Science 1-On-1: Students and faculty team up for research
The policy of Macalester Today is to publish as many letters as possible from alumni, the primary audience of this magazine, as well as other members of the Macalester community. Exceptions are letters that personally malign an individual or are not related to issues at Macalester or contents of the magazine. Please send letters intended for publication to Letters to the Editor, Macalester Today, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. Or send your letter by fax: (612) 696-6192. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

Letters

Hildegard Johnson

Hildegard B. Johnson was my favorite professor. Dr. Johnson was a formidable presence in the classroom. She challenged us with her sharp wit and intellectual rigor, using a unique lecture style as she threw out a vivid series of verbal images, ideas, details of seemingly obscure references, as well as profound insights.

Some felt doubly challenged listening to her thick German accent. She later acknowledged that others had had trouble, at times, following her train of thought. But for those of us who made the effort to listen and follow along, the reward was there—toward the end of every class period came an “aha” moment when the pieces fell into place, creating a brilliant intellectual mosaic supporting the key theme for the day. And some of the phrases she used were memorable even out of context (e.g., “Mountains do something to man that he just cannot take!”).

She invented field trips at Macalester, and hers were especially enlightening, whether it was a walk around the immediate neighborhood observing the patterns of “sequent occupance” or driving across the countryside observing the effects of man’s activity on the land. Her special way of viewing the world has stayed with us even if we did not become professional geographers.

Hildegard was a warm and caring person with a sense of fair play—not what was “politically correct” but what was morally right. (She didn’t play favorites among her students; we all felt special.) And not just in the academic realm but in life on campus and in the community at large. She was attuned to environmental issues long before they became popular with the media. She stood up for her students even if they embraced unpopular options, such as ROTC during the Vietnam War.

During one incident, when protesters of the proposed building of a chapel held a rally at Cochran, she addressed the group starting with the memorable words, “I am not a ‘church woman,’ I am not Presbyterian” (wild applause from the protesters) “but I believe this college should have a chapel.” Her ensuing discussion defused the protest, and we have a chapel.

Hildegard was a valued friend and trusted adviser for many more years than those college days. It was always a pleasure to visit with her during the too-infrequent trips back to the Twin Cities. She more than held her own in lively discussion of issues of the day, fondly reminisced about times past and enthusiastically shared the results of her most recent scholarship. She was a giving person, willing to help, whether it was writing a letter or giving wise counsel when it was requested. She was always a gracious hostess, whose culture and good taste were reflected by her sparse but artistically arranged surroundings. Even a quick lunch was a beautifully presented gourmet treat at her home.

I was pleased to see Macalester Today’s coverage of the dedication of the seminar room named in Hildegard’s honor. It was a special privilege to be there that day to witness the outpouring of respect and affection from her colleagues and former students. Future generations of students will enjoy a first-rate facility, but unfor-
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Roberts leads reform school for calculus

Wayne Roberts doesn't sound much like a stereotypical mathematics professor when he describes the "rollicking and glorious conclusion" of his recent research project on calculus reform.

But then again, Roberts is devoted to being different—and to encouraging others to be different—when it comes to teaching calculus. He is one of the national leaders in an effort to change the way that calculus is taught in the United States.

Remember calculus? Factoring, integrating, finding derivatives? It is the math of motion and change, and there is hardly an academic field that doesn't feel its effect in some way. Most Macalester students take at least one calculus course, and many have also had exposure to calculus in high school.

The problem, from a mathematician's point of view, is that students often study calculus without gaining an understanding of underlying mathematical concepts. While English majors may forget specific characters in War and Peace, odds are good that they will retain an appreciation of the novel. Calculus students, however, are left with an array of easily forgotten formulas. Since calculus is often the last pure math course a student will ever take, Roberts suggests that calculus "ought to be taught so that people take away some sense of what mathematics is all about."

Roberts is chair of the Committee on Calculus Reform and the First Two Years (CRAFTY) of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). He and mathematicians from around the country, with support from the National Science Foundation, have been trying to change calculus courses in ways that will deepen students' understanding. They want students to make intelligent use of increasingly powerful calculators and computers, draw upon multiple sources, ponder problems instead of racing through lists of dull exercises, and present conclusions in well-written and well-reasoned papers.

"We are trying to put into the calculus a lot more problems of the kind that you might associate with an English term paper. You might have to go out and look up some data, talk to some people," said Roberts. For example, he suggested asking students to predict the population of the United States in the year 2010.

The changes involve not only the content but, perhaps more importantly, the methodology by which it is presented. For instance, in place of an emphasis on individual work, students are put into groups and encouraged to work together.

Quoting an unofficial rallying cry of the calculus reform movement, Roberts said, "The teacher is no longer the sage on the stage, but the guide on the side."

Few people are surprised, Roberts says, when they learn that Harvard and Duke are centers of two of the largest reform efforts. But few know that a project of similar size has been centered at Macalester.

Computer scientists

Harvard took first place—and the $10,000 top prize—followed by Stanford and Cal Tech. But a three-member team from Macalester was pleased to finish in 15th place in a computer science competition against 30 other teams from around the world.

Nathan Fritze '92 (Boca Raton, Fla.), Nicholas Hodapp '95 (Madison, Wis.) and Eric Musser '95 (Loudonville, N.Y.) represented Macalester in the International Collegiate Programming Contest. It was held by the Association for Computing Machinery, a professional society, at its annual convention in February in Indianapolis. AT&T was the commercial sponsor.

The Macalester team advanced to the finals by placing second out of 70 teams in a regional contest last November.

In Indianapolis, each team had five hours to solve eight computer programming problems. Macalester solved three problems. The winning Harvard team solved six.

The Macalester coach, Duane Olawsky, assistant professor of math and computer science, was happy. "We've never been in the contest finals before," he said. "You have to place first or second in your region to get there."

Masters of math

Aaron Schlafly '93 (Columbia, Ill.) led the Macalester team in the prestigious Putnam Mathematics Competition, as he has in each of his four years at the college.

Schlafly scored 40 points, ranking him 150th out of the 2,421 students in the U.S. and Canada who took part in the competition last December. Only once before has a Macalester student obtained a score of 40—Chuck Hanna in 1969.

Macalester's team was 59th among 284 teams entered, compared with 80th place the previous year. Other high-scoring Macalester students were: Simeon Sim-
Watch what you say: a new linguistics tool

As Macalester continues to prepare for the 21st century, technology is cropping up in some unlikely places. Take the Linguistics Program's new, $18,000 Macintosh-based sound spectrograph. A talking computer, it recognizes, analyzes and emulates more than 60 languages from all corners of the world.

It looks like an average, everyday computer, with a microphone plugged into the back. Call up one of the programs to see a map of the world showing regional languages such as Melpa, spoken in Papua New Guinea, or Zulu, spoken in South Africa. Click on a region and a native speaker recites a word or phrase, syllable by syllable. Another program analyzes sound waves. Speak into the microphone and your voice becomes visible on the screen, divided into resonance patterns and harmonic structures that can be quantified.

Far from being a novelty, the computer is crucial for research being done by linguistics professor John Haiman, who has studied sarcasm in many languages. He said people often find it difficult to clearly describe qualities of the human voice—how do you describe a twang?—and the computer enables him to get an objective description of shades of language that can influence meaning. “A sound spectrograph is able to show differences in loudness, differences in pitch, differences of duration and resonance,” he explained. “It’s the difference between saying it’s cold, and having a thermometer.”

A National Science Foundation grant enabled Macalester to purchase the system, which is also used by students. Haiman cited Takanori Adachi ’92, a student from Japan, who completed an honors project on sarcasm in Japanese.

While a computer that can speak sarcastically might seem right out of Star Trek, it’s all very commonplace in today’s ever-changing academic environment.

“We don’t even have a vocabulary for talking about ways in which people talk,” said Haiman. “I mean, we’ve got things like falsetto and nasal and, well, a sarcastic tone of voice, but we don’t really know what those things are, objectively. It’s very useful to have something that is absolutely blind and mechanical which converts these impressions into something that you can read off a chart.”

Haiman said other departments are interested in the sound spectrograph for a variety of uses. For example, the Psychology Department would use it to study language and language acquisition, and the Physics Department might examine the properties of sound waves.

However it is used, the sound spectrograph has already made an impact on the curriculum. Next year, Haiman plans to introduce a new, advanced intercession course on “Acoustic Phonetics.” The course will examine the properties of sound signals and ways of synthesizing and analyzing tone.

—Kevin Brooks ’89

Intellectual combat

Should Macalester allow fraternities and sororities?

Few Macalester students are seriously proposing fraternities on campus. But about 150 students—an unusually large number for the campus’ weekly convocations in Weyerhaeuser Chapel—turned out to listen, discuss and then “vote” on that question at the conclusion of a formal debate Feb. 25.

The debate, conducted in British parliamentary style, was the first of four debates scheduled between February and this spring by the “PEPSquad.” PEPS, which stands for “Personal Expression in Public Spaces,” is a committee of students, faculty and staff organized by Dean of Students Edward DeCarbo. On a campus, and in an age, where many people hold strong views on a host of issues, PEPS seeks to encourage students, faculty and staff to discuss them with civility and respect for others.

The initial debate earned good reviews. “I think the students did themselves proud,” said W. Scott Nobles, professor emeritus of speech communication, who moderated the debate and explained the British-style rules to the audience. “They did an excellent job of discussing the subject and debating the issues.”

“We are very capable of debating controversial issues. I felt we were a lot better at it than we give ourselves credit for,” said Brian Longley, director of Media Services and a member of PEPS. “It was great. It wasn’t acrimonious.”

“I was very satisfied with it,” said Carrie L. Norbin ’94, the chief speaker against fraternities and sororities. She was “very pleased by the numbers that showed up. There’s a lot of student interest and a lot of student involvement. And we’re hoping that the rest in the series of debates will continue to generate as much interest.”

“The debate was remarkably civilized,” said Melanie Hohertz ’94, the principal speaker for fraternities. “On this campus, where feeling is running so...
At Macalester

strong, I was amazed that people showed up to say what they were feeling but kept it at a professional level.” Hohertz said friends told her she should expect “hate mail” for defending fraternities. But a week after the debate, she had received none. “A lot of people have come up to me since then and told me they agreed with me [or said], ‘Good job.’ I was just really impressed.”

After Hohertz and Norbin delivered their prepared remarks, Nobles opened the floor to questions and comments by the audience. About 20 students, on both sides of the issue as well as some who were undecided, took turns speaking. As Nobles explained, audience members could express how they felt at any time during the debate simply by moving from one side of the chapel to the other; the undecided sat in the middle.

After an hour of debate, the final “vote” was: 98 opposed to fraternities and sororities on campus, 35 in favor, 24 undecided. The voters included a few faculty and staff.

Here are excerpts from the two principal speakers at the debate:

“... Fraternities are not inherently evil. They reflect the values and interests of their members. For many fraternities at other schools, that translates into all sorts of rather disgusting traits like elitism and sexual harassment. But all colleges are not alike; Macalester especially. Whatever fraternities that come to the Macalester campus will have to reflect Macalester’s values and needs. They will have to be tailored to the interests and ideas of the Macalester student body. What I’m suggesting is sort of like a lab experiment—what happens to ‘frat rats’ when you put them on a steady diet of granola?...”

—Melanie Hohertz ’94 (Webster Groves, Mo.), anthropology major

“...I think I speak for more people than just myself when I say that one of the main reasons I selected Macalester was the fact that there is no Greek system at this school...

“In considering the desirability of these organizations, it should be noted that it is with good reason that Mac traditionally has not had fraternities.... According to Kathleen Hirsch in the September/October 1990 issue of Ms. Magazine, the fraternity system is characterized chiefly by concern with a narrow, stereotypical conception of masculinity and heterosexuality; a preoccupation with loyalty... and an obsession with competition, superiority and dominance....”

—Carrie L. Norbin ’94 (Marine-on-St. Croix, Minn.), political science major, women’s studies core

Further debates were scheduled on alcohol “keg” policy in the residence halls, anonymous graffiti known as “chalking” and “political correctness.”

Partners in research

Nicole K. Groves ’94 (Coralville, Iowa) and biology Professor Lin Aanonsen won a $3,150 fellowship that will enable them to do fulltime research together this summer.

They received a Council on Undergraduate Research Summer Opportunities for Research (CURSOR) Fellowship. Only 15 CURSOR awards were given nationwid. The fellowship provides a $2,650 stipend, plus $500 toward living expenses for Groves.

Groves and Aanonsen began working together in January on a research project which focuses on the chemical mechanisms underlying the transmission of sensory information from the surface of the body to the spinal cord. Groves, who is majoring in biology, plans to attend medical school in a M.D.-Ph.D. program after she graduates from Macalester.

Advancing King’s ideals

Mahmoud El-Kati, a lecturer and writer on African-American life and a longtime member of Macalester’s history faculty, received the Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award.

The award, from the Governor’s Commission on the Martin Luther King Holiday, was presented Jan. 18, King’s birthday.

New faculty hires

The Board of Trustees has approved President Gavin’s recommendations of tenure for two faculty members: Yue-Him Tam, professor of history, and Colleen Kelley, associate professor of psychology.

Tam, a native of China, earned his Ph.D. in Japanese history at Princeton in
A biographer and Red Cloud's legacy

In 1868, the leader of the Oglala Sioux led the only Indian war in American history in which the U.S. Army capitulated. "Red Cloud's War" was named after that warrior.

This summer, Martin A. Carlson '94 (Dexter, Mich.) will continue researching the life of Red Cloud. Aidèd by a $2,400 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities under its Younger Scholars program, Carlson intends to write a biography of the Sioux headman from his birth through the conclusion of Red Cloud's War. He plans eventually to write the entire life of Red Cloud, and in a new form for Native-American biographies.

Carlson's research began in the fall of 1991 during a seminar in American historical biography with Professor James Stewart. The history major has already traveled to such scattered sources as the Nebraska State Historical Society, which has rare interviews with Red Cloud and many who knew him; the Newberry Library in Chicago, which has a large Native-American collection; Pierre, S.D., where he read an unpublished interview in which Red Cloud discussed his childhood; and the University of Minnesota, which has government documents related to Red Cloud and the Oglala Sioux.

Red Cloud's life spanned two worlds. Born into a traditional Sioux family in 1822, he lived until 1909. He was invited to Washington in 1870 to meet President Ulysses S. Grant. The government used the occasion to show him the military might that it could throw against the Sioux.

"He realized that military resistance was futile and very quickly assumed the role of a diplomat," Carlson said. "He performed that role the rest of his life. He was one of the few in the Sioux tribe who understood the complexity of the historical forces at work and their strengths.

"The government] saw that he was not willing to sell out his beliefs and his people. Many of the Sioux saw him as a government pawn, not realizing the actual strength of the U.S. He mediated between these two forces. He extracted what concessions he could for the Sioux people and managed to preserve much of the Sioux identity you see today. I don't think the extent of his achievement is really appreciated," Carlson said.

"Marty's done primary-level research that you would normally do for a book, which is what he's writing," said Stewart, himself the author of three biographies. Stewart added that while he may have been Carlson's mentor in the beginning, "he's my superior when it comes to the content [of Native-American history and culture]. This is a field in which he certainly knows more than I do."

In his successful application to the NEH, Carlson made it clear that he wouldn't be satisfied writing a traditional biography. Instead, he proposed a more interdisciplinary, culturally appropriate form. Because these Native-Americans lived "in both a foreign culture and vanished environment," he wrote, "it is a mistake to assume any accurate prior knowledge on the part of the reader. Consequently, for a fair presentation an enormous amount of background information must be included in every biography, from tribal culture and history, to ecological history, to historical patterns of disease, trade and conquest...

"Only through connecting the subject to a set of larger processes will the reader truly appreciate his or her achievements. Obviously, a severe problem exists [with most Native-American biographies]. And, in my opinion it will only be resolved by the development of a completely new form of Native-American biography..."

—Jon Halvorsen
organize a "sleep-out" in which more than 150 Twin Cities college students spent two nights outdoors to raise public concern about homelessness.

Carrie L. Norbin '94 (Marine-on-St. Croix, Minn.) has worked as both a paid and unpaid intern for the Planned Parenthood of Minnesota's political arm. She helped launch a volunteer effort to identify and activate "pro-choice" voters in the November election. In 1990-91, she spent five months as a legislative researcher and lobbyist for the Minnesota Statewide Association for Family Planning.

Plettner and Norbin have something else in common besides their commitment to service. In March, both won Harry S. Truman Scholarships, which are given each year to only about 75 college juniors nationwide. Named in honor of the 33rd president, the $30,000 scholarships help

In Truman's tradition
Leslie Plettner '94 (Des Moines, Iowa) is an activist for the poor and the homeless. She's worked as an intern for Ramsey Action Programs in St. Paul and as secretary of the Community Campaign for Housing Now, a non-profit organization that networks, organizes and educates around poverty issues. Last November, she helped

McAlester's top debaters, she has been a policy analyst and a core in women's studies. One of

Norbin is majoring in political science, with a core in women's studies. One of

Winter sports roundup
McAlester's athletic teams this past winter were often dominated by first-year students and sophomores. The inexperience showed: All of the Scots' teams finished in the bottom half of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Despite their struggles, many teams showed they are ready to move up next season, and several individuals emerged as outstanding athletes.

The women's basketball team—whose 13 members included seven first-year players and not one senior—started the season 7-0. But narrow defeats and inconsistent play led to a nine-game losing streak at the end of the season. Mac finished 10-15 overall, 6-14 in MIAC play and 3-11 in the bottom half of the MIAC West. Six of the losses came in games decided in the final minute. Leslie Plettner (junior, Des Moines, Iowa) led the Scots in scoring (15.6 points per game), and she was named to the MIAC's All-Conference team this year. She plans to seek a Ph.D. in education administration and policy issues so she can "promote social change through education." Plettner hopes to become a teacher, then a principal and eventually a director of curriculum for an urban public school district.

"Our schools are failing us drastically, and particularly students who don't live in areas that are wealthy," says Plettner. She wants to "give people who are disadvantaged a shot, and that starts with education."

Norbin is majoring in political science, with a core in women's studies. One of

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In addition to the tenure-track hires, J. Andrew Overman will join the Classics Department next fall on a long-term contract. An assistant professor of classics and religion at the University of Rochester (N.Y.), he is executive director of an excavations project in Jotopata, Galilee, run jointly with the University of Rochester, Bar Ilan University and Israeli authorities. The excavation site is famous as the center for the Jewish revolt against Rome.

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On Derek Walcott; gays in the military; ethnic conflict

Here are some of the noteworthy comments made recently on and around the campus:

- “Sexual misconduct is sexual misconduct, and given the Navy Tailhook scandal and the trouble the military has been having with women, it’s amazing that such a stink is being made over [gays in the military]. I find it shocking.”

  Linnea Stenson, a visiting instructor in English and gender studies at Macalester. She was one of several scholars quoted in a Feb. 9 Minneapolis Star Tribune article on the controversy over lifting the ban against gays in the military.

- “We should welcome the challenge to defend the [study of the] classics, and say what is important in the education of young Americans.”

  Jeremiah Reedy, professor and chair of classics at Macalester, in the Jan. 6 Chronicle of Higher Education. He was one of a number of scholars quoted in an article about the “crisis” of classical studies in higher education.

- “Even as Macalester pursues new plans for construction, renovation and academic improvement, there is little wavering from [an] avowedly conservative [spending] philosophy. ‘Slow’ and ‘deliberate’ are campus watchwords, and the prevailing view among administrators and trustees is that the college’s wealth imposes a heavy obligation for responsible stewardship.

  ‘Mindful that other academic institutions have not always prospered from sudden good fortune, officials here [at Macalester] are determined not to blow it. They say Macalester’s resources must be used and protected in a way that provides equitable treatment for both current and future generations of students.”

  Robert L. Jacobson, reporter, in an article on Macalester’s endowment in the Jan. 20 Chronicle of Higher Education

- “[President Clinton] tried to cover a little too much and his central themes or theme may have gotten lost.... I think he should have taken more time. And I think he let his media advisers tell him the networks wouldn’t allow prime time to be interrupted for more than 10 minutes.”

  Roger Moswick ‘52, chair of Macalester’s Speech Communications Department, commenting on Clinton’s brief speech to the nation two days before his State of the Union address. Moswick was interviewed by the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

- “For those of us who value both diversity and great literature, the recent announcement that Caribbean poet/playwright Derek Walcott had been awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature was a welcome and highly laudable event.

  "The announcement also was a sign. Walcott’s work is to be ranked among the greatest of contemporary writers. His poetry literally sings and celebrates, simultaneously speaking of complex emotions and issues that both perpetuate and plague human existence. For those in academia and elsewhere who have long fought for recognition of the literary merit and important content of literature from Africa and the Caribbean, the award signals an important step, just as Wole Soyinka’s did in 1986, that (to paraphrase Saul Bellow) the ‘Zulus’ do have a Tolstoy.”

  Karla Frye, pre-doctoral fellow in English at Macalester, writing in the January issue of the faculty journal Colloquy

- “The difference between reaching little kids and working in the [Minnesota] House [of Representatives] was that kids said what they meant and didn’t carry a grudge.”

  Kathleen Osborne Vellenga ’59 of St. Paul, a former kindergarten teacher, describing her experiences as a state legislator in a campus discussion sponsored by the Mac Progressives on Feb. 11

- “When you hear the word ‘Sarajevo,’ it’s always very troubling. And when you hear of ethnic conflict in that part of the world, there are obvious historical parallels [with Europe just before World War I]. So you can find them if you want to. And sometimes, ethnic groups there understand their role in those terms. For instance, the Serbs obviously feel themselves to be the embattled group there, often looking at the situation through history.

  “There are some dissimilarities, though. What’s particularly different now than at the time of World War I is the international situation. If the Cold War were still in place and there was the potential for the Americans and the Russians to come in and defend different groups, there would be that parallel. [But] it’s in the interest of every country now for that conflict to be resolved. No one stands anything to gain by backing one side or the other. While there might be internal sentiment that needs to be satisfied, the national interests of no country are satisfied that way.”

  James von Geldern, assistant professor of Soviet mass culture and Russian at Macalester, in a Feb. 11 interview on Minnesota Public Radio

- “In some ways, the controversy over attorney-general designate Zoe Baird was like reliving the research that I had done on my book.... It continues to be very disappointing that we’re still trying to deal with this as an immigrant issue rather than a work issue. Let’s be serious here. We’re talking about a work situation. The same employers who are hiring these women to take care of what most families consider their most prized possessions—either their children or their house—they’re not willing to pay a decent wage. They’re not willing to provide benefits. They’re not willing to provide all the things that they would expect in a job situation.”

  Mary Romero, visiting professor of sociology at Macalester, in a Feb. 12 interview with Minnesota Public Radio. Romero is the author of Maid in the U.S.A., an analysis of both paid and unpaid domestic work.
At Macalester, a student can do serious science research with a faculty mentor

"It's hard to learn science if you don't get your hands dirty," says Chad Rienstra '93, a chemistry major from Muskegon, Mich.

Macalester is a place where undergraduates studying science and other subjects can do graduate-level research, and professors have the pleasure of doing it with them. One-on-one faculty-student projects are the norm in the science labs of Rice and Olin halls. When Macalester science majors reach graduate school (and a disproportionate number of them—in the natural sciences, more than half—go on for advanced degrees), they know first-hand what independent research is all about.

Perhaps that's what you'd expect at a college where the two top officers are a chemist (President Robert M. Gavin Jr.) and a physicist (Provost Elizabeth Ivey).

Macalester continues to be successful at attracting science-minded students. Nationwide, the percentage of undergraduates who pursue science majors has been dropping sharply in recent years, but at Macalester it's remained remarkably stable; about one-fifth of Macalester diplomas are awarded to students majoring in math or science.

Here, we offer an inside view of working relationships between Macalester faculty and students engaged in three of the sciences: geology, chemistry and biology.
Mystery of Limestone Mountain: 
Geology Professor John Craddock '80 and Michelle McGovern '93

Geologists tend to ignore what they can't explain, which is why few of them have heard of Michigan's Limestone Mountain. As Assistant Professor John Craddock describes it, it's "a 350-million-year-old mountain of limestone all by itself, 150 miles away from other rocks like it," surrounded by farmland, quarries and the "one-wink-town" of Pelkie, Mich.

Yet for Craddock and Michelle McGovern '93, an Atlanta native who's making Limestone Mountain the subject of her senior honors project, it is a tantalizing clue in a web of geological riddles. The major fault it rests near, the Keweenawan thrust fault (last active some 300 million years ago), slices from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to Oklahoma. "It underlies eastern Minnesota — including this building [Rice Hall] — Iowa, part of Nebraska, part of Oklahoma, all of Lake Superior and part of Lake Michigan," Craddock says.

The Keweenawan rift marks the area where, a billion years ago, the North American continent started to split apart, then changed its mind and mushed together instead. "Geologically speaking, it's a very strange structure," Craddock admits.

McGovern first visited the mountain last summer, one of three students who traveled with Craddock all over Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin to collect rock samples along the Keweenawan rift. McGovern's research was funded by a trust established by the late Albert A. Beltmann '23. They were looking for calcite, a common mineral that, when viewed under a microscope in its crystalline form, tells a lot about the kinds of deformation that the host rock has been subjected to in the geologic past.

"We initially sampled [Limestone Mountain] because it had deformed calcite in it," Craddock says. "And then it became apparent to us that no one else had ever done anything in this place, partly because it's such an anomalous outcropping."

McGovern, fresh from Professor Gerald Webers' paleontology class the previous spring, knew lots of techniques for examining sedimentary rocks, including the tedious microscopic work called "twinning" and how to boil limestone in acid to extract the microfossils useful in precisely dating the rock that surrounds them. So it was she who began a detailed examination of Limestone Mountain.

"Conodonts [the fossils] are phosphatic compounds, so they don't dissolve in acid," McGovern says. "And they change color to indicate [past] thermal anomalies. They're amber if they haven't been heated up. If there was pressure or a tectonic event, they will turn dark brown, then black, then white."

McGovern's microscopic work on Limestone Mountain samples also revealed what she and Craddock call "glass spherials" — clear, microscopic glass balls, also found around the world in sediments from the Cretaceous age (65 million years ago) that geologists associate with asteroid falls. 

Rebecca Ganzel is a free-lance writer and graduate student who is married to Michael Thompson '81. They live in St. Paul.

Michelle McGovern '93 and Professor John Craddock '80 (opposite page) are investigating the riddles of Limestone Mountain. McGovern did research by going to the mountain in Michigan. As an undergraduate, Craddock went even farther: that's him in Antarctica (above, third from left), with Professor Jerry Webers (left).
impacts. Just maybe, Craddock says, these point toward an asteroid impact site in the Upper Midwest about 440 million years ago, the age of the Limestone Mountain sediments.

"We're solving all geologic problems here," Craddock says with a smile. "Michelle's rocks may explain all kinds of weird geologic phenomena."

McGovern was drawn to geology as a child. "I remember playing in the dirt when I was little, looking at mica flakes," she says. "I'd look at the map at school and see how the continents might fit together. Then, when I took a class here at Macalester, they did. It just clicked for me. There's so much unknown and unexplored."

Craddock knows the excitement of exploring new geologic fields as an undergraduate. Fifteen years ago, he was a sophomore at Macalester when his adviser, Jerry Webers, got a National Science Foundation grant to fund the 'There's a new discovery every day. No one else has ever looked at these rocks in this way before.' — Michelle McGovern '93 chance of a lifetime: an Antarctic expedition. Webers chose four geology majors, including Craddock, to accompany him on the four-month trip in 1979-80. Among other things, they named an Antarctic mountain after Macalester.

"That was the pinnacle of my geologic education," Craddock says, ignoring the unintended pun. "It was absolutely wonderful; I was outside doing learning with an international cast of geologic experts, as opposed to classroom learning. And I still work on Antarctic rocks—the same ones I collected when I was a student, it turns out.

In the intervening years—he got his Ph.D. in 1988 from the University of Michigan—"I became educated about what to do with them. I didn't bring enough samples back, though." Which is only partly why he and other members of the Geology Department are applying for an NSF grant to fund another field trip to the Ellsworth Mountains of Antarctica, in 1993 or '94.

By then, McGovern will be gone from St. Paul, and there's a good chance that her paper on Limestone Mountain, co-written with Craddock and Webers, will have been published in a scientific journal. She plans to work toward an M.S. in engineering geoscience at Berkeley.

"I wouldn't mind continuing" the kind of microscopic work to which she's been subjecting Limestone Mountain, she says. "There's a new discovery every day. No one else has ever looked at these rocks in this way before."

The making of a chemist:
Professor Fred Stocker and Chad Rienstra '93

In a lab in Macalester's Olin Hall, Chad Rienstra is showing the fruits of two years' work: a dozen glass vials, corked and labeled in Rienstra's precise handwriting.

This collection is a little more impressive if you know that the compound in one of the vials, a rusty-looking powder which goes by the moniker of "4-phenylimidazo[4,5-c]pyridine," didn't exist anywhere in the world until Rienstra made it in the lab. He built on experiments that chemistry Professor Fred Stocker had conducted with students more than 20 years ago.

And a few years down the pike, once the compound has been purified a bit more and sent to a national lab for testing, there's the faint possibility that it might prove medically "interesting"—
Macalester alumni in the sciences have had an impact in a variety of fields, from AIDS research to pain control in cancer patients, from the study of the planet Pluto to explaining how the brain works. Here are a just few of the alumni who stand out in the sciences:

Robert Desimone '74, a cognitive neuroscientist, has been on the staff of the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md., since 1980. In 1990, he was the sole recipient of the National Academy of Sciences' $32,000 Troland Research Award, given each year to a young experimental psychologist; in 1991, his scientific achievement and service earned him the Arthur Flemming Award (named for Macalester's former president) from the Downtown Jaycees, a national organization. His current work centers on neuronal activity in the brain—what information it screens out and what it retains.

The late David T. Imagawa '44 was an internationally recognized immunologist and virologist who helped develop the measles vaccine and did important research on AIDS. He was a professor of pediatrics and microbiology-immunology at UCLA from 1969 until 1991 and a longtime researcher at the Research and Education Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. He was the primary author of a paper which provided considerable insight into the mechanism by which HIV causes infection and AIDS. When the paper appeared in the June 1, 1989, edition of the New England Journal of Medicine, the findings were front-page news across the United States. Dr. Imagawa died Nov. 29, 1991.

"I try hard to show younger women that they can do science and have fun," Patricia Thiel '75 told an Iowa State University writer in an article published last year. As a professor of chemistry at Iowa State, Thiel is doing that and more; last year, she was awarded a $250,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, an award honoring outstanding women in science and technology. Her specialty is surface chemistry, a field that has implications for computer lubricants, recording films and rust prevention.

June Lomnes Dahl '52, professor of pharmacology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School, has been recognized for her efforts to bring about improvements in the management of cancer pain. She is co-founder and chair of the Wisconsin Cancer Pain Initiative, which is a World Health Organization demonstration project. Many of her lectures and publications have been directed at developing a rational and humane policy for pain control. Her four teaching awards include the prestigious Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching at the University of Wisconsin. She has also served as chair of the Wisconsin State Controlled Substances Board and as a member of the Wisconsin State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse.

Richard P. Binzel '80 published his first scientific paper at the age of 15, thus launching an interstellar career in planetary science. He's now associate professor of earth, atmospheric and planetary sciences at MIT. His astronomical research includes asteroids (his colleagues named one after him when he was a graduate student at the University of Texas) and the solar system's ninth planet, Pluto. In 1991, the American Astronomical Society awarded him the Harold C. Urey Prize for outstanding achievement in planetary research by a young scientist.

Oleg Jardetzky '50, a professor of pharmacology at the Stanford University School of Medicine, is internationally known as the leading pioneer of biological applications of nuclear magnetic resonance. In 1959, he founded the first laboratory in the world dedicated to this purpose. His early work laid the foundations for the current widespread use of the method both as structural tool in molecular biology to determine structures of proteins and nucleic acids and drug-receptor complexes, and as a research and diagnostic tool in medicine.

Wray Hughes Huestis '67 is a professor of chemistry at Stanford University, where she was the first woman tenured in the department. She teaches organic and physical chemistry and conducts research on the molecular mechanisms of cell surface processes. She has been the recipient of a Sloan Foundation Fellowship, a National Institutes of Health Research Career Development Award and a Distinguished Teaching Award from Stanford's dean of humanities and sciences. Huestis is currently studying lipid-protein interactions and lipid metabolism—research that has implications in hemostasis, blood dynamics and problems of the immune system.
“interesting,” Rienstra explains, being a chemist’s code word for “might kill some virus and make a pharmaceutical company very rich.”

But more important than any of these, says Rienstra, a chemistry major, is the work these vials represent. To create the compound has taken Rienstra two summers and three semesters of independent lab study, carrying out experiments that he himself designed.

“It’s not just following some recipe in a lab book,” he says. “In most cases, there is no ‘right’ answer.”

On this day, his right arm was in a sling, the result of shoulder surgery to correct a chronic injury caused by playing baseball. A pitcher and first-baseman, Rienstra has twice made All-Conference at Macalester. He’s also an enthusiastic trombone player.

Chemistry, though, is the real passion of this big-boned, athletic young man from western Michigan. “He extends projects much further than I initially expected,” Stocker says. “He’s one of the most outstanding students we’ve had in a long time.”

“People always say, ‘With your parents a minister and a musician, how did you end up a chemist?’” Rienstra says. “But I know four people here on campus whose parents are chemistry professors at different schools, and they’re all English or Japanese or geography majors. [Chemistry] Professor [Truman] Schwartz says it skips a generation.”

However he came by his talents, Rienstra clearly has a calling in organic synthesis, the technical term for the kind of chemistry he’s been doing for the past two years. After he graduates this spring, Rienstra plans to go on for a Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry and pursue “some combination of teaching and research.”

At Macalester, organic chemistry is a two-semester course, with the last several weeks of the laboratory given over to independent projects. In his sophomore year, Rienstra was trying to devise a final project. With Stocker’s assistance, he applied for and won a one-year research stipend from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which supports new scientists for two or three years when the stipend is renewed.

Rienstra carefully diagrams the chemical structures of the compounds he is investigating. “THIPs” for short, the molecule he successfully synthesized for the first time last year, contains benzimidazole, which may be the key to any medical use they turn out to have.

“Imidazole is a very important molecule biologically,” Rienstra says. “It’s a part of histidine, one of the 20 essential amino acids that are the components of proteins; when you look at protein structures and functions in the human body, imidazole shows up all over the place. It’s a component in DNA and RNA. And if you introduce a molecule similar to a DNA or RNA component in the right place, it could cause the strands of DNA to fall apart. Now that doesn’t sound very good for the body—but if you can target these drugs to be absorbed into a virally infected cell, then you can selectively kill that cell. That’s how AZT and some other anti-AIDS drugs work.”

In other words, imidazole compounds like Rienstra’s are potential white knights in the fight against AIDS. “That’s speculative, of course,” Rienstra cautions. “But it is similar to a lot of molecules that are used or tested as antiviral drugs.”

Not that Rienstra is measuring himself for a Jonas Salk outfit just yet. So far, he’s generated five different varieties of his THIP compound, a process that takes two or three days “if it works,” a lot longer if it doesn’t. Then comes the hard part: identifying the experiment’s end result.

“From the different instruments we had in the department, I could determine that there was some of my target molecule in there,” Rienstra says. “But there was other stuff, too. It was a gummy mess.”

Rienstra’s confirmation was greatly aided by some expensive machines in Olin Hall: the $70,000 GC-MS (gas chromatography-mass spectrometer), provided in 1989 through a grant from Hewlett-Packard, and the $200,000 FT-NMR machine (Fourier transform-nuclear magnetic resonance), bought in 1991 with a matching grant from the National Science Foundation. The FT-
Christie McNickle '93, right, and Professor Lin Aanonsen look at graphs showing the results of McNickle's experiments. Last October, McNickle presented her work on "The Role of Glycine in N-Methyl-D-Aspartate-Modulated Nociception" at the Pew Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Chicago. It was sponsored by the Pew Midstates Science Consortium, which includes the University of Chicago, Washington University in St. Louis and 10 undergraduate institutions.

NMR can virtually fingerprint the compound's molecular structure in a few minutes. "Not many schools Macalester's size have an instrument this powerful," Rienstra says.

Once he knew he was on the right track, Rienstra set about purifying the compound further. "That's the toughest work," he says. "It took me four weeks to learn to crystallize it. And then this past summer I refined the method to come up with an almost pure compound."

Now vials of that compound sit in Rienstra's lab drawer, dumbly waiting for the audition that could make them into pharmaceutical stars.

But even if they turn out to be duds, even if there's no disease known to humankind that they'll help cure, their work is done. Through them, Chad Rienstra became a chemist.

**Keys to blocking pain:**
**Biology Professor Lin Aanonsen and Christie McNickle '93**

Let's say you're reading this Macalester Today with a fresh cup of coffee in your hand, and as you turn a page you accidentally splash some coffee on your hand. In a split second, your brain gets the message: pain, very hot, near thumb.

This everyday event has involved your body in a complicated chemical transaction that, even after years of study, Lin Aanonsen, assistant professor of biology, can't fully explain.

"Pain is transmitted by an electrical signal," she says. "There's probably some sort of chemical or mechanical stimulus here [in the hand] that changes the nerve membrane so that an electrical signal is transmitted to the central nervous system, the spinal cord." She is drawing rapidly as she talks: a tiny hand, a huge cross-section of the spinal cord. Their relative sizes show where her chief interest lies. "Here, in the spinal cord, there's a gap, a synapse, between this neuron and another cell that sends an axon all the way up to the brain. So your body has to transmit this information, this pain, across this gap to reach the brain."

Precisely what happens at that gap is still a matter for conjecture. But whatever it is, it transfers a bunch of information to the brain: where the pain is, how intense, its probable cause. Everything, in short, that the brain needs to know to react appropriately to injury.

Aanonsen and one of her students, Christie McNickle '93, are concentrating their research on the chemical messengers, or neurotransmitters, that leap across the gap. One neurotransmitter in particular has caught their attention: the amino acid called glutamate.

Glutamate is associated with pain in a complicated way. Imagine the synapse in the spinal cord (Aanonsen is drawing again) as a field between two walled fortresses, one of which has just received a communiqué from your hand. To transmit this message to the other fortress, which is more directly connected to your brain, you need to get two ions (sodium and calcium, but we won't go into that) through its locked gate. The keyhole is called a receptor. For a "pain" message, glutamate seems to be among the keys that fit.

Here, however, the goal of biologists and chemists is to hinder the communication of pain, not to get the message through. So they name these re-
ceptors, not after the keys that open them, but after the drugs that block them. And the glutamate keyhole that McNickle is examining most closely has the unromantic title of "NMDA receptor."

"It appears that this NMDA receptor is mostly responsible for transmitting the pain through the spinal cord," McNickle says. "Other [glutamate] receptors play a part, but this seems to be more the target. So a lot of research has been done trying to block this site, because someday the data could be used to create drugs to block pain."

"Particularly chronic pain," Aanonsen says. "We already have good treatments for acute pain. But as for the intractable pain that's associated with cancer and other debilitating diseases—it's hard to treat that without putting the patient into a stupor from the drugs' side effects. If Aanonsen and McNickle are right, a chemical "antagonist"—a drug that could fit perfectly into the glutamate keyhole without opening the door to the messengers—would block pain without side effects.

"We're still trying to figure out how glutamate is involved," Aanonsen says. With the drugs now available, simply blocking the NMDA sites results in paralysis. So McNickle is peering into two keyholes: the NMDA site, and another one that binds glycine, another amino acid.

"What I want to find out is, will blocking the glycine site also block the NMDA site, and therefore block pain transmission without serious side effects?" McNickle says. That question is at the heart of her senior honors project, with her work in Aanonsen's lab supported by Macalester's grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. It was also the subject of a talk she gave last October at the Pew Undergraduate Research Symposium in the Biological Sciences, held at the University of Chicago.

The ebullient McNickle, who is from northern Minnesota, was aiming at a psychology major when she came to Macalester—"an interest she traces to her father, who directs a ward for the mentally ill in Moose Lake. "But after my intro-bio class with [Associate Professor] Jan Serie, I realized how much I liked biology," she says. With the help of Aanonsen, whom Macalester hired in 1989 to teach neuroscience (the study of the nervous system), McNickle put together an independently designed major that combined biology and psychology.

"Christie's work supports a greater goal," Aanonsen says. "She has broadened the topics that we can pursue, and she should get a lot of credit for developing those ideas. It's an example of how the direction of research in the lab is influenced by students, not just teachers."

After graduation this spring, McNickle plans to go on to study behavioral pharmacology. But first, she's applying to the Peace Corps. "I'd like to work in community health, hopefully in Africa. There's a real need now for what I can learn there and bring back and share here."

— Christie McNickle '93

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Unlike Aanonsen, who can remember dissecting frogs as a girl next to her father's basement workbench ("my parents gave me dissection kits for Christmas"), McNickle was never particularly attracted to biology when she was growing up. "I
In May 1989, an event occurred near a remote island in the Pacific that would change Raul Valenzuela Wong's life. It was a massive earthquake, measuring 8.3 on the Richter scale—one of the largest in recorded history. By comparison, the 1985 Mexico City earthquake, which killed some 25,000 people, measured 8.1.

Macquarie Island, a blip on the map 700 miles southwest of New Zealand, is actually the highest point of an underwater mountain range called the Macquarie Ridge. If you draw a line through it to New Zealand and beyond, you've marked part of the boundary between two of Earth's eight enormous shifting puzzle pieces, or tectonic plates: the Pacific plate and the Indo-Australian plate.

At the time of the earthquake, Valenzuela Wong was a junior majoring in physics at Macalester. "I didn't even know that it happened." In fact, his senior honors project would seem about as far from tectonic theory as you can get. He and Richard Brundage, an assistant physics professor, were using the considerable resources of Brundage's physics lab at Macalester, including laser beams and spectroscopy, to study the interaction of the radioactive element americium with the glass sample they'd embedded it in.

Brundage and others who knew Valenzuela Wong assumed he would go on to graduate school. But Valenzuela Wong himself was having second thoughts. A native of Mexico whose name reflects the fact that his maternal grandfather was a Chinese immigrant, he hoped to return to Mexico to work after his schooling was done.

"You know, you eventually have to get a job," he says now, halfway through a Ph.D. in geology from Washington University in St. Louis. "And, in Mexico, there are more immediate applications for geology than physics, because of the oil industry—how you go about finding petroleum."

Earthquakes have always interested Valenzuela Wong. His foray into the field began with the devastating quake off the Pacific Coast in 1985, when he was a high school exchange student in the U.S. His parents lived in Celaya, 170 miles northwest of Mexico City, but had relatives in the city. "None of my aunts or uncles or cousins were hurt," he says, "but after the earthquake, I started to read about plate tectonics." Nowadays, earthquakes are his life.

Tectonic plates have only three ways to interact when they meet, each involving a different kind of earthquake or volcanic activity. They can slide past each other, which is called a transform fault (California's San Andreas fault is a famous example); they can meet head-on like two massive automobile bumpers, in which case one plate passes under the other into the earth's mantle, forming a convergent fault or subduction zone (the Mariana trench in the Pacific); or they can move away from each other (the mid-Atlantic ridge).

"At different times in its evolution, the Macquarie Ridge has been active in two of these ways and may now be changing to act in the third way," Valenzuela Wong says. "Most recently, it's been a transform fault, two plates moving past each other. That's still happening. But some people believe that we're starting to see subduction—that one plate is being forced to go under the other plate."

By looking in detail at the 40 earthquakes above 5.5 magnitude that have occurred in the Macquarie Ridge since 1960, he hopes to find more evidence of subduction. "It's possible we're witnessing the change from a transform-plane boundary to a convergent-plane boundary," he says, his voice filled with wonder.

People often comment on how different his work is today than the physics he did at Macalester. As a physics student, Valenzuela Wong measured electromagnetic waves with a spectrometer; now he examines seismic waves registered by seismometers around the world. To him, on a purely physical, mathematical basis, a wave is a wave.

Of course, there are some differences. "At Macalester, we made our own sample, so we had some control over what we wanted to measure," he says with a laugh. "In seismology, you have to wait for an earthquake to happen. And you can't go back to your sample to get more information."

And a geologist, unlike a physicist, has to wait a long time before his hypothesis is proved or disproved. A very long time. "The plates move very slowly," Valenzuela Wong says. "It's not like by the time I'm 60 or 70 years old I can say, 'Oh yeah, there's a subduction zone there.' Three hundred years? That's still too short.

Give it 10 million years or so, maybe. My ghost will be happy."

—R.G.
"I take great pride in Macalester's history of commitment to areas such as internationalism, diversity and voluntaryism long before these themes became fashionable elsewhere. What is the college planning now that will keep us on the cutting edge in future decades?"

—Audrey Y. Smith '78, Amherst, Mass.

That telling observation and question, offered during the second "Alumni Soundings" gathering, became the guide for those of us engaged in conversations with alumni about Macalester. Designed to elicit alumni opinions in shaping the future of Macalester, these gatherings—nearly 50 so far—have been hosted by alumni from Seattle to St. Paul to Istanbul. At each one, President Gavin or other college representatives listened as 20 to 50 alumni reflected on Macalester's past and offered their visions for its future. Participants also were invited to write comments after the discussions.

Alumni Soundings began in October 1991 as Macalester entered another long-range planning cycle, the third since Bob Gavin assumed the presidency in 1984. With the dramatic growth of the DeWitt Wallace Fund for Macalester College in 1990, the time was ideal for Macalester to examine its mission and direction. Alumni views were essential as the college faced the bright prospect of enhancing the role of a college which long had described itself as distinctive from other small, liberal arts colleges.

During the 1990-91 academic year, the faculty conducted a comprehensive review of the curriculum, culminating in a series of changes in degree requirements which were adopted at the December 1991 faculty meeting. During 1991-92, Provost Elizabeth Ivey chaired a committee of faculty, staff, students, trustees and alumni charged by President Gavin with presenting recommendations for a new strategic plan. Many of the comments and suggestions heard at Alumni Soundings were passed on to the committee through its Alumni Board representatives, Jane Else Smith '67 and Virgil C. Herrick '52. Building on the work of the committee, President Gavin presented his final recommendations to the Board of Trustees. The board approved the plan in May 1992, and the college distributed it last fall to all members of the Macalester community. Implementation initiatives are under way.

The Alumni Soundings program informed the planning process, but its value lives on as the college carries out those plans. Meanwhile, Soundings continue on campus and across the country through fall 1994.
Mission and purpose

While change is in the air on campus, future initiatives are rooted in the traditional core values of Macalester. Alumni share the strong convictions of those on campus that Macalester remain true to its mission: providing an outstanding academic experience in an educational community with historic commitments to global perspectives, cultural diversity and service to the community.

To find a broad consensus among Macalester people on any issue is difficult. Individualism is celebrated on the campus. But virtually all who attended Alumni Soundings believe the college should remain a small, residential liberal arts college where a faculty of teaching scholars provides students with a challenging, rigorous course of study. At the Fort Myers, Fla., Alumni Sounding, William H. Mahle '36 of Naples, Fla., thoughtfully observed that an outstanding liberal arts education prepares one to face life with a minimum of surprises. Among its best qualities are imparting the ability to reason and exercise judgment, he said.

One alumna, Ann Schrenker Fletcher '69 of Palo Alto, Calif., captured the essence of many comments. She wrote:

"My academic experience at Mac has served me well, particularly the zest for learning and for reading widely and well. I learned a certain body of knowledge while I was there but, more importantly, I came away with learning and analytical skills that have been very useful as I adapt to a continually changing world.... Career exploration and graduate study opportunities are critical to the graduates of the '90s as well as to some of us graduates who are making mid-life career changes. While retaining Mac's enthusiasm for learning and personal exploration, great thought should go into career opportunities in a rapidly changing world and the training required to find a personally fulfilling profession."

Values and ethics

Values and ethics are of crucial importance to Macalester people. At every meeting and across all generations, it was clear that moral considerations remain a cornerstone for alumni. Many credit the college for having brought together faculty and students, representing a broad spectrum, who encouraged the weighing of ethical considerations in approaching issues.

A number of older graduates lament the move in the late 1960s to eliminate required chapel and convocations. To them, chapel was a forum to expose students to new ideas which might have been ignored otherwise. Several expressed concern that young people today, and perhaps colleges as well, have "lost the moral compass." Sharp differences do exist among generations. But the moral concerns remain, expressed through the perspectives of various generations. At the Denver Sounding, some alumni asked if important moral questions about real issues were posed in classrooms today. Anne Bovenmyer Lewis '82 responded that students indeed were sensitive to ethical issues and that she appreciated the willingness of Mac students and faculty to stand up for issues which they cared about. Several others joined the discussion, many agreeing with Kazuko Sato Hellickson '69 of Denver that she had "always found Macalester people very involved, generating a genuine concern for society and the state of the world."

From those students inspired by the Rev. John Maxwell Adams, Macalester's first full-time chaplain, through today's myriad of community pro-
internationalism

Global perspectives have marked Macalester since its earliest days when President James Wallace worked for world peace and endorsed the League of Nations. Alumni expressed unanimity on the value of internationalism. Graduates of the 1950s and '60s enthusiastically recalled SPAN and other programs which provided educational exchange opportunities. The increase in international students in recent decades was strongly endorsed. A number of alumni noted sharp distinctions between the international presence at Macalester, where it is a part of the fabric of life, and that at many other campuses.

Internationalism is a core value that alumni wish to see enhanced in the years ahead, making it even more a part of campus life while encouraging students and faculty to travel and study abroad. Like the emphasis on service, the historic place of internationalism at Macalester often played a formative part in people's lives and careers. Lowell Reeve '39 spoke for many at the San Diego Sounding when he endorsed the "continued embellishment of the international aspects of the campus." Looking at today's challenges, William Korstad '38 urged the college to incorporate into the course of study a global education that would explore in depth environmental science, religions of the world and other topics essential to an understanding of the world.

Diversity

Diversity — racial, ethnic, socio-economic, geographic and political — is also essential to Macalester alumni. Aside from academics, a campus which nurtured and encouraged this inclusive sense of diversity was valued above all else in describing the college experience of alumni.

Support for diversity took a variety of forms. Caryn Davis Hanson '71 of Denver observed that "the most important thing I learned at Mac was to accept people who are different from myself as they are — whether they come from another part of the country or another part of the world."

Comments from alumni of color underscored the challenges they often confronted. Some had questioned the college's commitment, citing difficult years in the mid-1970s. Disappointments or difficult experiences as students often led alumni to suggest ways to provide better opportunities for today's students of color. "Mentoring would be nice, as well as providing a way for contacting others of color for those times when you feel that you are truly alone and different," one alumna said.

Manuel J. Cervantes '74 of St. Paul spoke for many when he expressed his strong belief that Macalester must continue to offer opportunities for students of color from a broad range of backgrounds and not rely solely on "safe" students to fulfill its commitment to diversity. Warren Simmons '73 shared his perspectives with alumni at a Washington, D.C., gathering, noting that looking back from today, his years at Macalester were more positive than he thought at the time. Many issues remain for today's students, causing some alumni — like Wiley Hall '75 of Baltimore — to suggest that alumni of color seek more connections with today's college and with students of color. Many sought assurances that the college remained fully committed to students of color.

Still other alumni, in many of the meetings, declared that a truly diverse campus should have room for athletes.

With all of the views expressed, there was a healthy acknowledgement that true diversity in an academic community would beget confrontation and debate, challenges to one's values and ideas. An open campus encouraging full discourse appeared to be a "given" with alumni attending the Soundings.

And above all, teaching

Foremost in Macalester's mission and the minds of alumni is the quality of the academic experience. We repeatedly heard testimonials about the formative role that the college's outstanding faculty played in the lives of individual alumni. It was an expectation then — often borne out by personal experience — and it should remain so today, we were told.

In Seattle, David C. Bloom '65 referred to a recent Macalester Today feature on favorite professors and noted that those comments could have been his reflections on the influence Professor Ernest Sandeen had on him. A graduate of the 1970s wrote that he continued "to be amazed at the high quality of Mac faculty and their openness and involvement with students as people and not just faces in a class." Faculty interest in the whole person has been a constant over generations. Edward L. Heimark '42 of Philadelphia wrote that his two years at Macalester prepared him as well as many who had attended college for four years when they faced the rigors of naval officer training during World War II. Steven D. Wheeler '66 of Bloom-
ington, Minn., expressed the hope that in future years “the emphasis of each professor would be to see the ‘person’ in each student and be pro-
active in molding each student to reach their full potential.” Betty MacKnight Haan ’43 of St. Paul said that “in talking to my classmates during Phonathon and at reunions, almost universally they remember most fondly a teacher who affected them strongly. . . . Fifty years [after graduating, people] will realize what a gift was given to them by such a teacher.”

Some who attended Alumni Soundings, like alumni throughout the country, remain anxious about pressures which may diminish the importance of teaching even in a small liberal arts college like Macalester. Several evenings included lively discussions on this topic. In response, President Gavin underscored the differences between the Macalester model of research-based teaching, where many students collaborate with faculty, and that of large universities where much of the undergraduate teaching often is conducted by graduate students. In Seattle, he commented, “I do not like the concept of teaching load and research opportunities.”

While all agreed that the college should continue to attract an outstanding, diverse faculty who will enrich the curriculum, the issue of degree requirements brought differences to the fore. In general, older and fairly recent graduates came together in arguing for more degree requirements. Some spoke of having new career opportunities opened to them through a required sampling of the liberal arts curriculum. Many graduates of the 1970s, however, took strong exception. In their view, any imposition of requirements diluted students’ individual control of their learning, something they viewed as a hallmark of their Macalester education. All concurred that a strengthened advising system would add significantly to the undergraduate experience.

**Across the generations**

This brief review of numerous discussions attended by more than 1,000 alumni can touch only superficially upon the conversations. Some Soundings devoted a large portion of the evening to a discussion of students of color; others focused on the role of athletics, the performing arts and co-curricular life. Changing the January Interim stirred strong feelings. Many alumni expressed an interest in the growth of interdisciplinary studies as well as the strengthened role of the sciences. A consistent theme about campus life was, as one person noted, that Macalester should “seek excellence in all that we do—from academics to drama, athletics to community service.” At every gathering, concerns were voiced about the cost of higher education and the role that Macalester’s alumni and endowment should play in ensuring that the college would remain accessible and affordable to all. And, it must be said, some alumni expressed their strong displeasure with aspects of the college’s past and present.

The Soundings were conversations, not scientific samples of opinions. Indeed, most of the participants had already displayed an interest in the college. With this caveat, what can be said about Macalester alumni, their experiences as students and their aspirations for the future of the college? Although each era at the college is marked by certain characteristics, many themes span the generations. At the same time, individual perspectives are defined by what Janet Rajala Nelson ’72 of Minneapolis called “each person’s window on Macalester.” Macalester people value the Minnesota roots and traditions of the college, values which have spurred interest in the world at large, the celebration of a culturally diverse educational community and an expectation of individual service to society. Macalester people have a lively interest in public affairs and confidently voice their points of view. They appreciate the preparation for life and the intellectual discipline provided by a liberal arts education offered by a caring, outstanding faculty.

It is abundantly clear that the Macalester alumni who attended these events believe that the college’s core values should guide its future initiatives, making Macalester ever more distinguished and distinctive in American higher education.
Charles Baxter illuminates the shadows of middle-class life

Shadow Play
By Charles Baxter '69 (W.W. Norton, 1993. 399 pages, $21.95 cloth)

Charles Baxter's second novel is the story of Wyatt Palmer, a good guy. Shadow Play is an engrossing and surprising examination of what happens to good guys caught in the sticky-grey twilight between doing the job and doing the right thing.

This is a grown-up book, full of darkness, magic, madness and the insistent subterranean rumble of love and responsibility that can rattle your teeth like the vibrations of a subway careening beneath the street. The people in Shadow Play are as odd and as typical as your next-door neighbor. Baxter has given them histories, inheritances and real lives buried somewhere beneath the lives they're actually leading. There's Wyatt himself, assistant city manager of recession-shocked Five Oaks, Mich. He does his job well by clearing the bureaucratic brush so a chemical corporation can bring in new jobs—and dangers both personal and communal.

Schooled in art and accounting, Wyatt draws pictures of shadows. He is startlingly aware of the exquisite melancholy of the lives and the landscapes around him: a softball game like a lost ballet; a silent, dusty fistfight at the end of a gravel road; a grown man "dressed up in an engineer's outfit chugging around the yard to the side of his house, seated in a waist-high model steam railroad train on an oval track" while his wife prunes roses. These are all glimpsed by Wyatt during twilight drives around Five Oaks.

Baxter notices the world; he pays attention, and his readers reap the benefits of the sharp eye, the tuned ear. One of the most arresting characters in the novel is Jeanne, Wyatt's half-mad mother. Annoyed by the imprecision of language, she makes up her own words ("zarklike" means "vaguely solitary" and "corlineal" means "so normal it's strange"). With her conversation, her drift toward a tenuous lucidity, she provides Wyatt — and the neighborhood of Updike, Tyler and Cheever, that middle-class American place crying out for a view of the "felt life," the ethical stand. Shadow Play is a welcome newcomer on the block.

—Michael J Thompson '81

Michael J Thompson is chair of the English Department at Johnson Senior High School in St. Paul.

Phanerzoic history of West Antarctica. Between 1974 and 1979, they attracted expeditions from Norway, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States. In 1979-80, Webers, a geology professor at Macalester, led the largest geologic field program in completing the first geologic survey of the mountains.

This book grew out of a special symposium on the Ellsworth Mountains for the Geological Society of America's annual meeting in 1982. It is the first comprehensive geologic overview of the mountains and includes paleontological information as well as discussions about their glacial history, structure, stratigraphy, sedimentology and metamorphism.

Craddock, a geologist at the University of Wisconsin, is the father of John Craddock '80, assistant professor of geology at Macalester. John was one of four Macalester students who accompanied Webers in exploring the Ellsworth Mountains in 1979-80.

New Life, New Friends
By Christina Baldwin '68 and Cynthia Orange (Bantam, 1993. 240 pages, $10.95 paperback)

Subtitled "Making and Keeping Relationships in Recovery," this book is intended for anyone who is recovering from drug or...
Giving Back

For John S. Holl, a friend of Macalester, ‘little things’ add up

When Macalester sought to increase alumni and other contributions to its Annual Fund, John S. Holl stepped forward. He joined an alumnus and parents of a current student in pledging to match, dollar for dollar, all new and increased gifts to the college. The Annual Fund Challenge, which began in 1992-93, will continue through 1993-94.

Holl's generosity was not new. His gifts to an endowed scholarship fund, for example, have benefited scores of students. The DeWitt Wallace Library, finished in 1988, also received a large contribution from him. In all, he has given more than $1.36 million to Macalester.

Holl, now 87, is not a Macalester alumnus; in fact, he attended Carleton College, for two years.

What would prompt such generosity from a non-alumnus?

"It's a lot of little things put together," he said in an interview at his home in Mendota Heights, Minn., which he shares with his wife, Dolores.

"I've always been interested in St. Paul; I was born and raised here, and I was interested in helping establish something locally. A good friend of mine, [the late] George Mairs, was a trustee at Macalester, and he wanted me to become a trustee, too. He got me interested in Macalester. I was a trustee for 27 years [from 1949 to 1976]."

The retired board chairman of Whirlpool Corp. has a long history of community participation. He has been a member of or contributed to the St. Paul School Board, United Fund, Junior Achievement, St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, St. Paul Arts and Science Fund, and St. Paul Foundation, among other organizations.

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

"Macalester knows what to do with the money it gets. I think they spend it wisely," he said.

Dolores Holl said, "We don't have children of our own, so we might as well give [money] to other children."

"I'm always glad to help young people get along," John Holl added. "I get letters of appreciation from some of the students who have been helped. It makes you feel so good."

Alumni & Faculty Books

continue

Christina Baldwin

alcohol addiction and building a social life to support a sober lifestyle.

Step by step, New Life, New Friends discusses how to transform old relationships and develop honest, supportive new friends. It shows how to negotiate the difficult terrain of approaching new people, taking risks, and establishing boundaries and "ground rules" to keep relationships healthy.

Baldwin's books, including her recent Life's Companion: Journal Writing as a Spiritual Quest and the revised One to One, have brought her widespread recognition as an authority on using journal writing to explore life change and to assist in recovery. She also recently produced a 60-minute audio tape, Sunrise, Sunset ($10), intended for relaxation and reflection.

A scholar-in-residence at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Baldwin is currently working to found a national peer group for women. She lives in Golden Valley, Minn.

Wishing at Dawn in Summer
By Nancy White Carlstrom, illustrated by Diane Worfolk Allison ’70 (Little, Brown, 1993. 32 pages, $14.95)

This children's book, intended for ages 4-7, tells the story of a brother and older sister and their early morning adventure fishing at a lake.

Allison, who lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., has illustrated several picture books for children, including This Is the Key to the Kingdom, Chester and Uncle Willoughby and In Window Eight, the Moon Is Late.

Maid in the U.S.A.
By Mary Romero (Routledge, 1992. 256 pages, $49.95 cloth, $15.95 paper)

Romero, director of the Ethnic Studies Program and associate professor of sociology at the University of Oregon, was a McKnight visiting professor at Macalester during the 1992-93 academic year.

Through interviewing and analyzing the daily activities of 25 Chicana private household workers, Romero explores their working conditions and the social constraints which shape their personal lives. She seeks to expand the theoretical understanding of reproductive labor in order to explain the dynamics of race, class and gender in housework. Romero argues that private household workers are struggling to control the work process and alter the employer-employee relationship to a client-tradesperson relationship in which labor services, rather than labor power, are sold.

MAY 1993 21
‘Dear Old Macalester’:
Reunion Weekend, June 4–6

It’s not too late to make your reservation for Reunion Weekend. If your class year ends in “8” or “3,” your classmates have special plans (see the Class Reunion Contacts in this issue’s Class Notes).

All alumni are welcome for the full weekend of programs, food, fun and camaraderie. Highlights:

Friday, June 4
Mini-college on “The Global Environment and Social Justice,” with faculty members in biology, political science, philosophy and economics; reunion of alumni authors; President’s Awards Dinner for all alumni; campus tour; comedy cabaret with Susan Vass; welcome-home receptions for class reunions and alumni of color; Mac Hack golf tournament.

Saturday, June 5
“Raising Non-Violent Children in a Violent World,” led by Professor Michael Obsatz; “The National Education Reform Agenda and Its Implication for Schools Serving Students of Color,” led by Warren Simmons ’73; conversation on the college’s strategic plan with President Gavin; family day; noon picnic with entertainment; “Everything You Always Wanted to Know About the Class of ’68,” led by Professor Jeff Nash; “Movies for Fun and Profit” with producer Lynn Niederfeld Morgan ’68; “Taking Charge of Mid-Life Career Shifts,” led by Richard Van Doren ’68; panel of Phi Beta Kappa alumni discuss lifelong learning; parade of classes; class reunion parties.

Sunday, June 6
Breakfast for all alumni, then worship service led by interim Chaplain Donald M. Meisel ’45, with alumni choir directed by Robert Reid ’80.

For information and reservations
Call the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295.
Alumni of color make connections with first-year students

More than 20 years after they arrived at Macalester, Karol Baker Parker '74 and Lawrence Parker '74 are helping to make the transition to the college a little easier for other Native-Americans.

The Parkers are participants in a new "host family" program at Macalester which began last fall. It pairs alumni of color with first-year students of color. During the 1992-93 academic year, the program has included 12 families—representing 14 alumni of color—and 16 students.

Karol Parker, a Native-American of Mandan-Hidatsa heritage, grew up on a reservation in western North Dakota, while Larry, of Cree-Dakota ancestry, came to Macalester from Billings, Mont. "We felt pretty isolated," Karol recalls of their initial student days. "There was this real sense of disconnectedness and not being a part of the community. We had to develop that ourselves. The first year was probably the hardest."

The Parkers, who are both social workers, have served as a host family to Heather Whiteman Runs Him '96 of Lodge Grass, Mont., and Shannon Douma '96 of Laguna, N.M. The Parkers have invited them to their home in Arden Hills and accompanied them to a Sounds of Blackness concert and a play. The four have also met at pow-wows and other community events for Native-Americans in the Twin Cities.

Macalester has 12 Native-American students enrolled at present, and the Parkers wish the college would recruit more, but "the good thing is that there is a large Native-American community in the Twin Cities," Karol said. "These students, we noticed, were active right away. We'd go someplace and meet them there."

The host family program is "nice for us," said Whiteman Runs Him, who is of Crow heritage. "It helps us establish some contacts to our [Native-American] community that we can't get at the college. I'm not saying it provides all the support we need, but it's a good support. And it's nice to be able to spend time with people who share a similar background."

"It's really helped me a lot, not only to have friends in the community but a family," said Douma, who is of Pueblo heritage. "And they introduced me to other members of the community. I think it's a really good program and I hope it's available for other students in the future."

Thad Wilderson, coordinator of community relations at Macalester, said the host family program was a key recommendation by a task force composed of alumni of color. The program is part of a renewed effort, which began in 1992, to strengthen the ties between the college and its alumni of color.

The program is expected to continue in 1993-94. •

Calendar of alumni events from now through fall

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<th>Event</th>
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<th>Details</th>
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<td>M Club's All-Sports Banquet at Macalester</td>
<td>May 14</td>
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<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>Reunion Weekend at Macalester</td>
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<td>Twin Cities Leading Edge event: St. Paul Saints baseball game</td>
<td>June 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twin Cities Leading Edge event: Macalester at Minnesota Orchestra's Sommerfest; supper, pre-concert program and concert</td>
<td>July 29</td>
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<td>Alumni Leadership Conference at Macalester</td>
<td>Sept. 17-19</td>
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<td>Parents Weekend, M Club Hall of Fame (Oct. 1) and Fall Sports Day (Oct. 3)</td>
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Further information on any of the following can be obtained by calling the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295.
by Rebecca Ganzel

The Great War to end all wars

War news dominated the Mac Weekly pages 75 years ago.

In 1918, a list of the names and mailing addresses of "Macalester Men in Service" sometimes filled an entire page with small type. Headlines included: "Mac Coeds Do Their Share of Red Cross Work" (total knitting accomplished by March 1918: 42 sweaters, plus a resolution for each "girl" to complete one pair of socks by June).

And a regular "War Correspondence" column ran throughout the year, full of letters written to the editors by Macalester men overseas.

Two of the most faithful correspondents were Art Whiton and Irving Roth—the latter a former Weekly editor himself—who were serving in the same Air Corps squadron. But the Weekly issue that announced the armistice in November 1918 also brought bad news. Roth, whose last letter had appeared May 1, had been shot down and killed in France, and Whiton (whose May 22 letter had spoken eagerly of the prospect of "bringing down a Hun") ended the war in a German POW camp.

In all, of the more than 200 Macalester students and alumni who served in World War I, at least nine were killed. Each death merited a gold star on the college's specially made "service flag," which hung in the chapel.

Whiton eventually returned to college, graduating with the Class of 1920.

Before Pearl Harbor

A series of surveys in the Mac Weekly in the years prior to U.S. entry into World War II reflected the changing attitudes of the student body toward war.

Of 444 students polled for a March 31, 1938, article in the Weekly, about 51 percent favored "unqualified neutrality in all foreign wars" and 22 percent thought the United States should follow a policy of "complete isolation."

While 69 percent said they would fight if the United States were invaded, only 6 percent said they would fight in any war the U.S. would declare and 17 percent would refuse to fight in any war the U.S. might declare.

Another survey by the Weekly in October 1941 found that 53 percent of Mac students thought the neutrality law in effect at the time should not be amended to arm American supply ships and send them into war zones, compared with 40 percent who thought the law should be changed.

At the time, 7 percent of students felt that the U.S. should declare war, while 86 percent felt the nation should "keep out and supply Allies" instead.

According to a third poll, published days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, enough students changed their minds about neutrality that a majority (53 percent) said "it is more important that Germany be defeated than that the United States should stay out of war."

Sorry, wrong number

Too many students were abusing Macalester's long-distance phone privileges, the Mac Weekly reported in February 1953.

Unlike every other college in the state, Macalester's telephones offered unlimited access to outside lines in both the student union and the dorms—and in five short months, students had collectively racked up $500 in unpaid phone bills.

In response to the situation, the college had modified the union's two phones so that all outside calls went through the campus switchboard operator. Dorm phones, however, went unchanged. "But if the dorm students persist in misusing the unrestricted service," the administration warned, "[we] will be forced to take action."

Robert Kerr '92 of Minneapolis contributed to this article.

Springtime drama: play at the plate

This photo of an informal softball game on campus, found in the college archives, appears to have been taken circa 1970. If readers can provide any more information, we will pass it along in the next issue.
Historian's choice: books that change history

by James B. Stewart

The study of American history is changing almost as rapidly as the nation we live in, and the two processes are intimately connected.

Our intensifying concerns about our natural environment, about cultural and racial "differences," about inequality between genders, about poverty and social justice, about technology's impact on the quality of our lives and about much more are provoking historians to re-examine the American past and professors at Macalester to revise their assigned readings.

My Macalester colleagues in American history—Mahmoud El-Kati, Peter Rachleff, Emily Rosenberg and Norman Rosenberg—doubtless would add many titles to the ones described below. All are recent books which I've required in class this year and would recommend confidently to serious readers:

- The Fatal Environment: The Myth of the Frontier in the Age of Industrialization (1985), by Richard Slotkin. A challenging analysis of the relationship between westward expansion, the development of popular mythologies of the frontier and the ongoing processes of industrialization, class formation and racial subordination. Hard reading, but worth it for its critique of the belief that the frontier's influence fostered America's democratic spirit.


- Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era (1991 edition), by James M. McPherson. A rich example of narrative history, written with panoramic vision and elegant, accessible phrasing. In McPherson's persuasive view, the brutality of the Civil War also brought forth for the first time the vision of America as a nation defined by its commitment to biracial citizenship. Perhaps the only scholarly historical work them powerful refuters of the claims of white supremacists. An absorbing study of the roots of African-American internationalism.

- Good Wives: Image and Reality in the Lives of Women in Northern New England, 1650-1750 (1982), by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich. This enthralling study strips away one stereotype after another to reveal the hidden and complicated world of the women of colonial New England. While their burdens were extraordinary, so was the power of these women to enforce moral order, shoulder their husbands' responsibilities and even attain heroic stature as frontier fighters and Indian-killers. The modern reader begins to understand what it would have been like to have been born female in early New England, as well as what Puritanism meant to its first generations of ordinary settlers.

- The World They Made Together: Black and White in Virginia, 1630-1800 (1989), by Mechael Sobel. Jefferson's Virginia, it turns out, was also Africa's Virginia, a culture suffused with African cosmology, spirituality, aesthetics, architecture and folk wisdom that ordinary whites embraced enthusiastically. Why? Because African views of art, religion, work and beauty actually reinforced medieval beliefs that white settlers had brought with them from England. In this corner of the "new world," Sobel argues, African slaves and English farmers created for a time a truly interracial culture, one deeply opposed to the elite values that planters like Jefferson espoused. If any book proves that "races" are cultural inventions, not biological "facts," it is surely this fascinating study.
student. And once we were in her class, she couldn't fail to make an impression. The force of her personality alone was enough to emboff her message on our brains. It is hard for me to imagine how anyone could walk out of her class and not remember what she had said. But she went beyond the classroom topics and opened up the world to us. Drawing on her own wide experience, she gave us examples from every continent. And more important, she took us outside and taught us to see for ourselves.

Hildegard could teach us more in a walk around the block than most people can teach in a 50-minute lecture. She couldn't understand how people could fail to see the world around them, or how anyone could really teach without giving students direct contact with the subject matter. We marveled at how much she could see in the landscape and how much she could tell us about history and culture from those subtle clues. She taught us to observe and think about our surroundings. She was always the master, though, and continued to amaze me with the tiny details that caught her attention. Every field experience was a source of pleasure, even something as simple as her first drive over the new Lake Street Bridge.

I don't know if I was even aware of the concept of "role model" when I was an undergraduate. In retrospect, though, it is clear how important Hildegard was to female geography students in particular. Hildegard's obvious stature in the field, her presence and authority had made a career in geography something to aspire to, something that was achievable. Women at Macalester were indeed very lucky to have Hildegard Johnson to emulate.

Elizabeth Hobbs ’72
Minneapolis

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At Macalester

At Macalester swimming team ever to earn All-MIAC status when she placed third in the 100-yard butterfly. Smith was the team's top diver and qualified for the national championships in her first year of collegiate competition.

In the MIAC Indoor Track and Field Championships, five women Scots earned All-Conference honors by placing in the top six. Anne Taylor (Stillwater, Minn.) became Mac's first frosh to claim an individual indoor title in nine years when she won the high jump. Karen Kreul (sophomore, Stevens Point, Wis.) placed second in the MIAC in the 800-meter run and fourth in the 1,500-meter run. She placed seventh in the 1,500 in the Division III national meet, missing All-America honors by half a second. Jennifer Tonkin (senior, Bellevue, Wash.) made All-Conference in the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter races. Heidi Mueller (sophomore, Mansfield, Wis.) made All-MIAC in the triple jump, as did Rebecca McCarrier (junior, Powell, Ohio) in the 1,000-meter run.

On the men's indoor track team, Richmond Sarpong (sophomore, Lobate, Botswana) and Justin Simon (first-year, Claremont, Calif.) were both All-MIAC. Sarpong finished third in the 55-meter dash and Simon was fifth in the 5,000-meter run. Quarter-miler Chris Link (sophomore, Sparks, Nev.) and distance runner Jasper Simon—Justin's twin brother—also had strong indoor seasons.

—Andy Johnson

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Letters

continued from inside front cover

Unfortunately will miss the experience of learning from the grand and dear lady for whom it was named.

Burke Strickland '69
Houston, Texas

The following is condensed from remarks made at the Jan. 27 memorial service for Dr. Johnson.

Hildegard Johnson made an indelible mark on the lives of many students.

Dr. Johnson was one of the first faculty members I met at Macalester. At freshman registration in the gym, I timidly asked if Human Geography was closed. She nearly jumped from her chair and boomed, "Who told you Human Geography is closed?" She never missed an opportunity to capture a new geography student and613.0x789.0

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Stay in Touch with the New Alumni Directory

The 1992–93 Alumni Directory is now available. It is the most comprehensive and informative directory in Macalester's history. We thank all alumni who made it so by answering the survey we mailed them last year.

The directory is intended for individual, personal communication among alumni. It lets you know what your classmates are doing and where they are living. It includes alphabetical, geographic and class listings.

If you ordered your copy when you returned your survey, it will be mailed to you in the next few weeks.

The directory will be available at Commencement May 22, and at Reunion Weekend June 4–6. To order a copy, please send a check, payable to Macalester, to: Alumni Office, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105. To order by MasterCard or Visa, call this toll-free telephone number and follow the directions: 1-800-662-6374. Messages are taken 24 hours a day.

Macalester College
1600 Grand Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105-1899

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