organizer of her class reunions and a faithful supporter of the Annual Fund. The Alumni Association Board of Directors drew upon her talents during her six years as a board member, and she has been active on the steering committee of the Great Scots, a group which plans programs of special interest to alumni 55 and older. For Esther, Macalester is a family affair. Her husband, George, is in the Class of '47, and their daughter, Nami Suzuki Vizanko, is in the Class of '71. They also have a son, John. For more than a decade, Esther has enjoyed a second "career" in keeping with Macalester's emphasis on multiculturalism. She has recounted her own experiences and borne witness to the trials and triumphs of Japanese Americans. She has contributed a chapter to *Reflections: Memoirs of Japanese American Women in Minnesota* and to the *Journal of the Asian American Renaissance*. Last year saw the premiere of a play, *Internment Voices*, which connects the worlds of two generations of Japanese Americans. It is based upon the life stories of both Esther and author David Mura.



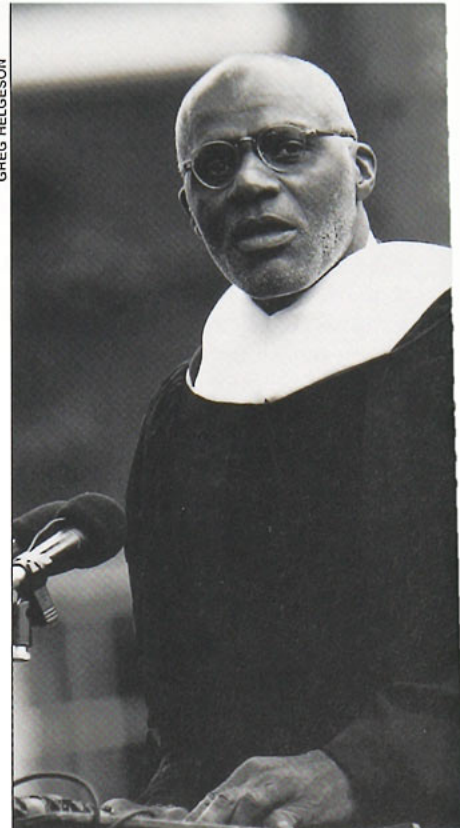
Esther Suzuki '46



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Left: 1989 classmates (from left) Cindy MacCharles (San Antonio, Texas), Julie Lindholm (St. Paul), Adlyn Carreras Bayon (St. Paul) and Vera Eccarius-Kelly (Sartell, Minn.).

Right: Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page received an honorary degree. The other honorary degree recipients were Anita Pampusch, president of the Bush Foundation, and Gerald Vizenor, author and professor of Native American studies at Berkeley.



REUNION

Continuing a Mac tradition, alumni joined graduating seniors, parents and friends for a celebratory weekend May 21–23. Memories, and photographs, are made of this.

Bob Rose '48 (Minneapolis), left, talks with **Bob Duffus '49** and **Janet McCutchan Duffus '49** (Sioux Falls, S.D.).



JIM HANSEN



The Class of '49, in cap-and-gown regalia, led the Class of '99 to Commencement exercises. Pictured from left are Dave Forsberg (Sun City, Ariz.), Maurice Hugill (Minneapolis), Norman Pippin (White Bear Lake, Minn.) and Yvonne Fahlgren Dierenfield (Eagan, Minn.).

COMMENCEMENT

1999



Left: Skye Richendrfer '80 (Mount Vernon, Wash.) was one of the pipers who took part in the 50th anniversary reunion of Macalester's beloved Pipe Band. Above: Carolyn Pope Deane '74 (Edina, Minn.), left, and Tania Srebranski Radzewicz '74 (Melrose, Mass.) at their 25th reunion gathering Friday evening.

REUNION & COMMENCEMENT 1999

GREG HELGESON PHOTOS

The Class of '74 met at the home of Hugh Huelster '74, adjacent to the Mac campus.

Pictured from left are Bob Matters '74 (Sturgeon Lake, Minn.), Joel Monteith and, in back, Barbara Mustoe-Monteith '74 (Bethel, Ohio), Loretta Frederick '74 (Winona, Minn.), Jane Lin Falle '74 (Velden, Austria), Doug Strandness '74 (St. Paul) and Doug's wife, Lynette.



Above: Participants in Reunion and Commencement pose in front of Macalester's colors and the flags of the 41 countries represented in the Class of '99. In all, 392 Macalester seniors graduated. *Right:* Three graduates enjoy a lighter-than-air moment. They are (from left) Elysia Aufmuth (Woodbury, Minn.), Kristjan Selvig (Sioux Falls, S.D.) and Emily Foss (Lincroft, N.J.).



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Top left: A lawn dance for all classes concluded the Saturday night activities. The music was provided by The Motion Poets, an acclaimed band featuring alumni Doug Little '91 and Nate Shaw '92.

Above: Marge McPherson, left, wife of President Mike McPherson, talks with Marcia Lembcke '59 (Grants Pass, Ore.) and Helen Tews Johnson '59 (St. Paul).

Left: John Gallos '49 (Minneapolis) is welcomed into the Golden Scots Society, honoring all alumni who have achieved the 50-year status, by Alumni Association President Molly McGinnis Stine '87 (Chicago).

Below: These four friends are regulars at the Mac Hac golf tournaments that kick off Reunion Weekend. Pictured at Keller Golf course are (from left) Otto Korth '56 (Minnetonka, Minn.), Dick Sexe '52 (Sun City West, Ariz.), Earl Miller '53 (Grand Rapids, Minn.) and Earl Bowman '50 (Minneapolis).

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& COMMENCEMENT
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Above: Members of the Class of '94 crack up at a joke by Professor Jan Serie (not pictured), their faculty guest, at their Saturday evening dinner in Alumni House.

Left: New graduate Timothy Mak '99 (Toronto, Ontario) is accompanied by his parents and younger brother, Geoffrey Mak '01, at Commencement.

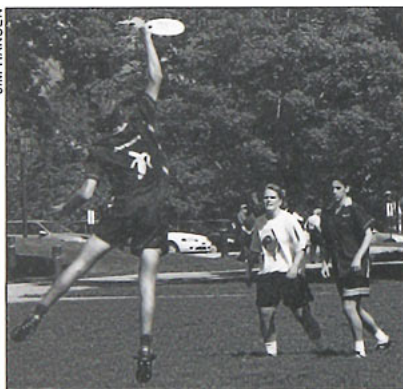
Below: John Chamberlain '69 and Katha Ukena Chamberlain '69 (Le Sueur, Minn.), right, greet a friend just before their class dinner.

Below left: A Frisbee player goes high for a catch on Shaw Field.



JIM HANSEN

JIM HANSEN



“**N**O USE YOUR BEING SO SMUG, when you realize how few white, Republican Presbyterians there are in the world.”

That was the oft-quoted remark of the legendary Professor Mary Gwen Owen, who taught at Macalester from 1928—five years after she graduated from Mac—to 1972. Herself the daughter of a Presbyterian minister, Mary Gwen Owen recognized the imperative of embracing the wider world and all its cultures. Near the end of her career, the EEO program began the continuing transformation of a campus that, up until 1969, had been almost exclusively white.

The college will hold its first Alumni of Color Reunion Oct. 15–17 (see page 10). This seemed like a particularly appropriate time to ask some U.S. alumni of color—from several generations—to look back.

What were their expectations of Macalester? What were their experiences at Mac? Most importantly, how did Macalester affect their lives?

This is the first in a series.



The **‘M**INORITY VIEW

U.S. alumni of color

reflect on how Macalester shaped their lives

Earl Bowman '50:

'The exposure I got to the rest of the world was tremendous.'

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

AS A TALENTED ATHLETE and recent graduate of Minneapolis Central High School, Earl Bowman '50 was introduced to Macalester by Athletic Director D.C. Primrose, who invited him to visit the college. Minding his dad's advice, "Don't sign anything that's going to cost me money," Bowman spent the day touring the campus. Within 24 hours, he'd played in a Macalester-Gustavus Adolphus basketball game, talked things over with his parents and enrolled.

It was such a key event in his life that more than 50 years later, Bowman remembers that day with perfect clarity.

As a Macalester student and later administrator, Bowman has been involved in the experience of students of color through several decades. He

arrived as a freshman in January 1945 and returned as assistant to the president in 1969, serving in various capacities through the tumultuous '70s when the college made bold moves to include more students of color.

As a freshman, Bowman's expectations were clear—"an opportunity

to go to school and to play ball. I wanted both—I wanted to continue to play and I also wanted to get a college education."

But the war was affecting everyone's life, and in January 1946 Bowman joined the Army. Honorably discharged after his 18-month stint, Bowman was able to return to Macalester by living at home and using the G.I. Bill. At the time there were few African American students on campus; Bowman recalls no more than five at a time. He majored in history and minored in education and physical education while playing football and running track, serving as football co-captain and track team captain in his senior year.

"The exposure I got to the rest of the world while I was at Mac was tremendous. I knew a lot of people in St. Paul, particularly in the black community, but then it widened with the contacts with the wider community, like the ripple effect."

With the perspective of years, Bowman is philosophical about the times in which he grew up, and reluctant to label anyone as a racist, yet there's no doubt he encountered barriers not placed in the

paths of most Mac students. An aspiring history teacher, Bowman was discouraged by a professor who taught two required courses. "He told me he just didn't believe I would make a good teacher, and so there was no way that I could pass any course he taught, and he taught the two most important courses. . . . So I could not get a teaching certificate in the state of Minnesota. That's the way it was."



Earl Bowman circa 1970

Earl Bowman '50

Came to Mac from: South Minneapolis

Major: history; minors in education and physical education

Mac mentors: Coach Dwight Stuessy, "a very, very good coach who had the ability to work with people from one end of the spectrum to the other."

President Arthur Flemming: "He taught me, 'Learn to listen, you don't have to act instantaneously. Time will make some of your best decisions.'"

Current homes: Minneapolis and Scottsdale, Ariz.

Career summary: semi-pro basketball and football player; recreational therapist at Anoka State Hospital; boys work director at Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House; teacher, coach and principal for Minneapolis Public Schools; assistant to the president, director of development, dean of students and vice president of student affairs at Macalester; president of Minneapolis Community College. Macalester distinctions: 1968 Distinguished Citizen, charter member of Athletic Hall of Fame in 1980, Doctor of Humane Letters in 1990. Active in fundraising for Green/Bowman Scholarship Fund. ●

Lacking the necessary certificate to be hired by the public schools, Bowman found other ways to teach and coach, working at Anoka State Hospital and the Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House.

By 1954 there had been changes and Professor Richard Dierenfield made arrangements for Bowman to take the missing courses. The next year, Bowman got a contract teaching in the Minneapolis Public Schools. Despite his successes as a teacher and a coach, he was never offered the position of head coach. "They just weren't ready for a black head coach," he says.

The social revolution of the late '60s brought greater opportunities, and Bowman was named principal of tempest-tossed Lincoln Junior High in north Minneapolis, where his assignment was "to get Lincoln Junior High School out of the newspapers and create a learning environment." Earning his master's degree in educational administration

1915: Catharine Lealtad (below right) becomes Macalester's first African American graduate, then attends medical school.

By the time she dies at age 93, she has practiced in Harlem, China, Puerto Rico and Mexico.

1942: Esther Torii arrives as a 16-year-old freshman. A U.S. citizen born in Portland, Ore., she and her Japanese American family were forced from their homes after Pearl Harbor. Esther is released to attend Macalester; her sister, Eunice, joins her in 1944, but the rest of the family remains in an Idaho detention camp (see photo, 30, and page 15).

1943: Professor Mary Gwen Owen '23 writes: "We, most of us, have not shared the hurts to the prides of Jews or Negroes in America. How then, from here, from this small college at Grand and Snelling avenues, can we share the experiences of which brotherhood is fraught?"



from Macalester in 1970, Bowman wrote about his Lincoln experience in his thesis, "Crisis in the Ghetto School."

After nearly 15 years in the public schools, Bowman returned to Macalester as assistant to the president, Arthur Flemming. Later director of development, dean of students, and vice president of student affairs, Bowman worked with the whole campus during the years of the Expanded Educational Opportunities program, which he characterizes as an expensive but well thought out initiative.

The EEO plan was "good on paper," says Bowman, "but a lot had to be done on site when the students got there. When people on campus saw this sudden increase in students of color and of different economic backgrounds, it caused some, shall we say, 'wavy situations,' but we worked through it. The greatest feature was the opportunities it provided, and a number of people capitalized on those opportunities."

By 1978 Bowman was ready for a new challenge. He joined the Minneapolis Community College as vice president and dean of external programs. Bowman

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'They just weren't ready for a black head coach.'

1944: The college makes a commitment to enroll 12 Japanese American students in the fall.

1947: Scots win MIAC football championship, led by star halfback Earl Bowman '50, who is African American, and six other All-State players.

1949: *Mac Weekly* runs editorial, "College Students Guilty of Racial Prejudice." With no apparent irony, a minstrel show, "Hear Them Darkies Singing," is presented two months later.

1950: Sociology Professor Paul Berry sends his race relations class out to do practical investigation of race relations in the Twin Cities.

1950: History Professor Yahya Armajani, a native of Iran, writes an article entitled "Racism Spells Inevitable Disaster."

1961: Sixty-five Mac students demonstrate at downtown St. Paul theaters, protesting the parent theater company's segregation policy in the South.

1961: Yolanda Ridley '63, who is African American, is elected Homecoming Queen of Scots.

then served as president from 1980 until his retirement 10 years later.

Now he divides his time between Scottsdale, Ariz., and Minneapolis. Last November, Bowman lost his wife, Jacqueline, with whom he raised their sons, Scott and Wayne '75 (now married to Diane Granger '76), and three foster children, including their niece, Theresa Ray, Kimber Livingston and Emeal Jackson. Bowman now enjoys the time to play golf, to write about minority athletes in Minnesota prior to 1970 and to be involved in Tanner Chapel AME Church in Arizona.

Looking back on his career, Bowman says, "I enjoyed it, and I feel I worked with intent and the right objective—to help as many people as possible be successful in doing whatever they wanted to do while avoiding some of the lumps and bumps I had to encounter." ●

The seven Cervantes siblings, all Mac grads, in 1984, when the last two graduated. Back (from left): Juan '84, Jose '84, Max von Rabenau, the college's Mexican-American coordinator, Manuel '74 and Ricardo '81. Front (from left): Ramona '76, Guadalupe '78 and Raquel '74.

1961: History Professor Earl Spangler publishes *The Negro In Minnesota*, a history of African Americans in the state.

1962: Due to overcrowding of residence halls, the college places some students in neighborhood homes. Of 10 newly registering homes offering housing, all say they "would not house Negroes."

Manuel Cervantes '74:

'No one in our family had ever graduated from high school, much less attended college'

by Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83

MANUEL CERVANTES '74 has never strayed far from the banks of the Mississippi. His office in the Ramsey County Government Center in downtown St. Paul, where he now serves as a District Court referee, looks out across the river to the West Side, where the first-generation Mexican American grew up. Manuel was the first of seven children in the family—four boys and three girls—to graduate from Macalester. All seven have gone on to highly successful careers.

Their father, Elidio Roberto Cervantes, left Mexico at the turn of century to avoid his country's civil war and became a migrant worker in the United States. After his first wife died, leaving him with seven adult children, he returned to Mexico to marry again and brought his new wife, Maria

del Carmen, back to the U.S. When the family moved to St. Paul in the early 1950s, Elidio continued to work in the fields outside the city. He was more than 70 when Manuel was born. Elidio Cervantes died nine years later, leaving behind his second wife and seven children from that marriage, ranging in age from 9 to 1.

Manuel's first memory of his father influenced the young boy's future. He remembers picking at his father's calluses and saying in Spanish, "Daddy, what are these? I want some." His father told him to use his head and get an education instead. Manuel took his advice and, with his mother's encouragement, aimed higher.

The Cervantes family moved from the Mississippi River flats to the East Side in the early 1960s when "urban renewal" razed their home and destroyed the mixed neighborhood. They received Social Security benefits. "My mother did not work outside the home until we were all grown," Manuel recalls. "She did take in other people's laundry and she made tortillas for sale. As a young girl, my mother had learned to crochet and cross-stitch. So, up until recently, she had an ongoing cottage industry to help make ends meet."

The children also worked to contribute to the family. Manuel recalls earning \$3 for picking radishes and onions for an entire day when he was 7. He had his own paper route in downtown St. Paul when he was 10.

Manuel and his siblings went to St. Paul's Harding High School. His sister, Raquel, was involved with Upward Bound, a program held at Macalester that helped prepare minority students



The Cervantes family today. Back (from left): Juan '84, Guadalupe '78, Ricardo '81, Ramona '76 and Jose '84. Front (from left): Raquel '74, their mother Maria del Carmen and Manuel '74. The seven siblings were honored this summer with the national TRIO Achievers award, given to outstanding former participants in federally funded programs that promote equal educational opportunity.

Juan Cervantes '84

current home: Woodbury, Minn.
occupation: sales manager,
Multicultural Business Group,
St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Co.

Guadalupe D. Cervantes-Ortega '78

current home: St. Paul
occupation: kindergarten teacher,
St. Paul Public Schools

Ricardo Cervantes '81

current home: Oakdale, Minn.
occupation: assistant supervisor,
Department of Inspections, City of
Minneapolis

Raquel Cervantes-Bethke '74

current home: St. Paul
occupation: social worker, St. Paul
Public Schools

Jose Cervantes '84

current home: St. Paul
occupation: director, Municipal Building
Commission, Minneapolis

Ramona Cervantes Garcia '76

current home: Edinburg, Texas
occupation: elementary schoolteacher,
Edinburg School District

The MINORITY VIEW

1966: The college requires householders renting to students to sign a statement of non-discrimination.

1967-68: BLAC, Black Liberation Affairs Committee, is founded on campus.

1969: The new Expanded Educational Opportunities program brings 75 freshmen students of color to an almost exclusively white Macalester.

1969: The first Indian Week is celebrated with a powwow, bilingual chapel service, speakers on Indian education and welfare, and culminating in a Buffy Sainte-Marie concert. (Right: a 1989 powwow at Macalester)



for college. Manuel attended at Raquel's urging. "She knew where she was going. I went first because I was the oldest," he recalls.

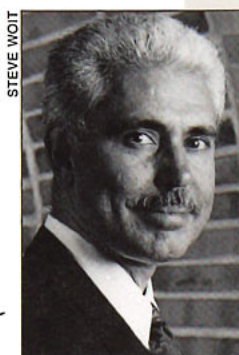
The new Expanded Educational Opportunities program helped Cervantes and many other students of color attend Macalester. "My goal in life was to graduate from college. I did OK in high school—I had a B average. I knew I'd really have to work."

Going to college with some of the top students from across the country was challenging. "I made what could have been an alienating experience into a healthy one," he says. "Prior to our arrival, Macalester had very little ethnic diversity. Except for a few foreign students, the school was made up of white, Anglo-Saxon Protestants. That, coupled with the fact that Macalester recruited students of National Merit quality, was quite a challenging environment. Remember, no one in our family had ever graduated from high school, much less attended college. I wasn't sure this experience or school was for me."

Student counselor Max von Rabenau was one of those who helped Cervantes, urging him to take pride in himself. "As a person of color, you grow up wanting to be like the blue-eyed blondes that surround you—whether you know it or not. It is natural to want to imitate what you see," Cervantes says. "So when you see the so-called beautiful people on TV and in magazine advertisements, one wishes to emulate that. The other notion is that as a child, you want to fit in. You don't want to be different. One would rather have a name like Johnny instead of Manuel, especially in a school where you are the only person of color."

Cervantes says the Macalester experience taught him to take pride in himself and in the rich Mexican culture in which he was rooted. Having a teacher of color also helped. Professor Doris Wilkinson, who was African American, taught sociology. "She was a great professor, a bright person. She was one of the few persons of color on the faculty at the time. She served as a role model for me. Although I was not interested in teaching at the time, I felt that I could go into teaching having seen someone as successful as Doris."

Cervantes majored in sociology and Spanish. Professor Donald Fabian helped him clean up his Spanish; he arrived speaking a mixture of Spanish and English. Professor Charlie Norman helped him brush up his English writing skills. And the college had started a Latino program as part of



STEVE WOIT

EEO, which included supportive services and training.

Older students also served as mentors. And then there was his roommate, Jerry Corea, and a floor-mate in Turck Hall, Ray Runyan, who got him

Manuel Cervantes '74

Came to Mac from: St. Paul

Majors: sociology and Spanish

Mac mentors: Doris Wilkinson, Max von Rabenau, Donald Fabian, Charlie Norman

Current home: St. Paul

Career summary: currently District Court referee; volunteer work includes Ordway Music Theater Circle of Stars Board, Minnesota Supreme Court Diversity in the Courts Task Force Implementation Committee, National Hispanic Bar Association, Westside of St. Paul Youth Boxing club, youth sports coach ●

interested in playing soccer. "I met a great bunch of guys and played soccer all four years. Those guys demystified the academic experience and gave me the confidence to succeed academically as well as on the soccer field."

He graduated early, in December 1973, having achieved his primary goal. He had no definite plans for the future. A counselor in the EEO's Latino support program encouraged him to become a VISTA volunteer. His work with the Neighborhood Justice Center on the West Side motivated him to go to law school and become a community attorney who could help low-income people. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1980 and passed the state bar later that year.

After working as a housing specialist for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, he served as a labor-management attorney for the American Federation of Government Employees in Minneapolis. He was then an assistant city attorney of St. Paul before Gov. Rudy Perpich appointed him to the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals in 1986. Since 1992, he has been a District Court referee, acting as a judge in cases that come to family court, juvenile court, traffic court, and the civil and criminal housing court.

Manuel Cervantes is not the only "success story" in his family. All six of his siblings—Raquel, Ramona, Guadalupe, Jose, Juan and Ricardo—also graduated from Macalester and are now professionals in other fields. Five of the seven hold advanced academic degrees.

Graduating from Macalester "was the turning point in my life," Manuel says. "This experience had a profound effect on me, and on my brothers' and sisters' lives. Mac was the foundation that allowed us to continue." ●

LaVon Lee '77:

'I knew who I was and who I wanted to be, but Macalester gave me the academic tools I needed'

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

GRACIOUS, INTELLIGENT and well-educated, LaVon Lee '77 could slip seamlessly into the world of politics, academia or the well-heeled corporation.

But she's also unpretentious, compassionate and deeply rooted in the values of the American Indian tradition. It is there, in her community, where she chooses to use both what Macalester gave her and the knowledge and skills she always had to make a difference in the lives of families.

A member of the Pine Ridge reservation, Lee moved with her family to Rapid City, S.D., in her early elementary school years. A dedicated student, she became the first in her family to graduate from high school. It was her high school counselor who urged Lee to attend the Macalester recruiter's meeting, and later, in her college recommendation, described Lee as an overachiever. Lee agreed. "I always felt that it was my responsibility to dispel

stereotypes that people had about Indians, that we were lazy, that we were alcoholics, that we weren't smart," she says. "All through high school when my friends would be having fun, I would be studying."

When Lee arrived at Macalester, "My one expectation was that I wanted to do all that I could to graduate. . . . I didn't have any idea what college was all about. I had no idea what a person *did* at college."

Married, with a 1-year-old son, Lee was very much a non-traditional Macalester student. She brought with her a firm grounding in the heritage of her Oglala Lakota mother and her Mexican American-Ute father. However, like many students of color on campuses in the '70s, Lee saw few students or faculty members who shared her heritage, and little in the curriculum that reflected the history and culture of which she was proud.

Even for a strong student, the adjustment was stressful. The difficulties she experienced had to do with misconceptions she feels were held about students of color. "We were labeled 'disadvantaged' or 'students at risk.' Well, I may have been poor, but I don't think I was disadvantaged—I come from a

1969: Macalester College Black Choir formed. The group changes its name in 1971 to the Sounds of Blackness and goes on to win a Grammy Award.

1971: Mexican American, Native American and Puerto Rican students occupy Old Main to demand that federal grant money for minority programs be more equally distributed among minority groups.

LaVon Lee '77

Came to Mac from: Rapid City, S.D.

Major: sociology

Mac mentors: Professors Judy Erickson and William Swain, who "challenged students of color in a way

that was supportive"; Minority Program staff: "I'm so thankful that the person in the Minority Program convinced me to finish out the [first] year."

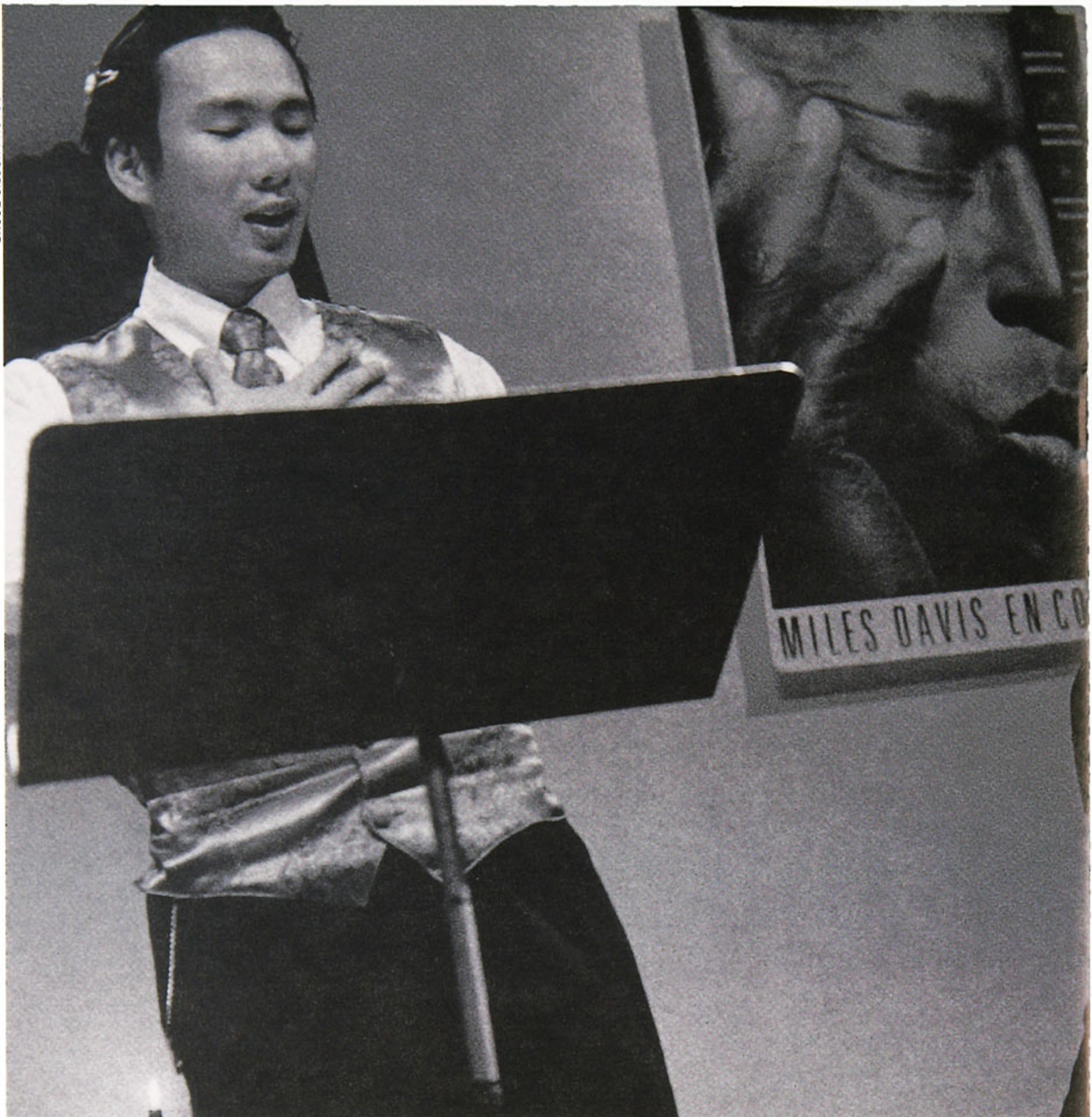
Current home: West St. Paul

Career summary:

Minority Program staff at Macalester, consultant to the St. Paul Foundation, executive director of American Indian Family Center, member of the American Indian Magnet School Site Council and the boards of Ain Dah Yung Center, a shelter for American Indian youth, and St. Paul Area Council of Churches. Received 1996 TRIO award to outstanding former EEO participants and named 1999 Macalester Distinguished Citizen (see page 14). •

GREG HELGESON





The MINORITY VIEW

1972: Co-presidents Madeline Franklin '74, who is African American, and Maureen Sheehan '73, who is white, become the first women to lead student government.

1972: Author Alex Haley (below) brings his story to campus for the sixth time, prior to publishing his

landmark book *Roots* in 1976. He began working on *Roots* in 1969 while staying in an apartment at Macalester's International Center.



1974: For 11 days students take over the building at 77 Macalester Street, which houses the college's business office, to protest budget cuts in programs for students of color.

very rich culture. I didn't see myself as a 'student at risk.' I may have been poor, but I had potential." Nevertheless, Lee decided to return to South Dakota at the end of her first semester. Her Minority Program adviser convinced her to give Macalester a year.

The Minority Program staff helped students of color adjust to campus life, providing academic advice, organizing cultural events, and helping students to build necessary skills and connect with the communities of their ancestry across the Twin Cities.

"What was most helpful to me was having the Minority Program. . . . There were staff there that understood me, understood where I came from and understood that my issues might be different than the typical Macalester student. So, I really give a lot of credit to the Minority Program. Without it, I probably would not have stayed. . . . I knew that I could go to that particular office and find the support and encouragement that I needed."

As a student in the Expanded Educational Opportunities program, Lee participated whenever

possible in cultural activities sponsored by the EEO. "One week I'd be making fry bread for Indian Week and the next week tortillas for Hispanic Week."

A sociology major, Lee fondly recalls Professors Judy Erickson and William Swain, both of whom "challenged students of color in a way that was supportive, made themselves available, and believed in the students and their potential to succeed."

And succeed she did, graduating from Macalester, going on to earn a master's in educational administration at Penn State, and returning to Mac as student adviser, then director of the American Indian Program. With the restructuring of programs, Lee became the coordinator of the Minority Program, working with all students of color.

In 1991, Lee left Macalester to serve as consultant to the St. Paul Foundation's program "Supporting Diversity in Schools through Family and Community Involvement." This program worked with six schools and their constituent families to make room for and bring parents of color to the table as equals in the decision-making process at their children's elementary schools.

'These [poetry] slams are no tea-and-crumpet affair.'



Thien-bao Thuc Phi '97:

'I want to create a good place in the Asian American community'

by Julie Hogan

"**I**S THE PEN mightier than the sword?" Thien-bao Thuc Phi '97 considers that question for a moment and says, "They always kill the poets first." He smiles slightly and then laughs because since about age 10 he has been a poet.

His trek across the blank page turned vocal when at 15 he saw a performance by poet Quincy Troupe,

Thien-bao Thuc Phi '97

Came to Mac from: Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis

Major: English (creative writing emphasis)

Mac mentors: Professor Diane Glancy

Current home: Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis

Career summary: performance poet; teaches at alternative high school for students of color •

a professor at the University of California-San Diego. Now, Phi regularly punctuates his poetry to live audiences in the Twin Cities, which has led to a following that he never expected. "At first," says Phi, "I was just performing two to three times every couple of months. Now, I have engagements two to three times a week and have to say no to places."

Bars and university halls around Minneapolis and St. Paul fill up on nights of poetry slams—the current term for poetry contests in which performers deliver three-minute poems to a panel of judges. Explaining the popularity of these events, Phi says: "These slams are no tea-and-crumpet affair. The audiences are encouraged to laugh or snore or shout—they're told to be alive."

No one snores or shouts when Phi performs. He has won the Grand Slam Minnesota Competition two years in a row and last year he took first place at a slam in New York's hothouse of performance poetry, the Nuyorican Poets Café. Watching him on stage, it's easy to see the attraction. During a slam at the University of Minnesota, Phi's performance is as well crafted as his words. He begins a love poem in a hushed voice. Words slowly cascade down into the silent audience as his hands move like a bird to their cadence. He picks up the beat and moves his body in time with closed eyes as he hurriedly does the next stanza. When he slows down again, he looks directly at the audience and says, "You're that type

1977: Sociology Professor Doris Wilkinson, an African American, is selected as an outstanding teacher by the academic journal *Change*.

1984: When Juan and Jose receive their diplomas, they join the five other Cervantes brothers and sisters as graduates of Macalester. Manuel led the way, coming to Mac in 1969 during the first year of EEO.

1990–91: English Department introduces revised curriculum. It seeks to "mainstream women and minorities in our courses, as we have always done, but do more of it," Professor Alvin Greenberg explains. Professor Diane Glancy, a Native American writer hired in 1988, is the department's first permanent minority member.

1991: Macalester launches Maccess, a summer program to help promising high school students of color think about and prepare for college. It continues each summer.

In July 1997, Lee returned to the heart of her community as executive director of the American Indian Family Center, one of nine centers associated with the St. Paul/Ramsey County Children's Initiative. There, 16 agencies collaborate to support families in areas of child development and health, school readiness and family functioning. "I was always connected with the Indian community," says Lee, "but what's different about this job is that I'm right in the middle of it. I love working with parents, I love working with children."

"I believe that I came to Macalester with some pretty good values. I knew who I was and who I wanted to be, but Macalester gave me the academic tools I needed to function in a non-Indian world. I can use those tools in my community to make it a better place, but I can also use those tools in the larger system where academic credentials validate who you are. Macalester gave me, I think, the academic tools I need to walk in two worlds."

"My heritage gave me the pride, the dignity and the confidence to succeed. Macalester gave me the opportunity." •

of tree that makes wind turn." It is an explosive poem and earns him generous applause as well as another slam win.

What has informed his poetry has been both his race and class identity. As a first-generation American, Phi is trying to find his place in the world.

His parents fled Saigon with Phi and his five siblings when he was a few months old and settled in the multicultural, working-class Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis. Because money was extremely tight, Phi's father encouraged him to seek out the local library in lieu of toys. Despite what he says was encouragement from his parents to pretend "that I wasn't Vietnamese," he

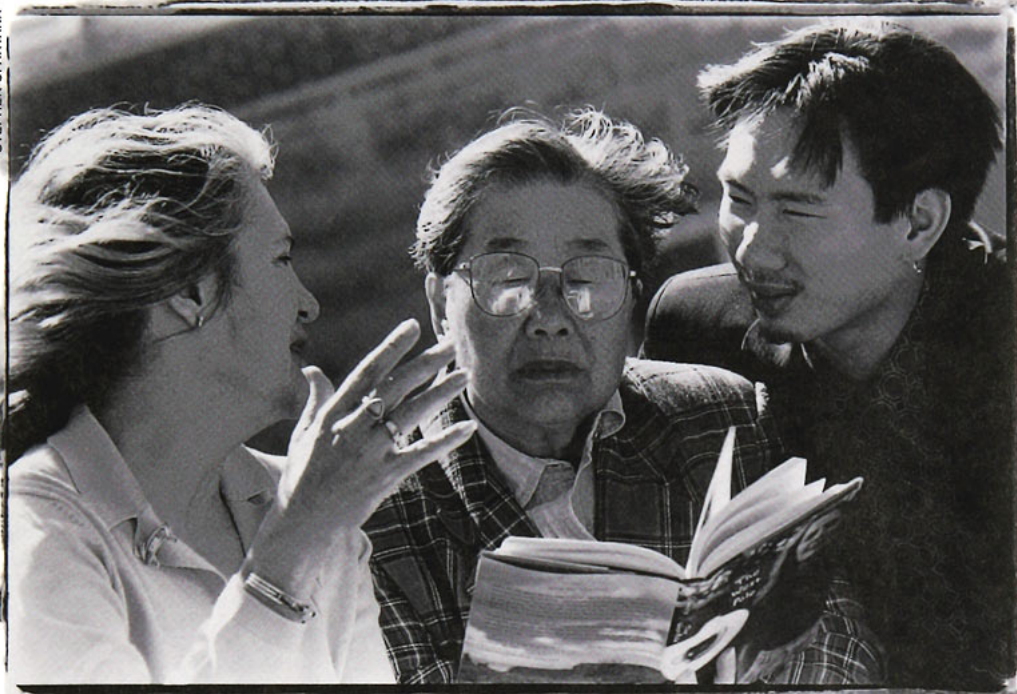
sought out the history and traditions of that country.

"It's who I am," Phi says of his deep connection to his native culture. "I don't want to leave it behind. I want to create a good place in the Asian American community." He cites many reasons why he doesn't believe Asian Americans have reached a comfortable place in the U.S. One indicator of that, he says, is the popularity of the musical *Miss Saigon*. "*Miss Saigon* really shows how little people understand Asian culture. I hope that one day we'll be ashamed of it—just like *Birth of a Nation*—but right now we're not there."

Coming to Macalester, Phi thought he would find that comfortable place. He had been encouraged by a friend to attend Mac because it was a sound academic college that offered a good financial aid package. He knew that she was active and vocal on Asian American issues and believed that was due to Macalester. "I thought there'd be people [at Macalester] who were really well educated on Asian American culture," Phi says. Instead, he found that many Asian American students on campus were not interested in exploring their heritage. In joining the Asian Student Alliance, Phi says he found a group of students who shared the same cultural interests. He eventually became the co-chair of the student-

led group and helped orchestrate many events, including the Asian American in the ARTS Conference and Asianization, an outreach program to local Asian and Asian American communities. These efforts led to his Presidential Student

STEPHEN SPARTANA



Professor Diane Glancy, left, "was the one who really encouraged me to write," says Phi. Like Phi, his friend Esther Torii Suzuki '46, center, was a first-generation Asian American when she came to Macalester (see page 15).

1992: Thad Wilderson, mentor and friend to countless Macalester students of color since 1970, launches Alumni of Color Lecture Series to bring distinguished alumni back to Mac to meet with students. The series continues today.

1997: Gary Hines '74, founder of Sounds of Blackness, receives honorary degree.

1998: Gretchen Rohr '98, an African American and former student government president, becomes Macalester's ninth Rhodes Scholar.

1999: First Alumni of Color Reunion planned at Macalester, Oct. 15-17; see page 10.

Leadership Award in 1997, which is given to only a few Macalester seniors each year.

His work in ASA led to strong community-building ties for Phi that made learning and living in a white culture, he says, more bearable. What also helped was the support and guidance of English Professor and writer Diane Glancy, whose heritage is Cherokee, German and English. "She was the one who really encouraged me to write. She was not as familiar with the type of work I do, my poetry, but she didn't discount it based on its vocal character. She really encouraged my talent."

Phi hastens to add that he isn't solely about performance poetry: he is a writer and teacher first and foremost. He recently wrote a one-act play for Theater Mu, a local Asian American theater, about the legend of Starfruit—a Vietnamese folktale—and is teaching poetry at Work Opportunity Center, an alternative high school for students of color. He also wrote a spoof about *Miss Saigon* called *Missed Sigh Gone* that was performed this past June at Intermedia Arts in Minneapolis. During all this, he holds down a day job at a local restaurant.

Of his writing, Phi doesn't get lyrical or philosophical. On stage and on paper is where he tells the story of his frustrations and political bent about being Asian in America. In person, he simply says of his art: "It's just a need." ●

D GONE UTCH

*Lynn Buller '72 uses a team approach
to build a thriving bookstore in Amsterdam*

by Jon Halvorsen

AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS — Lynn Buller came here to see the tulip fields. She stayed—it's been 27 years now and counting—for the books. Buller is the director and co-owner of the American Book Center, the largest source of English-language books in Europe. ABC has a staff of 55, a sister store in The Hague and an unusual approach to business: Everybody who works there is involved in daily decision-making. In principle, every staff member who is involved in selling is also a buyer for one or more sections.

"The 55 people who work here, you can't bridle them," Buller, the non-boss, said in an interview in her fifth-floor office overlooking the Kalverstraat, a major shopping street in the heart of this beautiful, book-loving city. "A tremendous number of them are writers, artists, actors or academics. They come from 13 countries. So it's quite a mix. The challenge has been maintaining, as we grow, a sturdy, continuous organizational structure which gives everybody freedom. At the same time, it has to be like a molecular structure, so that we all work together and have some kind of shared vision and shared osmosis."

Lynn Buller concedes she had no vision when she made her fateful trip to Europe in 1972. In fact, she had dropped out of Macalester in her senior year, or as she explains it: "I kind of choked up on the future." The nonconformist daughter of a music teacher and an English teacher, she grew up in Worthington, Minn. Worthington boasted an excellent newspaper and more cultural amenities than most places its size, and attracted visitors from around the world who were eager to see a model farming community. "We were a small town but with pretensions," Buller says. She continued to make her own choices by majoring in economics at Mac, a rare major for women at the time. She found her music background helped: "Economics and music are both mathematically based, and yet there's lots of room for interpretation, for freedom and different textures."

At Macalester, Buller plunged into the anti-war movement and the entire counter-culture as a

grassroots organizer. Her father, a Mennonite pacifist by heritage, had been a conscientious objector and done alternative service during World War II. Buller worked with a group trying to influence shareholders of Honeywell, a major weapons manufacturer, and was a charter member of the National Organization for Women. "In my senior year, I saw

a TV show [about Vietnam] called 'Hearts and Minds,'" she recalls. "Somehow it really got into me that this war was happening in my

name. I couldn't go about daily business anymore. Also, I was scared to death about what I was going to do after graduation. I decided to bail out."

After doing community organizing with the Council for Corporate Review for an intensive year, Buller and a boyfriend went to Europe, bought a VW bus in Germany and decided to make a side trip to Hol-

Lynn Kaplanian-Buller '72 in her American Book Center in Amsterdam. Visiting Amsterdam 27 years ago, "I thought I would find a job in a bookstore for a while and I'd be able to read cheap."

land's tulip fields. In Amsterdam, "everybody else was stoned all the time; I was just bored," she recalls. "I'd just read—I'd read everything. I thought I would find a job in a bookstore for a while and I'd be able to read cheap."

At the age of 21, the self-described "snot-nosed kid" from the Minnesota prairie talked her way into a job running the cash register on weekends at a fledgling bookstore in Amsterdam, started by two other Americans,

DONNA HALVORSEN



Jon Halvorsen, managing editor of Macalester Today, enjoyed getting lost last spring in Amsterdam's web of canals while looking for bookstores.

by Molly McBeath '91

GRAND DESIGN

Designer David Heide '83 does all he can to preserve historic St. Paul



GREG HELGESON

MY STORY-AND-A-HALF bungalow has one thing in common with the Minnesota governor's residence. Both had their upstairs redesigned by David Heide '83, a resident and devotee of St. Paul.

The constraints were a little different for the Summit Avenue mansion. Originally designed as a single-family home, it now doubles as a state ceremonial building. "It's all public on the first floor and you can't go from your bedroom to the bathroom without being seen. How do you make that house function for somebody that's trying to live there privately in a very public space?" he asks.

Heide relishes challenges like that.

As a child, he made his parents buy him architectural magazines. "I was the only fifth-grader that had a house plan," he says with a laugh. "And the only toys that I would play with were Lego blocks."

In 1997, after graduate school and 10 years with an architectural preservation firm, he formed his own company, David Heide Design. Designing and restoring buildings is work that appeals to Heide's soul as well as his intellect. "My own philosophy is that it's pretty easy to design a really big house because there's no economy of space. It doesn't force you to be thoughtful. To do a good design of a small, tight house or

'I was the only fifth-grader that had a house plan. And the only toys that I would play with were Lego blocks.'

restoration is a lot more work because it needs to be knitted together so closely."

Doing work that he loves means there's little distinction between job and hobby for the designer. He has already remodeled his last two homes and is currently renovating another house for himself and his partner, Michael Crull. And when he's not at work or at home, he's volunteering. He is chair of both the Grand Avenue Design Guidelines task force and the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC). Established

David Heide in the historic St. Clement's Episcopal Church in St. Paul, built in 1897 by the famed architect Cass Gilbert, who designed Minnesota's state Capitol. Heide's firm has done consulting work on restoration of parts of the church, where he is a member.

Molly McBeath '91 is a free-lance writer who enjoys living in her 1920s bungalow, a few blocks from Macalester.

in the 1970s, the HPC seeks to safeguard structures that are architecturally or historically significant.

Although he speaks passionately about all of his various projects, Heide reserves a special enthusiasm for the difference he tries to make for St. Paul through his volunteer work. "By regulating the kind of modifications that can be done to buildings and by insisting that there be a standard, we can promote economic development and the revitalization of an area. And we can make an area somewhere people want to live, somewhere in which they can take pride."

One of Heide's volunteer projects has been a new bus shelter and plaza at Grand and Victoria.

Although Grand is now cited as "one of America's last unspoiled shopping districts" by the *Washington Post*, the avenue has had its ups and downs. A few years ago, concerned about the growing number of franchises, Heide and other Grand Avenue neigh-

bors began informal discussions about how best to maintain Grand's identity as both a residential street and a commercial destination. Ultimately, their attention focused on the exposed corner at Victoria created by one of the avenue's few large parking lots.

The shelter and plaza combine several community goals: alleviating parking headaches for both shoppers and residents by promoting public transportation; protecting the privacy of residents through structure and landscaping; and providing a meeting and resting spot for pedestrians. "I wanted it to be a place, rather than just a corner," says Heide, who not only volunteered the shelter's design, but also has shepherded the \$54,000 project through to completion.

"There are people who do a tremendous amount more [for St. Paul] than I do," Heide says. "But my little part feels good for me and it feels that it's better here because I'm plugging away at stuff." ●

BULLER *continued from page 31*

that sold only publishers' overstocks and erotic magazines from the U.S. The two owners had little expertise in books or bookselling. "I realized then," Buller recalls, "that God had smiled and said, 'OK, here's a perfectly blank sheet of paper and a new country. You think you can tell Honeywell what to do? Step up to the plate, girlie. Let's see what you've got.'"

As the American Book Center grew, Buller became the director in 1977 and owner in 1983. She also became Lynn Kaplanian-Buller, having married Avo Kaplanian, also an immigrant to The Netherlands, who owns the business with her. She and her colleagues learned the book business by doing. Whoever enjoyed cookbooks ordered and sold those; philosophy devotees took over that section; and so on.

But Buller brought the most organizing experience and theory. On ABC's Website (<http://www.abc.nl>), she describes herself as a "lateral thinker incapable of vertical filing. My job is to keep the place spinning, the bookstores glowing and to walk around asking, 'What if we...?'" She was guided partly by the sociologist Fred Herzberg's ideas about the meaning of work to life. "More than getting one more step up the corporate ladder," she says, "people want to feel like their work makes a difference. I really remembered that [from Herzberg's books]. It seemed to me that was going to be a prime motivating factor—certainly for me but also for other people. . . . We've been what people now call an 'empowered team' right from the beginning—empowered and effective teams. We all started at the same level. There was a lot of room for innovation; everyone just did what they were good at."

As in the U.S., independent bookstores like ABC are facing fierce competition from chains; a Waterstone's store, part of the huge British chain,

recently opened down the street from ABC. "It keeps you awake and makes you think again about what you're here for," Buller says. "They're English and very neat. We've always been very fuzzy and eclectic, mostly because whatever customers ask for

'I realized then that God had smiled and said, "OK, here's a perfectly blank sheet of paper and a new country. Step up to the plate, girlie. Let's see what you've got."'

gets turned into stock orders by the cashiers. This process builds fierce customer loyalty, and they tell their friends." She's also proud that ABC has been selling books on the Internet since 1994, predating Amazon.Com.

ABC lives up to the "American" in its title by occasionally emphasizing "some of the best yet locally little-known aspects of North America," she says, such as celebrating Thanksgiving and Native American writers and culture. But ultimately the American Book Center is as American as, well, Amsterdam. Buller's marriage and business partner is of Palestinian and Armenian heritage; their children, Nadine (22) and Paul (18), have both U.S. and Dutch passports. And then there are those friends and colleagues at ABC, who collectively speak 19 languages from their 13 countries.

"I would never describe myself as an expat," Buller says, "and I always saw myself as a patriot [during the Vietnam War protests]. I love my country, I really do. I carry a Dutch passport as well and I love this place, too. . . . My husband and I are from two different places and living in a third. He hasn't really another home either. I go back to the States to visit. I suppose I could live in the States if I wanted to, but I love living in Amsterdam. This is home." ●

Mi casa es tu casa

Buying a little piece of Grover's Corners renews fond ties with a Mac professor

by Cathy Brown '64

UNTIL two months ago, Marc and I lived in a house we bought in 1970. It was small to begin with, and we added to the original structure after our two children were born. When they left for college their rooms sat empty until it dawned on us to put them to more practical use. But a funny thing happened after the rooms became a guest room and a sewing room. They seemed unnecessary; the house was suddenly too large. Our adult children preferred to visit us at "the lake," a cabin near the Canadian border. Clearly, it was time to downsize.

When we began to search for a smaller house, we found ourselves slow-moving vehicles in the fast lane. The real estate market in Minneapolis, particularly in the category of smaller houses, was lively. A sign would go up one day; the "sold" sign would appear the next. One evening, on my way to a rehearsal of the Festival Chorale at Macalester, I drove past an adorable little house on East Minnehaha Parkway. In the twilight a man was installing a real estate sign. Providential, I thought, to drive by this house at this moment. I mentioned the house to Marc at rehearsal break and we stopped to look at it on our way home, peering into windows and sizing up the garage. Double. Perfect.

The following morning I phoned our real estate agent, who checked the computerized MLS listings. "It's not there yet," she said, "but as soon as it is, I'll call you." Two days later she phoned to say an offer was being made on the house the same day. Marc and I quickly rendezvoused with our agent. Three other potential buyers came to see the house while we were there. It was peachy and everyone who saw it thought so. Marc and I had already looked at six or seven other houses. This was the first and, we feared, the only house that might suit us,

so we wrote an offer, even though it seemed impetuous. We were surprised and disappointed when our offer—\$7,000 over the asking price—came in second of six. We were also immensely relieved. We began to sense that our plan to simplify might, itself, be complicated.

The search resumed, our weekends consumed traipsing through other people's houses, weeknights driving through neighborhoods scanning the streets for new signs. Nothing. Finally, three months after our ill-fated, inflated bid, a woman from my exercise class at Lynnhurst Park walked me out the door and pointed down the street, saying she heard the people in the little white house on the hill would be listing their house in the coming months. Voilá. It

was the house of Bob Dasset—Señor to me—and his wife, Betty. I occasionally bumped into Señor in the years we lived a mile apart in South Minneapolis. He had been my Spanish professor at Macalester.

Hoping it would not seem predatory, I sent a note to Señor asking about the rumored move. He called to say they had

decided to stay one more year before moving into an apartment for seniors in Minneapolis, but he asked how that might work with our schedule, keeping the door open to possible negotiation.

A week after our phone conversation, Marc and I sat down with Bob and Betty on their porch, sipping iced tea and reminiscing about Macalester days. They spoke of Professors Walt Mink and Ray Johnson climbing the steps to their porch over the years. A psych major, I had known them both. I confessed to Señor my sadly meager retention of Spanish while acknowledging the debt I owed him for turning my ear toward classical music. He and I each owned a different volume of "Duets with the Spanish Guitar," so we swapped. He played mine on an old KLH stereo, a dead ringer for the one I had bought in California 30 years before.

As he walked us around the house to view the yard and gardens, Señor moved slowly and carefully, his balance challenged by Parkinson's disease, but he declined help. His quick mind and lively humor are intact. His former students will not be surprised to know he's still fun to be around. The following week, sorting through old *Mac Weekly* issues, Señor found a photo of us taken before the 1962 Mexican Caravan trip and called to offer it to me. Our tartan connection seemed strong—forever plaid, you might say.

Our second visit to the house, an official one, was arranged by the real estate agent. The Dassetts drove off for dinner while we sized up the house for possible purchase: small but generous rooms, white clapboard siding, beautiful setting, brick patio, small yard, white picket fence, old burr oaks, and heliotrope in the garden. You could almost hear George Gibbs calling to Emily Webb across the yard in Grover's Corners. It seemed to me then that "location, location, location," the three most important things in real estate, are not the exclusive domain of a physical reality but rather a connection with some theoretical ideal which already exists in the mind and heart of the buyer. Standing in the back yard, Marc and I agreed it felt like home.

We made an offer; the Dassetts accepted. This June, Marc and I moved into the house Bob and Betty had downsized into 30 years before. Señor made a list of the garden plants, including their common names, the names most familiar to us. A master gardener, Bob Dasset knows the plants by their botanical Latin names. He will have an opportunity to teach me yet another language.

At the closing, I told him I expected him to say, "Mi casa es su casa," but, always the teacher, he corrected me, saying, "Mi casa es tu casa"—the familiar. In the Old Main classroom where Spanish I and II convened, Señor Dasset used to express satisfaction with student performance by saying, "¡Ah, qué bueno!" It comes close to capturing the way Marc and I feel about our move. ●



Cathy Lindsey Brown and Marc Brown, both Class of '64, live in Minneapolis and Ely, Minn. Cathy is a freelance writer and volunteer in Minneapolis schools and Marc manages a small timber-framing business. They have been married for 30 years and have two children.

LETTERS continued from inside front cover
Vienna where the professor asked each of us why we had gone on the study abroad program. I replied that it was a chance to go abroad and that I did not see myself doing much with the German language in the future. I remember the look of complete and utter disbelief on Dan's expressive face. His mouth actually fell open. He simply could not understand how anyone could come on this wonderful program and not be completely enthralled with everything German. The study abroad program was truly a life-changing experience for him. I had completely lost touch with what happened to Dan after 1975. I found your update about how Dan went on to become a German professor absolutely delightful.

I remember Peggy Skopec as a young newlywed in 1974. She was only a couple

I am planning a trip to Germany this summer for the first time in 25 years. I will be taking my husband and two children to see Arolsen, where I studied so long ago at the Goethe Institute. Thank you for giving me a head start with jogging my memories about my first trip to Europe as a Macalester student. I know that my family and I are going to have a wonderful time.

Ruth Beard Johnson '76
Fridley, Minn.

'Oh, yes, for Macalester'

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan '61 addressed several hundred members of the United Nations Association of the United States of America last March in New York. I was a member of the Minnesota delegation. I had to act fast to get a picture. As he was leaving the podium, I went up to him and said, "I'd like to get a picture for the Macalester alumni magazine."

The secretary-general broke into a warm smile, saying, "Oh, yes, for Macalester," and this picture was taken.

C. Edward Johnson
Woodbury, Minn.
1942 graduate
of Gustavus



Kofi Annan '61 and C. Edward Johnson, Gustavus Adolphus '42, in New York last March

of years older than us, so it was easy to identify with her. She told us stories of her experiences as a new American wife trying to set up housekeeping in Vienna. I was impressed with how intelligent, sophisticated and beautiful she was. Peggy truly rose to the occasion when she and Manfred suddenly found themselves in charge of the program in 1974. The husband of our on-site director had a stroke that fall, and they returned immediately to the United States. This left Peggy with far more responsibility for us Macalester students than she had ever envisioned having to take on. I really appreciated the job she did to help keep the program from faltering. What an asset she and Manfred are to Macalester, and I am delighted to see that they are still part of the program.

THE MAY issue of *Macalester Today* brought back some memories from the year 1950-51. Each of three articles was a reminder of life on campus then that was ably illustrated by cartoonist Bob McClelland '52 in a book he and I published called *Campus Keyhole*. Interestingly enough, we both ended up being Presbyterian ministers.

The two pictures of "The Last Dance in Cochran Lounge" reminded me of two cartoons before the union was built.

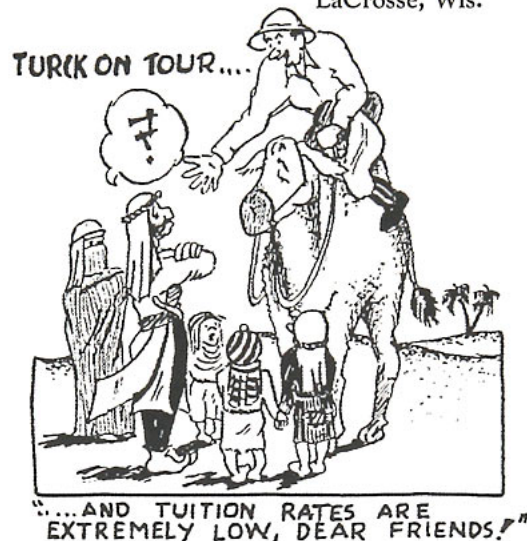
In the obituary of Beverly Werbes White '41, I had forgotten that she was a housemother at Kirk Hall until I saw another cartoon.

The international flavor of Macalester carried through on the WPI and German Study Abroad Program stories. Internationalism had its beginnings with our

beloved president, Charles Turck, the subject of another cartoon [below].

The story and cartoon about your new governor prompted this response to your good magazine.

Ronald Gustafson '51
LaCrosse, Wis.



Charles J. Turck, Macalester's international-minded president from 1939 to 1958, is depicted in this 1951 cartoon by Bob McClelland '52. McClelland, who went on to a 40-year career as a Presbyterian minister and college professor, now lives in St. Louis, Mo., and has a "new career" as a professional watercolorist.

Exciting things

OVER the years I have had relationships with several small, private liberal arts schools (my employment at two, two children who attended different small privates—including a Mac '01 daughter—my graduation from one, a father who worked at one for over 30 years, etc.). To this day I receive alumni magazines from all of them, and never have I gotten as excited at getting an alumni magazine as I do when *Macalester Today* comes.

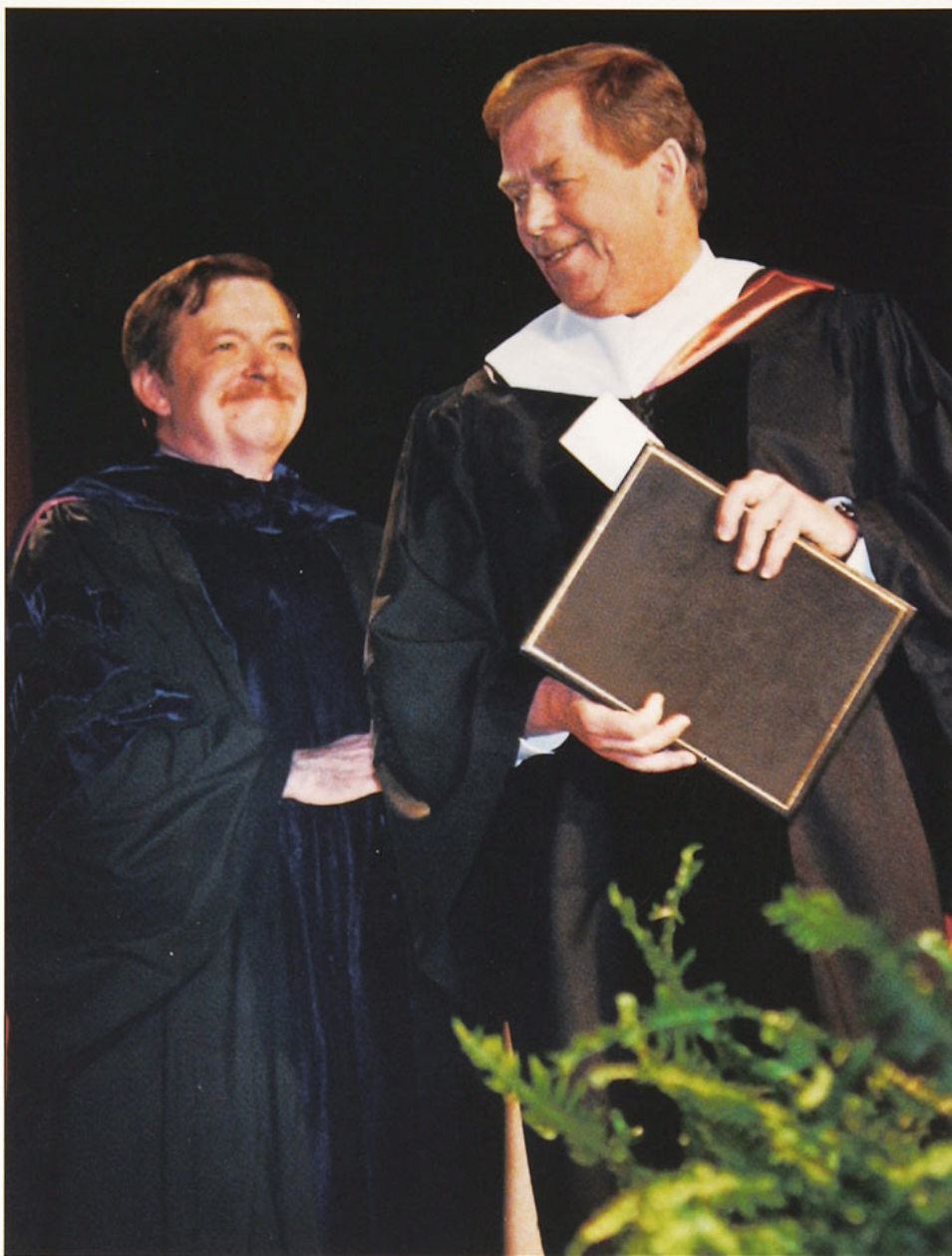
You do worthwhile, exciting things at your school, and President McPherson's "Mike Today" column and the contents of the magazine consistently articulate them beautifully.

Judy O'Connor
Yellow Springs, Ohio

Memories of 1950-51

Of presidents and playwrights

MACALESTER PRESIDENT Mike McPherson adjusts Vaclav Havel's gown after the president of the Czech Republic received an honorary degree from Macalester and the University of St. Thomas. Havel, the celebrated playwright and dissident who spent nearly five years in jail because of his opposition to the Communist regime, came to Macalester and St. Thomas April 26 to help inaugurate the Vaclav Havel Civil Society Symposium. See page 8.



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