

7-1-2002

Macalester Today Fall 2002

Macalester College

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/macalestertoday>

Recommended Citation

Macalester College, "Macalester Today Fall 2002" (2002). *Macalester Today*. Paper 60.
<http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/macalestertoday/60>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Communications and Public Relations at DigitalCommons@Macalester College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Macalester Today by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Macalester College. For more information, please contact scholarpub@macalester.edu.

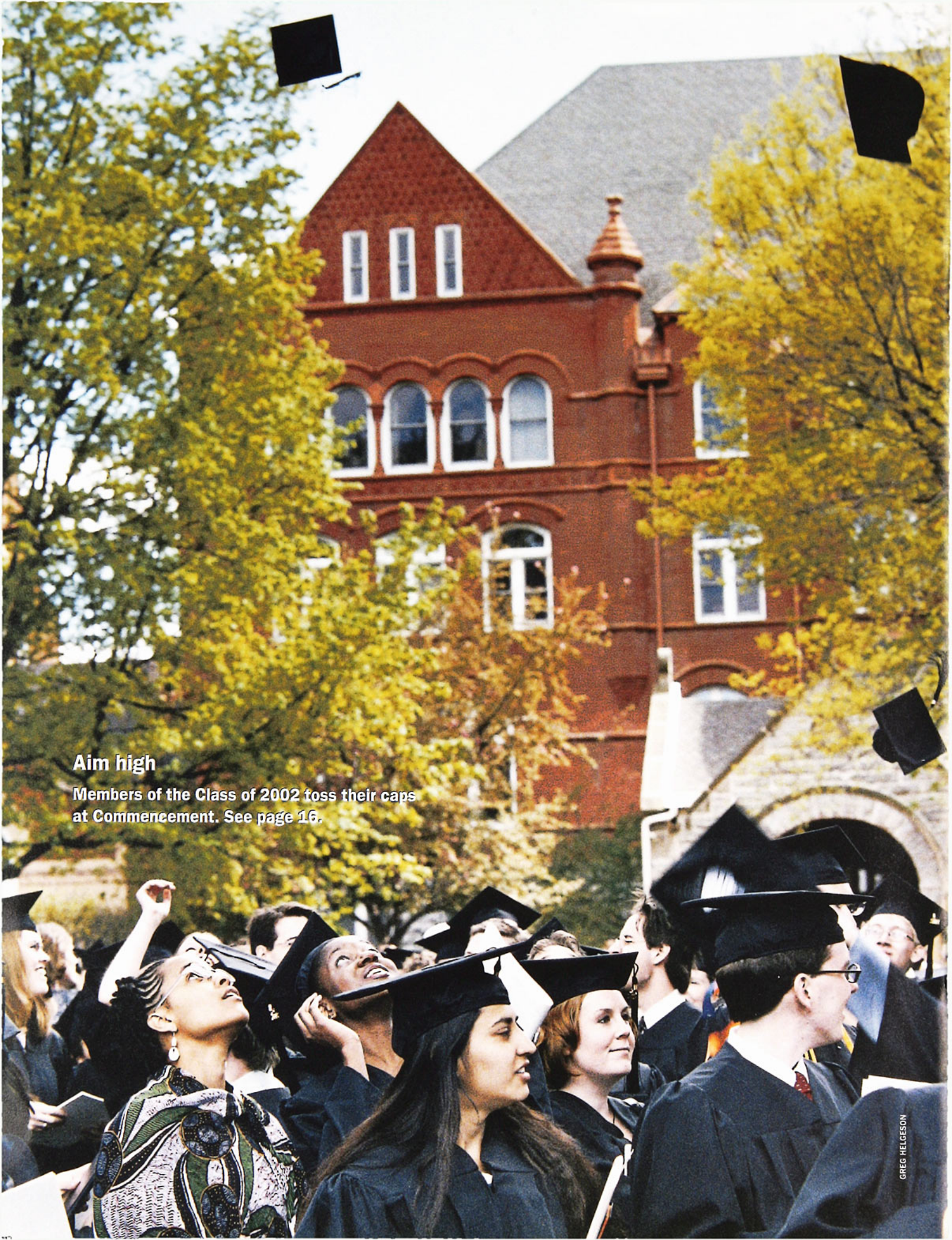
A large crowd of graduates in black caps and gowns, many laughing and clapping. The graduates are densely packed, filling the frame. They are wearing black mortarboard caps with tassels and black gowns. Many of the graduates are smiling broadly and laughing, creating a joyful and celebratory atmosphere. The background is filled with more graduates, some looking towards the camera and others looking slightly away. The overall scene is one of a happy graduation ceremony.

Macalester Today

Fall 2002

Last Laugh

Garrison Keillor's advice to the Class of 2002



Aim high

Members of the Class of 2002 toss their caps at Commencement. See page 16.

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Features

24 Civil Discourse

Whatever happened to intelligent, respectful discussion of public issues?

32 Hungry Heart

He may be 81, but artist and Professor Emeritus Anthony Caponi still has a passion to create.



Departments

2 Letters

5 Around Old Main

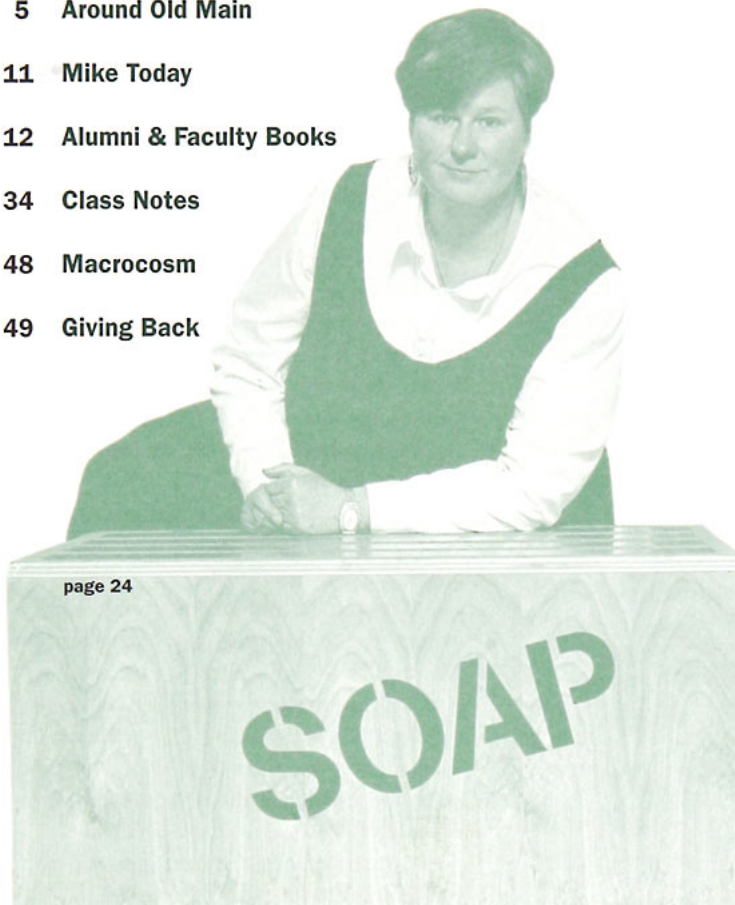
11 Mike Today

12 Alumni & Faculty Books

34 Class Notes

48 Macrocosm

49 Giving Back



Cover story: page 20
Last Laugh

"If you need to have a personal crisis, this would be a good time for it—this summer, perhaps," Garrison Keillor told the Class of 2002 in May. "Don't put it off until mid-life, when it takes so much longer to resolve." Keillor's humorous—and sometimes serious—advice is part of our coverage of Commencement and Reunion on pages 16–23.

The cover photo was taken by David Brewster of the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*.

Macalester Today

Fall 2002

Director of College Relations
Doug Stone

Executive Editor
Nancy A. Peterson

Managing Editor
Jon Halvorsen

Art Director
Elizabeth Edwards

Class Notes Editor
Robert Kerr '92

Macalester College

Chair, Board of Trustees
Mark A. Vander Ploeg '74

President
Michael S. McPherson

Vice President for College Advancement
Richard Allen Ammons

Alumni Director
Gabrielle Lawrence '73

Associate Alumni Directors
Carol Polk and Kim Gregg '93

Macalester Today (Volume 90, Number 4) is published by Macalester College. It is mailed free of charge to alumni and friends of the college four times a year. Circulation is 25,000.

For change of address, please write: Alumni Office, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. Or call (651) 696-6295. Toll-free: 1-888-242-9351. E-mail: alumnioffice@macalester.edu

To submit comments or ideas, write: *Macalester Today*, College Relations, at the above address. Phone: (651) 696-6452. Fax: (651) 696-6192. E-mail: mactoday@macalester.edu Web: www.macalester.edu/alumni

Two to cherish

I'M WRITING in tribute to John Bernstein, who died this past spring [see obituary on page 47], and Mary McLaughlin Hill '58, who died in the summer of 1979. To me, both of them exemplified the best that Macalester has to offer its students—an enduring legacy of commitment and excellence in the classroom and beyond.

John came to Macalester, as I did, in the fall of 1967; Mary had been there a few years longer, working in the Admissions Office. I met each of them a year later, as a timid, unsure sophomore.

Mary had just transferred to a new job in the Office of Publications, where my work-study job involved typing up and sending out press releases to Mac students' hometown newspapers. John taught a 20th century drama class that I took in the spring.

Maybe they're linked in my mind because I met them at about the same time and they were nearly the same age. But each of them also had a profound influence on me, personally and professionally. Over the next few years, I had the chance to watch them work, enjoying themselves and bringing their own distinctive style to jobs they loved. They were smart, dedicated, funny, upbeat—the best kind of colleagues and teachers.

I stayed on in the St. Paul area after graduating, and I kept in touch with both John and Mary. Especially during my turbulent 20s, they were thankfully steady and calming. What I remember most is how accepting they were, how kind, how pleased to talk with me—and how apparently confident they were, despite my own doubts, that I was going to be just fine. I had so much respect for their opinion that I found it hard to totally discount their belief in my abilities. Maybe I *was* capable. Maybe I *could* make a living by writing, editing, teaching. And, with their encouragement, I did.

After more than 20 years, I can still hear Mary cheerily answering her phone, "Mary Hill!" in a way that made me think she could hardly *wait* to hear what I had to say. And I can still see John perched on the edge of a desk in Janet Wallace Hall, throwing out questions—jittery for the class to get to a

I remind myself that after every conversation with John or Mary, I left with a smile on my face.

Calling women athletes

We plan a *Macalester Today* story on women's athletics. If you participated in any women's sport or athletic activity at Macalester—especially before 1975—and have a story to share, send an e-mail to: mactoday@macalester.edu. Or write Managing Editor Jon Halvorsen, College Relations Office. Phone: 651-696-6452. ●

point, but not about to make it himself. I loved learning from both of them.

I'll probably never get over being angry that these two extraordinary people were taken much too soon—Mary, at 43; John, at 66. I have to remind myself to be thankful that I had the privilege and good fortune to learn from them and, best of all, to count them as good friends. I remind myself that after every conversation with John or Mary, I left with a smile on my face. And what could be a happier legacy than that?

Donna Ahrens '71
Golden Valley, Minn.



Mary McLaughlin Hill '58 in about 1970. The first woman admissions counselor at Macalester, she later worked in development and public relations.

Palestinian flag

I AM profoundly shocked, saddened and angered about the college's decision to reverse its longstanding policy and fly the Palestinian flag at graduation. This is especially troubling at this juncture in history when the Palestinian flag has become an international symbol of terror.

While my heart goes out to those Palestinians whose dreams of peace have been subverted by a leadership so dedicated to inhumanity, I find the college's action unacceptable. The college can no longer count on my support.

Jonas Bromberg '85
West Roxbury, Mass.

Malaysian alumni

IT WAS very heartening to read about the Macalester trip to Malaysia in your last issue. Seeing those pictures of friends whom I haven't seen in years brings back a lot of fond memories of Macalester days.

To further enrich your stories about the Malaysian Mac alumni experiences, let me add mine. Unlike most of those Malaysian alumni featured in your stories, I am not a Muslim but a third-generation Evangelical Christian from the famous oil town of Miri in the Borneo state of Sarawak. I am a member of the exotic Kayan tribe, a small and distinct ethnic group with our own unique set of customs, language and way of life. I also happen to be one of the few Macalester-educated Malaysians who ended up living in the Twin Cities and elsewhere in the U.S.

After graduate school at Southern Illinois University in the late '80s, I had a stint teaching English in the Sarawak capital city of Kuching, but things didn't work out personally so I came back to Minnesota. Life in Minnesota has provided me an opportunity to have an interesting array of careers: running a shelter for battered women, starting a nonprofit agency, being a community activist, etc. I now work as a senior grants analyst for the state of Minnesota and, on the side, I serve on local non-governmental boards. Additionally, I serve as a councilor on the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, a state governmental body advocating politically on behalf of the various Asian-Pacific communities of Minnesota. Interestingly enough, two other members of this council are Macalester alumni: Vinodh Kutty '89 from Singapore and Masami Suga '90 from Japan. Two of my closest friends in town are also Malaysian Mac alumni who, like me, took a different path and stayed around in the Twin Cities. Noor Ainnah Abdullah '79 works as a computer programmer for eFunds and Roshida Murad '86 works for Wells Fargo.

I love living in the Twin Cities (aside from the winter, which no one in their right mind could get used to), though I nurture a dream of one day moving back to Malaysia and finally contributing to my tribe and the country of my birth. That may happen soon enough when my daughter, Andrea Urei, goes off to college.

Lina Jau '85
Minneapolis



©KAREN NAKAMURA

Corrections

A photo caption on page 28 of the Summer *Macalester Today* failed to identify Normah Mohd Noor '77, right, a professor in the School of Biosciences and Biotechnology at the Universiti Kebangsaan

Malaysia (National University of Malaysia). She is pictured with Macalester Professor Roxane Gudeman at the International Islamic University, which was incorrectly identified in the photo caption as the Institute of Islamic Understanding. Dr. Noor, who was also pictured on page 40 of the same issue, was one of the key on-site contacts for the Kuala Lumpur portion of the Macalester faculty development seminar. •

Diversity

MY SIGNIFICANT other is frustrated with the frequent mailings he receives as an "alumni of color." They remind him of the numerous pamphlets he got as a "student of color," which were equally unwelcome—unwelcome reminders that maybe, just maybe, he wasn't at Macalester because of his abilities but because he fit an administrator's idea of multiculturalism. He feared, as he did in high school, that his achievements rode on the back of special assistance because he's from a working-class Hispanic family. He fought throughout his education at Macalester to be seen as a student only, a student like any other.

While I am completely sympathetic to my partner's response to these mailings, aimed at bringing together the culturally diverse alumni population of Macalester and ensuring the continued presence of new generations of multicultural students, I do get jealous that *I* don't get any mailings. Now, I'm not Hispanic, I'm white. But I *did* contribute to the diversity of Macalester. I am queer, and I am a pagan, and therefore a member of both sexual and religious minorities. Both of these minority groups are listed among the groups protected by Mac's non-discrimination policy but are not really celebrated in the way that racial and cultural differences seem to be. I would welcome a mailing inviting me to attend events that discussed spirituality and the issues that Mac folks are interested in: globalization, environment, social change, and yes, diversity. Equally, I would enjoy an opportunity for queer alumni to come together and discuss our experiences at Macalester.

I can assure you that these issues were factors for why I attended Macalester. As much as possible, I tried to read between the lines to determine if I would be welcome at Mac. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Mac had a "Gay Week"—after all,

Disneyland has one! We could come from all over, with the persons we love, to be ourselves, discuss the issues

I'm not Hispanic, I'm white. But I *did* contribute to the diversity of Macalester. I am queer, and I am a pagan.

and support (read: provide funding for) the programs that we benefited from like the Women and Gender Studies Department, student groups and ongoing academic debates.

I recognize that I am harping a bit more on the queer part of my argument—after all, June is Gay and Lesbian History month, and I feel like some recognition by Macalester's alumni program would be welcome. However, I am equally passionate about the importance of ongoing discussion and support for the religious diversity of Macalester.

I do not believe it would be difficult to involve the diverse Macalester alumni in events like the ones I have listed above. It would merely take a quick "check the box if you are interested" in attending themed events, and it would bolster Macalester's reputation as a place of true diversity and

tolerance. I would be willing to assist the Alumni Office in developing events that are inclusive of all the diverse alumni of Macalester, and I am certain that you would find wide support from other local alumni as well. You never know, maybe some day Mac will be as proud to have religious and queer minorities in their stats as they are about racial minorities.

Marjorie Hundtoft '01
St. Paul
marjoriehundtoft@yahoo.com

P.S. I was happy to see Macalester's presence at the recent GLBT Pride Festival.

Associate Alumni Director Kim Gregg '93 says the Alumni Office's programming is designed to build community by celebrating our differences and likenesses. "We have a responsibility to provide program opportunities specifically to alumni of color, as much of our 'mainstream' programming seems to lack appeal to the alumni of color population."

Gregg adds that while Macalester has had a GLBT alumni group, Scots Pride, it has been inactive for some time. "With a program staff of three, we depend on alumni volunteer leadership for segments that are more specific, such as book clubs, chapters all over the coun-

try, discussion groups and Scots Pride. I think Scots Pride—and any new group—is a worthwhile endeavor; our facilities and communications resources are open to alumni who wish to start a group of any kind, but the group must have leadership and membership. We would love to have enough interest and volunteers to offer an alumni group for any interest!"

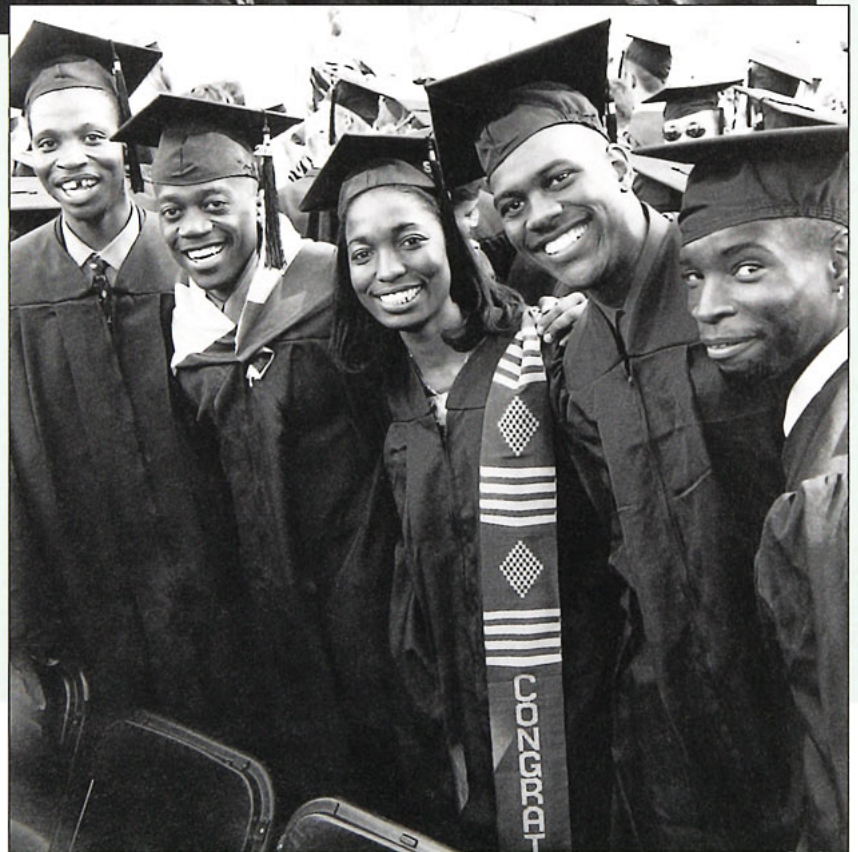
If you are interesting in organizing an alumni group, please contact Alumni Director Gabrielle Lawrence '73 at 651-696-6315; toll-free at 888-242-9351; or via e-mail: Lawrence@macalester.edu. ●

More great photos of the Class of '02

Photographer Greg Helgeson (below) has been the No. 1 photographer for *Macalester Today* for many years. Once again, he photographed Reunion and Commencement this past May—see pages 16–23. He also took the photos on this page. *Right:* Garrison Keillor's Commencement address provoked waves of laughter—see page 20. *Lower right:* New alumni (from left) Bongani Mngomezulu (Nhlanguano, Swaziland), Kajerero Ssebbaale (Tutume, Botswana), Akua Awua-Asamoah (Accra, Ghana), David Scott (Montego Bay, Jamaica) and Gerald Wilson (Freetown, Sierra Leone).



SHIRL AHRENS '62



Nine who made a difference

Presidential Leadership Award salutes nine graduating seniors who made a mark at Macalester

THESE NINE MEMBERS of the Class of 2002 received the annual Presidential Leadership Award, which recognizes seniors for their outstanding contributions to the Macalester community throughout their college careers.

• **Hannah Clark** (Cambridge, Mass.), history major. She was a leader on the *Mac Weekly*, as editor in chief, managing editor and opinion editor. A member of the Hall Council, she was the publicity coordinator for the Macalester Jewish Organization and co-chair of Feminists in Action. She served as a representative on the Council for Multicultural Affairs, volunteered at the Minnesota chapter of the National Abortion Rights Action League and worked as a writing tutor in the Academic Excellence Center.



Clark

• **Meghan Greeley** (Amherst, Mass.), psychology and anthropology. Her leadership and organizational skills shaped the psychology honor society, Psi Chi, and she served as captain of the Ultimate Frisbee team. She worked in the Anthropology Department as an office and teaching assistant and was a tour guide for the Admissions Office. She literally served students in Café Mac as a student worker and then as a manager for Bon Appetit. She also volunteered at the Bush Children's Center and Salvation Army, and worked as a substitute teacher.



Greeley

• **Cynthia Harrison** (Minneapolis), environmental studies major, biology core. She served as a leader or member all four years in both the Asian Student Alliance and Bridges. She was also a leader in STARSA (Students Against Rape and Sexual



Harrison

Assault), the Dismantling Racism Group and the Council for Multicultural Affairs. She was selected as an ACM Minority Fellow. She volunteered as a leader in beautifying inner-city Detroit, recruited participants for the Just Energy campaign and served as a program associate for Rethinking Tourism.

• **Elizabeth Humphrey** (Fargo, N.D.), psychology. She coordinated the efforts of Maction, the college's student-led community service office. She served as a coordinator for STARSA (Students Against Rape and Sexual Assault) and was instrumental in educating others on the issue of sexual assault. She was the student chair for Springfest, the biggest student-led event on campus. She also served



Humphrey

as a leader of ACE (Activities and Campus Events), Feminists in Action, Macalester Student Government and the Senior Week Committee.

• **Catherine Neuschler** (Bowie, Md.), environmental studies and political science. She was active in the Campus Environmental Issues Committee, Macalester Democrats, Symphonic Band, Flying Fingers folk group, Council for Religious Understanding and the *Mac Weekly*. Committed to environmental activism, she served as a teaching assistant and intern at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. She worked on the staff of Minnesota Congresswoman Betty McCollum and as a research intern for Minnesota state Rep. Matt



Neuschler



Mentors, scholars, friends

The Alumni Association honored retiring faculty members Jim Stewart (History), Virginia Schubert (French) and Jerry Fisher '59 (History and Communication and Media Studies) at a ceremony during Reunion that also recognized alumni award winners (see page 22). Three other faculty members—Ellis Dye (German Studies), Anna Meigs (Anthropology) and Wayne Wolsey (Chemistry)—are also entering the college's retirement program.

Entenza '83. She also assisted many in the campus community through her work at the Computing Help Desk.

• **Jason Schlude** (St. Louis), religious studies and classics major, geology core. Named a member of Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year, he was awarded research grants from both the Keck and Lilly projects at Macalester. He was a volunteer for three summers at the Macalester-led archaeological dig in northern Israel, where he became a supervisor, and served as a student representative in Macalester's Touch the Future fund-raising campaign. He also represented students on the advisory board of the Lilly project on work and vocation.



Schlude

• **Noel Stave** (Colombo, Sri Lanka), economics. He was the co-founder, fund manager and chair of the Macalester Investment Group. A student member of the Board of Trustees Finance Committee and a voting member of the Alumni Board, he was elected vice president of Macalester Student Government and served on the Council for Multicultural Affairs. A track and field team member, he mentored international students, served as a volunteer tax counselor and worked four years in the Admissions Office, culminating with his leadership as the tour guide director.



Stave

• **Terri-Ann Thompson** (Portland, Jamaica), psychology major, chemistry core. A resident assistant for two years, she served as co-chair of the Residence Hall Association and received the Ann Bolger Vision Award, named for Macalester's late director of residential life. She was a vital member of the Caribbean Student Association. Her academic credentials were augmented by her service as a research assistant in the Psychology Department, both at Macalester and at Middlebury College. She served as a student adviser on the Mellon



Thompson

Last supper

For their final project, six art students created their own dinnerware. Then they ate dinner.

This was not your parents' final exam. The six students in art Professor Gary Erickson's advanced ceramics class got ready for their final project by creating a set of four bowls, cups, plates and related utensils. And then they prepared to discuss how their pieces worked—both in a practical sense as a meal, and in the larger sense of the importance of handmade objects in today's culture.

The final testing ground was a class dinner using the pieces at Erickson's Minneapolis loft/studio. Each student brought a place setting and the class drew straws to determine whose set they would use.

"I wanted to take the pieces out of the academic environment and use them in a real-life kitchen and on a table," Erickson said. "During our dinner table conversation we made observations about the appropriateness of size, comfort of handles, how well a pitcher poured, the relationship of food to the form or glaze—for example, spaghetti on a red plate looks completely different than on a brown plate—and how easy or difficult it was to clean the pieces."

Erickson urged the students to think in terms

of a set of pieces, not individual pieces. "One of the hardest things for pottery students to accomplish is repetition of like forms," he said. "Earlier assignments of each form allowed for experimentation. I now stressed articulating an idea and showing enough control of pottery skills to actualize a form."

The students could keep their dishes, which they liked, though Erickson pointed out that keeping the pieces was a bonus for taking the wheel-throwing course, not the objective. "I asked them to think about what makes a strong three-dimensional clay form and what is the value of handmade objects in our culture. These are the reasons such courses are offered at Macalester. It is not a technical school teaching the craft of mass-produced bowls."

Using money provided by the Tom Leonard Fund (for faculty-student dinners), Erickson and his students prepared a meal of salad, ravioli, bread, olives and beverages. "We could serve and eat off the students' dishes, be in a creative environment at my studio and give them an opportunity to discuss their semester's work and talk about art."

Lissa Miller '02 (Appleton, Wis.), a physics major who plans to pursue a Ph.D. in astronomy, called the dinnerware project "one of the most challenging of the assignments that we did for class.... The dinner was an excellent way to do

'I wanted to take the pieces out of the academic environment and use them in a real-life kitchen and on a table.'

Advisory Committee and as a teaching assistant for a class on psychological disorders.

• **Timothy Wallace** (Catonsville, Md.), classics. A resident assistant in his senior year, he was captain of the swimming and water polo teams, a member of the Student Athletics Advisory Committee and a staff member of WMCN radio. His passion for photography was shown in his work for the campus Spotlight, Banshee and Alumni Office. He was a research assistant at the Macalester-led archaeological dig in northern Israel and served as a field supervisor and surveyor for the Maryland Historical Trust.



Wallace

Perfection

Macalester faculty team adds up with the best of them in international computing contest

A MACALESTER TEAM was the only team from an undergraduate college to achieve a perfect score in an international computing contest, giving additional support to the notion that a liberal arts approach to science and mathematics can be successful.

Math and computer science Professors Danny Kaplan and Stan Wagon comprised the Mac team in the contest involving numerical analysis. Numerical analysis is an area on the border of mathematics and computer science, but one that often gets its inspiration from engineering, physics and the sciences. It has been the silent enabler of



GREG HELGESON

Professor Gary Erickson and his art students enjoy dinner—and art—as their final project. From left: Joyce Connelly '04 (Eagan, Minn.), Ben Turner '04 (Greensboro, N.C.), Anna Payden '02 (South Milwaukee, Wis.), Erickson, Lissa Miller '02 (Appleton, Wis.), Emily Anderson '02 (Greenwood, Minn.) and Sara Valesano '02 (Little Falls, Minn.)

the critique of the project because actually using the dishes that we made added a practical aspect to the critique that we wouldn't have had otherwise.

"It was the most fun I've ever had taking a final," Miller added.

The projects turned out well, Erickson said. "This was a combination of advanced and inde-

pendent study students who worked together on a final project. The dinner became a going-away party as well as a critique."

—Doug Stone

much of scientific computation. Although computer hardware has become 1,000 times faster in the past 20 years, scientific software has grown millions of times faster due to the improved algorithms of numerical analysts.

"Attempting to do modern scientific computing without numerical analysis tools is like racing the Tour de France on a tricycle," Kaplan says.

The results were announced in May. Some 93 teams (of up to six members each) from 25 countries entered; 20 achieved perfect scores of 100 points. The Macalester team was the only one from an undergraduate college to have a perfect score.

The challenge was published by the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics. Oxford University Professor Nick Trefethen

posed 10 problems in numerical computing, each of which has a single number for an answer. The goal was to compute the answer to as many digits as possible, one point per digit up to 10 for each problem. "If anyone gets 50 digits in total, I will be impressed," Trefethen wrote.

Wagon, a mathematical problem-solving maven who for more than a decade has organized Macalester's internationally circulated "Problem of the Week," took the challenge. The author of many books and papers using the advanced software package *Mathematica*, Wagon quickly wrote *Mathematica* programs that solved several

'Attempting to do modern scientific computing without numerical analysis tools is like racing the Tour de France on a tricycle.'

of the problems. Convinced that Trefethen's 50 digits were within reach, he started to fish for other faculty who could help with the problems outside of his areas of expertise.

Kaplan took the bait. He has been revising Macalester's offerings in computing for scientists and was teaching the advanced course for the first time. "Although I do a tremendous amount of computing in my research, all of my techniques were picked up ad hoc, as needed. Teaching the course gave me my first organized introduction to the subject," Kaplan said.

Emboldened by these quick successes, the pair tackled the remaining problems, culminating in Wagon's month-long ascent to the

final digits of a particularly tricky exercise in optimization.

"Problems involving a single-number answer are unusual in numerical computing," said Kaplan. "There is no such thing as a typical problem, since the range of applications of computing is so broad." Numerical computing has traditionally been known as "number-crunching." "But times have changed," Wagon said.

"Software now works with symbolic methods, generating and manipulating complicated algebraic formulas, as opposed to mere numbers. *Mathematica* is especially good at this, and at traditional number-crunching too. Being able to combine these two methodologies led to some solutions whose simplicity came as a surprise to Trefethen."

For a detailed look at all problems and solution notes, see www.stanwagon.com.



Danny Kaplan



Stan Wagon

spring as part of the new structure of multicultural organization. Lewis will report to Laurie Hamre, who is now the vice president for student affairs.

• Psychology Professor Eric Wiertelak received the Minnesota Psychological Association's Walter D. Mink Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher Award. The award, named after the late Macalester professor, recognizes "outstanding performance as a classroom teacher, innovation in classroom instruction, influence in leading students to pursue psychology and national influence as a teacher of psychology."

• Over the past eight years, Macalester received more than \$575,000 in rebates from the local utility Xcel Energy (formerly Northern States Power Co.). The rebates for energy-efficient design and equipment reflect only a portion of the energy savings and reduced environmental impact achieved by the college.

• Erik Slivken '02 (Davenport, Iowa) and Katherine Forsyth '02 (New York) received Fulbright Fellowships for study and research abroad. Slivken will study mathematics in Japan this fall; Forsyth plans to research World War II commemorations in Italy.

• Andy Cantrell '02 (Fort Collins, Colo.) received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. He is enrolling in a Ph.D. program in mathematics at Yale this fall.

• Jessica Smith '03 (Gillette, Wyo.) was one of 20 students nationwide to win a Beinecke Brothers Memorial Scholarship for graduate study. She will receive \$32,000 to support her first two years of graduate study at a university or professional school of her choice.

• Lena DeTar '02 (Salt Lake City, Utah) took the top prize in the 2002 Isaac Asimov Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing.

News in brief

• History Professor Paul Solon received this year's Excellence in Teaching Award. The award citation reads in part: "In her letter of nomination, an observant student praised Paul for creating a learning atmosphere in the classroom. Paul uses different lenses (cultural, economic, political) to deal with the subject matter. He encourages criticism of the works, images or texts that the students are examining. It was in Paul's class, the student says, that she encountered themes that bridged past and present, and that she began to discover that 'all [her] studies were intertwined.'"

• David Wheaton, vice president for finance/administration at William Mitchell College of Law, has been named vice president for finance and administration at Macalester. He succeeds Craig Aase '70, who became chief investment officer/treasurer and oversees Macalester's endowment.

• Joi D. Lewis, Macalester's associate dean of students, has been named dean of multicultural life. The new position was announced by President McPherson last

Quotable Quotes

"Many students operate under the erroneous belief that they have already given the college more than enough of their money. But a Mac education doesn't cost \$30,000 a year—it costs a lot more. It costs about \$45,000 a year, in fact. Where does the extra \$15,000 come from? From alumni giving, and from the endowment, which at one point came from alumni giving.

"So here's the deal: if you want Macalester to continue to offer need-blind admissions and all that other good stuff, be a good alum."

From an editorial in the April 19 Mac Weekly

"Jimm Crowder has helped many deserving Cypriots, who would otherwise be unable to receive higher education, to study at Macalester and to become leaders in the socioeconomic life of Cyprus. Because of Jimm's efforts, Macalester is held in extremely high esteem here in Cyprus. He has helped tremendously in the creation of a vanguard of people in both [the Greek and Turkish] communities who are embedded with the ideals that your institution subscribes to and are the hope for peace and prosperity in Cyprus and in the region."

Daniel Hadjittofi, executive director of the Cyprus Fulbright Commission, in a recent e-mail to Mac Today. See page 9.

"It can be a chilly environment for minority students, and I don't just mean the weather. When you come to an institution and there aren't many people from your background or your culture, you have trouble fitting in. It can be as simple as, 'Where do I get my hair cut?'"

Sedric McClure, assistant director of the Council for Multicultural Affairs, quoted in an April 19 Mac Weekly article on the effort to recruit more U.S. students of color. The number of first-year students of color at Macalester declined the past two academic years.

"[His colleagues] have seen him receive many internal grants that have made him a better teacher and adviser and that have facilitated his exploration of other fields and disciplines—a fine example for all of us to follow. . . . He is a strong voice in the History Department and in committees he participates in—a teacher even then, and of the noblest sort, the kind who teaches by example and without calling attention to himself."

From the citation for history Professor Paul Solon, who received this year's Excellence in Teaching Award

Our man in Prague. And Cairo and Tokyo and New Delhi and...

Jimm Crowder has logged a million miles for Mac, and made a difference in hundreds of lives

MACALESTER HAS prided itself on its international outlook for more than half a century. But in the early 1980s, 75 percent of Macalester's international students came from just five countries.

Today, 78 countries are represented in the student body—88 if you count dual citizens.

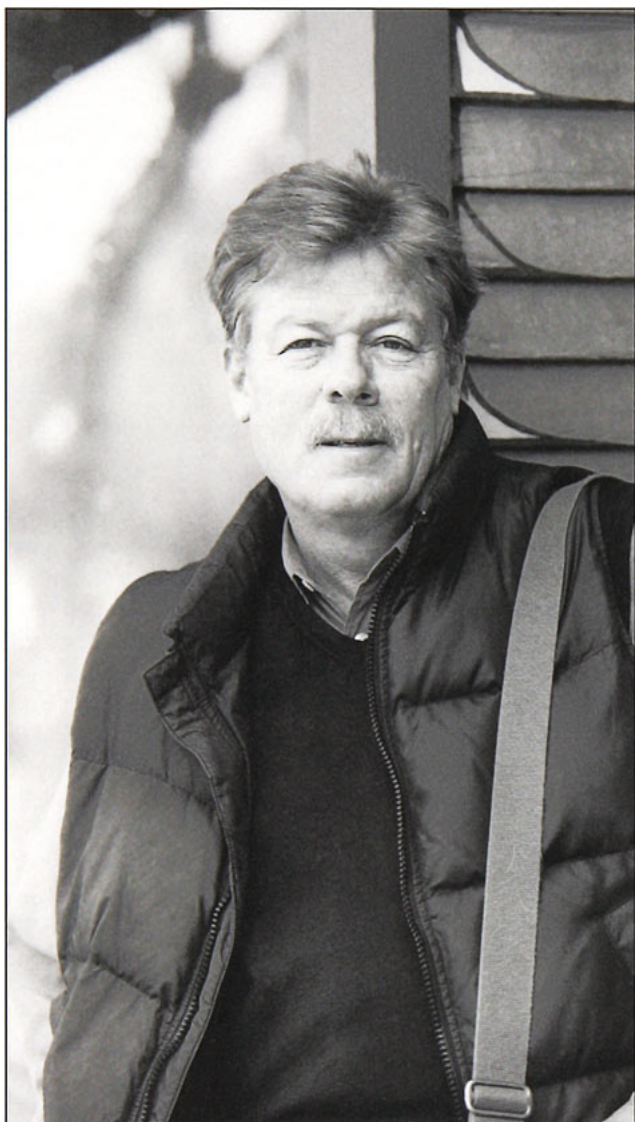
"That diversity is important," says Jimm Crowder. "The idea is to bring as many voices, as many perspectives, as possible to the campus to help all of us enrich our lives and learn from each other. My job is about trying to enrich the community."

Crowder has traveled more than 1 million miles and visited more than 100 countries on behalf of Macalester over the past 19 years. As director of international admissions, the genial, soft-spoken Virginian is the first Macalester contact for many international students. Jan Jamrich '02, who is from Slovakia, and Aukse Jurkute '98, who grew up in Lithuania, both say Crowder changed their lives.

"Jimm has touched the hearts of hundreds of international students," says Jamrich. "He does it with a great deal of charm and a good sense of humor. Jimm has an undying source of energy inside."

Jurkute, who now works for Merrill Lynch in New York, says: "I have never seen a person so dedicated, excited and inspired by his job. He becomes a part of the life of every single international student who joins Macalester."

"I always felt that I wanted to make a difference in the world," Crowder says, "and I realized at some point that the best way



GREG HELGESON

Jimm Crowder "has touched the hearts of hundreds of international students," says Jan Jamrich '02 of Slovakia, one of those students.

to do that was to help put a world of exceptional people in a position to make a difference."

A FORMER Peace Corps volunteer in Micronesia, he made his first trip abroad for admissions in 1983. He vividly recalls meeting two Japanese educators who became very animated when they saw his business card. Finally one of them turned to the puzzled Crowder and declared: "Macalester College. Very famous. Longest losing streak in American football history."

Fortunately, Macalester is known for other things as well. But no matter how wonderful

it all sounds, "Everyone eventually asks about the weather," he says with a laugh. "I was very happy this past year for us to bring to campus one student from Medicine Hat, Alberta, and another from Siberia. Finally we have a couple of students who think our weather is balmy."

Crowder does not try to "sell" Macalester. "I try to paint an accurate and detailed picture so they can decide whether they will be happy here. Everyone is best served by students going where they will fit best."

His Peace Corps experience taught him to be sensitive to other cultures. "Once you've lived in a different culture, I feel you can transfer that sensitivity to other cultures. You can't pick up on all the little innuendoes—for example, in some countries if you nod affirmatively, it means no. But one of the greatest lessons I've learned is that there are central feelings

and emotions that are common to all people and cultures. People want to be appreciated and treated with respect and dealt with honestly. If you do that, they're going to forgive you for these smaller cultural mistakes."

'People want to be appreciated and treated with respect and dealt with honestly. If you do that, they're going to forgive you for these smaller cultural mistakes.'

Crowder's travel schedule is a blessing and a curse. He spends three months a year away from his wife, Jutta, and kids, Max, 15, and Anja, 12. "There's a time in the year when I say, 'Oh God, I don't think I can travel one more day.' But it's a wonderful adventure, and I have people I know in so many countries and cities, people I see once or twice a year. That's a source of great joy."

Crowder's biggest travel tip? "Remain enthusiastic about what you're doing—and then crash when you get home."

—Jon Halvorsen

Spring sports

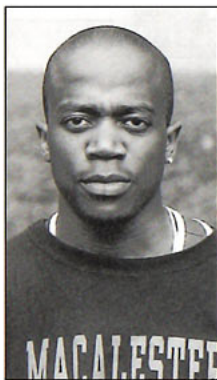
All-American Liz Hajek '02 takes third in NCAA hurdles; All-American Joel Brettingen '04 leads baseball team to 22-14 mark

HURDLER LIZ HAJEK '02 (Stillwater, Minn.) earned All-America honors on her home track when Macalester closed out its spring sports season by hosting the highly successful NCAA Division III track and field championships over Memorial Day Weekend.

Three Scots qualified for and participated in the national track and field championships. Hajek fought off a year-long injury to peak at the end of the season, winning the conference championship in the 100-meter high hurdles and placing third in this event at the national meet. Her third-place NCAA mark is the best Macalester women's track finish since Janis Raatz won the javelin throw in 1988. Emily Koller '03 (Greybull, Wyo.) made nationals and placed 10th in the 1,500-meter run to cap a great spring. On the men's side, Kajerero Ssebbaale '02 (Tutume, Botswana) made it to nationals after claiming his fourth straight Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) triple jump championship.



Liz Hajek '02 won the conference championship in the 100-meter high hurdles and placed third in the event at the national championships.



Kajerero Ssebbaale '02 won his fourth straight MIAC triple jump championship.

Baseball

Led by All-America second baseman Joel Brettingen '04 (Minnetonka, Minn.), the first All-America selection in the program's history, the Macalester baseball team went 22-14, just missing out on the four-team conference playoffs. Brettingen batted .478 as the nation's seventh-leading hitter while driving in 44 runs and scoring 45. He led the MIAC in runs batted in and was second in the league in batting, runs scored and slugging percentage. Pitching ace Steve Derrington '03 (Amery, Wis.) went 4-1 in league play with a 3.72 ERA and joined Brettingen on the All-MIAC team. Paul Odegaard '04 (New Brighton, Minn.) hit .381 and older brother Andy Odegaard '02 batted .349 and scored a school-record 52 runs.



Second baseman Joel Brettingen '04 (Minnetonka, Minn.) became the first All-America selection in Mac baseball history.



Pitcher Steve Derrington '03 was named to the All-MIAC team.

Water polo

The women's water polo team played its first varsity season after several years as a successful club team and posted a 5-18 record while playing the best small college teams in the country. The Scots hosted the Collegiate III National Championships in early May at the University of Minnesota, where Mac standouts Lisa Lendway '03 (St. Paul) and Emma Hanson '04 (Haverford, Pa.) were named all-tournament honorable mention.

Softball and tennis

The softball and tennis teams went through rebuilding seasons and set the stage for what should be much-improved 2003 campaigns. The softball Scots showed improvement from the last couple years but struggled to win the close ones. Infielder Cristin Beach '02 (Colton, Calif.) was named to the All-Midwest Region team after recording a team-leading .392 batting average. She finished her career as a four-year starter with 140 hits and a .335 average.

Both the men's and women's tennis teams were hit hard by graduation from the year before and finished near the bottom of the conference. The Scots were led at the top of the singles lineup by R.J. Laukitis '02 (Holland, Mich.) and Jake Depue '04 (Springfield, Mo.) on the men's team and the pair of Melissa Lavasani '03 (Minnetonka, Minn.) and Sarah Crangle '04 (Piedmont, Calif.) on the women's squad.

—Andy Johnson, sports information director



Cristin Beach '02 led the Scots with a .392 batting average and was named to the All-Midwest Region team.

Corporate scandals and college curriculum: Along with Econ 101, let's offer students Intro to Moral Values

by Michael S. McPherson

THE PEOPLE WHO FIGURE prominently in the financial scandals rocking Wall Street are for the most part products of American colleges. It is fair to ask whether some share of the responsibility for the mendacious and self-serving behavior that has been reported accrues to the education these corporate officers received. Have we academic leaders, in imparting the skills that enabled these people to rise to positions of corporate leadership, failed to impart an adequate understanding of the social and civic responsibilities that accompany such leadership positions? I fear that the answer is yes, and, further, that this failure is part of a larger failure in American higher education to build education for civic and social responsibility into the basic college curriculum.

It's possible that my own discipline of economics has contributed, albeit unintentionally, to the moral opacity of these business leaders and the equally disturbing failure of their boards of directors to exercise oversight. Many economists model human behavior as purely self-interested and argue that the "invisible hand" of the market will point this self-interest toward socially desirable ends. Corporate leaders, in this view, are properly rewarded for maximizing the value of their companies' stock. All corporate boards have to do is properly "incentivize" corporate officers with stock options. Moral restraints on their self-interested behavior are pointless if not counterproductive.

But these economists may forget, as Adam Smith never did, that the invisible hand

Adam Smith, a moral philosopher as well as an architect of the study we now know as economics, gave great attention to understanding how the social environment shaped this indispensable moral sense.

works only when people operate within the rules; no invisible hand directs the jewel thief or the crooked accountant to socially desirable ends. Nor can the police or the SEC enforcement division, necessary as they are, do the whole job of making people obey the rules. A society in which no one felt an internal compunction against breaking the rules, one in which people lacked what Smith called "the still small spark of conscience," would need an impossibly large police force.

Smith, a moral philosopher as well as an architect of the study we now know as economics, gave great attention to understanding how the social environment shaped this indispensable moral sense. The case he made for government provision of basic education for all rested largely on its role in promoting moral and civic development.

Basic education may have done the trick in Smith's day, and remains essential. Certainly nobody would expect a college to instill basic moral values in young adults who arrive bereft of them. But in a complex postindustrial society, the responsibilities of citizenship and of professional life—including business life—demand more sophisticated understandings than was true in Smith's day.

The more technical aspects of business or legal or medical ethics need to be addressed in professional schools. But just as undergraduate education provides the grounding for advanced studies in these areas, so should it equip students to grasp and to act on the civic and social responsibilities that will accompany their professional and their personal lives.

THE ISSUE HERE is not to indoctrinate students in particular moral or political beliefs. Rather, we want to increase students' awareness of the moral values at stake in their personal and professional choices, equip them with the skills they need to reason well and to weigh evidence in executing their civil and social responsibilities, and help them to learn to act effectively in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Every part of a modern college curriculum can be designed to contribute to education for active and responsible citizenship. Whether through learning how to weigh

quantitative or scientific evidence about public policy, or through cultivating empathic understanding through the study of art and literature, or through learning the arts of civil discourse, students' classroom work can strengthen their moral and civic capacities. With careful planning and community participation, colleges can also offer opportunities for great civic learning experiences outside the classroom, through internships, research on community problems and service learning courses.

This kind of education can help all of our students learn to live more valuable and fulfilling lives. For those who pursue corporate careers, this kind of preparation will help them put the quest for personal gain in the context of the larger social and civic aims



President McPherson at Reunion last May

GREG HELGESON

of corporate leadership, recognizing their responsibilities not only to stockholders but to society at large. And those who become corporate directors will know how to ask the right questions and press for clear answers about corporate practices—as the directors involved in the current scandals have so conspicuously failed to do.

It would of course be absurd to claim that any college education can provide a guarantee against fraud or malfeasance. Nonetheless, a determined effort by colleges and universities to promote civic and social responsibility among their students could do much to improve the quality of civic life in America, and to make demoralizing scandals like those we are living through less likely. ●

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

Web design; saving sturgeon; mass murder in Utah

Principles of Web Design

by David K. Farkas and Jean Farkas '71
(Longman Publishers, 2002. 378 pages,
\$44 paperback)

This textbook, part of the Allyn & Bacon Series in Technical Communication, teaches Web design skills within a framework of information architecture, rhetoric and hypertext theory. The book leads students through the design process and offers a great deal of practical, mainstream design guidance. Students also learn a set of principles that help them reason about each new design challenge they face. Because this is a university-level textbook, Web design is presented in a broad cultural context that includes a brief history of the Internet and a chapter on the societal implications of the Web and the Internet. A set of 25 "quick start" design guidelines enable readers to begin using ideas from the book immediately.

Jean (Nettie) Farkas has designed, written and edited digital and print documents since the early 1970s. She spent six years at Microsoft and has taught a variety of courses for the University of Washington and the University of Washington Extension Division. She now works on commercial Web sites and Web sites for nonprofit organizations.

Designing Effective Instruction for Secondary Social Studies

by Thomas L. Dynneson '61,
Richard E. Gross
and Michael J. Berson (Merrill
Prentice Hall,
2002. 500 pages)



This is the third edition of a popular, comprehensive textbook for college and university students training to become secondary social studies teachers. The text has been updated and reorganized

to better address technology in the classroom and the growing standards movement. The book presents a complete system for planning instruction that encourages innovation and hands-on learning. A Web site accompanies the text: www.prenhall.com/dynneson.

Thomas Dynneson, who taught secondary social studies in Evergreen, Colo., and Edina, Minn., was one of the founding faculty members of the University of Texas of the Permian Basin where he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses.

Red Water

by Judith Freeman '70 (Pantheon, 2002.
324 pages, \$25 cloth)

In her fourth novel, Judith Freeman revisits a terrible crime in 19th century Utah and its effects on a polygamous Mormon family. On Sept. 11, 1857, a group of settlers traveling through Utah to California was attacked in what became known as the Mountain Meadow Massacre. About 120 people were killed, including at least 70 women and children. Twenty years later,

The execution of John D. Lee: from *Red Water* by Judith Freeman

The opening chapter of Judith Freeman's *Red Water* depicts the execution of John D. Lee for the Mountain Meadows Massacre of 1857. An excerpt:

They killed him before noon.

The wind was still blowing.

Both spring and winter were on the air.

He had been brought to this spot by the marshal who had befriended him during his long incarceration and who had been helping him maintain his spirits during his first trial, as well as his second.

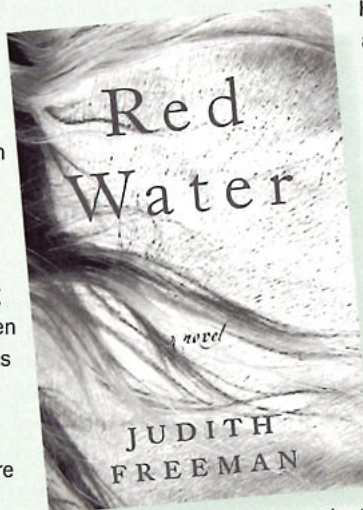
He arrived about an hour before the actual execution and he appeared to be tired yet calm.

The firing squad was not visible. The five men were hidden behind the canvas cover in the back of a wagon drawn up before the man sitting on his coffin, and they fired their shots through an opening in the canvas.

Before that, however, before the shots were fired, he was allowed to converse with several men who had come to witness the execution.

His photograph was taken by the man who had been pacing near his tent and he asked the photographer to deliver a copy of his likeness to his remaining wives. When that request had been made and agreed to, he

rose and said a few last words to the crowd that had assembled to witness his execution.



His voice broke only once and that was when he mentioned his wives and his children who, he said, would be left unprotected in this world.

A minister knelt with him and prayed.

He sat again on his coffin. He took off his coat and handed it to a young man standing nearby with the request that it be given to one of his sons.

He said he could see

no use in destroying a perfectly good jacket.

He was blindfolded but, at his request, his hands remained unbound.

When the blindfold was in place, he called out to his executioners in a strong and steady voice: Center my heart, boys. Don't mangle my limbs.

Five shots rang out, and then another five coming so close together they sounded like one slightly drawn-out explosion.

He fell back upon his coffin, dead.

© 2002 by Judith Freeman;
published by Pantheon Books



Keith Hunt on the North Shore of Lake Superior

one man, John D. Lee, was found guilty of the crime and was executed by a firing squad at the same spot.

Freeman, who grew up in a Mormon family in Utah, tells the story of Lee and the massacre through the eyes and the voices of three of his 19 wives: Emma, a young English convert to the faith whom he met shortly before the event; Ann, the last 13-year-old he married; and Rachel, the sister of one of his first wives, who became his most devoted wife. As each of the women speaks, the portrait that emerges is of a complex, ambitious, generous and tortured man.

For an excerpt from the book, see opposite page. For more about Judith Freeman, see page 48.

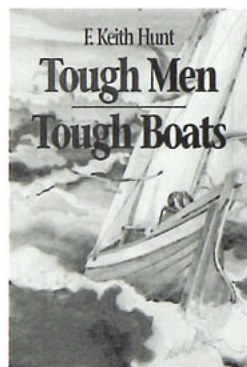
**Tough Men, Tough Boats:
Trials and Triumphs of North Shore
Commercial Fishermen**

by F. Keith Hunt '42 (Caira Press, 2002.
120 pages, \$14 paperback)

Keith Hunt, who describes himself as “an accredited harbor rat,” interviewed 13 commercial fishermen and women on Minnesota’s North Shore who tell how they struggled to make a living from the bounties of Lake Superior. The book also features an

interview with Mark Hansen of the North House Folk School, who describes the evolution of Mackinaw boats used by fishermen on the shore as well as the switch to gas boats and herring skiffs during World War I.

“Of the hundreds of commercial fishermen and fishhouses that lined the North Shore from Two Harbors to Grand Portage, only a handful remain,” Hunt writes. “Costs, stringent regulations and the sheer hard work of it have done for the rest. Fishermen have a certain reputation for stretching the truth, but when this was suggested in Harley Toftey’s fishhouse on the Grand Marais harbor—the fishhouse is a couple of generations old itself—a pretty lady and three men were rapidly dressing fresh herring. The pretty lady said, without looking up, ‘That’s sport fishermen, not commercial fishermen.’”



Hunt, who is retired from a Minneapolis publishing company, lives with his wife, Sylvia, on the North Shore near Grand Marais. His book is available by writing

2460 E. Hwy 61, Grand Marais, MN
55604-2127 or by calling 218-387-1952.

**Path to God:
A Master’s Awakening and Ascent**

by Nathan Slowinski '82 (self-published,
2002. 601 pages, \$39.95)

Path to God is Nathan Slowinski’s own story about exploring his spiritual essence. The book includes a detailed record of what he learns from his teachers and how it transforms him, revealing what he comes to know as the truth, a truth independent of theology but consistent with ancient spiritual traditions. The book describes his awakening and focuses on the spiritual practices he uses.

Slowinski is a consultant and writer. For more information about the book, contact him at auto349080@hushmail.com.

**Biology, Management and Protection
of North American Sturgeon**

edited by David H. Secor '83, Webster
Van Winkle, Paul J. Anders and Douglas A.
Dixon (American Fisheries Society, 2002.
274 pages, \$60)

None of the eight species of North American sturgeons is extinct. Sturgeons co-existed with dinosaurs and have survived the cataclysmic ecological effects of asteroid blasts. Then why be concerned? The irony is that despite their resiliency through evolutionary time, sturgeons are particularly sensitive to harvest—often for caviar—and habitat degradation in our own time. How to promote their recovery remains a conundrum in the face of the real likelihood that sturgeon populations will go extinct in the foreseeable future.

In this volume, scientists address commonalities among North American sturgeons regarding population structure, life history attributes, habitat dependencies, sensitivities to degraded habitats and altered watersheds, and exploitation.

David Secor is a professor at the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory in Solomons, Md.

Voice from the Mountains

by Anthony Caponi (Ruminator Books, 2002. 175 pages, \$27 cloth)

This memoir by sculptor Anthony Caponi, who taught at Macalester for more than four decades, tells the story of his life from his boyhood in the remote mountain village of Pretare, Italy, to his early adulthood as an immigrant to the United States. Before he was born, his father set off for America to seek fortune for his family, and young



Anthony grew up under the watchful eye of the strong Pretaresi women, including his strict but gentle Mamma and the beloved matriarch Nonna Susina. The boy's curiosity led him to the local tin-smith's dump,

where he would fashion "things and sounds" out of scraps, developing what would become his lifelong career as a sculptor.

The new culture he found in the U.S. allowed Caponi to nurture his talent. But the beginning of World War II found his new American identity at odds with his devotion to his homeland—a conflict that culminated when Caponi returned to Italy as an American soldier.

For more on Caponi, turn to page 32.

The Human Side of Medicine: Learning What It's Like to Be a Patient and What It's Like to Be a Physician

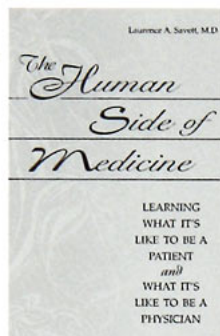
by Laurence A. Savett (Greenwood Publishing, 2002. 304 pages, \$24.95 paperback, \$69.95 hardcover)

Laurence Savett, who practiced primary care internal medicine in Gloucester, Mass., and St. Paul for 30 years, has helped advise pre-med students at Macalester since 1994. His book was inspired by two premises and the course of the same name that he teaches at Macalester: "that it is as important for a physician to master the human side of medicine as its biology and technology and that the human side of medicine can be taught."

Attending to the human side, he writes, refines diagnosis and treatment by recognizing the uniqueness of each patient's experience, and enriches the experience for all those in the caring professions.

Savett argues that learning about the human side of medicine will help to attract talented and compassionate people to a career in medicine and will provide a context for later learning in medical school.

Savett writes that he continues to learn from his students and he acknowledges many of them by name.

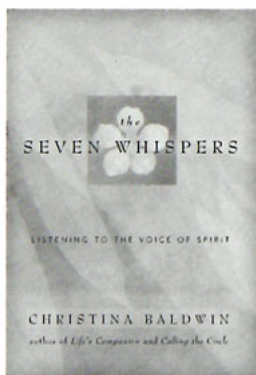


Prize winner

Jean McCord '65 of Tacoma, Wash., won the 2002 Derringer Award for the Best Longer Short Mystery Story published in 2001. Her story, "Early Morning Rain," was selected by members of the Short Mystery Fiction Society.

The story first appeared in the October/November 2001 issue of FUTURES and is posted on the FUTURES Web site: <http://www.futuresforstorylovers.com/mccord.htm> Or go to: <http://www.futuresforstorylovers.com/>, click "Contests" on the left, then "Derringer Award Nominees," then page down to the bottom to find the story's link under "Best Longer Mystery." ●

The Seven Whispers: Listening to the Voice of Spirit



by Christina Baldwin '68 (New World Library, 2002. 128 pages, \$17 hardcover)

Christina Baldwin, a pioneer in journal writing and circle innovator, offers readers a per-

sonal guide for finding and listening to their inner voice—the voice of spirit. The book is built around seven phrases or whispers: "Maintain peace of mind," "Move at the pace of guidance," "Practice certainty of purpose," "Surrender to surprises," "Ask for what you need and offer what you can," "Love the folks in front of you" and "Return to the world."

Baldwin is the author of *Life's Companion* and *Calling the Circle*. For more information, see her Web site: www.peerspirit.com

Save the Colors: A Civil War Battle Cry

by Joanne Anderson Reisberg '60 (White Mane Books, 2001. 87 pages, \$5.95 paperback)



This historical novel, intended for middle-grade children, is about the First Minnesota Regiment at the Battle of Bull Run. It follows 12-year-old Charley Olson, who defies his family to become a drummer boy for the regiment, and his new friend Gunnar, who is responsible for protecting the regimental flag under all conditions, on their journey from Minnesota to the first major battle of the Civil War.

Joanne Reisberg, who earned a B.S. in education at Macalester, has taught school in Minneapolis and El Paso, Texas. A member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Sisters in Crime and Mysteries for Minors, she lives in Minneapolis.

Arbitration: Essential Concepts

by Steven C. Bennett '79 (ALM Publishing, 2002. 209 pages, \$32.95 paperback)

This comprehensive introduction is intended to help lawyers and business professionals approach arbitration-related issues with increased confidence and insight. It is also meant as a shelf reference, providing a refresher on essential concepts and materials whenever the need arises.

In addition to explaining the law, its history and relevant case law, the book offers extensive practical guidance. It explains how

A father's secret: from *The Dog of Memory* by Alvin Greenberg

In *The Dog of Memory*, Alvin Greenberg describes receiving a perplexing birthday card at age 19 from two aunts he had never heard of and a subsequent conversation with his father about them. An excerpt:

He told me to get in the car so we could go for a drive and talk....

We didn't go very far. We parked, somewhere, on some side street, like a pair of lovers, except it was broad daylight, mid-morning still, and to my continuing amazement there were tears running down the face of this man I'd never seen cry before, this man I didn't know could cry, this man who'd long since shamed the "crybaby" out of me.

Clearly, the world as I knew it was dissolving before my very eyes. Is this what the car was

about: a container for this swamp of dissolution so that afterward we could paddle back to shore and leave it behind and settle back down on dry land as if we'd never taken this messy journey?

He hoped so, I imagine, even as he unfolded the story of his first wife, my mother

(my mother!), dying as a result of a childbirth infection, of his in-laws' brutal demand that he observe Orthodox custom by marrying the oldest (and totally unacceptable to him) unmarried sister, of the need he therefore felt to separate himself completely from that whole family, to bar them forever from access to me, to enlist the aid of his entire community, in fact, in burying them—yes, in burying *her*—so deep in the darkness beneath the solid, packed-down, sodded-

over ground of his necessity, under such a grim weight of earthen silence, that there was no

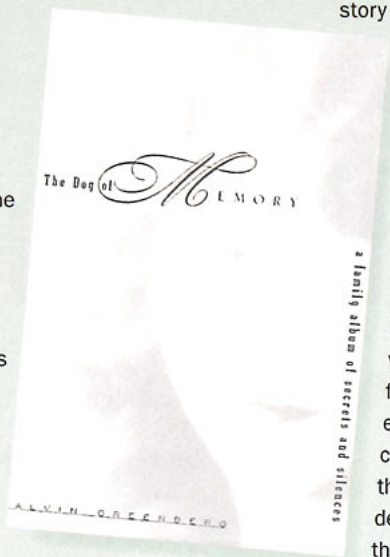
chance they would ever return to haunt him (or me) again.

Then he drove me home and went back to work, and the subject was never mentioned again. And, of course, I never made any attempt to contact [my aunts] Jean and Rose because if you are at sea in a small boat that has almost been swamped by a great wave surging over it out of nowhere—rogue waves, I understand they're called, that do not follow the rules you think are set for them but rise up from the morbid depths when least expected—you do not rush to the bow and challenge the ocean to hit you with another one; no, you cling for your very life to the wheel and your crew, survivors all, hushed by the magnitude of the power that's just rolled over them, no one even daring to mention the gurgle of the newly sprung leak below decks, an oceanic wall of silence rising up around them.

End of story.

Almost.

© 2002 by The University of Utah Press



to construct an arbitration clause, how to decipher relevant statutes and regulations, and how to conduct an arbitration, as well as how to deal with post-arbitration issues. It also discusses the differences between various types of arbitration, including labor and employment arbitration, securities arbitration and international arbitration.

Steven Bennett is a partner and general commercial litigator in the New York City offices of Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue. He co-teaches a commercial arbitration course at Brooklyn Law School and has written widely, including numerous articles on arbitration and alternative dispute resolution.

The Dog of Memory: A Family Album of Secrets and Silences

by Alvin Greenberg (University of Utah Press, 2002. 172 pages, \$19.95 cloth)

In this collection of autobiographical essays, Macalester English Professor Emeritus Alvin Greenberg explores the many aspects of identity. Examining his past

through stories, music, literature and a photo album with many empty slots, he explores the intricacies of life that are the only answers to the question "Who am I?"

Greenberg is especially interested in the secrets or silences within any family. He recalls how, as a college student, he received a perplexing birthday card signed by aunts he couldn't recall. The aunts, in fact, were the sisters of a biological mother he never knew, a mother who died giving birth to him. His father, rather than follow Orthodox Jewish tradition and marry her eldest unmarried sister, had severed all ties with his in-laws and married another woman who raised Greenberg as her own son.

For an excerpt from the book, see above.

Hartmann's Chicagoland Guide to Biker Bars

by Kenn Hartmann '74 and Chuck Hartmann (Spirit Bear Publishing, 2002. 60 pages, \$9.95 paperback)

Brothers Kenn and Chuck Hartmann spent six months covering 10,000 square

miles in search of the quintessential biker bar. Their book features hundreds of black and white photos, detailed maps and descriptions of more than 70 taverns that



cater to bikers, from country roadhouses near the Wisconsin border and river-front hangouts on the Fox, Du Page and Chicago rivers, to bullet-riddled facades beneath Chicago's "L" tracks.

Kenn Hartmann

has developed a Web page at www.chicagobikerbars.com. Spirit Bear Publishing was founded and is run by Jamison Mahto '74. ●

REUNION

photos by Greg Helgeson

Celebrating their graduation May 19 at Macalester's 113th Commencement are (from left) Catherine Neuschler (Bowie, Md.), Anna Payden (South Milwaukee, Wis.), Joel Creswell (Portland, Ore.), Bill Owens (Rochester, Minn.), Alex Burst (Bucharest, Romania), Lissa Miller (Appleton, Wis.), Tasneem Baldiwala (Yorba Linda, Calif.) and Hans Wrage (Columbus, Neb.).





Pipers lead the way at Commencement.

COMMENCEMENT 2002

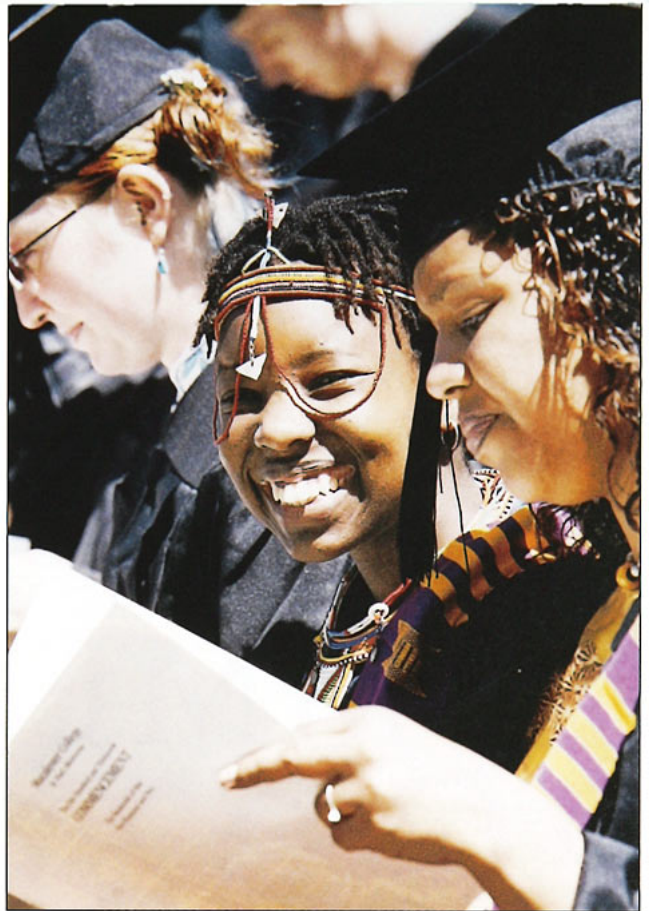


Above: The Class of 1952 followed the pipers in the Commencement procession for the Class of 2002. In the foreground are Sara Sells Roberson (Minneapolis), left, and Marguerite Saufferer Mahoney (Glendale, Ariz.).

Left: Rino Koshimizu (Tokyo), left, Nazim Osmancik (Nicosia, Cyprus) and Ekaterina Petrova (Sofia, Bulgaria) were among five graduating seniors who gave the traditional closing prayer for peace in their native languages.



Above: John Law '72 (Santa Monica, Calif.) speaks at the '72 class dinner.



Above right: About-to-be new alumni are (from left) Lena DeTar (Salt Lake City, Utah), Wairimu Njoya (Nairobi, Kenya) and Angelique Bennaars (also from Nairobi, Kenya).



Right: Ruth Setterberg '27 returned to Macalester 75 years after she graduated. Ruth, who lives in Boston, was accompanied to Reunion by her sisters, Josephine Setterberg Suppan '37 (Exton, Pa.) and Rose Setterberg '43 (Boston), right.

Below: 1952 classmates Victor Johnson (St. Paul), Marilyn Nelson Stassen-McLaughlin (Honolulu, Hawaii) and Bill Oehler (Naples, Fla.).





Is there a doctor in the class?

Deepak Acharya '02, a native of Nepal, took an unusual route to graduation. He left Macalester after three years to attend his first year of medical school at Baylor University. While there he completed his Mac requirements and returned to march in Commencement. "The education at Macalester was amazing and helped prepare me for medical school," he said. He is pictured with his sister Kiran, a medical student at the University of Oklahoma, and parents, Dr. Suniti Acharya, World Health Organization representative to Bangladesh, and Dr. Gopal P. Acharya, chairman of the Nepal Health Research Council and a physician at a university medical school in Kathmandu.



Left: These alumni took part in a run/walk to the river from Alumni House on Summit Avenue.

Below: Walter Mondale '50 and Joan Adams Mondale '52 (Minneapolis) greet Mavis Hawkinson '52 (Minneapolis), seated, and Dorothy McClintock Anderson '52 (Eden Prairie, Minn.), right, as Betty Donaldson Cheeley '52 (Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) looks on.



1977 classmates Margaret Kelberer (St. Paul), left, Beth Linnen (Evanston, Ill.) and Virginia McBride (St. Paul).





Garrison Keillor, who began his “Prairie Home Companion” broadcasts at Macalester’s Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center in 1974, was the speaker at Commencement in May. Here is some of his advice to the Class of 2002:

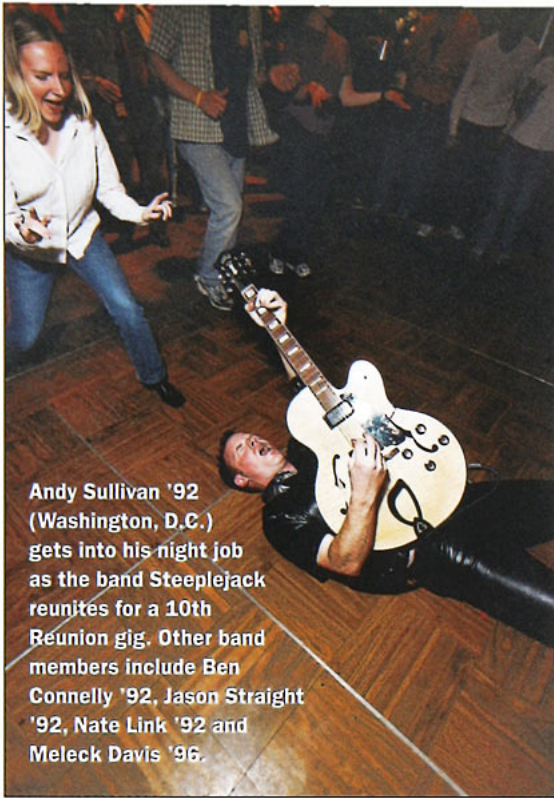
I live not too far from here and it means a lot to me to have Macalester so close by, even though I don’t come to campus. I often sit late at night at my dining room table and I work, writing about things that I know very little of. It’s good to know there are other people in the neighborhood who are doing the same. . . .

I advocate that you get free of us, your parents, and go off and have experiences that we have not arranged and that we do not pay for. That you go off and meet people we do not approve of and we do not choose for you. Go have some interesting failures. If you need to have a personal crisis, this would be a good time for

it—this summer, perhaps. Don’t put it off until mid-life, when it takes so much longer to resolve.

You need to get free of us but you also need to hang on to the basic good things that we hope we have taught you:

- To be cheerful, not to pity yourselves.
- To lighten up. To seek out people with a sense of humor and make friends with them. . . . Avoid humorless people. Do not marry one, for God’s sake. Don’t marry somebody who doesn’t make you laugh.
- Mind your manners and be kind. Don’t pass by people who are in trouble and pretend you don’t see them.
- Be competent. Don’t be a \$10 haircut on a 59-cent head.



Andy Sullivan '92 (Washington, D.C.) gets into his night job as the band Steeplejack reunites for a 10th Reunion gig. Other band members include Ben Connelly '92, Jason Straight '92, Nate Link '92 and Meleck Davis '96.



Above: 1962 classmates Linda Ohmann Bock (Burnsville, Minn.), left, Jean Eddy Reissner (Minneapolis) and Beverly True Dailey (St. Paul).



Above: These friends, mostly from the Class of '77, gathered in Dupre Lounge. From left: Margo Wylie Dickinson '77 and Mark Dickinson '76 (St. Paul), Peggy Frank Keenan '77 (Wayzata, Minn.), David Muhovich '78 (Nairobi, Kenya, standing), Fred K. Smith, III '77 (Rock Hill, S.C., seated), Rick O'Neill '77 (St. Paul, in back), Karmen Nelson '77 (Wayzata, Minn.), April Stolz '77 (Cleveland), Karen Leigh Underwood '77 (St. Paul) and Lynn McHugh Gehling '77 (Wayzata, Minn.).



Left: 1997 classmates Chris Morgan (Oakland, Calif.), left, Kaari Berg Rodriguez and Eric Rodriguez (White Bear Lake, Minn.), Janet Pablo (Pasadena, Calif.) and Minh Ta (St. Paul).

ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Timothy A. Hultquist '72

Despite a demanding career at Morgan Stanley, he has always made time to support Macalester. He has served as an admissions volunteer, an Alumni Club leader, a reunion planner and, since 1985, as a Macalester trustee. He served a 5½-year term as Macalester's board chair. He championed efforts to increase the number of faculty and to motivate more alumni to



Hultquist

give back to the college. Mark Vander Ploeg '74, who succeeded Tim Hultquist as board chair, said: "He is a wonderful role model. He exemplifies the values of excellence and service." In 1996, Tim and Cynthia Hultquist set an extraordinary example by endowing the G. Theodore Mitau Professorship in the Social Sciences.

DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN CITATIONS

Mortimer A. Dittenhofer '37

Working with other members of the Allies during World War II, he designed the accounting system used to determine possession of Nazi and German government property recovered as the Allies advanced. He was an auditor for the Atomic Energy Commission and worked for NASA and HEW before being assigned to the General Accounting Office where he headed a



Dittenhofer

working group that developed the famous Yellow Book of government audit standards. Translated into 23 language editions—most with yellow covers—the Yellow Book set audit standards as practiced by governments all over the world. He is now retired after a distinguished college teaching career.

Donald F. Beisswenger '52

His ministry has taken place in the pulpit, in the halls of academia, and with the poor in factories and shelters. He fought racism in every way he could and traveled south to register black voters. Donald and Joyce Beisswenger's six children joined in the family mission of caring for eight foster children. At Vanderbilt's Divinity School, he became a professor and director of field education, a program that places students in parish settings and social service agencies, adding spiritual and social sensitivity to their intellectual pursuits. Donald never ceases to be involved with the poor and marginalized, whether as a Witness to Peace in Central America or with the homeless in Atlanta or Nashville.



Beisswenger

Ann Beran Jones '57

Her life has been guided by concern for women's issues, interest in education and abiding religious faith. She developed a school for children with learning disabilities and programs for career exploration and gifted children. She was director of Christian education at the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs, Ill. She ministers to incarcerated women, organizing classes in creative writing, parenting, quilting, yoga and Bible study in Cook County Jail and other prisons. As a national vice moderator of Presbyterian Women, she traveled throughout the U.S. in support of PW's Peace and Justice Concerns. She has "a commitment and a passion to empower women and children to become whole persons in body, mind and spirit," wrote JoAnne Juul Desmond '57.



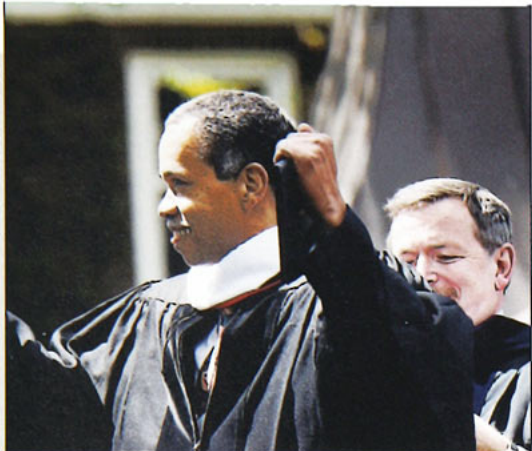
Jones

Nikki A. Heidepriem '72

A founding partner of the Washington, D.C., firm Heidepriem and Mager, Inc., she helps her clients advance the interests of women's health and rights, and mental health, as well as those of some of America's largest corporations. She has served as a special assistant to HEW Secretary Joseph Califano, Jr., and worked on the national



Heidepriem



Honorary degree recipient Juan Williams receives his doctoral hood from President McPherson.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Juan A. Williams

This Macalester parent—his son Antonio graduated in May—has worked to bridge gaps by communicating to the public about race, politics, education, law and civil rights. Former host of National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation," he is a senior correspondent for NPR and provides commentary on politics and other subjects. He is also a regular panelist on the "Fox News Sunday" television program. A former reporter, editorial writer and columnist for the *Washington Post*, he is also the author of the critically acclaimed biography *Thurgood Marshall, American Revolutionary* and *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965*, a companion book to the award-winning PBS documentary series.

Stephen R. Lewis, Jr.

Since he became Carleton College's ninth president in 1987, the college has experienced a period of exceptional growth and success, and—as President McPherson noted—Carleton is by now "universally recognized as the best liberal arts college in rural Minnesota." A specialist in economic policy and planning in developing countries, he has served since 1975 as economic consultant to the government of Botswana, which awarded him the Presidential Order of Meritorious Service in 1982. He has written numerous articles and several books including *The Economics of Apartheid and Policy Choice* and *Development Performance in Botswana*. ●

staff of Walter Mondale's presidential campaign. She has been a consultant to many presidential and senatorial campaigns, including that of Barbara Mikulski, the first elected Democratic woman senator. Her former professor Chuck Green says: "Nikki has focused her astounding energy and intelligence on making the world a better place for women. She is nationally regarded as a major political strategist."

Stephen Smith '82



Smith

He changes the world by evoking the humanity of those in the news and revealing their reality to millions through his award-winning radio and online documentaries. He is managing editor & correspondent for American RadioWorks, a documentary project of Minnesota Public Radio, and NPR News. In 2000, he won broadcast journalism's most prestigious honor, the duPont-Columbia University Gold Baton, for "Massacre at Cuska: Anatomy of a War Crime," an investigation of atrocities committed against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, co-produced with colleague Michael Montgomery '86. Smith's documentaries have garnered more than two dozen first-place national awards.

CATHARINE LEALTAD SERVICE TO SOCIETY AWARD

Lester R. Collins '73



Collins

The struggle for equality is his life. Under his leadership, the State of Minnesota's Council on Black Minnesotans has championed legislation resulting in newborn-testing for sickle cell anemia, the Minority Family Preservation Act and alternatives to milk in schools because many children of color are lactose-intolerant. He is chair of both the Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration and the board of directors for the African American Adoption and Permanency Planning Agency. A friend, Melvin Collins '75, says: "Lester is a tireless advocate for justice, ever striving to level the playing field for African Americans in the state of Minnesota. He is passionate about what he does and generates action around that passion." ●

Alumni are invited

to nominate candidates for an honorary degree, Distinguished Citizen Citation, Young Alumni Award or Catharine Lealtad Service to Society Award.

See [www.](http://www.macalester.edu/alumni)

[macalester.edu/alumni](http://www.macalester.edu/alumni)

on the
WEB

CIVIL DISCOURSE

Whatever happened to intelligent, respectful discussion of public issues? You can blame talk radio, the Internet or the 'argument culture.' But no matter the cause, Macalester—like the rest of the country—wrestles with how we disagree in a civil way.



Professor Adrienne Christiansen, a founder of the PEPS Squad (Personal Expression in Public Spaces), with the “soapbox” that PEPS built to encourage Hyde Park-style public speaking on campus. PEPS, which is no longer active, sponsored parliamentary-style debates and had kiosks erected to encourage non-graffiti expression.

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

If you haven't got anything good to say about anyone, come and sit by me." So read socialite Alice Roosevelt Longworth's famous sofa pillow, and it's a sentiment Americans seem to have embraced.

Rush Limbaugh calls pro-choice feminists "feminazis," a fine example of a talk radio culture that respects no boundaries. Political candidates abandon position papers in favor of attack ads. Extremist

groups post "hit lists" on the Web, where anything goes. Rumors and accusations orbit the globe instantaneously via the Internet, uncensored and unsubstantiated.

Whatever happened to the ideal of civil discourse? Is it an unaffordable luxury in our hyper-paced culture? An antiquated code of politeness? *Is* American culture actually less civil than it used to be? If so, why? And does it matter? Does the Macalester community face the same questions?

In 1998, some Macalester students protested the college's plans to award an honorary degree to Ted Turner on the grounds that his Atlanta Braves baseball

Jan Shaw-Flamm '76 wrote about alumni and faculty in Malaysia in the Summer issue.

team used blatantly racist symbols—its Indian mascot and the “tomahawk chop” of the Atlanta fans. The students demanded that a Native American speaker be added to the program. Amid the controversy, Turner declined the college’s invitation. Was this an example of intolerance toward a philanthropist who, after all, has committed a billion dollars to the United Nations? Or a principled stand against an unapologetic, nationally televised display of racism?

Macalester’s sidewalks have long been a choice spot for in-your-face “free speech”—in chalk. During National Coming Out Week, for example, one pro-gay-rights “chalking” declared that many athletes are in-the-closet gays. Someone else—an athlete perhaps?—erased the comment. Are there boundaries here? If so, where? And who crossed the line?

Macalester, in its Statement of Purpose and Belief, commits itself to providing “an environment that values the diverse cultures of our world and recognizes our responsibility to provide a *supportive and*

‘It is easy to attack someone as racist or sexist or homophobic.’

respectful environment for students, staff and faculty of all cultures and backgrounds” [italics added]. Evidence of the importance the college places on a respectful environment is the Civil Discourse Award, presented annually for the past three years to the individual or student group which has promoted civil discourse on campus on issues related to difference and inclusiveness. For helping to increase understanding and dialogue among Macalester community members, the 2002 award was presented to the student members of the Multicultural Steering Committee: andré carrington ’03 (Silver Spring, Md.), Beth Azuma ’03 (Kenosha, Wis.) and Haris Aqeel ’04 (Karachi, Pakistan).

The bonds of acrimony

Why is so much of contemporary public discussion so acrimonious? “The truth is that it’s *very hard work* to make good arguments that are designed to appeal to people who differ with you,” says communication and media studies Professor Adrienne



Christiansen, “and to generate or discover the kinds of evidence that would be persuasive to those individuals. . . . It is *easy* to attack someone as racist or sexist or homophobic.”

Pointing out that it took 70 years of activism before women attained the right to vote, Christiansen contrasts today’s culture: “We’re acclimated to a society of immediate gratification.” Few people, she says, are willing to commit a lifetime to bringing about the changes they desire.

Technology, too, encourages extremism in communication, she says, citing David Shenk’s book *Data Smog: Surviving the Information Glut*, which argues there are so many means of communication now that we are overwhelmed. “There is a sort of din of informational noise around us,” Christiansen says. “In order to get a message out, you have to do things to get above the din, and what everybody has to do then is shout louder.”

Christiansen’s study of ACT UP, the AIDS activist group, illuminates an important consideration. “Uncivil discourse is a matter of taste, and I’m thoroughly aware of that. [Suppose that] you have a cause you believe raises moral questions, and you believe that a grave injustice is being done. And either there is no time for working through the channels to address those grievances, or you have attempted to get redress of grievances through normal channels and you’ve been rebuffed. What do you do? That situation leads to choices that can lead to indecorous behavior.”

“One thing you have to say about this issue of civil discourse is that there is an assumption at its core that is class-based,” she adds. “If you’re poor, you can’t get elected, or your cause is socially unacceptable, you don’t have access to the same kinds of decision-making and influencing bodies [as do people of privilege]. So it seems clear to me that people who perceive themselves, rightly or wrongly, as not having

access to the corridors of power must rely on communication practices to draw attention, for example of the media, to advertise their cause. This raises charges of uncivil discourse.”

Mac and the L-word

andré carrington, an African American studies major, put it this way: “We all come with different experiences with regard to having our voices heard and our opinions acted upon, and when we get here some of that has to change in order to allow everyone to learn.”

For 2001–02 carrington (who doesn’t capitalize his name) edited, and sometimes wrote, the ongoing *Mac Weekly* column by students of color, “Quietly and Mostly to Myself.” “I don’t place the writings I get on a political spectrum from left to right, and I don’t rule them out on the basis of where they would appear on it.” Asked if civility is important, he replied, “It’s important that we understand what civility is. If it means that we don’t criticize each other and [do] maintain the status quo, then no. I don’t think we need to conduct our debates assuming no one will be offended. . . . Macalester is a civil space to me on many levels—I feel that in this space we should not prioritize intellectual debate over real feelings and whole people.”

In November 2001 carrington and Brad Salmen ’02, a communication studies major, had a vehement exchange in the *Weekly*’s pages. It addressed several topics and drew comments from faculty members including Professor Jeremiah Reedy, who wrote: “God bless Brad Salmen! Someone has finally had the courage to take a stand against the ‘left and far-left’ orthodoxy that descended upon the campus a few

years ago, stifling freedom of speech and dealing a death blow to rational discussion.”

Looking back on their heated and very public disagreement, carrington said, “I stand by what I said, but I can’t stress enough that I think Brad and I both learned from the debate, and that it was worthwhile

‘We should not prioritize intellectual debate over real feelings and whole people.’

for us to get angry. Brad was very offended that I called him misogynist and racist, and he thought I was the one not being civil. He said it was equally hurtful for me to call him names as it would be for him to call

a Black person the N-word or a gay person the F-word. I’m Black and gay; that offended me too, but later, Brad apologized to me for having stated his opinion that way, and I forgive him because he was willing to do that.”

Surprised that their exchange continued to be a subject of discussion, carrington said, “If I can learn to understand where Brad is coming from even after I felt insulted, and he can learn where

I’m coming from, even after he felt the same way, why can’t we [just] get to work on the problems we’re arguing about?”

Looking back, Salmen believes Macalester, in general, needs to be more respectful of the opinions of its more conservative students. Nonetheless, “I knew what I was getting into even before I came here. It was one of the reasons I decided to attend—it’s perhaps my only chance to experience life as some sort of a



“The way I see it, the Constitution cuts both ways. The First Amendment gives you the right to say what you want, but the Second Amendment gives me the right to shoot you for it.”

Civil marriage

For advice on civil discourse, who better to look to than America’s Premier Bipartisan Couple: Mary Matalin and James Carville.

Matalin was political director of George Bush’s 1992 campaign while Carville was lead strategist for Bill Clinton. For a new book by Marlo Thomas, *The Right Words at the Right Time*, Matalin contributed her husband’s two rules for marriage and beyond:

1. “You think like you think; you need to think like they think.”
2. “It doesn’t matter if everything you say is right and everything I say is wrong. The fact is, I still feel this way, so it counts.” ●

Rules of engagement

Professor Harry Hirsch, Mitau Professor of Political Science, teaches several pre-law courses, classes based on reading, examining and presenting arguments. When students make an argument, "I usually will push them, no matter what argument they make, to look for inconsistencies, to consider points on the other side, to consider the implications of their argument."

To create an environment of respectful discussion, Hirsch suggests:

- Don't attack people, attack arguments. Be very specific about why you disagree with the argument.
- Be careful with adjectives. Often the first impulse is to say, "That's stupid, that's wrong." Stick to the specifics of the argument, "I disagree because..."
- Always assume that there are some valid points on the other side. Never assume that you possess the whole truth.

"You have to create an atmosphere in which students come to see that every opinion has its merits and demerits," says Hirsch. "The other thing is that your argument often depends on your premises, and that's one of the principal things I want students to learn." •

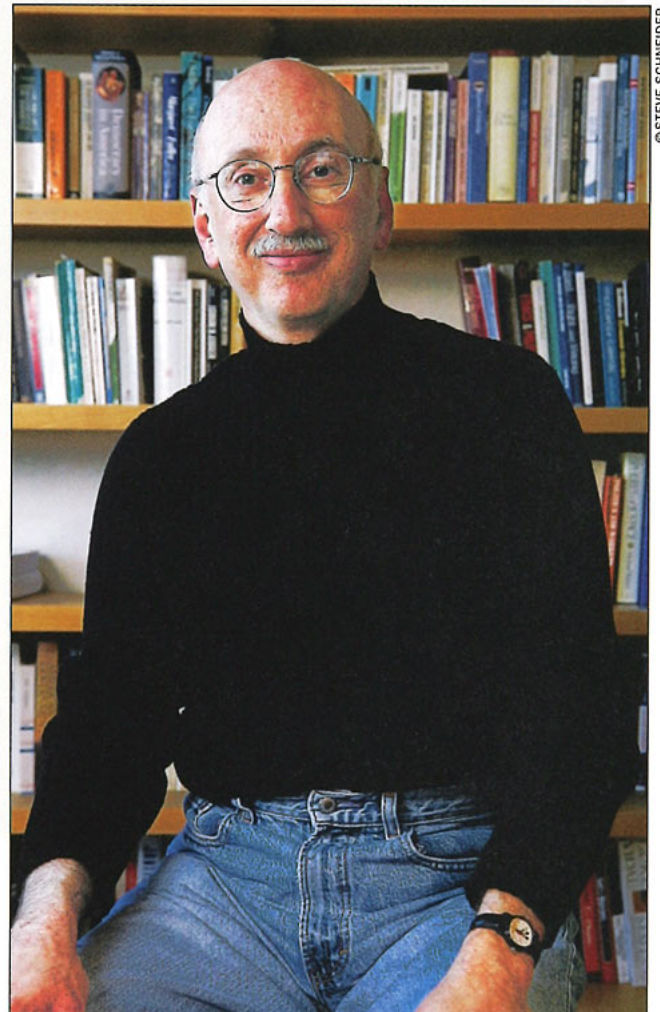
'You have to create an atmosphere in which students come to see that every opinion has its merits and demerits.'

Political science Professor Harry Hirsch:
"I usually will push students, no matter what argument they make, to look for inconsistencies, to consider points on the other side, to consider the implications of their argument."

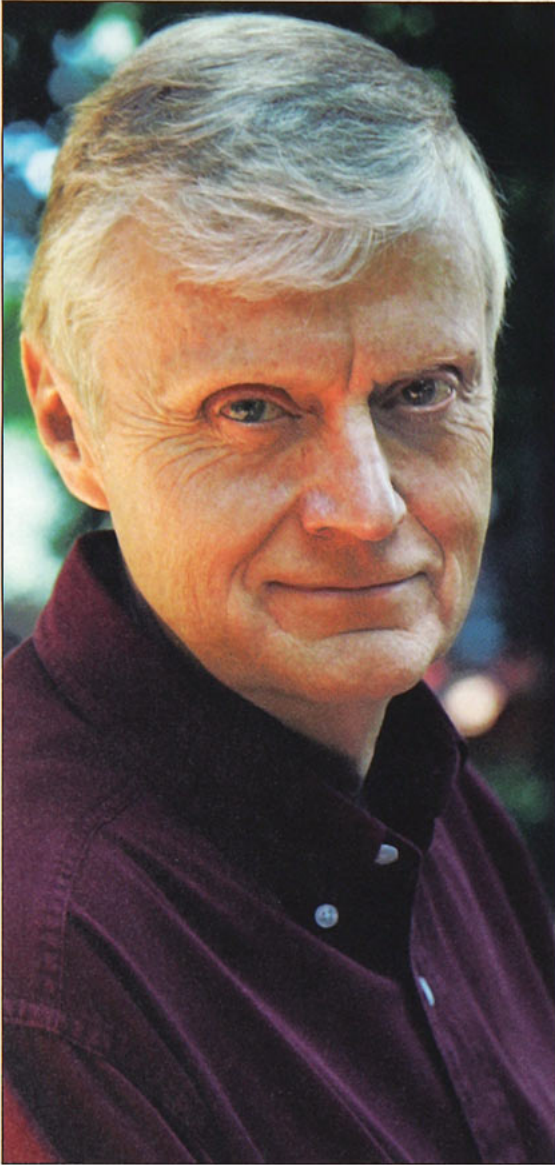
minority. I relished it; it was an eye-opening experience."

He added, "I saw Carrington earlier this semester outside a professor's office. Summoning up my courage, I approached him, introduced myself and shook his hand. I told him I did not mean anything personal with anything I wrote. He was warm and cordial, he thanked me, and we parted."

Is there a politically left orthodoxy at Macalester? Nichole Alwell '02, a communication and media



studies major from St. Paul, was a member of the college's Strategic Directions Committee, which addressed "campus climate," among many other issues. "The community is well known for leaning to the political left," she says. "Our students often spout anti-capitalist rhetoric, embracing that which is locally based and environmentally friendly. But



Political science Professor Chuck Green has seen Macalester deal with divisive issues ever since he arrived on campus during the Vietnam years.

there are also members of our community who have different beliefs.

“While, of course, we strive to foster a humane and open environment on campus for students with a variety of beliefs, we also want to feel that we can find people who agree with us. I know after the tragedies of September 11, and the subsequent bombardment of poll data that claimed ‘86 percent of Americans approve of the

military action in Afghanistan,’ I felt threatened and isolated from our country’s government, not being one of this 86 percent majority. Never before in my life have I so desperately needed an intellectual community that cherishes free speech and supports international peace.”

A legacy of precious tumult

Chuck Green, a revered political science professor, has seen Macalester deal with divisive issues ever since he arrived on campus during the Vietnam years. He pointed out that, while the issues have changed, “deeply challenging issues have always heated up conversations in and out of classrooms. . . . Explosive personal exchanges, particular forms of demonstrations and disruptions, putting up and tearing down posters, ‘outside agitators,’ etc., all have occurred in the past and are (and should be) a feature of engaged intellectual action.”

Green addresses such issues in *Re-Envisioning Education and Democracy*, a book he’s writing with education Professor Ruthanne Kurth-Schai. He is reluctant to endorse a code of conduct for discourse for fear that it would reinforce passive consumption of information. He believes that a college campus must err on the side of openness, not defining civil discourse too narrowly.

“I don’t think we should tolerate abusive language, but I also don’t think we should use last decade’s concerns about political correctness and get too concerned about posing things in the appropriate jargon.” Nevertheless, he said, “You can’t let [name-calling] go. . . . You’ve got to challenge it.

“If there are norms to be challenged, and there sure are, and you challenge them through disruption, that’s not enough. In a teaching place, we’re supposed to be able to model how you accomplish your goals.”

Those disrupted aren’t off the hook, either. “For the folks who are being disrupted, and I’ve been on both sides of this, you also have a continuing responsibility. You can’t just say, ‘Get out of here, I’m going to call

‘[Being a more conservative student at Mac was] perhaps my only chance to experience life as some sort of a minority. I relished it.’

security.' You have a responsibility to listen, to see if that's a legitimate concern, and find a way to handle it. Say, 'This meeting goes on, but we'll have another meeting, and it's going to be shaped in a different way, or we're going to include more people.'

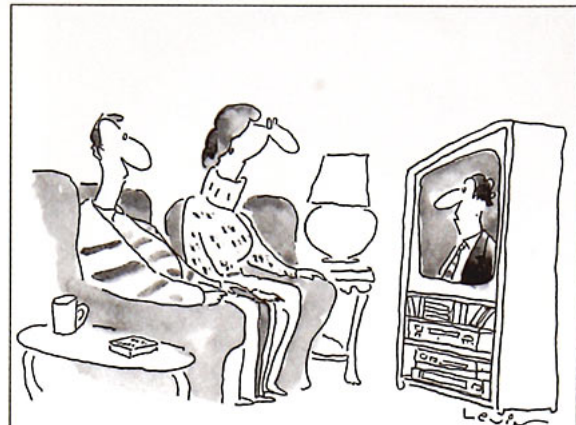
"In conversation you don't necessarily come to agreement, but you maintain a connection. . . . That's the problem with disruption: disruption breaks connections, rather than makes them."

Incivility and the do-nothings

Perhaps the most compelling argument for civility is that *incivility* makes it hard to get anything done. Kathleen Hall Jamieson, dean of the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania, studied civility in the U.S. House of Representatives, a place of ongoing legislative relationships where, she wrote, "It makes practical sense to embrace civility as a norm." She found that "as name-calling goes up, legislative productivity goes down. No productivity = a do-nothing Congress = the possibility of unemployment for both House Democrats and Republicans."

In another perspective on civility and effectiveness, Yale Professor Stephen Carter, in his book *Civility: Manners, Morals and the Etiquette of Democracy*, contends: "The true genius of Martin Luther King, Jr., was not in his ability to articulate the pain of an oppressed people—many other preachers did so, with as much passion and as much power—but in his ability to inspire those very people to be loving and civil in their dissent. . . . The civil rights movement wanted to expand American democracy, not destroy it, and King understood that uncivil dialogue serves no democratic function. Democracy demands dialogue,

'One essential step is for people in authority to give reasons for the choices they make and to be prepared to listen to arguments against their reasons.'



© THE NEW YORKER COLLECTION 1997 ARNIE LEVIN FROM CARTOONBANK.COM. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

"Viewers should be advised: the following debate on public funding for the arts contains violence and adult language."

and dialogue flows from disagreement. But we can, and maybe must, be relentlessly partisan without being actively uncivil."

As an economics professor and dean of the faculty at Williams College, where he worked for 22 years, and president of Macalester for the past six, Mike McPherson has seen campus dialogue at its best—and probably worst. "It's kind of a constant battle to get people to step back enough from their convictions and certainties to open themselves to serious scrutiny of their ideas—never easy, always worthwhile," McPherson says. "I don't mean that folks should be complete skeptics or should lack conviction. But it is important, I think, that they not hold their beliefs too rigidly."

He values civil discourse not because it's polite but because "if all we do is shout at one another or affirm without arguing the stance we have, then there is no way for us to make progress and learn. And learning from our differences is absolutely essential to a better future."

McPherson expects the college administration to set the tone. "One essential step is for people in authority to give reasons for the choices they make and to be prepared to listen to arguments against their reasons. That doesn't mean we always have to agree to the counter arguments, but we do have to listen. I think our folks try pretty hard to do that."

"A great deal of what happens in classes also models this kind of reasoned disagreement and search for common understanding. It's particularly hard to do that concerning issues that have a lot of emotional weight, but it is very important that we engage those issues in a civil and reasoned way. Outside class, we have things like our John B. Davis Lecture Series on Civil Discourse [named in honor of Macalester's 13th president]. I was very happy we had a debate this year

on affirmative action and I'd like to see more debates. Too often, we only go to hear speakers we already agree with, which isn't always the best way to learn."

A bitter harvest

Last November, as part of the lecture series on civil discourse, University of Chicago Law School Professor Cass Sunstein spoke about the dangers of filtering our news and information so that we hear only what interests us and confirms our prior beliefs, a process made easy by the Internet. In his book *Republic.com*, he contends that "newspapers and broadcasters helped create a shared culture, but as their role diminishes and the customization of our communications universe increases, society is in danger of fragmenting, shared communities in danger of dissolving."

Sociolinguist Deborah Tannen describes an atmosphere of constant contention in her book *The Argument Culture*. While she agrees that there are times in life which call for true invective, she decries the adversarial frame of mind, which "rests on the assumption that opposition is the best way to get anything done: The best way to discuss an idea is to set up a debate; the best way to cover news is to find spokespeople who express the most extreme, polarized views and present them as 'both sides'; the best way to

settle disputes is litigation that pits one party against the other; the best way to begin an essay is to attack someone; and the best way to show you're really thinking is to criticize."

Referring in particular to television news' theme of conflict, she counts the cost to society: "When such seeds are sown nightly, the bitter harvest is an overwhelming mood of hopelessness, and a conviction that nothing constructive can ever be accomplished."

Like Professor Harry Hirsch (see page 28), Adrienne Christiansen suggests that there are ways for faculty and staff in *all* areas to help civil discourse flourish at Macalester. "These include helping our students to better understand the importance of academic freedom and the responsibilities associated with free speech. We probably also could do a better job of modeling for students how to argue with each other, how to listen carefully to others, how to admit that our own ideas might be wrong and to treat one another respectfully in spite of passionate disagreements. These are all very difficult things to accomplish, but we have a unique responsibility to pursue them as participants in a 'community of inquiry.'" ●

To be civil or not to be: A few books to argue about

Civility: Manners, Morals and the Etiquette of Democracy
by Stephen Carter

Analyzes what has happened to civility in the United States, why it matters and what we can do about it.

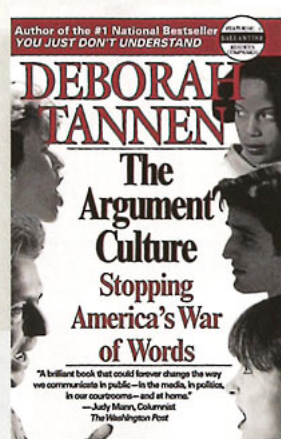
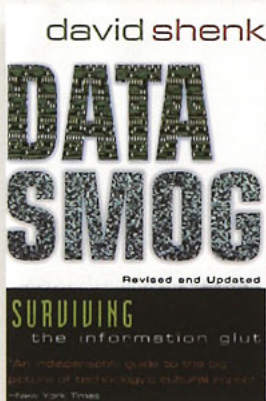
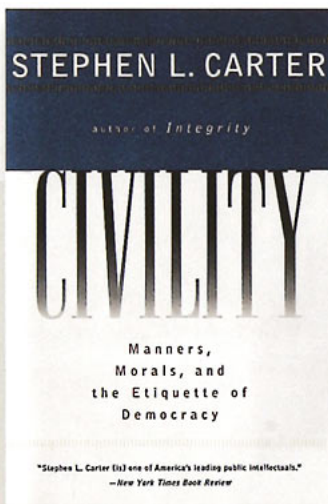
Data Smog: Surviving the Information Glut by David Shenk
Explores the relationship between human beings and information technology, and how to avoid drowning in the onslaught of information.

Republic.com by Cass Sunstein

Cautions against the dangers of egocentric Internet use, which allows us to tailor our reading to topics that interest us and writers with whom we agree.

The Argument Culture by Deborah Tannen

Examines the costs and dangers of living in a culture of unrelenting contention, where every issue is presented in terms of a battle. ●



republic.com
casssunstein

HUNGRY HEART

He may be 81, but artist and Professor Emeritus Anthony Caponi still has a passion to create

GREG HELGESON

Anthony Caponi in his domain: Caponi Art Park, still very much a work in progress on 60 acres in Eagan, Minn.

Page 33: with his wife, Cheryl



by Andy Steiner '90

It is a cold morning, but it isn't the temperature that's turning your knuckles white. Tony Caponi is at the wheel of his rickety golf cart and the world zips by at a precarious angle, then stops without warning. With the cart parked impossibly on a steep, manmade hill, we are looking down at the 81-year-old artist's home, a compact modernist structure he designed and built nearly 50 years ago.

"Every man ought to make his own house," Caponi proclaims with a satisfied air, "and he ought to own the land his house sits on." He spreads his hands wide to indicate the scene below, and adds: "Then it is *his* work of art."

Caponi knows what he's talking about. A renowned sculptor and former head of Macalester's Art Department, he has had opportunity to create—and evaluate—countless works of art. His own long life has been a work of art, too: dashing and brave and bold like the images he carves out of stone and earth.

They say that every artist has his masterpiece, and Caponi's golf cart is perched on the edge of what may become that very project. It's a work that has been in progress for more than half of his life, one that has claimed much of his time and energy since his retirement from Macalester in 1991.

The artwork in question is Caponi's homestead, some 60 acres of land in suburban Eagan, Minn. To Caponi, the idea of creating a place to live has always been an artistic endeavor, one that goes much further than bricks and wood. He built the house first, in 1959, and then slowly began sculpting the land that surrounded it, creating pockets in which to exhibit his other sculptures, spaces for his children (he has six, ranging in age from 16 to 57) to play and, much later, curving paths and open areas for the public to gather.

He calls the creation Caponi Art Park, and it is still very much a work in progress. The speeding golf-cart tour careens past piles of dirt and gravel, and Caponi riffs on his plans to build a fire pit there, connect a walking trail here. With help from one part-time assistant, he hopes to see the project through to its completion, eventually passing the finished park to a non-profit foundation dedicated to its preservation.

It's a lot of work for an octogenarian armed only with a Bobcat tractor and a shovel, but later Cheryl Caponi, the artist's much younger second wife, explains that there's a method behind this madness.



"As soon as people stop having high expectations of the people they're with, then they start getting old," she says, lightly touching her husband's arm. "I don't plan on making life easy for him anytime soon, and I don't think he'd like it if I did."

Caponi nods agreement: "I don't *want* my life to be easy," he says, firmly. "I want to be angry, hungry. An artist is moved more by dissatisfaction than by approval."

So we're not talking about a gentle, sloping ride into the sunset. Not hardly, says Caponi, raking his fingers through his wild, gray hair. More than a decade into his post-Macalester life, he still has bucketsful of inspiration stored in his barrel chest fighting to get out. "I'm going to keep working and working and working..." His voice drifts off and he adds in a less defiant tone: "In my old age, I'm coming up with new ways to tell my story."

Yet another method Caponi is using to tell his story is writing. Last spring, St. Paul-based Ruminator Books published *Voice from the Mountains*, the first of what Caponi says will be a two-part memoir. In innovative poetic form punctuated with black and white photographs, the book details Caponi's childhood in

'I don't *want* my life to be easy.
I want to be angry, hungry.'

rural Italy, his life in America as a young immigrant and his experiences as a soldier during World War II.

"I write like I sculpture," Caponi says when asked to describe his unique style. "I spill it out rough and unrefined, and then I slowly bring it down to the essence. Writing, for me, is also a visual experience. A book has to look good for people to want to read it."

It comes down to this: Art *is* life, says Caponi, all wild eyebrows and willful energy. He tried to teach that to his students during his more than 40 years at Macalester, and now, through his park and his books, he's hoping to expand his classroom to anyone who's willing to listen.

"Art isn't worth a damn unless it's personal," Caponi explains, using an old glove to wipe mud off his golf cart, "and what good is art if nobody sees it? My work is something I want to leave to the world, a gift. And that's what I'm doing right now." ●

Andy Steiner '90, a St. Paul-based writer, wrote about Mac volleyball Coach Stephanie Schleuder in last Spring's Macalester Today.



Macalester History Quiz II: And the Winners Are...

Here are the correct answers to our quiz from the previous issue; the quiz was also posted on the Web

- 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, <i>Going After Cacciato</i>	C. Alex Haley, <i>Roots</i>
B. Norman Mailer, <i>The Executioner's Song</i>	D. Mario Puzo, <i>The Godfather</i>
- 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	C. Jim Stewart
B. Norm Rosenberg	D. Peter Rachleff
- In 1998, Macalester won a national championship in this sport.

A. baseball	C. men's soccer
B. women's soccer	D. rugby
- 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	C. John Carey Acheson
B. James Wallace	D. Charles Turck
- 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	C. Kathy Parson
B. Jan Serie	D. Emil Slowinski
- Name the Macalester author who was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2000 for a novel inspired by *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

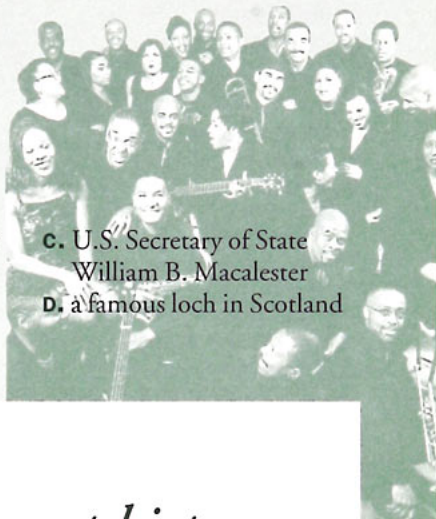
A. Charles Baxter '69	C. Michael Fredrickson '67
B. Mary Karr '76	D. Professor Diane Glancy
- According to the Peace Corps, 7 Macalester graduates were serving in the Peace Corps as of early 2002. How many Macalester alumni have served in the Peace Corps since it was established in 1961?

A. 271	C. 101
B. 57	D. 997
- 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	C. Rhodes Scholars
B. national champion debaters	D. Minnesota state legislators
- 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
- Macalester is named after:

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



Winners of Macalester sweatshirts

More than 225 readers entered our Macalester History Quiz II, which was published in the previous issue and also posted on the Macalester Web site, and 34 of them answered all ten questions correctly.

Macalester Today is giving away sweatshirts to these 5 readers, who were chosen in a random drawing from the 34 all-correct entries:

- Tom Knutson '74, Goldsboro, N.C.
- Khaled Habayeb '03, Amman, Jordan
- Stephanie Seidl '03, Appleton, Wis.
- Aaron Mitchel '05, Wetumpka, Ala.
- Andrew Gockel '87, St. Paul

Thanks to everyone who entered. We welcome questions for the next Macalester History Quiz. Send your suggested question to: mactoday@macalester.edu

A writer remembers the place where her dream began

by Judith Freeman '70

MY TIME AT MACALESTER was rather brief, but the experience of that place changed my life. My then-husband, John Thorn, was a counselor on campus and director of Dupre Hall during the first year that dormitory became coed—1967. I was there from 1967 to 1970, and my name then was Judy Thorn. We lived in the “dorm counselor” apartment in Dupre for two years, as I remember it, and then we moved to Wallace Hall.

I took a painting and drawing class from Jerry Rudquist, and a few literature classes and a writing class from a wonderful man named Roger Blakely. He changed my life. He introduced me to “real” books and helped me fall in love with them. In his writing class, a story I wrote won first prize. I still have the collection of stories he awarded as the prize, with “First Prize” written inside the cover—a collection with stories by Henry James and Conrad and I can’t remember who else. I was about 20 then. It was the point at which I decided to become a writer.

Macalester was the richest, most extraordinary environment, unlike anything I had known or imagined growing up in Utah. The students in our dorm were so bright and they came from such different backgrounds. They introduced me to music and philosophy and different ways of thinking about religion. They had dreams of becoming writers and artists, too, or professors or musicians or politicians. It was at Macalester that I began to understand what a dream really was, and that I could have one, too.

Almost everyone seemed to come from a more interesting or privileged background than I did, but in that place I came to see how my own background was not without interest. I was a “Westerner” and I wore cowboy boots (even then!) on campus and this



Judith Freeman: for an excerpt from *Red Water*, see page 12.

ANTHONY HERNANDEZ

was a time when most people didn’t wear cowboy boots. I began to define myself in part in opposition to what I was not, which was like most of the other kids there.

MY LITTLE BOY, Todd, had a major congenital heart problem and the reason we went to Minnesota in the first place was in order for him to be operated on by a very good surgeon at the university there. They didn’t give him much of a chance of surviving the surgery, but he did, though he was very ill for a long time after that, very small for his age and fragile. He was just 2½ at the time. Those students in Dupre Hall kind of took him up as their little cause. They helped me so much. They helped to share the terrific responsibility of this sick little boy; they took him outside to play ball and they babysat so we could go out sometimes. I will never, ever forget the great kindness of those students or that place.

Macalester was the richest, most extraordinary environment, unlike anything I had known or imagined growing up in Utah. It was at Macalester that I began to understand what a dream really was, and that I could have one, too.

Macalester was much more than a college. It was the place where so many things happened for me, where I made friends I still have, where I discovered my “calling,” where I first stepped fully into the world and really into myself as a woman, not a teen-age mother.

I’ve been back once. I did a reading at the Hungry Mind Bookstore, next to the college, in 1996, when my book *A Desert of Pure Feeling* came out. I tried to locate Roger Blakely to thank him but he was in a retirement home and somehow I never reached him there. But in an interview in the newspaper I mentioned him and how very grateful I was to him. I hope he read it. ●

Judith Freeman was born in Ogden, Utah, and raised in a Mormon family of eight children. The most recent of her four novels, Red Water, is about the 1857 Mountain Meadows Massacre in Utah—see page 12 of this issue. Freeman is also the author of The Chinchilla Farm, Set for Life, A Desert of Pure Feeling and a collection of stories, Family Attractions. She received a Guggenheim Fellowship in fiction in 1997. She lives in California with her husband, the photographer Anthony Hernandez.

GIVING BACK

Stanley M. Berry '75, M.D., Atlanta, professor of gynecology and obstetrics, Emory University, and chief of gynecological and obstetric services at Crawford Long Hospital

A regular Annual Fund contributor, he has made a special pledge to the Catharine Lealtad Endowed Scholarship, named after Macalester's first African American graduate.

He also served as an informal career counselor to Emily Lieder '02 (Cedar Falls, Iowa), a biology major and aspiring physician, and attended her graduation in May. Berry, a father of three himself, has given senior biology seminars at Macalester and met with other premed students.

Quote: "As I get older, I like completing circles. [Professors] Kathy Parson, Dr. [Sung] Kim, Mahmoud El-Kati, Roger Blakely—those were some of the people I really looked up to. I know I got a good education, and so I would like to help make it possible for somebody else to have that opportunity—that privilege, actually.

"And for me, one of the strongest points about Macalester is that in the late '60s and early '70s Macalester took a chance on a lot of students of color. It made the environment at Macalester unique in many ways. One way for me to give back is to put my money where my mouth is."



Stanley Berry '75 and Emily Lieder '02 at her graduation in May.

GREG HELGESON



Remembering Tim Haviland '82 and September 11

The family and friends of Tim Haviland '82, who perished in the attack on the World Trade Center, gathered May 18 to plant a sugar maple tree in his memory near Kagin Commons. It would have been his 20th Macalester reunion. As a piper played "Amazing Grace," friends and family left yellow roses, prayers and messages for Tim. Speakers included Tim's brother Bruce (inset), father Douglas, and close friends Shelley Carthen Watson '82 and Katherine Houghton-Zatz '82, who brought a tartan bag of soil taken from the ground of the World Trade Center. A scholarship fund is being established in Tim's memory (for more information contact Tom Wick at Macalester at 651-696-6034 or wick@macalester.edu).

1600 GRAND AVENUE
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105-1899

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 921
St. Paul, MN

MACALESTER COLLEGE

