Macalester Family Values
Susan '03, Charles '65 and Mary Andersen '66

For her performances, the actor-playwright (National Security Adviser Nancy McNally on "The West Wing") interviews Americans from divergent backgrounds, then recreates them and their words as she explores issues of race and community in the United States.

Smith also received an honorary degree from Macalester.
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To find clues to life in ancient Greece, classics Professor Joseph Rife and his students are investigating a cemetery.

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**Macalester Family Values**

Families, like ivy, can become attached to certain hallowed halls. Steve Woit photographed the Andersen family, all Macites, near the DeWitt Wallace Library. Charles and Mary are seated on a bench given as a memorial in honor of Charles' parents, C. Wesley and Lillian Andersen, who also graduated from Mac.
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 by e-mail: mactoday@macalester.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

Communication Studies

It's a sad day when I read about the demise of the Communication Studies Department [Fall issue]. And let me get this straight: the department was eliminated because, first, there were other areas "where we don't have enough depth, where students can sort of scratch the surface of particular areas but can't get very deeply into it because we just don't have the faculty resources to provide that depth" (page 6) and, second, because "it made little sense for the three remaining professors to continue to form a department, because they all come from different academic backgrounds" (page 6).

Then, still following these principles, the faculty voted to create two new departments, both of which are composed of faculty from different academic backgrounds, and one of which consists of a total of two faculty— not three or five, but two, who are going to have a time of it providing the depth that is expected rather than just scratching the surface.

Am I missing something?

Robert Hariman '73
Des Moines, Iowa

Communication Studies

I knew Russ would navigate the tricky waters of bringing together our very, very different families, which he did with his fabulous good humor and patience.

Similarly,

I was much taken with the article about Russ Wigfield, old friend, classmate and World War II veteran who returned to Macalester to finish an interrupted education.

If a poll had been taken back then, Russ would have won the "nice guy" contest hands down. It's so good that he had the wonderful effect described in the writing of Carlvnn White Trout.

Harold Kennedy '43
Boulder, Colo.

Russ Wigfield '43

Carlvnn White Trout's reminiscences about Russ Wigfield [Fall issue] struck a real chord with me. I don't remember how I got to know Russ—perhaps from cooking for one thing or another in the chapel basement, maybe during a meeting working for (or against) something or another. What I do know is that Russ became one of my favorite Macalester people.

When my now-husband and I decided to get married, we asked Russ if he would perform the ceremony. I knew he would be the person to navigate with us the tricky waters of bringing together our very, very different families, which he did with his fabulous good humor and patience. We have terrific memories of sitting in our second-floor duplex on St. Clair Avenue with Russ, working through the questionnaires that were part of our "pre-marital counseling," of the conversations we had with Russ about our goals and our possible future lives.

After our daughter Nora was born, we brought her over to Russ and Norma Jean's to meet them and sent them a photo every year. Russ' presence will always be part of our family's lives.

Linda Adler-Kassner '85
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Russ Wigfield was a magnificent friend to me during periods when I found it difficult to accept the conclusion of two important relationships. Without his friendship, acceptance and guidance, I doubt that coming to terms with my experience with bipolar disorder would have been as orderly and reassured as it was during the late 1980s and into the 1990s. I have taken from Russ his comforting and reassuring qualities, and I hope to be known as someone who will be as helpful to others as Russ has been to me.

Equally important is my admiration for Norma Jean. I look forward to experiencing the sort of friendship, devotion and cooperation seen in the lives of Russ and Norma Jean.

Barry N. Peterson '84
Minneapolis
Jean hosted many meals over meaningful times in my life. He and Norma Jean have remained with me. I hope that people take time to write them. At this difficult time we must be good friends to Russ and Norma Jean.

Ken Lawrence ’84
San Diego

Iraq

In his letter in the Fall issue, Dr. Georg Leidenberger ’87 wrote that he is "offended" by a picture of our president signing Anton's Law mandating booster car seats. Further reading of his letter reveals that the source of his offense is not Anton's Law but President Bush and our foreign policy in general and Iraq specifically.

Let me remind Dr. Leidenberger that President Clinton did nothing to purge Iraq and the world of Saddam Hussein. Let me also ask whether Dr. Leidenberger was likewise "offended" by the ubiquitous pictures of President Clinton, with a Bible in hand, leaving a church on Sunday mornings with his wife.

Dr. Leidenberger continues with an "appeal to Macalester College, and especially its alumni community, to take more of a stand on this matter." President Clinton traveled the high road by taking "a stand" on Iraq via the United Nations et al and accomplished nothing. The "offensive" President Bush has done more than take a stand.

Furthermore, let me state that those of us in the real world, as opposed to the idealistic practitioners in "progressive" colleges, understand that there is a price to be paid for going beyond taking a stand.

Janice Nelson Cyphers ’58
Roseville, Minn.

The question haunts me, or mocks me: What have we done? To Ahmed; to Hassan; to Mohammed? To Um Heyder; to Amal; to Sattar? To our friends at the Al Fanar Hotel sharing special coffee, special tea, special humanity? What have we done to the people of Iraq?

In February, I joined the Iraq Peace Team in accompanying the Iraqi people—not as "human shields" but rather as human beings sharing one another's common humanity—in the days leading up to the war's escalation. Some members returned to the U.S. to resist the war; others remained in Iraq for the duration. With good fortune, I'll return to Iraq by year's end to continue the act of accompaniment.

Ahmed and Hassan are two shoseshine boys at the Al Fanar Hotel who endeavored mightily to teach me a few words of Arabic. Hassan lost his parents during one of our country's many bombing runs in years past. Mohammed was our driver who shepherded us safely through the streets of Baghdad and kept us warm on those cold vigil days as we sought the continuation of the inspections process—and who spoke of Sean Penn as his son.

Um Heyder, who gave us her only photo of her son, killed by our country's bombs, implored us to speak truth in our country.

Hayder Ibrahim, Iraq's bowling champion, bowled on the alley next to me one evening. After four straight gutter balls, he and a kindly man in the galley (the former Iraqi champion) offered me lessons. At evening's end, Hayder gave me one of his prized medals.

Sattar brought us to Baghdad, speaking of his 10-year-old daughter who asked him every single day whether that was the day the bombs would fall. In May, Sattar brought peace team members back to Jordan, saying that Iraq is no longer his country; that it now belongs to us, to the United States.

None ever wanted our country to bomb their country.

We were never fearful of how Iraqis would welcome us into their homes. We were always fearful of how our country intended to unleash "shock-and-awe"—or, rather, the cavalier "awe shucks" bombardment—upon our Iraqi friends.

War was not, is not, and cannot be the answer. Our country chose death over life. We must choose to be wiser, lest our dreams turn into permanent nightmares of the persistent, nagging, haunting question: What have we done?

Jeff Leys ’86
Greenfield, Wis.

Dorothy Dodge

I was shocked and extremely saddened to read about the death of Dr. Dorothy Dodge. Looking back at my years at Macalester (1975–1978), I was privileged to have her as my professor of international relations. I will never forget the sticker she had on her door:

"A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle."

Her soft yet strong personality, the twinkle in her eye that reflected the sheer joy she had for teaching, her facial expressions and mannerisms in which she communicated with us will never leave my thoughts.

Unfortunately, I have not been back to Macalester since I graduated in 1978 and lost the opportunity to see her and thank her one last time. She will always remain in my heart and prayers.

Golnar Mahmoudi ’78
Kuwait City
Kuwait

Winter 2003-2004
LETTERS

‘Five Dumb Things’

As one of those clueless “post-Reformation, post-Enlightenment” Christians who doesn’t “understand the connection between religion and the exercise of power,” I have a few comments on your interview with Professor Jim Laine in the Fall Macalester Today (“Five Dumb Things People Believe About Religion”).

1. Don’t be so sure we’re so clueless. Having “marginalized the articulate theologies of different churches and made them less significant” was precisely the greatest, consciously chosen goal of the Reformation, and one of the greatest achievements of Western social development. The impact of the Reformation and its greatest achievement, the separation of church and state, has produced more wealth, more prosperity, more opportunity, more freedom, more liberty and more advancement, for more people, than any other social system, or “articulate theology” in history. Don’t be so sure we are not consciously aware of it and out there defending our “meta-religion.” (Nazi fascism was also pretty good as an “articulate theology.”)

2. “We want Muslims to become like Protestant Christians, and then they can have a role in our society.” Take out the word “Muslim” and insert any religious flavor you want. (Hindu, Catholic, Druid, take your pick). The social contract that allows us “Presbyterians, Jews and Buddhists” to get along is that we know the difference between wanting a seat at the table, and wanting the table itself.

3. “Why would you separate your political life from your religion?” Huh? What makes you so sure that as an ardent supporter of the separation of church and state, and “Sixties individualism,” that I have separated my religious life from my political life? Don’t you believe it. Truth demands it. It is not my “private hobby” at all. It’s all about religion and politics, and don’t we know it!

4. “Within the ground rules we can afford to be tolerant of different styles of religious practice. It’s not a deep-down tolerance.” Of course it’s not a deep-down tolerance. Would you expect it to be? Personally, I think the dogma and doctrine of the Catholic Church is a threat to my civil liberties, and an insult particularly to women, and the gay and lesbian community. But I also know the alternative to our “meta-religion” of not-so-deep-down tolerance is the Balkans.

5. “It’s beyond words” is itself words.” Excuse me, your Zen is showing. While words may be our most important cultural currency, they are woefully limited devices, subject to misinterpretation, miscommunication and mistranslation, and most certainly, not possibly capable of fully conveying the entirety of the divine experience. Even a literate could think otherwise.

I am perfectly happy that Professor Laine has embraced a Catholic tradition “with a lot of bizarre ideas in it,” just as long as he keeps his “articulate theology” to himself and out of the civil affairs of the government. As for me, the “meta-religion” is not an accident. It is a conscious choice.

Alan Zemek ’81
San Rafael, Calif.

THANK YOU SO MUCH for your article on Professor Jim Laine’s “Five Dumb Things.” We can still remember the look of glee on Jim’s face as he walked into our “Introduction to Islam” class some 16 years ago. He just came from delivering his “dumb things” lecture for the first time, and he was so charged up about these ideas that he felt compelled, he said, to offer it to us as well. With characteristic bite and humor, he prefaced it like this: “If you still believe any of these things after taking my class, then you should just march yourself down to the registrar and drop out of college, because there’s just no hope for you.”

Jim had a way of making you sit up and take notice.

We were so inspired by the list that we went on to become the incarnation of a formulaic joke (“a rabbi and a priest walk into a bar….”). The Rev. Clare Hickman Oatney ’89
Dearborn, Mich.

Teacher licensure

I was saddened to read in the Fall issue that the Macalester faculty voted to end teacher licensure through the college (“Faculty makes difficult decisions on the curriculum,” page 6). Of the many areas needing “leaders of tomorrow,” the classroom is at the top of the list.

The article stated that instead of a complete teacher education program, Macalester will be offering a bridge program to another institution for students wishing to become teachers. This strikes me as a cop-out; the school is essentially saying to future teachers: “We don’t value education enough here, so you’ll need to finish up elsewhere.”

This change stands in sharp contrast to one of Macalester’s most cherished values, stated by the new president on page 33 of the same issue: “I think Macalester disproportionately produces leaders and people who effect important social change.” Has Macalester taken the liberal arts education model so far as to teach only ideals, while ignoring the tools that actually get leaders in the door to make social change?

Tom DeMoulin ’89
Denver
To our readers: Macalester Today survey results

by Jon Halvorsen, Managing Editor

We want to thank all of the alumni who participated in readership surveys about Macalester Today last spring. Our Web-based survey generated an amazing 1,765 replies. In addition, 100 alumni throughout the U.S., chosen in a random sample, took part in a separate telephone survey.

For all the differences in numbers and method—and the fact that the Web survey, as expected, generated more responses from younger readers—the two surveys produced similar results. It's clear that a majority of readers have favorable opinions of Mac Today.

The Web-based survey asked about reader satisfaction with the magazine.

The results:

47% Very satisfied
45% Somewhat satisfied
3% Somewhat dissatisfied
5% No opinion

The phone survey, which slightly worded the question, produced these results:

33% Very satisfied
56% Satisfied
7% Dissatisfied
4% No opinion

When we asked, “How useful is the magazine in providing you with news and information about Macalester,” the results were:

31% (phone) vs. 46% (Web) Very useful
58% (phone) vs 48% (Web) Somewhat useful
10% (phone) vs. 4% (Web) Not very useful
1% (phone) vs. 0% (Web) Not at all useful
(2% on Web: Don’t know/no answer)

The most widely read section of the magazine by far—is no surprise—Class Notes. Next came Obituaries, followed by Books, Letters to the Editor and Around Old Main (campus news section).

We also received more than 1,000 comments. Taken together with the survey results, they suggest things we need to do to improve Mac Today. Briefly, readers want:

• even more Class Notes. The Class Notes section has grown steadily in the past decade and now runs 12 to 13 pages per issue—easily the biggest section of Mac Today. One reader said: “The Class Notes are by far the most important to me. I particularly love the included photographs, and appreciate the postcards you send us to encourage us to send you info.” Another said: “There has to be a way to get more Class Notes participation. You guys are doing an excellent job of keeping us in touch, such a good job that I always want even more Class Notes.” A third said: “We really enjoy reading the Class Notes but it appears that there are not many people who respond to requests for information. We are among them.”

• more stories on “ordinary” alumni. As one reader put it, “the magazine could tell us more about the 99% of alumni who go on to lead normal lives.” Another said: “[Write about] not just the movers and shakers but regular folk, too.” A third said: “While I enjoy stories about extraordinary alums...sometimes an ‘underachievement complex’ can set in after reading the magazine. Class Notes sometimes even it out.”

• more reporting on Macalester’s controversies, problems and debates. “It seems like it’s a tool to sell the college and only the positive stuff gets reported,” one reader said. “I wish it was a little more critical,” said another. A third wrote, “It seems to shy away from anything controversial.” Yet another said: “There was an article about cutbacks of staff on campus—the Scottish Country Fair—and a dissenting opinion was published. This was great and reminded me of the Mac I know.” Another wrote: “I am very appreciative of Mac’s having held the forum on the conflict in the Middle East and the fact that George Mitchell and the highly regarded speakers from Israel and the Palestinians were there.”

Last but hardly least, we enjoyed receiving comments from a wide spectrum of political opinions. Sample comments: “Make [the magazine] less of a sounding board for the political left and ‘social justice’ crowd. Convey more diverse points of view.” “The only thing that ever comes out of Macalester anymore is leftist drivel.” “Macalester suppresses free speech/thought from those who are not liberal.” “Don’t encourage racist, sexist, homophobic alumni by publishing their small-minded letters.” “I think the magazine does well now to represent a cross-section of people and ideas, just like the school. If I was totally satisfied with it, somebody else would absolutely hate it.”

There’s a lot more we could say about the survey results, but enough already. We welcome comments—of all kinds—about this article and anything else in Macalester Today. Write: mactoday@macalester.edu; Macalester Today, College Relations Office, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN 55105; or call me at 651-696-6452.
Increasing campus security

Following a sexual assault last spring, Macalester has taken steps to make the campus safer. But student awareness is critical.

Macalester administrators and students have been working to improve campus security in the aftermath of last spring's sexual assault of a prospective student.

Students and administrators agree, however, that the most important component of a secure campus may also be the most elusive: student awareness and diligence in keeping intruders out of the dorms.

About 4:30 a.m. last April 25, a prospective first-year student visiting Macalester was sexually assaulted in a Wallace Hall room by a masked intruder who held her and her host at gunpoint. The assailant, who has not been found, somehow entered Wallace Hall, which is always locked, and then entered the student's room, which was unlocked. The assailant also robbed the two young women before escaping.

It is believed to be the first time in the college's history that such a violent assault with a weapon has occurred on campus.

A series of open forums held after the attack led to a number of changes at Macalester. A task force of administrators and students, led by Assistant Dean of Students Myra Garmes, is looking at new ways to address security issues. Changes so far:

- Residential Life has conducted an education campaign that included training for resident assistants and incoming first-years.
- Terry Gorman, director of safety and security, has been leading trainings with staff.
- Security officers are patrolling dorms more often.
- Thirty lights have been replaced or added around campus.
- Five more security cameras have been placed on campus.
- Winton Health Services is offering self-defense classes.
- St. Paul police drive by Macalester more often.
- The escort service, which provides students with someone to walk them home at night, is being revived and promoted.

Students have encouraged a move to locks that open with a student ID instead of a key, and the option is being researched, said Dean of Students Laurie Hamre. But colleges that already have ID entry suggested waiting for better technology before making the switch.

"A lot of these measures take a financial commitment, and the college is willing to put a lot of money into this, but we have to make sure it's working as it's supposed to," Hamre said.

Education and awareness, however, are the most crucial components of the security system, said Tyler Samples '06 (Winona, Minn.), chair of the student government's Student Services Commission, who has been working with the task force. "While the measures they're taking now are going to help, fundamentally it comes down to student behavior," Samples said.

Macalester has a friendly campus climate, and students frequently leave their rooms unlocked and hold doors open for people they don't know. That tradition may be changing now; the number of calls to security reporting suspicious-looking people increased this semester, according to Gorman.

"I do know a lot of students are more aware of who's coming into the dorms," said Rachel Fletcher '06 (Atlanta), a resident of Wallace Hall, where the assault took place.

But awareness doesn't always translate into action. In October, Hamre received a visit from a local TV station that was studying security on five Minnesota campuses. The TV crew made 24 attempts to enter dorms at the schools they studied, and they were successful 23 times. At least six of those successful trips were at Mac, said Hamre, who saw a video of the experiment.

"The culture on campus is you should be nice to everyone, and if someone wants to come in the door you should let them in," Hamre said. Changing that culture is hard without some sort of enforcement, which might not be desirable on such an intimate campus. Macalester could post student employees at the entrance to each dorm at night, but that type of change could make the campus feel like a less open environment, Hamre said. Gorman, who is on the task force, said that suggestion did not go over well with students on the committee.

Fletcher, however, said she thought posting a student at dorm doors would not affect campus culture that negatively. "I think it
would change the atmosphere, but I don't think it would necessarily eliminate our sense of community because it's still a small school," she said.

"I tend to take a 'whatever it takes' attitude," said Neely Crane-Smith '06 (Albuquerque, N.M.), co-chair of Students Together Against Rape and Sexual Assault (STARSA). "But I know a lot of people do think it would be detrimental to the community."

In 80 percent of sexual assaults, the victim and perpetrator know each other, Crane-Smith noted. Barring strangers would do nothing to address that issue.

Samples hopes awareness, rather than strict enforcement, will prompt students to become more diligent about keeping strangers out of the dorms. "People are changing, it's just a slow process.... My hope is that people will take this seriously even after the incident itself fades from memory," he said. Student government has developed its own security task force and will be holding a town hall-style meeting to gather more student input.

Samples hopes the public discussion will keep students thinking about security.

—Hannah Clark '02

The Weyerhaeuser tradition

TED WEYERHAEUSER, a longtime Macalester supporter and member of the Board of Trustees for 26 years, received the Trustees Award for Meritorious and Distinguished Service at a campus dinner in his honor Oct. 2.

Weyerhaeuser was honored for his leadership on the board and in the community. A member of the board from 1977 to 2003, he continued a family tradition of service to Macalester dating to 1909. He was instrumental in helping to establish the Margaret W. Harmon Chair in Christian Theology and Culture in 1997, named in honor of his late mother, also a former trustee.

For 33 years Weyerhaeuser was associated with Conwed Corp., where he was president for 13 years. He also served for many years as chairman and treasurer of Clearwater Management Co. and was a member of numerous company boards.

In the nonprofit community, Weyerhaeuser's contributions and service are extensive. He has been on the boards of the St. Paul Foundation, Minnesota Council on Foundations, Ordway Music Theatre, United Way of St. Paul, Boys and Girls Club of St. Paul, Charles and Ellora Alliss Educational Foundation, Union Gospel Mission, Boy Scouts of America, House of Hope Presbyterian Church, and Minnesota Chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

"You have inspired your colleagues and the Macalester community to always have high goals and to work together to achieve those goals," the award citation says. "And throughout your years of leadership, you have shown unfailing respect for other people and for their opinions....

"While your undergraduate degree is from Yale, you have become an honorary Macalester alumnus. With your wife Nancy Neimeyer Weyerhaeuser, Macalester Class of 1953, you have become a fixture on the Macalester campus."

In brief

The college has begun a year-long, comprehensive review of its curriculum and graduation requirements. The discussion is being led by the faculty's Educational Policy and Governance Committee, which says curricular renewal is "its highest priority for the 2003-04 academic year." Only about one-third of the college's current faculty were teaching at Macalester during the last major curricular revision in the early 1990s. More information at www.macalester.edu.

• Macalester ran a full-page public service advertisement in The New York Times on Sept. 28. The Sunday ad quotes six 1990s graduates about how a Macalester education affected their lives. It also contains an essay by President Rosenberg on why a liberal arts education is important. This is the fifth full-page ad in the Times in the last two years. You can read the ad at www.macalester.edu/nytimesad.

• Macalester is ranked 25th—tied with Mount Holyoke—among 217 national liberal arts colleges in the latest U.S. News & World Report rankings. The college's academic reputation, which accounts for 25 percent of the ranking, was either higher than or the same as 10 schools that ranked above Macalester in the overall list.

• The faculty has approved a new Interdepartmental Program in African Studies. The program will offer a minor in African Studies. "We are extremely excited about this new
initiative as it builds on Macalester's internationalist tradition and plugs a longstanding hole in the realm of Africa area studies," said geography Professor Bill Moseley, who will coordinate the program. The college already has area studies programs for Latin America, Asia and Russia-Central Europe.

- Provost Dan Hornbach will continue in his position through next year rather than leaving at the end of this academic year as he originally planned, President Rosenberg said. He praised Hornbach's work and said the two worked well together. Rosenberg also said that he needed more time to learn about the provost's position and think about the selection process.

Photos: Students settle in this fall.

Student body grows bigger

LONGER LINES AT CAFÉ MAC in the Campus Center. An increase in class size. Waiting lists over 10 students long for some entry-level courses. The use of lounges as (probably temporary) triple dorm rooms.

Those are some of the consequences of having the largest new class—513 first-years, about 50 more students than the 465-student average entering class—and the highest total enrollment at Macalester in about 30 years.

Macalester requires all first-years and sophomores to live on campus. With first-years living in Dupre Hall singles and dorm lounges across campus, and some sophomores living in the newer dorms usually reserved for upperclassmen, "it reduces the number of beds available to juniors and seniors, and there's not a whole lot we can do about that," Sarah Griesse, director of Residential Life, told the Mac Weekly.

Macalester has added 24 new beds with the renovation of the Wallace Hall attic or fourth floor. When the 54-bed Tuck Hall expansion project is completed next year, it will also help alleviate the housing crunch. Next fall Macalester will be closer to its goal of housing 80 percent of the student body on campus.
Crossing borders

A Macalester conference engages feminist academics and activists on an international scale

The speakers came from around the world. A women's rights advocate journeyed from Armenia. There was a woman from Burundi who works with refugees in the Netherlands. Two others work on gender inequality in Uganda, East Timor and the United States. Many who live in the U.S. represent minority communities, or they were born elsewhere and work internationally. The Iranian-American speaker, for example, writes about South Africa.

They all came to Macalester for "Sustainable Feminisms: Enacting Theories, Envisioning Action, A Cross-border Conference," held Oct. 3-5. Sonita Sarker, chair of the Women's and Gender Studies Department and associate professor of English, spent nine months e-mailing back and forth with the 70 presenters to make it happen.

"I was very pleased by the fact that so many people from across the world thought that sustainable feminism meant something to them," Sarker said, "and that it meant something deep enough to write about, and to come together in one place to discuss."

More than 40 Macalester students participated in workshops and engaged presenters in discussions of their work. Sarker was gratified to see former students in the audience as well, including Alireza Javaheri '01 and Ola Nilsson '02, who returned to campus from Sweden for the event.

It took an active steering committee to bring the conference to fruition. It was one initiative of a successful grant proposal made to the Ford Foundation. The result, a $45,000, two-year grant, also provided for competitive student stipends for internships and graduate school preparation, as well as publication of papers submitted in connection with the conference.

Collaborations of all kinds were discussed, those between women and men, feminists and womanists, and the academy and those on the frontlines of social work, law and politics.

The process of collaboration, or crossing borders, is integral to Sarker's own scholarship and teaching. She is co-editor of Trans-Status Subjects: Gender in the Globalization of South and Southeast Asia, and is currently working on a book-length project entitled Cultural Production, Feminist Democracy and Trans-border Solidarity. She teaches classes in feminist post-modern and postcolonial theories, 20th and 21st century transnational women's writing, and sociopolitical activism. Sarker also serves as convener of the International Task Force of the National Women's Studies Association and on the executive committee of the Modern Language Association division in Women's Studies in Language and Literature.

The collaborative nature of the conference, particularly with regard to academics and activists, was very much in concert with Macalester's commitment to civic engagement.

"Civic engagement," says Sarker, "means that academics are done in such a way that they are accountable and perform ethically in relation to the surrounding community. The Sustainable Feminisms Conference is part of this larger goal, not just contributing to women's and gender studies, but picking up the values that Macalester wants to enact."

Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

Pain, tears and equality: A few voices

Here are some comments from speakers at the conference:

Layli Miller-Muro, attorney and executive director, Tahirih Justice Center in the Washington, D.C. area. She is well known for her work that opened the door to granting asylum in the U.S. on grounds of gender-based persecution, female genital mutilation and forced marriage. In her remarks, Miller-Muro suggested handling discouragement in the equal rights struggle by imagining oneself as a Martian, unfamiliar with the human body, who first lands on earth in a hospital birthing room: "It may depress you, all the blood and pain. It may make you feel that nothing could be worth this. But if you understand the process, you know that the more pain, the more tears and blood, the closer you are to the birth. If you see the pain as a part of a larger process, we can all act as midwives to a civilization in which women and men are equal."

Judith Halberstam, a professor of literature and cultural studies at the University of California, San Diego: "A good, smart argument hardly ever changes anyone's mind. We are living under a regime of stupidity, and academics need to learn the logic of stupidity. We can't just say it's stupid and dismiss it. Stupidity knows something. Academics, especially, need to understand why stupid arguments work, why smart people are willing to be led by stupidity... We need dense theory and explanation from academics."

Charlotte Pfeifer-Gillam, legislator, South Bend (Ind.) Common Council, and an African American: "I want to sustain feminism, even though I never felt included. The rising tide does lift all boats, even if I only got the throwaway boat. Before, I never even had a chance at a boat of my own. So I resent it, but I admit, that is progress. We have the second and especially the third wave of feminism. Finally, finally, women of color, poor, LBT [lesbian, bisexual, transgender], international and other women who were left out are included and intricately involved in the third wave. However, I think we may need a fourth wave of feminism to truly include disabled women in a real way."

"If you see the pain as a part of a larger process, we can all act as midwives to a civilization in which women and men are equal."

"I was very pleased by the fact that so many people from across the world thought that sustainable feminism meant something to them," says Professor Sonita Sarker, chair of the Women's and Gender Studies Department, "and that it meant something deep enough to write about, and to come together in one place to discuss."
Child pornography

JOSHUA S. BERTSCH ’03 was sentenced to 6½ years in prison Nov. 4 after pleading guilty to storing thousands of child pornography images on his computer at Macalester and distributing some of them over the Internet.

The sentence imposed by Ramsey County District Judge Joanne Smith is one of the longest for possession of child pornography in Minnesota, several attorneys said.

Bertsch, 23, of Sioux Falls, S.D., pleaded guilty in August to one count of distributing child pornography and 19 counts of possessing child pornography. He must serve at least four years and four months in prison before he is eligible for release.

Judge Smith said her decision was one of the most difficult she has made in her 20 years as a judge because of the wide variance in the sentences sought by the prosecution and defense. County Attorney Susan Gaertner wanted Bertsch to be sentenced to more than 20 years. Cean Shands ’89, Bertsch’s attorney, had asked that Bertsch be placed on probation and sent to a sex-offender treatment program.

Smith received 20 letters of support written by Macalester professors, alumni and students as well as Bertsch’s close family members. Smith said that the Macalester community and members of Bertsch’s family expressed what she called “unconditional love and support” for Bertsch. The judge said she gave him what she considered a lenient sentence because he was “a successful individual” and had the support and love of his family and campus community.

Before sentencing, Bertsch told the judge, “[Saying] I’m sorry doesn’t say a lot. I’ve hurt so many people...I would just ask that I be given a second chance.”

A police officer working with the Illinois attorney general’s child exploitation task force came across an Internet chat-line offer to trade child pornography that was eventually traced to Bertsch’s computer at Macalester. Gaertner said Macalester officials were very helpful when contacted about the case.

Quotable Quotes

“I felt that we’d reached as far as we could go with one coach coaching two teams. I feel the results are coming in. The men are in a better position and I can give more attention to the women’s team because the men now have another coach.”

John Leaney, who has been the Macalester men’s soccer coach since 1987 and the women’s coach since 1989, quoted in the Oct. 3 Mac Weekly. Leaney, who now shares the men’s coaching duties with Ian Barker, has led his teams to 13 MIAC titles and guided the women to a national title in 1998.

“The Taliban know schools are key...If we spent a dollar on smart kids instead of smart bombs, in a generation we wouldn’t need smart bombs.”

Benjamin Barber, political theorist and author, speaking at Macalester in October.

“Budget cuts have been hard; they’re going to be very hard next year. But we’re trying to keep access available.”

DeWitt Wallace Library Director Terri Fishel, quoted in the Sept. 26 Mac Weekly about the decrease in the available periodicals and journals at the library.

Endowment ups and downs

Strange but true: Macalester’s endowment grew last year, but its overall value went down a bit.

Actually, there’s a simple explanation.

The endowment experienced a total investment return of 3.4 percent for the year that ended June 30, 2003. Meanwhile, however, the college annually draws 5 percent of the market value of the endowment to help support operating expenses. That dropped the total value to 1.5 percent lower than a year ago, or $435.7 million.

Chief Investment Officer Craig Aase ’70 notes that these results are very positive compared with the previous two years, when the endowment was hit hard by the markets and, after the deductions for spending, lost a combined 21 percent of its official all-time high ($564 million, recorded in June 2000). Investments in bonds, oil and gas, and hedge funds helped Macalester do much better than the equity markets (the S&P 500 index registered a .3 percent increase) and better than the median return of 2.9 percent for 122 schools surveyed by the nonprofit Commonfund.

It will take time for these results to be experienced in the operating budget, which is just now absorbing the bigger losses of the past few years. To facilitate planning and cushion the impact of shifts in the economy, the 5 percent spending allocation is calculated on the average of the previous four years’ quarterly valuations.

That spending formula generated significantly less operating support for 2003-2004, at the same time that many students—because of the economy—are in need of greater financial aid. The college made more than $2 million in adjustments to balance the budget (see Macalester Today Spring 2003), and further adjustments will be necessary through the middle of this decade, notes David Wheaton, vice president for administration and treasurer.
The current Generation Gap members include (from left) Gene Sauser-Monnig ’73 on guitar; Professor Roger Mosvick ’52, Communication Studies, on trumpet; Professor Carleton Macy, Music, the musical director and drummer; Professor Truman Schwartz, Chemistry, on trumpet; Terry Mulally, Computing and Information Technology, on bass; Craig Aase ’70, chief investment officer, on trombone; Professor David McCurdy, Anthropology, on piano; Bill Arimond ’77 on clarinet and sax; and former Mac staff member Alan Yngve on flute.

The band plays on

Three decades after they started, it's about time for the Generation Gap. But then, who's counting?

The band that brought bounce to this year's first-year orientation party represents a Macalester musical brain trust of sorts.

Wearing yellow T-shirts with the insignia "Generation Gap," each musician tooting, wailing, picking, plucking or drumming is a faculty member, alumnus or employee. Taken cumulatively, their years in association with Macalester tote up to more than three centuries.

The gig, the band's way to ring in a new academic year, is also the putative point of monthly practices in the guesthouse behind the home of music Professor Carleton Macy.

It is here where, on one late August afternoon, members of the Generation Gap sat in front of a thrumming air-conditioning window unit, taking swigs from bottles of beer and trading tales of summer vacations, real estate investments, the whereabouts of children and grandchildren.

And they jammed. These guys, several of whom have played together since the band formed more than 30 years ago, clearly enjoy its musicality as much as the camaraderie. Jazz, Dixieland, blues, bossa nova, swing—they've played it all. Members come and go, retire and expire. But a love of music and good company has held the band together.

"It's changed over the years," says retired chemistry Professor Truman Schwartz, an original member. "But the enjoyment hasn't. It's a great kick—having the fun of working with other people, making music, occasionally surprising yourself with a riff."

David McCurdy, a semi-retired anthropology professor and original member who plays banjo, guitar and piano, calls practice a "social event." "I like to see the guys, drink beer, play some. We've got a few gigs a year. It keeps us going."

According to Schwartz, a concert-playing Rhodes Scholar, the band's first public gig was in 1969 at a St. Paul Shakey's Pizza. Later, the band was called upon to "make noise" around the flagpole before faculty meetings. Now, they play at weddings, retirements, Staff Appreciation Day and other functions.

"We only want to play for people who know us and love us and forgive our mistakes."

Roger Mosvick, '52, a trumpet player and communication studies professor with one of the longest careers on campus, has big plans for the band: more gigs, more players, maybe even a vocalist.

It was Mosvick who inspired Craig Aase '70, Macalester's chief investment officer, to restore his chops after decades away from his trombone. "He's always moving us on to new stuff," Aase says. "It's been a hoot."

"Roger has become the heart and soul of our group," Macy says. "He calls us, arranges gigs, puts together lists of music. He just loves it. And he's a natural improviser."

At the end-of-summer practice at Macy's guesthouse, those in attendance invoked the spirits of Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington and Stan Kenton, playing "Take the A Train," "All of Me," "Georgia," and other swing standards. (Their only rock number, the song they believe most appeals to today's youth, is "Ain't No Sunshine" by Bill Withers, released in 1971. Most of the Class of 2004 were born in 1986.)

Every now and then, someone would take the wrong key, play too loud or off tempo. Clacking his drum brushes together, Macy, the band's music director, set them straight.

Fill the gap

The Generation Gap is seeking band members. Alumni, faculty and staff are invited to join. Reed players are especially welcome. Contact Carleton Macy at 651-696-6186.

"Start again, but you have to be rhythmic about it," he said.

After working out their kinks, the players confirmed location and times for the new students' gig.

"How long will the parents be here?" asked Terry Mulally, a bass player who's in charge of computer and information technology on campus.

"All weekend," Macy answered.

"Are we the strategy to get rid of them?" Mulally asked.

"Yes, we are," Macy said.

But the students and their families stayed until the end, and the band played on.

—Diane Richard
The art of asking questions
When it comes to art, Professor Don Celender draws a lot of smiles.
And that's O.K. O.K. Harris, too.

How do you get people to think about art?
Ask them about it.

That's what Professor Don Celender has been doing for more than 30 years.
Celender, a conceptual artist, sends letters asking ordinary and famous people what they think about art. His questions have included, "If you could walk into any painting, what would it be?" and "What is the most pleasing visual experience you have had in your life?"

The letters and responses are displayed every year at O.K. Harris, a New York City gallery. Celender's 33rd show opened this month (December) and runs through Jan. 17, 2004.

Celender began sending out his letters as a way to make all sorts of people think about art. For his first project, he wrote letters to major corporations, proposing that they turn their products into absurd works of art. General Motors, for example, was asked to create a line of pop art automobiles in the exact shape and size of celebrities like Charles DeGaulle and Ralph Nader.

The responses to Celender's first batch of letters astounded him: 23 out of the 25 corporations wrote back, and many of the replies were good-humored. A General Motors employee wrote, "Since you propose that the car bodies 'duplicate exactly the heights of the celebrities,' we appreciate your selecting two tall men, both over six feet I believe, as starters. However, even six-footers pose problems. Our shortest U.S.-made car, the Corvette, is 182.5 inches long, or a little over 15 feet."

Since that show, Celender has mostly been querying people about their views of art. Travel agents were asked where they would send their clients if they could choose any work of art in the world. Another survey asked, "If you could dine with a famous artist... whom would you select and where would you dine?" AIDS researcher Robert Gallo said he would dine with Michelangelo at Leonardo da Vinci's house.

Celender also experimented with other ways of bringing art to the general public. He created "Artball," baseball cards for artists, which feature artists' heads superimposed over athletes' bodies. He also had fortune cookies printed with art-related fortunes.

Even after 30 years, Celender is amazed by the response rate to his letters, which averages more than 80 percent. Even when someone has no response or does not feel qualified to respond, he or she writes Celender to say so. (When asked if her museum contributed to the cultural life of Americans, the director of the Water Ski Museum in Winter Haven, Fla., answered, "No.")

Celender says the driving force behind the response rate is the respondents' love of art. "Many of them have said, 'I'm so grateful that you've asked me about art because I love art but I've never had the opportunity to express this because I'm a military man, I'm an admiral' or whatever. The travel agents wanted to show off like crazy because they love to send people to the great travel spots of the world to see art," Celender said.

Next year's show may include questions for prison wardens or questions about censorship.

— Hannah Clark '02

Campus events

Note: Because this issue of Mac Today went to press in early November, only a few events are listed here. Please consult the Arts & Events Calendar on the Web: www.macalester.edu, click on Arts & Events Calendar. Or call the phone numbers listed below for specific activities.

Jan. 26: Spring semester classes begin

Feb. 26-29: "Mud, River, Stone," play by Lynn Nottage, Theater and Dance Department (651-696-6359)

March 6: inauguration of Brian Rosenberg as Macalester's 16th president

April 2-4: Spring Dance Concert, Theater and Dance Department (651-696-6359)

April 22-24 and April 29-May 1: "Mother Courage and Her Children," by Bertolt Brecht, Theater and Dance Department (651-696-6359)

May 15: Commencement

June 4-6: Reunion (see page 40)

Campus Events Line: 651-696-6900
Dramatic Arts & Dance: 651-696-6359
Macalester Gallery: 651-696-6416
Music Department: 651-696-6382
Athletic events: 651-696-6267
Midfielder Sarah Marsh '05, third from right, makes a heads-up play.

Fall sports review

Two soccer teams shine; Koby Hagen '06 wins MIAC cross country championship

Men's soccer

The men's soccer team won its third straight MIAC championship and sixth in seven years with another stellar season under co-head coaches John Leaney and Ian Barker. With an 8-0-2 league season, the Scots posted their third straight unbeaten MIAC campaign, something no other MIAC school has ever achieved. All-America midfielder Nathan Knox '04 (Christchurch, New Zealand), who was named MIAC Player of the Year, and Joe Wertz '07 (St. Paul) led the offense, with Knox scoring eight goals and Wertz leading the squad with nine. Midfielders Andrew Wissler '06 (Annandale, Va.), Robb Swick '05 (Fond-du-lac, Wis.) and Michael Dannenberg '05 (Brookline, Mass.), among others, also played some standout soccer. With late-season injuries to several key starters, the Scots had to go into the post-season playoffs short-handed. After beating St. Thomas in the conference semifinals, the Scots lost 2-1 to Gustavus in the finals and were denied the MIAC's automatic bid to the national playoffs. Swick and Dannenberg joined Knox on the All-MIAC team.

Women's soccer

After winning MIAC championships five straight years, the Scots came up just a little short for the second season in a row when they went 7-2-2 in the league and were edged out by St. Benedict and St. Thomas. However, the Scots earned a spot in the NCAA Division III playoffs by knocking off the two top-seeded teams in the MIAC's first-ever post-season tournament. Macalester first crushed St. Thomas 5-0 in the semifinals and went on to defeat St. Benedict in the finals. In that game, the Scots battled through a scoreless tie and gained a thrilling penalty kick shootout win when All-America goalkeeper Lisa Bauer '04 (Woodbury, Minn.) stopped three of the four shots she faced.

Annie Borton '07 (Berkeley, Calif.) led the team with 10 goals. Alice Hacker '05 (Portland, Ore.) scored seven goals and Katie Pastorius '07 (Arden Hills, Minn.) had five goals and nine assists. The women's season ended when they lost their first-round NCAA playoff game to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Bauer, Hacker and Borton were joined on the All-MIAC team by Sarah Marsh '05 (Lincoln, Neb.).

Koby Hagen '06, left, became Macalester's first individual MIAC champ in cross country since Julia Kirtland in 1984-85-86.
Football

Coming off a 5-5 season in 2002 and winners of a 30-25 shootout in the season's third week over Lawrence (Wis.), the Scots were looking forward to racking up a few victories with their young team. However, a heartbreaking three-point loss when Kenyon (Ohio) booted a field goal on the game’s final play just a week after the Lawrence triumph set the stage for six straight defeats and a 1-8 overall record. A youthful defense struggled against the run and a small roster size hurt the team late in games. Macalester's offense did some wonderful things behind quarterback Adam Denny '04 (Preston, Minn.), who finished with 1,518 yards passing in just six games. His missing three games due to a hand injury hurt the team's chances. Running back David Kruger was among the national leaders in all-purpose running and finished with 432 yards rushing on a 5.1 yard-per-carry average and 449 yards receiving on 41 catches. Fellow running back Matt Munson '04 (Park Rapids, Minn.) was also a solid two-way threat. Tim Burns '06 (McFarland, Wis.) and Dan Haley '07 (Bend, Ore.) led the defense and will be standouts for the Scots for the next few seasons.

Women's cross country

Koby Hagen '06 (Minneapolis) won the MIAC championship, becoming Macalester's first individual MIAC champ since Julia Kirtland in 1984-85-86. Hagen rallied from five seconds behind the leaders with about 1,000 meters to go and pulled away to win the 5,000-meter race in 18:46. The Scots had good senior leadership from Renee Schaefer (Waukesha, Wis.) and Maureen Mullikin (Minneapolis), who helped the team place second in invitationals hosted by Grinnell and UW-Oshkosh, before finishing sixth at the conference meet.

Men's cross country

In his first season as head coach, Matt Haugen led the Scots to their best conference finish in 17 years—fourth-place at the MIAC championships—and was named MIAC Coach of the Year. Mac's team score of 100 was its lowest since 1971 and for the first time since that same year the team had five top-30 conference runners. These five ran as a pack at the conference meet and crossed the finish line within :34 of each other. All five will return next year as the Scots appear primed to make a run for their first MIAC title since claiming their sixth straight in 1967. Bo Rydze '05 (Iowa City, Iowa) earned All-Conference honors by placing 13th at the MIAC championships. Roscoe Sopiwnik '06 (Frederic, Wis.), Eric Olson '05 (Faribault, Minn.) and Jordan Selbo '06 (Amherst, Mass.) all earned honorable mention All-MIAC honors by placing between 16th and 25th. Tom Hammer '07 (Ithaca, N.Y.) was the fifthhighest placing frosh.

Volleyball

Coach Stephanie Schleuder's team finished with an impressive 19-10 record in a nationally competitive schedule. The Scots were 13-5 in non-conference matches, with four of those losses coming against teams ranked in the top 12 nationally. Middle hitter Carley Bomstad '04 (Apple Valley, Minn.) closed out a great career by being named to the All-Conference team for the fourth time, and finished as the school's all-time leader in career blocks and second on the list for career kills. The Scots used a well-balanced hitting attack, with setter Sarah Graves '04 (Lawrence, Kan.) distributing the hitting attack evenly among Bomstad, Lauren Eberhart '07 (Madelia, Minn.), Bethany Tate '05 (Charlotte, N.C.) and Maggie Buttermore '06 (Lincoln, Neb.). Back row standout May Lin Kessenich '05...
(Milford, Conn.) was third in the MIAC in digs and was named MIAC Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season.

Men's and women's golf
Coach Martha Nause's golf teams showed outstanding improvement throughout the fall season. The men's team had its best season in several years, at least until a disappointing season-ending conference tournament. Kramer Lawson '05 (Kenmore, Wash.), the team's low-scorer in every meet over the past two years, placed 10th at the season's first three tournaments before taking second at the Mac Invite. The women's golfers—all first-years—got better every week, led by Kylie Thomson '07 (Seattle) and Grace Arnold '07 (Iowa City, Iowa).

—Andy Johnson, sports information director

Hall of Famers
Here are the new members of Macalester's Athletic Hall of Fame, inducted in October:

Doug Bolstorff has touched the lives of many students as a teacher, coach and friend since arriving on campus in 1959. He retired after 41 very successful years. A former NBA player and University of Minnesota standout, he coached basketball in parts of four decades at Macalester and led some excellent NAIA playoff teams in the '70s. His track and field and cross country teams were conference and national powerhouses and combined to win 20 MIAC championships. At one point in the late '60s Coach Bolstorff's track team had won the last 11 MIAC track championships while his cross country team had won 11 of the last 12 titles. He also coached the baseball team in his early years at Macalester and for his final several years he was the men's golf coach.

Dennis J. Czech '83, the head football coach at his alma mater for the past six years, starred in football and baseball at Macalester. He ranked as Mac's No. 2 all-time career rushing leader with 2,394 yards. A four-year letterman and team captain as a senior, he ran for 989 yards as a junior—the second highest single-season figure ever posted by a Scot. He was named NAIA player of the week after a 260-yard, four-touchdown performance against Bethel. The team MVP in football in 1981, he was a two-time baseball captain with a career batting average of .342. He was twice named All-MIAC in baseball and received conference recognition three of his four years in football.

Richard H. Ford '74 was a standout performer on some excellent Macalester swimming teams. As a senior and team captain, he earned All-American status for his top-six performance in the 200-yard butterfly at the NAIA championships. He held the college record in the 200 butterfly until 2002—the longest-standing record on the Macalester swimming books. As a freshman and sophomore, he was a major contributor to Macalester's MIAC championship teams, which earned third- and sixth-place national finishes. He led the Scots in scoring as a junior and senior while swimming the 1,000-yard freestyle, 500-yard freestyle and 200-yard butterfly in most dual meets. He was a four-time All-American and eight-time MIAC champion in relay and individual events.

Shona Hillman '81 helped start the tradition of great women runners at Macalester. As a first-year student, she placed 10th at the state and 25th at the regional cross country meet, and in track she was second at the state meet in the 5,000-meter run. She continued to develop as a runner over the next three years and was always one of the top state and regional finishers in cross country and the distance events in track. She finished her collegiate career in style, placing sixth at the national AIAW track and field championships in 1981 in the 5,000-meter run to earn All-America honors. She went on to earn a medical degree at the University of Minnesota.

John W. Nelson '68 was a three-sport athlete in football, basketball and track as a freshman. But from his sophomore through senior years he focused on track and field. At the MIAC championships from 1966 to 1968, he was second in total individual points only to recently elected Hall of Fame track legend Walt Kress '68. Nelson won the MIAC 440-yard dash championship as a sophomore and was third in the conference in the 220. He was also a member of the record-setting mile relay team. As a junior, he set a school and conference record in the 440 while running on another record-setting mile relay team. He finished his athletic career as a member of several team and conference record-setting relay teams, including the 440, 880, sprint and mile.
On the public and the personal
by Brian Rosenberg

The subject of my inaugural column for Macalester Today, and indeed my general approach to the column itself, was shaped by my lively conversation with an alumnus (Class of '59) at a recent gathering in Chicago. Commenting upon my interview in the previous edition of this magazine, and demonstrating the attention to detail and careful, critical thinking for which Macalester alumni are well known, he noted that the piece was attractive and clear in its message but that it provided relatively little sense of the "real" person underlying the presidential exterior.

Of course, he was largely correct. For all sorts of sensible and practical reasons, presidents, as public figures, spend much time articulating the ideas of most importance to the institutions they embody and not so much time revealing the subtler shades of their character. To do otherwise would be to neglect the job at hand and, perhaps, to invite scrutiny more probing and intimate than is comfortable.

Nonetheless, it strikes me that this column might provide a regular opportunity to share with you some reflections less presidential than personal. You will have plenty of chances to read and listen to my observations about the person. None of these is shocking or dramatic (sorry), but, to be honest, there's little that's shocking or dramatic in my present or past. Perhaps this is the first revelation.

It might be helpful to know that I am by nature a pretty competitive person, whether I am playing racquetball, which I do with indifferent skill, or presiding over a college of quality and distinction, which I hope to do with considerably more agility and force. At times I have regretted and attempted to rein in this competitive streak; at times I have acknowledged its contributions to whatever successes I may have had. Like so many defining weaknesses, this one may be inseparable from my defining strengths and may be, for better or worse, an indelible portion of my character. The good news for the Macalester community is that my desire to excel is inextricable now from my desire for the college to excel and will lead me to set for myself, and for Macalester, the highest standards and aspirations.

I weigh today more or less what I weighed at the center of my life despite the demands imposed by a college presidency. This will be a challenge, perhaps the most daunting challenge of the position, but I am confident that Macalester is the sort of institution and the sort of community within which the challenge can be met.

I don't like mushrooms, olives or raw onions. My wife, who likes to cook, finds this annoying.

Based on my assumption that readers can handle only so many startling revelations in one sitting, I will draw to a close with an anecdote and a final, serious and utterly truthful confession. Recently I heard the distinguished American historian Edmund S. Morgan advise college graduates, with much frankness and not a little wit, that though intelligence, perseverance and hard work were no doubt keys to success, the most essential thing of all was luck. "So go out," he said, "and get lucky."

I've been a very lucky guy.

With this issue, Brian Rosenberg, the president of Macalester, begins a regular column for Mac Today.
Introduction to Scientific Computation and Programming
by Daniel Kaplan (Brooks/Cole, 2003. 416 pages, $69.95 paperback)

Intended as a step forward in computer education for scientists and engineers, this book integrates coverage of programming together with important methods and techniques of scientific computation and organization of software. Requiring only a single course in calculus, the book seeks to be as useful to students with no programming experience as it is to researchers and scientists wanting to hone their skills. Realistic MATLAB examples illustrate concepts. Short exercises in every chapter reinforce learning of that chapter's content.

Daniel Kaplan is an associate professor of mathematics and computer science at Macalester, where he teaches scientific computing, statistics and applied mathematics. He has a B.A. in physics from Swarthmore, an M.S. in engineering eco-

A writer comes home
For his 'midlife crisis,' novelist Charles Baxter '69 returns to Minnesota

by Mary Ann Grossmann '60

Don't look for a picture of Charles Baxter '69 on the jacket of his new novel, Saul and Patsy. Unlike authors whose artfully posed pictures stare out at readers, Baxter is happy to let his widely praised words speak for themselves.

"I made a decision to keep my picture off my previous novel, The Feast of Love, because Charlie Baxter is a character in that book, and I didn't want people to know what I looked like," he says. "When we got ready to prepare this book, I thought, 'There are so many author photos on so many jackets — why not leave it off?'"

The Feast of Love, a sort of Midsummer Night's Dream without the fairies, was nominated for the 2000 National Book Award for fiction. Critics and readers loved Baxter's story about an insomniac (just like him) walking around his neighborhood in Ann Arbor, Mich., meeting all kinds of interesting people.

'Seeemed time to leave Ann Arbor for a larger city with a rich cultural life, one we are familiar with.'

Saul and Patsy, the 56-year-old author's fourth novel, is getting equal praise. "The reviews are turning out pretty well so far," the modest Baxter admits, somewhat reluctantly.

Baxter, who grew up on a 40-acre estate outside of Excelsior, Minn., has just moved back to Minnesota after teaching since 1988 at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He and his wife, Martha, are settling into their Minneapolis townhouse, within walking distance of Walker Art Center.

The Baxters have been empty-nesters since their son, Daniel, headed for Carleton College six years ago. (He's doing civil-engineering graduate work in St. Louis.) So when the University of Minnesota offered Baxter the Edelstein-Keller Distinguished Chair in creative writing, it was a golden opportunity.

"The form that Martha's and my midlife crisis took was our move to Minneapolis," Baxter says with a laugh. "It seemed time to leave Ann Arbor for a larger city with a rich cultural life, one we continued on page 18..."
A writer comes home

continued from page 17

are familiar with. There is a wonderful writing community in Ann Arbor, but as you get older, you don’t need a writerly community quite as much as when you are starting out. Then, you need people to help you with your work. As you get older, you get eccentric and crankier.”

Living in Minneapolis also means the Baxters have only a three-hour drive to their cabin on the North Shore, instead of the 12-hour trip they made when they lived in Michigan.

Baxter wrote most of Saul and Patsy at the cabin, with the last half of the book taking him a couple of years to complete.

“I’m not a fast writer,” he says. “What’s difficult is knowing whether what I’ve written is large enough for the emphasis that I’ve built up. The climactic scene was too small in my first draft. I had to enlarge, darken and lengthen it.”

Fans of Baxter’s short stories will recognize Saul and Patsy, characters about whom he’s been writing for almost 20 years. They first appeared in “Saul and Patsy Are Getting Comfortable in Michigan,” a story in Baxter’s 1985 collection, Through the Safety Net.

“I thought I had killed off these characters in a car-rollover at the end of that story,” Baxter says. “But readers had become fond of them, and when the book came out, I got quite a bit of angry reaction. I realized that you can’t end a short story with a car accident. It doesn’t look accidental. It looks as if the writer has intentionally located it there to solve the problem of how to end the story.”

He vividly remembers a literary gathering at which “a very large woman” frightened him by grabbing his lapel, shaking him and saying, “You have your nerve, killing off that nice couple.”

“I said, ‘They are not dead,’” Baxter recalls. “She said, ‘Prove it.’”

So he brought them back in “Saul and Patsy Are Pregnant” (published in his 1990 collection A Relative Stranger), and in “Saul and Patsy Are in Labor” (in his 1997 collection Believers).

For me, Saul and Patsy had a particular kind of staying power,” Baxter says, explaining why he gave them their own novel.

“But they have changed a lot since I first wrote about them. Patsy grew some harder edges because I had written her as too soft a woman. I thought that with the changes we’ve been through in 20 years, she wouldn’t have been as accommodating as in the early stories. I made her shrewder, given to occasional fits of anger. I wanted to make the novel more real, less fairy tale like.”

This article is excerpted from the Sept. 7 St. Paul Pioneer Press. Mary Ann Thomsen Grossman ’60 is the longtime book critic of the Pioneer Press.
American life. The plays range from monologues to multi-character pieces and vary in length from 15 minutes to more than an hour. Glancy concludes the collection with an essay on Native American playwriting. The book is a volume in the University of Oklahoma Press’ American Indian Literature and Critical Studies Series.

Whiskey Love

Rachel Coyne’s debut novel, drawn loosely from struggles she faced in her own childhood, looks at the dysfunction and love of a Midwestern family affected by alcohol abuse. The protagonist, Kat, spurred by emotions she can’t name, returns to her small-town Midwestern home for the first time since the death of her beloved cousin Tea. As Kat sifts through the remnants of Tea’s life, she reveals a tragically flawed woman as well as a painful history of family members bent on slow suicide, through the Bible or the bottle.

Coyne is the author of a children’s book, Daughter, Have I Told You, and is writing a novel for young adults. She earned a law degree from the Washington College of Law. The mother of a young son, she lives and works in Chisago City, Minn.

Eavan Boland and the History of the Ordinary: A Critical Study
by Patricia L. Hagen ’72 and Thomas W. Zelman (Academica Press, 2003. 264 pages, $29.95 cloth)

This study assesses the work and critical position of one of Ireland’s most ambitious living poets. Eavan Boland, born in Dublin in 1944, seeks to redefine the myths underlying the current understanding of Ireland. Her poems tend to center on the ordinary, nameless people, especially women, who survived in the face of penal laws, the famine and the Irish Civil War.

Published a book?

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

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

Patricia Hagen, an English professor at The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minn., since 1990, received a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. She teaches a variety of courses, including Irish literature. She and her co-author became interested in Boland’s work while leading the college’s seminar in Ireland program in 1990. The two have followed her career, publishing articles and presenting conference papers in the U.S. and abroad.

Reclaiming the Game: College Sports and Educational Values

In Reclaiming the Game, William Bowen and Sarah Levin marshal a wealth of evidence to suggest that athletic recruitment is problematic even at those schools that do not offer athletic scholarships.

The authors analyze in great detail the backgrounds, academic qualifications and college outcomes of athletes and their classmates at 33 academically selective colleges and universities—Macalester among them—that do not offer athletic scholarships. They say that recruited athletes at these schools are as much as four times more likely to gain admission than other applicants with similar academic credentials. The data also demonstrate that the typical recruit is substantially more likely to end up in the bottom third of the college class than is either the typical walk-on or the student who does not play college sports. Even more troubling, the authors argue, is the evidence that recruited athletes "underperform"—do even less well academically than predicted by their test scores and high school grades.

The book devotes several pages to comparing how Macalester and Swarthmore made different decisions regarding football. Swarthmore dropped football altogether, a decision that touched off a major controversy; Macalester chose to keep football but play an independent schedule against colleges of similar size.

Bowen is president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and former president of Princeton. Levin, a former All-American collegiate athlete, is a doctoral student at the Harvard School of Public Health.

The Folk of the Moth: An Earth Legend
by Patricia Crommett ’50 (lstBooks, 2003. 632 pages, $13.50)

In her first novel, Patricia Crommett writes about a land of myth and magic inhabited by giant moths and centaurs. The hero of the story, the centaur Gormaak, guides the fairies and mothfolk across the Storming Desert and into the Black Valley to face the two-hoofed Satirée.

A retired reading teacher, Crommett has written poetry and children's stories for decades. For more information about the book, see www.1stBooks.com

Augustus and the Family at the Birth of the Roman Empire
by Beth Severy (Routledge, 2003. 304 pages, $25 cloth)

Following the civil wars at the end of the Roman Republic, the victor Augustus experimented with potential public personas: a
magistrate, a refounder of Rome, a restorer of Roman civic and family values. He came to articulate his relationship to Rome as that of a father to his family, receiving the title Pater Patriae, "Father of the Country," in 2 B.C.E. The notion of family became central to the ideals and image that Augustus sought to promote, even to the extent that this first emperor's ambition became dynastic.

In this detailed study, Beth Severy, assistant professor of classics at Macalester, examines the relationship between the emergence of the Roman Empire and the status and role of the family in Roman society. Augustus and the Family at the Birth of the Roman Empire seeks to show how examining “private” issues such as those of family and gender can help gain a greater understanding of “public” concerns such as politics, religion and history. Discussing evidence from sculpture to cults and from monuments to military history, the book pursues the changing lines between public and private, family and state that gave shape to the Roman imperial system.

Severy received her Ph.D. in ancient history and Mediterranean archaeology from Berkeley in 1998. Her work focuses on Roman history and culture, with particular interest in women, gender and sexuality. Her new project involves a house in Pompeii and what the paintings on its walls articulate about the status and identity of its owner, an ex-slave.

J.R Patches—Northwest Icon
by Julius Pierpont Patches and Bryan Johnston

As the TV clown "J.P. Patches," Chris Wedes '49 became an institution in Seattle. Patches was the king of Seattle kids' TV shows from 1958 to 1981, and he still makes personal appearances. In this book, Wedes, a Minneapolis native who still lives in the Seattle area, teams up with a longtime fan of the show to recount stories behind the scenes. Dozens of photos show Wedes/Patches throughout his career.

Leaning into the Wind: A Memoir of Midwest Weather
by Susan Allen Toth (University of Minnesota Press, 2003. 144 pages, $22.95 cloth)

"Weather saturates my memories," former Macalester English Professor Susan Allen.

School for clowns...and cops, and railroad engineers

Chris [Wedes] attended Macalester College from 1946-49. During that time, Chris performed his share of theatre...but also found another way to hone his improvisational skills....Chris and a few buddies started their own radio station, WBOM (Broadcasting Over Macalester). The station was only powerful enough to reach the edges of campus, but it was all the excuse they needed to act out their own dramas, comedies and any bit that came to mind.

There were four of them goofing around on the radio. One of them, Roger Awsumb, describes how their careers went after college: "John (Gallos) became Clancy the Cop (local TV kid's show), I became Casey Jones (local TV kid's show), Chris became J.R Patches (local TV kid's show), but we were never sure whatever happened to Fritz?" As in Mondale. Yes, that Fritz Mondale, alias Walter Mondale, alias Vice President of the United States. "The guys used to really give me a bad time about the business I got into," recalls the former VP, "in fact, they used to say, 'Hey, Fritz, isn't it funny how we all got into professions where people laugh at us?""
Jim Thompson: “The critical factor is the coach.”

Coaches and kids

Since starting Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) in 1998, I have heard many sad stories of young athletes’ hearts being broken by their experience with sports. Perhaps the saddest came from a mother who contacted PCA about her 10-year-old son who had been a baseball fanatic. He couldn’t wait for the season to start—he slept with his glove under his pillow. When the season was over, she discovered him in the backyard with a shovel trying to bury his baseball glove in a cardboard box. His experience had been so awful that he never wanted to play baseball or even see his glove again.

If only this were an isolated case.... However, I have also heard inspiring stories of the positive impact of coaches. Dick, a country boy, only wanted to spend time with his horses. His father insisted that he take tennis lessons to get a little “culture.” Dick went to his first (and, in his mind, only) tennis lesson with a less than enthusiastic attitude.

The tennis coach hit the ball over the net to Dick, who returned it. The coach dropped his racquet and exploded, “Wow! You hit that ball right in the center of the racquet. Just like Rocky Marciano smashes someone in the jaw. Didn’t that feel terrific?”

From that moment, Dick Gould was a tennis player. Now he is the men’s tennis coach at Stanford University, where he has won 17 NCAA championships (and counting)....

In almost every case, the critical factor in the quality of the experience for the athlete is the coach.

— from The Double-Goal Coach
© 2003 by Jim Thompson

Toth writes. “Was the sun shining that afternoon? Were the stars blinking that night? Was I uncomfortably hot, or shivering in the cold, or too numb to notice? Sometimes I remember those outer temperatures almost as sharply as my inner ones.”

Toth has spent most of her life in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin. In a series of 10 essays, she shows how weather has challenged and changed her perceptions about herself and the world around her. She explores issues as large as weather and spirituality in “Who Speaks in the Pillar of Cloud?” and topics as small as a mosquito in “Things That Go Buzz in the Night.” In “Storms,” a thunderstorm becomes a metaphor for her troubled first marriage.

Toth, who taught at Macalester from 1969 to 1998, is best known for her memoir, Blooming: A Small-Town Girlhood, and three travel books about England. She lives in Minneapolis.

The Double-Goal Coach: Positive Coaching Tools for Honoring the Game and Developing Winners in Sports and Life

Jim Thompson is the founder and executive director of Positive Coaching Alliance, a nonprofit organization based at Stanford University and dedicated to changing the “win-at-all-costs” culture of youth sports. In his new book, Thompson offers coaches and parents tools to combine the desire to win with the more important goal of using sports to teach life lessons and build character.

The book, which carries a foreword by Los Angeles Lakers Coach Phil Jackson, uses scenarios and stories from college and professional coaches to explain how “positive coaching” works. Thompson discusses strategies reflecting the “best practices” of elite coaches and the latest research in sports psychology.

Thompson teaches leadership courses at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He has more than 20 years of teaching, coaching and management experience.

NOTE: Glimpses of Gate: A Pictorial Journal of Gate, WA: 1880–1920 by Judith Upton ’64 (see Fall issue) can be ordered from her by writing: gateproject@comcast.net. Or Judith Upton, 3445 14th Ave. NW, Olympia, WA 98502. Cost is $25 plus $2.50 shipping and handling.
Secrets of the Dead

To find clues to life in ancient Greece, classics Professor Joseph Rife and his students are investigating a cemetery.

by Doug Stone

Next summer, while thousands of visitors from around the world are flocking to Athens, Professor Joseph Rife and up to a dozen Macalester students will enter nearby tombs to search for clues about what life was like 2,000 years before the Olympics returned to Greece.

For Rife and one of his classics students, Emily Rackow '04 (Rosemont, Pa.), the seeds for their passion in an unusual archaeological project were planted years ago. As a Kenyon undergraduate in 1990, Rife worked with a professor who was studying human remains from ancient Greece in the Corinthia region southwest of Athens. He was hooked.

"I got plugged into the region, became interested in the burial practices of ancient people and in the social history of the period," Rife said. And 12 years later, he began his own investigation at a cemetery in Kenchreai, near Corinth, filled with graves that may hold clues about how Greeks and Romans lived during the 1st through 6th centuries C.E.

Rackow was one of the eight Macalester students among the 19 people who worked on the second year of the project last summer. She has been interested in history and archaeology since she was a child and her parents took her to St. Augustine, Fla., where she saw the excavation of an 18th century house.

"I was smitten with what was going on," she recalls. She is a double major in classics and anthropology.
and spent part of a summer on Macalester Professor Andrew Overman's dig in Israel. She took a course from Rife entitled "Death, Burial and Society in the Ancient World.”

She photographed the tombs and the project area. “I found myself thinking about how people might have looked at the cemetery,” she says. “How did it play a role in everyday life? What was the social significance? The project was a great way for me to apply a lot of the things I learned studying abroad [in Turkey] and at Macalester. And Joe allowed for so much student participation and input. He made you feel like you had a part in it.”

Rife agrees that the cemetery project is an important extension of the classroom. “At a certain point, students can only learn through their own personal experiences,” he says.

“Reading the text is one thing, but actually walking the ground or seeing the view of the sea or holding the pottery can develop a close understanding of what life was like then. It’s the excitement of discovery.” In addition to working at the cemetery, the students stayed in a nearby village in a hotel run by a local Greek family and went on numerous field trips.

By studying the remains, the tombs, the wall paintings and the funeral rituals of the era, Rife and his colleagues hope to uncover information about the character of an ancient community that Rife says was a “veritable melting-pot of identities in the Roman provincial landscape.” (Greece was then a Roman province.) For example, within each burial chamber, some people were cremated (the Roman custom) and others were buried (the Greek custom). The distinction could have been made by age, social status or ethnicity, Rife says. Whatever the reason, the tombs hold clues to the history and social life of the time. Later on, early Christians began painting crosses on the tomb walls to ward off demons and pagan spirits, he says.

The project includes experts from France who are studying the pre-Christian wall paintings. Macalester geology Professor Ray Rogers plans to study the geological setting of the cemetery. “As you stand at the site, you really feel like you’re coming face to face with another person’s experience,” Rife says.

To learn more

The Kenchreai Cemetery Project will be in the field from late May to mid-July 2004. If you would like to learn more about the project or visit the site, contact Herta Pitman in the Classics Department at 651-696-6376 or pitman@macalester.edu.

‘At a certain point, students can only learn through their own personal experiences.’

Doug Stone is the director of college relations at Macalester.
A day in the life

Students take advantage of fall weather, studying on the lawn in front of Old Main and the DeWitt Wallace Library.
Families, like ivy, can become attached to certain hallowed halls. When children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces or nephews of alumni attend Macalester, they are called “chips,” as in “chip off the old block.”

Speaking with a few families gives a sense of perspective about Macalester.
Susan Andersen ’03

Major: studio art
Currently: brand design associate, General Mills, Golden Valley, Minn.

Family connections: The story goes that my mom and dad met each other while eating mashed potatoes in the basement dining hall of Wallace Hall. My grandparents [C. Wesley Andersen ’30 and Lillian Forus Andersen ’28] met when my grandpa spotted my grandma at a drinking fountain on campus.

My parents made an effort not to influence me on my college decision. But when I would talk about Macalester, I noticed how they would smile and maybe my mom would mention something like, “You know that dad and I got married in the chapel there.” One thing both of my parents have always said is that their Macalester experience has stayed with them over the years and has made a positive impact on their lives.

My dad loved telling me about the painting class that he took his senior year at Mac. Apparently it was pretty tough for him, and my mom had to do some “touchups” on his artwork from time to time. Years later when I was a sophomore in painting with [Professor] Jerry Rudquist, my dad stopped by to visit. Jerry shook his hand and remembered his name right away. Jerry Rudquist was such an amazing artist, and an extremely gentle soul.

A favorite person: I will never forget Macalester’s college chaplain, Lucy Forster-Smith. I remember bumping into her along Grand Avenue at the beginning of my senior year. After coming back from a semester in Florence and London, I was feeling disoriented and out of touch with Mac. Although I barely knew her, I confided this and expressed my need to find new roots. This was the beginning of a wonderful relationship full of candlelit Sunday night Vesper services, cozy evenings at Lucy’s home, trips to San Francisco, Seattle and Princeton through the Lilly Project for Work, Ethics and Vocation, and a curriculum writing group that is still in session. Lucy is a creative, humorous and compassionate woman, and she was invaluable to my Macalester experience.

Memorable moment: September 11, 2001, was such a dark day in our country, but somehow Macalester was able to shed some light. I remember standing with students, staff and faculty outside of Weyerhaeuser. We had white ribbons that we tied around trees. We held hands and said prayers. The campus community dealt with the tragedy with the utmost respect and concern. In the weeks and months that followed, we had numerous discussions and forums regarding September 11. Macalester became this amazing place where it was possible to hear perspectives on the issue from all parts of the world. I was so impressed and honored to be a part of this intellectual and compassionate network of people.

'September 11 was such a dark day in our country, but somehow Macalester was able to shed some light.'

Susan Andersen ’03

Mary Cockrell Andersen ’66

Major: economics
Currently: media specialist, Hopkins (Minn.) Public Schools

Memorable moment: The day President Kennedy was shot, I was in Dr. [David] White’s beginning philosophy class. We were downstairs in one of the dorms and the TV was blaring the tragic news. We all cried together, and David White knew what to say to make us feel safe amid the horror and sadness.

Another memorable experience was our wedding ceremony in the newly constructed chapel in 1969!

Intangibles Macalester gave me: My most memorable experience was in SWAP (Student Work Abroad Project for Work, Ethics and Vocation, and a curriculum writing group that is still in session. Lucy is a creative, humorous and compassionate woman, and she was invaluable to my Macalester experience.

Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith:
“Lucy is a creative, humorous and compassionate woman, and she was invaluable to my Macalester experience.”

Professor David White:
“He knew what to say to make us feel safe amid the horror and sadness.”

Jan Shaw-Flamm ’76 is a Twin Cities-based free-lance writer specializing in profiles and higher education.
Project) in 1965, the summer of my junior year. I worked in the Berlin Hilton Hotel with an all-male staff who were forbidden to speak English. The Berlin Wall had been erected only four years earlier, and some of my hotel colleagues were actively working to help people escape from East Berlin. I often walked to my pension alone at night after work, not quite comprehending the dangers of the times or the city. Many Berliners were killed during that summer, and I came back to Macalester with a new sense of what it meant to be a citizen of the world.

Surprised by: Initially, I was surprised by how noisy it was living at Grand and Snelling. It took me weeks to tune out the sirens and semi-trucks that came by all night.

I was also surprised by how restricted we were as women students. The dorm "mothers" watched us like hawks and the 10 o'clock curfew and the dress code were not well received by any of us. Of course, the men had no rules or curfews to restrict their activities.

Mac now and then:
Same:
Close relationships with professors and staff
Emphasis on internationalism and a global perspective
The St. Clair Broiler has not changed at all!

Different:
Co-ed dorms (and bathrooms!) and no gender-specific rules
No compulsory weekly chapel services or convocations
More opportunities for women in intercollegiate sports

Charles W. Andersen ’65

Major: psychology
Currently: marketing, MarineMax of Minnesota, Inc.

A favorite person: During my freshman year I took Old and New Testament from Dr. David Hopper. While I found the subject interesting and...
learned some great new words like eschatology and epistemology, what I remember and treasure most was that Dr. Hopper took the time to have lunch with me in the Grille. The transition to college was challenging with so much change; at times it was overwhelming. But here I was, a frightened freshman at Mac, having lunch with one of the professors with a Th.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary, and he seemed to be interested in me.

Memorable moment: During my senior year, Butler Eitel, my high school band director, joined the staff in the Music Department. Having joined the band to play under his direction, I had the opportunity to play my all-time favorite flute solo, Concierto by Chaminade, at one of the convocations.

Family connections: Having reached the front of the line, ready to receive my Dayton room assignment and meet my new roommate, I had to manage the lump in my throat when I learned that there was some administrative mistake and there was no room waiting for me. My sister Carri [Carri Andersen Pollock ’62] was a senior and had friends living in Kirk. One of her friends, Jerry Stacy [Gerald Stacy ’62], a resident counselor in section 4, extended an invitation to be his roommate after learning of my situation.

What that meant was that I lived with seniors who graciously took me under their collective wing and provided priceless guidance on adjusting to campus life. In exchange, I coached several of them with their guitar playing.

I told Susan about the fun times Carri and I had had together during the one overlapping year. Carri and I used to walk along Summit down to the river. One of the special moments for me was when Susan and I took the same walk to the river.

Analisa Calderón ’03

Major: international studies, Spanish & pre-med

Currently: applying to medical school

A favorite person (or two): Professor Toni Dorca, my advisor. He was that wonderful combination of supportive, challenging, interesting and fun, all in one. He's from Barcelona, so I felt a special connection.
with him [because I lived in Spain for seven years]. My first week at Mac I was walking around the Spanish Department, trying to figure out what classes I should be in, when I bumped into him in the hall, and we started talking. About two minutes into our conversation, he said, “Why aren't you speaking to me in Spanish? This is ridiculous.” So we switched into Spanish, and he said, “Why don't you take my class? It's tomorrow, come at this time.” It was mostly juniors and seniors, and I was this nervous little first-year. It was a great class, and I learned a lot from him.

The other professor who really made a huge impact on me was Dr. Larry Savett. He offered this wonderful class, “Seminar in the Humanism of Medicine,” about what it's like to be a physician, what it's like to be a patient. He has become a great mentor for me. He's guiding me through the medical school process and has been really, really supportive and encouraging.

**Family connections:** When my dad and my uncle [the late Manuel Calderón ’80] first visited me, on two separate occasions, they both made the comment that the dorm still smells the same. Also, my dad had worked as a native speaker, one of the students in charge of Spanish House. My senior year I was the community assistant (like the RA of the language houses), and I was responsible for Spanish House, so that was a fun thing, an experience we shared.

**Armando Calderón ’80**

**Major:** sociology and Spanish

**Currently:** insurance executive, The Saint Paul Companies

**Family connections:** My brother and I attended Macalester at the same time. We had recently
It is special to me to follow my dad's and sister's footsteps here, yet develop a path of my own.  Cristina Calderón '06

emigrated from El Salvador and our English was not as fluid as it should have been. One of the reasons that Macalester was such a great place for us was because of the international diversity, and its curriculum. It had a superb English as a Second Language college-level curriculum, which we took. For the first semester we just took English, at a very intensive level, and believe me, I learned rapidly.

Surprised by: I didn't realize it was such a liberal college. For instance, at the time I think Macalester was the only small college in Minnesota that was advocating for gay rights. It surprised me how open-minded the college was, and in many ways accepting. Somehow it achieved a balance and allowed people to be themselves. Liberal, yes, but if you were Catholic, if you were Republican, it gave you the freedom to be yourself.

What I told my daughters about Macalester: Mac is not for everyone. In my view, you really need to be a self-starter, independent. Prior to going to Mac, my daughters always thought I was nuts because I always read about politics in the newspaper and was involved in the issues. I told them that they would go from not being interested to being really interested and engaged.

I also told them they would find an environment where people sometimes went to extremes. We lived in Spain for a lot of years, and we adhered to a certain code for how you dress, how you compose yourself, how you eat. We're very conscious of that. I told them they'd find some weird people at Mac, some highly intellectual weird people. At Mac they would see a wider spectrum of everything. They agree with me!

Intangibles Macalester gave me: A desire to make a contribution to save the world. I left with an enhanced social awareness, particularly issues related to social justice, political stability, equality. That's one of the reasons I decided to go to law school.

Cristina Calderón '06

Major: undecided

Family connections: It was a plus. I am lucky to have my dad to look up to, as well as my older sister. She is a wonderful role model who sets an amazing path for anyone to follow. I wanted to be close to her, so that affected my decision. It also is special to me to follow my dad's and sister's footsteps here, yet develop a path of my own.

I also lived in Dupre my first year, where both my dad and sister had lived. I am going to be an RA in the same dorm my sister was, Doty. Also, my sister and I took a Spanish class together last semester, and I was on the crew team, which my sister also did.

Memorable moment: One that stands out was attending the talent show during orientation week my first year. I was amazed at the diversity and talent of my fellow students, and extremely excited to be able to be here.

Wes McFarland '05

Major: economics

A favorite person: Professor [Vasant] Sukhatme. The class I took from him, "Adam Smith and Karl Marx," was one of the best classes I have taken at Macalester. He always had detailed knowledge of the subject and expected the most from every student, which promoted a great class atmosphere.

Memorable moment: My most memorable experience has to do with the basketball team. No one moment sticks out clearly, but just getting to know such a great group of guys and new guys coming in each year has been a great experience in and of itself. My freshman year we made the playoffs for the first time and we had sellouts numerous times toward the end of the season.

Politics: I am a very easygoing person who doesn't really like discussing things, so I will usually just sit back and listen to a conversation on
'One thing that comes to mind is how hard I had to work [as a student]. My high school study habits didn't work.'

Douglas McFarland, Jr. '68

Douglas McFarland, Jr. in his senior class photo.

Of chips, Rocks and Bells

'Of chips, Rocks and Bells' depending on how you figure it, the Rock-Funk clan has sent as many as 40 family members to Mac over four generations. That number includes in-laws and also includes about six members of my stepmother's family. You could go on and on and on," Jack Rock '53 says with a laugh.

The family tradition started with Jack's maternal grandfather, Henry D. Funk '01, who went on to teach history and German at Macalester for 27 years. The first Rocks were siblings William '23, Robert '23, Walter '25, Edith '26, Charles '29 and Donald '33.

"It's just a wonderful family relationship," says Jack Rock, son of Walter Rock. He is also the husband of Carol Rohland Rock '53 and the uncle of Raenay Rock-Hendrickson '84, the most recent Rock at Macalester.

"We've all kind of kept track of each other over the years, those of us who are still around. Those that have gone on before are very much in the memories of all of the members of the family," Jack says.

The Bell-Tripps also are part of an especially long Mac tradition. "Were there any other colleges?" Fran Tripp Bell '39 jokes. "I did go to St. Cloud the first year to get an experience away from home, but then I always knew I was going to Macalester."

Fran's husband is Art Bell '40. All four of their parents, Oakley and Louise Davison Tripp, both '12, and William and Helen Bell, both '10, and all four of their children are Mac alumni, with their youngest daughter, Mary Bell Woolf '76, being the 23rd or 24th Macite in the family.

"Art says, 'We always told the children they could go to any college in Minnesota that was Presbyterian-related,'" said Fran. "More seriously she added, 'It's been wonderful, just wonderful for us, to share that experience, and fun to watch the differences from when we were there and when our folks were there, and the stories they told, and the things our kids experienced.'"

Other families who have sent an especially large number of family members to Mac (from 9 to 20) include James-Pinney; Macomber-Hobart; Rusterholz; Hill; Lanegran; Strachan-Clark; Gregory-Torgersen-Bragg; Hueister; Bailey-Sindt; Rude-Kroning; and DeBoer.
Chris Palm '02 and Brad England '77 work together in the Capital Markets division of U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray in downtown Minneapolis. Brad joined the Grand Society—a group of alumni, parents and friends who give $1,000 or more each year—in 2002; Chris joined last summer.

"I think it is important to support Macalester," Chris says. "Macalester graduates give back to their communities. Plus, I got a lot out of my time there. It shaped my ideals and I made friends who I never would have met anywhere else."

Brad also emphasized his personal connections to Macalester. "Having my son, and the daughter of my best friend in college, both elect to attend Mac really reminded me of the long-term nature of a college relationship. Joining the Grand Society was long overdue for me."
Showtime
These flowers and plants exploded into fall colors near the Olin-Rice Science Center.