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Macalester Today Spring 2007

Macalester College

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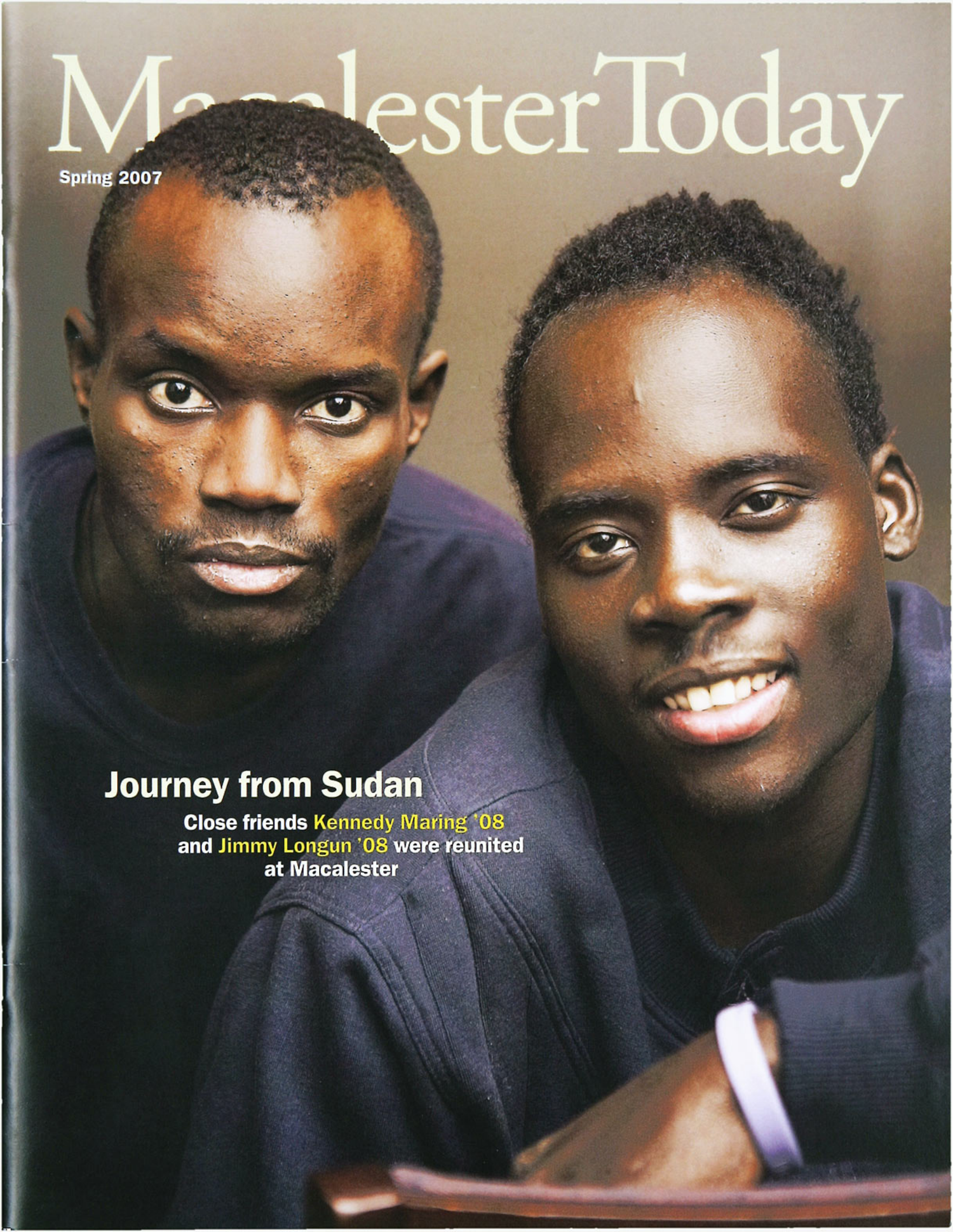
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Macalester Today

Spring 2007

Journey from Sudan

Close friends **Kennedy Maring '08**
and **Jimmy Longun '08** were reunited
at Macalester



Lifetime teaching

Macalester's five newly tenured faculty
were joined by seven children
to celebrate their new positions as associate professors.

*From left: Dianna Shandy, Anthropology, holding son Oran Power,
with daughter Rhetta Power (center right, in pink);
Paul Fischer, Chemistry; Elizabeth Shoop, Mathematics and
Computer Science; Mark Mazullo, Music, holding Eva,
with Sophie and Claudia (center, in blue);
and William Moseley, Geography,
with Ben and Sophie Earl-Moseley
(in front).*



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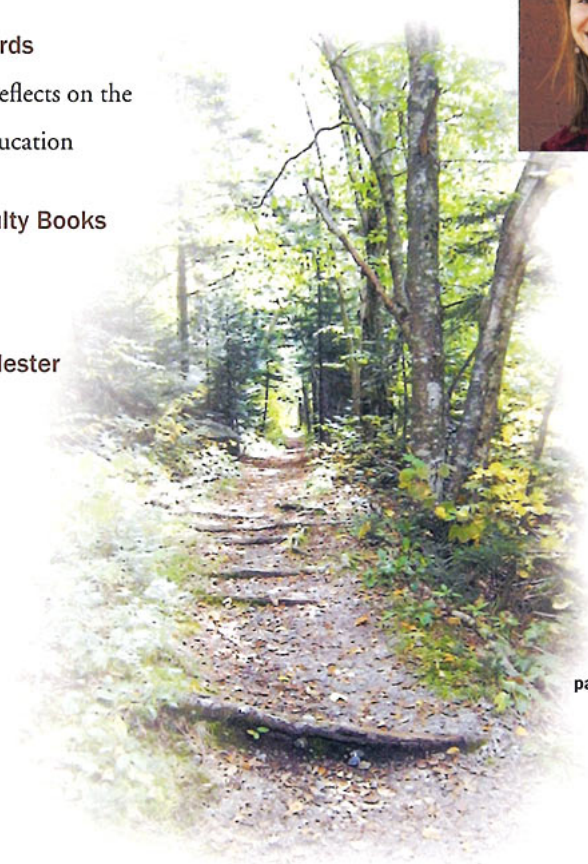
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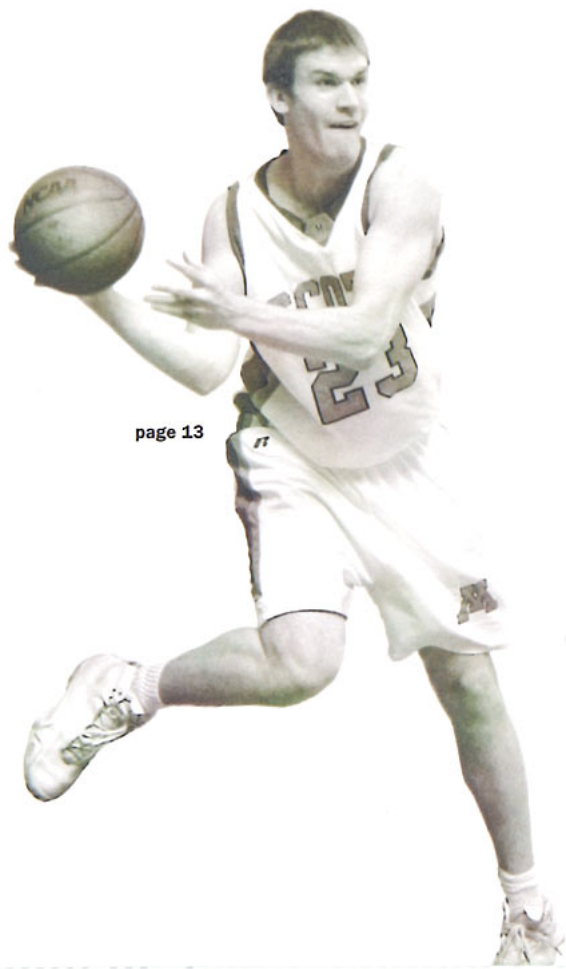
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Macalester Today

Spring 2007

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Political discourse

THE THING I FIND most frustrating about political discourse in the United States is the insistence on rote and trite ideological convictions. Since Darryl Everett [Letters, Winter issue] graduated in 1971, I find it hard to believe that he knows what goes on at Macalester right now. He tosses the term "liberal" around as a catchall, apparently including those alums, students and professors who did not vote for President Bush.

Using the term liberal to generally describe the Macalester student body is an insult to our intelligence and our ability to think outside the box. We are not a homogenous group of Democratic mouthpieces. I would invite Mr. Everett to sit through any of the spirited discussions and arguments going on between so-called "liberals" on this campus. I presume he would be taken aback.

As a student of mixed race, I have confronted racism every day of my life, from people of all shades.

Letters policy

WE INVITE LETTERS of 300 words or fewer.

Letters may be edited for clarity, style and space and will be published based on their relevance to issues discussed in *Macalester Today*. You can send letters by e-mail to: mactoday@macalester.edu. Or: Letters to the Editor, *Macalester Today*, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. ●

Mr. Everett wrote: "The very notion that a bunch of students, on an expensive campus, in 2006 would have some profound knowledge about racism is comical." As a student of mixed race, I have confronted racism every day of my life, from people of all shades; I could list a number of my fellow students who would say much the same. Apparently, in the fictitious Macalester College he imagines, not only are all of the students liberal, but they must all be white, too.

William Clarke '07

Small world and getting smaller

Mac alumni share their stories

WE ENJOY HEARING from alumni about their unexpected encounters with other Mac alums, whether a friend or someone previously unknown to them. See page 44 for one such story. Here are others:

Mary Jane Hollingsworth Lee '57 of New Hope, Minn., wrote in February: "My

husband Gordon and I just returned from an Elderhostel in Cuernavaca, Mexico. On one of our field trips we went to an orphanage, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos. To our delight, one of our English-speaking guides was **Delaney Keyes '04**. She is in her second year as a volunteer and does exciting work with one group of the 500 children there."

Mary Jane Hollingsworth Lee '57 and Delaney Keyes '04 in Cuernavaca, Mexico



Super time

Dan Emerson '76, general counsel for the Indianapolis Colts, and his family—wife Virginia and daughters **Emily '04**, left, and Ashley—are pictured at the team party with the Lombardi Trophy after the Colts won the Super Bowl. Dan, a member of Macalester's



Alumni Board, has done legal work for the Colts since 1984. "It's particularly gratifying that the organization has succeeded by doing things the right way, without the histrionics, misbehavior and other nonsense all too often associated with professional sports. For once, the good guys won and nice guys finished first," Dan said.

Maxence Paris '05 and **Michael Castlen '89** worked together in New York for two days before they discovered their Mac connection. Paris, who works in the French capital for an American documentary filmmaker, came to New York this February to work on a project about Michael's company, PCI, an international NGO (see 1989 class notes in this issue). On the second day, Maxence overheard Michael talking with some colleagues. "Some striking words like 'Kofi Annan' and then 'Macalester' reached my ears. An hour later I spoke to Michael and asked if he was going to give a talk at Macalester. I said it with such a strong French accent...that Michael's reply had nothing to do with what I'd asked him. After a while I managed to get myself understood, and Michael told me he went to this small college in St. Paul, Minnesota, called Macalester. I told him I was an alum as well, and Michael replied, 'You're joking.'"



Michael Castlen '89, left, and **Maxence Paris '05** in New York

were surprised to discover not only were they both Mac grads, but their parents—Oakley and Louise Tripp '12 and Emily '14 and Harold Baldwin '16—were the best of friends. "Quite a reunion," Lois wrote. ●

Mary Tripp Chenoweth '40 of Silver Spring, Md., and **Lois Baldwin Rystrom '46** of Seattle attended an Elderhostel with their husbands in February in Orlando, Fla. They

African-born Minnesotans

WHILE MAKING UP only 1 percent of the state's population, African-born people represent close to 20 percent of HIV/AIDS cases in Minnesota," says **Emily Hedin '07** (Hopkins, Minn.) "They are also among the least likely to seek help coping with the disease."

Those facts helped Hedin decide how she could work locally to impact a global problem—the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Hedin proposed to forge a connection between Open Arms of Minnesota and organizations serving African-born people of Minnesota, and she was awarded a Phillips Scholarship to carry out her project. Open Arms serves nutritious meals to those living with HIV/AIDS (and several other diseases), and Phillips Scholarships support the development of service projects in Minnesota communities.

'This has been an opportunity to see the devastation of the global pandemic here in our community.'

Competition is stiff for the six annually awarded Phillips Scholarships, which provide up to \$14,000.

Hedin helped to establish meal-delivery programs for African-born people with HIV/AIDS by working with Open Arms and organizations including the Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota, the Zyombi International Project, the Ja'afari Islamic Center and the Minnesota African Women's Association.

"This was an opportunity to get to know St. Paul and Minneapolis," says Hedin, "to go into neighborhoods I don't usually go to, working with people



Emily Hedin '07 helped to establish meal-delivery programs for African-born people with HIV/AIDS in the Twin Cities.

Party and reaction

THE MACALESTER COMMUNITY has reacted strongly to a now much publicized student party with a "politically incorrect" theme in which some guests wore costumes depicting negative stereotypes of race, religion and gender.

The college administration and student leaders have responded by using the incident to educate students and to build dialogue about racial and ethnic sensitivity.

The small party took place Jan. 16, while most students were gone for January break. In a statement to the entire community, **President Rosenberg** wrote: "It is important to understand that the College condemns and will not tolerate activities of this type. It is deeply disappointing that Macalester students would be so insensitive and demonstrate such a lack of understanding of the College's values and mission."

Macalester College Student Government, led by President **Jess Hasken '07**, helped organize a campus-wide meeting Feb. 13 to discuss the incident, which is being investigated by the Dean of Students office and the College's Harassment Committee.

"The privilege of education is not a license to ridicule another individual's identity, whether at a party, around campus or in the seminar room," Hasken and four other students who make up the student government's executive committee wrote. "On the contrary, education prepares us, obligates us, to cultivate civility and have the courage to speak up when the dignity of members of the community is violated."

Putting the incident in perspective, **Jim Hoppe**, associate dean of students, said, "We hope to take the teachable moment and engage our campus community a little bit more deeply. We hope we can start a deeper dialogue on...why these types of activities hurt people and why they get the kind of response they do."

President Rosenberg assured alumni and the Macalester community that the party was not representative of the college's culture or standards of conduct and that every effort would be made through dialogue and education to ensure that students understand why it was insensitive and inappropriate. ●

'We hope to take the teachable moment and engage our campus community a little bit more deeply.'

who don't speak English. I delivered food a few days each week to maybe four households. Often their only human contact was with Open Arms volunteers. This has been an opportunity to see the devastation of the global pandemic here in our community."

Hedin continues to write articles on AIDS prevention and other topics that are translated into Amharic, the Ethiopian national language, and published in the local African press. The experience has been good preparation for Hedin's intended career in

international development, and she is applying for opportunities to work in sub-Saharan Africa after graduation. "I am confident my time as a Phillips Scholar will have a lasting impression on my academic and professional life," she says. ●

The face of need

SOMETIMES IT'S HARD to argue against the existence of fate. How else do you explain the serendipitous encounter of **Matthew Pritchard '06** and *NEED* magazine?

The very day that a friend told Pritchard about the new magazine, the geography major called for an interview and, with the help of Internship Director Michael Porter and Professor Bill Moseley, had soon arranged a 5-credit internship, which evolved into a full-time job after graduation. *NEED* works with renowned photographers to put a face on humanitarian need and to tell the stories of individuals and organizations that are out to save the world.



Two weeks into the internship, Pritchard was promoted to managing editor of humanitarian affairs, and a month after that, he was interviewing former President Jimmy Carter. "As someone desperate to get involved in the international development community," Pritchard says, "it was an incredible rush to talk with President Carter, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, about hope and the current state of humanitarian affairs. Our discussion was an exhilarating and very humbling experience."

NEED (www.needmagazine.com) debuted last October. Less than two months later, 1,350 issues and 300 subscriptions had been purchased for the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) alone, and the magazine was part of the gift bags given out to celebrities and others attending the annual gala of FilmAid, which screens films in refugee camps to educate and to counter isolation.

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Matthew Pritchard '06 started out as an intern and then became an editor at *NEED* magazine, which works with renowned photographers to put a face on humanitarian need.

Jerry Farrell, the American Refugee Committee's country director in Sudan, has said, "*NEED* magazine is what is missing in humanitarian aid."

"I was raised in an environment that stressed the importance of making a difference, and this was reinforced through my studies," says Pritchard, who is from Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. "I consistently draw on specific information obtained from classes, work as a teaching assistant and my honors thesis research experience. Macal-ester has had a significant impact on the way that I think about and approach my work." ●

'It was an incredible rush to talk with President Carter, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, about hope and the current state of humanitarian affairs.'

STEVE WOIT

PHOTOS: GREG HELGESON



Spike Lee answers questions from students in Hill Ballroom in Kagin Commons. "Make your choice based on what you love," he told them.

Spike Lee

IN AN EVENT that filled Hill Ballroom in Kagin Commons, filmmaker **Spike Lee** spoke to the campus community about the importance of pursuing dreams, how his career developed and the creation of his acclaimed documentary about New Orleans, *When the Levees Broke*.

"Make your choice based on what you love," Lee said. "I've been fortunate in my life to be able to do that....I was determined that the richness of the African American culture that I could see on the street corner and out of my window—to put that on screen. The good and the bad; if something's truthful, that's good enough."

Lee said the problem with Hollywood is that the studios lack people of color in management positions. "It's not that they don't want to make black films. They just want to make a certain type of black film.... If it's not a comedy, rap/drug/shoot-em-up,

it's really hard to get it through.... For things to change today, people of color have to get in those gate-keeping positions."

"Some artists want to use their art to have a direct impact on the world today. Others want to create pleasure.... For me, I walk the tightrope of entertaining but with substance. It's very hard, and I've not

always been successful, but it's always been my goal."

The Black Liberation Affairs Committee worked with the President's office, the American Studies Department and the Program Board to bring Lee to campus as part of a series of events celebrating Black History Month. ●

The art of New York

PROFESSOR JOANNA INGLOT came up with the ideal location for her students' final exam in her "20th Century Art" course: the museums of New York.

For the first part of their two-part final, the class of seven students went museum-hopping in New York one weekend last December. They started with the Museum of Modern Art, seeing and discussing works by artists they had studied in class: Marc Chagall, Rene Magritte, Meret Oppenheim, Marcel Duchamp, Jackson Pollock, Eva Hesse.

"It was amazing how much we knew and recognized after a semester of lectures and discussions!" **Raina Fox '08** (Mendota Heights, Minn.) wrote. "And the art meant so much more to us seeing it in person. There is something about a slide that can't convey the

power and magnitude of a Jackson Pollock painting or the spirituality of a Constantin Brancusi sculpture."

At MOMA, Professor Inglot "would walk up to a piece and say, 'Tell me about this,'" Fox recalled. "As a group, we would explain what we knew about the artist, title, movement and work itself, and discuss our feelings about how it differed [seeing it] in person from the reproductions we had seen; in a lot of cases there was a huge change."

The students also visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they saw more of the works they had studied as



'The art meant so much more to us seeing it in person.'

The stories they can tell

VIRGINIA SCHUBERT arrived at Macalester in 1965, a momentous time in the college's history. The French professor joined such pioneering figures as **Hildegard Johnson, Dorothy Dodge** and **Patricia Lanegran Kane '47** among the handful or two of tenured women faculty.

"At one time we were 13 women full time out of 130 faculty," Schubert recalls. "In that group of 13, several of us were instructors, so without much status."

Schubert, Dodge and Kane "organized workshops for women students in order to introduce them to the non-traditional careers for women—and that meant most of them. In the '60s and early '70s, the career aspirations of most women were quite limited," Schubert recalled.

Schubert was one of the first seven people to be interviewed for the beginnings of an oral history of the college. Although the idea has been discussed for years, it is now a pilot project under the direction of Library Director **Terri Fishel**, Media Services Director **Brian Longley**, Media Services



Virginia Schubert

Specialist **Denise Tyburski** and **Ellen Holt-Werle '97**, a Macalester reference librarian who is also the college's part-time archivist. Provost **Diane Michelfelder** "really picked up on it and encouraged us to go forward with it," Holt-Werle said.

The first people to be interviewed were chosen "for the most part, because they are recent retirees, and also because they are local," Holt-Werle said. In addition to Schubert, they are Professors **Jim Stewart, Karl Egge, Truman Schwartz, David McCurdy** and **David Lanegran '63** (the only one who is not retired), former longtime trustee **David Ranheim '64** and **Sandy Hill '57**, a staff member for four decades who retired last year.

Sara Nelson '07, a student employee hired by the library for January term, conducted all of the interviews. A geography major, she was looking for a way to apply what she learned in a course on qualitative methods to something outside the classroom. And through her work on the *Mac Weekly*, she developed an interest in Macalester's history.

"A lot of the interviewees focused on the years between the late '60s and early '80s,

when the college and the United States were experiencing a period of upheaval," Nelson said. "There was a lot of discussion about the activism surrounding the Vietnam War and the way the EEO [Expanded Educational Opportunities] program [that brought in many students of color] and the budget cuts that followed affected campus. Professors also spoke a lot about the ways their respective departments had changed since they started at Mac. Though there were common themes, what I found most interesting was the way that, even in a place as small as Macalester, people had so many different experiences and feelings about the same events."

Holt-Werle and her colleagues are now evaluating the pilot project and exploring the feasibility of developing a continuing oral history.

"One thing we've already discussed is expanding the program to capture thoughts and impressions of newly tenured faculty, staff, alumni, trustees, and spouses and partners of faculty," Holt-Werle said. "For now,

'What I found most interesting was the way that, even in a place as small as Macalester, people had so many different experiences and feelings about the same events.'

we're starting to work on finding a way to make the oral histories available. The interviews were both audio and videotaped, and we plan on having full transcripts also done. The originals will be placed in [the Library] Archives, but our original plan was to make edited versions available online, possibly as a podcast."

To Professor Schubert, "the oral history project is extremely important and long overdue. There are so many people who should be interviewed as soon as possible. I have long complained about the fact that colleges and universities in general have no institutional memory. That is certainly true of Macalester." ●

well as their precursors; spent an evening at Soho galleries, where working artists display their work; and concluded their trip with a visit to the Guggenheim.

For the second part of their final, the students returned to campus and wrote two essays. "New York City and its museums made the art we have studied come alive in a new way, and made us appreciate art history even more," Fox said. "Not a bad way to take a final."

When she was an undergraduate herself, Professor Inglot dreamed of studying art at MOMA. "I know that all students who study modern art wish they could see the works they study first-hand in the museum," she said. "I wanted to make this dream come true for my students." ●



Students in Professor Joanna Inglot's "20th Century Art" course in New York, where they took the first part of their two-part final. From left: **Emily Ayoob '07** (Portland, Maine), **Pei-Hsuan Wang '10** (Hsinchu City, Taiwan), **Raina Fox '08** (Mendota Heights, Minn.), **Vanessa Waltz '07** (Plymouth, Minn.), **Professor Inglot** and **Carly Klingensmith '10** (New York). Not pictured: **Rachel Bunkers-Harmes '08** (Mankato, Minn.) and **Aviva Kana '07** (Lopez Island, Wash.). The group stayed at the home of Klingensmith's parents.

"As an econ major, having both Vasant Sukhatme and Karl Egge as professors has to be a highlight," Jeff Larson '79 says of his student days. He spoke with students in Egge's "Deals" class last year.



PHOTOS: STEVE WOIT

'Macalester is a special place'

Trustee (and proud Macalester parent) Jeff Larson '79 talks about his roles at the college

JEFFREY B. LARSON '79 wears three hats at Macalester: alumnus, chair of the Board of Trustees and parent. He joined the board in 2002 and became chair last year. His daughter, Elizabeth, is a first-year student. Larson is managing partner of Sowood Capital Management LP in Boston. He and his wife, Janet, and son, Phillip, live in Wellesley, Mass. He discussed his different roles in an interview with Doug Stone, director of college relations, for *Macalester Today*.

What do you remember most fondly about your Mac experience?

I remember a lot of things fondly. I debated for three years and [Professor] Scott Nobles was a great mentor. As an econ

major, having both Vasant Sukhatme and Karl Egge as professors has to be a highlight. Then of course there is a core group of good friends I made at Mac whom I still keep in touch with.

You can point to almost any course at Macalester. In addition to the specific knowledge, you learned how to analyze and how to—as I call it today—ask the next question.

How did you feel when your daughter chose Macalester?

Obviously, I'm proud that she's going to Macalester. It's a special place and has a special role in the world, and it's a tremendous fit for her, in terms of her values, her curiosity, etc. But I'm also proud because

she made the choice entirely on her own. I had no influence whatsoever other than providing the access to Macalester. She happened to tag along to do an overnight when I was on a board trip, and it was really Macalester and the Macalester students that influenced her.

Are you enjoying your role as a trustee?

I love it. We've had some real hard discussions over the last few years about things that are extraordinarily important to the college. For example, the "strategic imperatives" document that [President] Brian [Rosenberg] wrote and that the board approved, the recent decision on admissions policies and the plans that we have for the college going forward. We have a lot of challenges. But the vision is pretty clear. We want Macalester to continue to be a tremendous institution and to fulfill its role in the world.

It's that independence and that lack of conformity, if you will, that in a way unites us.

You seem to be someone who leads by example. Is that your style?

I hope that you are right. I try to set the example by doing. That said, hopefully I also spend some time "saying," too, speaking with people and encouraging them to support Macalester at a level that is appropriate. I think all board members feel that Macalester ought to be one of their top—if not the top—philanthropic activities. The board is an extremely hard-working group of peo-

Larson talks with Thuy Linh To '07 (Hanoi, Vietnam). She interned last summer at his company, Sowood Capital Management LP in Boston, and has a job there after she graduates.



ple who do everything they can to help support the college.

What message would you offer other alums, not necessarily board members, about being active and supportive of Macalester?

There's been a perception that Macalester alums are extraordinarily independent, and once they leave they don't have the connection to Macalester that they used to have. In some cases that's true, but it may be because we've lost touch with each other a little bit. It's that independence and that lack of conformity, if you will, that in a way unites us. The common feature is that everyone is an informed and competent advocate for whatever position they have.

If there's any message that I'd like alums to have, it is that there's good reason to continue to support Macalester and to give back. Even if it's just talking to another alum who wants to network a little or going to an alumni event in your area. Giving to the Annual Fund is also a good idea, especially at the Grand Society level, if you can. But do whatever you're capable of. Help that network of what may be fiercely independent and opinionated and active individuals—help that network thrive because that's the real value of Macalester. Through Macalester, alumni can exert a lot of influence in the world—it's absolutely true.

You've spent much of your career dealing with or managing endowments. How would you explain the role of Macalester's endowment?

The first thing is to tackle the misperception that Macalester has an endowment that is so large that it never needs any other support. The Wallace gift in the early '90s was a sort of transforming gift. However, the gift itself hasn't grown all that much because of the early restrictions that were placed on it in terms of the way it could be invested. As a result, Macalester's endowment—within its peer group of institutions—is probably on the lower side relative to its academic position. So there is still a lot of support that needs to be provided.

In addition, the endowment is not one big pool of money that Macalester can spend however it wants. It's made up of a collection of smaller endowed gifts, such as an endowed professorship, research stipend

or scholarship. Each has to be used for the purpose for which it was designated. As a result, although the endowment gives Macalester healthy support for its budget, there is still a real need for annual operating gifts, for additional endowment for other specific purposes and for capital.

We're now building the Macalester Athletic and Recreation Center, which is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2008, and a fine arts center is in the planning stages. Why are these facilities and others important to the college?

The most obvious reason is that at some point buildings become old and inadequate, maybe even for the uses they were originally designed but certainly for the uses of today. The MARC is replacing a facility that was between 50 and 80 years old. People use health facilities today in a significantly different way than they used to. The new

facility will incorporate not just inter-collegiate athletics but physical fitness for everyday students. Their health and wellness activities will all come together in one area, which will also be a community gathering point. That kind of facility has been needed for a long time and will be a tremendous asset for the college.

The same is true to some extent with the fine arts center. Although the core of the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center is strong, there are additional needs for programs and learning spaces that can be enhanced by some changes to the facility and some additions. These will provide a foundation for the college to be able to provide education and programs at the highest level, which is what we should expect. ●

Through Macalester, alumni can exert a lot of influence in the world—it's absolutely true.

'Is It Really Research If We Play With Toys?'

HAT'S THE QUESTION addressed by **Susan Fox** in a recent seminar.

The math and computer science professor supervises the Robotics Lab and conducts research in robotics.

Fox is assisted by robots "Humphrey" and "Lauren," both purchased with a National Science Foundation grant that she sought and received after attending a workshop on teaching artificial intelligence, A.I.

One might expect to find robotics research at large universities with scores of computer science majors, but Fox considers it a great field of inquiry for a liberal arts college like Mac. "It has practical applications, the cost is reasonable, there is concrete feedback—the robot either does what it's supposed to do or it doesn't—and it gives access to deeper concepts of artificial intelligence."

Six students have joined Fox in summer research involving her current project, RUPART (an acronym drawn from six words of robotics lingo.) Simply put, RUPART is designed to be a "gofer" for the Olin-Rice Science Center. When told where to go, RUPART will devise a route and go there. One component works as the driver, getting from point A to point B without falling down the stairs, while another component is the navigator, which determines which series of points will lead to the ultimate destination.



"Humphrey"

"Students learn new software, learn artificial intelligence techniques, write code, run tests with the robots and keep me on my toes," Fox says. Two other summer student researchers have worked on other aspects of artificial intelligence with Fox, and

she also advises a number of students doing independent research and capstone or honors projects on A.I. or robotics in the lab.

What's the next big thing in robotics? You may have one at home. According to Fox, it may well be technology based on Roomba®, the vacuuming robot. ●

The Missing Years

A death—or birth—in the family; a sibling's teenage years; food your mother made.

Some international students give up a lot to get a Macalester education. Three of them talked with Jan Shaw-Flamm '76 about what it means to be away from home for years at a stretch, and what keeps them going.

Photos by Greg Helgeson

Katlo "Katie" Manthe '08 Gaborone, Botswana Majors: biology, economics

Katlo Manthe often goes by "Katie" in the U.S. because the "clicks" that are part of her Botswanan name are so difficult for Westerners to pronounce. She's sympathetic to the difficulty, though she speaks nine languages herself and is working on her 10th. Going by a different name is only one of the sacrifices she has made in pursuing her goal: an education that will enable her to return to Botswana with the tools to help her country.

Because the airfare to Africa is so expensive, Manthe has not seen her mother, sister, brother or grandmother since coming to North America in 2002.

It is difficult and expensive to stay in touch with home. "I grew up with my grandmother, who lives in the village. Her letters get to me in about two weeks, but mine take two months to reach her." At 14, Manthe joined her mother in the city of Gaborone, where her mother uses her nursing degree in her work to prevent the transmission of HIV from mothers to their babies. Because they live in the city, Manthe can reach her mother by cell phone, though

'It makes me sad that I have missed four years with my grandmother, but this is what she wants for me, too.'

it is very expensive, and her 16-year-old brother by e-mail at an Internet cafe.

But neither method is cheap enough for casual use, and a phone call doesn't make up for missing her stepbrother's wedding, her uncles' funerals and visits with her grandmother, who has been ill and had to stop working as a butcher. But in more than four years away from home, Manthe has found ways to cope when she's homesick.

"I hang out with other Africans, read *Mshale* [a pan-African newspaper based in Minneapolis], or go to African clubs in the cities." But the best, she says, is the music.

"When I listen to home music, it takes me back to when I didn't have all this. It draws back inspiration for me, reminds me why I am here.

"It makes me sad that I have missed four years with my grandmother, but this is what she wants for me, too. She encouraged me a lot. She can't read or write, but she made sure I did my homework by candlelight, even though she couldn't tell if it was right or wrong. She worked hard for me to be here. Playing a role in my sister's life is the biggest thing I have sacrificed. I missed my sister's growing

up, and I'm sad that I haven't played the role I wish I could have."

As for nearly every student, friends are key for Manthe. Her best friend, **Caroline Mwonga '08**, is from St. Louis, but her family is Kenyan and Mwonga often invites Manthe home for holidays and breaks.

"When I go home with her, it's wonderful, we have such a good time, and her mother cooks the old way."

A special place in her constellation of friends and supporters is held by **Aaron Colhapp**, Macalester's International Student Program coordinator, for whom Manthe has

"Macalester makes everything feel worthwhile, because I know there are people committed to making a better world," says Katlo Manthe '08.



worked in the International Center. This most recent summer, however, she worked as a research assistant for a St. Paul company that provides health care analysis and research. Manthe sends money home to help with her siblings' school fees, but her brother will be working soon, so she anticipates saving enough from her earnings to fly to Botswana for winter break 2007–08.

After graduation in May 2008, Manthe hopes to work for a year, then go to graduate school in international health economics.

"I want to work on how to fund projects in developing areas. How do we fund the eradication of TB, for example. The U.S. plays a commendable role in Botswana, but they are missing the cultural aspect, which I could provide."

Manthe is grateful for the opportunity to come to Mac. "Macalester makes everything feel worthwhile, because I know there are people committed to making a better world. I want to see an AIDS-free Botswana—and I know my goals are realistic and possible."

Methawat Chanla '07 **Samutsongkram, Thailand** **Major: computer science**

Methawat Chanla '07 was 8,000 miles from home and anxious. "Two weeks before school was going to end, I had no job and no money to stay anywhere. Not only did I have to be stressed over exams, but I was really stressed over where I was going to go next. Then I contacted Aaron; he is the go-to guy." Colhapp stepped in and helped Chanla obtain a job at the International Center.

Chanla, who also spent two years at a United World College in Norway before coming to Mac, has sometimes questioned his decision to spend so many years abroad, especially after the death of his grandfather. He soon learned that closing the door to his room and thinking of all he missed didn't help, but he developed other ways of dealing with it.

"I like music, so I call my friends and go jam, have little music sessions." A member of the Mac Jazz Combo, Chanla plays drums and is learning guitar. "I go play basketball



with a bunch of Thai kids at the U[niversity of Minnesota]....I work out with a friend. We would go to the gym every day, and that helps a lot. When you spend your energy, all that frustration is gone and afterwards you can concentrate so much more."

When Chanla went home for winter break of his sophomore year, after 16 months at Mac, he realized, "My brother had grown five inches! I am missing his whole teenager-hood."

With the help of cheap phone cards, e-mail and IM (instant messaging), Chanla remains close to family and friends despite the distance.

"My friends at home are extremely supportive....At one point I thought, 'OK, I'm so sick I can't do this.' My friend in Thailand took the day off from school because of the time difference. We were on Instant Messenger for 5, 6, 7 hours, and he convinced me why I'm here in the first place."

Chanla stayed. Besides, there is the Thai saying: the kids always have to go further than the parents. "I have seen a lot of things my parents have never gotten to see. To keep going forward as far as I can is not just for

"I like music, so I call my friends and go jam, have little music sessions," says Methawat Chanla '07, who plays drums with the Mac Jazz Combo and is learning guitar

me, but for my parents as well, for the things that never happened for them....They've worked since primary school and I don't do half as much as they do."

Chanla spent last summer working with computer science **Professor Elizabeth Shoop** in developing a suite of applications for gene analysis—great experience for someone aiming for graduate school and a career in software design. "Being here helps quite a lot in terms of the technology, to be on the edge, to know what's happening. Eventually, I definitely want to go home. Maybe it will change after 10 or 15 years abroad, but right now, home is home, and I want to go back there."

Edinam Agbenyeke '07**Accra, Ghana****Major: economics**

When Ghana defeated the U.S. team in the World Cup, there was jubilation in Accra, Edinam Agbenyeke's hometown, but he wasn't there to celebrate. When he came to Macalester in 2003, his first trip outside Ghana, he knew that he was giving up times like this, but Agbenyeke had always dreamed of traveling to America. Coupled with the opportunity for a first-rate education, it was an opportunity he couldn't pass up.

"There is tremendous value attached to an American education in Ghana....I had always had that fantasy about traveling to America or to the U.K., and seeing what it was all about in the developed world."

"I used to have my family send me a CD like every half-year with all the new music from home....I had this little Discman and I played it when I walked to class and listened to it in my room. It was just my way of trying to connect with home a little bit."

Naturally, Agbenyeke's father, a high school art teacher, and his mother, a clothing designer, worried about their son 6,000 miles away. Agbenyeke has asthma and when he went home winter of sophomore year, having gone off the meal plan, he had lost a lot of weight. "I did try cooking, and it didn't work out too well." While he was in the U.S., three cousins had been born and a close family friend had died. "When things change like that ... my family has to find a way to tell me that they don't think is going to distract me and make it even harder for

me, having to be here and not be that close to the event. I think sometimes they underestimate my resilience because you do get stronger, you know. The first year is really the challenging year, and after that it's really up to you to use what's around you and grow and adapt." He hopes to work in the U.S. after graduation, then earn an M.B.A.

Agbenyeke also had a strong network, including extended family in the U.S., a

'I think sometimes [my family] underestimates my resilience because you do get stronger, you know. The first year is really the challenging year.'

warm Twin Cities host family and older African students who mentored him. Peggy Lemmon, his former supervisor in his job as student manager of the Alumni House, told him about a nearby Ghanaian restaurant that was "not like my Mom makes it, but it's a taste of home." He also keeps in touch with 10 high school friends studying in the U.S. and U.K., three of whom came to visit when fellow Ghanaian Kofi Annan '61 spoke on campus last April.

He was looking forward to a special homecoming this month (March): his sister has timed her wedding for Macalester's spring break so Agbenyeke can be there. ●



"There is tremendous value attached to an American education in Ghana," says Edinam Agbenyeke '07, pictured with his country's flag.



ANDY KING

All-Conference center **Tom Conboy '08** avoids stepping out of bounds.

Winter sports review

Men's basketball

The Scots finished 11-14 overall and 8-12 in the MIAC, which put them in seventh place out of 11 teams and one spot out of the conference playoffs. Newcomer **Abe Woldeslassie '08** (Richfield, Minn.), a 5-foot-7 point guard, became the first Scot to lead the league in assists in at least 20 years, averaging 5.72 per game. Center **Tom Conboy '08** (Chanhausen, Minn.) enjoyed another outstanding season, averaging 17.4 points and 7.7 rebounds. He will head into his senior year with 1,328 points and within reach of the all-time scoring total. In 20 MIAC games, Conboy and Woldeslassie tied for fifth in scoring average (17.2 points). Both were named to the 15-member All-Conference team. **Brad Liddell '07** (Crystal Lake, Ill.) averaged 15.3 points (ninth in the league) and knocked down 98 three-pointers, breaking the old school record of 97 set by Bobby Aguirre in 1994-95. Liddell earned

Honorable Mention on the All-Conference team. **Jesse Hollander '07** (Kathmandu, Nepal), although only 6-3, finished fourth in the MIAC in rebounding, tied with Conboy, and second in offensive rebounds.

Women's basketball

Macalester finished its second season under Coach **Ellen Thompson** at 7-18 overall and 5-17 in the MIAC. The Scots' seven wins were the most since the 1998-1999 season. For more on the women's season, see page 14.

Women's swimming and diving

Macalester's women placed sixth at the MIAC Championships.

Annie Flanagan '09 (Madison, Wis.) earned a pair of All-Conference



Flanagan



Gajewski

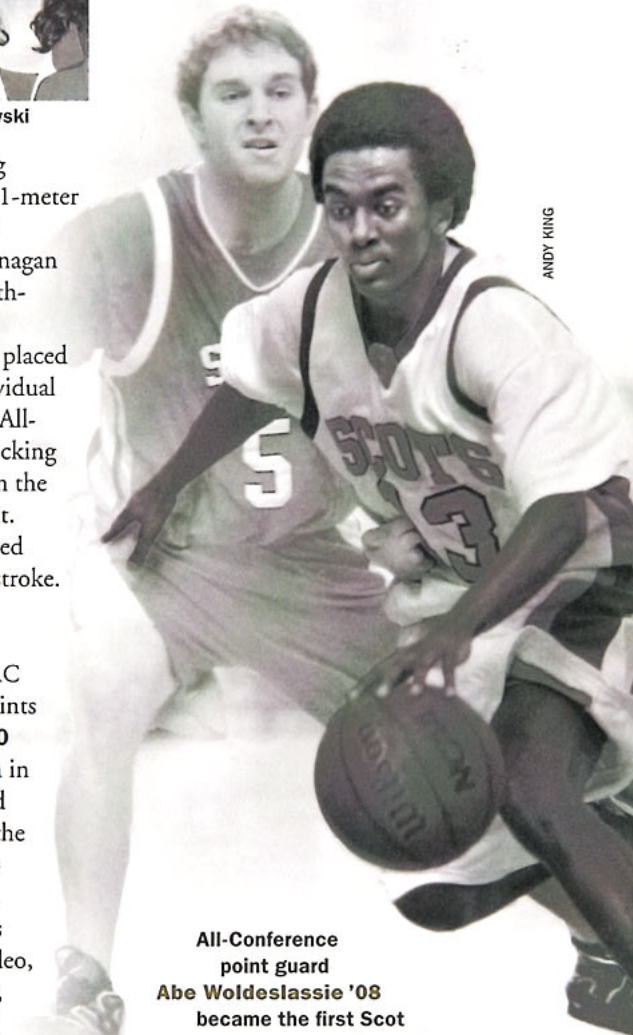
certificates in the diving events, placing second in both the 3-meter board and 1-meter diving. Teammate **Alanna Mozena '07** (Dubuque, Iowa) was right behind Flanagan on the 1-meter board, diving to a fourth-place finish.

Anna Gajewski '10 (Wausau, Wis.) placed third in the finals of the 400-yard individual medley to join Flanagan as Macalester All-MIAC winners. Gajewski's 400 IM clocking was 4:47.80, moving her up to third on the school's all-time honor roll in this event.

Alex Cortes '09 (Berkeley, Calif.) placed fifth in the finals of the 200-yard backstroke.

Men's swimming and diving

The men finished eighth at the MIAC Championships. Most of the team's points were generated by **Mitch Stepleton '10** (Boulder, Colo). Stepleton placed sixth in the 1,650-yard freestyle. He also scored consolation points by placing 10th in the 500 freestyle and 11th in the 400 individual medley. The Scots also received points from consolation round finalists **Ramiro Nandez-Acosta '08** (Montevideo, Uruguay) in the 400 IM and 200 back, **Seth McIntire '10** (Seattle) in the 200 free, and **Jeremy Glover '09** (Eureka, Mo.) in diving. ●



ANDY KING

All-Conference point guard **Abe Woldeslassie '08** became the first Scot to lead the league in assists in at least 20 years.

Coach **Ellen Thompson**, who was named MIAC Co-Coach of the Year, huddles with her team: "I knew I would have to put the time in, but that we could do great things."



ANDY KING

Women's basketball team makes a comeback

With three first-years as starters, the Scots chalk up the most victories since 1998–99

by **Heather Stahl '08**

ELISE PAGEL '09 summed it up: "We've definitely shown the conference that we're a real team again, that we're not just an easy win anymore. That's a big jump to make in one year."

Under second-year Coach **Ellen Thompson**, the Macalester women's basketball team indeed made a huge jump this season. With a starting lineup usually composed of three first-years, one sophomore and one senior, the Scots won four out of five games at one stretch. They impressed everyone by upsetting Wisconsin–River Falls—a good team which came into the game 3-0 against other MIAC opponents—and then proved that victory was no fluke by defeating Concordia for the first time since 1994. After a victory over St. Olaf on Jan. 10, the Scots were 5-6 overall and 3-5 in the MIAC.

But then one of the first-year starters, center **Ann Baltzer '10** (Bismarck, N.D.), the Scots' leading scorer and rebounder to that point, suffered a stress fracture in her foot that ended her season. Without Baltzer and a deep bench, the women struggled, though they were still competitive. They won two more MIAC games, led or were tied at half-time in three others and were usually close in the remaining games before running out of steam against teams with more experienced reserves.

Overall, the women won 7 games—the most since the 1998–99 season—and

lost 18. They finished 5-17 in the MIAC, tied for 10th place in the 12-team conference. Thompson was named MIAC Co-Coach of the Year.

Point guard **Danielle Johnson '10** (DeForest, Wis.) led the Scots in scoring, averaging 12.7 points per game, and was fifth in the MIAC in steals. She was named to the MIAC All-First-Year Team and got an Honorable Mention for the All-Conference Team. **Trina PaStarr '10** (Minneapolis), who averaged 11.4 points, was fifth in the MIAC in rebounding and third in blocked shots and was also an Honorable Mention. Pagel (Appleton, Wis.) contributed 8.8 points and 5.9 rebounds per game and was seventh in the league in blocked shots. **Callie PaStarr '07**, Trina's older sister, and **Lara Avery '10** (Topeka, Kan.) rounded out the solid starting lineup.

When Thompson was hired to be coach, she knew she was in for a long haul. The 2004–2005 women's basketball season had been suspended after six games the previous December because of low roster numbers. Thompson stepped into the job in mid-September 2005, unable to recruit for the upcoming season as the academic year had already started. "I took whoever I could find on campus," she said. "And what I found was a phenomenal group of people, who worked their tails off."

While the women struggled through a 2-21 season in 2005–06, without a single player who had significant collegiate



ANDY KING

Point guard **Danielle Johnson '10** led the Scots in scoring and was fifth in the MIAC in steals. She was named to the MIAC All-First-Year Team.

basketball experience, athletes from other sports as well as students who had played basketball in high school stepped up. "I'm not really a basketball player," said **Annie Borton '07** (Berkeley, Calif.), a three-time All-America soccer player. "But they needed people, and I was interested."

Pagel was uncertain whether she would play basketball when she started at Macalester, about the same time as Thompson. "Last minute, I decided I would just play, mostly because I didn't want to regret not playing. Once I started, I just got stuck," Pagel said with a smile. "In a good way."

Pagel and Callie PaStarr were co-captains both last year and this season. Callie, a cross country runner, played basketball in high school but chose not to play when she came to college. In her junior year at Mac, however, she heard that Thompson was looking for players. Trina was then a high school senior. "I wanted her to come and told her that if she did, we could play together," Callie said. "And then I realized I'd better get on top of my game in case she really did come."

Thompson, captain of St. Thomas' 1991 NCAA Division III championship team, was

a highly successful head girls basketball coach at Hopkins (Minn.) High School from 1992 to '98, then worked as an assistant coach at St. Thomas for seven years before accepting the position at Mac. "I loved the atmosphere on campus, especially the camaraderie in the Athletic Department and the new athletic director's vision for the department. I knew I would have to put the time in, but that we could do great things," she said.

For Trina PaStarr, the team's progress is something to brag about. "We've pulled through some tough times, had fun and won some."

"It's important to note how big of a change there's been between last year and this year,"

Pagel said. "This year is a totally different experience; it's much more fun. The players coming in and making commitments to the team have also made a huge impact."

Pagel also credits Thompson for the team's growth. "She's strong, and she's motivating," Pagel said.

"She's got a vision and she's convincing," Trina PaStarr said.

Thompson said the team is right where it needs to be, according to her vision for their progress. It was her goal to get the team in a position to compete again, which she believes they've accomplished this season. For next year? "Conference playoffs," Thompson said. ●



GREG HELGESON

Farewell to the gym

A capacity crowd turned out Jan. 27 for the final basketball games in the 83-year-old Macalester Gymnasium. They included **Cean Shands '89**, left, of Bloomington, Minn., and four future Scots: Cean's daughters Charley (*In his lap*) and Sunny (*third child from left*), and Jose Luis Player (*next to Cean*) and Daniel Player, sons of **Luis Player-Delgado '87** and **Kathynn Tannehill Player '89** of Richfield, Minn. Construction has begun on the new Macalester Athletic and Recreation Center, scheduled to be completed in fall 2008. See back cover.



ANDY KING

Trina PaStarr '10 was fifth in the MIAC in rebounding and third in blocked shots.

'More precious than rubies': The purposes of higher education

President Rosenberg's column is adapted from his remarks on Macalester Sunday, Feb. 4, at The House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul.

by Brian Rosenberg

IT IS A deep pleasure for me to share in the ceremonies of Macalester Sunday at House of Hope, an annual recognition of the conjoined histories of two institutions founded by the Rev. Edward Duffield Neill, one of the pioneering leaders of education and worship in the Twin Cities.

Like most of us, I imagined as a child—in my case as a child growing up in the suburbs of New York City—a panoply of future situations and challenges for myself: some more far-fetched than others, particularly those involving center field, Yankee Stadium and the World Series. I will confess that figuring as the featured speaker on a Sunday morning before a large and distinguished Presbyterian congregation in St. Paul, Minnesota, was never one of these.

The subject of my remarks is “education,” or more precisely the “purposes of higher education,” a subject to which I naturally devote a good deal of whatever thought remains after I perform the rest of my daily job.

We find in even the most ancient and venerable writings about education no agreement about its goals, purposes and desired outcomes. In the Book of Proverbs we are told that “Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. / Though it cost you all you have, get understanding” (4:7), and we are advised by wisdom to “Choose my instruction instead of silver, / knowledge rather than choice gold, / for wisdom is more precious than rubies, / and nothing you desire can compare with her” (8:10–11). At the same



time we are told that “A wise man has great power, / and a man of knowledge increases strength” (24:5), allowing for a most interesting discussion about whether education should be seen as an alternative or as a means to worldly wealth and accomplishment. Should education be designed to carry us away from the practicalities of life toward some higher set of values or should it prepare us for those practicalities and therefore for security and even riches? Is education about wisdom and the formation of character or is it about vocation and the development of abilities and skills? And to what extent are these different goals contradictory or compatible?

Among the great thinkers of American history we see similar tensions animating deliberations on how best to educate young people. Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, the founders respectively of the Universities of Virginia and Pennsylvania, shared a sense of the importance of higher education but differed somewhat in emphasis: Jefferson focusing more on the relations between education and democratic citizenship and Franklin on what he termed “useful” things such as mathematics, accounting and science. This tension was

I fear that we are increasingly in danger of defining education, and especially higher education, entirely in terms of its vocational and economic role: in terms, as it were, of its ability to help us get and spend silver, rubies and gold.

perpetuated through much of the 19th century as youthful American universities and liberal arts colleges, most of them church founded or related, wrestled with the question of whether their purpose was to form particular kinds of people or to inculcate useful knowledge and critical and practical skills.

We see some of these same conflicts being played out today, perhaps most visibly through what has become known as the Spellings Commission Report, a document on the future of American higher learning prepared by a group under the direction of the Secretary of Education. The report

opens with a statement entitled “The Value of Higher Education,” which reads:

In an era when intellectual capital is increasingly prized both for individuals and for the nation, postsecondary education has never been more important. Ninety percent of the fastest-growing jobs in the new knowledge-driven economy will require some postsecondary education. Already, the median earnings of a U.S. worker with only a high school diploma are 37 percent less than those of a worker with a bachelor's degree. Colleges and universities must continue to be the major route for new generations of Americans to achieve social mobility. And for the country as a whole, future economic growth will depend on our ability to sustain excellence, innovation, and leadership in higher education. But even the economic benefits of a college degree could diminish if students don't acquire the appropriate skills.

We are in this statement a long way from the Book of Proverbs. Indeed, if the report of the Spellings Commission is to be believed, the debate over the purposes of higher education has been settled once and for all and the answer is, to paraphrase an earlier presidential campaign, “it's the economy, stupid.”

Education in the report of the Spellings Commission, education in most of the public discourse in our state houses and in Washington, D.C., education in most of the meetings of chambers of commerce, education as discussed in most of our newspapers and on most of our talk shows, is conceived of chiefly in material and vocational terms: as an engine of personal and communal economic growth, as a tool for workforce development and as a means of maintaining American competitiveness in an increasingly interconnected world. More and more often, educational systems such as the one now emerging in China are held up by

Brian Rosenberg, the president of Macalester, writes a regular column for Macalester Today. He can be reached at rosenbergb@macalester.edu.

policymakers as models of efficiency and national single-mindedness to which we should aspire.

Now, let me be absolutely clear about the fact that I believe this goal to be a good and important one. To educate students without providing the requisite tools for vocational and economic success and security is to abdicate a critical ethical and social responsibility. There is a difference, however, between being a *worthy* goal and being the *only* goal, and I fear that we are increasingly in danger of defining education, and especially higher education, entirely in terms of its vocational and economic role: in terms,

Of the three chief purposes of higher education—career training, self-enlightenment and preparation for citizenship—it may ultimately be the third that is both the most difficult and the most important.

as it were, of its ability to help us get and spend silver, rubies and gold. Certainly this is and has been true in many parts of the world, including China, where hundreds and even thousands of new universities are being created, almost all of which emphasize career training in engineering, accounting and other subjects that are seen as crucial to economic growth. Given the recent rate of expansion of China's economy, it would be difficult to argue with the near-term effectiveness of this strategy.

In the United States, by contrast, vocational preparation has historically been joined by at least two other central and inter-related goals for higher education: individual enlightenment and self-understanding, or what might idealistically be called the getting of wisdom, and preparation for engaged citizenship in a democratic society. From these other goals have developed the rich diversity and distinctive character of American colleges and universities: the range of public and private institutions, with their many different access points into post-secondary education; the liberal arts curriculum, with its focus on breadth as well as depth of knowledge; the residential college, with its encouragement of instructional opportunities both inside and outside the classroom; the commitment to civic engagement among students and faculty. And from these devel-

opments, in turn, have sprung so many of the economic, technological and social accomplishments of this country and its longstanding (if newly threatened and precarious) position of global leadership. I would contend, that is, that our less narrowly focused, more diffuse and in utilitarian terms more "inefficient" form of higher education in America has engendered the flexibility, creativity and sense of collective responsibility that have been the drivers of the most successful and longest-lived experiment in democratic governance in the world.

My fear is that in our quest to redefine education as efficient vocational training and to emulate other educational systems around the world, we will willingly devalue or even abandon these other, more complex and ultimately more challenging goals. Efficiency narrowly understood may come at the expense of effectiveness broadly conceived as the shaping of characters, cultures and values. I do not believe that when Jefferson made his famous comment that "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of



civilization, it expects what never was and never will be," he was thinking merely about the state of the economy.

What does it mean to educate students for citizenship in a free society? Some answers to that question remain unchanged since the days of Jefferson: it means to provide them with the skills, habits of mind and breadth of knowledge that allow for informed participation in democracy; it means inculcating an abiding respect for the humanity of others; it means teaching the nature and importance of the civil exchange of ideas, particularly around difficult issues; it means exposure to and analysis of the best and most beautiful—as well as the worst and most terrifying—that humankind has produced. Some answers to the question have changed: today, and more than ever, it means preparing students to engage with diverse communities and cul-

tures within our cities and our country and around the world and equipping them to use and not be overwhelmed by the opportunities of new technologies. It means readying them to live on a planet whose population is increasingly urban, whose environment is increasingly at risk, and whose distribution of wealth and resources is increasingly uneven. It means doing more than encouraging them to think about the economic benefits of a college degree.

OF THE THREE chief purposes of higher education—career training, self-enlightenment and preparation for citizenship—it may ultimately be the third that is both the most difficult and the most important. It is the most difficult because it is the one goal of education that is not chiefly about the betterment of the self, to which we might naturally be inclined, but about the betterment of and service to others, toward which we might need to be encouraged and around which advanced civilizations must be built; it is the most important for precisely that same reason. If higher education can do one single thing well, I would have it be to teach us, in the words of Yale law Professor Stephen L. Carter, to "come into the presence of our fellow human beings with a sense of awe and gratitude" and to "listen to others with knowledge of the possibility that they are right and we are wrong."

I am convinced that if colleges do this they will ineluctably be educating the people who will work to quell the conflicts and lessen the inequities and reverse the environmental disasters of today because those people will not only know enough but *care* enough to do so. Perhaps not all of higher education, perhaps not even most of higher education, but some segment of higher education in America had better be pursuing this particular goal—a goal that is indeed in my view infinitely "more precious than rubies" and that truly makes higher education a higher calling—or we will be failing in our responsibility to ourselves, our children and the world they will inherit. ●

Journey from Sudan

As 5-year-old refugees, **Kennedy Maring '08** and **Jimmy Longun '08** escaped the civil war that has devastated Sudan. But the two close friends hope to return with the skills their homeland desperately needs.

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

It is Africa's largest country in area. It is bordered by nine countries and the Red Sea. The predominantly Arab, Muslim north and the predominantly black, Christian and Animist south were under combined British/Egyptian rule until independence in 1956.

Most Americans could identify Sudan only if "Darfur" or "the Lost Boys" are mentioned—if even then.

For Jimmy Longun '08, it is frustrating that American news coverage and general knowledge of his homeland is so shallow. "On TV, they see that people are being killed in Darfur, but they aren't curious enough to know what, exactly, is the problem. They don't know if it's getting worse, what the U.S. Senate is doing, *the details*."

For Longun and Kennedy Maring '08 it's anything but academic. Both were born in the state of Kajo Keji, part of the large Kuku tribe, although they didn't meet until years later. Longun's family is primarily Christian, while Maring's reflects both Christian and Muslim traditions. As 5-year-olds, they escaped the war between Islamic government soldiers and the rebels in southern Sudan, walking with family members south to Uganda.

In Kajo Keji, Maring's family owned several shops dealing in general merchandise. As rebels opposing Islamization went into the bush, security broke down. "We had a number of robberies; people would come with guns at night, and a couple of times they got scared and fired shots.

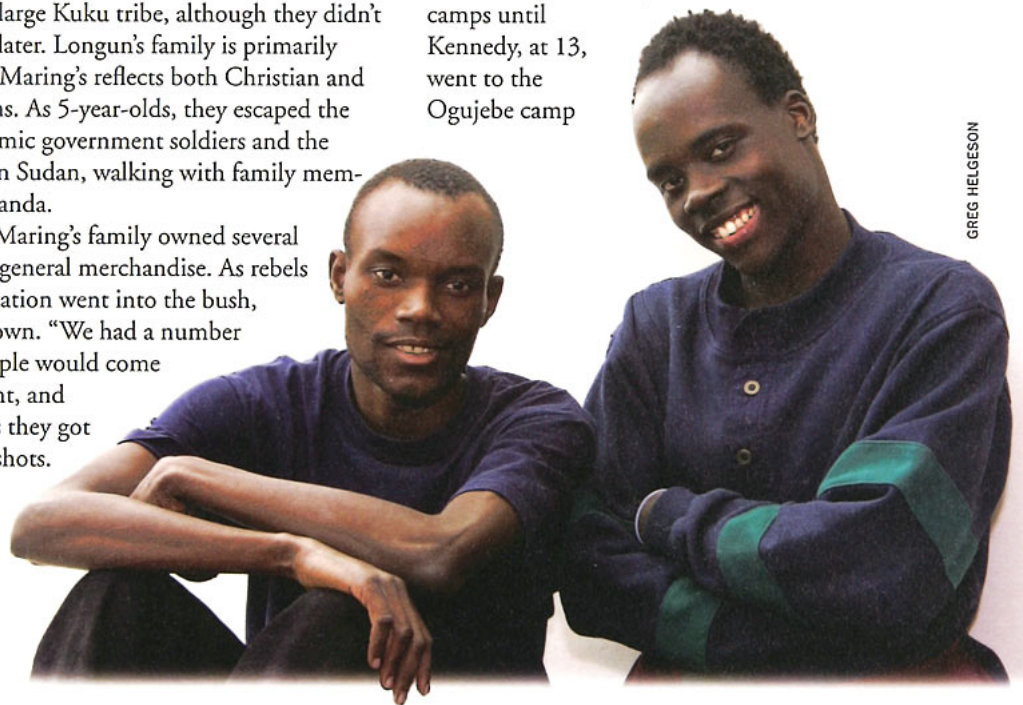
Even as a little boy, I could see the lawlessness. The government was no longer giving people security."

Maring's parents supported the struggle against the government in the north, but that didn't exempt them from trouble. The rebels came to the village headman demanding a quota of people for the war effort. "My family didn't have people to give, so we had to provide food. They took goats, cows from my grandfathers, also beans, maize, sorghum.

"My dad had gone to Khartoum, the seat of Sudan, for a business trip. When the war broke out, we had to leave without him. It was really hard for my mother because I was 5 years old and my twin sisters were four months old. My father's brothers were there to help her."

The Sudanese government closed the borders, and it was two years before Maring's father was allowed to rejoin his family. Fortunately, Maring's family had extended family in Uganda and owned land there, so they avoided the refugee camps until Kennedy, at 13, went to the Ogujebe camp

'When we lost our mother, my sisters at home had little hope for the future. But here I am, I know I can drive my own destiny, and therefore, I am their inspiration.'



GREG HELGESON

Kennedy Maring '08, left, and Jimmy Longun '08 met as teenagers on the bus taking them to Kampala, Uganda, for scholarship interviews. Although Maring went to the United World College in Italy and Longun to the one in Singapore, the two close friends were reunited at Macalester.

on the Nile River to attend a school provided by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

After completing secondary school (10th grade in the U.S.), Maring had returned home. "I was in the garden digging, helping with the farm work, when my father came home and said that the Hugh Pilkington Charitable Trust [a British trust involved in refugee education] had put up a notice. They were looking for people [to apply to United World Colleges]. I filled out the application, and my dad took off with my application....On the bus, when we were going to Kampala for the interview, that's when I first met Jimmy, and we became best friends right away."

The two were among the five refugees offered scholarships to UWCs; Maring went to the school in Italy and Longun to the one in Singapore.

Longun has few memories from his early years in Sudan. "Basically it wasn't safe anymore; there was close fire—close fighting between the rebels and the government soldiers—uproar, killing, looting." He has even fewer memories of his father, who died fighting the government soldiers. "Sometimes when he came home, he would bring us things, like some biscuits, but that's all I remember.

"People migrated to neighboring countries—Uganda, the Congo, Kenya, Ethiopia....When you encountered soldiers from either side, they didn't harm you. We didn't have firearms. In most cases, they didn't hurt civilians unless you got caught in crossfire that couldn't be helped. My family crossed straight into Uganda, where we lived in a refugee camp. There was nothing to eat. We were under the United Nations. They had to clear the forests and construct tents at the beginning. The U.N. provided food items, then slowly we started to grow our own things—subsistence agriculture. After a while, we started to build semi-permanent huts of burnt bricks, reeds, poles and mud."

Although their scholarships took them to different countries, both knew Jimm Crowder, Macalester director of international and transfer admissions, who

visited their schools as well as dozens of others around the globe. Maring applied early decision and Longun applied to a variety of colleges, but ultimately chose Mac, too.

A physics major, Longun plans to study electrical engineering in graduate school and eventually return to Sudan. His mother has died and Longun helps his sisters in Sudan as much as he can. He doesn't complain, but when pressed he admits, "It's pretty hard. Losing both of one's parents, it's something you can't really cope with. But as time goes by, you eventually put it behind you. When we lost our mother, my sisters at home had little hope for the future. But here I am, I know I can drive my own destiny, and therefore, I am their inspiration."

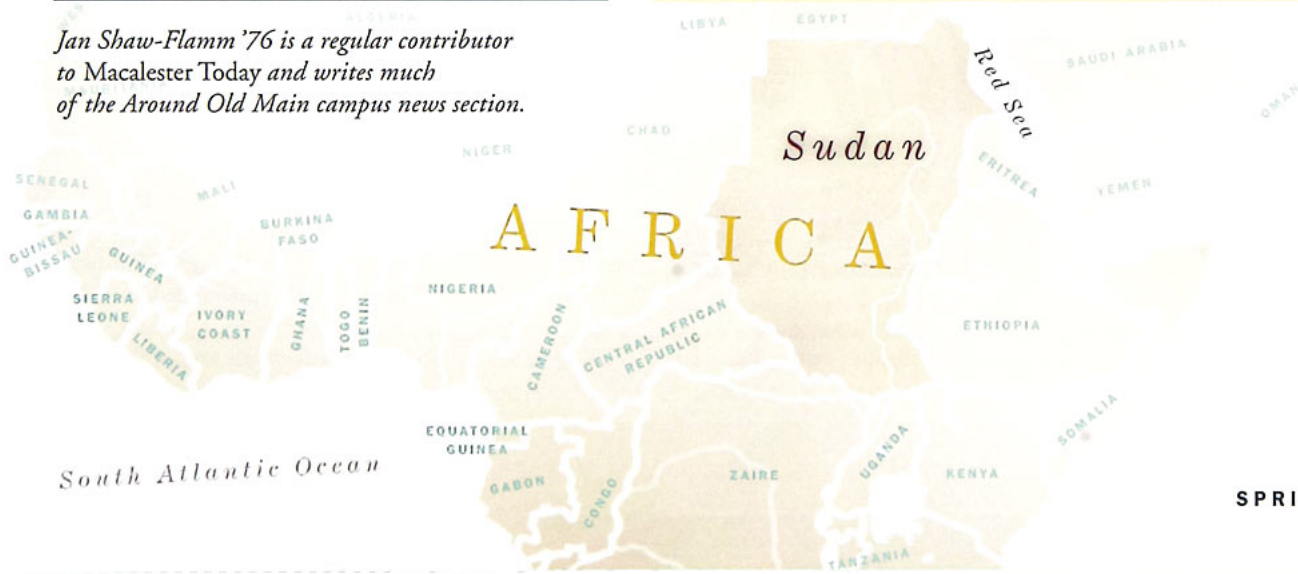
Maring, a biology major, hopes to go to medical school. "My friends, even my parents, think that when you come to America, you shouldn't go back [because] you can maximize your chances of living a better life. I've tried to make it clear to them that I really want to go back, because I don't think people in the U.S. really need me. I want to go back and work in public health, I think that's one area that my country is lacking in. My feeling is that I can do it." ●

Sudan: Africa's longest civil war

- **21 YEARS** the conflict has lasted
- **2 MILLION** deaths from fighting, famine, disease
- **4 MILLION** displaced within Sudan
- **600,000** people have sought refuge in neighboring countries
- **JANUARY 2005**, peace agreement signed by ruling government in Khartoum and Sudan People's Liberation Movement in the south
- **CONFLICT CONTINUES** in Darfur, western Sudan

SOURCE: U.S. Agency for International Development

Jan Shaw-Flamm '76 is a regular contributor to Macalester Today and writes much of the Around Old Main campus news section.



Two for the **T** rail

Do you have to be a little crazy to hike **2,176 miles from Georgia to Maine?** It depends on who you meet along the **Appalachian Trail.**



Here we are in front of Mizpah Hut in New Hampshire's White Mountains. That's Ari on the right, carrying his full pack, and me on the left, holding my packboard, used to carry supplies up the mountain.

by Andrew Riely '05

When news reached me last summer that Ari Ofsevit '06, a fellow Bostonian and geography major, was attempting to hike the entire Appalachian Trail, I thought first of his collegiate devotion to GIS computer mapping and cross-country skiing. I also thought that to begin just after graduation in early June was foolish; most thru-hikers, as they're called, start before April to avoid finishing the 2,176-mile journey in winter. But I hoped that I would see Ari, whom I got to know well during a drive home from Mac a few years ago, at Mizpah Hut in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, where I was working another season in environmental education. The hut is only a couple hundred miles from the trail's northern terminus atop Mount Katahdin in Maine. When Ari, having completed the bulk of the trail at a blistering pace, appeared in September—we nearly missed each other due to the difficulty in communication—he looked thinner than I remembered and bore the customary thru-hiker stink. But despite his 15-mile day, he brimmed with energy and opinions.

HEIDI MAGARIC

Almost all thru-hikers take a trail name—his, he told me, was *Ziploch*. “That happened in southern Virginia,” he said. “I had dumped all my food out—everything was in a Ziploc bag—camera, lighters. A guy looked over and said, ‘You got a trail name yet?’” Such is the prevalence of Ziploc bags that the trail name recurs from year to year—misspelling it made it Ari’s own.

All thru-hikers delight in quirks and stories. As Ari puts it with typical frankness, “A lot of people [on the trail] are well balanced. But anyone who sets out to hike 2,200 miles is nuts. Every so often you snap back to reality when you meet a real loony.” At Mizpah,

‘I don’t miss the rainy days and the hot days. I miss the beautiful nights, having the weather and terrain playing such a big role in my life.’

I heard stories about a thru-hiking family, a man looking for a wife on the trail, and a roving band of Mennonites—all of whom, to my surprise, eventually appeared.

The length and isolation of the AT make the trek a profound experience. Ari says, “There’s a mantra on the trail—hike your own hike. It’s a really good ethos and a hard one to adhere to.”

Since Ari started so late from the trail’s southern end in Georgia’s Springer Mountain, he hiked at a speedy clip to finish before winter. He reached Katahdin on Oct. 17, having encountered snow and sub-freezing temperatures. “I had people telling me you’re going too fast, you’re missing all the people. But that’s not what I wanted to do, what I set out to do.”

Along the way Ari encountered 13 bears, a bald eagle, two rattlesnakes (“I almost stepped on a third—I’m not sure if it was a rattlesnake or a copperhead”) and two moose (“when you’re in Maine and you hear something that sounds like Bigfoot, it’s a moose”). “I don’t miss having to carry my stove and my life, treating my water, tripping over roots,” he said. “I don’t miss the rainy days and the hot days. I miss the beautiful nights, having the weather and terrain playing such a big role in my life.... There were times I’d sit down for a half-hour and absorb things. It could be overwhelming.”

We spent the next night at Mizpah, where I introduced Ari to the rest of my crew (slang for staff in the huts, all eight of which are run by the Appalachian Mountain Club) and our cooking and food packing chores. Hut life is simple and repetitive, livened by irreverent banter, the immediacy of the weather and the delight of 60 guests when you present them with a surprise chocolate cake dessert. Both Ari and I

are considering working in the White Mountains next summer.

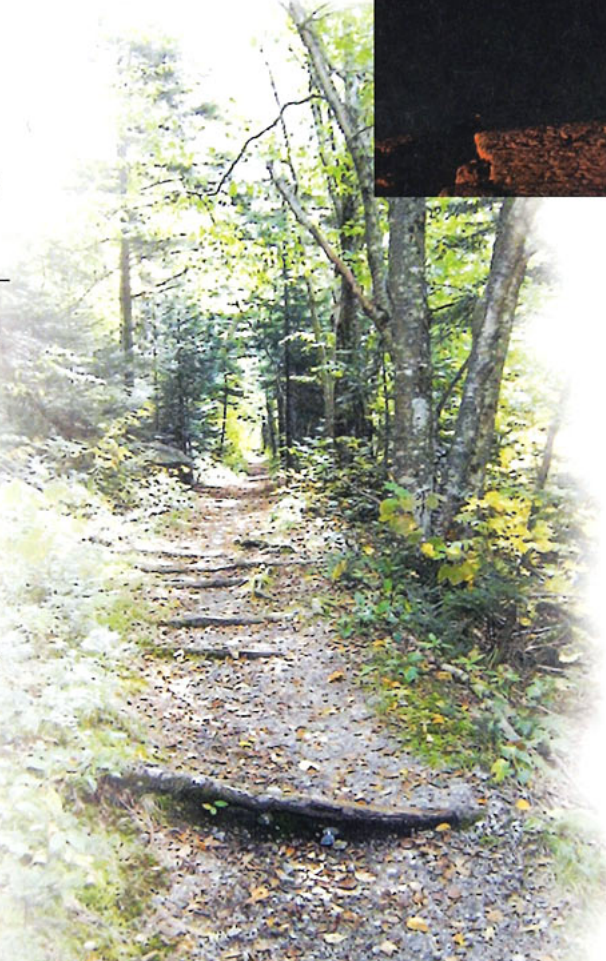
We shared that most pleasant aspect of the trail—an evening by the warm stove, telling stories and chewing over Macalester gossip while the cook prepared coffee cake and eggs for breakfast. By morning, the weather turned raw as Ari headed on across the Presidential Range.

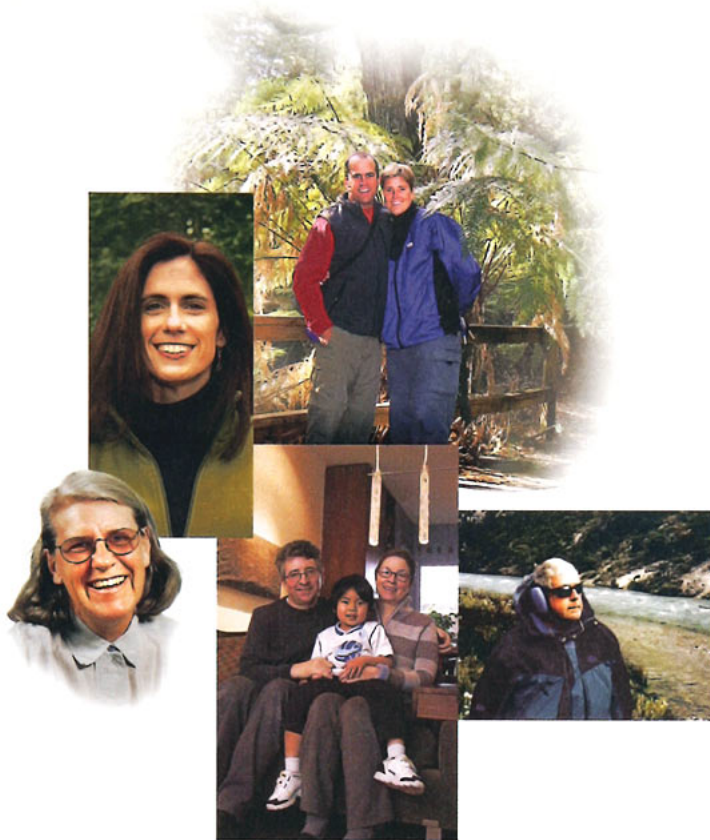
In the months since, I’ve missed the simplicity and sense of purpose I found working along the trail. The huts and the AT cannot exist by themselves; rather, they are a reservoir of tranquility when crowds and schedules threaten to overwhelm. Ari is heading off to Maine for work with the Quebec Labrador Foundation at the Center for Community GIS; at my current job selling outdoor equipment, I find myself contemplating a hut caretaking position for the spring. As Thoreau wrote, it offers, amid the delicate beauty of the changing seasons, the chance “to live deliberately, to confront only the essential facts of life.” ●

Right Sunset falls over the Presidential Range in New Hampshire, viewed from Mount Jackson. The cairn is a trail marker.

Below An old railroad grade provides a respite from the trail’s rougher sections in the White Mountains.

PHOTOS: ARI OFSEVIT '06





B uilding a Greener World

Blue and orange are Macalester's colors, but a vibrant spectrum of alumni are finding creative ways to **go green**.

Six of them talk with *Mac Today* about how environment colors their lives.

by Kate Havelin '83



Edith Bragg Harmon '66:

At home in the California desert

Edie Harmon loves the desert. She grew up in Massachusetts but it wasn't until she went to Africa with the Peace Corps that she found her home. "I felt like I belonged in a way that I never did anywhere else. The people were so accepting. And I guess the very first time I encountered the desert, it just captured my imagination. The colors are incredibly magical."

As a geography major at Macalester, she studied desert lands and animals and was intrigued by how the Bushmen of the Kalahari Desert survived challenging environments. After teaching biology and art in Uganda, Botswana and Sierra Leone, she planned to spend her life in Africa. And then she met her future husband. "I got caught off-guard," she said with a laugh, "and here I am."

Edie and Jim Harmon ended up living in the desert in California's Imperial County, close to Mexico. It reminded her of the Kalahari. "There's something about the wide open spaces. You can see the geologic features; they aren't hidden by trees and vegetation. We're out in the middle of nowhere and I like it." Built on a 10-acre lot, the Harmons' house abuts a federal desert-mountain-wilderness area. "Basically, we have the best front yard the American taxpayers pay for," she said. Harmon knows the name of only one of her six neighbors. The nearest medical facility

is a hundred miles away. The Harmons built their own solar oven and for many years raised their own organically grown, pesticide-free food. There are no phone lines, and therefore, no Internet access. Jim designed their house, which is built half-underground as insulation from the cold nights and scorching days. Temperatures soar to 125 degrees, but Harmon says the greatest threat to desert dwellers concerns water. "Either we had to move or we had to fight to keep the groundwater resources."

She and Jim have spent almost 30 years trying to protect the desert. She has been a longtime volunteer for community groups, the Sierra Club and the Desert Protective Council. She has reviewed environmental documents and written official commentary on proposals regarding planning, groundwater, landfills, sewage sludge, Bureau of Land Management land exchanges and mining operations. "People in urban areas do not understand what it means to live in a rural place dependent upon groundwater," Harmon declares. "If you don't have water, you don't have anything."

For her environmental activism, Harmon has received numerous Sierra Club awards and a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in 2001. "The desert," she says, "changes from deep purples and maroons to browns, just wonderful transitions, even during the daylight. And when it rains, and the desert comes to life with wonderful wildflowers and plants, it's incredibly beautiful." ●

'People in urban areas do not understand what it means to live in a rural place dependent upon groundwater. If you don't have water, you don't have anything.'

Kate Havelin '83 is a writer whose recent books include Minnesota Running Trails: Dirt, Gravel, Rocks and Roots (Adventure Publications, 2006) and Victoria Woodhull: Fearless Feminist (Lerner Books, 2007). She's working on living green in St. Paul by air-drying her family's laundry and organizing neighbors to consolidate to one trash hauler.



"We're out in the middle of nowhere and I like it," says **Edie Bragg Harmon '66**. She received a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in 2001 for her environmental activism.

Making a (environmental impact) statement: the new MARC

MARC is the acronym for Macalester's new Athletic and Recreation Center, and MARC is a mark of the times. Expected to be completed in fall 2008, the \$45 million facility includes environmental design features both obvious and subtle.

Athletic Director Travis Feezell says architects designed a bigger but still environmentally smart space that will cut down on energy costs. Many athletic and recreation facilities



are linear buildings with long hallways that suck up heat and air conditioning, but the architects for Macalester crunched the original blueprint to reduce wasted hallway space. MARC's Field House will be on the second floor, above locker rooms, offices and the fitness center. "Suddenly, it's an incredibly efficient space," Feezell said.

Instead of a windowless Field House needing banks of electric lights, MARC should have enough natural daylight so athletes will be able to exercise without flipping a switch. Zone lights and dimmer switches will adjust the Field House lighting as needed.

STUDENTS who are part of MacCares (the Macalester Conservation and Renewable Energy Society) lobbied the college to build green. Timothy Den Herder-Thomas '09 (Jersey City, N.J.) said MacCares students got involved early. "We did try to push for ground source heating [to be installed under Shaw Field]," he says. Although that didn't happen, the students also focused on daylighting, which is key to the new building.

The students' green concerns contributed to the whole project. Den Herder-Thomas and other students are still

involved in the process. This semester, a student committee will look at flooring, counters and other interior design decisions.

MARC will also be greener in less visible ways, with thicker insulation and water-saving technology. Even Mac's old Field House won't go to waste. Rather than bulldoze the old one and haul it to landfills, the college hired a Rogers, Minn., firm to deconstruct the building. The firm estimates that about 96 percent of the old Field House will be reused or recycled. Some of the old beams and structural columns will end up as a horse barn in Monticello. Even the old concrete foundation will be recycled as base materials for new roads.

When construction is completed next year, one of the college's most heavily used spaces will be bigger, lighter and greener.

—Kate Havelin '83

Laura Blau '76:

Creating a 21st century home in 19th century Philadelphia

Laura Blau's name means blue. She lives in a tan house. But it's clear she's green. Blau and her husband, Paul A. Thompson, remodeled their 19th century Philadelphia rowhome, which won a 2006 Commonwealth Award for sustainable design from a Pennsylvania citizens group.

When Blau became an architect in 1995, sustainability was barely on the horizon. She and her husband started their own firm, BluPath Design, in 2003. They are among the vanguard of architects and builders who are LEED-accredited, meaning they've met the tough national standards for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. Blau predicts the LEED trend will bloom, as more communities see the need to sustain the environment.

As an art major, Blau says college taught her to think creatively about the common good. "What Macalester always had was a sense of civic responsibility. You're put on this earth to serve society."

She hopes her own home renovation helps send a message. "We want to say, you can be green and be beautiful. Green is not just something that you do out

in the country and off the grid. It's urban and it's renovation." The Blau-Thompson home had been a luncheonette with two apartments above it in Philadelphia's Italian Market. After a year-long renovation, the couple and their 4-year-old son live in a modern rowhouse featuring solar collectors, fiber optic lights and a roof made of rubber. "When architects build for themselves, they're often trying out some things." She admits it's sometimes hard to convince clients to pay more for radiant floors and solar collectors that save money in five to eight years. "Even people with good intentions start backing out when they see the initial costs."

Blau already reaps benefits from her green home. Simply coating the roof white rather than the standard black has meant a 20 percent savings in air conditioning. From the white roof to the catch system that sends rainwater to the back garden, she is finding ways to build a greener world. "It

"When architects build for themselves, they're often trying out some things," says **Laura Blau '76**. She and her husband Paul A. Thompson, pictured with their son Nandor Van Duc, won an award for sustainable design for the remodeling of their 19th century Philadelphia rowhome.

just seems unethical to say you're green and not build green when you're building your own home."

She and her husband are a poster couple for sustainability. Pictured on the original Philly Car Share



Web site (www.phillycarshare.org), they were the first to sign up for a community-based shared-car program. Now, Blau is focusing on food, working with others in Philadelphia to get local produce into poorer neighborhoods. Blau concedes that eating green means spending more for groceries, but she tries to keep the big picture in mind. "Since I ride my bike, I spend less on gas. We're spending less altogether." Blau suggests people focus on one area such as transportation, housing or food. "Every year we try to take on one thing. If you try to take it all at once, it's overwhelming." ●



'Green is not just something that you do out in the country and off the grid. It's urban and it's renovation.'

Holly Elwood '90:

The EPA and environmentally friendly computers



Holly Elwood still remembers when she first started thinking about the environment. Professor Chuck Green told his political science students to pick a public policy issue and write a paper about it. Elwood chose the ozone layer. "That paper and that process of putting the paper together really got me excited in terms of what was possible. It was definitely one of the keystones for me."

Elwood works at the federal Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., where she helps big purchasers such as federal agencies, hospitals, universities and Fortune 500 companies buy environmentally friendly computers. "Looking for innovative solutions has been one of the most important things that I've done here at the EPA and Macalester really helped me prepare for that."

She credits two internships with guiding her career. While interning for St. Paul City Council member Bob Long '82, she researched a plan to ban plastic packages in restaurants and grocery stores that both

St. Paul and Minneapolis adopted. "It was a wonderful opportunity for me because I was right in the middle of the actual development of the policy." The political science and women's studies major also interned with state Rep. Kathleen Osborne Vellenga '59. "I have a huge amount of respect for her and her work," Elwood said, adding that Vellenga arranged her first post-college job interview.

This winter, the Minneapolis native visited the Twin Cities to talk to local businesses about the Electronic Products Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT), a tool to help purchasers buy greener computers (see www.epeat.net). She says many companies, including Target, Best Buy and 3M, want to learn more about how to buy environmentally preferable products and services. "The work I'm doing on computers right now is the most exciting I've done in my career so far."

Elwood admits, "We have the mini-van and we have major mini-van guilt." But she has found a construc-

I Pledge Allegiance, to the Environment

Nearly 1,000 recent grads have taken the 'green pledge' to be 'environmentally ethical'

by Michael Barnes '06

I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work.

SINCE MAY OF 2000, close to 1,000 graduates have taken the "green" pledge at Macalester. The pledge was introduced by Professor Aldemaro Romero, then head of the Environmental Studies Department, as a way for graduates to consider their future choices within a "framework of environmentally ethical behavior."

Part of a national effort, the green pledge at Macalester includes a little-known tradition at the commencement ceremony in May. A small loop of green ribbon is pinned onto the gowns of participating graduates. The ribbon is easily lost amidst a sea of cords, tassels and caps adorned with everything from origami flowers to toy army soldiers.

But for some alumni, the pledge is a way of life.

Julia Eagles '06, who majored in environmental studies, is fulfilling the pledge by working to support "environ-

mental justice" in low-income communities and communities of color. Environmental justice is a direct response to environmental racism, "the ways that environmental degradation may disproportionately affect disadvantaged populations," she says.

Eagles splits her time between two organizations in Minneapolis, Youth Farm and Market Project, where she works with youth in urban community gardens, and the Phillips Community Energy Co-op, where she assists residents of the Phillips neighborhood in applying practical, energy-saving techniques that lead to reduced utility bills. Her work is made possible through a one-year position with AmeriCorps, the national service organization.

For the Youth Farm and Market Project, Eagles works with kids who are not yet in high school, as well as older mentors. They learn about "growing food in

"You can't breathe the air and we're running out of water," says Dan Moring '03, pictured in the Arizona desert. He works for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.



tive way to balance her mini-van miles. She supports a program that helps people offset their carbon dioxide emissions by making donations to reforestation projects.

"I think a lot of people get challenged and frustrated about their environmental impact on the world and they feel if they can't do it perfectly, they're not going to do anything. I feel that I'm always striving to become greener than I am. It's really important to keep in mind that the goal is to reduce your impact as much as possible, but not to let perfect get in the way of the good. Don't get too upset with yourself for not being completely 100 percent green." ●

'Looking for innovative solutions has been one of the most important things that I've done here at the EPA and Macalester really helped me prepare for that.'



MARK CHARETTE

their neighborhood and providing food access. It's really a neighborhood-based initiative."

When she works with residents in the Phillips neighborhood, Eagles might distribute compact fluorescent light bulbs or host workshops on converting old air-conditioning units so they are more energy efficient. She is hesitant to refer to her work as strictly environmental, however, and she often combats a perception of environmental organizations as "mostly white or wealthy groups."

"It's different working in an urban environment," Eagles said. "People don't necessarily think of that as the environment or nature."

Dan Moring '03, who majored in political science, has used his passion for politics to advance an environmental agenda. Last fall, he served as the campaign manager for a candidate for the Arizona state office that regulates water and power companies. While his candidate lost, Moring gained valuable experience and a job. He now works for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

"We lost pretty ignominiously," Moring said of the election. "But I think we were able to switch the debate. We got the [other candidates] to commit to supporting renewable energy. And I got a job out of it."

Moring's political efforts in Arizona are designed to combat the misperceptions of a portion of the public he defines as "I've got mine America"—the idea that

individuals and corporations are not responsible for the harm they may do to the environment as long as it does not immediately threaten their (largely financial) interests. "The political reality that supports that belief is running headfirst into the physical reality," Moring said. "You can't breathe the air and we're running out of water."

Moring is optimistic that what he perceives as outdated views will begin to change as more young people

'The truth will not set you free, and there is little place for a moral victory.'

join the workforce. "For every member of our generation you see on MTV drinking upside-down margaritas during spring break, there are a couple of people working on really important issues."

After committing all of his time and energy to a failed election campaign, Moring said that he has learned two things about politics. "The truth will not set you free, and there is little place for a moral victory. You can have the greatest ideas in the world. You can be right. But if you can't win, you don't get to call the shots."

Michael Barnes '06, who signed the green pledge, is teaching eighth-grade math in Texas through Teach for America.

"The goal is to reduce your impact as much as possible, but not to let perfect get in the way of the good," says Holly Elwood '90.



David Bell '65 is a director of the National Forest Foundation, which allocates funds to local volunteer groups that plant trees, build trails and nurture the forest and its wildlife.



David Bell '65: Seeing the forests and the trees

As a CEO and an industry leader in marketing communications, David Bell has a busy life. So how and where he chooses to volunteer says a lot about what he values. Bell serves as a director of the National Forest Foundation, a nonprofit organization that he explains “acts like a venture capitalist” allocating funds to local volunteer groups that plant trees, build trails and nurture the forest and its wildlife.

Bell got involved with the National Forest Foundation because he considers forests “among our most precious resources.” He notes, “The national forests serve as a place where America recreates by hiking, camping, skiing, kayaking, canoeing, fishing and hunting.” He concedes that protecting those precious resources has gotten tougher. As National Forest Service budgets have been frozen or shrunk, the costs of fighting forest fires have swelled. At the same time, more people are using Forest Service lands, which puts more pressure on already frayed resources. And that, Bell says, “is where the National Forest Foundation comes in to assist.”

Bell is proud that the National Forest Foundation has worked with more than 1,300 partners to

complete some 250 projects. Thanks to the foundation, volunteers and young staffers have:

- treated more than 9,000 acres of noxious weeds;
- planted 52,500 trees;
- worked on 1,500 miles of trails;
- restored some 900 acres of wildlife habitat;
- reduced the fire hazard on more than 7,500 acres

Bell notes that the National Forest Foundation gives public forests a “a huge multiplier effect” with an investment ratio of 4:1, meaning that for every dollar donated to the foundation, the country’s forests gain four dollars worth of help.

At Macalester, the Minnetonka native was a champion debater and student body president. Although he majored in political science, expecting to go to law school, it was an independent study in advertising during a January Interim term that sparked his career. He went on to become president and CEO of Bozell Worldwide, the agency responsible for the oft-imitated “Got Milk?” campaign. He received a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in 1979. Today, the former Macalester trustee is chairman emeritus of the Interpublic Group, the world’s sixth-largest agency holding company, and a newly elected member of the Advertising Hall of Fame.

Bell lives in Manhattan, where he’s begun making changes in his life beyond his forest volunteering. “My next car will be a hybrid,” he says. “I’ve taken to walking a lot and have become very conscious about what happens with the use of energy.” ●

‘My next car will be a hybrid.

I’ve taken to walking a lot.’

Jo '96 and Kevin Opdyke Wilhelm '95 took a trip around the world in 2003, visiting 31 countries in 49 weeks, before moving to Seattle. Here they are in Cape Otway, Australia, along the Great Ocean Road.



Kevin Wilhelm '95 and Jennifer (Jo) Opdyke Wilhelm '96:

Bugs, frogs and business plans in Seattle

Jo and Kevin Opdyke Wilhelm have found ways, big and small, to help the environment. As an aquatic ecologist, Jo monitors streams and wetlands within Seattle's sprawling King County. She studies bugs and frogs, tests water quality, and works with farmers and developers to prevent stream flooding and safeguard fragile ecosystems.

While Jo concentrates on the local scene, Kevin looks at the global picture. As president of Innovative Strategies, he shows corporations how sustainable practices are good for business as well as the environment. "Once CEOs understand that sustainability is profitable and does make good business sense, then there's incentive for moving that way," he says.

Kevin's Innovative Strategies is writing the business plan for the Seattle Climate Partnership to help businesses reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. He's also working with key groups to help set the state's top sustainability goals for the 2007 legislature.

Kevin says meeting Jo led him to work in sustainability. After she finished her master's degree at the University of Michigan, the two took a trip around the world in 2003, going to 31 countries in 49 weeks. "It was during this trip that I decided that I absolutely had to devote my life to business sustainability," Kevin says. "There are so many threatened natural places and cultures in this world that need protecting. Plus, there is so much to learn from these 'developing' nations about recycling and reuse, quality of life and living within one's means."

Sometimes, Jo and Kevin find synergy in their work. Her efforts to preserve King County's water influenced how Kevin approached a consulting job concerning hydroelectric dams in China. He researched sustainable standards for the dams and then convinced one of the world's largest hydro dam engineering companies to adopt those green standards, which their firm will use for nearly 400 hydro dams it's building worldwide.

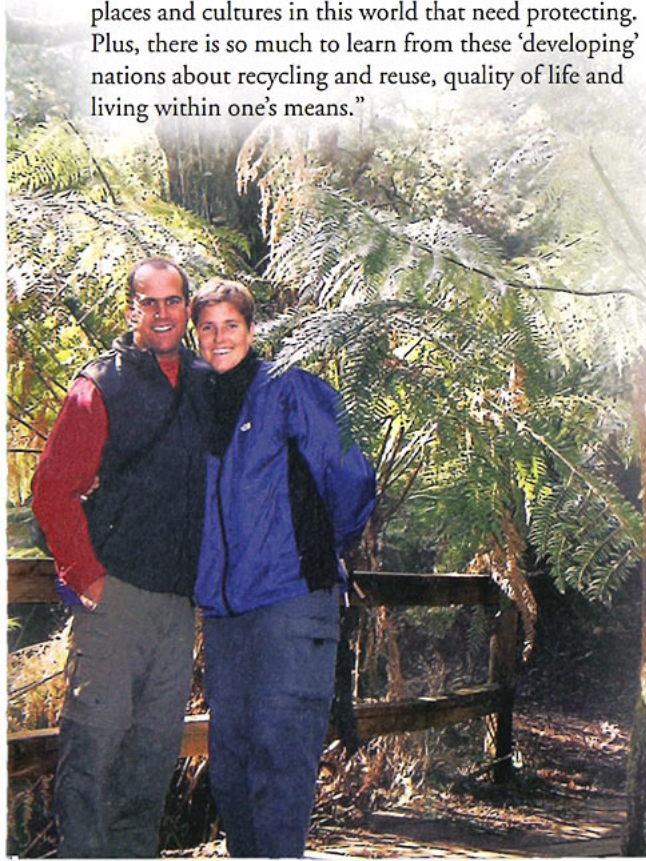
Kevin says Macalester was "probably the biggest factor in making me who I am today." A history major, he says the people he met at Mac helped him "to step out of my comfort zone by traveling and studying independently abroad, and encouraged me to work toward solving injustice in the world."

Macalester is where Jo "fell in love with ecology." A biology major, she says her research at the college's Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area, the Minneapolis lakes and the tropical island of Palau triggered what she calls "the 'aha!' moment that ecology was my passion." As she observes, there are "lots of Mac folks working in environmental fields" and she's worked with at least a half-dozen other alumni on projects ranging from Florida sea turtles to Papua New Guinea field work and freshwater conservation with The Nature Conservancy in Seattle.

Even in rainy Seattle, the two rely on the sun to warm their shower water and power their electricity. Jo says she and Kevin "recycle obsessively and try to use natural cleaning products that are biodegradable, non-toxic and low in nutrients (such as phosphates). One of these days we'll actually install some rain barrels."

The couple owns a hybrid car, but Jo bicycles an hour each way to work year-round. "I love the fresh air, feel good about not adding additional carbon and other emissions into the atmosphere, and it helps my stress level since I avoid sitting in a car during rush-hour traffic." ●

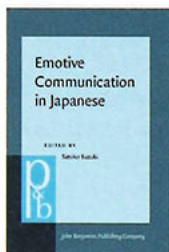
'There is so much to learn from these 'developing' nations about recycling and reuse, quality of life and living within one's means.'



Emotive Communication in Japanese

edited by Satoko Suzuki
(John Benjamins Publishing Co., 2006)

This collection of scholarly articles discusses emotive expressions in Japanese. The contributors include linguists from top universities in Japan as well as prominent universities in the U.S. Suzuki, chair and associate professor in Macalester's Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, does research in the field of pragmatics, a sub-field within the field of linguistics.



The Scooter Bible: From Cushman to Vespa

by Michael Dregni '83 and Eric Dregni '90
(Whitehorse Press, 2005)



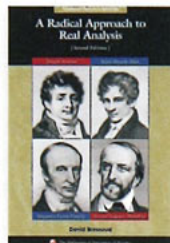
Intended as a comprehensive history of the little motorbikes that could, this book chronicles the American scooter boom, the golden age of scooters and the rise of the Mods in England. Michael Dregni is the author of several books on a variety of esoteric subjects, from Ferraris to hot rods, electric guitars to motor-scooters. Eric Dregni is the author of *Minnesota Marvels: Roadside Attractions in the Land of Lakes*, *Scooter Mania!* and *Ads that Put America on Wheels*.

A Radical Approach to Real Analysis

by David Bressoud (Mathematical Association of America, 2006)

This is the second edition of an introduction to real analysis, rooted in and informed by the historical issues that shaped its development. More than 60 new exercises have been added. It can be used as a text-

book, as a resource for the instructor who prefers to teach a traditional course, or as a resource for the student who has been through a traditional course yet still does not understand what real analysis is about or why it was created. Bressoud is DeWitt Wallace Professor of Math and Computer Science at Macalester.

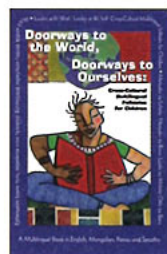


Doorways to the World, Doorways to Ourselves: Cross-Cultural, Multilingual Folktales for Children and The Tale of Why the Moon is Free

created by Brittany Lynk '06 and others
(BLynk Creations, 2006)

In 2003, Lynk and other students in Professor Jack Weatherford's cultural anthropology course translated and illustrated the American folk tale of Pecos Bill, producing a book for children in Mongolia. Now, Lynk, assisted by other alumni and students, has turned the cross-cultural, multilingual project into a series. *Doorways to the World* includes stories from Mongolia, Lesotho and Jamaica with translations into Mongolian, Sesotho and Patois. *The Tale of Why the Moon is Free*, a Mexico folktale, is translated into Spanish and Maya and was produced with the assistance of fifth- and sixth-graders at Friends School of Minnesota in St. Paul.

An Action Fund grant, supported by alumni through the Civic Engagement Center, helped fund the project. Most of the books are going to communities in the places from which the stories



come. For more information, write Brittany.lynk@gmail.com.

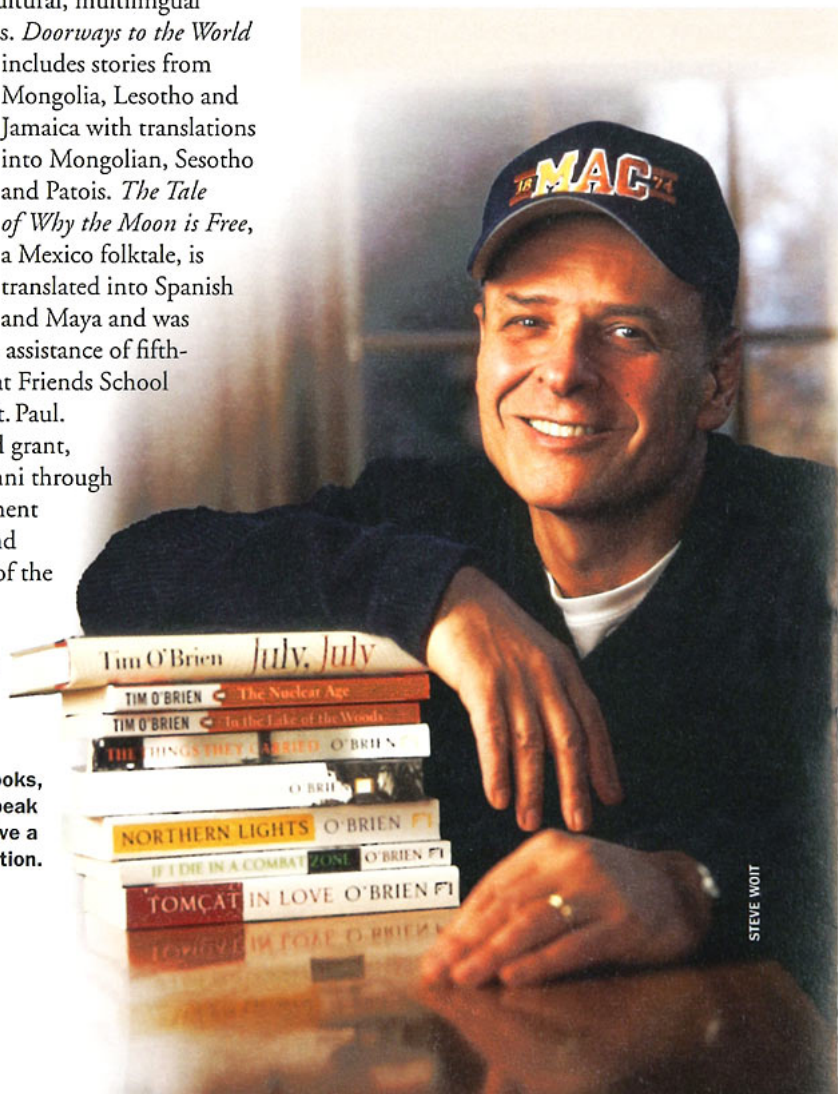
Other Macalester students and alumni who worked on the book include Batnairamdal Otgonshar (Nagi) '08, Nyalleng Moorosi '06, Demoya Gordon '06, Alexis Goffe '07, Courtney Dicmas '06, Joseph Patton '07, Sayoko Nakamura '06, Ben Tiede '07, Ninya Loeppky '06, Allan Lynk '68, Mary Phillips '66 and Jan Shaw-Flamm '76.

The Robertsons, the Sutherlands and the Making of Texas

by Anne H. Sutherland
(Texas A&M University Press, 2006)

Sutherland explores how the experiences of two of the early Anglo land-grant families shaped Texas events and how the families handed down those experiences from one generation to another, transforming two Scots-Irish families into what have been branded Anglo-Texans. A blend of family

Tim O'Brien '68, with eight of his books, at Macalester in 2003. He will speak Saturday, June 2, during Reunion and receive a Distinguished Citizen Citation.



STEVE WOIT



and Texas history, her book uses personal stories as insights into Texan identity. Sutherland, a former anthropology professor at Macalester, is currently a professor at the University of California–Riverside.

Morbid Cravings

by Gladys Furphy and Jessica James
(iUniverse, Inc., 2006)

This novel gives a feminist twist to the horror genre. Hilda Brooks is fading away from anorexia/bulimia when an attack by a werewolf transforms her into a viable, assertive, 21st century woman.

Jessica James is the pen name of Jessica Lavine '83, who lives in New Haven

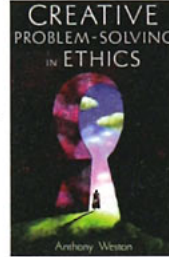


County, Conn., and has previously published poetry and a short story. This is her first novel.

Creative Problem-Solving in Ethics

by Anthony Weston '76
(Oxford University Press, 2006)

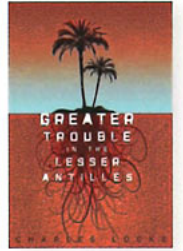
Offering a set of tools for engaging complex and controversial ethical problems, this book is intended as a supplement for any general ethics course. It can also be used in more specific applied courses like bioethics, business ethics and social ethics. Oxford has also recently published Weston's *Creativity for Critical Thinkers*, a supplement for any general course in thinking skills. Weston is a professor of philosophy and environmental studies and chair of the Philosophy Department at Elon University in North Carolina.



Greater Trouble in the Lesser Antilles

by Charles Locks '68 (Scarletta Press, 2006)

Set on the fictional island of St. Judas, this novel tells the story of a depressed Captain Brian Clancy, who reluctantly becomes a sleuth after several close friends die and another, Leif the Thief, is murdered. Locks, who served 15 months as a combat Marine in Vietnam, owned and operated restaurants in the Caribbean where he also learned to sail.



The World Bank and Governance: A Decade of Reform and Reaction

edited by Diane L. Stone and Christopher Wright '99 (Routledge, 2006)



The 11 contributors to this book analyze the influence of World Bank policy and engagement during the past decade on a variety of issues, including human rights, domestic reform and the environment. Wright is a

Ph.D. student in the International Relations Department at the London School of Economics, specializing in development finance, environmental risk management and global environmental politics.

Tim O'Brien '68: 'You can tell a true war story by its absolute and uncompromising allegiance to obscenity and evil.'

THE THINGS THEY CARRIED, the acclaimed 1990 collection of stories by Tim O'Brien '68 based on his experiences as a soldier during the Vietnam War, has been selected as the common reading for the Macalester Reunion June 1–3. Alumni planning to attend Reunion are encouraged to read his book, which the New York Times named one of the most important works of fiction published in the last 25 years. O'Brien, whose book was also chosen for the citywide reading program St. Paul Reads, will receive a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester at Reunion. He will talk about his work at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 2. Here is an excerpt from a chapter in *The Things They Carried* entitled "How to Tell a True War Story":

A TRUE WAR STORY is never moral. It does not instruct, nor encourage virtue, nor suggest models of proper human behavior, nor restrain men from doing the things men have always done. If a story seems moral, do not believe it. If at the end of a war story you feel uplifted, or if you feel that some small bit of rectitude has been salvaged from the larger waste, then you have been made the victim of a very old and terrible lie. There is no rectitude whatsoever. There is no virtue. As a first rule

of thumb, therefore, you can tell a true war story by its absolute and uncompromising allegiance to obscenity and evil....

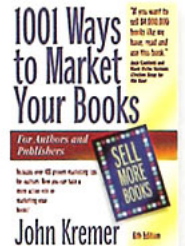
You can tell a true war story if it embarrasses you. If you don't care for obscenity, you don't care for the truth; if you don't care for the truth, watch how you vote. Send guys to war, they come home talking dirty.

©1990 by Tim O'Brien

1001 Ways to Market Your Books

by John Kremer '71 (Open Horizons, 2006)

The sixth edition of this book describes more than 1,000 ideas, tips and suggestions for marketing books, illustrated with real-life examples. Kremer has been writing and publishing books since 1984. His Web site, BookMarket.com, is ranked No. 1 in Google and Yahoo for "book marketing."



Small Country, Small World

Two alumnae found themselves working together at a hospital in Lesotho, a country devastated by the AIDS virus

KRISTJAN SELVIG '99 AND TARRA MCNALLY '97 never met at Macalester but they found themselves working together at an HIV/AIDS clinic in southern Africa.

Selvig joined the Peace Corps in Lesotho, a small, mountainous country of about 2 million people which has been devastated by AIDS, in June 2005. She was assigned to Maluti Adventist Hospital, a small, rural hospital in the Maluti Mountains, as an HIV/AIDS adviser to the hospital's clinic.

A few months later, McNally arrived at the hospital to work on a project for her doctoral dissertation in medical anthropology from Boston University. She was interested in learning how communities, households and families in the hospital's health service area have changed during the two decades of the AIDS epidemic in Lesotho.

"Tarra was assigned to housing similar to mine and was literally my next-door neighbor," Selvig said. "We discovered that we were both Mac grads a day or two after she arrived." Driving to the nearest South African border town with a colleague, the two chatted about their plans and backgrounds. McNally asked Selvig where she sent to college.

"I went to a small college in Minnesota," Selvig replied.

"So did I. Which one?" McNally asked.

"Macalester College in St. Paul," Selvig said.

Three alumnae in Lesotho, southern Africa: Kristjan Selvig '99, right, is a Peace Corps volunteer working as an HIV/AIDS adviser at a small hospital until August 2007. Tarra McNally '97, center, spent a year at the same hospital conducting community-based research for her Ph.D. in anthropology at Boston University. Elysia Aufmuth '99, left, came for a visit with Selvig.

'What's hard is cranking out numbers that are overwhelming in scale, seeing the real people behind the statistics.'

"At that point," Selvig added, "we looked at each other and our chins dropped. Of course we talked about when we graduated, our majors, who we knew, which dorms we lived in, etc."

HIV/AIDS has infected about one-third of Lesotho's adults. In Maluti Hospital's Wellness Center, one of every two clients tests positive for HIV. The number of people seeking HIV/AIDS-related services in the Wellness Center has easily doubled over the past year alone, Selvig said.

People come from all over Lesotho to seek life-saving antiretroviral therapy and clinical care for opportunistic infections. The center also offers TB treatment, HIV counseling and testing, community-based care, food security and HIV/AIDS prevention and education projects. McNally worked closely with the community-based care program; Selvig focused on developing information systems for clinical and project data.

"What's hard is cranking out numbers that are overwhelming in scale, seeing the real people behind the statistics," Selvig said. Every day she passes rows and rows of patients lined up for primary care services, many of whom are referred for HIV testing.

"Talking with individuals and families in the communities affected by HIV/AIDS really brings home how every Mosotho has been touched by the



THROUGH MACALESTER

Kwashiorkor. Malaria. Typhoid fever. Goiters. Machete lacerations. Burns from open cooking fires. Life in Haiti can be harsh, and that's exactly why **Charles A. Harris '75** was drawn there, and to the Dominican Republic, as a medical missionary. He treated diseases, performed surgery and tried to show each patient that "they have value, dignity and purpose because they are made in the image of God." Harris says this service and every aspect of his life has been fueled by his deep Christian faith, reached through a "unique series of events" that began at Macalester.



Chuck Harris came from Washington, D.C., to Macalester because it offered him the best financial aid package of all the colleges that admitted him. "Mac gave me a good foundation for the rigors of medical school, but more than that it prepared me for life," says Harris, who majored in biology and received the O.T. and Kathryn Walter Award for Excellence in Premed Studies.



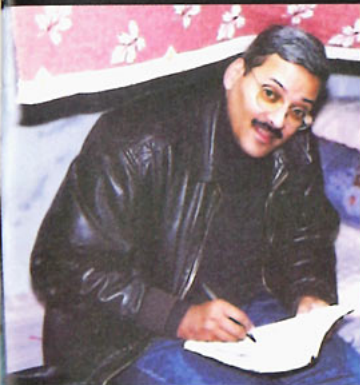
Charles A. Harris '75 in Santo Domingo

"Dr. **Claude Welch**, then chair of the Biology Department, became a friend, ally, mentor and great source of encouragement. My track and football coach, **Don Hudson**, was a good friend and crucially instrumental in keeping me on course. Classmates **Melvin Collins** and **Kathy Angelos Pinkett** shared a passion for a better world that was infectious and we fueled each other's flame."

In 1974, he participated in the occupation of Macalester's business office to protest cuts in financial aid for students of color. "I learned there was a time to leave the comfort zone of pre-med and athletics for a cause that was bigger than me," he says. "We who participated were forced to examine our convictions and summon the courage to live by them." Becoming a Christian two years later required "a very similar, radical choice."

A member of the Macalester Alumni Board from 2000 to 2006, Harris now has a surgical practice in Wytheville, Va. "I have devoted my time to helping people whenever the need presents itself," he says.

While living in Iowa, the father of three volunteered to lead Bible study at Clarinda Academy, a home for troubled young men, teaching them the true meaning of manhood. When he left, the boys presented him with a Clarinda letter jacket to show he was one of them. Some of the boys later returned to violent street life, but many finished high school and made good lives for themselves. "It's worth it," says Harris. "You help the ones you can."



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PHOTOS, FRONT AND BACK COVERS: GREG HELGESON

Last shot

A capacity crowd of 600 turned out Jan. 27 for the final men's and women's home basketball games in the 83-year-old Macalester Gymnasium. The Scots played basketball there from 1924 to 1956, when the adjacent Field House opened, then returned to the renovated gym in 1994 to play both basketball and volleyball. Construction has begun on the new Macalester Athletic and Recreation Center, scheduled to be completed in fall 2008. It will include a new field house, natatorium and gymnasium. See page 15.

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