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Macalester Today Summer 2002

Macalester College

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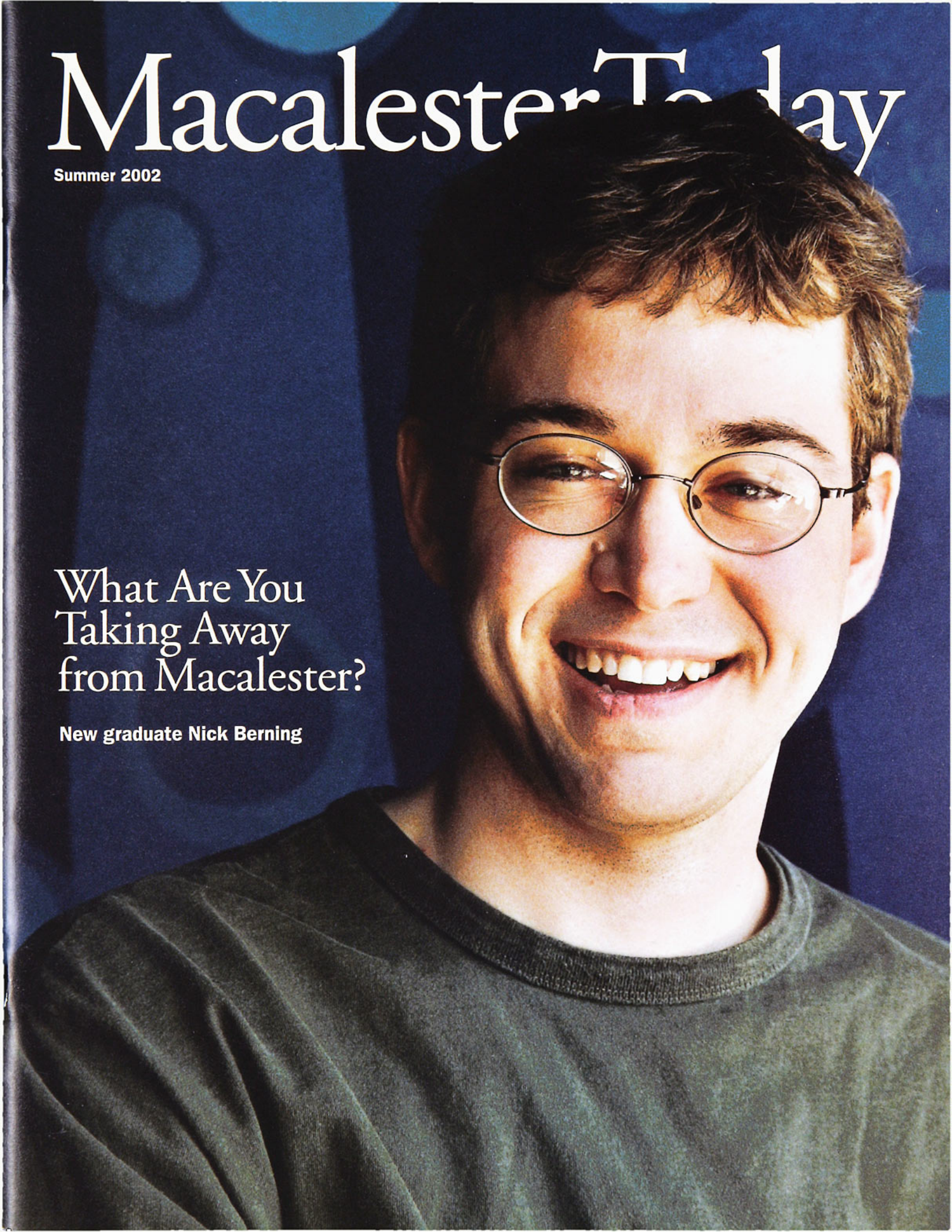
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Macalester Today

Summer 2002

What Are You
Taking Away
from Macalester?

New graduate Nick Berning



KAGIN COMMONS KAGIN COMMONS

Here comes the sun ... it's all right

On a warm spring day, two students find a congenial spot to soak up some rays as they study near the not yet landscaped Kagin Commons.



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A generation after the island nation sent dozens of students to Macalester, Mac faculty and staff journeyed there for their own study abroad.

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What Are You Taking Away from Macalester?

We posed that question to six graduating seniors. Greg Helgeson photographed each of them. Nick Berning is pictured in the Grand Avenue restaurant Red Fish Blue (which coincidentally is owned by three Mac alumni: see Spring 2001 *Mac Today*).

Two of the seniors—Mary Robert Nahm and William Sentell—have been work-study students here in the College Relations Office for most of their time at Mac. Both terrific people, they became our valued colleagues and good friends. We wish them all the best.

Macalester Today

Summer 2002

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

World citizens

I FOUND IT FITTING to be reading *Macalester Today* while traveling in Sri Lanka and to note that the article "Staying Power" (Winter 2001–2002) featured newly tenured Professor Arjun Guneratne, who comes from this beautiful country. It is just another reminder that we all truly are world citizens.

Just before I left home I had a conversation about Macalester with a colleague from Ghana when he learned both Kofi Annan and I were graduates. The world is a small place and we must care for it and for each other.

I am pleased and grateful to work in a global environment with World Vision, an international Christian relief and development organization focusing on children in nearly 100 countries.

Cheryl Alen Stock '82
Seattle

Political diversity

THANK YOU for publishing the letter on "Political Diversity" by Jay Cline '92 in the Spring issue. Hopefully things have changed at Mac that you are able to print letters such as his.

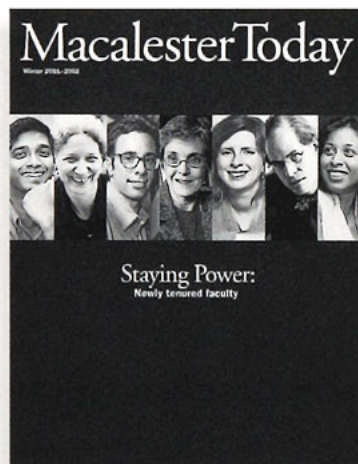
It was interesting to note his comments. There are those who would like to curtail academic freedom except for their own views. It is ironic that those who claim to be for tolerance are themselves the least tolerant. I was especially disappointed to hear that some faculty members share in the hypocrisy.

It was not that way in '55—thankfully!

I'm sure Jay and others who share his values have been given many labels. I would like to give him one

more—courageous. There are millions of us in America who are standing against the immoral spiral that our country is in. The truth of Holy Scripture is not a popular stand today, yet it is the ultimate truth. It is only in following the will of God who created this world that we can stop the "Death of Western Civilization." By their example they may also help others avoid eternal separation from God and all the heartache and suffering entailed.

Rev. Gordon E. Bock '55
Wheaton, Minn.



THE TOPIC OF "political diversity" has been present in *Macalester Today* for a while now, but a lingering misunderstanding of the term has led to confusion about what role the school can or should play in fostering it.

The terms "left" and "liberal" have suffered greatly in this debate. Leftist politics

advocate the rearrangement of social conditions by radical measures, often including revolution. Liberalism and conservatism both hope to control political and social life via structures in the current system, and thus have much more in common with each other than with leftism. The contemptible harassment described by earlier writers seems to be more about social identity ("identity politics") than about politics proper. The pursuit of radical chic, which exists (or did) at Macalester, is a social issue. Politics and political diversity should properly mean

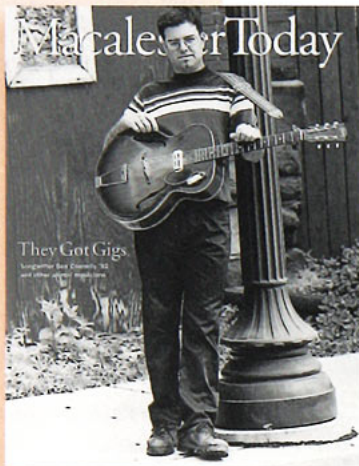
It is ironic that those who claim to be for tolerance are themselves the least tolerant.

They Got Gigs continued

Since our Fall issue appeared, we continue to hear from more alumni who play “popular” music, from rock to folk to jazz.

Claire Schnauer Lindem '51 of Rockford, Ill., has been playing the Celtic harp at festivals, weddings and parties for more than 20 years. She has performed with a Celtic band and solo as well as with her husband Tom, who plays hammer dulcimer. She has two CDs out—*Celtic Feast* and *Relaxation*. E-mail: tjlindem@insightbb.com

—the Editors



education, Macalester already acts as a self-selecting mechanism against political diversity. If socioeconomic status has a relationship to political commitment, then the expense of higher education eliminates those who would bring real political diversity to Macalester. It may be useful to have more conservatives on campus, but the real political void at Macalester is from the left.

Scholarship in the humanities has been profoundly influenced by theories emerging from the left (Marx et al). Modern politics and thought are predicated on these discussions. Whether we agree or not, it is vital that students learn the shape of current debate so they can take part in it.

That can't happen without sustained attention to these thinkers, which is frankly lacking widespread pedagogical support at Macalester, for various reasons. This is a different form of political diversity, which may be opposed by many alumni. But it is crucial to creating competent thinkers and scholars. Our country's most esteemed conservative thinkers are expected to have a working knowledge of these debates; shouldn't we expect the same from our students?

Is Macalester's role to teach students the shape of current debates and conversations, to give them the tools of critical thinking—to provide them with the knowledge and critical skills to be effective outside the classroom? Or ought it be to manage the social lives of students? I weigh in with the former, and suggest that if the college has a role to play in fostering political diversity, it ought to start in the classroom, not with interactions between students.

Erik Davis '96
Chicago
ewd@uchicago.edu

The U.N. and Sudan

RE: KOFI ANNAN '61: I certainly hope that more people in general and Mac alumni in particular will engage in more reading, discernment and truth-seeking in regard to what the United Nations is really doing/

failing to do in the world's most inhumane situations.

A classic case is Sudan. For more than 20 years the Muslim government there has been trying—through starvation, torture, slavery, bombing and genocide—to force Islam on the Christian and other non-Muslims of southern Sudan. The U.N. has responded with foolish policies—“no-go” zones, etc.—for any relief assistance to enter from the U.S. government or Christian organizations. Political posturing and fear in dealing with Islamic governments is the norm. One U.S. senator has called the U.N. policy in Sudan “a terrible human rights abuse” that perpetuates “government-manufactured famines in the ‘no-go’ regions.” Christian relief workers risk their lives continually in getting aid to the people, and that without any tax money from our government. Our taxes are supporting a do-nothing U.N. position.

At a big meeting held not long ago in South Africa, the U.N. verbally attacked Israel and the U.S. for human rights failures. Nothing is ever said or done about the enormous amount of killing, torture and human rights abuses to the non-Muslim (and even Muslim) peoples who live in countries ruled by Islam. I hope some readers' consciences will be affected.

One U.S. senator has called the U.N. policy in Sudan “a terrible human rights abuse” that perpetuates “government-manufactured famines in the ‘no-go’ regions.”

David L. Anderson '56
Savage, Minn.

For more on Sudan and a conference organized by Macalester students, see page 4.

something else, at least if we assume that the administration has a role to play in this debate.

The college ought have no policy admitting or otherwise privileging students or faculty based on their politics. Open discussion of political issues from all sides of the spectrum is always useful. But it's unclear to me that the administration has ever systematically pursued a policy favoring the admission or retention of liberal (not to mention leftist) students. Would it be better to actively pursue “political diversity” through policy, i.e., the positive weighting of potential students who show a conservative bent? As a private institution of higher edu-

The contemptible harassment described by earlier writers seems to be more about social identity (“identity politics”) than about politics proper.

College moves to strengthen multiculturalism

Two new deans created, one for academic side and one for student life

AFTER MONTHS of planning, Macalester has made major innovations in its approach to multiculturalism by creating two positions: a Dean of Multicultural Studies on the academic side of the college and a Dean of Multicultural Life on the student life side.

In announcing the plan, President Mike McPherson emphasized that these organizational changes weren't just another "gesture."

"I think it's really going to work. It's going to do great things for this college," the president told an April 24 meeting of faculty, staff and students who have been involved in the plan.

The Dean of Multicultural Studies will report to the provost; the Dean of Multicultural Life will report to the Vice President for Student Affairs, formerly the Dean of Students. The creation of two major positions is the result of work by dozens of people, especially the Council for Multicultural Affairs and a specially appointed Multiculturalism Steering Committee.

Last year, two staff members with major responsibilities in multiculturalism left the college. Bert Ifill, assistant to the president and director of the Council for Multicultural Affairs, took a nine-month leave and Cynthia Fraction, associate director of the council, resigned. Their departures prompted a review to plan for what McPherson called "a lasting reorganization" of multiculturalism at the college.

Fraction said when she resigned that she was very pleased with her time at Macalester. "The potential that this campus has for multiculturalism is phenomenal. It's just phenomenal. The students we had working in our office were first-rate, and we received a tremendous amount of support from the faculty," she told the *Mac Weekly*.

Nonetheless, a *Weekly* editorial last September declared: "Many members of the Macalester community have been saying for years that the college needs to put its money where its mouth is when it comes to multiculturalism. Declining student of color admissions this year [fall 2001] and last indicate that the lack of resources available to

students of color is only becoming more acute... [O]ne cannot help but compare the state of institutionalized multiculturalism—disorganized and underfunded—with the International Center and the International Roundtable."

Associate Alumni Director Kim Gregg '93, a member of the Council for Multicultural Affairs, said, "Certainly a bad structure can be a barrier to progress, but a good structure can't solve all the problems. But now that the decision to make these changes has been made, I hope it will start a chain reaction that will cause Mac as an institution to take multiculturalism more seriously and not be undermined by past problems."

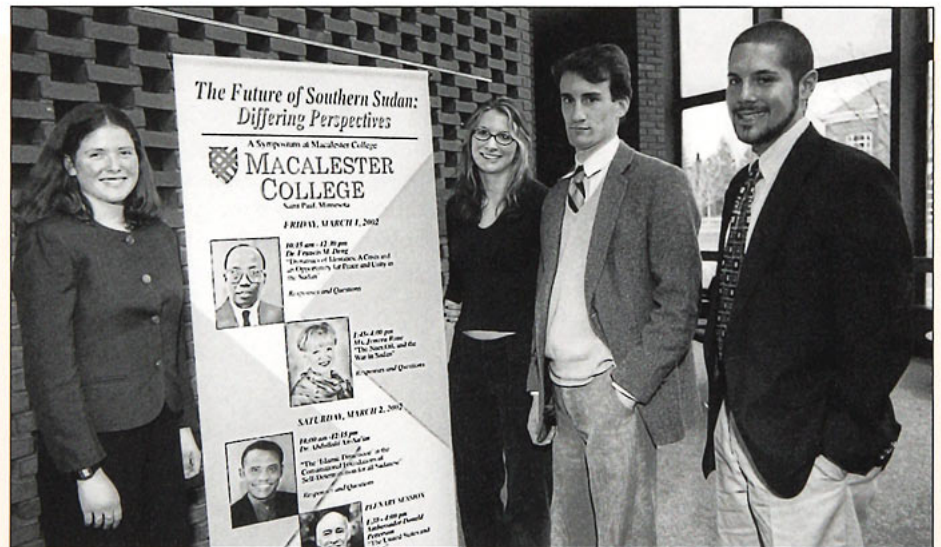
GREGG SAID she agreed with President McPherson that the move is "more than a gesture. The college is putting real resources in an area where it is much needed. We need both staff and vision to get up to speed on these issues. Now that we are getting the staff, what will make it work is the adoption and clear communication of an institutional vision and mission about multiculturalism.

That way, our new and more experienced staff can work towards the same goals instead of reinventing the wheel from their departments' perspective every time."

Macalester enlisted the help of Josie Johnson, a former University of Minnesota associate vice president and respected African American leader in the Twin Cities, to lead the Multiculturalism Steering Committee to develop the plan.

McPherson said multiculturalism is central to both the academic life and student life of the college and "the way to recognize this duality is that it needs to be in both places." Genuine multiculturalism is not only inclusive and welcoming of diversity, it means learning "in a very practical way from people who are different from ourselves." McPherson said he was struck by "the overwhelming interdependence" among Macalester's core values of academic excellence, service, internationalism and multiculturalism. "It is impossible to imagine a liberal education without these values," he said.

For more information, go to www.macalester.edu/planning.



Conference on Sudan

Macalester students Elizabeth Seefeldt '02, Meg Shoemaker '04, J. Quinn Martin '02 and Patrick D'Silva '03 organized a major conference on the civil war in Sudan, a conflict which has led to more than 2 million deaths. Entitled "The Future of Southern Sudan: Differing Perspectives," the two-day symposium in March brought several scholars to Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel to discuss the civil war, Islam, human rights issues, and the relationship between the U.S. and the Sudan. The conference was the idea of D'Silva, who returned from studying abroad in Morocco to participate.

Four tenured

FOUR FACULTY MEMBERS have received tenure from the Board of Trustees.

- Kim Venn, Physics, received her B.S. from the University of Toronto and her M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Texas, Austin. She joined the faculty in 1996 as a Clare Boothe Luce Professor. Her current research projects include observation sites at the Caltech Keck Telescope in Hawaii, the University of Texas McDonald Observatory, the European Southern Observatory in Santiago, Chile, the National Optical Astronomical Observatories on Kitt Peak, Arizona, and at Cerro Tololo, Chile, and the Hubble Space Telescope.

- Ray Rogers, Geology, received his B.S. from Northern Arizona University, his M.S. from the University of Montana and his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He has studied foreland basin sedimentation in Montana and has been involved in sedimentology field studies of dinosaur-bearing rocks in Madagascar, Montana, Argentina and Zimbabwe.



Venn



Rogers



Fox



Boychuk

Most popular majors, spring semester 2002

psychology: 111 students
economics: 103
biology: 91
political science: 88
international studies: 82
English: 74
computer science: 71
history: 70

source: *Macalester Institutional Research*

Go figure

87,000 transactions at Macalester library in 2001–01, highest circulation rate among all Twin Cities private colleges in CLIC (Cooperating Libraries in Consortium)

25 percent increase in reference questions over previous year

17 million dollar amount of student grants/scholarships from Macalester this year

10 million dollar amount of grants, scholarships and loans to Mac students from outside agencies

87 high temperature in St. Paul on April 18, 2002

43 high temperature in St. Paul on April 27

- Susan Fox, Mathematics and Computer Science, received her B.A. from Oberlin College, her M.S. and Ph.D. from Indiana University. Her research is in the area of artificial intelligence, specifically, automated learning, reasoning and planning. Her work is directed at designing methods that allow robots to reason about problems and carry out complex tasks with a minimum of direct guidance and control.

- Terry Boychuk, Sociology, received his B.A. from Carleton College, his M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University. His doctoral studies centered on comparative and historical sociology, political sociology, sociology of the welfare state and the sociology of non-profit organizations. His current research focuses on the rich and varied relationships among churches, schools, social service agencies and the state.

Housing crunch

LIKE MANY OTHER campuses across the country, especially urban ones, Macalester has a housing crunch—too many students and too little housing. In the room draws this year, the majority of the sophomore class was forced to live off campus, contradicting college policy.

Dean of Students Laurie Hamre said the new Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center has contributed to Macalester's problem by making more juniors and seniors want to live on campus and take advantage of the cafeteria and other amenities. In addition, the Campus Center may have attracted more

prospective students, because the first-year class is one of the biggest in Macalester's history.

Macalester requires all first-years and sophomores to live on campus and a large portion of the available housing is allotted to them. Dorms traditionally used by juniors and seniors, such as Kirk Hall, are now housing sophomores.

Hamre said the college is taking steps to remedy the situation but the housing shortage will not be remedied quickly. See page 7 for a story on Wallace Hall.

Internationalism

ISRA' MUZAFFAR '02, a Palestinian majoring in political science, received the college's annual Internationalism Award. It is given to the graduating senior who most embodies Macalester's commitment to international



Isra' Muzaffar '02 is pictured in her native Jerusalem in 1999. Doug Stone, director of college relations, interviewed her and several Israeli alumni for a story in the February 2000 *Macalester Today*.

and intercultural understanding and cooperation, service to community and scholarly achievement.

Muzaffar, who is from East Jerusalem, successfully appealed to the college to change its flag policy and allow the Palestinian flag to fly at Commencement this spring. Previously, the policy allowed only flags of countries that had either United Nations membership or permanent observer status at

Quotable Quotes

"I'll get one of my friends to tape the Vikings games for me and then [I] can fast-forward through the season [on the VCR] when I get home."

Erik Slivken '02, a mathematics major and big Minnesota sports fan, quoted in the Mac Weekly after winning a Fulbright to study in Japan

"A lot of students here are religious or pursuing their own religious questions. They're searching their own personal identity and how they want to live their lives. That can't be excluded from the classroom."

Professor Jim Laine, chair of Macalester's Religious Studies Department, quoted in a Minneapolis Star Tribune article on religion on college campuses

"This is Isra' Muzaffar, from East Jerusalem, planet Earth."

Professor David Chloni Moore, summing up her accomplishments and presenting this year's Internationalism Award to Palestinian student Isra' Muzaffar

"I have chosen a profession where words are my tools. More than any other teacher I ever had, including my English teacher, you taught me how to write. For this gift I am eternally

grateful. The time you spent poring over papers for both style and content is unheard of at the college level. While you found time to pursue your scholarly interests, you never lost focus of your primary role. You challenged me to think in the classroom, face to face with you, and on paper. When I think of what a teacher is and should be, I think of you."

Gregory Todd '73, a state district court judge in Billings, Mont., in a recent letter he wrote to history Professor Jim Stewart. Stewart, who also taught Todd's daughter Kiely Todd '99, is entering Macalester's retirement program—see page 8. ●

the U.N. Macalester's revised policy now includes the flags of "national 'entities' with permanent observer missions" at the U.N., such as the Palestinians.

Sukhatme and Socrates

ECONOMICS PROFESSOR Vasant Sukhatme received the Thomas Jefferson Award, bestowed each year upon a member of the Macalester community who exemplifies the principles and ideals of Thomas Jefferson.

"Not only is he known as rigorous, deeply informed on a variety of topics and funny," the Jefferson citation says, "but his Socratic teaching style and homework problems make students think more than in any other classes. Many fear taking him; most say it was their best academic experience."

How to be well. Very well.

YOU'D NEVER KNOW IT to look at him, but Allen Wong '02 was a sickly child whose asthma made him a frequent visitor to emergency rooms.

He's now the picture of health, all 5-feet-9 and a half ("make sure you get the 'half,'" he jokes) and 168 pounds of him.

"Ever since I started martial arts and other forms of exercises, to this day asthma has never attacked me," he says. "I started about

Allen Wong '02 practices his own kind of wellness in the Ruth Stricker Dayton Wellness Center in George Draper Dayton Hall.

10. I'm 23 now. I've got my asthma under control."

Wong, who was born in Hong Kong but moved to Jamaica at age 7, began training with a retired master of martial arts who was a friend of his parents. At age 14, he surprised them when he came home with a trophy from his first competition. He has won or placed high in numerous other inter-

national and U.S. national tournaments over the last decade. Last summer, the U.S. martial arts team, Team America, invited him to join the team.

Although he says he's "sort of retired" from competition, Wong has taught martial arts to other Macalester students in the wellness center in George Draper Dayton Hall. A history major, he is considering a career in



GREG HELGESON



KG and friends

Andrew Porter '04 (Rogers, Minn.), right, and Minneapolis high school student Romone Penny were guests of Minnesota Timberwolves star Kevin Garnett during the 2002 NBA All-Star Game weekend. Garnett launched 4XL—For Excellence in Leadership, a program designed to expose minority high school and college students to business environments. Porter and Penny, who were chosen for their school-related achievements and leadership potential, traveled to Philadelphia to learn about the business side of the National Basketball Association.

law enforcement or teaching. In his junior year he had an internship with the Transnational Crime & Corruption Center in Washington, D.C., researching human trafficking, and he represented the center at a conference held by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

"Law enforcement is my passion," he says. "I can also teach. I like teaching a lot. I like passing on what I've learned."

Elvi's outstanding

ELVI BRYNOLFSON '68 was presented with the Staff Outstanding Service Award. She has served Macalester in many ways for more than three decades and has been an assistant in the Physical Plant Department for the past 10 years.

"Elvi has provided unsurpassed service to students, staff and faculty," the citation says. "As anyone who has ever tried to get a key or I.D. card made or reserve a van for a field trip knows, Elvi is the person to see. She handles those responsi-

bilities with a great sense of organization, poise, patience and a positive attitude. . . .

"Elvi's performance in her department and on campus committees would certainly qualify her for this award. But it is her wonderful attitude towards others that makes her special. Not only is she extremely helpful, but she is always friendly and warm."

World Press Institute

VIETNAM'S FIRST female managing editor, a correspondent in Indonesia for the weekly *Far Eastern Economic Review*, and newspaper reporters and editors from Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria and South Africa are among 10 international journalists chosen to be the 2002 fellows of the World Press Institute at Macalester. See www.worldpressinstitute.org.



Maxine Houghton Wallin '48 and Nathalie Clark Pyle '71, who lived in Wallace as students, lead a group considering how best to restore the original character of Wallace and how to secure \$6 million in private support.

Zilla Sherritt Way '50 of Anoka, Minn., sent in this circa 1949 photo of herself and two friends in their third-floor room in Wallace Hall. From left: Ginna Zwerenz Anderson '51 (Owatonna, Minn.), Zilla and Pat Douglass Johnson '50 (also Anoka).

Calling all Wallace Hall residents!

Your fellow "Wally" dwellers need your help in the project to restore the safety, comfort and character of our beloved home-away-from-home! Here's how you can help:

- Send us your favorite stories of life in Wallace Hall.
- Send us photos for a commemorative scrapbook that will be created for the restored parlor.
- Volunteer to help with fund-raising.

Send stories and photos or volunteer by contacting Kim Dockter at the Development Office, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-1899.

On the college's Web site, you'll also find great old photos from the 1920s to today as well as information about the restoration project. You can also submit your stories on the Web. Go to www.macalester.edu/development and click on Wallace Hall Restoration. ●



The magnificent six

Mentors, scholars, friends, these revered faculty members are entering Macalester's phased retirement program. For more about each, go to www.macalester.edu/thankfaculty.

R. Ellis Dye, German Studies

Ellis Dye, DeWitt Wallace Professor of German, came to Macalester in 1966. He has taught language, post-medieval German literature and, cross-listed with philosophy, Nietzsche, Heidegger and existentialism to scores of students. Wanting students to have an authentic experience of language and culture, he and David Sanford developed the Macalester German Study Abroad Program, now in its 33rd year. In 1990 Ellis received the Burlington-Northern Award for Excellence in Teaching.

"Ellis Dye has taught us that what others call the 'extra' mile is only the first step, whether in teaching, writing, or fighting the good fight," says colleague Linda Schulte-Sasse. "How to sum up Ellis? A stellar teacher whose students show life-long appreciation. A superb Goethe scholar, of whom a well-known Germanist remarked, 'There's more substance behind one sentence by Ellis than in whole articles by others.' A tireless advocate for an education that *educates*, rather than meets customer demand, Ellis hasn't just affected us, he *is* us, our paternal superego, our hotline for everything, our Socrates, Don Quixote, and Che Guevara wrapped into one. "How to sum up Ellis? A friend and colleague to Dye for."



Jerry Fisher '59, History and Communication and Media Studies

To the casual observer, there may appear to be four or five Jerry Fishers. The history professor specializing in Asian intellectual history. The communications professor who

years ago taught classes on the digital revolution. The general manager for Hubbard Broadcasting in Asia. An alumnus, Class of '59. The husband of former Japanese instructor Aiko Fisher.

The same Jerry Fisher is all of them, and more.

"Jerry's global media courses were in intellectual stereo, drawing on his personal experience in the satellite business as well as his scholarly expertise," says Clay Steinman, chair of Communication and Media Studies. "This gave students a rare mix of perspectives, thanks to Jerry's uncanny ability to take commercial concerns seriously while still maintaining the critical eye of a global citizen, skeptical about commercial activity institutionally indifferent to social good."

Anna Meigs, Anthropology

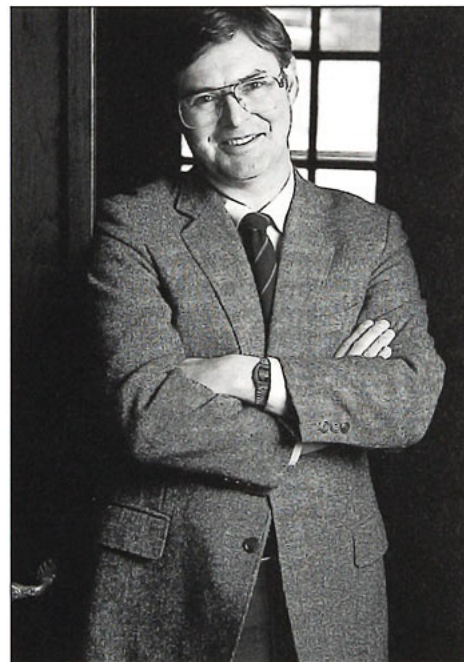
In 1982 Anna Meigs came to Macalester where she was to become a founder, and twice director, of the Women and Gender Studies Program. In that role, she championed the academic study of gender issues, while simultaneously working to broaden and deepen the curriculum, so that women as well as men would see themselves reflected there. As a member of the Comparative North American Studies Program steering committee, she worked to put on the table the prickly issues of race and whiteness.

"Anna's book *Food, Sex, and Pollution: A New Guinea Religion* broke new ground in the way anthropologists think about kinship, and it expanded the ethnographic knowledge of New Guinea," says anthropology Chair Jack Weatherford. "At Macalester she is best remembered for time she devoted to her students, and the impact that she had on their growth and maturity."

Anna is now embarking on a second career that has long beckoned—psychotherapy. This has taken her to Smith College where she is pursuing a master's in clinical social work.

Virginia Schubert, French

For 37 years Virginia Schubert has instilled in her students a love for French language, literature and culture. With colleague Karl



DON HAMERMAN

These photos from yesteryear show, far left: Ellis Dye; clockwise from top: Anna Meigs; Virginia Schubert; Jim Stewart (at left in photo, with Chuck Green); Jerry Fisher; and far right: Wayne Wolsey.

Sandberg, she authored the intermediate French textbook, *Le Nouveau Passe-Muraille*. In recognition of her service to French culture, Virginia has been twice decorated by



the French government, most recently as *officier* of the *Ordre des Palmes Académiques*.

“Virginia Schubert’s devotion to Macalester as an institution is unparalleled,” says Joëlle Vitiello, French chair, “and she is a vital part of the French Department. It is

hard to imagine either without her. She has taught all majors for the past 30 years to write in French, and her course on 19th-century French literature is remembered by many as fundamental to their interest in France. She maintains great contacts with French Department alumni and the French teachers in Minnesota, and in France as well. Virginia is the core of the Francophile Macalester community, past and present.”

Jim Stewart, History

Jim Stewart, James Wallace Professor of History, arrived at Macalester in the tumultuous year of 1969. His goal has been to help students develop their own historical syntheses, based on foundations of intellectual integrity, and to empower them with a series of life skills for an unpredictable world. The approach has made him a beloved teacher.

Beyond campus, Jim is well known for his many articles and books, particularly his biographies of abolitionists and *Holy Warriors: The Abolitionists and American Slavery*, now in its 13th printing.

Colleague Peter Rachleff says, “Jim Stewart has been the consummate Macalester professor, and a nurturing mentor to generations of students. In the last decade, Jim showed us all how a scholar can continue to grow. He learned Spanish and moved into comparative U.S./Latin American work. At the same time, he has maintained his national visibility, running seminars for scholars at Yale’s Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Abolitionism and Resistance, and editing a series for Louisiana State University Press. Until he was sidelined with a shoulder injury, Jim continued to take

younger faculty and students ‘to school’ on the basketball court.”

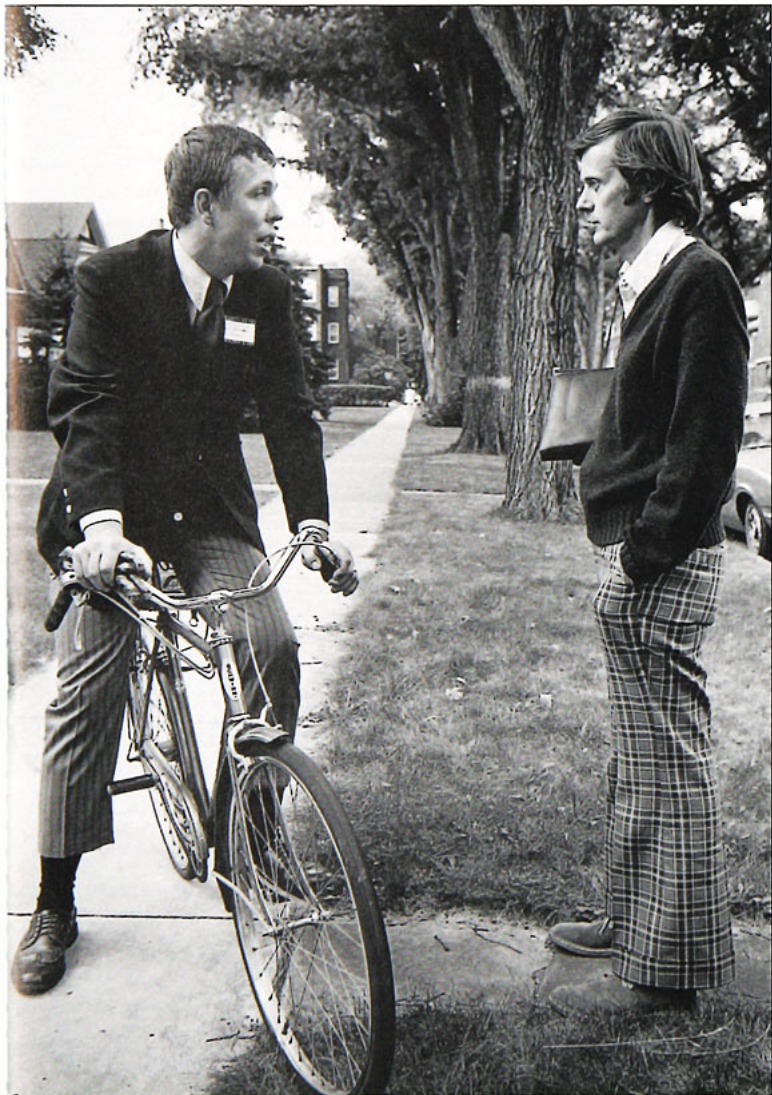
Wayne Wolsey, Chemistry

Since Wayne Wolsey came to Macalester in 1965, his service to the science community has been often recognized. He was named Minnesota Science Teacher of the Year, and he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Minnesota Academy of Science, the science fair people. The college honored him with the Thomas Jefferson Award, and in 1997 he was named a MegaMole Contributor at the National High School Chemistry Conference. This past January the AAUP awarded him the Sloan Award in support of academic freedom and shared governance.

“I have had the good fortune of being Wayne’s colleague for my entire career at Macalester,” says Professor Truman Schwartz. “Wayne has been an ideal colleague: a committed teacher, a reliable source of information for any of my questions about chemistry, a man of great courage and



principle, and someone deeply dedicated to the college. He has been an effective member of practically every faculty committee and a superb department chair. Wayne claims that he is looking forward to being freed from committee meetings, but I think he’ll secretly miss them.”



Winter sports

Men's basketball team finishes fourth in MIAC; best season in two decades

THE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM enjoyed its best season in two decades when it went 16-11 overall, taking fourth in the tough Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) and advancing to the semifinals of the league playoffs.

The Scots have made progress in each of their five seasons under Coach Curt Kietzer

rallied from 17 points back in the second half to beat St. John's on a last-second three-pointer by Ryan Gerry '02 (Cave Creek, Ariz.).

Center Doug Benson '02 (Maple Plain, Minn.) and forwards Ben Van Thorre '04 (Minneapolis) and Patrick Russell '03 (Plymouth, Minn.) were named to the All-Conference squad. All three were among the league leaders in scoring and rebounding. Guard Chris Palm '02 (Hudson, Wis.) was picked to the league's All-Defensive team. Many of the team's games were played in front of a jam-packed Macalester Gym

crowd and tickets for the last few games were hard to come by.

For more on the men's season, turn to page 30.

Skiing

Tim Lewandowski '03 (Hopkins, Minn.) became the second Macalester skier to earn All-Conference status in the program's history when he closed out an excellent season at the MIAC Nordic Skiing Championships by placing sixth in the men's 10-kilometer classic race. He also took ninth in the 15K freestyle. Renee Schaefer '04 (Waukesha, Wis.) paced Macalester's women, placing 14th in both the classical and freestyle races. Both the Mac men and women placed fifth in the MIAC team standings.

Swimming & diving

MIAC Coach of the Year Bob Pearson and his swimming and diving teams set several school records over the winter and the men's team went 3-4 in dual meets. The women were 2-4.

Closing out the season in style, the Scots did very well at the MIAC Championships. Joe Hanes '03 (Neeah, Wis.) picked up a pair of All-Conference certificates when he placed second in the 500-yard freestyle and third in the 1650-yard freestyle. Sam Fishleder '03 (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) took

SCOTT COHEN



All-Conference center Doug Benson '02, left

and everything came together wonderfully this past winter. Macalester knocked off Division I Yale—one of the top Ivy League teams this past season—in a tournament in Greenville, S.C., and competed for the MIAC championship before placing fourth with a 13-7 league mark. As hosts of a first-round conference playoff game, Macalester



Afton Hanson '04 (No. 24) made the All-MIAC and All-West Region teams



MIAC Coach of the Year
Bob Pearson

fourth in the 200-yard butterfly and Erik Nelson '03 (Minneapolis) broke a longtime school record in the 50 freestyle. Diver Liz Fitzgerald '04 (Plymouth, Mich.) and backstroke Janna Lundquist '03 (Minneapolis) led the way for the Mac women with high MIAC finishes.

Women's basketball

The women's basketball team was one of the youngest in the league and finished 5-20, but set the stage for what looks to be a bright future. All-MIAC guard Afton Hanson '04 (Karlstad, Minn.) was among the league leaders in nearly every statistical category and came within just four points of taking the scoring title by averaging 17.8 points a game. She was one of just four conference players, and only two sophomores, to be named to the All-West Region team.

—Andy Johnson, sports information director



Normah Mohd Noor '77 presents a gift to President McPherson at the alumni event in Kuala Lumpur last January. For more photos of the event in Malaysia and other alumni gatherings elsewhere in Asia, see pages 40–41.

What they took away: Mac alumni in Asia

by Michael S. McPherson

EARLIER THIS YEAR, I shared with you some thoughts about the remarkable impact Macalester's internationalism has on student life at the college. This past January, I had an unusual opportunity to see firsthand the impact a Macalester education has had, and continues to have, on alumni living abroad.

We visited five East Asian countries in 16 days, and in each one had an opportunity to meet with alumni, both natives of those countries who attended Mac and Mac graduates who grew up in the U.S. (or elsewhere in the world) and had relocated to one of these countries.

It's hard to know where to start, but let me begin with what were probably the largest and the smallest gatherings. Throughout the 1970s and '80s, Macalester enrolled dozens of students from Malaysia, thanks in part to a now-lapsed Malaysian government program that encouraged students to attend college abroad. (See page 22.) Today, we have more than 50 alumni living in Malaysia, and more than half of the entire Malaysian contingent attended our reception and dinner in Kuala Lumpur. Many of them, as we learned, hadn't seen one another since Macalester days. Their recollections of the enormous challenges they faced in coming to Mac—typically on their first trip to the

United States—ranged from coping with Minnesota weather and American-style toilets to the more profound, if less urgent, experiences of being challenged by their professors to come up with and defend their own ideas, in contrast to the rote learning emphasized in their earlier schooling.

Now college professors, schoolteachers, business people and government officials, just about every one of these folks told me that Macalester had a decisive impact on their lives. The celebration, which started at 4:30 in the afternoon and was still going when the last Mac folks dragged themselves off to bed at 11:30 at night, showed that, whatever they may have forgotten from their college days, our Malaysian alumni still remembered how to have fun.

AT THE OTHER EXTREME, in terms of numbers, was South Korea. There International Studies Dean Ahmed Samatar, Vice President Richard Ammons and I met with just one alumna, but a very special one. President Kyungsook Choi Lee of Sookmyung Women's University in Seoul attended Macalester for her senior year of college in 1968–69. Coming to the U.S. for the first time on a special exchange program supported by the Korean-American Foundation, President Lee told us that her Macalester experience transformed her life. Spurred on by her political science professors, she began graduate school at the

University of Kansas after Macalester and proceeded to earn a Ph.D. in political science from the University of South Carolina.

President Lee arranged a spectacular welcome for us at her extraordinary university. Sookmyung is the oldest women's university in Korea, with 10,000 students, thoroughly modern and quite high-tech facilities, a full array of undergraduate and graduate programs, and a striking sense of dynamism and excitement. President Lee, a past member of South Korea's National Assembly, has been twice elected by her faculty to lead the university. (Faculty election of the president makes the job rather different in Korea than in the States!) Her visionary leadership and great effectiveness in fund-raising have allowed her to win faculty loyalty despite her persistent press to raise standards and challenge sacred cows.

IT WAS MOVING to hear President Lee describe how her sojourn at Macalester broadened her horizons, instilled self-confidence in her intellectual powers and set her on the road toward her remarkable career.

Whether at a large dinner and reception in Tokyo, or at smaller gatherings in Hong Kong and in Singapore, we heard stories of similar voyages of discovery, abetted by Macalester, throughout Asia. We heard from U.S.-born alumni in Singapore and Japan about how Mac faculty and student friends had opened their minds to the idea of living abroad. We heard from foreign nationals about how Macalester's approach to liberal education stretched their capacities for critical thinking and opened new perspectives on the world. We saw in Hong Kong and elsewhere how friendships begun at Macalester had blossomed into lasting personal and professional relationships, including more than a few marriages.

What an amazing place Macalester is. We have more than 1,000 alumni who live within walking distance of the campus, and upwards of 2,000 who live outside of North America. Whether they're near or far, it seems that Macalester continues to be a living and meaningful presence in the lives of a very large percentage of our alumni. ●

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

Steelworkers; Brooklyn; Elizabeth I; black colleges

Steel and Steelworkers: Race and Class Struggle in Twentieth-Century Pittsburgh

by John Hinshaw '85 (State University of New York Press, 2002. 348 pages, \$19.95 paperback)

John Hinshaw, a professor of history at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pa., looks at the forces that shaped Pittsburgh, from the city's rapid industrialization in the mid-19th century through its lengthy era of industrial "maturity," its precipitous industrial decline near the end of the 20th century and finally its reinvention as one of America's most livable cities. He examines a wide variety of company, union and government documents, oral histories and newspapers to reconstruct the steel industry and the efforts of labor, business and government to refashion it. His book finds that questions of organization, power and politics prove as important as economics.

Hinshaw is co-editor of *U.S. Labor in the Twentieth Century: Studies in Working-Class Struggles and Insurgency* as well as co-editor of *ABC-CLIO World History Companion to the Industrial Revolution*. *Steel and Steelworkers* is a volume in the SUNY series in American labor history.

STEEL AND STEELWORKERS

Race and Class Struggle in Twentieth-Century Pittsburgh



JOHN HINSHAW

Beginning Functional Analysis

by Karen Saxe (Springer, 2002. 197 pages, \$39.95 cloth)

This book, the first by Macalester mathematics Professor Karen Saxe, evolved from notes for a course she taught three times over several years at Macalester. Designed as a text for a first course on functional analysis for advanced undergraduates or beginning graduate students, it can be used in the undergraduate curriculum for an honors seminar or a "capstone" course.

"My primary goal was to write a book for students that would introduce them to the

beautiful field of functional analysis," Saxe writes in the preface. She presents the basics of functional analysis, paying attention to both expository style and technical details, while getting to interesting results as quickly as possible. She develops topics in their historical context, with accounts of the past—including biographies—appearing throughout the text. The book is part of the publisher's series *Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics*.

Saxe earned her Ph.D. from the University of Oregon. She serves on the editorial board of the Mathematical Association of America's *College Mathematics Journal*.

Published a book?

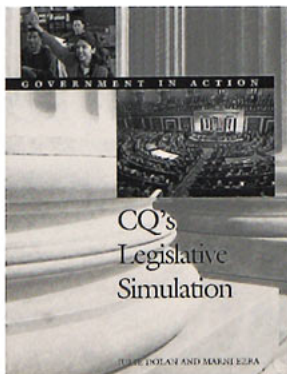
To have a new or recent book mentioned in these pages, send us a publisher's press release or similar written announcement that includes the following: title, name of publisher, year of publication, retail price (if known), number of pages, a brief, factual description of the book and brief, factual information about the author. We also welcome book jackets that we can reproduce.

The address, e-mail, fax and phone numbers for *Mac Today* are on page 2.

CQ's Legislative Simulation: Government in Action

by Julie Dolan and Marni Ezra (CQ Press, 2001. 114 pages, \$19 paperback)

This inaugural volume in the Government in Action series from CQ Press, a division of Congressional Quarterly, Inc., offers resources designed to promote active learning about government processes. The simulations are intended to benefit both instructors and librarians by providing a rich source of classroom-



tested tools. The books in the series also encourage analytical thinking while establishing a strong foundation for future library research.

A legislative primer, *CQ's Legislative Simulation* seeks to foster a deeper understanding of the many stages of the lawmaking process and how

public policy is created. The simulation tracks a bill as it is introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, considered in committee and debated on the House floor. The volume also examines the conflicting demands placed on members of Congress as they craft and vote on legislation.

Julie Dolan, a professor of political science at Macalester, received her Ph.D. from American University in 1997 and won the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration award for the best dissertation in public administration that year. Her research interests include women and politics, bureaucratic and executive branch politics, public policy and Congress. Marni Ezra is a professor of political science at Hood College.

Best New American Voices 2001

Charles Baxter '69, Guest Editor; John Kulka and Natalie Danford, Series Editors (Harcourt, Inc., 2001. 310 pages, \$14 paperback)

Charles Baxter, a renowned short story writer and a finalist for the 2000 National Book Award for his novel *The Feast of Love*, served as the guest editor of this annual story anthology that introduces new writers. From more than 100 entries for the 2001 edition, Baxter selected 17 as the best, most innovative and most powerful stories.



Julie Dolan

Have I got a story for you: What writers do

Many writers whose phone numbers are still listed in the directory, as mine is, may have a story similar to the one that follows. A few months ago, I received a call from a person with a gruff-sounding voice who left his name and number on the answering machine. He said that I should get in touch with him and, somewhat against my better judgment, I eventually called him back. After we had introduced ourselves, he told me that he had a great story, a terrific story, and that *I should write it*. When I put him on notice that I didn't write other people's stories, only my own, he explained to me that what I had just said to him was a crying shame and that surely I must be running out of material by now. A bit irritably, I asked him what he meant by that. "Well," he said, "if you're writing your own stories, they must just about be used up. The things you've done and seen, you know. Your experiences."

No, I told him, when I said *my stories*, I was referring to stories that I had imagined, not stories that I had actually lived. The stories that I could imagine were not used up, not by a long shot.

'Too bad for you. Having to imagine things all day.'

"Too bad for you," he said. "Having to imagine things all day."

The call was not going well. I could see that. "So," I said, "what's your great story?"

"I was in the Navy," he said. "I saw a lot of what was going on."

"What stuff?"

"Well," he said, "I'm not about to give it away."

"Why don't you write your story yourself?" I asked.

"I don't have the time," he said. "I'm awfully busy."

The call limped to its conclusion, and we wished each other goodbye, and that, at least for a while, was that. Nevertheless, I thought often of my phantom phone caller while I was editing this selection of stories, for some obvious and perhaps less obvious reasons.

E.B. White observed (and many other writers have agreed in so many words) that all writing is an act of faith. But it is particularly an act of faith for young writers, writers getting their start, many of them unrewarded with prizes, contracts, awards, acclaim, publication, and even the encouragement of their relatives and friends....

Each one of the stories in this anthology is an act of faith. Each one was written by someone who, as my caller said, had "to imagine things" all day and who was not too busy to write those things down, one by one, patiently, painstakingly. And each story—I like to think—has something precious in it, a gift given away, worthy of a commitment of the writer's time, and yours.

—from *Charles Baxter's introduction to Best New American Voices 2001*, published by Harcourt, Inc; ©2001 by Charles Baxter

The Epic of Shivaji

A translation and study by James W. Laine in collaboration with S.S. Bahulkar (Orient Longman, 2001. 386 pages)

The Sivabharata, composed during the lifetime of the Maratha King Shivaji Bhosle (1627–80) by his court-poet Kavindra Paramananda and here presented as *The Epic of Shivaji*, is a classical Sanskrit epic poem which recounts the early feats of Shivaji and those of his immediate forebears, Maloji and

Shahj. It is both a historical chronicle and a laudatory mahakavya (epic poem).

This book contains the first complete English translation of the poem, together with a detailed introductory study by Macalester Professor James W. Laine, who also translated the poem, and an essay by S.S. Bahulkar on the poem's place in classical mahakavya literature. It is meant as a contribution to the study of 17th century Indian history and late Sanskrit literature, and to the study of Shivaji as one of India's most prominent heroic figures.

Laine, who earned his Th.D. in the history of religions at Harvard, is dean of humanities and professor of religious studies at Macalester. He is currently at work on a new book, *Shivaji and the History of Hinduism*. Bahulkar is professor and director of the Sri Balamukunda Lohiya Centre of Sanskrit and Asian Studies at the Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth in Pune, India.

The Black Church in the Post-Civil Rights Era

by Anthony B. Pinn (Orbis Books, 2002. \$20)

This snapshot of the black church today focuses on its vibrant worship, its approach to doctrine and its role in social activism.

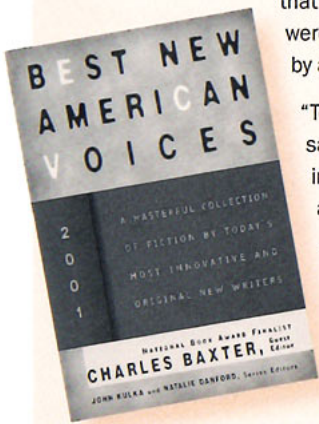
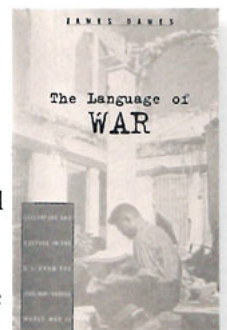
Anthony Pinn, a professor of religious studies at Macalester, describes themes in the history of the black church as well as the major beliefs and forms of worship that define this tradition. He then focuses on the practices of the black church, especially as it has engaged in issues of economic development and justice, and struggles with such issues as the full participation of women, sexuality and health. Throughout the book, Pinn highlights the important and creative tension between "spiritual" and "mundane" concerns to which the black church must respond and by which it is shaped.

The Language of War: Literature and Culture in the U.S. from the Civil War through World War II

by James Dawes (Harvard University Press, 2002. 308 pages, \$39.95 cloth)

This study examines the relationship between language and violence, focusing on American literature from the Civil War, World War I and World War II. James Dawes, a professor of English and American literature at Macalester, develops

two primary questions: How does the strategic violence of war affect literary, legal and philosophical representations? And, in turn, how do such representations affect the reception and initiation of violence itself? Authors and texts of central importance in this study



range from Louisa May Alcott and William James to William Faulkner, the Geneva Conventions, and contemporary American organizational sociology and language theory.

The consensus approach in literary studies over the past 20 years has been to treat language as an extension of violence. The idea that there might be an inverse relation between language and violence, says Dawes, has all too rarely influenced the dominant voices in literary studies. His book seeks to make a serious contribution to American literary history while also challenging some of the leading theoretical assumptions of our day.

Queen Elizabeth I

by Kate Havelin '83 (Lerner Publications, 2002. 112 pages, \$25 hardcover)

This well-illustrated biography, intended for grades 6–12, follows the transformation of the sickly Elizabeth, who lived in constant fear of being killed, into one of history's most powerful queens. It includes a bibliography, suggestions for further reading and recommended Web sites about Elizabeth.

A former television producer, Kate Havelin has written nine books for children. She is currently at work on biographies of Presidents Andrew Johnson and Ulysses S. Grant.



Black Athena Writes Back: Martin Bernal Responds to His Critics

edited by David Chioni Moore
(Duke University Press, 2001. 550 pages, \$24.95 paperback)

Cornell University Professor Martin Bernal touched off a passionate debate with the 1987 publication of his book *Black Athena*, which argued that the development of Greek civilization was heavily influenced by Afroasiatic civilizations. Bernal also asserted that this knowledge had been deliberately obscured by the rampant racism of 19th century Europeans who could not abide the notion that Greek society, long rec-

ognized as the originating culture of Europe, had its origins in Africa and Southwest Asia.

The subsequent rancor among classicists over Bernal's theory and accusations was picked up in the popular media. In a report on "60 Minutes," for example, it was suggested that Bernal's hypothesis was essentially an attempt to bolster black self-esteem.

In *Black Athena Writes Back*, Bernal provides additional documentation to support his thesis as well as offering explanations why traditional scholarship on the subject remains inaccurate and why specific arguments against his theories are themselves faulty.

David Chioni Moore, who specializes in the study of Black Atlantic literatures and cultures, is a professor of international studies and English at Macalester.

A Companion to Goethe's Faust: Parts I and II

(Camden House Press, 2001)

Ellis Dye, professor of German studies at Macalester, contributed a chapter entitled "Figurations of the Feminine in Goethe's *Faust*" to this book. The Camden House Companions, part of the series entitled Studies in German Literature, Linguistics and Culture, provide critical commentary on the most significant aspects of major works, periods or literary figures.

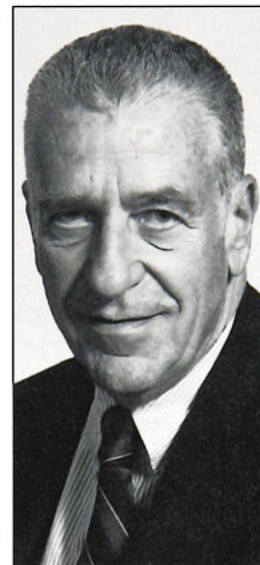
Stand and Prosper: Private Black Colleges and Their Students

by Henry N. Drewry and Humphrey Doermann (Princeton University Press, 2001. 344 pages, \$29.95 hardcover)

The nation's historically black colleges represent "one of the most remarkable stories of education-against-the-odds of any set of schools in America," this authoritative history declares. "They produced much of the black civic leadership in this country, contributed greatly to the formation of a significant black middle class, and have long provided pathways otherwise unavailable to untold numbers of young black Americans."



Humphrey Doermann, assistant to the president and research associate in economics at Macalester, and Henry Drewry, senior adviser to the Mellon Foundation, have been associated with black colleges for much of their lives. Their book gradually narrows its focus from a general history to a look at the development of 45 private black colleges in recent decades. It offers a portrait of the distinctive place that black colleges and universities have occupied in American history as crucibles of black culture. They offer an assessment of the changes that have occurred since the landmark *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision of 1954, consider the complex racial environment of more recent years and look ahead to what the future may hold for black colleges and universities.



Humphrey Doermann

Brooklyn: A State of Mind

edited by Michael W. Robbins and Wendy Palitz (Workman Publishing Co., 2001. 480 pages, \$29.95 hardcover, \$19.95 paperback)

Mara Faye Lethem '93, a documentary photographer and writer, contributed two written pieces and many photographs to this book about "America's hometown." Her work has been published in the *New York Times*, *Time Out New York*, *Amsterdam News* and *San Francisco Chronicle*, among many others. Her photographs have been exhibited nationally. She is currently working on her M.F.A. in visual arts at the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University.

Brooklyn draws upon its army of writers to tell the story of the 81-square-mile patchwork of city, college town, quiet fishing village, industrial center, bedroom community and seaport. Here is Arthur Miller on Midwood, Mel Brooks on Williamsburg, Spike Lee on Fort Green. David McCullough sees Truman, F. Murray Abraham deconstructs Brooklynesse, Jerry

Della Femina describes hot summer nights and Nora Guthrie remembers living with her father Woody on Coney Island.

The Red Stags of Munster

by Rod Hunt '50 (Caira Press, 2002. 264 pages, \$13.50 paperback)

This tongue-in-cheek story about Elizabeth Ireland is a blend of myth, fanciful storytelling and sad historical facts. *The Red Stags of Munster* suggests that England never solved "The Irish Question" because it was never defined and there were too many Irish heads to be cracked. The story follows the fortunes of the Robin Hood of Munster, who unites the dispossessed Irish landowners into a fighting band to drive out the English planters.

Rod Hunt, who was assistant alumni director at Macalester in the early 1960s, has spent the past 13 winters in Kinsale, County Cork, Ireland. He is at work on another book, *The Last Victim*, an exposé of the



sinking of the Lusitania by a German submarine during World War I.

Oh, Life Was Sweet as a Box of Chocolates!

by Mildred Rowland Reinhardt (Aitkin Independent Age, 1999. 425 pages, \$20 softcover, available from the author)

Mildred Reinhardt, who graduated from Miss Woods School in 1941 and taught kindergarten for 24 years, has written light-hearted reminiscences of farm life in South Dakota from 1937 to 1948. She is the author of two other memoirs, *A Time of Joy*, about her early childhood, and *The Way It Was*, continuing her story through high school. Each book is available from the author for \$20. Write: Mildred Reinhardt, 49105 U.S. Hwy. 169, Palisade, MN 56469

Inner Simple-Mindedness: Unclutter Your Life and Empty Your Head in 50 Easy Steps

by Robert Fass '81 and Mary Morse '82 (Writers Club Press, 2002. 128 pages, \$10.95 paperback)

This self-published humor book spoofs the "simplicity movement." The authors

poke fun at the wave of self-help books, magazines and gurus encouraging modern Americans to live ever more selfishly and reduce their contributions to their community in an attempt to cope with psychic and lifestyle overload.

The book is important, the authors write, because American society has become obsessed with "nourishing the soul."

"Indeed, we have contributed a number of titles to the world's soul library with such titles as *What is My Soul?*, the follow-up volume, *Where is My Soul?*, and the final volume of the trilogy, *Hey! Where Are You Going With My Soul?*... We recently co-authored an extensive paper for a Harvard symposium, entitled *Souls and Black Holes: Which are Deeper?* And you may have seen the late-night infomercial for our video, entitled *How to Give Your Soul Better Abs and Buns.*"

For more information, go to <http://home.earthlink.net/~innersimple>.

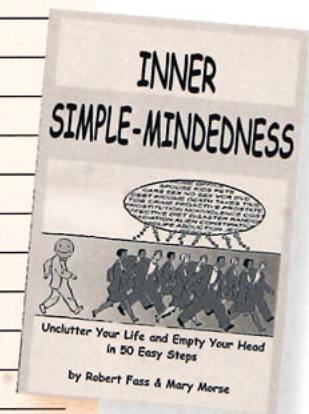
Robert Fass is working on a novel, *Freefall*, and a book of his ongoing photographic essay on long-married couples in America, *As Long As We Both Shall Live*. Selections are on display through Aug. 30 at the Creative Photographic Arts Center of Maine and can be viewed online at

home.earthlink.net/~robertfass. Mary Morse is the author of *Women Changing Science: Voices from a Field in Transition* and executive director of the Saint Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium, a nonprofit environmental organization. ●

Simple-minded substitutions

Complicated	Simple Substitution	Super-Simple Substitution
Ulysses	Angela's Ashes	Chicken Soup for the Soul
Waiting for Godot	Waiting to Exhale	Tuesdays with Morrie
Absalom, Absalom	Rachel, Rachel	My Darling, My Hamburger
A La Recherche du Temps Perdu	Madeleine in Paris	Emeril Live!
The 400 Blows	The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins	The 700 Club
Brideshead Revisited	The Bride of Frankenstein	The Brain That Wouldn't Die
Jude the Obscure	Conan the Barbarian	Pat the Bunny
New York Times	Weekly World News	USA Today
60 Minutes	MTV News	WWF Smackdown
Charlie Rose	Geraldo Rivera	Who Wants to be a Millionaire?
Tosca	Babe	Porky's
Akira Kurosawa	Martin Scorsese	Yahoo Serious
Francois Truffaut	Woody Allen	Nora Ephron
Federico Fellini	Roberto Benigni	Sylvester Stallone
Howard's End	Blazing Saddles	Booty Call

— from *Inner Simple-Mindedness: Unclutter Your Life and Empty Your Head in 50 Easy Steps* © 2002 by Robert Fass and Mary Morse



*This spring, as they were preparing to graduate,
we asked six seniors to write
short responses to a single question:*

What Are You Taking Away from Macalester?

photographs by Greg Helgeson



Chris Palm

Hometown: Hudson, Wis.

Major: economics

Mac activities: played on basketball, soccer and tennis teams; member of Macalester Investment Group and Phi Beta Booty (mock fraternity)

Right after graduation I plan to: take a trip to Spain and Italy for a couple of weeks

Career plans: Over the next few years I will work in corporate America, but long-term plans may include coaching basketball and teaching economics

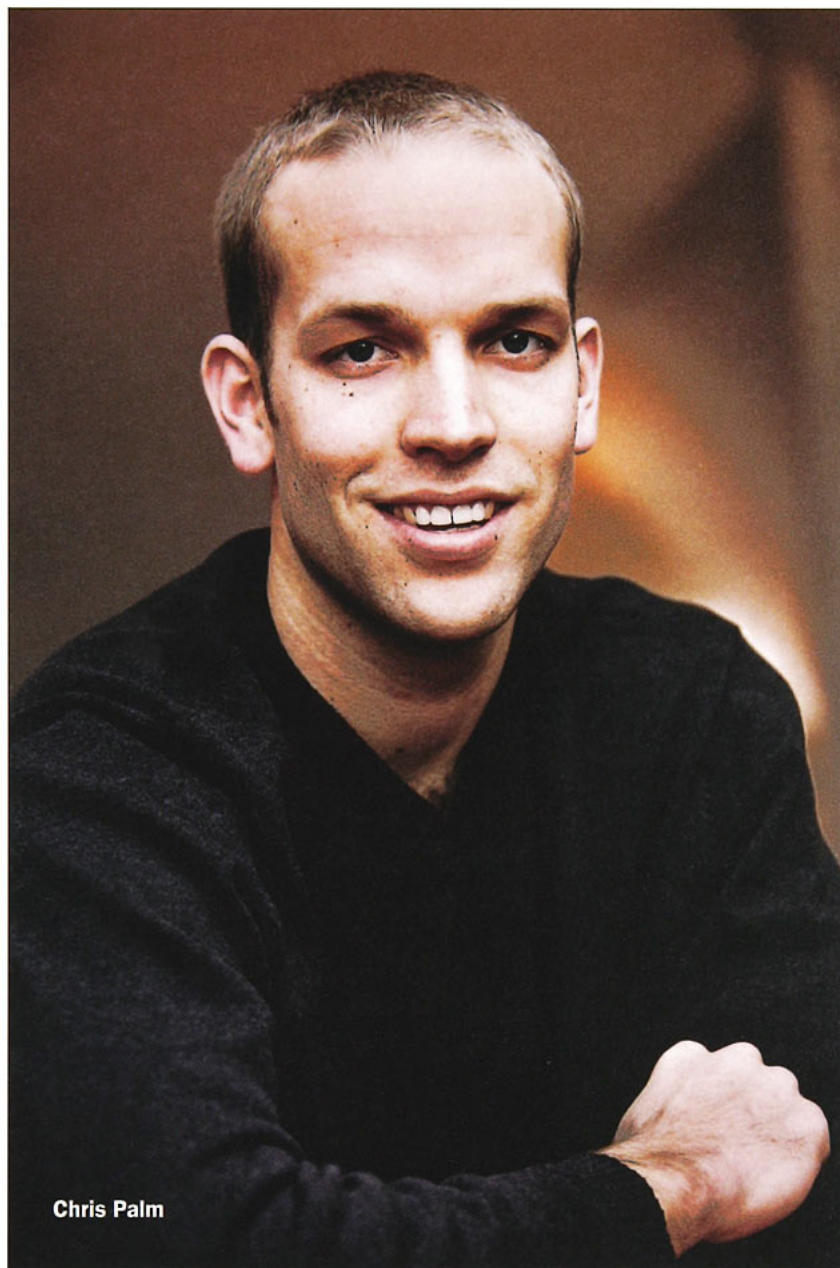
What am I taking away from Macalester?

I think the diverse group of friends that I have made here at Macalester is on the top of my list. Being able to meet so many people who have come from all over the world and have such a wide range of backgrounds is something that would be very hard to find at a lot of other schools. I have made many lifelong friends!

Second, the education that I have received. Not only have I learned a lot from my outstanding professors, but the knowledge and experience that I have acquired outside of class have been equally important in my experience here at Macalester.

Lastly, I think that Macalester has prepared me well to take the next step into the real world. Macalester has given me confidence to succeed at whatever choices I make over the years to come.

The diverse group of friends that I have made here at Macalester is on the top of my list.



Chris Palm

Nick Berning

Hometown: Vienna, Va.

Major: political science

Mac activities: student government president, *Mac Weekly* editor in chief, Mac Democrats co-chair

Right after graduation I plan to: work on a political campaign through November

Career plans: political consulting

Macalester has shaped the way I see everything—it's changed my worldview.

For example, I recently half-joked to a friend of mine that I was upset because, after receiving a Macalester education, I could no longer watch TV

uncritically. Every time I see a sitcom, or commercial, or newscast, I'm unable to lose myself in the plot. Instead, I end up analyzing the way television represents our society, questioning the political effects a show will have, wondering why the media choose to frame certain issues as important and render others insignificant, or taboo.

I can no longer be in a room full of white people and not be aware of it. I notice things like white, male and heterosexual privilege. I see that equality of opportunity remains a far-off dream.

I've learned about neo-liberal globalization, that the world is becoming increasingly interconnected and interdependent. I've thought about the effects—both

good and bad—of development, deregulation, trade liberation, and the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. I've gained from the diverse backgrounds of my peers and have encountered perspectives about the United States that Americans don't often get to hear.

The experiences I've had outside the classroom have been just as valuable to me as those within. Being a part of organizations like the student government and *The Mac Weekly* has helped me understand how institutions work. I've learned that, to be effective, it's essential to communicate well and to be organized.

My favorite thing about Macalester has, of course, always been the people here. They are intellectually curious. They care about the world around them and want to make a difference. The faculty are accessible to and interested in the success of their students. And the students are always too busy, balancing full course-loads with work, involvement in organizations,

athletics, and, not least, having a social life and becoming adults.

Probably the most important thing I'll take away from Macalester is a stronger sense of myself—of how I fit into the world around me and what I can contribute. Being in this place has helped me grow in my understanding of who I am and who I want to be. As I sit here in the middle of my last semester at Mac and reflect, I can't imagine anywhere I'd rather have spent the past four years.

Mary Robert Nahm

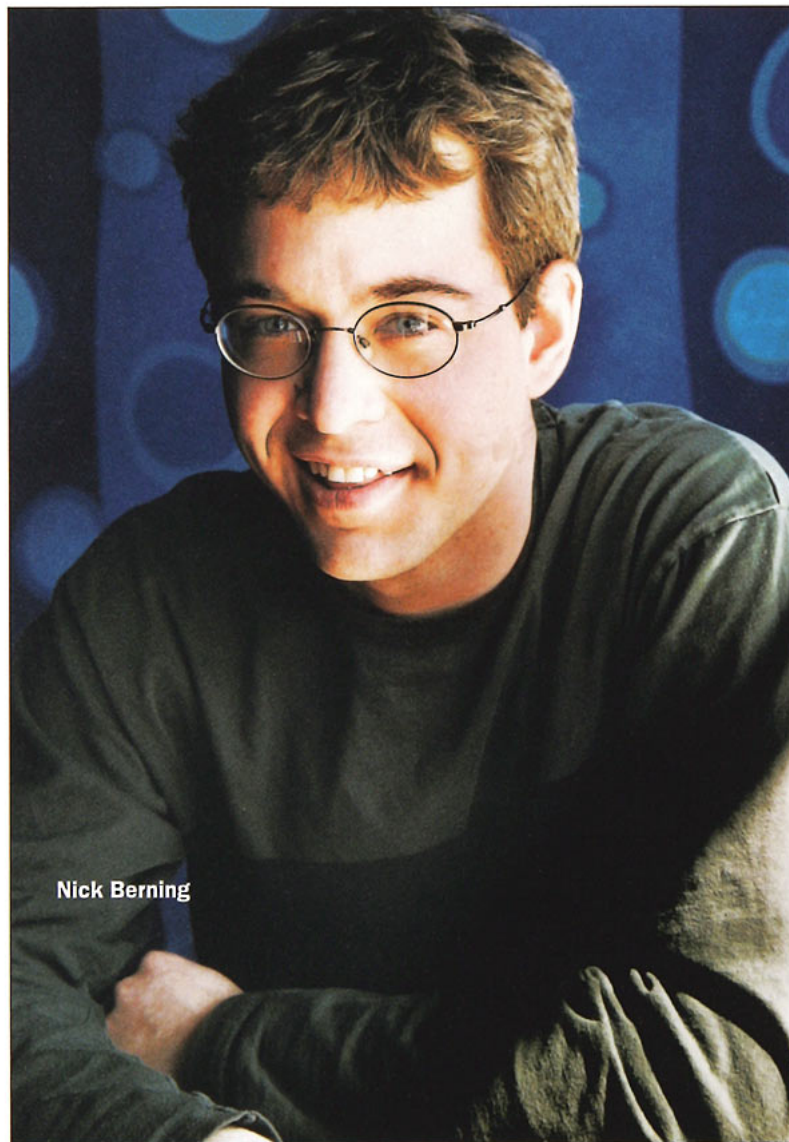
Hometown: Danville, Ky.

Major: chemistry

Mac activities: crew, cross country team, Chem Club

Right after graduation I plan to: run the Rock'n'Roll Marathon in San Diego; then attend graduate school at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill for a Ph.D. in organic chemistry
Career plans: I'd like to teach chemistry at the college level in an environment much like Mac

I can no longer be in a room full of white people and not be aware of it.



Nick Berning

As my final semester at Macalester draws to a close, I dread the daunting task of packing away my belongings. What will I take with me when I leave? There's the yellow-petalled headpiece that comprised my last-minute Halloween costume my first year. I can't possibly forget the bound 8:30 a.m. scribbles that claim to be organic chemistry notes. Also of sentimental value are my retired cross country running spikes that helped me conquer the hills of the Como golf course, marking the end of my days as a collegiate competitor. Finding room for these items in the Whole Foods boxes that I've confiscated from their dumpster will be difficult. But it's easy to name the most



Mary Robert Nahm

No other group of 30 women has made me feel as strong and buff as those on the cross country running team.

which to begin my graduate studies in chemistry, while fulfilling a liberal arts education. I spent a summer doing research for a chemistry professor and became friends with the faculty of the department. This increased my confidence as a scientist and prospective graduate student. On a personal level, no other group of 30 women or so has made me feel as strong and buff as those on the cross country running team. The support and enthusiasm they have given me cannot be matched.

As my room in George Draper Dayton 212C fills with the shrieking of unwinding packing tape and stench of permanent markers, my most valued keepsake is already stored away.

meaningful item with which I'll be leaving Macalester's campus—self-confidence.

My seven semesters at Macalester and one in Paris have boosted my self-confidence to a large degree. I feel that I've acquired a more than adequate background from

Shana L. Redmond

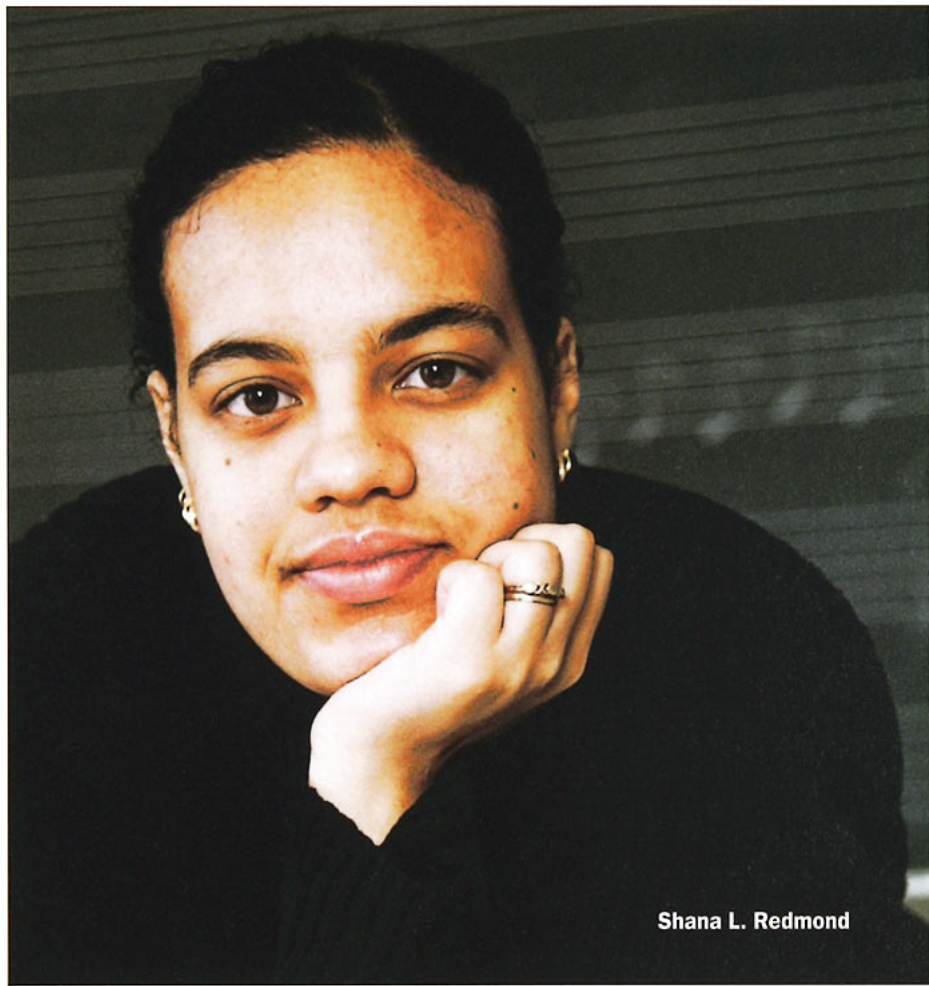
Hometown: Racine, Wis.

Double major: music and African American studies

Mac activities: Black Liberation Affairs Committee, Queer Union, Concert Choir

Right after graduation I plan to: relax before I enter a joint Ph.D. program in African American studies and American studies at Yale

Career plans: become a college professor



Shana L. Redmond

After four years here, what am I taking away from Macalester?

Macalester has offered me a lot. I have received excellent in-class training as a scholar and researcher. Through the Mellon Fellowship, I was able to begin research in what was to be my honors thesis as early as first semester of my junior year. This process of learning and teaching others through my work has greatly influenced my graduate school possibilities for this fall.

I have had an amazing network of faculty and staff on campus who continue to guide and support me. These

I have had an amazing network of faculty and staff on campus who continue to guide and support me.

relationships have opened many doors for me and also exposed me to the wider Twin Cities community. In his usual style of always involving me, my adviser, history Professor Peter Rachleff, has helped me to learn as much outside the classroom as within it. Through his guidance, I've experienced the combination of community activism and the arts, two aspects of my life that are very important to me. By these means I have also built networks that have fostered relationships for potential internships and other professional working relationships.

I have grown as a critical thinker and activist in the many capacities that I have participated in, on and off campus. In the highly activist-oriented atmosphere of Macalester's extracurricular options, I was able to begin my life of activism small and work outward. Part of what Macalester has given me is an ability to look at everything in context, and because of this, I realize that while many things in the world are flawed, I am the person to effect the change that's needed. I tried to be that change in my public life at Macalester and in my private life as well. I have met other like-minded people at Macalester and these personal opportunities have been the most needed experiences of my life. My mission at Macalester was not solely to initiate change in others but also in myself.

Personally, I have matured tremendously at Macalester; and a lot of that is due to the people I have met here. I have been shaped by every interaction I've had at Macalester and I am thankful that I've taken the good with the bad and become the person that I've always known I could be.

William Sentell

Hometown: Jefferson City, Mo.

Major: English

Mac activities: *Mac Weekly*; national debate circuit; member of Media Board, Board of Trustees honorary degree subcommittee and Curriculum Committee

Right after graduation I plan to: find a job working in the Twin Cities and enjoy the mild Minnesota summer

Career plans: I hope to attend law school in the fall of 2003. Beyond that, I really don't know.



William Sentell

One thing that scares me about graduating and finding a real job is the knowledge that I really don't have very much. I mean that literally: aside from my computer and my mattress and my clothes, there's very little that I can call mine.

But I think I will walk away from Macalester with a sense of ownership. Macalester is *my* school. I thought that the very first time I was alone on campus, right after first-year orientation. I went to the library and climbed up every single step until I was on the fourth floor. Then I went right back down. And all I remember thinking was: this is my library. These are my classmates and my professors. I never gave any thought to transferring. I never really thought, gee, I wish I'd gone to x or y.

Macalester has given me a sense of belonging.

I made a deep psychological commitment from day one and that has made all the difference for me. It was, I admit, a somewhat arbitrary decision: I probably could have been happy at a lot of other places. I chose to be happy here.

A lot of my friends are terrified of graduating and dealing with a new set of circumstances. To a certain extent, I share their fears. But I also know that Macalester has given me a sense of belonging. And counterintuitive as it sounds, that sense of belonging—that ownership—has made the leaving part feel natural, even necessary. I am ready to move on. But my experience over four years is mine—and I'm not about to trade that in.

Rino Koshimizu

Hometown: Tokyo

Double major: religious studies and Latin American studies

Mac activities: *Mac Weekly*; mentor to international students; residence hall assistant

Right after graduation I hope to: move to San Francisco and live in a Catholic convent for two or three months before getting a job

Career goals: return to Japan and change its educational system to make it more international



Rino Koshimizu

Macalester has taught me to be critical. I've learned how privileged I am, and how, in this context, I have to be critical about myself and what I read. Before I came to Macalester, I thought people who wrote books were like gods—you don't ever see their faces, and I believed that they provided the Absolute Truth. Then I met these men and women

who have written books—professors, real people whom I interact with every day. Macalester fosters an environment where students can easily talk to professors and peers. I feel lucky to have become friends with faculty members who are encouraging, understanding and passionate about our work, as much as their own.

I've learned a lot but I've also taught a lot. A big part of my Macalester experience concerned my identity. I am Japanese but I've attended American schools my entire life and relate most to the small percentage of international students who are bicultural and bilingual. Being here was the first time I was ever called a person of color. Since I speak English without an accent, people don't know exactly where to put me, and some would regard me as a "fake" Japanese or a Japanese American. It was challenging at first because I didn't want people putting a label on me that I don't identify with. But now people can say whatever they want because I'm very comfortable with who I am. ●

I've learned a lot but I've also taught a lot. A big part of my Macalester experience concerned my identity.

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

In 1973 the first brave cohort of Malaysian students left home to fly across 10 time zones to Macalester, arriving exhausted by way of Tokyo and Los Angeles. Among them was a sneezing girl with a terrible cold. No sooner had Maznah Mohamad settled in than her roommate announced that she preferred a single room and wanted Maznah to move out. It wasn't the most auspicious beginning, but Maznah made of it the beginnings of an auspicious career.

So did dozens of other students from Malaysia. There were so many, in fact, that the country claims more Macalester alumni—over 50—than any country outside the U.S. except Japan and Canada, and about the same number as the United Kingdom. Nearly all of them are natives of Malaysia. The figure is all the more remarkable when you consider the multiple culture shocks they encountered: Malaysian students came from a predominantly Muslim country with a conservative culture and a tropical climate. Its average January temperature is almost 60 degrees warmer than St. Paul.

The impetus came from Malaysia itself. From 1973 to the mid-80s, as part of its own kind of “affirmative action” plan for native Malays, the Malaysian government sponsored dozens of talented students who came to Macalester and then returned home to become instrumental in Malaysia's development.

This past January, the current flowed in the other direction: a contingent of 13 Macalester faculty and staff members crossed the seas to learn about Malaysia and to share the results of their own inquiries into that complex country. The trip was the fourth in a series of Faculty Development International Seminars. The seminars took participants to Hungary in 1995, Brazil in 1997 and South Africa in 2000. The commissioned papers and the faculty essays that were a part of the seminar will be published this summer in the journal *Macalester International*.

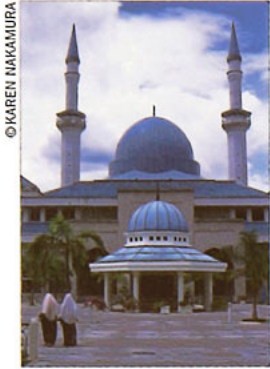
“Malaysia is a multi-ethnic state resolutely promoting the slogan ‘unity in diversity,’” notes writer and traveler Irena F. Karafilly. “Here, mosques often stand cheek-by-jowl with Chinese and Hindu temples, and Catholic convent schools offer instruction in Islamic as well as Christian studies. In Malacca, some of the Christian minority are recent converts, others the Eurasian descendants of the Portuguese, Dutch and British colonials who once fought for possession of the Malacca Strait linking the Indian Ocean with the South China Sea. It was this highly strategic position that made 15th-century Malacca the greatest trading center of Southeast Asia, the gateway through which Islam penetrated the Malay world.”

For some insight into this complex country, we turned to alumni who live in Malaysia, and to faculty who, for a few weeks, joined them there. Note that many Malaysians have their father's given name as a second name, and may use it as a surname when accommodating Western forms. When referred to by one name, Malaysian alumni profiled here are referred to by their own given names.

Meeting Malaysia

The small island nation sent dozens of students to Macalester.

A generation later, Mac faculty and staff journeyed there for their own study abroad.





"There are different worldviews about governance, about how to handle human rights, about the notion of democracy," says Maznah Mohamad '77, who returned to Macalester last November.

Maznah Mohamad '77

A human rights activist, she asserts Malaysians' right 'to fashion our own identity'

A double major in mathematics and sociology at Macalester, Maznah (Mohamad is her father's given name) went on to earn a master's degree from Stanford and a Ph.D. from the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. Now a professor in development studies at the School of Social Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, she is widely respected as an authority on women's studies, education, human rights and democracy in Southeast Asia. She is active in efforts to support Malaysia in achieving full recognition of human rights, serving on the board of the International Women's Rights Action Watch of the Asia-Pacific, and as an executive member of Aliran, a non-governmental social reform movement.

The broad liberal education she received at Macalester is something Maznah still cherishes. One of her most memorable classes was Middle East history with Professor Yahya Armajani, a native of Iran who was also an ordained Presbyterian minister. "I was a Muslim growing up in Malaysia, but I had no knowledge about Muslim society outside of Malaysia. . . . It was the first time I knew how different Islam was in other parts of the world."

Maznah doesn't wear the gracefully draped *tudung* that many Muslim professional women wear about

their heads and shoulders. But she dresses modestly, in accordance with the tenets of Islam, and explains that the *tudung* is very fashionable among students and women in many walks of life.

An ethnic Malay and a Muslim woman with a Western education, Maznah is a strong proponent of democracy. But she cautions: "Western cultures in general should understand that there are also different worldviews about governance, about how to handle human rights, about the notion of democracy. . . . There has to be this recognition that there are competing systems around. One cannot assume that the existing paradigm is the one and only paradigm for everyone."

In 2001, Maznah was a visiting professor at the Munk Centre for International Studies in Toronto, where she spent the year teaching, lecturing across Canada and researching human rights in Southeast Asia.

In November, after 24 years away, Maznah returned to Macalester with her husband, Johan Saravanamuttu, to give lectures to Mac students and also to speak to faculty preparing for the January seminar. She put into perspective Malaysia's history of pluralism, British colonialism and its strong base of economic development, offering her insights into what those factors have contributed to Malaysian life, and what they have cost. For example, the political and economic stability that attracted foreign investment to Malaysia came at a price. Union organizing was forbidden, and there were limits to freedom of speech.

Such limits are threatening to Westerners as well as local civil society, but Maznah says: "If a democratic

Jan Shaw-Flamm '76, a frequent contributor to Macalester Today, wrote about alumni who have served in the military in the Winter issue.

indigenous system, including Islam, is allowed to evolve from within, there will be reforms coming out of it. To me it is absolutely much better than a reform imposed from outside. . . . We have an opportunity to revive our own culture, to fashion our own identity, not an identity that was given to us by an outside power. This is all a process of rediscovering our lost values and self-identity which may in the end concur with other universal values."



Shah Sha'ari '86 and Kirsten Luterman '91 with 6-year-old Jordan Azlan. One area of cultural difference is attitudes towards child rearing: "Malaysians are very tolerant of children," Kirsten says.

Kirsten grew up in the heart of the Midwest, Columbia, Mo., and chose Macalester for its internationalism. She majored in international studies with a core in history and earned certification to teach secondary social studies.

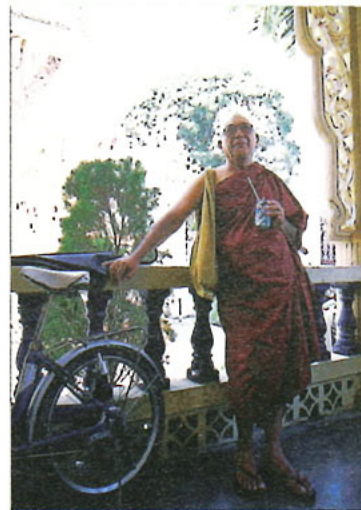
Shah is CEO of Malaysian Merchant Marine Berhad, which owns a fleet of tankers, bulkers and car-carriers and has offices in Kuala Lumpur and Manila. "Our vessels move freight all over the world, and my job involves a lot of traveling, mostly within Asia. We have contracts with companies in Japan, South Korea, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia and The Philippines as well as countries in Europe."

Kirsten teaches history at Garden International School, which follows the British curriculum. In addition to teaching and preparing students for their standardized history exam, she advises the Model United Nations club, which she helped to found at the school. In this U.N., students representing different countries research and then debate global issues at local and international conferences. Last January, she took a group of students to a conference in The Hague, where she was excited to see U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan '61 address the group.

Having lived for years in both Malaysia and the U.S., Shah and Kirsten are unusually well qualified to talk about the joys and challenges of life as a cross-cultural family. Kirsten—with input from her husband—responded to e-mailed questions.

What is it like being a cross-cultural couple?

In some ways, we have been together for so long that I don't really think about us being a "cross-cultural couple" . . . we're just a couple. On the other hand, if I really start to analyze things, the "cross-cultural" issue is always there. I think the area where it affects us the most is in communication. In general, Americans are a lot more open about things than Malaysians. We are more assertive, and more likely to say what we want or what we need. Sometimes this causes problems between us because I feel like



A Buddhist monk in Penang

©KAREN NAKAMURA

Robert Warde had to sit on his crammed suitcase, carry a shopping bag and prevail upon the goodwill of his fellow travelers to bring home the 30 books he obtained on the faculty development trip to Malaysia. The longtime English professor teaches a popular class on literature of the Vietnam War, and he saw the seminar as a welcome opportunity to deepen his understanding of Southeast Asia.

"I confronted this living situation," Warde says, "in which competing languages and cultures vie for expression within an environment that doesn't always allow that expression. It raises a lot of questions."

It was quickly apparent how Malaysia's "salad of languages," as Warde put it, complicates the literary scene. Even within Malay, the official language, there are a number of different dialects. Likewise, there are so many Chinese dialects that it's not unusual for Chinese Malaysians to resort to English for a common tongue.

Due to British colonization, English was for years the language of instruction in schools. But with a change in public policy, schools began converting to instruction in Malay in 1970. While English remains a strong second language, proficiency has dropped in the last 30 years.

"The literature arrives on the scene in so many different languages," says Warde, "and in many cases it's not getting translated. . . . So the question is, do you write in Malay and try to communicate to the largest number of people within the country and culture you're dealing with? Or if you're able to, do you write in English with the chance, maybe, to reach beyond the boundaries of the country?"

Warde's intended primary contact, Malaysia's poet laureate Muhamad Haji Salleh, was unfortunately quite ill

in January, so their communication was limited to e-mail. Warde, however, led by his curiosity, set out on his own to question readers, talk with authors and poke through bookstores.

"There's definitely a strong censorship in Malaysia," he says, "although it seems inconsistent. I would encounter published work that I wouldn't have thought would have gotten out there, yet there were certain things that I wanted but couldn't find. There's a writer named Shahnon Ahmad who has been a strong critic of the government, and I couldn't find any of Ahmad's work."

Finally, an acquaintance gave Warde a lead on where he might be able to surreptitiously buy an Ahmad volume—in Malay. He passed.

Warde and others are discussing how to bring their experience into the classroom. There could be an interdisciplinary class team-taught by faculty who visited Malaysia. Or maybe a course on literature of Southeast Asia. Or perhaps Warde will include a Malaysian author in his memoir class. In any case, he expects the experience to inform all of his classes.

"Malaysia reminds you of the elusiveness of language. There's this feeling, especially because of the pervasiveness of English at this particular historical moment in the world, that we're dealing with some kind of stable, ongoing commodity that will always be accessible to us. But the fact that our students can't read Anglo-Saxon, and struggle a little with Chaucer, [reminds us] that things are always evolving. . . ."

"It raises a lot of questions about the nature and utility and power of language." ●

English Professor Robert Warde

'Malaysia reminds you of the elusiveness of language'

Kirsten Luterman '91 and Shahraji Sha'ari '86 A Missourian, a Malaysian, a marriage

Shah Sha'ari '86 and Kirsten Luterman '91 live internationalism to a degree that few, even among Mac alumni, achieve. But they probably wouldn't have met if Sha'ari's roommate, Eric C. Thompson '89, had not also been the preceptor for Kirsten's "Intro to Cultural Anthropology" class, taught by David McCurdy. A month into Kirsten's first semester, she and Shah were going out, and in 1991, shortly after her graduation, they were married. With their son, Jordan Azlan, they make their home in Kuala Lumpur, and they still stay in touch with Thompson, now a professor at the University of Singapore.

Shah grew up in Kampung Ulu Lalang, a village about one hour from Kuala Lumpur, and attended a government boarding school beginning in the seventh grade. His high school exam results earned him a Malaysian Ministry of Education scholarship to study linguistics, and the ministry selected Macalester for him to attend.



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Professor Robert Warde, left, and Dean Ahmed Samatar, who led the Macalester contingent to Malaysia, at Muka Head in Penang

Malaysia at a glance

Area: 127,320 sq. mi., a little larger than New Mexico

Capital: Kuala Lumpur

Government: parliamentary monarchy

Products: palm oil, tin, tropical hardwoods, rice, petroleum, natural gas

Population: 22.2 million

Ethnicity: 68% Malay & other indigenous, 25% Chinese, 7% Indian

Religion: most often Malays are Muslim, Chinese are Buddhists, Indians are Hindu

Official language: Bahasa Malaysia (based on Malay)

Literacy: 84%

Life expectancy: 71 years

Average December high temp.: 88 F

Average May high temp.: 91

Sources: UNESCO, CIA World Factbook, Microsoft Bookshelf

Shah expects me to be a mind reader... and he thinks that I should be more "sensitive."

Another area that I feel is quite affected by our cultures is our attitude towards child rearing. When I first came to Malaysia, I thought that young Malaysian kids were really bratty. I couldn't believe how much their parents let them get away with, and I thought they were really pampered. I think the thing that shocked me the most was that they didn't seem to have a set bedtime. They just seemed to be allowed to stay up until they dropped off and I couldn't believe it when I saw families taking their young children out to eat at 10 or 11 at night.

I remember thinking that I would never raise my child that way. Hah! Our son is 6 now and somehow the Malaysian style of child-rearing has prevailed. When I bring him home

**Music Professor Carleton Macy
at the Malaysian Cultural
Center in Penang.**



© KAREN NAKAMURA

to the U.S., it usually causes some friction because he is used to the atmosphere in Malaysia. His behavior in restaurants, for example, is notorious among my family.

Malaysians are *very* tolerant of children; adults genuinely like kids and it is a very safe environment. When our son was a baby, we would go to a restaurant here, and the cooks would come out of the kitchen and take our son away and play with him and feed him. We wouldn't see him again for the whole meal. You would never let that happen in the U.S.!

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**A royal guardsman on duty
in Kuala Lumpur**

What do you do about holidays?

This is a tough one. I would say that I'm not terribly sentimental about holidays, but I do find myself getting homesick at Thanksgiving. Sometimes we get



©KAREN MAKAMURA

Left: Macalester faculty and staff members with traditional Malaysian dancers at the Malaysian Cultural Center.

together with some American friends for Thanksgiving, but even if we try to have a Thanksgiving meal here in Malaysia, it never feels the same. The food is too heavy for our warm climate, and it doesn't feel right to be wearing T-shirts and shorts in bright and pastel colors.

We always have a Christmas lunch at work because most of the teachers are from England. Malaysians celebrate New Year's Eve in the same way we do back home. We usually go to a party or out to a restaurant with a group of friends.

The biggest holiday for Malays, who are Muslim, is Hari Raya Aidilfitri (or just Hari Raya for short). It celebrates the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Jordan really looks forward to Hari Raya. He definitely has more awareness of Hari Raya than Christmas, Halloween or Thanksgiving. I think his exposure to the last three holidays is mainly through watching The Disney Channel because they always have specials for those holidays.

For Hari Raya, almost all Malays will balik kampung, or return to their villages. It's a time for reconnecting with family and childhood friends. There are a lot of traditional foods and cookies, and everyone wears traditional Malay clothing. We also follow the Malaysian tradition of having "open houses" on Hari Raya. Chinese Malaysians do the same thing on Chinese New Year, and Hindus have them on Deepavali. Basically, this means that you go and visit all your relatives and friends, and then they drop in and visit you. You eat and talk and eat some more!

After Macalester, how did you decide where to live? Do you see yourselves in Malaysia for the long term?

When I graduated in 1991, we decided to go to Malaysia. At that time we didn't know whether we were going for a visit or whether we would settle



Rosli Mahat '79 served as the emcee for the alumni gathering in Malaysia's capital—see pages 40–41.

there. I figured that we would be looking for jobs and probably moving after I graduated anyway, so we might as well try Malaysia.

As it turned out, we both got jobs within a month of arriving and before we knew it, we were renting an apartment and buying appliances and furniture. I guess we're here permanently. We own a home here and we are both settled with our careers. At this point I really can't imagine returning to the United States.

Psychology
Professor
Roxane
Gudeman

Multiculturalism
in an Islamic state

Psychology Professor Roxane Gudeman has always supported Macalester's commitment to internationalism, but the Malaysian experience was irresistibly appealing.

"The topical focus, multiculturalism, is central to my own teaching, college service and recent research," she says. Gudeman teaches "Psychology of Pluralism" and a cultural psychology senior seminar. She has served on the Council for Multicultural Affairs since its inception and recently chaired the task force that examined the state of multiculturalism at Macalester (see page 4).

As her independent study project in Malaysia, Gudeman researched how multiculturalism was conceived of and enacted in two settings: universities and preschools. At the Universiti Sains Malaysia at Penang, she interviewed a number of faculty about teaching in diverse classrooms. She studied schools

Psychology Professor Roxane Gudeman with a Malaysian colleague near the Institute of Islamic Understanding.



©KAREN NAKAMURA

"In the next 10 years I expect Malaysia to be more matured politically," says Ridzuan Salleh '79. He took part in a panel discussion at the alumni gathering in January.



AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

Ridzuan Salleh '79
A 'marketing man,' he says Malaysia must 'establish her niche and market, or risk being drowned by the wave of changes yet to come'

"Culture shocked? Indeed I was," Ridzuan Salleh '79 says of his initial experiences at Macalester. "Things were (and still are) different, the way we ate, what we ate, even when we ate! . . .

"Coming from a rather conservative Eastern world, it was like there was too much freedom. To handle it right, to achieve the right balance on things, was an awesome task in the beginning."

Even the use of names was different. "Ridzuan is mine and Salleh is my father's. Unlike the U.S. norm,

at the other end of the age spectrum because “I had learned prior to going that the only government-funded preschools in Malaysia, called ‘Unity Schools,’ have a curriculum designed to foster inter-cultural understanding and tolerance.”

While in Penang, Gudeman facilitated a session on “Islam and Religious Diversity in Malaysia” with Abu Bakar bin Majeed, a senior fellow at the Institute of Islamic Understanding. “I was nervous about facilitating this discussion,” says Gudeman, “because I wanted to encourage raising questions while also being respectful of cultural and religious differences; the potential for misunderstanding, I was fearful, might be heightened post 9-11.” But the session turned out to be congenial and enlightening.

It was fascinating to listen to the Muslims present discuss their perspectives as well as comments by non-Muslim Malaysians. It is very clear that all communities in Malaysia are very concerned about the future of Malaysia as an officially Islamic state. The Muslim Malays are concerned about wisely balancing the tension between fundamentalist pressures and those calling for liberalizing reform from within; they are very mindful of what is happen-

ing in other Arabic and non-Arabic Muslim states. The Chinese, Indian and other groups are also extremely concerned because of the effects changes led by the ruling majority will have on them. They exert influence by persuasion and by coalition building.”

Gudeman intends to maintain connections with the wonderful alumni and academic colleagues she met in Malaysia, and there’s little question that her teaching, her scholarship and her service to the Macalester community will be directly and profoundly affected by her experiences there.

“Perhaps the most challenging task will be to re-evaluate my thoughts about multiculturalism here at Macalester and in the U.S. in light of my experiences in Malaysia. . . . At the time of independence from Great Britain, the Chinese minority was the best educated and most affluent. Malaysia introduced affirmative action policies to give a boost to the Malay population educationally and economically in the late 1960s at about the same time as the U.S. initiated similar policies. Thus, in very different cultural contexts, we continue to see the ‘politics’ of affirmative action plans played out in educational and economic settings in both the United States and in Malaysia.” ●

I do not have a surname, but have used my father’s as one. My formal name is actually Ridzuan bin Salleh—‘bin’ means ‘the son of.’”

Like many of the Malaysian students of that era, Ridzuan was sponsored by the Malaysian government, which provided tuition and living expenses for some of the country’s bright, economically disadvantaged students. Macalester was one of several colleges and universities selected to receive these students.

Having focused on business at Macalester, Ridzuan worked for a while at Woolworth’s on Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis, but he turned down its permanent management training program to earn his M.B.A. in sunny San Diego

at U.S. International University, now Alliant International University. In 1981 he returned to Malaysia and joined his current employer, now known as Maybank, the largest banking group in Malaysia. Ridzuan has served as gen-

eral manager/CEO of Maybank’s offshore subsidiary, Maybank International, in the financial center on Labuan, a tiny island near Borneo.

“I love dealing with people—a marketing man, as some would put it. Right now I am facing my biggest challenge, to start new banking relationships in a new market to the Bank—the Middle East. Banking is relationship, and it cannot be developed overnight.” The new branch is in Bahrain, an island in the Gulf, which many consider to be the financial center of the Middle East.

Like many other countries, Malaysia seeks to find her place in the global economy. “We are a tiny nation in the race for the global economic pie. With the scant resources she has, Malaysia has to quickly establish her niche and market, or risk being drowned by the wave of changes yet to come.”

About Malaysia’s future, Ridzuan said, “It is always difficult to predict, but it is easier to hope. In the next 10 years I expect Malaysia to be more matured politically. As the level of education and awareness rises, I expect the nation to be more tolerant of differences of opinions.” ●

Alumni abroad: top 5 countries

The five countries
(not necessarily countries
of origin) with the most
Macalester alumni:

- 71 Canada
- 70 Japan
- 52 Malaysia
- 52 United Kingdom
- 38 Germany



Men fish on a beach in northwest Penang.

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Season High

by Jon Halvorsen

Chris Palm says he will always remember Macalester's 90-82 victory over Yale. The early-season win over a Division I team showed the Scots just how good they could be.

Ryan Gerry—and everyone who was there—will never forget his three-point shot with 1.4 seconds left that gave Macalester, once trailing by 17 points, an incredible 83-82 playoff victory over St. John's.

Coach Curt Kietzer, in his fifth season at Mac, cherishes another memory. He was in the gym at the University of St. Thomas—where he had starred as a player—talking with his former coach an hour before the Scots met the Tommies in a playoff game. As the coaches chatted, an entire section of St. Thomas bleachers filled up with Macalester students who had made the trip down Summit Avenue.

Just before tipoff, the St. Thomas fans stood in preparation for the game and there was a smattering of applause, Kietzer recalls. "Then the Macalester students stood and started jumping up and down on the bleachers and going absolutely crazy. It was an intense game, obviously, but I couldn't keep myself from smiling and even chucking a little bit.

From a win over Yale to a dramatic playoff run, the scrappy men's basketball team gives the campus something to roar about

Below: Macalester students, in blue and orange, make themselves heard in the St. Thomas gym during Mac's second playoff game.



SCOTT COHEN



SCOTT COHEN

All-Conference forward Ben Van Thorre '04 drives for the basket.

"If you had told me five years ago that we would be playing at St. Thomas for the chance, ultimately, to go to the NCAA national tournament, and that we would have seemingly more fans than St. Thomas did—and certainly more of a presence and excitement among our fans—I just wouldn't have believed it.

"It was a remarkable moment," Kietzer says. "For our players, it's impossible not to be affected by that experience. They have a greater understanding of why they invest so much energy, because it's not just about them. They understand that what they do has an effect on many other people on our campus."

The Scots lost that David-and-Goliath playoff game at St. Thomas, ending their season. But it was the best men's basketball season in two decades: a 13-7 record and fourth place in the 11-team MIAC, a 16-11 overall record, their first playoff victory ever. As the word spread about this exciting, scrappy, utterly selfless team, students, faculty and staff turned out in growing numbers to cheer them on. The students

Jon Halvorsen is the managing editor of Macalester Today.

invented some rousing cheers—some of which can't be printed here—and the *Mac Weekly* added its voice by giving the team front-page coverage. "We should be proud of our diverse student body and we should celebrate each other's talents," the *Weekly* said in an editorial, "including those of our student athletes. . . . There is no better way to bring our unique community together than the chance to celebrate together."

After the win over St. John's, sophomore Ben Van Thorre told the *Weekly* that Mac has "the best fans and the best gym in the MIAC." When Coach Kietzer called a timeout with 11 seconds left, "he was talking to me and drawing up a play, and I couldn't even hear a word he was saying. That's just great, that was a basketball environment," Van Thorre said.

Despite this success, Macalester is in no danger of overemphasizing sports. What other basketball team in the nation had a starter (Ryan Gerry) miss two important games so he could interview at Harvard and Dartmouth medical schools? What

other team has two—Gerry, a biology major, and Doug Benson, a chemistry and biology major—who plan to become physicians?

Attend any game in Macalester's cozy upstairs gym, where 728 spectators—if you include standing room—constitutes a sellout and every seat is seemingly 5 feet from the floor, and you won't see Mac's coach screaming at his players whenever they make a mistake—the occupational disease of most "big-time" and even many small-time coaches.

For one thing, screaming does not fit Curt Kietzer's personality. For another, he doesn't think it's an effective way to communicate with players. "Macalester students don't respond well to someone barking or screaming at them," he says. "I think you have to take a more cerebral approach than you would at many places and convince them of a better way of doing things—and then they'll commit wholeheartedly to it."

Three Macalester players made the MIAC All-Conference team: senior center Benson (Maple Plain, Minn.), who averaged 14.0 points, 7.6 rebounds and 1.2 blocked shots while shooting 58% from the field; junior Patrick Russell (Wayzata, Minn.), an electrify-

GREG HELGSON



Coach Curt Kietzer: "I like the fact that the people I work with are students first and athletes second, even though athletics is very important to me."

ing three-point shooter who averaged 16.7 points and 5.2 rebounds; and Van Thorre (Minneapolis), the MIAC's second-leading scorer with 17.0 points per game plus 6.1 rebounds.

But five other players also played critical roles and enabled Macalester to achieve moments of "basketball utopia," as their coach puts it. Senior Chris Palm (see page 17) was named to the MIAC All-Defensive Team for the second year in a row and finished his career as

Mac's all-time steals leader. Junior Greg Klancher (Bayport, Minn.) and freshman Eric Jackson (Evergreen, Colo.), who was named to the All-Newcomer Team, shared key leadership roles at point guard. Ryan Gerry (Cave Creek, Ariz.) scored less than the previous year as teammates scored more, but he became an outstanding defender and made clutch shots late in the season. And sophomore Adam Denny (Preston, Minn.) was a tenacious rebounder whose aggressive style of play and "little regard for his own personal safety," as his coach puts it, inspired Mac students to chant Denny's name in tribute.

Kietzer is a 1988 graduate of St. Thomas, where he was named to both the All-Conference team and the academic All-Conference team as a

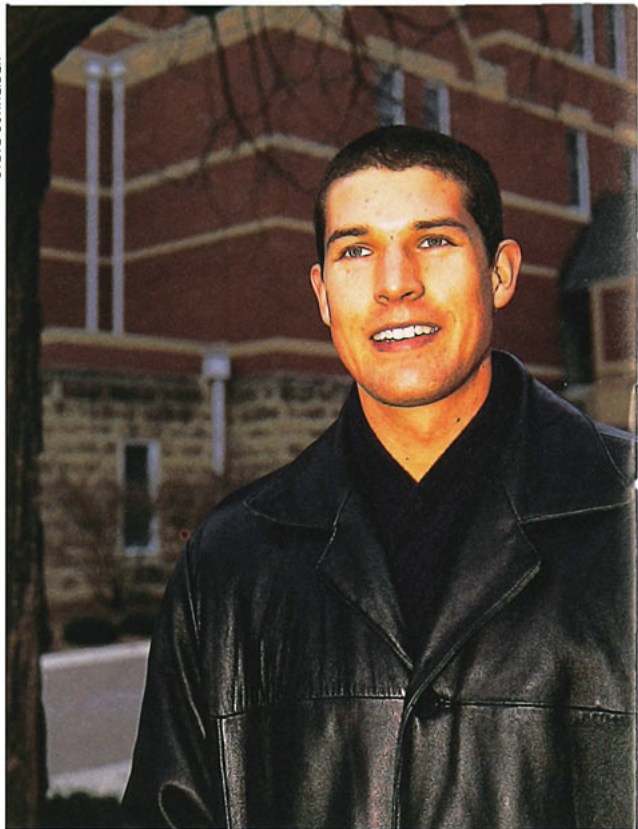
junior and senior. He remains the career scoring average leader at St. Thomas, though he insists his record should have an asterisk because he played only two years. A history major, he enjoyed St. Thomas but also came to appreciate Macalester by taking several courses at Mac. When he talks about his players, it's obvious that he takes pride in their overall accomplishments—in Palm's leadership skills and 3.5 GPA

SCOTT COHEN



All-Conference forward Patrick Russell '03 made 72 three-point shots in 27 games.

STEVE SCHNEIDER



Starter Ryan Gerry missed two important games because he had interviews with Harvard and Dartmouth medical schools.

as an economics major and the academic prowess of Benson and Gerry, both of whom transferred to Mac as juniors and plan to enter medical school.

"We've been able to sell Macalester [to potential student athletes] as an academic institution, first and foremost," he says. "That's how we attract the Ben Van Thorres and Patrick Russells, who are extraordinary students, first and foremost, for an extraordinary experience . . .

"I like the fact that the people I work with are students first and athletes second, even though athletics is very important to me. I feel good about that balance. These kids are going to move on from this experience, and it's not going to be all that they take with them from Macalester. In fact, it's only going to be a smaller piece of what they take with them. I really believe you can make an extraordinary commitment to intercollegiate athletics while at the same time making an extraordinary commitment to academics." ●

Bring on Duke!

During the regular 2001-02 season, No. 1-ranked Duke lost to Florida State; Florida State lost to American; American lost to Coastal Carolina; Coastal Carolina lost to Clemson; Clemson lost to Yale; Yale lost to Macalester.

Should Mac schedule a game against Duke?

"It's a good conversation piece and a little boost for us, even though it's ridiculous," Mac Coach Curt Kietzer told the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. ●



Macalester History Quiz II

Win a Mac sweatshirt! You can enter our new quiz by answering these 10 questions.

1. This writer had a long association with Macalester, starting as a guest lecturer at the World Press Institute. He later stayed in an apartment at what became Macalester's International Center while working on a book that would win the Pulitzer Prize and become a TV miniseries. The writer and his book were:

- A. Tim O'Brien, *Going After Cacciato*
- B. Norman Mailer, *The Executioner's Song*
- C. Alex Haley, *Roots*
- D. Mario Puzo, *The Godfather*

2. An authority on U.S. foreign policy and former president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, this Macalester faculty member is the author, most recently, of *Financial Missionaries to the World: The Politics and Culture of Dollar Diplomacy*. This professor is:

- A. Emily Rosenberg
- B. Norm Rosenberg
- C. Jim Stewart
- D. Peter Rachleff

3. In 1998, Macalester won a national championship in this sport.

- A. baseball
- B. women's soccer
- C. men's soccer
- D. rugby

4. This Macalester president, a devout Presbyterian, helped bring international students to Mac, sent U.S. students to study abroad, hired faculty from a variety of backgrounds and beliefs, and took the lead in admitting Japanese American students during World War II. He was:

- A. Harvey Rice
- B. James Wallace
- C. John Carey Acheson
- D. Charles Turck

5. One of the leaders of a national movement to improve literacy in the sciences, this Macalester professor wrote and edited *Chemistry in Context*, an innovative textbook for non-science majors. This professor is:

- A. Truman Schwartz
- B. Jan Serie
- C. Kathy Parson
- D. Emil Slowinski

6. Name the Macalester author who was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2000 for a novel inspired by *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

- A. Charles Baxter '69
- B. Mary Karr '76
- C. Michael Fredrickson '67
- D. Professor Diane Glancy

7. According to the Peace Corps, 7 Macalester graduates were serving in the Peace Corps as of early 2002. How many Macalester alumni have served in the Peace Corps since it was established in 1961?

- A. 271
- B. 57
- C. 101
- D. 997

8. Ten students in Macalester's history have earned this distinction. The most recent to do so were Christian Campbell '99, Gretchen Rohr '98 and Abigail Noble '96. All were:

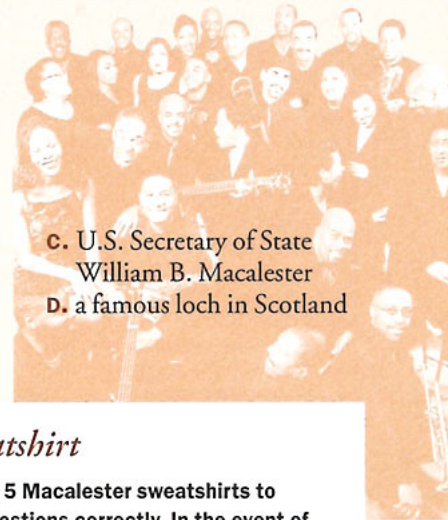
- A. All-American athletes
- B. national champion debaters
- C. Rhodes Scholars
- D. Minnesota state legislators

9. The Macalester College Black Choir, which began at Macalester in 1969, became the Grammy Award-winning group still led by Gary Hines '74 and called:

- A. Four Shadow
- B. Urban Hillbilly Quartet
- C. Motion Poets
- D. Sounds of Blackness

10. Macalester is named after:

- A. a novel by Sir Walter Scott
- B. philanthropist and presidential adviser Charles Macalester
- C. U.S. Secretary of State William B. Macalester
- D. a famous loch in Scotland



Win a Macalester sweatshirt

Macalester Today will give away 5 Macalester sweatshirts to readers who answer the most questions correctly. In the event of ties, 5 winners will be chosen in a random drawing from the highest scorers. Winners will be announced in the Fall (September) issue.

To enter the contest (only one entry per person), simply send us your answers by:

- e-mail: mactoday@macalester.edu
- fax: 651-696-6192
- regular mail: *Macalester Today*, College Relations Office, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105
- online: www.macalester.edu/alumni

Deadline: July 19, 2002. Good luck!

NAME _____ CLASS YEAR _____

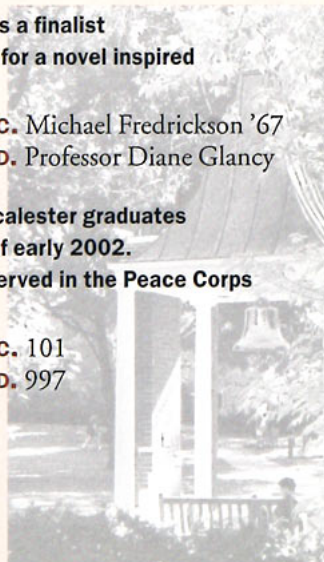
ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Write your answers here (if mailing or faxing):

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____



Common bond: alumni in Malaysia, Taiwan, Tokyo and Hong Kong

Alumni Director Gabrielle Lawrence '73 accompanied Macalester faculty on their journey to Malaysia—see page 22—and elsewhere in Asia. She wrote the following:

Taipei, Taiwan, was the first stop on a three-week journey through Asia to meet international alumni and learn about their everyday life in the exotic cities of Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur and Tokyo.

We learned that the many Asian cultures are rich, complex and layered with meaning—and that we are appallingly ignorant about these civilizations. We talked with alumni from class years 1957 to 2000, from Singapore to Seoul. We heard stories about coming to Macalester as a teenager and we came away with renewed respect for the courage and determination of our international students.

Macalester alumni throughout Asia are as diverse in their occupations, ages, religious and political persuasions as Mac alumni in the United States. But we found that the common bond of shared experiences and shared values extends beyond the generations, across the oceans and through cultural traditions. And, we got pretty good with chopsticks! ●



President McPherson with Rosli Mahat '79, who served as the emcee for the alumni gathering in Malaysia's capital.



Above: Anthropology Professor Karen Nakamura, left, who took many of the photos for our story on Malaysia (see pages 22–29), and Halimah Junuh '78 in Kuala Lumpur.

Right: In the Malaysian tradition, Normah Mohd Noor '77, a professor of botany who led the Macalester group on a field trip, presents a gift to Macalester economics Professor Karl Egge. All the Macalester faculty and staff received gifts of picture frames made of pewter.





Above: More than 30 of Macalester's alumni in Malaysia attended the event in Kuala Lumpur.



Above: This meeting in Taipei gathered about 80 percent of the Mac alumni and parents who live in Taiwan—and gave Alumni Director Gabrielle Lawrence '73 a chance to see her brother and sister-in-law. Front: Gabrielle, left, Laura Phillips '99, David Mao '97 and Mac parent Ruu-Tian Lawrence. In back are Keith Saunders '94, Timothy Berge '80 and Mac parent Chris Lawrence.



Above left: Mathematics Professor Wayne Roberts greets two of his former students, Residah Mahmud, who attended Macalester from 1975 to 1977, and her husband, Jamaludin Bin Md Ali '77.

Left: Guests at the Tokyo event included Pete M. Shimada '59 and his wife, Michiko.

The Wind from the 1950s

by Stephen Burt

Randall Jarrell's daughters are still riding
 Behind him in an open-topped sports car
 Of 1957, streamlined, plush
 And spotlessly maintained. They look back from it
 With hair too short to be blown back by the wind,
 They look back as if clinging to the spine
 And haunch of the leopard that sprints in the National Zoo,
 Whose enlightened hosts have built for it
 A cage like a savannah in a cage.
 They're really his stepdaughters. From the nest
 The driver's seat makes for him, from his split-
 At-both-ends beard and tipped-back shades, he grins,
 His rose cheeks taut. He looks at home among them.

• • •


Election Night: Rock Creek sorts colored stones,
 Turns mill wheels, joins a never-used canal
 (Steam trains took all its traffic from day one).
 Counting close races on the radio,
 I thought of justice, one of the mud-choked paths,
 Developing, returning to no source;
 Of silver crowns coins thrown in water raise;
 Of Katharine Hepburn on the roof in Desk Set,
 Skyscraper-top wind cooling her bag lunch.
 She's a reference librarian scared of losing her job
 To the megacomputer whose hierophant and guide
 Is Spencer Tracy, who can't tie his shoes.
 He staggers with the luggage of the breeze
 Beating about his coat, dragging him down,
 Then lifts his sandwich from his lips and asks
 (Reads from his clipboard) *When you meet someone
 For the first time, what's the first thing you notice?*
 His checklist's flapping: *Eyes. Hair. Accent. Gait.*
 Reaction shot. Amused. Red hair, green eyes:
Whether that person is (pauses) a man, or a woman.



Stephen Burt, assistant professor of English at Macalester, teaches modern and contemporary American literature and the reading and writing of poetry. He completed a dissertation at Yale on the modern American poet

Randall Jarrell. He has published a book of poems, Popular Music—which includes “The Wind from the 1950s”—as well as essays and articles (some of which are now online) in Boston Review, PN Review, Transition and elsewhere. This spring he was awarded a \$25,000 Loft Literary Center/McKnight Artist Fellowship in poetry.

Permission to reprint this poem, from Stephen Burt's Popular Music, granted by the Center for Literary Publishing.



After earning a journalism degree, Cleo Waldhauser '51 of South St. Paul enjoyed a 41-year advertising career, primarily at Dayton's and Target, as a writer and copy chief. A regular contributor to the Annual Fund, she has also established a charitable gift annuity to the college. The annuity provides her with guaranteed income during her lifetime, free from economic fluctuations, as well as a tax advantage. The remainder goes to Macalester's general scholarship fund.

"I acquired a liberal arts education I'll treasure always," Ms. Waldhauser says, "and I was rewarded with exciting, creative work I loved. I felt it time to thank Macalester in some modest way. The charitable annuity seemed just right."

Mac postmodern

The Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center takes on different shapes reflected in the windows of Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel.



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