Sharon Sayles Belton '73: The mayor from Mac and other alumni activists
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.

Cultural boundaries
I applaud the article “Border Crossings” [November and February], relating the experiences of Macalester alumni in crossing cultural boundaries. 
Lesbians and gay men have a unique opportunity to relate cross-culturally and cross-racially since we are the one “minority” group which can be found in practically every culture. Therefore it is disappointing that your article did not include any of the cross-cultural experiences of gay men, lesbians or bisexuals.

I am co-chair of Men of All Colors Together/New York. We are a multicultural group composed primarily of gay and bisexual men who are involved in creating a community of people from many different backgrounds who are committed to fighting sexism, homophobia, classism and racism.

Readers who are interested in more information regarding our organization may write to us in care of MACT/NY, POB 1518, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023. Our phone number is (212) 330-7678. There are chapters of our organization throughout the U.S. We'll be happy to put you in contact with the one nearest you.

Elaine Johnson Morrell ’35
Puyallup, Wash.

Three Mac people
I was saddened to learn of the passing of three Macalester people who influenced me in different ways: Professor Doug Hatfield, Kathleen Emery ’67 and Larry Fredrickson ’66.

I had not known of Hatfield’s death in 1990. Proof of his high standards hit me in the public speaking course I took from him. During one required exposition, he stopped me in the middle, stood up and shouted, “Roger, your speeches are boring!” Classmates rushed to me afterwards, saying, “Rog, that was really unnecessary... I wouldn’t take that.”

But I did. Doug was right and I respected him for saying so. I have not spoken to a group since that day when his words were not with me, and I surely hope the fix made a difference with some of those audiences. I'm under contract to write a book and I remind myself of his advice in hopes it works on the written word as well! Thanks, Doug.

Kathleen and I got to know each other after our Mac days. She gave me some equally blunt advice, with the humor and impishness that were part of her charm. We hadn’t talked in years and I did not know she passed away last summer. Thanks, Kathleen.

Larry Fredrickson was a Dutch uncle so many times I cannot count them. A great mind and a wonderful guy. Thanks, Larry. Come to think of it, some of the best advice I’ve ever had came bluntly by way of Macalester associates. Thanks, guys.

And if anyone wants to talk about Doug or Kathleen or Larry, call me at 1-800-445-4744.

Roger S. Peterson ’67
Rocklin, Calif.

Beyond statistics
Sometimes when I read literature from Macalester I wonder if, in your grand plans, you are leaving any slack for students to flourish without carrying upward, ever upward the statistics of accomplishment.

Since leaving Macalester, I have accomplished some goals you consider laudable — two master's degrees, for example. But more and more I think it's important to try to be a critical thinker and a caring person without regard to symbols of achievement.

Some of my professors at Macalester — especially F. Earl Ward, Kenneth Holmes and Georshana Palmer — seemed to really care which path I took and how I fared. (I was grateful for the tribute to Professor Ward by Anne Harbour '63 in the February 1992 Macalester Today.) Perhaps that caring attitude rubbed off on me as much as the book learning did.

Elaine Johnson Morrell ’35
Puyallup, Wash.

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College begins hiring of 28 more faculty

Macalester has begun implementing a key component of its strategic plan: hiring 28 additional faculty members over the next five or six years.

The number of full-time faculty will increase from the current 137 to 165. That will reduce the faculty-student ratio from the current 12-to-1 to 10-to-1.

The Board of Trustees approved the outlines of the faculty hiring plan in February, and the faculty endorsed the plan in March. President Gavin recommended the increase in faculty size in May 1992 as part of the strategic plan.

As this issue of Macalester Today was going to press, at least three more faculty members had been hired for the 1994-95 academic year. The college expects that no more than five new faculty will be added each year, which means that the academic year 1999-2000 is the earliest date that Macalester would have 165 full-time faculty.

Of the 28 additional faculty, 10 have been designated "strategic hires" — faculty of color who will diversify the faculty and the curriculum.

"Those 10 hires are to ensure that we have some positions to diversify the faculty," said Provost Dan Hornbach, a biology professor at Macalester for the past decade. "But clearly we expect that other positions which will be filled through specific department searches will also result in hiring of color faculty members. It's not a 'quota' of 10."

All 28 new faculty are to be full-time positions. Those positions not designated as tenure-track will be used to hire international faculty or to hire in anticipation of retirement of a current faculty member. International visiting faculty will support the college's mission of internationalism, and many of the hiring in anticipation of retirement positions will be used to diversify the faculty.

History Professor Paul Solon, chair of the Faculty Advisory Council, told his colleagues in December that trustee approval of the faculty hiring plan marked "not the end of the planning process but simply the beginning of the next stage. Continual readjustment of the [hiring] plan will occur as circumstances change during the period of implementation."

Hornbach agreed. "The trustees are leaving it to the faculty and the administration to work out the details of how those 28 positions will be filled — the kinds of positions, which particular departments and so on," he said.

Two earn tenure

The Board of Trustees has approved tenure for Professors Teresita Martinez-Vergne and James von Geldern.

Martinez-Vergne joined Macalester's History Department in 1991 after holding faculty positions at Colgate and the University of Puerto Rico. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. In his report to the trustees, Provost Dan Hornbach described Martinez-Vergne as "an excellent teacher [who] develops in students a capacity for arriving at historical insights on their own." Her research has appeared in both English- and Spanish-language outlets and has won praise from members of the academic community. Her book, Capitalism in Colonial Puerto Rico, published in 1992, was called "an important contribution to the historiography of 19th century Latin America" and to "the new historiography of Puerto Rico." In addition, she has published articles on such topics as capitalism and labor in the sugar industry after the abolition of slavery; gender relations in the same period; overviews of Hispanic culture in the U.S. and the Caribbean, as well as reviews on a much broader range of subjects. She has also held a Ford Foundation fellowship.

Von Geldern joined the German-Russian Department in 1988. He earned his Ph.D. from Brown. His research expands the study of Russian society to include a wide range of materials from folk songs, television programs, storytelling and mass media, and thus goes well beyond language instruction into cultural studies. Von Geldern has published in a number of respected and high-profile scholarly outlets. His major book, Bolshevik Festivals, 1917-1920, published in 1993,
Macalester's new chaplain, the Rev. Lucy Forster-Smith, was installed in a special service Feb. 24 in Weyerhaeuser Chapel. Among those sharing the occasion was her husband, the Rev. Thomas Forster-Smith, second from right. Before coming to Macalester, she was campus minister for eight years at the University of Washington in Seattle and spent more than four years as chaplain and director of church relations at Carroll College in Waukesha, Wis. She earned her B.A. from Sioux Falls College and graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1979.

received favorable professional reviews and was called "essential reading" and a "pioneering study." Von Geldern's teaching performance and style have been warmly and genuinely received by students," Hornbach said. While he is especially strong in advanced classes on cultural studies, he is an effective teacher of the Russian language.

Crimean adventure

Until last year, no Western scholar had done research in the Crimean peninsula of the former Soviet Union since before the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

Beginning in July, a group of Macalester students will spend several weeks at an archaeological dig on the western edge of the Crimea which may have been the home of a diaspora Jewish community in the first and second century. They will be the first participants in the Macalester Black Sea Project, a joint archaeological venture with Zaporozhye State University in the Ukraine.

The project could continue each summer for three years or more and involve Macalester faculty, students and possibly alumni from a variety of disciplines.

The leader is Andy Overman, assistant professor of classics at Macalester. He and two colleagues from Princeton and the University of Puget Sound visited the area last October, meeting with scholars and archaeologists from the Ukraine, which is now an independent republic. Overman negotiated an agreement with the university and obtained a license from the Archaeological Institute of the Crimea to begin excavations this summer.

"This is information, a people and a part of the world cut off from us for 80 years," Overman said. "On two occasions we met scholars who actually cried in our presence because they never anticipated they would have the opportunity to work with colleagues from the West in their lifetime."

Overman and the students will excavate a site in the ancient city of Chersonesus, near modern-day Sevastopol, along the north coast of the Black Sea. It was part of the early Roman Empire. A series of Greek inscriptions dating to the first century talk about diaspora Jewish communities which were involved in the area's broader civic life and legal decisions. The inscriptions speak of obtaining freedom for slaves and the Jewish community taking responsibility for the freed slaves.

"No diaspora synagogue dating to the early Roman period has ever been discovered," Overman said. "In addition, we do not presently conceive of Jews, pagans and eventually Christians living together — more or less harmoniously — in such a pluralistic setting.

"How were these groups getting along and doing business together while they were learning not to get along in other locales in the empire? What was the relationship between these diaspora communities and the slaves whose freedom the synagogue purchased or ultimately took responsibility for? These are some of the questions that our excavations will try to answer."

Intersession stays

Macalester is keeping its January term, now known as Intersession, but taking steps to make sure it runs more smoothly in January of 1995.

Intersession replaced the old Interim as part of a series of major academic reforms approved by the faculty in December 1991. The changes took effect in the current 1993–94 academic year.

Intersession was designed to strengthen the January term by better integrating it into the academic curriculum. Students were graded (Interim courses were on a pass-fail basis), and departments were allowed to offer Intersession courses that count toward a student's major and/or meet distribution requirements.

The first Intersession was held this past January. Many students, faculty and staff called it a "disaster" because of an insufficient number of courses for all the students who wanted them, and an insufficient number of faculty members to teach them.

After lengthy debates, the faculty voted twice — by a 56-24 margin Feb. 16 and 63-49 a week later — to retain the January Intersession. But both the faculty and the
administration are considering various ways to avoid a repetition of this past January's experience.

Other academic reforms which took effect during the current academic year include, among others, a "capstone" experience for seniors in their major and small courses (no more than 16 students) for first-year students.

"At the same time that we were trying to implement Intersession," Provost Dan Hombach said, "we also implemented first-year courses to decrease the sizes of the average classes for first-year students. We also implemented the capstone experiences, which meant that upper-level students needed to have some small classes. "And we had a reduction in the faculty teaching load to have more time for faculty to spend one-on-one with students through independent study and internships. All those things came together at one time. There was never a phase-in plan developed."

To make certain that Intersession succeeds, Hombach and the faculty are discussing ways to have tenured faculty members teach an additional four credits over the next three years. The question of Intersession will be re-examined in 1996-97 when the college expects to have additional faculty members on campus.

"We're going to do our best to make sure this does not occur again, and that we manage the current system more effectively," Hombach said.

International exchange

The first Macalester Roundtable will bring a former United Nations undersecretary-general and several other prominent figures to campus Oct. 6-8.

Intended as an annual fall event, the roundtable will focus on a fundamental global question and bring to campus a world figure to present a visionary address on the topic. Distinguished scholars will be commissioned to write on the theme. The theme of the first roundtable is “The International Community and the Emerging World (Dis)Order.” The keynote speaker on Thursday, Oct. 6, will be Sir Brian Urquhart, former UN undersecretary-general.

Other roundtable participants include:

• Kofi Annan '61, current UN undersecretary-general for peacekeeping operations;
• Herb Addo, reader in international relations, University of the West Indies;
• Johan Galtung, professor of peace studies, University of Hawaii and European Peace University;
• Ernest Le Fever, senior fellow, Ethics and Public Policy Center, Chevy Chase, Md.; and
• Yoshikazu Sakamoto, senior research fellow, Peace Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo.

The roundtable will generate scholarly papers and opinion pieces that will be published in a journal, Macalester International. Macalester faculty and students and WPI journalists will respond to the scholars' papers during the roundtable.

Winning words

Alvin Greenberg, professor of English at Macalester, has won the annual Chelsea Poetry Award for a group of six poems. They will be published in this summer's issue of Chelsea, a prominent literary magazine based in New York City.

Greenberg has also written the libretto for an opera, Apollonia's Circus, a contemporary version of the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. The opera is being given its premiere Friday through Sunday, May 13-15, at the University of Minnesota's new Ted Mann Concert Hall.

The composer is Eric Stokes, a retired University of Minnesota music faculty member. Greenberg and Stokes collaborated on two previous operas, Horspfal in 1969 and The Jealous Cellist in 1979. Apollonia's Circus will be conducted by Vern Sutton, head of the university's School of Music, and conducted by Alvin Greenberg, professor of English at Macalester.

Capital projects

Capital projects continue to be a major part of Macalester's strategic plan as the college upgrades older buildings and adds new ones to support academic programs, student life and athletic programs.

The college has spent about $36 million on capital projects since 1988. The Board of Trustees in February approved spending $48 million more between 1994 and 2000. The major projects include:

• completing the renovation of Olin and Rice Halls of Science ($17 million).
Lanegran leads the way to a new paradigm in geography education

Macalester geography Professor David Lanegran '63 is heading a project to create a national geography curriculum that will carry the discipline into the 21st century.

"The key idea here is that we shouldn't have a curriculum that is static," Lanegran said.

"GeoLinks" is a computer-based curriculum project currently being tested in grades K-12 in 12 school districts throughout Minnesota. It is supported by a $300,000 grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education, the National Geographic Society and the Minnesota Department of Education.

Its most innovative aspect is flexibility in curriculum development. Using the unique sorting features of the Hypercard User software program and Macintosh computers, GeoLinks enables teachers to produce an infinite number of curricula by assembling lessons into special sequences which meet their students' needs and interests.

At the heart of GeoLinks is a set of 128 testable outcomes that describe what a college-bound high school student should know and be able to do. The outcomes, developed by secondary teachers and faculty from the Minnesota State University System and other Minnesota colleges, have been officially adopted by the University System as an entrance requirement.

GeoLinks combines the outcomes (which have also been tied to the national standards for geography) with a collection (or "stack") of hundreds of lessons prepared by teachers working in a variety of settings. Teachers using the program decide what outcomes or standards they wish to achieve, and then use the GeoLinks program's sorting features to select the appropriate lessons.

Teachers can also select lessons by key words, grade level, learning style, cognitive level and continent.

The curriculum program is produced and distributed entirely on computer disks, without texts or worksheets. By using only disks, the program can be easily updated and cheaply redistributed to teachers. This not only keeps it from becoming obsolete, but also allows for what Lanegran calls its "parish cookbook" approach. Teachers can purchase GeoLinks at a discount by submitting their own favorite geography lessons, to be added to later editions, and receive hundreds of classroom-tested lessons in return.

"The philosophy behind the program is not to do away with textbooks, but to allow the teacher to decide how much of the class is from text," Lanegran said.

Lanegran hopes GeoLinks will create what he calls a "post-modern" geography curriculum which incorporates international voices. He already has Koreans writing lessons for future editions of GeoLinks. "My ultimate goal is to have Koreans writing lessons about Korea, Kuwaitis writing lessons about Kuwait and so on," Lanegran explained.

He demonstrated GeoLinks during a recent trip to Seoul. "If teachers have this, they won't have work to do anymore," one Korean remarked.

"That's sort of the point," Lanegran said.

Recognizing the time limitations that teachers have to deal with, Lanegran also hopes to incorporate skills from other disciplines into the geography lessons. "We can't add things to the school day. So we've got to figure out how to do a few things at once."

Lanegran is being assisted by Teresa DesLaurier and teachers from the Macalester-based Minnesota Alliance for Geographic Education as well as work-study students in Macalester's Geography Department. GeoLinks currently contains 400 lessons. The goal is to have 1,000 in 1996.

GeoLinks will greatly determine the future of geography teaching in the United States. As Lanegran puts it, "We hope to create a new paradigm in geographic education."

— Lara Granich '97

Construction is expected to begin in spring or summer of 1995 and take two and a half years to complete. The renovation is intended to increase interaction among college departments, make the buildings more inviting and increase space for research laboratories.

- construction of a new Campus Center ($20.3 million), targeted for 1997-1999.
- making needed improvements for accessibility, health and safety in campus buildings, and the continuing residence hall renovations.

The college intends to raise $10 million of the $48 million total, with the rest coming from endowment income and borrowing. The borrowing will be paid back through increased debt service as part of the capital budget.

Expansion of the athletic fields is expected to be completed this summer. The expansion is intended to benefit not only varsity sports teams but intramural and
Jeffersonian ideals

History Professor Emily Rosenberg is the recipient of the 1994 Thomas Jefferson Award, which is given each year to a Macalester faculty member who exemplifies Jefferson's ideals.

Since she joined the faculty in 1974, Rosenberg has won distinction for her teaching, scholarship — especially in the history of U.S. foreign relations — and service to the Macalester community.

The citation read by President Gavin said, in part: “Throughout all your endeavors, you have displayed tolerance for diverse points of view while standing up forthrightly for your own positions. Like Thomas Jefferson, you believe that free speech is wasted on the meek.”

Honorary degrees

Alumni are invited to nominate candidates for honorary degrees at Macalester’s Commencement in 1995 or future years.

Honorary degrees formally recognize and honor distinguished alumni, outstanding supporters of the college, and men and women of pre-eminent achievement. The Honorary Degree Committee is seeking local, national or international candidates whose character, creativity and contributions to humanity reflect Macalester’s commitment to academic excellence, internationalism, multiculturalism and service.

Nominations should be sent to Provost Dan Hornbach. For more information, call (612) 696-6160.

Problem solvers

Competing against 34 other teams from around the world, a Macalester team finished in an eight-way tie for seventh place in the International Collegiate Programming Contest held by the Association for Computing Machinery.

In five hours, the team of Sean McGuire '95 (Minneapolis), Eric Musser '95 (Loudonville, N.Y.) and Simeon Simeonov '96 (Bulgaria) solved four of the eight programming problems. First place went to the University of Waterloo (Canada) team, which solved six problems.

The contest was held March 9 at the association’s annual convention in Phoenix, Ariz.

The team from Macalester, which was the only liberal arts college in the world to compete in the finals, was coached by Duane Olavsky, assistant professor of mathematics and computer science. It advanced to the finals by placing first out of the 69 teams which competed in the North Central Regional Contest last November. This was the second year in a row that Macalester has advanced to the finals, and Musser has been a contestant both times.

Mondale video

The college still has copies of a 50-minute videotape of the Sept. 10 visit to campus by Walter Mondale ’50 and Jimmy Carter.

The videotape includes footage of the Mondale-Carter convocation and the day’s highlights.

You may also order both an audiotape and a transcript of the convocation.

All are free.

For any or all three of these, please send a postcard with your name, address, phone number and specific request to: Media Services, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. Allow three weeks for delivery.

The videotape was made possible by a gift from Judy Dayton, a friend of the college.

Winter sports

Three of Macalester’s winter sports teams posted their highest conference finish in years this past season.

The women’s basketball team, coached by John Hershby, took fifth place in the 11-team MIAC, matching the 1987-88 team for best league finish ever. The Scots were 14-11 overall, 10-10 in the conference. Macalester scored its first victory ever against Concordia, a 79-78 win in double overtime.

Twin sisters Leslie and Susie Plettner (seniors, Des Moines, Iowa) were outstanding. Leslie made All-Conference for the second straight year, leading the team in scoring (15.0), rebounding (9.3), steals (2.6) and blocked shots (1.4). Susie, named All-MIAC honorable mention, finished second on the team in scoring (10.7) and rebounding (6.2).

Nikki Epperson (sophomore, Sandy, Utah) averaged 8.6 points and was second

Mayors meet at Macalester

St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman joined Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton ’73 at a March 15 convocation in Cochran Lounge.

The two outlined their plans for their cities and answered questions from students and faculty. “This is a time of great hope, great opportunity, great enthusiasm,” Coleman declared. Sayles Belton was just as optimistic about the future of Minneapolis. It was the first time since last fall’s election that the two new mayors had participated in a joint program at a Twin Cities college.
All-Conference player Leslie Plettner drives for the basket in a game against St. Benedict.

in the conference with 4.0 assists per game. Ali Tinkham (sophomore, Fort Calhoun, Neb.) added 6.5 points and Anna Schneider (first-year, Hancock, Mich.) scored 6.1 and sank 32 three-pointers.

“Our team played to its potential this year,” Hershey said. “We finished higher than all the MIAC teams that had talent equal to or weaker than us, but I’m not satisfied with a fifth-place finish. If we can get into the top three next year, we can get to the NCAA tournament, and that’s a realistic goal.”

Coach Bob Pearson’s men’s swimming and diving team enjoyed its most successful season in more than a decade, improving from sixth to fourth place. His women’s team earned sixth place, their best finish ever.

The men picked up dual meet victories over St. John’s and Hamline, and placed fourth at the MIAC championships at the end of the season. Five Mac standouts earned All-MIAC honors by placing in the top three of an event at the conference meet.

Chris Peak (senior, Fort Collins, Colo.) placed second in the 1,650-yard freestyle. Brian Deiger (junior, Toledo, Ohio) took third in the 200-yard backstroke and added fourth-place finishes in the 100 back and 200 individual medley. Aaron Gale (senior, Fort Collins, Colo.) placed third in the 200 freestyle and fourth in the 100 free. Adam Johnson (first-year, Juneau, Alaska), one of the top newcomers in the MIAC, was third in the 100-yard breaststroke and fifth in the 200 breaststroke. Macalester also received valuable points in the diving competition from Kai Tuominen (first-year, Shoreview, Minn.), who was judged the second-best diver on the one-meter board and third best on the three-meter board. Macalester’s best relay team performance at the conference meet was the 800-yard freestyle relay team, which took third.

The women’s team was led by diver Christa Smith (sophomore, Golden Valley, Minn.). Smith became Macalester’s first MIAC individual champion when she placed first in both one-meter and three-meter diving with school-record scores. She qualified for nationals for the second year in a row.

The Scots also received an outstanding season from Stacy Grant (first-year, Bay Village, Ohio). Even though she was ill during the conference meet, Grant earned All-MIAC honors by placing third in the 200-yard breaststroke to go along with a fourth-place performance in the 100-yard breaststroke. Smith and Grant were just the fifth and sixth Macalester athletes to earn All-Conference awards at a MIAC women’s swimming meet.

Doug Bolstorff’s 28th and final season as men’s basketball coach at Macalester was a frustrating one. The Scots won just one of 24 games and finished last in the MIAC. Macalester’s only victory came in an 80-68 triumph over Concordia in Moorhead.

Defensively, the Scots had two of the league’s top scorers, guard Dwain Chamberlain (sophomore, Southfield, Mich.), who averaged 15.4 points per game, and forward Bobby Aguirre (junior, Chino, Calif.), who averaged 14.3 points and led the team with 51 steals. Point guard Cornelius Brown (senior, St. Louis, Mo.) led the team in both assists (3.7 per game) and rebounding (5.3). Adam Benepe (junior, St. Paul) connected on 36 three-pointers and averaged 9.4 points, while Steve Morrow (sophomore, Wylie, Texas) averaged 9.2 points.

The men’s and women’s track teams concluded the indoor part of the schedule with the conference championships in early March. Nine members of the men’s team earned All-Conference status at the indoor championships, led by a trio who registered fourth-place finishes. Chris Link (junior, Sparks, Nev.) placed fourth in the 400-meter dash, Justin Simon (sophomore, Claremont, Calif.) took fourth in the 5,000-meter run and Justin’s twin, Jasper Simon, was fourth in the 1,500-meter run. Richmond Sarpong (junior, Lobatse, Botswana) placed fifth in the 55-meter dash and Link was sixth at 200 meters.

The women’s track team was led at the MIAC championships by Karen Kreul (junior, Stevens Point, Wis.) and Martha Sarpong (first-year, Juaso, Ghana). Kreul took sixth in the 1,000-meter run while Sarpong placed sixth in the triple jump.

— Andy Johnson

Bolstorff reassigned

Men’s basketball coach Doug Bolstorff was reassigned at the end of the season to other duties within the Physical Education and Athletics Department. He will continue at Macalester as men’s golf coach and physical education instructor.

A national search for a new men’s basketball coach began in March and was expected to be concluded this spring.

Bolstorff coached men’s basketball at Macalester for 28 years, compiling a 264-490 record. Since 1959 he has coached baseball, cross country and track at Macalester, and led his teams to 15 conference championships in cross country and track.

“I praise Doug for his tireless dedication to his work and his high level of commitment to his teams,” said Athletic Director Ken Andrews ’72. “He is very well-liked and respected by the staff and former players, and his contributions over his long and distinguished career at Mac are appreciated by everyone with whom he’s come in contact. He will continue to make positive contributions to this department as a teacher and coach.”

MAY 1994 7
Ode to Otis and Hank; defending the poor; saving cultures

“TWO YEARS AGO WAS THE WORST
and last year was about as bad. It was like someone turned the faucet off. Now, there's a slow trickle.”

Denise Ward, director of Macalester's Career Development Center, describing the job market for college seniors in the Jan. 30 St. Paul Pioneer Press

“IT IS ALREADY TOO LATE TO SAVE
the Caribs and Arawaks of the Caribbean or to save the aborigines of Tasmania, but we can save those [native] cultures that are still here and are now endangered. We may be the last generation to have an influence over the fate of some of these people. If we don’t act to ensure their rights to live in their homeland and have a livelihood, some of them such as the Yanomamo of Brazil may disappear.

“Even though we cannot undo past injustices, we can be the ones who stop them and thereby prevent future ones. The choice belongs to us, and the ramifications of that choice will echo forever.”


“PROBLEMS INVOLVING RACE
continue to serve as the crucibles in which our commitment to our high social ideals and indeed our sense of ourselves as Americans, hyphenated or otherwise, are tested.”

Richard Yarborough, English professor at UCLA and chair of its African-American Studies Program. He was speaking Feb. 22 at a Macalester convocation on “Race, Multiculturalism and Political Correctness.”

“I THINK WE’VE COME A LONG WAY
over this academic year, but we can continue to learn more about how we can accommodate faculty, staff and students with disabilities.”

Lora Hendrickson, associate director of Macalester's Human Resources Department. She was quoted in a Feb. 25 Mac Weekly article about the college’s efforts to make sure its buildings are accessible and comply with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

“I HAVE BECOME MUCH MORE
optimistic about this recovery than I was before . . . There have been a lot of orders for durable goods in the past year

Sandy Schram, political scientist

and they aren’t all filled yet. That means factories will be working to fill them.”

Jim Simler, Macalester economics professor, quoted in a Feb. 2 WCCO-TV report on signs of growth in the national economy

“DESPITE THE REGION'S MANY
problems, if not because of them, the American South has, arguably, produced the world’s largest, richest body of regional music . . .

“As someone who grew up in the rural South and loved music more than anything in the world, rhythm and blues and country have always been immeasurably important to me — as a way out, as a way of making sense of the world around me, as a way of finding the secret promise within the tragedy of the South. Even today, when all of the postpunk-postmodern-post-oh-well-whatever-nevermind bends out there get me in a rut, I usually turn to Otis [Redding] or Hank [Williams] for answers, and they’ve yet to let me down.”

Chris Herrington ’96 (Memphis, Tenn.), music editor of the Mac Weekly, writing in the newspaper’s March 4 issue

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AS
informed as they are about so many things, do not know a great deal about the visceral level of the American experience.

They can’t until they see the native peoples, the so-called Indians and Africans, as part of the American experience.”

Mahmoud El-Kati, lecturer in history at Macalester, discussing Black History Month in February in an interview with the Detroit Lakes, Minn., Tribune

“IT IS A MISTAKE TO ASSUME THAT
welfare recipients and other persons living in poverty do not want training and do not want to work. This assumption only leads to welfare programs that try to reduce the welfare population by focusing on moving recipients off the rolls without accounting for the fact that large numbers of people will come onto the rolls in search of those training opportunities.

“Expanding the existing Job Training and Partnership program here in Minnesota and elsewhere to offer needed training to all low-income people would be a better substitute than welfare programs that assume welfare recipients are different and need a special push to get a decent job. We also need to go beyond providing job-training and ensure that sustained economic development policies will stimulate the economy to create the kinds of jobs for which people will be trained.

“Limiting job-training programs to welfare is just another excuse to blame the poor for their own problems.”

Sanford Schram, associate professor of political science at Macalester, in a column in the March 14 Minneapolis Star Tribune

“SERVICE TO ME IS NOT SOMETHING
I plan to hold on to for just this year while I am coordinating MACTION [the student-run community service organization]. It is something that I want to keep with me for the rest of my life. I feel that once a person begins to do service, he or she probably won't stop. Service is addicting in a good way.”

Brooke Schultz ’96 (River Hills, Wis.), writing in the December issue of the Macalester Community Service Office newsletter

“WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT
we are all interconnected, we are all interdependent. If I fail, you fail.”

Sharon Sayles Belton ’73, describing her challenge as mayor of Minneapolis. She and St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman spoke to Macalester students, faculty and staff March 15 in Cochran Lounge.
Prague's Velvet Evolution

Low prices and the lure of history draw young Macalester grads to the ‘Paris of the ’90s’

by Joseph Kutchera ’92

On my first visit to Prague in October 1992, I strolled through the 900-year-old castle district, whose heart is St. Vitus Cathedral. Walking down a pedestrian lane amidst a river of tourists, I was approaching a park when suddenly I heard someone yell, “Joe!”

Lying on the grass were Steven Kotok ’92 and Daniel Kotzin ’92. Each was sipping a bottle of the local brew, Pilsner Urquell, and enjoying the autumn sunshine. Both were living in Prague.

I shouldn’t have been surprised. Like me, they had good reasons for being in Prague. As college seniors, we all faced the same question: what to do in the “real” world? The job market didn’t appear promising. Articles had appeared in various newspapers about Americans living in Prague, the “Paris of the ’90s.” The idea intrigued me. I had never lived abroad. Eastern Europe offered a variety of...
opportunities for young Americans. Although I spoke not a word of Czech, I decided to follow my ancestors' roots to what was then Czechoslovakia.

I wasn't alone. During 15 months in Czechoslovakia, I met 10 recent Macalester graduates, corresponded with three others and heard of a dozen more elsewhere in Eastern Europe.

Unlike many other Americans, I secured a job beforehand through a teacher placement agency. I had taken "Intro to Education" at Macalester and done some volunteer teaching. That was the extent of my classroom experience. It was enough to get me a job teaching English at the Secondary Industrial Textile School in Liberec, a city of 100,000, a 90-minute drive north of Prague.

The school turned out to be a leftover of the Communist regime. Students learned textile skills for jobs that did not interest them on machines that were 40 years out of date. During the academic year, the only advice I ever got about teaching English to my 172 students was: "Work on pronunciation." I learned to teach by trial and error. I would have never had such latitude in the U.S.

As the year wore on, I realized that I needed my students — who were accustomed to the rigidity of the Communist system — to talk more. I turned to humor. I provoked them with statements like "English grammar is your friend." This got them laughing and sometimes screaming "No!" back at me. "Czech-lish," a combination of Czech and English words in one sentence, also worked. Funniest of all was my trying to speak Czech, which is incredibly difficult to pronounce. My efforts never failed to get a laugh out of them.

To the Czechs, learning English offers the key to the larger world of business, politics, movies, MTV and all of my students' favorite stars: Michael Jackson, Guns 'n' Roses, Kevin Costner and Julia Roberts.

In the park in Prague that day, I learned Dan Kotzin (English major from Highland Park, Ill.) was teaching English and Steven Kotok (economics, from Rochester, N.Y.) intended to do the same. However, Steven ended up in the restaurant business at New York Pizza, in the heart of Prague. He did the scheduling and promotional work and eventually helped open the restaurant's second location. After eight months, he opened The 120 Club, which he owned jointly with two Czechs.

"I wanted to work in Europe, but it wasn't possible in the EC [European Community] countries," Steven said. He hoped to "see Eastern Europe while it lasted." Working in the restaurant business, Steven saw how the Communist way of thought had affected the serving of food. Food preparation was only done one way; all restaurant help worked 18-hour shifts for three days, followed by two days off; and restaurants deliberately tried to run out of everything by the end of the day. Now, after two waves of privatization, "you have a whole different city on your hands," Steven said. "There used to be a hundred stores that said 'Meat' above them. Now, each has a personal twist."

BEFORE WE GRADUATED, PATRICK KELLY '92 (English major from Minneapolis) and I had talked at Dunn Brothers, a popular hangout for Macalester students, about going to Czechoslovakia. I never met him there, but he told me later that he learned Czech "the best way" — living with a Czech family that didn't speak English. "It was extremely rewarding." He found a job teaching at Soukroma Akademie, a private business college in Prague.

"We were making more money than the Czech [teachers]," Patrick said, wondering whether the American teachers were really worth their salary. "I didn't know how much we were helping the Czechs." Of the hordes of Americans living in the Czech capital, Patrick said, "I felt like the biggest cliche in the world. I don't want to be considered a snob, but I got sick of Americans [in Prague]. I was trying to get away from that. The privilege and lack of humility which I saw among my [American] peers and their lack of respect towards the Czech culture sickened me." At the same time, Patrick admitted that "I was probably as guilty of these things..."
As they were. It was the most profound experience of my life [and] humbling for me.

After teaching in Liberec for a year, I moved to Prague myself to work for Prognosis, an English-language newspaper for which I'd written freelance articles. Although I wanted to be a journalist, I accepted a position as an advertising representative to get my foot in the door. I worked there for four months.

I met Lacey Eckl '92 (history major, Atlanta). She was living with a Czech couple in an apartment in the heart of Prague, paying only $50 a month in rent, the usual price. Vaclav Havel, the writer who later became his country's president, and the couple, Mirek Vodrakova and Iva Vodrakova, were arrested in the same apartment by the secret police in the 1980s while meeting with other dissidents. Iva, a graphic artist and painter, and Mirek, a philosopher, musician and journalist, introduced Lacey to a number of acclaimed Czech artists and intellectuals, all friends of theirs.

"Living in Prague has taught me what I can live without," said Lacey, who was teaching English at a Berlitz language school in Prague when I talked to her. "I used to live a more consumer-oriented lifestyle in the United States." Now, she said, things like a car are "not essential to my happiness."

While waiting for the subway in Prague, I met a current Macalester student, Lucie Bendova '94 (political science and French major). All the other Mac people I met were Americans. Lucie is one of several students from Czechoslovakia who have attended Macalester in the last few years. Following the Velvet Revolution in 1989, Lucie and her family moved to Washington, D.C., where her father was a correspondent for the Czechoslovak News Agency. Her parents moved back to Prague in January 1993.

Last summer, Lucie returned to her homeland for the first time since 1989, working as an intern for the Czech Republic for giving me the insight and the experience which have helped make me an adult.

Yet while the culture is changing rapidly, much remains the same. "The old Communist system created huge problems," Lucie said, and the Russian occupation has left "moral and spiritual damage. Our generation has a chance [to recover], but my parents' generation doesn't. They are, in a way, a lost generation."

It is now five months since I returned home. The Czech Republic seems like a dream. Nevertheless, I know that living there changed me. The Czechs' history of oppression (from the Austro-Hungarian empire, the Nazis and finally the Communists) shaped their world view and altered mine. It was exciting to watch the Communist system change, sometimes on a daily basis, and the people discover or rediscover their freedom. I persevered through homesickness and insomnia. I learned a language and culture from the ground up as well as the valuable skills of teaching. America's materialism and insularity, which verges on myopia, are now more striking to me, and our problems of race and power seem worse. All in all, I can thank the people of the Czech Republic for giving me the insight and the experience which have helped make me an adult.
Macalester alumni make a difference in Minnesota government and politics

by Jack El-Hai
HEN SHARON SAYLES BELTON ’73 won election last fall as the mayor of Minneapolis, she became perhaps the most visible Macalester alumna or alumnus on the current Minnesota political scene. But as anyone who follows Minnesota politics knows, Macalester alumni have long been active in shaping public policy, on both the state and the local level.

"This is going to sound hokey, but I’m one of those ‘change people,’" Sayles Belton said while campaigning for mayor. "I am a catalyst for change who can help people achieve their vision."

It’s an apt description for many other Macites. Even for some who didn’t plan on a political career.

"I haven’t had a career — I’ve had accidents. During college I had no career goals other than being a teacher." Even when Vellenga met Eleanor Roosevelt during a United Nations study tour, "I was thrilled to meet her but didn’t think, ‘Here’s a wonderful mentor.’"

After graduating from Macalester, Vellenga taught in a Montessori school, raised a family, worked with the League of Women Voters and became involved in the community social work of her church. But 20 years passed before she sought elective office. She ran for the St. Paul school board in 1978 after noticing that "no one on the board had children in public schools." She lost that election, but she attracted the attention of Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party members searching for someone to run for her district’s House seat. "My response was: ‘What! Partisan politics?’ But I went to the Legislature and watched what they were doing, and I said, ‘I can do this.’" Vellenga won that election in a hard-fought contest, and is doing it.

This year, Vellenga will vacate that seat. "I want to leave while I still like doing it, and after 14 years I’ve learned that you’ll never finish all the work that’s here to do,” she says. Two other Mac alums — Matt Entenza ’83, an assistant state attorney general, and C. Scott Cooper ’90, constituent advocate and issue liaison to U.S. Sen. Paul Wellstone — were seeking DFL endorsement this spring to replace her.

In contrast to Vellenga, "I’ve been involved in politics and public policy in one way or another ever since I came to Macalester," Cooper says. "Although no specific event was a catalyst, my time at Macalester helped clarify where I wanted to be going. The community there helped me develop my commitment to social responsibility and public service."

Another activist who found political direction at Macalester is Bob Long ’81. Former member of the St. Paul City Council and unsuccessful seeker of the DFL endorsement for the St. Paul mayor’s

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After 14 years, Kathleen Osborne Vellenga ’59 is retiring from the Minnesota House of Representatives.

"I haven’t had a career — I’ve had accidents. During college I had no career goals other than being a teacher."

— Kathleen Vellenga

Jack El-Hai, a Minneapolis free-lance writer, most recently contributed to Macalester Today the two-part article "Border Crossings: Encounters with Another Culture."
I hope that if I started telling people I had lost my idealism, they would slap me in the face.

— Scott Cooper

C. Scott Cooper '90, shown in his St. Paul neighborhood, and Matt Entenza '83 were seeking DFL endorsement to replace Kathleen Vellenga '59 in the Minnesota House.

office in 1993, he is currently a declared candidate for Ramsey County attorney. "I wasn't politically minded until I came to Macalester, but I had a developing interest in learning more about it," Long says. While a student he ran for student council president, "and I did something no one had done before: I door-knocked all the dorms and talked to people." Long won that race, worked in a congressional internship, went to law school and spent two years in the Minnesota attorney general's consumer fraud division.

In 1987, Long says, he was "persuaded" to run for the St. Paul City Council against an incumbent who had long represented Macalester's district. "I was a sacrificial lamb. Nobody thought he was beatable." But Long did win, by 183 votes out of 12,000 cast. "I attributed my victory to Macalester students," he observes. "We registered over 300 on election day."

Although elective office or work within the government might appear the natural path for someone interested in public policy, there are other career routes. Mel Duncan '72 is executive director of the Minnesota Alliance for Progressive Action (MAPA), a Twin Cities-based grassroots organizing group. He briefly considered running for a state Senate seat a few years ago, but ultimately rejected the idea.

"I realized that what keeps me motivated is working with a lot of people as they assert their power,"
The problem with America today is that there's no sense of community. People no longer share the same values.

Sharon Sayles Belton '73, a consensus-builder par excellence, referred to that popular argument when she gave her inaugural address as mayor of Minneapolis last January. Then she rebutted it.

"I believe we do share community values," she declared, "values that transcend race, economic status, individual need and ambition, values that constitute the framework of our society and community life... Our values are work, education, respect and responsibility.

"We value our children, and know that our future lies in their hands. We value strong families, and know that only they can provide our children a safe and protective environment, and teach them the values of respect, education, responsibility and hard work.

"We value the entire community's role in the lives of our children, because it takes a whole village — or city — to raise a child...."

Sayles Belton is the first woman mayor of Minneapolis. And in a city that is 78 percent white, she became the first black mayor as well, defeating a conservative white opponent.

One of nine children, she grew up in St. Paul, where her family still goes to Pilgrim Baptist Church, and Minneapolis. At Macalester, she became a civil rights activist, helping blacks to register to vote in Mississippi in the late 1960s. She also became a single mother. Her daughter, Kilayna, now 22, was born brain-damaged.

"It was a heavy, growing-up experience," she told St. Paul Pioneer Press columnist Nick Coleman last fall. "For a moment, I thought I would become a mess, but then I thought, if I fall apart here, what's going to happen to my daughter?" Her stepmother's advice helped: "She told me, 'You can whine about things or you can do something about them.' I decided to do something.

She got a job as a parole officer for the Minnesota Department of Corrections. After five years in that job, she spent five more as assistant director of a state program for victims of sexual assault, helping to establish rape crisis centers across the state.

After marrying attorney Steve Belton — they have two other children, Jordan, now 7, and Coleman, 4 — she won election as a DFL candidate to the Minneapolis City Council in 1983, becoming council president in 1989. As a politician, she is no "soft touch," the Minneapolis Star Tribune said in an editorial last fall. "Even friends describe her as a street fighter who can be just as tough and intimidating as [her mayoral race opponent] when it suits her purpose.

"But she is more often a conciliator, a bridge-builder, a forger of alliances. As council president, Sayles Belton brought new peace to that body and healed long-standing divisions within the mayor's office."

As mayor, Sayles Belton has a daunting list of urban problems to tackle. Whether or not she succeeds in making a difference, she is at least appealing, in her inaugural address and elsewhere, to people's best instincts.

"I believe in the things I learned in church," she told Nick Coleman. "I believe in doing unto others as you would have them do unto you. It's hokey, but it's real. We're all in this together, under God — all those things our Constitution talks about in the beautiful words in the preamble...

"I'm not going to whine about things. I'm going to do something."

Carlos Mariani '79, who represents St. Paul's West Side in the Minnesota House, agrees that holding elective office keeps him distant from the kind of hands-on organizing of people for a cause that he long performed for such groups as the Neighborhood Justice Center, Ramsey County Action Programs and the Minnesota Council of
"I believe in magic," Carlos Mariani '79 told students at Macalester last summer. "I believe magic is when people come together." Mariani was speaking to about 30 high school students of color enrolled in Macalester's "Maccess" summer program, which is designed to help promising minority students think about and prepare for college. He told of his own experiences at Macalester as a student of Puerto Rican descent. Then he described his first campaign for the Minnesota House of Representatives, in a district covering the culturally mixed West Side of St. Paul.

"We put together one helluva coalition," he told them. "I saw diversity in my own campaign... If you [young people of color] don't become involved, we're going to fail. We need strength through diversity."

Carlos Mariani speaking to high school students of color at Macalester last summer

Mariani was a social activist before he came to Macalester. Growing up on Chicago's West Side, the son of working-class immigrants from Puerto Rico, he helped organize youth activities at a Lutheran church. He was nicknamed "preacher man" by neighborhood kids because of the Bible he carried.

"Gangs, drug dealing and violence had started in the neighborhood," he recalls. "I got involved in outreach with gang members. We wanted to create a neutral zone where people could come freely. The gang members were enthusiastic about it. I didn't know it at the time, but that was organizing work."

Eventually, Mariani caught the attention of an intern at the church, Jonathon Berg '72, who suggested he apply to Macalester. (Berg is now a pastor in Springfield, Ill.) "I laughed at the possibility of going to a private college — I thought that was only for rich kids," Mariani says. "Then he asked me if I knew about financial aid; I had never heard of it."

At Macalester, Mariani forged a friendship with Juan Figueroa '77, another student of Puerto Rican descent, who became his mentor. "I was looking for career direction," Mariani recalls, "and his advice was to find a community that I could feel comfortable making a long-term commitment to. That was an approach consistent with my values and beliefs."

Figueroa went to law school and became a state legislator in Connecticut. Mariani eventually moved to St. Paul's West Side, immersing himself in social activism with a neighborhood justice center, Ramsey County Action Programs and the Minnesota Council of Churches. When the House seat for his district became vacant, he ran and won it after a tough campaign.

"There is an old-boys network here [in the House], a seniority network, and money does talk and courage is rare," he says. "But I also find extraordinary courage and people willing to sacrifice a lot for public policy."

During his two terms, Mariani has worked on legislation to give the children of migrant workers the opportunity to attend public universities at the same cost that Minnesota residents pay. He also fought a proposal to gut the Minnesota Heritage Act, a law that facilitates the adoption of children of color by families of the same ethnic background.

"A lot of what I'm doing is stopping some bad ideas that are too broad-based and sweeping," he says. "More often than not, I'm on the losing side. I fight to win, but it's also important to struggle at all times — it gives hope to people when legislators don't just blow with the wind."

Mariani has no patience with political cynics who question the value of government.

"It may at times need new methodologies, but we shouldn't question the need for government to actively take part in social issues." His own family was too poor to pay for college. "I wouldn't have gone to Macalester if there were not resources that the federal government made available to me — loans, financial aid, grants. These are things we're slipping on. What other kid on the West Side needs them now?"
Virginia Lanegran ’53 is now a committee administrator for the Minnesota House. Her long career in government and politics was presaged by the photo below, which appeared in the Mac Weekly in 1952, shortly before Dwight Eisenhower defeated Adlai Stevenson for the presidency. Her Republican opponent, Bill Hempel ’55, is now a Minneapolis attorney.

Churches. “My office has taken me away from those kinds of interactions I’ve had inside my community,” he says. “Now my interactions are through campaigning. Folks see you differently. You’re the person to lobby. In my first year [in the Legislature], I realized with horror that I am the system, that I’m the person to be convinced and to change. Many people have modified their behavior toward me; they’re more cautious and diplomatic. But I like to think I’m still ‘one of them.’ ”

Scott Cooper, on the other hand, wants to continue his work as an organizer, within the structure of the Minnesota Legislature. So far, his career has included organizing efforts to promote such causes as a nuclear freeze, a progressive tax system and last year’s successful “It’s Time, Minnesota” campaign that extended state-protected civil rights to gays and lesbians. “I’ve

found myself frustrated by the inability of many legislators to grasp the basics of coalition building,” he says. “Many aren’t capable of pushing an organizational campaign among their colleagues, let alone the outside community. We need more skills in the DFL legislative caucus focused on grassroots organizing and caucus building. I’m tired of doing it as an outsider.”

Working in government’s smaller bodies — municipal and county units — can sometimes provide greater satisfaction and closeness with constituents than working at the state or federal level. Virginia Lanegran ’53, whose career in politics has included work on the staffs of U.S. Senators Hubert Humphrey and Eugene McCarthy and who now serves as a committee administrator for the Minnesota House of Representatives, especially remembers her accomplishments on the City Council of South St. Paul in the 1970s and ’80s. “I’m very proud of being on a council that put its city back on a sound financial basis,” she says. “It took a lot of cooperation. We went from being a half-million dollars in the red to having a million in reserve.”

In municipal government, Bob Long says, “you can see the results of your labor so much easier.” He identifies one of his most important accomplishments on the St. Paul City Council as his work to consolidate two major city-employee pension funds, a combination that now saves the city more than $4 million a year. “It would have taken 10 to 20 years to do that at the federal level,” he observes.

Diane Hedstrom Wesman ’80 spent two years as deputy director and director of Minnesota’s Office of Waste Management. But “oddly enough, my work on various boards and commissions in White Bear Township [in Minnesota] might have been more influential,” she says. “I helped steer the planning commission from concentrating on variances to incorporating real economic development into its long-range planning duties.” A founding member and chair of the economic advisory board when it was created in 1989, Wesman says, “I smile

‘The vast majority of people in government really want to do well for their fellow citizens.’

— Virginia Lanegran
when I see the $20 million in new businesses and 750 new jobs we have in the township."

Jerry Blakey '81, a new member of the St. Paul City Council, cites his efforts to prevent the closing of Oxford Pool, a community recreation center used by many senior citizens, people with disabilities and residents of varied social backgrounds, as one of his most important political accomplishments. And it happened when he was a common citizen, not an elected official. "I testified at a budget hearing, and people got fired up by what I said," he says. "That definitely made me realize you can really change things if you get people together. You don't have to be an elected official to make things happen."

"There's no question — you're close to the people in local government," says Morrie Anderson '65, currently Minnesota's state commissioner of revenue but formerly a county board member and city administrator. "And at the city and county levels, things happen quicker. But I enjoy working at the state level in the legislative environment because it's larger and it has more political charge."

With that political power at the state level comes the ability to influence or create legislation that affects large numbers of people. "What I like about the Legislature," says Kathleen Vellenga, "is that whereas a courtroom judge has to make rulings based on what the law says, we can take a law that is stupid and change it." As an example, she cites an old statute-of-limitations law under which unreported rapes could not be prosecuted after six years. In 1991, the Legislature removed that limitation, "and now when children or adults finally acknowledge and gain the courage to report incest and rape, the prosecu-
IANE HEDSTROM WESMAN '80 CAME LATE to Macalester and to government service. She made both experiences count.

She entered Macalester as an adult scholar — a program for non-traditional students that she helped create — when she was nearly 30, after marrying, having children and making money as a commercial artist. She earned a double major in religious studies and economics, and points to her classes with Calvin Roetzel, professor of religious studies, as especially influential in her liberal arts education.

"I discovered that it's possible for an individual to make an impact on the world," Wesman says. "I learned that if I put my mind to it, I could do darn near anything. That, coupled with my interest in trying to make the world better, led me to government."

She worked in several positions — intern, special projects manager and financial analyst — for the St. Paul Companies. Her experience with government began when she served on the planning commission of White Bear Township and on the municipality's economic development advisory board. A Republican, she also worked as a pro-choice and family planning lobbyist for Planned Parenthood at the Minnesota Legislature. In 1991 she applied for and won the job of deputy director of Minnesota's Office of Waste Management, becoming its director a year and a half later.

The Office of Waste Management is a non-regulatory agency, with a relatively small staff and a modest budget, that works to prevent environmental problems before they occur. It focuses on waste prevention, waste reduction and resource recovery.

"OWM's programs are a wonderful example of how taxpayers' dollars can be spent wisely," Wesman says. "It's cheaper for the taxpayer when resources can be spent preventing environmental problems rather than spending money on expensive clean-ups."

Wesman spent two years at OWM. She departed as director last summer when she and Gov. Arne Carlson disagreed over the future of the agency. "I'm deciding what I want to do next," she says. "I can't sit still. I know I'd like to get back into the private sector, maybe into the arts community. I have an art studio in my house that hasn't been used for the past two years."

Also in her house is a piece of paper, yellowed with age, stuck to her refrigerator. "It says, 'Those who speak control the debate.' If you believe that, it's awfully hard to stay away from public policy," Wesman says. — J.E.

When she's not working in politics or government, Diane Wesman is a visual artist. Here she's in the studio of her home in White Bear Lake.

dor can proceed," Vellenga says. "To be able to make that kind of change is fulfilling."

The flip side of power, of course, is the potential for vote trading and manipulation. "It's amazing how commonplace the aura of 'anything goes' becomes," Vellenga says. "There's an 'everybody does it' feeling. It's almost expected that people are covertly corrupt instead of explicitly corrupt. It took me a while to figure out the theology of the Legislature: 'My party will be in the majority,' a philosophy that makes it heretical for individual legislators to take a stance on an issue that may cost them their seat.

Even so, Vellenga was "surprised at how many bright, outgoing people there are" in the Legislature, and she has observed many acts of personal courage — particularly during recent votes expanding gay and lesbian rights and rejecting the death penalty. "These votes made legislators realize they might lose their own individual elections. But they knew it and rose above that. For some people these were very courageous votes; for me, they were more politically safe" because of the liberal character of Vellenga's district.

Scott Cooper, perhaps at the cusp of his elective political career in running for Vellenga's seat, is aware of the changes that years of power and compromise can bring. "As you gain experience in any field, including politics, you become more realistic about things," he says. "But I hope that if I started telling people I had lost my idealism, they would slap me in the face."

Whenever corruption appears, the public's cynicism about government seems to deepen. "There are many good things that government has done, but many politicians have recently been caught up in the arrogance of money, power and greed," says Pat Kessler '79, a political reporter with Twin Cities TV station WCCO whose beat is the state.
Capitol. "And the media feed that mistrust — we look for good stories, ones that are black and white, with villains, about good and evil. We do a disservice by constantly doing these stories to the exclusion of others."

Stranger, says Mel Duncan of MAPA, is how infrequently political decisions rely upon reasoned thinking. "Time and time again, unabashedly, major corporate interests come in and try to buy the process," he maintains. "In the issue of NSP's Prairie Island waste dump, we win in opinion polls two to one. We know it and NSP knows it, but they're trying to manufacture a consensus through ads, lobbyists, et cetera. It's the process of money legitimizing opposition."

Still, Duncan has been able to stave off his own cynicism. "Nothing of value in human history has been accomplished through cynicism," he argues. "We all can make a choice between hope and cynicism. I can recite a litany of how conditions in our country and our world have deteriorated, but it's important to continue to organize and provoke people to act and to respond. The need is there more than ever. I'd much rather organize around the hope of what could be than around fear."

When Virginia Lanegran hears the opinions of political cynics, "I get angry," she says. "There will always be a few people who will take advantage of their situation — perk-takers and freeloaders. But the vast majority of people in government really want to do well for their fellow citizens."

Cooper speculates that a perceived distance between citizens and their government accounts for much of the public cynicism. "Those involved in the system of politics — as lobbyists, legislators, insiders, hacks — make it difficult, intentionally or not, for people to get involved in the process," he says. "We have created a complicated process and don't make it accessible to people. The general public doesn't feel an ownership of the process and of elected officials. If you feel you have an involvement in what happens, you can be angry with the results without taking it out on government as a whole. That's not what we have today."

Ironically, at the same time, the public expects a great deal of its government. "Sometimes expectations are too great," Bob Long observes. "Many problems can only be solved by private individuals."

"In terms of quality people, there's not a difference [between the private sector and government]."

— Morrie Anderson

All in all, Morrie Anderson believes that government operates as well as private enterprises. "The private sector hasn't proved to me to be any better," he says. "They're just not on the front page of the newspaper like we are. Government perhaps moves slower in innovation and change, but in terms of quality people working in the system, there's not a difference."

Bob Long, now working in the private sector as an attorney after leaving his city council seat to run for mayor, says "it feels nice in a way to be out of office. There's such a high level of constituent service that being in office requires. I notice how less frequently my phone rings. When the last cold snap came, no one called me to tell me about their broken water pipes."

Then why is Long running for office again? "I miss being involved on a daily basis with the key issues affecting my community. That's a big part of why I decided to run again," he says. "Sometimes my wife does wonder about me."
A friend’s tragedy leads three alumni to remove housing obstacles for the disabled

by Kevin Brooks ’89

Among the hundreds of bound volumes of honors projects in Macalester’s DeWitt Wallace Library, one continues to carry a special meaning for Stephen Wiggins, Charles Berg and Stephen Vander Schaaf, all 1978 graduates.

In 1975, Wiggins’ best childhood friend, Mike “Hondo” Pesch, broke his neck after diving into a drought-shallow lake in northern Minnesota. As a result, Pesch was paralyzed for the rest of his life. Wiggins left Macalester for a semester to look after his friend. He spent three weeks with Pesch at St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester, Minn., and later worked as a resident assistant when Pesch moved to Courage Center, a transitional rehabilitation facility in the Twin Cities.

“I talked whenever he was interested in talking,” Wiggins recalled, “and I would try to get him out of the hospital for a few hours whenever his rehabilitation regimen was open.”

At Courage Center, Wiggins began to see how Pesch and other young residents with impaired mobility — many of whom had been active and athletic before their accidents — wanted an alternative to living in a strictly institutional setting.

“If you were young and handicapped, your choices were to live at home with your parents, or at a nursing home. There were always different places for physical therapy and day activities, but where do you live?” said Wiggins.

Back at Macalester, roommates Wiggins and Berg wondered about a residential solution for young people with physical disabilities. Starting from an original idea by Pesch and other Courage Center residents, the two planned what became known as “The Project,” an honors project encouraged by faculty advisers Chuck Green and David Lanegran ’63.

“The Project” was a proposed organizational structure for a network of affordable, resident-managed homes that would meet the needs of people with spinal cord injuries or mobility impairments. For funding, Wiggins and Berg turned to a rental assistance loan program at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. They also enlisted the aid of a Twin Cities neurologist, Lawrence Schut, who helped them secure financial backing from a consortium of Minnesota health care companies.

“The Project,” inspired by Pesch, became the blueprint for Accessible Space
Inc., a nonprofit organization incorporated a few weeks before Wiggins and Berg graduated from Macalester — with honors. Three months later, the two received a $1.1 million grant from HUD to build five "barrier-free" houses in the Twin Cities.

Wiggins downplays his role in founding ASI. "Mike Pesch came up with the idea of Accessible Space. Chuck and I were simply the people who executed on that concept," he says.

W hen Berg left the Twin Cities to attend Georgetown University Law School, Wiggins steered the organization through a rough year in 1980 as ASI's first executive director. He had to deal with a series of disasters, including a tornado which struck one site, flooding that demolished the first floor of ASI's management headquarters and a violent break-in at a third site. "The old maxim that 'everything that can go wrong, will go wrong' couldn't have been more appropriate," said Wiggins.

In 1982, Wiggins decided to pursue an M.B.A. at Harvard Business School. He encouraged his roommate, Stephen "Shep" Vander Schaaf, to interview for the executive director position at ASI. Vander Schaaf, an old friend from Austin, said there was one small problem. He didn't have a suit. Undaunted, Wiggins loaned him his suit. It was an awkward fit at best, but the shoes — and the job — were a perfect match.

"It ended up being a natural fit, with ASI's philosophy of resident management and self-reliance," said Vander Schaaf, who had been instrumental in setting up community block clubs on St. Paul's East Side.

Under Vander Schaaf's leadership, ASI grew rapidly. Today, the ASI network includes 32 homes and apartment buildings in four states, and it is recognized nationally as a model for resident-managed care. "One of the biggest advantages, besides the fact that it saves the state money and provides housing, is that it gives many people with a disability a chance to give something back by sharing their care with others in a more efficient system," says Vander Schaaf.

"Steve Vander Schaaf deserves all the credit for building ASI into the substantial organization it has become," says Wiggins, who has since moved on to other projects. After a brief stint in a Wall Street investment firm, he founded Oxford Health Plans Inc. in 1984. Oxford, which operates in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, has become one of the fastest-growing health maintenance organizations in the country. The company has annual revenues in excess of $500 million, employs 750 and is the region's largest health care provider to the poor.

Last year, Wiggins and Berg again joined forces to start Health Partners Inc., a company providing capital and management services to medical groups.

"I'm bringing skills I developed in the corporate investment and acquisition area," Berg says, "and Steve obviously has a lot of experience in the health care industry. We still have a great time working together."

ASI continues to hold a special place in the hearts of Wiggins and Berg, both of whom serve on its board of directors, as well as Vander Schaaf. The organization, pivotal for each of their careers, honors the spirit of a good friend while setting new standards for accessible, affordable housing with supportive care services.

Mike Pesch died Jan. 6, 1992, a year before the opening of the ASI home that carries his name. Pesch Place, located across the street from Courage Center, is a lasting tribute to his memory.

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Mike Pesch: The ASI home across the street from Courage Center carries his name.
From calculus to Latin America to modern-day Muslims

**Animating Calculus, Mathematica Notebooks for the Laboratory**
by Stan Wagon and Ed Packel

This book by Wagon, a professor of mathematics and computer science at Macalester, and a colleague at Lake Forest College contains materials for a laboratory approach to calculus based on the software package Mathematica.

Together with Mathematica — a computer algebra system — this book and its associated software on disks give users the power to explore calculus by creating animations and sequences of computations on a Macintosh computer. Wagon previously wrote *Mathematica in Action* (1991, W.H. Freeman & Co.).

Last year, Cambridge University Press published the first paperback edition of Wagon's 1985 book, *The Banach-Tarski Paradox*. The paradox is a striking mathematical construction: It asserts that a solid ball may be taken apart into finitely many pieces that can be rearranged using rigid motions to form a ball twice as large as the original. The book explores the consequences of the paradox for measure theory and its connections with group theory, geometry and logic.

**Laboratories for Parallel Computing**
edited by G. Michael Schneider, Christopher H. Nevison, Daniel C. Hyde and Paul T. Tymann (Jones and Bartlett, 1994. 333 pages, $49.95 paperback)

Schneider is a professor of mathematics and computer science at Macalester. One of the courses he teaches is parallel processing — using many computers simultaneously on the same problem in order to speed up the solution. He and three faculty members from Colgate, Bucknell and SUNY-Oswego have collaborated on the first hands-on laboratory manual for teaching parallel computing at the undergraduate level.

**Money Doctors, Foreign Debts and Economic Reforms in Latin America from the 1890s to the Present**

In this book, 17 authorities examine the ways in which foreign advisers have affected the domestic economies of Latin America as well as the world economy. Emily and Norman Rosenberg, professors of history at Macalester, contributed the chapter "From Colonialism to Modernism: The Public-Private Dynamic in United States Foreign Financial Advising, 1898-1929." It was originally published in the *Journal of American History*.

This book is one in the series of Jaguar Books on Latin America, which seek to gather the most influential primary and secondary documents on a topic of central importance to the region's history and development.

**Reinventing Love**
by Magda Kranicz '76, Laurie Abraham, Laura Green, Janice Rosenberg, Janice Somerville and Carroll Stoner
(Plume, 1993. 318 pages, $12 paperback)

This collection of intimate essays is subtitled "Six Women Talk About Love, Lust, Sex and Romance." The authors range in age from 28 to 50 and are in various stages of married and single life.

Kranicz, a free-lance writer for 12 years who now works in public relations for Lyric Opera of Chicago, is the mother of a young son. She was invited to work on the book when she was in the final stages of pregnancy. "The last thing on my mind was writing about love, lust, sex or romance, but that all changed," she writes in the book. "Once I started thinking and writing on the subjects, I couldn't stop — when I could find time between diaper changes and feedings to get to my word processor, that is."

Her husband, Steve Leonard '74, a professional photographer, took the photograph of the six women that appears on the back cover.

**Everyday Life in the Muslim Middle East**
edited by Evelyn A. Early '68 and Donna Lee Bowen (Indiana University Press, 1993. 320 pages, $39.95 cloth, $18.95 paper)

Focusing on the experiences of ordinary men, women and children from Iran and Afghanistan in the east to Morocco in the west, this anthology seeks to convey a "grassroots" sense of Middle East culture and society today.

The anthology shows Islam as a major influence in everyday life; however, it also demonstrates that other factors, such as work patterns and community and gender relations, are important in shaping individual lives, beliefs and hopes. Selections treat such varied topics as child-rearing in a Moroccan town, an Afghan marriage, the working life of a Palestinian newspaper editor and Syrian television comedy.

Early, a symbolic anthropologist, is the author of *Baladi Women of Cairo: Playing with an Egg and a Stone*.

**Conformity & Conflict: Readings in Cultural Anthropology**

This is the eighth edition of a pioneering anthropology textbook. It was first published in 1971 by McCurdy and his Macalester colleague Jim Spradley, who died in 1982. New to the eighth edition are 14 articles focusing on such topics of current interest as the impact of television on U.S. and world cultures, women and work across cultures, gender differences in the ways that boys and girls learn to communicate, managing infant mortality in Brazil, birth as a ritual in America, and Gypsies and health care. The book includes articles by two other Macalester anthropology professors, Jack Weatherford and Anne Sutherland.
Mentor, n: a wise and trusted counselor or teacher
[from Greek Mentor, a friend of Odysseus entrusted with the education of his son]

by Jon Halvorsen

Eight alumni and eight Macalester seniors came together last fall for an experiment. The alums — all members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors and all Twin Cities area residents — volunteered to serve as career mentors to the seniors during the 1993-94 academic year.

The alums were matched with the seniors, who applied for the program, with the help of Denise Ward and Christina Huck at Macalester's Career Development Center. The program was informal; mentors and students met or talked as often as they liked — usually a half-dozen times during the year, sometimes more frequently. Some became good friends, but the focus was professional rather than purely personal — on careers and the job search.

The initial program succeeded so well that it will be expanded during the 1994-95 academic year to 15 Twin Cities alumni and 15 students. Here are comments from two mentors and two students who took part in the first program:

Donna F. Carlson '72 and Sergei Issarev '94

Donna's background: Major: anthro- pology. Home: Eden Prairie. Career spent in computer technology. Currently marketing account executive for Rapp Collins Communications. As co-chair with JoAnna Diebel Hesse '87 of the alumni board's continuing growth committee, she was instrumental in setting up the program.

Sergei's background: Came to Macalester from a large university in his native Moscow. Major: economics and computer science. Member of economics honor society and Association for Computing Machinery, a nationwide computing club. Career plans: "Right now I would like to have a job as a computer programmer or software developer and gain some experience [in the computer business]. Maybe in five or 10 years start up my own computer-related business. I do have big hopes for starting a business in Russia, because it's potentially a huge market."

Why Donna became a mentor: "On the alumni board, we've been talking about ways to encourage student-alumni interactions, to build a closer bond with the college. We say [in the alumni board's vision statement], 'The Macalester experience never ends.' This is one way to show it."

Why Donna became a mentor: "On the alumni board, we've been talking about ways to encourage student-alumni interactions, to build a closer bond with students before they become alums. This is also a way for alums to give back to the college. We say [in the alumni board's vision statement], 'The Macalester experience never ends.' This is one way to show it."

Donna on Sergei: "Sergei is very focused and has well defined his career objectives and where he wants to go."

Sergei on Donna: "She's a very understanding person, willing to listen to you. She's been very helpful to me by telling me about her work experiences and the job search [process] in general. I feel at ease while talking to her. I feel relaxed."

Donna looks back: "I don't remember a Career Development Center when I was a student, or ever talking to anybody about 'What am I going to do with my life?' I had an anthropology degree. Because it was the time when women were going into business, I decided to go on and get an M.B.A. so I could actually do something with my degree...."

Sergei on Donna: "Before you start the job search, you should clearly outline the specific goals you'd like to pursue in your career.... You should be extremely well prepared before you have an interview with a specific company. As a matter of fact, she gave me sort of an outline of the interview strategy —..."
what kind of questions to ask, how to present yourself, how to approach the interview in a structured kind of way. I'm not a very organized person myself, but Donna made me understand how important this is for a successful job search — a very organized way of doing things.

"She also gave me quite a few personal contacts, people I spoke to on the phone, and I found out things I didn't know before about my future career.... With her help, I know more about the [job-hunting] process. I feel very optimistic."

JoAnna Diebel Hesse '87
and Nate Osicka '94

JoAnna's background: Major: economics with a speech communication core. Home: St. Paul. Occupation: retail marketing specialist for IBM.


JoAnna on Nate: "He's a real quality person, very comfortable with himself. He's focused, without being too absorbed.... I still vividly remember being exactly where he is right now and trying to figure out how to get a job and how this all going to work out."

Nate on JoAnna: "She's down to earth, and she knows what's going on in the world. It helped that she was close to my age; I felt like she had experienced the same kinds of things that I had experienced, and that helped a lot. One of the best things we hooked up on is that we both played soccer here."

What Nate learned from JoAnna: "I thought it would be an opportunity for me to get a closer look inside IBM. I didn't realize at first that there was such a difference between market research and sales [JoAnna's focus]. But I think what she has given me has been a lot more helpful. She has been a great support person for me in my job search, someone who would listen to me a lot and offer suggestions. She's been incredibly helpful in that way.... [For example, she said] to focus my job search — not to send out a hundred résumés to companies I knew nothing about, but to research a company, and to follow up.

"And then just introducing me to people in the field. She's a very connected person. Whenever I wanted to learn something about a field that she didn't have experience in, she knew people she could hook me up with."

JoAnna on mentoring: "I would encourage alums to do it. And not just for reasons of giving back to the college, but because it really helps you connect and feel good about the students. They're very capable, and it's a refreshing experience. It doesn't take a ton of time; it's not like you have to guide their every step. It's real comfortable. And as long as the Career Development Center continues to spend a lot of time on the matching process, both sides should get a lot of value out of it."

Nate on the mentoring program: "It's a great idea. And I like that they didn't make it too much of a structured format, because I know different students are going to want to get different things out of it."

Other mentors and students

In addition to those featured in this article, these Twin Cities alums and students were paired in the pilot career mentoring program:

- Janet Strane Engeswick '53, elementary school teacher, and Maria-Renee Grigsby '94 (history major, St. Paul)
- Anne Hale '91, systems analyst/programmer, West Publishing Co., and Scott Ferris '94 (computer science, St. Paul)
- Alan Naylor '57, senior vice president, Firstar Corp. of Minnesota, and Yi Le '94 (economics and mathematics, Shanghai, China)
- David Senness '70, certified public accountant, and Seth Levine '94 (economics and psychology, Newton, Mass.)
- Jane Else Smith '67, attorney, and Lisa Castro '94 (history, Waianae, Hawaii)
- Kim Walton '79, marketing manager, Mixed Blood Theatre, and Shari Tamashiro '94 (history and speech communication, Mililani Town, Hawaii)

Become a mentor?

The career mentoring program, which matches Twin Cities alums with current students, will be expanded to 15 alums and 15 students for the 1994-95 academic year. If you wish to serve as a career mentor, or if you just want to know more about the program, please call Denise Ward at the Career Development Center: (612) 696-6384.

Nate Osicka '94 and JoAnna Diebel Hesse '87 in Weyerhaeuser Hall
The Peace Corps called, and Macalester students answered

by Rebecca Ganzel and Kerry Sarnoski

Here are a few glimpses of Macalester through the decades:

In keeping with the Macalester ideal of service, President John F. Kennedy’s establishment of the Peace Corps made a big splash in the Mac Weekly on March 10, 1961.

As later issues of the Weekly proved, there was a strong response from students. The Dec. 1, 1961, issue carried the headline: "Mac Grads Have Chance Meeting in Puerto Rico Peace Corps Camp." The article told the story of how Flip Schulke ’54, a free-lance photographer, was in Puerto Rico taking photos of the Peace Corps training camp. Schulke started a conversation with a Peace Corps trainee and discovered he was a Macalester alum — "Moose" McIvor ’61, who was there training, prior to his deployment in Sierra Leone. The Weekly published photos of both men participating in the training camp.

Letters from the Peace Corps volunteers themselves arrived on the pages of the Weekly. Allen Clutter ’66, who interrupted his college career to enter the Peace Corps, went to Mashad, Iran. He wrote several times in 1962, describing his arrival in Iran, the food, his daily work and the scenery. He said in his first letter that he hoped to "show how it is to live in a country that has a different religion, different values and a different form of government."

Jerry Challman ’65 wrote from the Philippines, and in his letter in the March 15, 1963, Weekly promised a new stamp for the stamp collection of anyone who would write him. Perhaps a comment by Challman best sums up the feeling of many of those first Macalester Peace Corps volunteers: "I am finding this a very rich and rewarding experience."

"Moose" McIvor, also known as Alan G. McIvor, is now a vice president at Beloit College in Beloit, Wis. Allen Clutter is a real estate executive who lives in Shaker Heights, Ohio. And the last address that Macalester has for Jerome Challman is Santiago, Chile.

• Deja vu all over again

Hally Watkins and Sally Watkins, two freshmen from Carlton, Minn., were only the latest identical twins in their family to attend Macalester, reported the Oct. 1, 1948, Mac Weekly.

Their mother and aunt, Selma and Helen Stratte, graduated in the Class of 1914, and Selma met her husband, Harlow Watkins ’14 (the grandson of yet another identical twin), at Macalester.

For her 40th class reunion in 1992, Hally made a confession to her classmates in their reunion booklet (reprinted here with her permission). Under the question asking for "Your favorite story about your undergraduate years," Hally wrote: "When my twin, Sally, had knee surgery, I thought I'd go to her college algebra class for her — I had taken it a year earlier — and maybe be of help with explaining the day's work. Some of the students knew I wasn't Sally, and not until Mr. Jaeger gave a pop quiz, which I flunked, did I admit to him I wasn't Sally."

Today, Hally — formally, Helen Watkins Tenney ’52 — and her husband, Chuck, are retired and living in Casper, Wyo. Sally — now Sally Watkins Dennis ’52 — and her husband, Frank, have spent the past 32 years as medical missionaries in Taiwan. Although now based in Colorado Springs, Colo., and due to retire this year, they plan trips to China on behalf of the Evergreen Family Friendship Service.

Rebecca Ganzel is a St. Paul free-lance writer. Kerry Sarnoski is publications editor at Macalester.

Upperclasswomen

Charlotte Manguson Yetter ’62, left, and Ramona Pigman Anderson ’61 are in unison on the trampoline. The photo was taken during a physical education class circa 1961 and appeared in a Twin Cities newspaper. Charlotte is now a speech/language pathologist at Baldwin-Woodville Area Schools in Baldwin, Wis. Ramona, who is married to Lyle Anderson ’61, lives in Moscow, Idaho, and works as a private consultant in international development. Their eldest son, Christopher L. Anderson, is a 1984 Mac grad.
‘Dear Old Macalester’: Reunion Weekend, June 3–5

If your class year ends in “9” or “4,” your classmates have special plans June 3–5 (see 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 3
M Club Mac Hack golf tournament at Keller Golf Club; minicollege on “Health, Healing and Humanism,” led by panels of alumni and faculty (both Friday and Saturday); inauguration of 50-Year Club for alumni who graduated 50 years ago or more; reunion of alumni authors; alumni awards banquet; comedy cabaret with Susan Vass; exhibit of Martin Luther King photos by Flip Schulke ’54.

Saturday, June 4
Minicollege on “The Politics of Health Care,” led by alumni and faculty; 100th birthday celebration of Alumni Association; noon picnic on the lawn; special reunions for World Press Institute and Miss Woods Alumnae Association; bus tour of St. Paul led by Professor David Lanegran ’63; “A View of Macalester in the Sixties,” video produced by Professor Emily Rosenberg and Kristi Wheeler ’69; reception for international alumni; class parties.

Sunday, June 5
Worship service for all alumni led by Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith, with alumni choir.

For information and reservations
Call the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295

Snapshots from the 1989 reunion:
A picnic on the lawn (above), a time to reminisce, a time to play
A Mac’s a Mac for a’ That

Twin Cities alumni and friends gathered Jan. 28 for a “Robert Burns Night” of Scottish poetry, song, food and camaraderie at the University Club in St. Paul. Left, Danielle O’Hare ’95 (Berkeley, Calif.) and Graham Baird ’95 (Salt Lake City, Utah) read poems by Scotland’s national poet on the occasion of his 235th birthday. Alan Naylor ’57, below, and his wife, Dena, joined in the singing. Professor Emeritus Roger Blakely ’43, bottom, another celebrant, wrote the program notes. He concluded: “Despite certain linguistic barriers, Burns is the most accessible and human of all great poets. Let us enjoy him!”

Calendar of events

Here are some of the events scheduled for alumni, parents, family and friends. More events are being added all the time. For more information on any of the following, call the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295, except where noted. You may also call the campus events line, (612)696-6900:

Macalester Galleries, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center: Senior Comprehensive Exhibition, continues through May 22; Photo Exhibition by Flip Schulke ’54, opens June 3 (696-6690)

May 9: M Club Senior Night

May 12: M Club All-Sports Banquet

May 13: Sirens & Traditions in Concert, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

May 13–14: MIAC track meet at Macalester

May 17: all-ages social hour for Washington, D.C., alumni, 6–8 p.m., Fox and Hounds, 1537 17th St. NW (call Merrill Boone ’84 at 703-524-8425 or Molly Thorson ’92 at 202-546-0218)

May 21: Commencement

June 2: Alumni event at Seattle Art Museum with Professor Sears Eldredge, led by Regina Cullen ’73

June 3–5: Reunion Weekend

June 12: Brunch and Mount Morris Park house tour in Harlem, N.Y., led by Rachelle L’Ecuyer ’89

June 13: all-ages social hour for Washington, D.C., alumni, 6–8 p.m., Tortilla Coast, 201 Massachusetts Ave. NE (call Merrill Boone ’84 at 703-524-8425 or Molly Thorson ’92 at 202-546-0218)

June 23: Twin Cities Leading Edge event at Science Museum, St. Paul, led by Ellery July ’77

Aug. 27: M Club preseason picnic

Sept. 9: Opening convocation with Kofi Annan ’61

Sept. 16–18: Alumni Leadership Conference at Macalester

Oct. 6–8: Macalester Roundtable (see page 4)

Oct. 14–16: Parents Weekend and M Club Hall of Fame (Oct. 14)

Oct. 20: Twin Cities Leading Edge event at Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, led by Jennifer Lundblad ’88
MACROCOSM

Italy and Cyprus: The Gavins experience Macalester abroad

The official photographer from L'Osservatore Romano took this picture of Pope John Paul II presenting the Gavins with a rosary following a private Mass in the Vatican.

On their first visit to Rome, Bob and Charlotte Gavin shook hands with the pope.

That wasn't the only highlight of their trip, but a meeting with the pope would probably stand out in any traveler's mind.

The Gavins spent Jan. 7-18 in Cyprus and Rome. Alumni had invited them to Cyprus; the Gavins added Rome to their itinerary when they learned Macalester students would be studying there during Intersession.

"One thing that hits you when you make a trip like this is how much of a worldwide impact Macalester has," Gavin said. "Every place you go, you encounter Macalester people."

A few highlights of their trip:

- The Gavins, who are Catholic, received word at their Rome hotel one evening that they were invited to Pope John Paul II's private Mass in the Vatican the next day. At 7 a.m., they joined a group of about 30 people, most of them seminarians from Africa and South America, in the pope's chapel. Afterwards, John Paul spoke with each of his guests individually. Addressing the Gavins in English, he wished a blessing on them and presented them with a rosary.

- The Gavins joined 10 Macalester students who were spending three weeks of Intersession studying "The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Rome" with Francesca Santoro L’hoir, a visiting professor of classics at Macalester who has lived in Rome. They all toured Ostia Antica, an ancient city at the mouth of the Tiber which became a Roman port. Extensively excavated in this century, the ruins give visitors a glimpse of what Rome itself must have looked like.

"Francesca provided us with an excellent tour of the city," Gavin said. "It was a good experience, and I think the students got a lot out of this course."

- In Cyprus, the Gavins' hosts and guides included, among others, a current Macalester student, Constantina Pavlou '95, and several alumni: George Mavroudis '84, Sofocles Markides '86, Iacovos Ioannou '87 and his brother, Yiannakis Ioannou '85.

At the American Library in Nicosia, the Gavins attended a presentation about Macalester for prospective students. It drew six Greek Cypriot students and one Turkish Cypriot student. Bob was told it was probably the first time that the Greek students had spoken with a Turkish Cypriot student.

Later, over dinner at a restaurant in Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, they enjoyed meeting several alumni from Cyprus.

Bob and Charlotte on the Turkish side of Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus. They enjoyed meeting several alumni from Cyprus.

Cypriot students had spoken with a Turkish Cypriot student.

Later, over dinner at a restaurant in Nicosia, the Gavins and the Greek Cypriot alumni "had a great time talking about Macalester and also about the importance of internationalism at the college," Bob recalled.

"George [Mavroudis] said he hoped the next get-together in Cyprus would be one at which both Greek and Turkish Cypriots could be eating and toasting together."
When in Rome...

... do as 10 Macalester students did: Study "The Art and Archaeology of Ancient Rome."
Francesca Santoro L’hoir, seated, a visiting professor of classics who has lived in Rome, led this
three-week Intersession course in January. President Gavin and his wife, Charlotte, left foreground,
joined them in Rome and toured nearby Ostia Antica, the excavated ruins of an ancient city.
Bob Gavin took this photo. For more on the Gavins' trip, see page 41.