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# Macalester Today Spring 2001

Macalester College

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# Macalester Today

Spring 2001

## Hungry Minds

Alumni who cook,  
cater and create  
restaurants





## Cindy MacCharles, 1966–2000

Editors' note: *The obituary for Cindy MacCharles '89 and her husband is on page 48.*

THE CLASS OF '89 mourns the tragic loss of Cindy MacCharles and her husband, Laurence Medina. The couple died in a terrible automobile accident on Dec. 28, 2000, in Palm Springs, Calif. Cindy and Laurence had been married just 15 months.

Cindy's sense of adventure, love of international travel, and friendly, open and caring personality uplifted all of us. She met our partners, children and parents, took an interest in our lives and became a part of our families. She wove a web of friendship that connected all of us through her surprise visits, her kind support and her incredible thoughtfulness. She attended our weddings, helping out in countless ways. She was the type of friend who always seemed to be there to handle any kind of crisis with a good-natured smile and encouraging words.

Cindy lived a short life but she lived each moment to the fullest. We hope that we will have her consistent strength and determination, her capacity to see and bring out the best in people and her loving commitment to friends and family.

Our deepest sympathies are with her mother, Virginia, her father, Roderick, and her brother, Rod. All of us will miss her so very much.

In loving memory,  
Julie Lindholm '89, Susanne Larsen Griego '89 and Wil Griego, Adlyn Carreras Bayon '89 and Pedro Bayon '85, Vera Eccarius-Kelly '89 and Bill Kelly '81, Carrie Delaney Garcia '89 and Tom Delaney '90, Meltem Kocabas Persion '89 and Nick Persion, Sipho Molife '92 and many more Macalester friends

### Faculty on the Web

Meet 11 longtime faculty members who are retiring or entering Mac's phased retirement program this year.

Go to [www.macalester.edu/thankfaculty](http://www.macalester.edu/thankfaculty)

on the  
WEB



### Prairie comes to New York

Garrison Keillor jokes with Marge, left, and Milke McPherson after a Nov. 25 broadcast of "A Prairie Home Companion" in New York City attended by 30 Macalester alumni and friends. Macalester is sponsoring seven special broadcasts of the popular program, including two this month in Europe—March 3 in Berlin and March 10 in Dublin.

*We welcome alumni comments about Macalester's sponsorship of "A Prairie Home Companion" shows in New York, Berlin and Dublin. Please e-mail us your comments <mactoday@macalester.edu> or write: College Relations Office, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105. Or call Doug Stone, Director of College Relations, at (651) 696-6433.*

*See the letter below for more on Macalester and "Prairie Home."*

### Garrison and company

MAYBE I SHOULDN'T blow my own horn (and why do we submit notes to *Macalester Today*?), but the Winter issue's story on Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" made it sound as if Chris Tschida '75 and Ken LaZebnik '77 were the only graduates connected with the show.

I did have a little association with the show during its 26-year tenure. Back in 1975, I used to sit in with Garrison and Tom Keith when they did the KSJN morning show from 6 to 9 a.m. playing my Irish LPs. Garrison invited me to be one of the original members of the Powdermill Biscuit Band along with Bill Hinkley, Judy Larson and Rudy Darling.

The band changed members a number of times, with the most well-known band being Adam Granger, Fiddlin' Mary DuShane, Dick Rees and myself. The Biscuits were the house band from 1975 until 1982. I also played with the subsequent house band, The New Prairie Ramblers. Our first concert was at Macal-

ester's Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center with Garrison and the Red Clay Ramblers. The New Prairie Ramblers (Peter Ostroushko, Tim Hennessy, Barb Montoro and myself) played the first national broadcast of the show from Kansas City the following year. We were on the show until 1983, about the time Garrison decided to move to more of a jazz format and the bright lights of New York City beckoned.

Besides playing on the weekly show for almost eight years, I produced the Biscuit Band album, was musical director of the show for a couple of years, was included on the 5-, 10- and 25-year anniversary recordings, and enjoyed numerous musical highlights such as playing with the Biscuit Band and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra in an original composition by Libby Larsen at the Northrup Auditorium. But now I'm really tooting my own horn.

A number of other Macites from the '70s have played on the show. Phil Platt '71 and John Berquist '71 come to mind right now, although I know there were others. So Garrison and PHC have enjoyed quite a bit of Macalester influence through the years.

I salute Macalester's decision to be a part of the program once again. Public radio still doesn't get much better than live radio and Garrison Keillor's PHC.

Bob Douglas '70  
University of St. Thomas  
St. Paul  
[rjdouglas@stthomas.edu](mailto:rjdouglas@stthomas.edu)

### Professor David White, 1917–2000

Editors' note: *For an obituary on Professor David White, see page 49.*

MY FIRST COURSE with David White was "Chinese Philosophies" in the spring of 1984. The class was held in a large lecture hall, as there were lots of students. In all the four courses I took with David, enrollment was always high. Students gravitated to him.

Ironically, the course sparked my interest in Asian philosophies. I come from the Middle East and our literature, with a heavy focus on mysticism, has many similarities to Indian and Chinese thought. It was thanks to David White, however, that I got to better appreciate Eastern thought.

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**Macalester Today**

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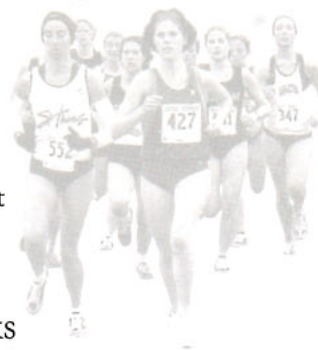
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John Schneider '91, left, Jim Dunn '88, center, and Sam Ernst '88 were photographed by Steve Voit at their new Red Fish Blue restaurant on Grand Avenue, adjacent to the Macalester campus. Turn to page 24.







GREG HELGESON PHOTOS

Above: students watch the Super Bowl on the second floor of the Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center. Left: skylights (seen here at night) bring light into the building throughout the day. Below: the stairwell between the first and second floors. See back cover for another view.

# Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center

*Eagerly awaited facility opens months ahead of schedule as new focus of campus community*

**M**ACALESTER'S new Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center opened its doors in late January—one semester earlier than scheduled—although workmen were still putting the finishing touches on the building and some of the furniture was not yet available.

A few dozen students enjoyed a Super Bowl party in the Campus Center on Jan. 28, the day before classes began for the spring semester. The MacGrille—the retail food service—began in early February. The official opening celebration was scheduled for Feb. 14.

Dean of Students Laurie Hamre asked the campus community for patience “amidst the great excitement on the opening of this much-needed facility.”

Named after Macalester Trustee Ruth Stricker-Dayton '57, the \$17.5 million Campus Center is intended to be the central gathering spot on campus for students, faculty and staff, and a venue for alumni activities.

The Campus Center, located at the corner of Grand and Snelling avenues, replaces the Student Union. It features:

- the central dining facility, serving up to 1,000 people at a time with food from around the world;
- essential services such as the campus post office, as well as seminar and meeting rooms;
- the 270-seat John B. Davis Lecture Hall, named after Macalester's former president, which is equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual technology;
- the Mary Gwen Owen Performing Arts Stage, named after one of the college's legendary professors;
- views of campus from almost every angle on both the first and second floors;
- skylights that bring light into the building throughout the day.

Ruth Stricker-Dayton has been a member of the college's Board of Trustees from 1978 to 1984 and again since 1995 and served on the executive committee of the Touch the Future campaign. She is a former president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and in 1987 received the Alumni Association's Distinguished

Citizen Citation for achievement and service.

She is owner and executive director of The Marsh, A Center for Balance and Fitness, in Minnetonka, and is widely known for promoting mind/body health and well-being.

For more information on the Campus Center, see the Macalester Web site: <[www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)> and click on Campus Center.





## Alumni Office

Kim Gregg '93 and Carol Polk appointed associate directors

MACALESTER HAS two new associate directors of alumni relations.

Kim Gregg '93 joined Macalester in January. Her primary focus is working with alumni of color and recent graduates.

Gregg, who majored in geography and environmental studies at Macalester, returned to the Twin Cities last September after three years away to work on an M.S. degree in geography at the University of Delaware. Before that, she was an environmental regulator at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Her personal interests include the transracial adoption experience, multiculturalism in America, Quaternary landforms and paleoclimatology, film, fish keeping, cooking and her very spoiled dogs.

Carol Polk, who has worked in the Alumni Office since 1989, was promoted to associate director last fall. Polk is



Kim Gregg '93



Carol Polk

responsible for planning Reunion Weekend and coordinating the Great Scots Program. She received her degree in psychology from Metropolitan State University. She volunteers regularly for Chrysalis, A Center for Women. Outside of work, she loves to ski and golf. Her goal for the coming year is to go skydiving.

Both report to Alumni Director Gabrielle Lawrence '73.

## 1990s grads

ABOUT 60 PERCENT of Macalester graduates in recent years have earned advanced degrees within six years of graduation, according to Dan Balik, associate provost and director of institutional research.

Balik said that percentage is very similar to that reported at other selective liberal arts colleges.

Balik reported several other major conclusions from surveys of 1993-99 graduates:

- Of those graduates who have earned advanced degrees, about two-thirds have earned a master's level degree. The remaining one-third is fairly evenly split between doctorates and professional degrees.
- Macalester graduates are admitted to medical schools at a rate that is 10 percent higher than graduates nationally.

- Six years after leaving Macalester, almost one-fourth of Mac graduates are employed in business. Another 30 percent are employed in professional, scientific or technical occupations. More than 10 percent are working in creative arts or design positions.

## Scholarships

MAI YOUA XIONG '04 (Minneapolis) is the recipient of a \$5,000 Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship.

The scholarship, which can be renewed annually, is awarded to one eligible student from each of Minnesota's 15 private colleges and universities who has demonstrated high academic achievement, community involvement and is the first in their immediate family to go to college. The scholarship is funded by the

Coca-Cola Foundation and the Minnesota Private College Fund.

Other recent scholarship winners at Macalester:

- Seth Lind '01 (Spring Green, Wis.) won a Beinecke Brothers Memorial Scholarship for two years of graduate



JIM HANSEN

## Artist in progress

Performance artist Coco Fusco gave the keynote address at the seventh annual Macalester International Roundtable in October. She read from her work-in-progress, "The Incredible Disappearing Woman," a play about the disappearance of women assembly line workers at the U.S.-Mexican border. She also talked with students. Focusing on "International Feminisms: Divergent Perspectives," the three-day Roundtable featured presentations and discussions by distinguished visiting scholars as well as Macalester faculty and students.





study. He is a history major with an interest in 20th century American social and cultural history.

- Joseph Bergan '00 (Arden Hills, Minn.) won a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, which funds three years of graduate study. Bergan, a biology major, plans to earn a Ph.D. in neuroscience at the University of Chicago.

## Class of 2004

Number: 454 (66% female)

Applications: 3,410—the most ever, exceeding the 1999 record by 8 percent

Regional distribution by high school:

- 23% Minnesota
- 15% outside U.S.
- 12% Upper Midwest
- 13% Other Midwest
- 17% Northeast
- 14% West
- 6% South

Percentage receiving financial aid: 73.6%

States represented: 41 and District of Columbia

Nations represented (by citizenship): 40

U.S. students of color: 54

Most common female names: Sarah (11), Emily (9) and Elizabeth (8)

Most common male names: Daniel and Michael (6 each)

“We’re extremely pleased with the strength of this class,” said Dean of Admissions Lorne Robinson. “It’s a great bunch of bright, talented and motivated students who will undoubtedly contribute significantly during the next four years and beyond.

“Nationwide, studies show that young women are engaging more in both academics and extracurricular areas than men. As such, they end up presenting stronger applications for admission to selective colleges like Macalester. We believe that it’s important to maintain gender balance in the student body, but it’s also important to admit and enroll the most deserving students.

“We know Mac is a great place for both young men and women to get an outstanding education; our challenge is to make sure that the qualified men realize that, too.”

## Mondale returns

Walter Mondale '50, former vice president and ambassador to Japan, spoke about his role in negotiating the future of U.S. military bases in Okinawa at a conference at Macalester in November. His lecture, and presentations by senior U.S. and Japanese foreign policy experts, reviewed the recent history of the U.S.-Japan strategic alliance and explored the current challenges for the partnership. The event was the third in a series entitled “Fifty Years: The Mondale Lectures on Public Service,” co-sponsored by Macalester, the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Historical Society and Minnesota Public Radio.



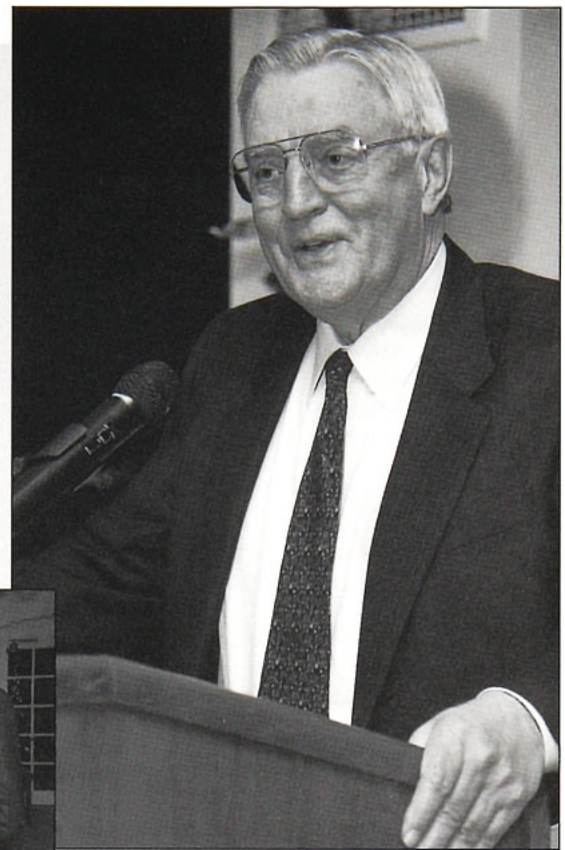
## Fall sports review

### Volleyball and women’s soccer teams shine

MACALESTER FALL SPORTS TEAMS enjoyed considerable success, especially on the women’s side, as the Scots fielded outstanding teams in volleyball and soccer. Through the conclusion of the fall season, Macalester was on top of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) in the race for the Pat Wiesner Trophy—the award given to the league’s all-sports champion.

#### Volleyball

The volleyball program has made magnificent strides over the past five years and in 2000 had its best season in nearly 20 years. Stephanie Schleuder gained her 600th career collegiate coaching victory early in the season and the Scots went on to finish 22-8, placing second in the conference standings and third at the conference tournament and falling just short of an NCAA playoff invitation. Setter Erika Lilley '01 (Saugus, Calif.) and middle blocker Carley Bomstad '04 (Apple Valley, Minn.) were named to the All-MIAC and All-Central Region teams.



Lilley led the conference in assists and was sixth in the nation in that category, while Bomstad, the Central Region’s Freshman of the Year, was second in the MIAC in hitting percentage and sixth in blocks.

#### Women’s soccer

Coach John Leaney’s women’s soccer team graduated nearly every starter from the year before, but responded brilliantly with a young team, winning the MIAC championship for the fourth straight year. The Scots were eliminated in the second round of the NCAA playoffs by Wisconsin-Stevens Point in a 1-0 contest, but lost only one other game all year. Mac finished at 16-2-1 and its 9-0-1 conference record extends the team’s MIAC unbeaten streak to 42 consecutive games. Forward Amanda Cue '01 (Ashland, Ore.) scored 10 goals and was named third-team All-America as the team’s top player. She was joined on the All-MIAC squad by goalkeeper Lisa Bauer '04 (Woodbury, Minn.), midfielder Kristine Lamm '01 (South Windsor, Conn.) and forward Katie Stephens '03 (Urbana, Ill.). Bauer allowed just a single goal in league play and finished fourth in the nation in goals-against average.



**Women's cross country**

It was supposed to have been a rebuilding season for women's cross country after graduating four of the top five runners from the '99 squad that placed eighth in the nation. New Coach Jordan Cushing '96 got the most out of her young team, however, and the Scots progressed nicely throughout the season. Macalester placed fifth out of 12 teams at the conference championships, led by Liz Connors '01 (Albany, Ore.), who earned her third straight top five MIAC finish. Lesley Benton '03 (Cumberland Center, Maine) earned honorable mention All-Conference honors.



Liz Connors '01, right foreground, earned her third straight top five MIAC finish in cross country.

overall at the MIAC tourney, missing All-Conference honors by just one stroke. Amanda Slaughter '03 (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) also had a good season for the Scots.

**Women's golf**

The women's golf team closed out the fall season by taking fifth out of nine at the conference championships—up one spot from the previous two years. Kristine Schaff '03 (Mandan, N.D.) placed 11th

**Men's soccer**

Mac failed in its bid to take a fourth straight league championship, but still had a great season under Coach Leaney. Only a double-overtime loss to Gustavus in the season finale kept the Scots from another trophy and an NCAA playoff berth. Macalester finished at 12-4-2 and took second in the league. Shingai Mukurazita '01 (Harare, Zimbabwe) received third-team All-America honors after scoring seven goals and assisting on seven others. Kimani Williams '02 (Kingston, Jamaica) scored in the team's last nine games and finished with 17 goals—the second-best single-season figure in team history. Mukurazita and Williams were joined on the All-Conference team by

midfielder Martin Oppenheimer '02 (Stockholm, Sweden) and defender Brendan Meyer '02 (Fairfax Station, Va.).

**Football**

The football team showed improvement over the last couple of seasons but lost its share of close games and finished 1-9. The Scots were a dangerous passing team and boasted a pair of the league's top receivers in David Schumacher '01 (Minot, N.D.) and Ty O'Connell '02 (Helena, Mont.), who combined to catch 122 passes for 1,583 yards and 12 touchdowns. Schumacher was the MIAC's leading receiver and O'Connell was fourth.

Quarterback Aaron Quitmeyer '01 (Williston, N.D.) earned All-MIAC honors after passing for a school-record 2,180 yards. Quitmeyer set a school record with 5,716 career passing yards and was one of just 22 players selected nationally in all divisions to the AFCA Good Works Team, which recognizes players who go above and beyond in service to others while maintaining academic and athletic excellence. Macalester featured one of the conference's best defensive players in end Andrew Porter '03 (Rogers, Minn.), who led the team with 85 tackles and 13 quarterback sacks. Porter earned All-West Region honors from the *Football Gazette*.

**Men's cross country**

Ben Knudson '01 (Hastings, Neb.) earned honorable mention All-MIAC honors, placing 24th out of 190 runners to lead the way for the men's cross country team at the conference championships. Macalester took eighth at the MIAC meet under new Coach Steve Pasche and concluded with its best performance of the season, finishing 12th out of 23 teams at the Central Regionals.

**Men's golf**

Ali Amerson '02 (Port Townsend, Wash.) enjoyed another good season as the No. 1 player on new Coach Martha Nause's men's golf team. Amerson was eighth out of 43 golfers at the Carleton Invitational. Mark Flynn '02 (Madison, Wis.) was Mac's top scorer at the season-ending MIAC tournament.

—Andy Johnson, sports information director



All-Central Region setter Erika Lilley '01



All-Central Region middle blocker Carley Bomstad '04



All-American soccer forward Amanda Cue '01



All-American soccer player Shingai Mukurazita '01



All-Conference quarterback Aaron Quitmeyer '01



Top defensive end Andrew Porter '03



# Update on the Economics Department

*Editors' note: Mac Today regularly features brief updates about faculty members, focusing on a single department in each issue*

Karl Egge spent his last sabbatical visiting and interviewing former economics majors about their jobs. They included alumni from Germany to China, from the '70s through the '90s. He reports that in the last two years he has taught children of former students, so he knows he's been teaching a long time. He continues assisting senior majors with their job-searching efforts, and he is thrilled that many former students now recruit current students. He often brings former students into the classroom for "show and tell." His research efforts have been in entrepreneurship and forensic economics.

Jeff Evans has taught accounting part time in the Economics Department since 1978. He is currently working on a project for the Wilderness Society on how road costs are allocated to timber sales. He is also a practicing CPA, specializing in forensic accounting and small business consulting. He says, "I know it sounds a bit idealistic, but I firmly believe one can make the world a better place through accounting."

Pete Ferderer has teaching and research interests that span the fields of macroeconomics, finance and international economics. In recent years, he has become interested in studying these fields from a historical perspective. His most recent article, co-authored with Kyle Richey '00, examines the collapse of liquidity in financial markets during the Great Depression. Ferderer attempts to infuse this historical perspective into his courses by emphasizing how the "rules of the game" governing economic activity have evolved over time. When not thinking about economics, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two young children.

Nancy Jones retired in June 1999 after almost a decade as the department's secretary/administrator. She's taking advantage of this opportunity to travel, with major trips in the past year and a half to Spain, Berlin, East Germany and China. At home she's an avid theater- and concert-goer and enjoys courses offered by the Elder Learning Institute, on subjects

ranging from Jane Austen to Irish history. And from time to time she visits 4-year-old grandson Alec (and his parents) in New York City. In short, life is good, she reports. She sends greetings and warm wishes to all econ alums who might remember her, and welcomes e-mail messages <jonesneh@gateway.net>

Jane Kollasch has been the department coordinator since fall 1999. She has been at Macalester for six years, having previously worked in purchasing and telecommunications. She enjoys working with the econ students on a daily basis and the challenges of the academic side of the college. She is also very involved on campus, serving on the board of the Staff Advisory Committee and the Macalester Staff Association. When not at Macalester, Jane enjoys gardening, quilting and working part time at a coffeehouse. She and her husband, Chuck, recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary; they have two daughters, Joelle, who is in college, and Janna, a junior in high school.

Many of the economics faculty from the 1970s met for a reunion last October at the Alumni House. They were joined by several current members of the department. "All agreed it was terrific to be back at Macalester to see the school and talk with old friends," said Professors Karl Egge and Vasant Sukhatme.

*From left: Pete Ferderer; Jim Simler, retired; Vasant Sukhatme, current chair; Yutaka Horiba, now at Tulane; Todd Petzel, chief investment officer for the Common Fund; David Meiselman, retired in Virginia; Karl Egge; Bob Bunting, retired in Wilmington, N.C.; Paul Aslanian, CFO of Swarthmore College; Macalester President Mike McPherson, who teaches in the department; Tom Simpson, now with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve; Jeff Evans; and David Lindsay, also with the Board of Governors.*

GREG HELGESSON





## Quotable Quotes

**H**ERE ARE SOME of the noteworthy comments made recently on and around the campus:

**"Every year** since I have been at this college, upper-class students look at the first-years and complain to me about how conservative they are and that it is a college plot. And by about the second month of the fall, the new students change into Macalester students and start complaining when the next class arrives."

**David McCurdy**, Macalester anthropology professor, who joined the faculty in 1966 and is entering the retirement program at the end of the current academic year, quoted in the Dec. 15 Mac Weekly

**"He changed students' lives;** he didn't just teach the subject matter, he taught the love of wisdom."

**Henry West**, Macalester philosophy professor, quoted in the Nov. 2 St. Paul Pioneer Press obituary of Professor David White. See page 49 and Letters page on inside front cover.

**"His presence at Macalester** [from 1959 to 1961] was a sign that the world was shrinking—an economic, technological and even, in his eyes, moral event. It would be decades before kente-cloth fashions appeared at the Gap, but Annan's arrival in the U.S. evoked a closer global community. He was instantly comfortable."

**Time** magazine cover story last Sept. 4 on U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan '61. The article noted that he was pictured in the 1960 Mac yearbook with a kente cloth from his native Ghana draped around his shoulders.

**"We're a schizophrenic state,** we're liberal and conservative. The great liberal leaders of the past were so charismatic, they pulled a lot of people. The liberal people [in Minnesota] today are not charismatic. Even Jesse Ventura, for all his foibles, has charisma."

**David Lanegran '63**, Macalester geography professor, quoted in a Nov. 9 New York Times article on the presidential election •

Gary Krueger joined Macalester in 1989. He attended the University of Illinois as an undergraduate and earned



Gary Krueger

his Ph.D in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He teaches "Comparative Economic Systems," "Economics of Transition" and "Econometrics." His current research is on the transition of formerly state owned firms in Russia to a market economy. He is actively involved in Macalester's Russian Area Studies program and has served as program coordinator since 1994.

Karine Moe is an economic demographer with special interests in women's economic status. She joined the department in 1995 and teaches courses in labor economics and the economics of gender. Her research interests focus on how the use of time—especially by women and girls—contributes to economic development. Her recent work



Karine Moe

investigates deterrents to schooling for girls in Latin America, as well as the

effects of government policies on informal labor markets.

**Raymond Robertson** studies and teaches international economics with a focus on Latin America. He joined the faculty in 1999. In 2000 he received a Research in Undergraduate Institutions grant from the National Science Foundation to create a Web-based database of labor market data from Mexico, Chile, Argentina and Brazil for research and teaching. In 2000 he published in *The World Economy* and in *The American Economic Review*. His research focuses on the effects of globalization on labor markets. His current research projects include examining the relationship between trade liberalization and wage inequality in Mexico and technology use in Chile.



Raymond Robertson

**N. J. (Jim) Simler** retired from Macalester in August 1999. He had joined the faculty as professor and chair in 1991 after 32 years at the University of Minnesota. He writes that he now spends most of his time reading (history, biography and occasional novels), listening to chamber music and jazz standards, viewing classical films and taking short trips around the country.

**Vasant Sukhatme** teaches micro-economic theory, economic development and a survey course on the work of Adam Smith and Karl Marx. Next fall he will

jointly teach (with President Mike McPherson) a new course (tentatively called "Economics for the Citizen"). Sukhatme's professional activity lies in the areas of economic development and applied microeconomics. His current scholarly work addresses the implications of the World Trade Organization for the agricultural trade of India. He also remains interested in the economics of baseball. Along with a former Macalester colleague, he is applying the theory of tournaments to study the salary structure in professional baseball. He will be on sabbatical leave this spring term at the University of Minnesota.

**Sarah West** is a 1991 Macalester graduate who joined the department as a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in 1999 and began a tenure-track appointment in 2000. Her teaching and research interests are in the areas of environmental economics, public finance and urban economics. She teaches courses in those areas as well as "Principles of Economics." Her current research, funded by the Public Policy Institute of California, focuses on the use of market-based incentives for the control of vehicle pollution. She looks forward to continuing to teach, advise and conduct research with students from economics and from environmental studies. •



Sarah West '91



*continued from inside front cover*

Dr. White was a truly special person. There are those in life who touch us deeply and to whom we look up as role models. David was such a role model for many of his students, including myself. I learned a great deal about Asian philosophies from him, but most importantly, he taught me about life. He taught me how to be a better person. He taught me how to think.

David was a humble man. There is nothing worse than false humility, but David was humble at heart. I recall a discussion where he was saying he didn't want to be a guru. Many a time I was confused with life and went to David for advice. We spent hours talking. But David was not the type to give advice. He let me figure out my way by telling me about his experiences. At times this frustrated me greatly. I wanted the "answer." I now appreciate the wisdom of his way.

David smoked cigarettes. Once I asked him why he smoked when he knew the dangers of smoking and knew that it was a form of "attachment" to the material, contrary to his beliefs. In response, he honestly admitted that he was being foolish.

Every time I spoke to him, I felt special and important. He had great respect for people. I had done a paper for him on Sufism. Whenever Sufism came up, he asked for my input. At the time I thought it was because I was so knowledgeable. I came to realize it was not me but he that was special. His grace, his comfort with his ego, his humility and his desire to hear the views of others are some of the many things I admire about him.

His experiences and insights were always educational. He told us about how during World War II he had been thrown in prison for being a pacifist and refusing to fight. In jail a muscular man had attacked him as he was sweeping the floor. David pointed to his throat, indicating that the man's arm was choking him. The man relented. Conveying his position peacefully; aware of his faults and shortcomings; at peace with himself and the world; dedicating his energy to improving himself and others—that was David White.

Last year I heard with great sadness that Beverly White had passed away. The Macalester community has lost two of its most loyal and loved members. Dr. White taught at Macalester for over 50 years. Beverly taught my father in the early '60s. My wife and I were David's students in the '80s. The college is about special people such as David and Beverly White, who helped us find our way in life. It is people like them who made our four years at Macalester memorable and worthwhile. We are better people having known the Whites.

Mohsen Mazaheri '87  
Cranford, N.J.  
mohsen\_mazaheri@hotmail.com

### Looking for art by Alonzo Hauser

Sculptor Alonzo Hauser founded the Macalester College Art Department and taught at Mac from 1945 to 1949. The executors of his estate are gathering information and stories about his life and work for the publication of a catalog.

If you knew Alonzo Hauser or own any works of art by him, please call Jean Ehling, Art Marketing, at (612) 571-4674 or write her at 2200 W. County Road C, Roseville, MN 55113 •

I AM ONE OF THE MANY Macalester alumnae and alumni whose philosophy was deepened and altered by David White and his wife, Beverly.

A couple of details about him as a teacher stand out in my memory. One was his simple and touching desire to be addressed as "David," and another was how he asked his students to write him questions in a particular format. We were to fold a sheet of paper in half length-wise, open it again, and beginning with "Dear David," write him our question on the left side in heavy black ink. He would answer on the right side.

He was the first man I saw weep in public, and without embarrassment. In "Philosophies of India," he asked me to read a story by Raja Rao to the class, but before I began, he said goodnight and goodbye and requested that we leave at the end of the reading without speaking to him because he expected to be crying.

We did as we were told without checking him for tears.

Juanita Garcigodoy '74  
Visiting Assistant Professor  
Macalester Spanish Department

AS A STRUGGLING freshman in 1966, I was assigned a reading from Plato and the meaning eluded me. As my panic increased, my residence counselor suggested I call Dr. David White, even at 10:30 in the evening. Mustering whatever courage I had, I called Dr. White, who was not the professor who had assigned the reading, and he took 45 minutes of his time to teach me.

I later learned of a story about Dr. White and his brother. It was during World War II and Dr. White's brother, a naval officer, and Dr. White, a conscientious objector who was to be jailed the next day, walked arm in arm from one end of their town to the other to show their mutual respect and esteem.

These experiences had a profound effect on me and still do to this day. When I teach about morals and ethics, I remember the courage and commitment of Dr. White. When I teach a difficult concept to someone who is struggling, I try to be patient and professional, as Dr. White was with me.

When I think of David White, I picture the epitome of all that is moral and all that embodies the educator. We are all the poorer for his departure.

Duncan A. Rose '70  
Associate Professor, Social Sciences  
Newman University  
Wichita, Kan.  
rosed@newmanu.edu

## Ordinary people

IT WAS WITH GREAT JOY that I received the latest issue of *Macalester Today*. I would, however, like to suggest a topic of focus for future issues.

In addition to the profiles of alumni who are highly successful and/or internationally known, I would enjoy seeing profiles of alumni who lead more ordinary lives, people who choose to focus on raising a family or those still struggling to make it. With *Macalester Today* focusing on the upper echelon of alumni, I feel neglected as an alumnus still struggling to find a job.

Christopher Nordvall '98  
St. Paul



# Ecofeminism; social sciences; modern world poetry

## Ecofeminist Philosophy: A Western Perspective on What It Is and Why It Matters

by Karen J.  
Warren (Rowman &  
Littlefield, 2000.  
254 pages)

This book was  
"written for a reflec-  
tive lay audience, not  
for professional  
philosophers or envi-  
ronmental ethicists,  
although, as reflec-  
tive persons, I hope  
they will find mater-  
ial of interest in the book," writes Karen  
Warren, a Macalester philosophy professor.

"As one of the two philosophers inter-  
nationally who started the field 'ecofeminist  
philosophy,' it is a reflection of 15 years of  
thinking about the nature, importance,  
and place of ecofeminist philosophy within  
the fields of feminism, philosophy, and  
environmentalism. So, for me, it is a major  
piece of work which reflects mature think-  
ing about those three fields."

Warren's primary areas of scholarly  
interest are feminist and environmental phi-  
losophy. She has spoken on ecofeminist  
philosophy—the assertion that the unjusti-  
fied domination of women and other  
humans is connected to the unjustified dom-  
ination of animals and non-human nature—  
in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada,  
Finland, Norway, Russia and Sweden, as  
well as throughout the United States.

Warren is also co-editor of *Environmental  
Philosophy: From Animal Rights to Radical  
Ecology*, the third edition of which was just  
published by Prentice Hall.

## Restructuring Societies: Insights from the Social Sciences

edited by David B. Knight '64 and Alun E.  
Joseph (McGill-Queen's University Press,  
1999. 168 pages, \$55 (Canadian) cloth and  
\$22.95 paperback)

As national societies seek to come to  
terms with shifts in the global economy,  
many are being fundamentally changed  
due to economic and social "restructuring."  
This collection of essays is a multi-  
disciplinary approach to contemporary  
debates about the nature of restructuring  
processes and their interconnection with  
public policy.

The book offers a wide range of social  
scientific perspectives, from anthropology,



Karen J. Warren

geography, history and indigenous studies  
to politics, psychology and sociology. The  
effects of restructuring processes in Canada  
and New Zealand are particularly well  
documented, and the importance of words  
and their manipulation is emphasized.  
Feature essays, one by former Ontario  
Premier Bob Rae on conservative and radi-  
cal resistance to abuses of power and two  
on aboriginal/First Nations issues, chal-  
lenge important public policy trends.

Readers in the United States may find  
the book useful as a policy and impact  
guide to what may happen under President  
Bush's new administration.

David B. Knight is a professor of geogra-  
phy at the University of Guelph.

## Ties That Bind: Economic and Political Dilemmas of Urban Utility Networks, 1800–1990

by Charles David Jacobson '80  
(University of Pittsburgh Press, 2001.  
202 pages, \$35 cloth)

In the early days of utility development,  
municipalities sought to shape the new  
systems in a variety of ways even as private  
firms struggled to retain control and fend  
off competition. Some of the battles  
dwarfed the contemporary one between  
local jurisdictions and cable companies  
over broadband access to the Internet.

In this comparative historical study,  
Charles Jacobson draws upon economic  
theory to shed light on relationships  
among technology, market forces and prob-  
lems of governance that have  
arisen in connection with  
different utility networks  
over the past 200 years. He  
focuses on water, electric  
and cable television utility  
networks and on experiences  
in four major cities—Boston,  
Seattle, San Francisco and  
Pittsburgh—arguing that  
information and transaction  
costs have played decisive  
roles in determining how  
different ownership and regu-  
latory arrangements have functioned in  
different situations.

*Ties That Bind* addresses practical ques-  
tions of how to make ownership, regulatory  
and contracting arrangements work better.  
It also explores broader concerns about pri-  
vate monopoly and the role of government  
in society.

Jacobson is a senior associate with  
Morgan Angel & Associates, public policy

consultants in Washington, D.C. He has a  
Ph.D. in applied history and social sciences  
from Carnegie Mellon University.

## It Happened in North Carolina

by Scotti Kent (TwoDot Books, an imprint  
of Falcon Publishing/Globe Pequot Press,  
2000. 144 pages, \$9.95 paperback)

*It Happened in  
North Carolina*  
chronicles 27 events  
from the state's rich  
history in an easy-to-  
read style suitable for  
all ages. Readers jour-  
ney back to 1200  
A.D. and forward to  
the present day, visit-  
ing all three regions  
of the state during  
various time periods.

The author, the  
former Scotti Kelley, is a 1971 alumna of  
Macalester who published this book under  
the name Scotti Kent. Now Scotti McAuliff  
Cohn, she lived in the mountains of western  
North Carolina for more than 20 years.  
She recently moved to Bloomington, Ill.,  
where she is currently working on a book  
about children of the Civil War.



Scotti Kent

## Who's Who in 20th Century World Poetry

edited by Mark Willhardt '87, with  
Alan Michael Parker (Routledge, 2000.  
360 pages, \$29.95 cloth)

Mark Willhardt, assistant professor  
of English at Monmouth College in  
Monmouth, Ill., edited this biograph-  
ical guide to modern international  
poetry. It features more than 900  
entries, from such canonical figures  
as T.S. Eliot and W.B. Yeats to con-  
temporary poets like Iraq's Nazik  
al-Mala'ika and South Africa's  
Njabulo Simakahle Ndebele, by over  
80 international contributors. It  
offers a global perspective of modern  
verse, detailing the lives and works  
of an array of poets alongside expert  
critical comment.

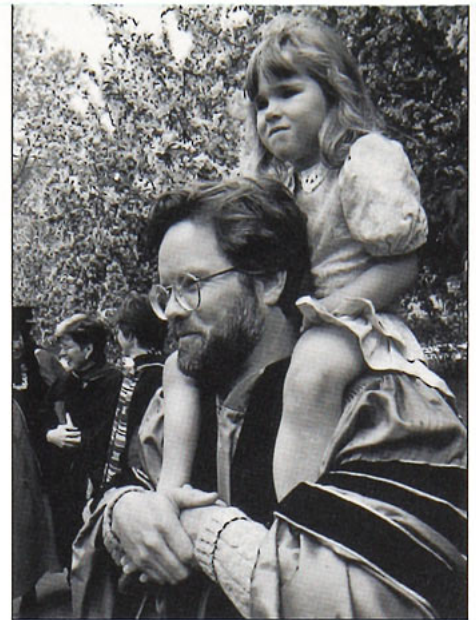
Willhardt, who has a Ph.D. from Rutgers,  
and poet-scholar Alan Michael Parker also  
collaborated on the *Routledge Anthology of  
Cross-Gendered Verse*. ●



Mark Willhardt



Photos:  
Moments from  
the 1996  
Reunion



# REU NIO N '01



*Reunion Weekend and Commencement  
Friday–Sunday, May 18–20, 2001*



## **A few highlights of the biggest weekend of the year at Macalester:**

- Alumni Art Show in the new Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center
- Panel discussions with psychology, economics and biology alumni and faculty
- Athletic Director Irv Cross speaking on the future of athletics at Mac
- Lectures by faculty entering the retirement program:  
Chuck Green, Dave McCurdy, Mike Obsatz, Cal Roetzel, Wayne Roberts and others
- Reunion Class Dinners and Lawn Dance
- Commencement at 1:30 p.m. Sunday

## **Questions?**

Alumni whose classes end in “1” or “6” have already received information through their classes, and the registration brochure is being mailed in March. If you want more information, please call the Alumni Office: (651) 696-6295, or toll-free: 1-888-242-9351



# AMERICA

## THE BEAUTIFUL AND STRANGE

You can learn a lot about your own country from foreigners

After traveling throughout the U.S. from July to November, the nine World Press Institute Fellows of 2000 offered their observations of America at a public forum at Macalester a week after the presidential election. A few excerpts:

### Religion in the U.S.



Gabriella Coslovich

**Gabriella Coslovich**, deputy arts editor, *The Age*, Melbourne, Australia

One of the interesting things to me, particularly during the election, is how religion still plays a very important part in Americans' lives, for better or worse. It is a very public thing, whereas in Australia it's a private thing. Here, politicians will use their religion, will invoke God—sometimes I think self-righteously. . . . I was surprised when the nomination of a Jewish man to be the vice presidential nominee caused a stir. I couldn't understand why that would be an issue in the year 2000.

### A country of immigrants

**Katrin Sachse**, editor, *Focus* news magazine, Munich, Germany

I learned a lot about what we Germans have to learn. One of the topics I was interested in was how can a country full of immigrants be one nation? This is what I think I understood during the last month. It's really great to see how so many people from so many different countries keep and maintain their own cultures and [still] just adopt the American way of life.

For instance, I was impressed when we visited a bilingual school for children whose first language is Spanish. They have their lessons in Spanish and their second language is English. Unfortunately, this would never happen in Germany because we expect foreigners to learn our language and to adopt our culture. But as I saw here, it can work the other way around.

### Guns and violence

**Liu Rong**, reporter, *Domestic News for Overseas Service*, Xinhua News Agency, Beijing

[My] impression of the United States, after these four months, is totally changed. Before I came here, I had a fixed image of the United States influenced by our media coverage of your society. The bad image is that many people have guns and violence



Liu Rong

[happens] every day and everywhere. That's why when I came, my relatives and my family worried about me. My mother even gave me a Buddha necklace, saying Buddha will protect you.

Now I realize that the social problems you have are as much as we have in our country. The only difference is that your media always report crime and other social problems while our media tend to report more good things of the society than bad ones. I should say now our media has changed a little bit and reported more social problems, but it is far from playing a watchdog role in the society compared to your media.

### Killing journalists

**Hafiz Imam Inam**, staff correspondent, *The Bangladesh Observer*, Dhaka. He was once threatened with death by two armed men for an article he wrote.



I feel very happy to see how the U.S. journalists are practicing their journalism, in contrast to my country. Personal security for journalists is absent in my country. Five journalists have been killed [in Bangladesh] over the last four months. [The United States] is really an ocean of freedom for the journalists.

### Globalization

**Kwesi Biney**, editor, *The Guide*, an independent biweekly, Accra, Ghana

Now there's talk about globalization and the world becoming one small village. Because of the period of the Cold War and colonialism, many nations in the Third World have not had the opportunity to develop their nations according to their own design. We became a pendulum swinging from the socialist bloc to the capitalist bloc, and by the end of the Cold War we had nothing to show for it even by way of infrastructure.



Kwesi Biney

Now we are being called upon to be part of the global world. In what capacity? As hewers of wood and drawers of water? Or are we going to be part of the global world on an equal footing? ●



by Jon Halvorsen

**W**HEN NAFSA: Association of International Educators went looking for someone with a strong public policy background who could lead a major organization in the international arena, it hired Marlene Johnson '68 as CEO.

The group's president—elected by her peers across the U.S. and abroad—is Kay Thomas '63, an educator at the University of Minnesota.

When Thomas concludes her term this summer, she will be succeeded by NAFSA's first president from a small college—June Noronha '70, an associate dean at The College of Saint Catherine.

In an organization with more than 8,600 members from 50 states and 60 countries, it seems more than a coincidence that Macalester graduates hold three of the top leadership positions. As Johnson,

ing in Iran for three years—during the Iranian revolution—and teaching linguistics at Macalester. “NAFSA has always taken a leadership role in mentoring international education professionals,” Brown says. “My own commitment to international education that began when I was a student at Macalester has been infinitely enriched by NAFSA's investment in me.”

As Brown and others note, NAFSA has evolved and grown in strength. “There's no doubt that we're now seen as a key player in international education,” says Thomas, a 30-year NAFSA member. “There's a lot more attention paid to international education now than in the past. That's not due just to NAFSA certainly; it's also due to the times and the need that corporations and citizens are feeling for greater international competency.”

Last year, following NAFSA's lead, President Clinton issued the first presidential directive on

# WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

*The leaders of NAFSA: Association of International Educators  
share a perspective that was honed at Macalester*

Thomas and Noronha were having dinner with colleagues in Washington not long ago, someone at the table observed that all three were from the same college.

“Which college is that?” another person asked.

“Kofi Annan's college,” Noronha replied with a smile. (See the previous *Mac Today* for a story on her extended family.)

The leading organization in the field of international educational exchange, NAFSA was founded in 1948 as the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers. It assumed its current name in 1990. Most of its members work at colleges and universities as international student and study abroad advisers, directors of international programs, teachers of English as a second language and related jobs.

Kimberley Brown '74, vice-provost for international affairs at Portland State University, has also been a national leader in NAFSA. Her own background includes teach-

international education policy, establishing goals for increasing the number of U.S. students studying abroad and the number of international students studying in the U.S. The Clinton administration also declared Nov. 13–17, 2000, the first “U.S.

GREG HELGESON



**“There's a lot more attention paid to international education now,” says Kay Thomas '63, president of NAFSA. She heads an office at the University of Minnesota that provides services to more than 3,350 international students as well as 1,200 visiting scholars.**





**Marlene Johnson '68, former lieutenant governor of Minnesota, is now chief executive officer of NAFSA in Washington, D.C.**

International Education Week." NAFSA also helped pass a bill in Congress creating a scholarship program for needy students to study abroad and succeeded in getting the Senate to hold a public hearing on international education last fall.

Hiring Marlene Johnson three years ago gave a new impetus to NAFSA, which is headquartered in Washington, D.C. "She's just a pistol. She knows how to get things done," Thomas says.

Johnson, former lieutenant governor of Minnesota, carried the Perpich administration's portfolio on international trade and tourism. A former member of the World Press Institute board, she also has an international marriage: she and her Swedish husband have gone back and forth between the U.S. and Sweden, where he has a business, for the past 16 years.

Johnson says NAFSA is striving to "create a larger intellectual or policy concept of why study abroad is important, why it's important to have international students on our campuses and in our society. . . . Ultimately, we need a more strategic approach to recruiting international students for this country, and we need a more actively led study-abroad strategy that will increase the numbers of students at all colleges and universities."

Kay Thomas studied in Greece through SPAN (Student Project for Amity among Nations) in the

### Macalester abroad

- Last year, 251 Mac students studied in 49 countries, from Argentina to Zimbabwe
- This year, 13% of Mac students come from 72 countries (17% from 86 countries if dual citizens and permanent residents are included)

summer of her junior year at Mac. As Marlene Johnson would a few years later, she met World Press Institute journalists on campus. After Mac, she studied German at the University of Heidelberg. Now director of international student and scholar services at the University of Minnesota, she heads an office that provides services to more than 3,350 international students as well as 1,200 scholars who come there for anywhere from a month to several years to teach or do research.

"If you want to provide a world-class education, you need outside perspectives in the classroom," Thomas says. "You need faculty who have had experiences overseas, and you need to send students overseas so they can experience it themselves. . . . [People now realize] that there's an economic benefit to the state, to the institution, that this is not just a do-gooder kind of thing."

Indeed, in his directive in April 2000, President Clinton noted that the nearly 500,000 international students studying in the U.S. "not only contribute some \$9 billion annually to our economy, but also enrich our communities with their cultures, while developing a lifelong appreciation for ours. The goodwill these students bear for our country will in the future constitute one of our greatest foreign policy assets," Clinton said.

As Johnson says, "The average American has been exposed to many more cultures in the past 10 or 15 years than I ever was growing up. You can't walk to the store in very many places any more without seeing people who don't look like you, and that's a huge shift in this country."

That shift will help make the case for international education, she believes. "We have a long way to go and we have a new administration now," Johnson says. "But we're very excited at NAFSA that we're working at a level that keeps the conversation focused on the value and benefits of international education." ●

For more on this story, see *Macalester Today* on the Web: [www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)



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



## GIVING BACK

Peter Ahn '87, Minneapolis

Investment banker with Jefferies & Company, Inc.;  
consistent donor to Macalester's Annual Fund  
and member of the Grand Society

Family: wife Susan, children Alison, 5,  
and Kevin, 3

Last book read: *Sayings of the Sufi Sages*

Hobbies: skiing and golfing

Volunteer activities: Lake Country School,  
my children's Montessori school

Major at Mac: economics

### What I took away from Macalester:

In addition to the basic financial and economic theory I learned at Mac, I believe that I expanded my ability to solve problems and think under pressure tremendously.

Why I give back to Mac: Two principal reasons: one, I know the annual cost of educating students is more than the tuition and fees charged, and two, I don't think that should change.





# THE ALUMNI BOARD

## CLASSMATES and FRIENDS

*The 35 members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors:*

- come from all over the country;
- represent every generation, from the Class of 1944 to the Class of 2003;
- spend three weekends on campus each academic year;
- serve three-year terms, and may be asked to serve a second three-year term; terms are staggered so that one-third of the board members are new each year;
- serve as ambassadors for Macalester and offer their own ideas about how to improve and strengthen the college as well as its ties to alumni;
- are selected by nominations of other alumni;
- carry out the Alumni Board's mission "to engage alumni in a lifelong relationship with Macalester College, its students and all alumni."



*President*

**Grant Killoran '86**  
Partner/Attorney  
Michael, Best &  
Friedrich LLP  
Milwaukee, Wis.



*Vice President*

**Margaret J. Westin '74**  
Assistant District  
General Counsel  
Minneapolis Public  
Schools Special School  
District No. 1



*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Edward Swanson '64**  
Principal  
Cataloguer/Retired  
Minnesota  
Historical Society  
St. Paul

### Active Alumni by State

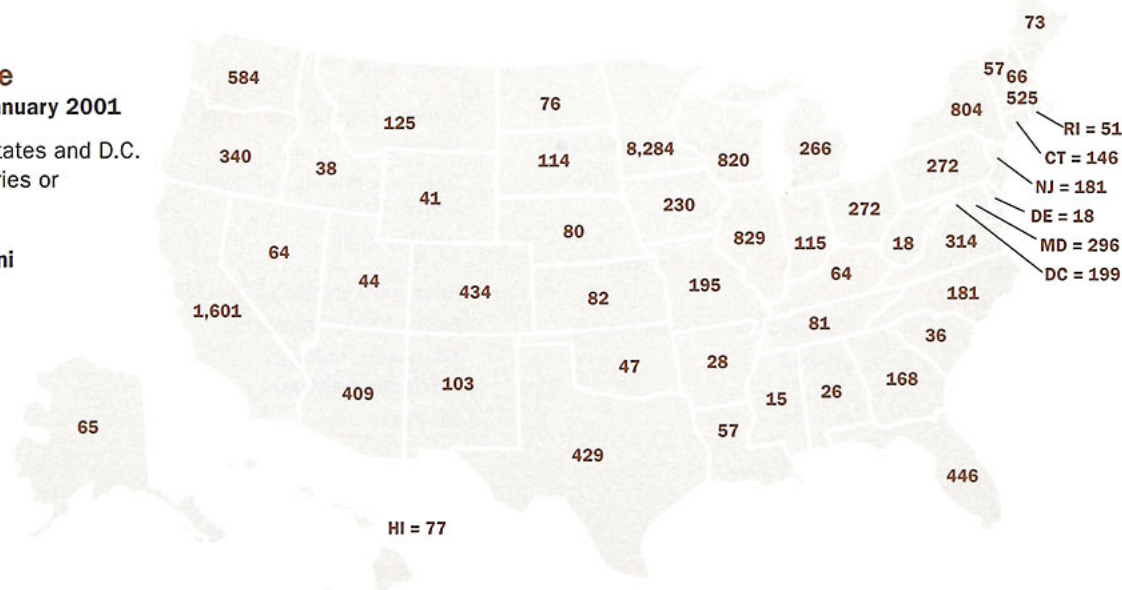
in the 50 States and D.C., January 2001

Total count: 19,886 for 50 states and D.C.  
(does not include U.S. territories or  
foreign countries)

11 countries with most alumni  
outside U.S.

- 84 Japan
- 81 Canada
- 66 United Kingdom
- 53 Malaysia
- 45 Germany
- 28 France
- 20 Australia
- 20 Sweden
- 20 Turkey
- 19 Greece
- 19 Switzerland

Total number of active alumni outside U.S.: 872





# ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

(see Alumni Board  
Officers  
on page 15)

**Nancy Schatz Alton '92**  
Senior Editor  
Adventure Media  
Seattle

**Joelle K. Blomquist '02**  
Macalester Student  
Anoka, Minn.

**Prudence Lanegran Cameron '56**  
Administrative Assistant  
Women's Health Center  
Duluth, Minn.

**Louisa E. Chapman '75**  
Medical Epidemiologist  
Centers for Disease Control &  
Prevention  
Atlanta

**Melvin Collins '75**  
Managing Director  
Inroads  
St. Paul

**Jennifer C. Doyle '03**  
Macalester Student  
Lexington, Mass.

**Alan J. Green '74**  
Judge, State of Louisiana  
Gretna, La.

**Charles A. Harris '75**  
Chief of Surgery Department  
Clarinda Regional Health Center  
Clarinda, Iowa

**Michael Hecht '93**  
Associate Development Officer  
Carlson School of Management  
Minneapolis

**Phyllis Bambusch Jones '44**  
District Court Judge/Retired  
St. Paul Park, Minn.

**Harriet M. Lansing '67**  
Judge  
Minnesota Court of Appeals  
St. Paul

**Jason V. Lejonvarn '88**  
Consultant/Equity Sales &  
Relations  
BARRA International  
London

**Jennifer P. Lundblad '88**  
Director, Project Operations &  
Communications  
Stratis Health  
Bloomington, Minn.

**Diya Malarker '01**  
Macalester Student  
Pune, India

**Thomas Moberg '86**  
Systems Analyst  
Minnesota Institute of Public Health  
Anoka, Minn.

**Carla A. Morris '85**  
Senior Associate  
Organizational Development &  
Communications Practice  
Booz, Allen & Hamilton  
McLean, Va.

**Carrie L. Norbin '94**  
Attorney  
Michael, Best & Friedrich, LLP  
Milwaukee, Wis.

**Harmony S. O'Rourke '01**  
Macalester Student  
Fergus Falls, Minn.

**Grayson R. Osteraas '59**  
Doctor  
North Central Pathology  
Rice, Minn.

**Georga Larsen Parchem '67**  
Teacher  
Oak Park and River Forest  
High School  
Oak Park, Ill.

**Kathleen Angelos Pinkett '75**  
Second Vice President  
Minnesota Mutual  
Life Insurance Co.  
St. Paul

**Robert C. Ringold '52**  
Retired Account Executive  
Business Forms and Systems, Inc.  
Minnetonka, Minn.

**Kenneth Schwartz '80**  
Program Director  
United Hebrew Congregation  
St. Louis

**Paul E. Smyke '85**  
Senior Adviser  
World Economic Forum  
Cambridge, Mass.

**Christine M. Swanson '01**  
Macalester Student  
West St. Paul

**Minh T. Ta '97**  
Policy Director  
Children's Defense Fund—Minnesota  
St. Paul

**Gregory A. Thompson '84**  
Associate  
Spencer Stuart  
New York

**Linda Karrer Trout '69**  
Director of Career Services  
University of Missouri-Kansas City  
School of Law  
Kansas City, Mo.

**Dale W. Turnham '58**  
Commercial Account  
Executive/Retired  
Eagan, Minn.

**Kathleen Osborne Vellenga '59**  
Director  
The Children's Initiative  
St. Paul

**Per von Zelowitz '94**  
Northstream AB  
Solna, Sweden

**Helga L. Ying '87**  
Senior Manager/Government Affairs  
Levi Strauss & Co.  
San Francisco





The Alumni Board: *Front row (from left):* Joelle Blomquist '02, Helga Ying '87, Harmony O'Rourke '01, Jennifer Doyle '03, Prudence Lanegran Cameron '56, Carrie Norbin '94, Nancy Schatz Alton '92, Kathleen Angelos Pinkett '75, Margaret Westin '74 and Phyllis Bambusch Jones '44.

*Back:* Carla Morris '85, Kathleen Osborne Vellenga '59, Dale Turnham '58, Alan Green '74, Minh Ta '97, Melvin Collins '75, Michael Hecht '93, Grayson R. Osteraas '59,

Georga Larsen Parchem '67, Charles Harris '75, Jason V. Lejonvarn '88, Linda Karrer Trout '69, Harriet Lansing '67, Per von Zelowitz '94, Jennifer Lundblad '88, Edward Swanson '64, Thomas Moberg '86, Grant Killoran '86 and Robert Ringold '52.

*Not pictured:* Louisa Chapman '75, Diya Malarker '01, Kenneth Schwartz '80, Paul Smyke '85, Christine Swanson '01 and Gregory Thompson '84.

## Another Taste of College

*Returning to Mac three weekends each year, an Alumni Board member finds, once again, that she really does belong*

by Nancy Schatz Alton '92

**W**HEN I MOVED TO SEATTLE in 1995, I was glad to leave the "5-mile club" behind. That's the geographic area that encircles Snelling and Grand avenues, where you run into Mac alumni on a daily basis, which causes you to yearn for old pals, who now happen to be spread across the globe. I hoped my college ghosts, both good and bad, would haunt me no more.

But, a few years later, Jen Patti '91, then the Alumni Office's associate director, invited me to an event-planning meeting for the Seattle-area alumni chapter. A free meal was part of the deal. I decided

it might be nice to meet up with familiar ghosts, especially when Jen asked me to choose the restaurant. This was somehow reminiscent of my Macalester days, when I'd stop by various food-rich happenings, my backpack at the ready for spare cookies and half-sandwiches.

It turned out I signed up for more than some complimentary Pad Thai. Angela Johnson '91 and I began hosting events: a day at the zoo with biology Professor Jan Serie, a "Day of the Dead" lecture with Spanish Professor



Nancy Schatz Alton '92

*Seattleite Nancy Schatz Alton '92 is an editor for Frontier and Meridian airlines' in-flight publications. She looks forward to comparing the new dining hall to Kagin during her next visit to Macalester.*

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Macalester Professor Leola Johnson, second from left, and John Forde, second from right, on the set of "Mental Engineering." Bill Moyers called it "the most interesting weekly half-hour of social commentary and criticism on television."



TIM FRANCISCO

# AND NOW THIS MESSAGE...

*John Forde '83 and friends uncover the hidden agendas in all those television commercials*

*by Kate Havelin '83*

**J**OHN FORDE MAY BE the only veteran bus driver turned TV talk show host who's been likened to both Jim Carrey and Noam Chomsky. Those comparisons fly from critics who rave about Forde's edgy show, "Mental Engineering," which airs on PBS in more than 75 cities.

The program's premise is simple: critique commercials as if they were movies. Forde decon-

structs ads with four panelists, including frequent guest Leola Johnson, a communication studies professor at Macalester. "Mental Engineering's" title describes how ads attempt to manipulate viewers. "It's as if Wall Street and Madison Avenue have declared war on our psyches," Forde says.

He's passionate about the messages that Americans get from ads: to be consumers rather

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*Kate Havelin '83 is a free-lance writer and editor who lives in St. Paul.*



than citizens. "People see one hour of ads per day, that's 100 ads. It's consumption training. Cumulatively, commercial life is eclipsing civic and even spiritual life."

Taped in St. Paul at KTCA-Channel 2, the local PBS station, Forde's addition to the TV schedule has sparked a buzz of its own. Last spring, the *New York Times* published an effusive review of Forde and his creation. So have the *Christian Science Monitor*, ABC's "World News Tonight" and *USA Today*. The *St. Paul Pioneer Press* described the manic host as "an odd mix of Bill Maher, Alex Trebek, Noam Chomsky and an unrepentant yuppie," while the Associated Press compared him to "Jim Carrey with a Master's degree."

The accolades ring sweet for the lanky 42-year-old, who admits that until the age of 39 he didn't know what he wanted to do with his life. The Plymouth, Minn., native had bounced around a few colleges before a high school friend, Ken Boschwitz '82, persuaded him to try Macalester. At 21, Forde visited Mac, and quickly decided "This was the place for me." He majored in philosophy but wasn't known for his studies. "People said I majored in recreation—that was pretty accurate," he says with a laugh.

Forde also found time to drive a school bus while at Macalester. He continued behind the wheel while earning a graduate degree in psychology. Eventually, he landed his dream job: morning drive-time sidekick on KSTP radio. After just six months, though, KSTP told Forde he was "too weird" for radio. "I was just crushed," he recalls.

**S**O FORDE TURNED TO CABLE TV and launched his 30-minute show in 1998, inspired by a Mac classmate. "My friend Peter Berg went out and became a movie star, and I realized that what I thought was impossible, was in fact possible—I could break into the media." Of course, with an initial budget of \$200 per show, "Mental Engineering" was no "Chicago Hope." The money paid for good food for the volunteer crew and high-quality videotapes. The set was, well, lean. But the concept—and the conversation—clicked. "The show really is a word blizzard," Forde says. "It's 80 percent mania, 15 percent righteousness and 5 percent reverence."

As one might expect, finding sponsors is a problem. The first two seasons Forde's family was the prime underwriter. He had \$50,000 for his retirement; Forde poured the money into his show.

**'Cumulatively,  
commercial life  
is eclipsing civic  
and even  
spiritual life.'**

"I spent all of it. I knew this was very, very dangerous."

Forde and his wife, artist Catherine Reid Day, were willing to take the risk. Each has changed careers to follow a dream. The two met at an alumni party that Day hosted when she was Mac's vice president of development. They married in 1994 and live in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood with their 5-year-old daughter, Kara. "Mental Engineering" has become a family affair; Day is president of Porcupine Production Limited, which produces the show (Web: [www.mentalengineering.com](http://www.mentalengineering.com)).

So far, though, only the show's producer has gotten a true paycheck. Others, like head writer Jennifer Sheridan '84, a children's book buyer in New York, receive nominal pay. Sheridan spends five to ten hours a week on the phone with Forde refining scripts. (Stephen Queen '86 has also served as a writer on the show.) "He's a brilliant guy,"

## Feats of 'Engineering'

**A DUPONT COMMERCIAL** trumpets the company's success at turning ocean water into drinking water and developing medicines that fight HIV. It implies that DuPont is working on growing food where food can't grow and saving historic treasures from disintegrating.

To John Forde, it's a "classic corporate ad that praises technology and exaggerates multiculturalism."

**For examples of "Mental Engineering" at work, see *Macalester Today* on the Web: [www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)**

on the  
**WEB**

Sheridan says of Forde, a member of Mensa, "but he tends to speak in Fordespeak. I quickly understood my role was to decipher what he was saying."

Fordespeak or not, many viewers are getting "Mental Engineering's" message. PBS stations in New York, Washington, D.C., Denver, Boston and Chicago signed on for this season. "I love making the show for its educational purpose and as long as I can keep doing it and putting bread on the table, I will," Forde vows.

There's no shortage of bread on the table lately, thanks to Lutheran Brotherhood, a Twin Cities financial services company that hired Forde to help teach teen-agers around the country how to view media messages critically. He doesn't advocate just turning off the tube. "If you don't watch TV," he says, "you don't know what America is all about." ●



# PROBABLE CAUSE

*A mock trial helps students become better advocates for the environment*

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

“**D**O YOU SWEAR TO TELL the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?”

The first witness is sworn in. Attorneys for the plaintiffs line one table, those for the defendants—the United States government—another. The black-robed judge prepares to hear the case: Was it an abuse of discretion by the Secretary of Commerce to issue findings that there is insufficient evidence that purse seine fishing has an adverse impact on the dolphin population?

“Objection!” “Overruled!” “Leading the witness!”

The scene rings of authenticity, but the courtroom is in the Olin-Rice Science Center, the lawyers are students and this is a mock trial. The only real attorney present is “Judge” Martin Gunderson, chair of Macalester’s Philosophy Department, and he’s not really a judge.

This is an artful simulation designed to bridge the classroom and the real world.

The mock trial is one of several simulations in the case study course “Environmental Analysis and Problem Solving,” team-taught by Professors Aldemaro Romero and Brett Smith. Now in its second year, the course draws on people from across campus and beyond to play roles in simulations that prepare students for careers as environmental professionals. In designing the course, Romero, director of the college’s Environmental Studies Program, drew on his experience with nonprofit organizations and as a consultant to private corporations.

“When I was hired for this position at Macalester,” says Romero, “I asked myself what kind of skills I needed to do all those jobs that I was never

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*Free-lance writer Jan Shaw-Flamm '76 writes primarily about higher education and is a regular contributor to Macalester Today.*

taught in college. The idea was to use real cases, so the students learn the specific problems in environmental issues, but at the same time to have them perform different roles while doing those cases.”

This simulation began when a campus security officer in uniform walked into the classroom and delivered subpoenas to startled students. “That

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## ROUGH WATERS

**Despite death threats in his native Venezuela, Professor Al Romero still champions the environment**

**W**orking as an environmentalist can be a risky business. Just ask Aldemaro Romero, associate professor and director of Macalester’s Environmental Studies Program.

While heading an environmental organization in his homeland of Venezuela, he and a colleague made a discovery that could have cost him his life.

The two observed dolphins being used as bait for sharks by fishermen who then “harvested” the shark fins for sale in the lucrative U.S. and Japanese markets. “I took a videotape in which you could see fishermen killing and butchering the dolphins,” says Romero. When informed of this practice, Venezuelan authorities declined to act.

“The videotape was shown a month later on CNN worldwide,” says Romero. “The Venezuelan government received a huge amount of criticism from environmentalist citizens everywhere. Then I started to receive death threats in my country against my family and myself, so I had to come [to the U.S.] as a political refugee. Later, I learned that I was indicted for treason to the motherland.

“I also received death threats from Venezuelan government officials which were published on the front page of the *Wall Street Journal*. It was later learned that our discovery of the killing of dolphins off the coasts of Venezuela happened at the same time that the Venezuelan government was trying to lift the U.S. embargo against importation of tuna caught by





GREG HELGESON

**"The most valuable part of this whole class is learning how to work with people in many different ways," said junior Catherine Neuschler (Bowie, Md.), near left, a lawyer for the plaintiffs.**

Venezuelan fishing boats, some of which had been linked with drug smuggling, a fact I was previously unaware of. Suddenly I felt like a character in a Hitchcock movie: *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, i.e., they thought I knew more than I actually did, which explains why the death threats and the threats of kidnapping in the U.S., threats that the FBI took seriously enough to investigate but encountered the wall of diplomatic immunity since these later threats came from a Venezuelan consular official in Miami."

Romero's story is told in a TV series called "The Ultimate 10—Stings," which premiered March 2 on The Learning Channel.

**R**omero, a father of two, didn't set out to lead a life worthy of Hollywood. He received his undergraduate degree from Universidad de Barcelona and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Miami. He worked for The Nature Conservancy in D.C. before returning to Venezuela. After fleeing that country in 1994, Romero taught at both the University of Miami and Florida Atlantic University before joining the Macalester faculty in 1998.

**'I started to receive death threats in my country against my family and myself, so I had to come [to the U.S.] as a political refugee.'**

Romero cherishes teaching and considers research to be an integral part of teaching. A broadly trained biologist, he is highly regarded for his work in a number of areas, including the investigation of unusual cave-dwelling fishes. In his departmental laboratory, Romero has constructed a three-camera video system to record and digitize the movement of the fish in his

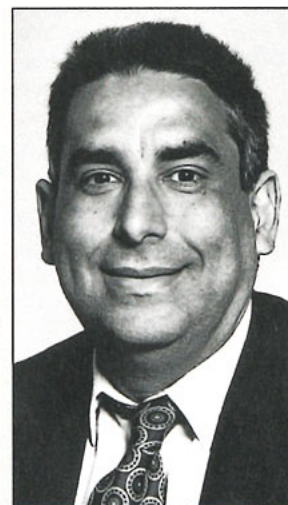
tank for the purpose of studying fish behavior. Students are often full co-participants in his research, traveling to such locations as Trinidad, Grenada and the Bahamas and ultimately co-authoring the published articles.

As editor of the paperless *Environ*, Romero connects a wider audience to an interdisciplinary approach to environmental issues. *Environ* is an electronic, peer-reviewed journal that supports commentary between authors and readers. He also organizes EnviroThursdays, a series of weekly meetings presenting videos and speakers on environmental topics. For a faculty audience, Romero organized the PEW conference "Breadth vs. Depth: How to Develop a Solid Environmental Studies Program," held at Macalester in April 2000.

Romero also attends to the implicit responsibilities of his position through his work as co-chair of the Campus Environmental Issues Committee, which raises awareness of environmental issues on campus.

"Like it or not, especially in a place like this where you have such close contact with the students, you become a role model," he says. "So I try to live up to that expectation by not only trying to be a good teacher and a good researcher in environmentalism, but also a good citizen. I've tried to make the college a really green campus. I don't think it will be healthy for the program to have a highly regarded academic program on a campus that doesn't practice what it's preaching."

—Jan Shaw-Flamm '76



Al Romero



## WARMING TO THE TASK

### Nathaniel Bills '02 lobbies with passion and skill at an international conference on global warming

**W**hen European television cameras focused on Nathaniel Bills, he was ready. He knew just how to maximize those seconds with the right sound bite.

After all, he had already experienced a dry-run press conference during his Macalester class's October simulation of the same global warming meetings he was attending in The Hague a month later.

Last summer, Bills did door knocking and environmental education in Minneapolis on behalf of the Sierra Club. A colleague suggested he apply to be one of 225 U.S. activists that Greenpeace would send to the Sixth Conference of the Parties (COP 6), the international gathering dedicated to arresting global warming.

There in The Hague, Bills spent 10 days lobbying U.S. delegates, stopping them in hallways, grabbing any spare moment to talk facts and highlight the importance of achieving an effective treaty.

It might seem like a bit of a reach for a college junior to be lobbying delegates at an international conference, but the experience shows that the world is hungry for young activists with the necessary will, skills and intellectual comprehension of the issues.

Bills, an environmental studies and philosophy major from Townshend, Vt., already possessed the will. The skills, and the knowledge, he further developed in the ENVI 55 simulation led by Brett Smith, visiting assistant professor of environmental studies.

In 1997, the initial 170 countries met in Japan to create the Kyoto Protocol agreement. Subsequent meetings have been devoted to designing a plan to achieve the emissions reduction goals. In the COP 6 simulation, students studied the issues, then negotiated as representatives of countries who would be meeting some weeks later.

Smith was pleased with their performance. "The students came to a consensus on all disputed issues with some clever negotiating. I am very curi-

ous to see if the actual negotiations at The Hague come out as well," he said in early November.

**A**las, it was not to be. A stalemate between U.S. and European delegates left the nations with significant work to do at the next COP, which could take place sometime in 2001. Nevertheless, Bills saw progress.

"When you get 180 countries from around the world to sit down and try to hammer out a treaty like this, which is binding, which is going to affect everyone, that's an immense task. This is COP 6, and each time, I think, they get a little farther."

Students raised money for their own airfare, and Bills is still working to cover that \$580 bill. But he doesn't question the value of the effort. "I was there with 225 extremely dedicated, intelligent, motivated students who felt very strongly about this issue, who felt very deeply, and we all inspired each other. People felt a lot of hope."

— Jan Shaw-Flamm '76



Junior Nathaniel Bills (Townshend, Vt.), an environmental studies and philosophy major, attended the COP 6 conference on global warming.

**'I was there  
[in The Hague]  
with 225 extremely  
dedicated,  
intelligent, motivated  
students....  
We all inspired  
each other.'**



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really happens," Romero explained to students, "and then you must know that every document you have is now a matter of public record."

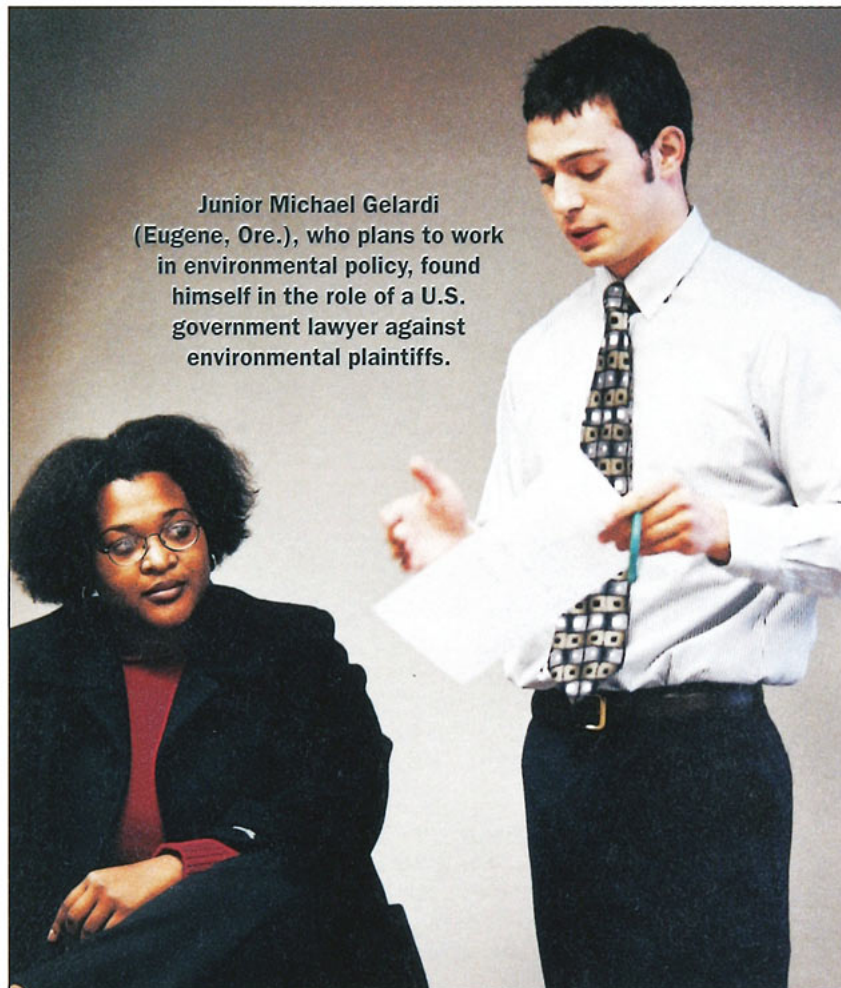
The class of 19 was divided into lawyers, witnesses, investigators and a clerk of court. All immediately immersed themselves in the facts of dolphins, purse seine fishing and the federal Marine Mammals Protection Act. The trial itself took place in two 1½-hour sessions, building on the depositions and the pretrial hearing of the previous week.

Two students, Michael Gelardi and Catherine Neuschler, frequent classmates since their first semester, suddenly became adversaries as opposing lawyers. Gelardi relished the experience. A junior from outside Eugene, Ore., majoring in both environmental studies and political science, he plans to go to law school, then work in environmental policy. As an environmentalist, it was unsettling for Gelardi to find himself defending the U.S. government against plaintiffs that included the Earth Island Institute, the Humane Society and the International Wildlife Coalition. That was part of the learning experience.

"When you start playing this role, you get very wrapped up in it, and you start to believe that you

valuable part of this whole class is learning how to work with people in many different ways. Whether it's to work with them or work against them, you're still working with them, just in opposition."

"All the students' presentations of cases are videotaped," says Romero. "I later sit with the students and go over their performance in terms of



**Junior Michael Gelardi (Eugene, Ore.), who plans to work in environmental policy, found himself in the role of a U.S. government lawyer against environmental plaintiffs.**

GREG HELGESSON

**'It's easy as an environmentalist to have this knee-jerk reaction, but the more that you study issues, the more complicated you find out they really are.'**

—Michael Gelardi '02

really are right," says Gelardi. "But by the same token, it helps you to see the other side of the issue. It's easy as an environmentalist to have this knee-jerk reaction, but the more that you study issues, the more complicated you find out they really are. It's easy to demonize someone, to say, 'These people are right, these people are wrong,' but that's hardly ever the case."

Neuschler, a junior from Bowie, Md., is also an environmental studies and political science major. She served as a lawyer for the plaintiffs. At the pre-trial hearing, the plaintiffs—to Neuschler's mind—were "under-prepared, and Mike and the other defense lawyers exploited that very, very well. So we were faced with the challenge of having to come back from that and make our case. It was exhilarating in a way."

At times the courtroom atmosphere was contentious. "Professor Romero said that last year in the middle of the simulations the groups weren't talking to each other, and that's somewhat what happened this year," says Neuschler. "The most

words per minute, body language, presence, organization, tables, everything. In the environmental arena, communication is so important because you're talking to the public, to the federal or state agencies, to corporations. You need to get the point across, and you need to learn the techniques of doing that."

"Professor Romero is a lot of fun, but he's also demanding," says Neuschler. "He has high expectations for all of us, and he does everything he can to make you live up to those expectations."

The verdict? "Judge" Gunderson found for the plaintiffs, as did the judge in a similar actual trial in April. The mock trial decision rested not on the

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For more on this story, see *Macalester Today* on the Web: [www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)





# HUNGRY MINDS

*Whether baking cakes and pies in Philadelphia,  
running a Thai restaurant or serving seafood in St. Paul,  
some alumni have a consuming passion for food*

**EDITORS' NOTE:** As many alumni will notice, we stole our headline from the beloved Hungry Mind Bookstore adjacent to the Mac campus. The 31-year-old independent bookstore is still thriving under a new name adopted last year: Ruminator Books. <[www.ruminator.com](http://www.ruminator.com)>



"I like to think of us as a great alternative to Starbucks," Grey Heck '90 says of Cake, her bakery and cafe in Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill neighborhood.

## GREY HECK '90

**OWNER, CAKE BAKERY AND CAFE, PHILADELPHIA**

**Culinary credentials:** An anthropology major at Mac, she earned a baking and pastry degree from the Culinary Institute of America and started in the restaurant business 10 years ago. Cake, the first restaurant she's owned, opened March 25, 2000, and has won a "Best of Philly" award for best tart in the city. Using all-natural ingredients, Cake makes everything from scratch: cakes, pies, tarts, cookies, bars, wedding cakes and many breakfast items. "I like to think of us as a great alternative to Starbucks: great coffee, great treats and a cozy place to sit and hang out."

**Favorite restaurants:** "I have to admit that my husband and I are restaurant junkies. We go out to eat often. One of our favorite restaurants is D'Mettri's in downtown Philadelphia. It's a tiny BYO place with way too many tables, always packed, but so, so good. Clean, crisp food, mostly seafood. The wait staff are all these fabulous-looking, tough women. Another favorite is a Chinese-French place near us called Cin-Cin. We get amazing takeout there about twice a week." ●

**'Best meal I've ever eaten':**

For alumni comments, see *Macalester Today* on the Web: [www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)

on the  
**WEB**



## KIRK BRATRUD '84

OWNER-CHEF, SUPERIOR WINDJAMMERS, INC., DULUTH, MINNESOTA

Kirk Bratrud in 1996 at his Bayport (Minn.) American Cookery, where he was known for using ultra-fresh and often quite unusual produce to create memorable meals. *Star Tribune* critic Jeremy Iggers called the restaurant "a paradise for sophisticated palates."



GREG HELGESON

## JIM SILBERSTEIN '85

OWNER, TINA'S CUISINE AND ENCORE CAFE, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

'Best meal I've ever eaten':

For alumni comments, see *Macalester Today* on the Web: [www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)

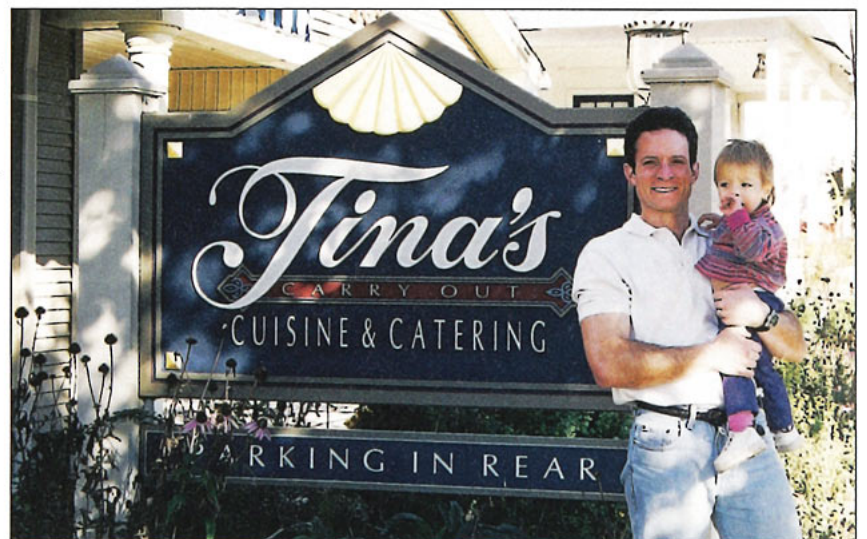
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**Culinary credentials:** Tina's, a gourmet deli, bakery and specialty grocery, was a project he worked on with his family after graduating from Macalester. "[Economics Professor] Karl Egge's 'Entrepreneurship' class proved to be an inspirational tool for this purpose." After pursuing an M.B.A. at Northwestern, he planned "never to return to Bloomington, but after a mere 10 months in the 'regular' corporate world, I realized that my true passion was entrepreneurship. In 1991, I returned to Bloomington and opened the Encore Cafe, a 220-seat, art-deco cafe and restaurant."

**Favorite restaurants:** "I lived in Chicago for three years and visit frequently."

"I realized that my true passion was entrepreneurship," says Jim Silberstein '85, pictured with Rachael, Mac Class of '21, at Tina's in Bloomington, Ind.

Aside from 3 a.m. visits to The Wiener Circle or Demon Dogs, one experience stands out. I believe the place was called Bossa Nova. The food was great, as was the atmosphere, but what made it memorable was the service. My then-girlfriend, and now wife, Beth, and I still talk about it. There were perhaps four or five people waiting on us. Each served a different purpose. They took care of our every need, but somehow seemed to leave us alone. The wait staff watched from afar, timed their visits perfectly, were friendly and attentive. In this day and age, where good service is a rarity, we still remember that particular dining experience." ●





**Culinary credentials:** A history major at Mac, he is the former owner-chef of Mrs. B's Historic Lanesboro Inn and Bayport American Cookery; the latter received the Zagat restaurant survey's second-highest score in the Twin Cities market and was included in *Gourmet* magazine's list of "America's Top Tables." He is currently owner-chef of Superior Windjammers, Inc., in Duluth, a new venture that provides tours of Lake Superior on a 60-foot ketch

with room for 47 passengers and a dining room aboard that seats 20.

**Favorite restaurant:** "I like Goodfellow's in Minneapolis for special occasions. The staff is genuinely perceptive and dedicated to making the best use of the restaurant's resources on your behalf. When everything goes right, the many details of service, food and restaurant enfold you in a reassuring warmth that inspires openness and celebration." ●

## LESLIE ARP REVSIN '66

**CHEF AND FOOD WRITER, BRONXVILLE, NEW YORK**



**Culinary credentials:** The first woman chef at New York's Waldorf-Astoria, she ran such New York restaurant kitchens as 1/5 Avenue and her own Restaurant Leslie in Greenwich Village. She was one of 13 chefs featured on the PBS series "Master Chefs of New York." "Now I write about food and create recipes for us folks at home!" Her first cookbook, *Great Fish, Quick: Delicious Dinners from Fillets and Shellfish* (Doubleday), was a Julia Child Award finalist. Her second, *Easy Elegance in an Hour: Simple, Delicious Dishes to Dazzle Your Family and Friends*, will be published by Time-Life in the fall of 2001.

**Leslie Revsin, who now writes about food, broke the gender barrier in the kitchens of the Waldorf-Astoria in 1972 and was one of the "great women chefs in New York," according to a 1999 *New York Times* article.**

**Favorite restaurants:** "I have no favorite restaurants (I used to). While I find that restaurant cooking these days can be mightily impressive, I often find the experience of it less than satisfying. And at the end of the day, impressive doesn't do it for me. Unless it's accompanied by a big dose of real heart. When my husband and I go out, which isn't very often, we gravitate to ethnic food for its vibrant, earthy flavors and down-to-earth approach." ●



# CORY HILL '85

**MANAGING PARTNER, GRACE RESTAURANT, NEW YORK CITY'S TRIBECA NEIGHBORHOOD**

**Culinary credentials:** He has 15 years of experience in the food service industry; he got his start at the original Sawatdee Thai Restaurant (run by Mac parent Supenn Harrison and family) in the Twin Cities and also worked at Muffuletta in St. Paul before moving to New York. Former general manager of Peter's Waterfront Alehouse in Brooklyn Heights, he is often consulted on beer selections for restaurants and catering and has a vast knowledge of beer styles, regions and producers.

**Favorite restaurants:** "My favorite restaurants are definitely ethnic. I love discovering new types of food and flavor combinations. I am into Pakistani food now, which I get at a local cabbie hang-out. I love Vietnamese food, and I have always loved dim sum. In New York, I believe you have the widest variety of ethnicities and therefore the closest approximation of globe-trotting.

"I find it fascinating that cultures all over the world have some sort of dumpling. I loosely define a dumpling as a starch wrapped around a meat or vegetable. We have raviolis, dumplings, pirogis, sandwiches, burritos, meat pies, and on and on. One day I am going to open a restaurant as a tribute to this commonality. My brother thinks it should be called 'Tastes like Chicken.'" ●

SARA BARRETT



Cory Hill '85 at his Grace restaurant and bar, 114 Franklin St. (between West Broadway and Church Street) in New York City's Tribeca neighborhood.

Supenn Harrison, right foreground, who originally came to Minnesota to train as a teacher, became an acclaimed restaurateur with seven Sawatdee Thai restaurants. She runs Sawatdee with her family—daughters Cyndy '02, far right, and Jenny '99 and husband Bruce.





## ELEANOR OSTMAN AUNE '62

**FOOD WRITER, ST. PAUL**

**Culinary credentials:** For more than three decades, she wrote about food in all its aspects for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. Her Sunday column, "Tested Recipes," ran for 30 years and provided fodder for a recent best-selling book, *Always on Sunday*. She served as a judge in all the national food contests and founded the Newspaper Food Editors and Writers Association. She still writes about food, does regular radio shows, teaches cooking classes and organizes worldwide travel for food writer colleagues—38 trips to date. "I continue to eat my way around the world."

**Favorite restaurants:** "In Minnesota, The Blue Horse in St. Paul was my all-time favorite—alas, long gone. Current chosen destination: The Napa Valley Grille in the Mall of America for an upscale experience, or a Vietnamese or Thai hole-in-the-wall for something spicy. I love Famous Dave's ribs—he credits me for being the first to write about them, giving him encouragement to go into the barbecue biz. The best steak we've had recently was the New York strip at Kincaid's in downtown St. Paul. The Double Dutch Fudge Pie at the Anderson House in Wabasha is worth the drive. Elsewhere, I love every morsel I've ever put a fork—or chopsticks—to in New Orleans, Tuscany or Hong Kong." •



Eleanor Ostman Aune '62 is the author of *Always on Sunday*, a recent book drawing on her 30 years as a food writer for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.

## SUPENN HARRISON and family, including daughters JENNY '99 and CYNDY '02 HARRISON,

**PROPRIETORS, SAWATDEE THAI RESTAURANTS, MINNESOTA**

**Culinary credentials:** Supenn Harrison opened her first restaurant, the Siam Cafe, in 1979—the first Thai restaurant in Minnesota. There are now seven Sawatdees, in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Bloomington and St. Cloud. Each offers the same authentic Thai cuisine. Supenn, who originally came to Minnesota to train as a teacher, teaches cooking classes while running her many restaurants that also offer catering.

**Favorite restaurants:** Supenn and her family enjoy eating out often. "Our favorite restaurant is It's Greek to Me in Minneapolis for the casual dinner.

Their calamari and gyros are the best in the Twin Cities. For a business luncheon, there's Goodfellow's in Minneapolis, but try to stick to the light entrees. For a special occasion, the Oceanaire Seafood Room in Minneapolis has excellent food and the fish is unquestionably fresh."

**Web:** [www.sawatdee.com](http://www.sawatdee.com) •

**'Best meal  
I've ever eaten':**

For alumni comments, see  
*Macalester Today* on the Web:  
[www.macalester.edu/  
~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)

on the  
**WEB**



# BROCK OBEЕ '93

**CHEF-OWNER WITH WIFE NATALIE, 128 CAFE, ST. PAUL**

**Culinary credentials:** Located across the street from the University of St. Thomas, the four-year-old restaurant has become a neighborhood favorite, as well as being popular with Mac students and alumni. It won *City Pages*' "Best Caesar" award two years in a row and rated as high as second in the "New American" category of the Twin Cities' Zagat restaurant survey. "While we can be described as having 'new American cuisine,' my wife and I strive to create dishes that reflect our desire to create 'comfort food' that isn't boring. We've been described as having everything from 'truckstop to Charlie Trotter'; hence our killer barbecued ribs are as popular as our grilled vegetables with saffron cous cous with honey-lime vinaigrette."

**Favorite restaurants:** "When we dine out, which is infrequently, we particularly like Auriga and Goodfellow's, both in Minneapolis. Auriga is a restaurant not unlike ours, in that it is owned by young and creative chefs. The menu is always adventuresome

**Owner-chef Brock Obee '93, right, a political science major at Mac, and below, with Mac friends at his 128 Cafe, located at 128 N. Cleveland Ave., St. Paul, across from the University of St. Thomas. Clockwise from top left: Wendy Moylan '92, Brock, Liz Wefel '91, Roberta Yamada '91, Feryan Ahmed '92 and Sameer Rabbani '92.**

and they do an awesome appetizer of polenta, asparagus and scrambled farm eggs. Goodfellow's sets the (expensive) standard for local dining. We haven't been there as much as we would like.

"My mom is still one of the best cooks I know. Because my parents were in the Foreign Service and posted in India, Pakistan and East Africa, I was often treated to the various dishes of each respective post. We were more likely to have chicken curry than spaghetti and meatballs when I was a kid!"

**Web:** [www.128cafe.net](http://www.128cafe.net) ●

**'Best meal I've ever eaten':**

For alumni comments, see *Macalester Today* on the Web: [www.macalester.edu/~alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/~alumni)

on the  
**WEB**

GREG HELGESON







John Schneider '91, left, Sam Ernst '88 and Jim Dunn '88 at their new restaurant, Red Fish Blue: An Ocean Diner, on Grand Avenue, adjacent to the Mac campus. They also own Table of Contents in Minneapolis.

## JIM DUNN '88, SAM ERNST '88 and JOHN SCHNEIDER '91

**OWNERS, RED FISH BLUE, ST. PAUL, AND TABLE OF CONTENTS, MINNEAPOLIS**

**Culinary credentials:** Jim Dunn explains how he, Sam Ernst and John Schneider got into the restaurant business: "The day before graduation in 1988, David Unowsky of the *Hungry Mind Bookstore* hired me to work at the *Hungry Mind Review*. About a year later, David announced he was looking for people to open a café to go with the bookstore. Well, Sam and I both held a number of other jobs over the next year or so, including working at Dunn Bros. Coffee, and Sam had been thinking about opening a restaurant with a chef from D'amico Cucina, so the idea seemed possible.

"By the time *Table of Contents* opened, we'd transformed from a café to a full-service restaurant: soup & sandwiches had become Ahi tuna and carpaccio. Having worked with John at Dunn Bros., we recruited him to be our manager shortly after opening, and when we started our second restaurant in 1995, he became a partner.

"None of us brought much experience to the table—we really put to the test the old adage that a

liberal arts education teaches you how to learn. And it does. While we've learned to hire people for their skills, we still insist on understanding how every aspect of the restaurant works, from corporate structure to the dish machine. That drive to understand is a constant challenge. It keeps the business exciting."

**Jim Dunn's favorite restaurants:** "Rainbow on Nicollet in Minneapolis: simply outstanding Asian food—we all love it. And you don't need a co-signer to pay the bill. The French Laundry, Napa, Calif.: arguably the best restaurant in the country—and if you don't want to argue, it's still going to be on any foodie's top 10 list. Arado, in Los Angeles' Koreatown: four big reasons to go: 1) you may be the only English-speaker at any given time; 2) despite linguistic challenges, the service is unfailingly gracious; 3) the sushi is awesome; and 4) four people can stuff themselves on sushi and beer for \$100." ●





Elizabeth Brown '92 develops recipes and menus for more than 30 stores in Target's Department Store Division in Minneapolis, Chicago and Detroit.

## ELIZABETH FITZGERALD BROWN '92 CHICAGO, CORPORATE CHEF OF MARKETPLACES FOR DEPARTMENT STORE DIVISION OF TARGET CORP.

**Culinary credentials:** After graduating from Macalester, she attended the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y. She worked in Philadelphia at the White Dog Cafe from 1994 to 1998, in positions from line cook to executive sous chef, and co-authored *The White Dog Cafe Cookbook* (Running Press). In her current job, she develops recipes and menus for more than 30 stores

in Minneapolis, Chicago and Detroit, and also trains the culinary staff.

**Favorite restaurants:** "Although I live in Chicago, I travel to Minneapolis several times a month. I am amazed at how much the restaurant scene has developed in Minneapolis since I graduated. There are all sorts of fabulous places to eat! Some of my favorites downtown are: Aquavit, Zelo, Brasserie Zinc, and of course Dayton's Marketplace!" ●



Mae Eng Chen '48 at Chen's Chinese Restaurant in Long Beach, Calif. Director Oliver Stone filmed several scenes at the restaurant for his 1993 movie *Heaven & Earth*.

### They also serve...

These alumni are also involved in the restaurant-catering-food business:

- Jessica Bankes Beattie '89 and Jay Beattie '88 own a gourmet Italian deli, Cucina Fresca, in Seattle's Pike Place Market.
- Brena Penn Phelps '74 runs a specialty cake shop, Couture Cakes by Brena, in Houston, Texas, which creates exquisitely designed wedding cakes.
- Tonija Hope '97 manages Cafe Atlantico restaurant in Washington, D.C., which she calls "a fun Caribbean/Latin American spot."
- Mae Eng Chen '48 and her late husband opened Chen's Chinese Restaurant in Long Beach, Calif., in 1986, and she ran it until selling Chen's in 1999. The restaurant continues to have an adjacent "temple" for New Age enlightenment sessions and Mae Chen continues to lead classes there. ●



## ANOTHER TASTE OF COLLEGE

*continued from page 17*

Juanita Garciagodoy '78. Then Jen called again: Would I like to join the Macalester Alumni Board?

It sounded like a grand excuse to see my Twin Cities-based family more often—three weekends each school year. Heck, I'd rack up a decent number of frequent flyer miles. And Jen assured me that two, sometimes three square meals a day would be served. But even thoughts of steaming Itza pizza sticks weren't enough to get me revved up for one-and-a-half-day board meetings.

My head swirled with disbelief and confusion after the first weekend meeting. I'd met countless successful alums, including an epidemiologist for the Centers for Disease Control and a former state representative (I remembered her campaign signs from my days in St. Paul). While waiting for our return flight, David Hodge '70, a dean at the University of Washington, handled my questions with wisdom.

"What am I doing with all of these over-achievers? Why did they ask me to be on the board?"

David gracefully remained silent.

**N**OW, THREE YEARS LATER, I'm much closer to answering my own self-absorbed question. As a magazine editor, sometimes I do feel out of place while sitting at a table full of lawyers at a Sunday breakfast. But that moment is fleeting. Later, I find myself laughing at a joke someone has made to lighten the mood of a committee discussion. These weekends remind me of my best moments as a Macalester student. Like the way my adviser, history Professor Jim Stewart, would invite me into his office, often when I was stressed to the very core. "Take a seat," he'd say. "Have an Altoid, it'll make you feel better." A well-placed comment, be it a joke, a compliment or a valuable insight about a tough topic, can change the course of a discussion, a bad day or a life path.

It's similar to the slow realization that dawned

on me while I attended college: I had more than enough brains to contribute to any discussion. The day Dean of Admissions Bill Shain called and told me I was accepted at Macalester, I didn't believe him. Surely they had made a mistake. I wanted my parents to call back and double-check. My brothers had both been accepted to Mac. They're brilliant. I just worked hard. I wouldn't last a semester.

But I did last. And I count the times that my professors praised my writing skills as tools; tools I called upon years later as I finally picked up a pen again and began to work towards my goal of writing full time.

And that is why I'm on the Alumni Board. Because I know there are more Nancy Schatz's at Macalester. And I can contribute to their educations by asking questions and voicing my opinions at board meetings. I can second Harmony O'Rourke's ('01)

idea of starting an endowed fund for paid internships for students who can't afford to complete unpaid internships. I can keep asking about need-blind admission, to make sure people from backgrounds similar to mine—students without trust funds—can continue to attend Macalester. I can help plan an alumni day of service, maybe just so I'll get out there myself, roll up my sleeves and do what I can to change my small piece of globe.

My time at Macalester made me believe (no matter how cynical I am most mornings) in a statement by Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

My time on the board reinforces that idea, and it's most likely why I signed on for three more years on the Alumni Board, after I told myself my first three years were enough. Besides, I've eaten more than my share of free cookies. I want to make sure there are some left for Macalester students of the future. ●

**These weekends remind me of my best moments as a Macalester student.**

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## PROBABLE CAUSE *continued from page 23*

film of dolphins being slaughtered nor on the expert testimony of scientists, but on the fact that the Secretary of Commerce failed to carry out all required studies before allowing a looser definition of "dolphin-safe tuna."

"I was impressed with the performance of the students," Gunderson says. "They needed to present complex factual and legal material within the confines of a tense adversarial trial with restrictive rules

of evidence. This is a difficult job for an attorney, much less someone who has not attended law school."

As for residual animosity? As the lawyers shuffled their papers and the witnesses breathed a sigh of relief, the talk was of Saturday night's "reconciliation party." Maybe the real world should study the classroom. ●



## Two Sons of Africa

Macalester teammates meet again after 40 years

by James Toliver '60

**COTONOU, BENIN** — It had been 40 years since I'd seen Kofi Annan. We knew each other as Macalester students and I recruited him for the track team, where he set a record in the 60-yard dash, though he later told me he would have to discontinue his athletic activities in order to concentrate more on his studies. He was always a perfect gentleman and his quiet, considerate manner generated considerable respect among his teammates.

Our Dec. 5 meeting coincided with the U.N. secretary-general's visit to the Democracy in Africa Conference in Benin, a small, beautiful West African country, where I'm currently working for the Ministry of Education.

Benin seemed an ideal reunion site for Macalester's "Favorite Son," as *Macalester Today* called him when he returned to campus in 1998, and his "Roots"-seeking African American brother. Kofi was my first African acquaintance. My ancestors may have been among the thousands of captives shipped to America, Europe and the West Indies from the very place where we were to meet. There are sites in Benin that commemorate these atrocities.

Benin has managed, for the past several years, to keep its peace on a continent whose people are trying to survive poverty, disease and fratricide. Ghana, Benin's neighbor and Kofi's home country, was beginning peaceful elections on the day we were to meet, while Ivory Coast, Ghana's neighbor, was wasting lives in a bloody pre-election struggle to determine who was Ivorian enough to run for office.

I'd followed press accounts of U.N. involvement in these and other struggles throughout the world, and had personally witnessed, over a 15-year period of Africa postings, my Motherland's pain in Guinea, Mauritania, Sudan, Niger, Mali, Chad and Senegal.

My wife, Nouria, accompanied me to the Cotonou Hotel where Kofi was staying.

After a 10-minute wait while he finished another meeting, we were taken into his suite. The Kofi who greeted us—hand outstretched and a warm, natural smile—was the same Kofi I knew decades back. There was no sign of the toll of what must be an overwhelming responsibility. I saw, in his manner, not the slightest affectation of importance. We shook hands before embracing and exchanging the affectionate "Bise" (touching of cheeks) that is now a part of African tradition as a result of extensive French cultural contact. As we embraced, I felt the definition of his shoulder muscles and I knew he was still in good shape. I wondered whether, even now, he might not be able to reclaim the 60-yard dash track record he had established at Mac in 1961.

It was to be a private meeting that would last 20 minutes. I introduced Nouria and we sat down to chat.

We briefly discussed the U.S. presidential election before talking about the passage of time and how "young" both of us still looked.

We exchanged remarks about our gray hair (his gray-ing, mine mostly white) and I reflected upon what friends, who haven't seen each other for a long time, usually talk about. We spoke of mutual Mac friends and acquaintances.

I spoke of my no longer running, due to a martial arts injury, and the adoption of an elliptical cross trainer as a fitness alternative. Kofi laughed gently and I wondered if this is what getting old is all about. It isn't as though these thoughts hadn't occurred to me previously. But his aura and down-to-earth manner added another dimension.

When the conversation turned to Nouria, I was surprised at how relaxed she was. There was a communality between them. She is from Togo, a country bordering Ghana.

We didn't speak much about political matters, although I did remark to Kofi that as secretary-general he must be shouldering a very heavy load. He looked away and said, with a sadness I felt but cannot express, "I was in Sierra Leone and Liberia yesterday."

As we parted, the two of us shared the revolutionary handshake. "Kofi, the people love you," I said. He smiled and said, "Sometimes they can love you to death."

"I'll pray for you," I said.

"I'll need it," he replied.

Nouria shook his hand to say goodbye and he told her, "Take care of him."

Two days after our meeting, the BBC and Voice of America reported that "a smiling Kofi Annan" was in Ethiopia and had announced a peace agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Some 15,000 cheering people turned out to greet him in Eritrea. In his speech to them Kofi said, simply, that it was a war that did not have to happen. ●

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*James Toliver '60 has worked extensively in several African countries, including a presidential appointment as director of the Peace Corps in Mauritania. He is currently The Academy for Educational Development education planner for primary schools at the Benin Ministry of Education. His daughter, Maimouna, is a junior at Macalester.*

**Macalester track teammates Kofi Annan '61 and Jim Toliver '60 meet Dec. 5, 2000, in Cotonou, the largest port and city in the West African country of Benin.**

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**'I'll pray for you,' I said.**

**'I'll need it,' he replied.**

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## Center of attention

Macalester's new Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center opened in late January—months ahead of schedule. This view shows students studying on the second floor, with the dining area below on the first floor. The center is certain to become the central gathering place on campus. See story on page 2.

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