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A PASSION FOR

Fashion

Stephanie Lake '96 preserves the legacy of ready-to-wear pioneer Bonnie Cashin.

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ON THE COVER: Stephanie Lake ’96 in her home full of Bonnie Cashin fashion (photo by Travis Anderson)
Letters

Last word on those moveable houses
Roger Dunnnavn rightly remembers the house being moved (back cover, Summer 2007) as familiar to his youth. It was 233 Macalester, two doors away from 223, where he once lived. My family moved into 233 Macalester in 1950 and lived there until 1956. It was owned by the college and had previously housed students, but when we arrived it became the new vice president’s house [Editor’s note: Caine’s father was Macalester Vice President L. Vernon Caine]. Roger, his family, and their delightful dog were good neighbors.

ALAN CAINE ’58
Leiceste, Great Britain

Campus mental health
Thank you for highlighting an important issue—the mental health of college students. I was pleased to read that Macalester has put in place a system to identify and refer students to a broad array of campus mental health services. Not mentioned in the article, but equally important, are the accommodations colleges should provide to enable students to continue their educations and maintain relationships. I also hope that Macalester supports family involvement, both by having students state who they want contacted in the event of a psychiatric emergency and by encouraging students to allow this information to be shared with their families. Families, even when far away, can offer support to their children as well as valuable insights to the college about their student. Even among this age group, mental illness continues to be a stigmatizing illness. The more we talk about it openly, the more acceptable it becomes to seek treatment early, when it can be most effective.

SUE ABDERHOLDEN ’76
Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota

Journalism professor George Moses fondly remembered
We were sad and shocked to learn that George Moses died—sad because we never thanked him enough for getting us into journalism, and shocked because we thought he was already dead. We were among his first students, almost 40 years ago. To us his baldness, silver mustache, ever-present pipe, and gentle wisdom suggested unimaginable years spent perfecting his craft. He was retired, after all. Poor reporters that we were, we never asked his age. Now we’ve done the math and realize that when he taught us, he was younger than we are now. In our little circle at the Mac Weekly, Moses mentored future reporters for the Associated Press, UPI, and the Wall Street Journal. He never got through to Charles M. Young, who still managed a pretty good living writing for Rolling Stone and other magazines. But surely he inspired Mark Beito, who bought the Sleepy Eye Herald Dispatch and ran it for many years before he wised up and became a lawyer. And though Weekly columnist Carl Lumbly never succumbed to journalism after college, he built a fine career as an actor. Moses often cringed at the subjects we chose for the Weekly, but he bit his tongue and guided us toward better language, sharper questions, and crisper storytelling. When he retired (again) we gave him a hammock for his cabin. We don’t know if he ever used it, but every now and then we liked to imagine him swaying by his trout stream.

STUART SMITH ’73 AND JUDY JOHNSON ’73
Sarasota, Florida

CORRECTION
In the fall 2007 issue of Macalester Today, six faculty members were mistakenly identified as having retired from the college. Instead, Fabiola Franco, Joan Hutchinson, Kathleen Kutzke Parson ’67, Norm Rosenberg, G. Michael Schneider, and Paul Solon have entered the college’s phased retirement program, known as the Macalester Senior Faculty Employment Option.

Letters Policy
We invite letters of 300 words or fewer. Letters may be edited for clarity, style, and space and will be published based on their relevance to issues discussed in Macalester Today. You can send letters by email to: mactoday@macalester.edu. Or: Letters to the Editor, Macalester Today, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899.

Macalester Today’s NEW LOOK
We all need an update now and then, and Macalester Today is no exception. This issue represents our launching of a new design for the 21-year old magazine, as well as some revised content, including a back-page essay. In both the magazine and its corresponding web site we’re hoping to better reflect the energy, diversity, and creativity that define Macalester students, alumni, faculty, and staff. But this is no one-way proposition. We’re counting on you to send in class notes, story ideas, and even an occasional essay. Contact me at llamb@macalester.edu.

Lynette Lamb
Managing Editor, Macalester Today
Myths and Realities of the Macalester Endowment

BY BRIAN ROSENBERG

Few things about Macalester are more broadly misunderstood than the size, history, and function of the college’s endowment. Given some of the attention recently directed toward Harvard’s endowment—which has ballooned to nearly $35 billion—this seems an opportune time to address some of the pervasive myths about Macalester’s far more modest endowment.

MYTH #1: Macalester has the largest endowment of any liberal arts college in the country.

This was indeed the case—in 1992. At the time, largely due to the public sale of a small portion of Reader’s Digest stock given to the college by DeWitt Wallace, Macalester’s endowment—about $475 million—was larger than those at other colleges of similar size and mission, including even such premier institutions as Williams, Amherst, and Swarthmore.

This is not true today. Macalester’s endowment at the close of the 2007 fiscal year stood at about $676 million. Although complete information for other colleges was unavailable at this writing, that sum ranks Macalester about 18th among liberal arts colleges nationally. The largest endowments among such colleges include those at Grinnell, Pomona, and Williams, each of which is more than $1.6 billion.

MYTH #2: Macalester’s endowment has lost value compared to those at other colleges because of weak investment strategies.

Nothing could be further from the truth. By far the largest portion of Macalester’s endowment in 1992 was made up of Reader’s Digest stock given to the college by the Board of Trustees, the investment committee, or anyone else at the college. Indeed, throughout this period the remainder of the endowment was prudently managed.

Because of these restrictions, Macalester’s endowment remained flat over the course of a decade during which many college endowments tripled in value due to the run-up in the stock market.

MYTH #3: Macalester’s endowment continues to include a good deal of Reader’s Digest stock.

Today the college owns almost no stock in Reader’s Digest. An agreement reached in 2001 following an investigation by the New York State attorney general turned over control of the stock to the college, which then began an orderly process of selling that stock and diversifying its investment portfolio. Over the past six years the college’s investments, guided by the Board of Trustees’ investment committee and Chief Investment Officer Craig Aase, have performed very well compared to any set of benchmarks and are today performing as well or better than endowments of similar size.

The central goal of the investment strategy is to maximize returns while limiting risk and volatility.

Our endowment’s assets are now invested in a mix of equities, alternative investments, and fixed income vehicles. The investment return on the Macalester endowment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, was nearly 21 percent, placing us in the top quartile of endowments of a similar size and nature.

MYTH #4: The Macalester endowment is large enough to meet all the college’s financial needs.

I wish this were true. Each year, Macalester’s operating revenues include 5 percent of the value of the endowment, averaged out over the previous four years. This formula is designed to support the activities of the college while preserving the value of the endowment over time and thus being responsible to those who will benefit from Macalester in the future.

Overall, our endowment revenue funds less than 40 percent of the college’s operating budget. The remainder comes from tuition and fees and annual philanthropic support. This revenue does underwrite the education of every student at Macalester and enable us to spend more on educating our students, but it does not obviate the need for tuition or donor generosity. If we were to rely entirely on the endowment to fund our operations, it would be quickly exhausted.

The generosity of DeWitt Wallace allowed Macalester to aspire to levels of excellence and access that would not otherwise have been possible. His intention, however, was not to relieve future stewards of the institution from all responsibility, but to inspire us to build upon his aspirations for the college.

I realize that discussions of such matters are less compelling to many people than are discussions of student accomplishments and faculty research. But it’s important for everyone with a stake in Macalester to understand the basic financial underpinnings of the institution and to have confidence that our resources are being carefully and thoughtfully managed. I can assure you that they are.

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

Brian Rosenberg

Household Words

WINTER 2007 | 3
MEGAN COCHRAN ‘08 worked at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis as a Lilly Summer Fellow.

She volunteered all summer with a hospice patient, collaborating with the spiritual care team, and to Cochran’s surprise, the family turned to her when the patient entered the final stages of dying. “I hadn’t been trained to deal with someone actively dying, but I had a short instruction session on the phone with my boss at Allina, and I pulled it together. I related to the dying man through prayer and my relationship with God, even though I didn’t think I had one at that point. That’s when I realized I was still a Christian, and this was what I was called to do.”

Further vocational exploration was possible through the Lilly Summer Fellows program for Cochran and seven others—four serving as researchers and three as interns. Cochran spent summer 2007 working with children as an intern at Minneapolis’s Westminster Presbyterian Church.

All Lilly interns receive a stipend, lodging in a college-owned house, and mentoring and support from faculty and staff—including Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith, Lilly Program Associate Eily Marlow, and Civic Engagement Center Director Karin Trail-Johnson. Although some students were apprehensive about living with strangers, an orientation with Marlow and Forster-Smith brought everyone much closer together, especially after fellows discussed questions such as, “What important choices have you made in your life?” Says fellow Emily Gastineau, “When we shared narratives, there was instant transformation.”

All research was due in August and the fellowship culminated at a retreat at a Minnesota spirituality center run by the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls.
Cochran’s discernment process led her to apply to seminary. “My parents were shocked at first, because I had such a negative opinion of organized religion when I first came to Macalester. It seemed like a complete 180 to them, but they’re with me every step of the way.”

Lilly Summer Fellows

Intern Fellows
Megan Cochran ’08
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Jessica Light ’08
Clare Housing (shelter and services to people living with HIV/AIDS)
Megan Macpherson ’09
MICAH (affordable housing)
Becca Sheff ’09
Center for Victims of Torture

Research Fellows
Katie Clifford ’09
Creation Care: Investigating the Role of Evangelicals in the Climate Crisis
Alex Douglas ’08
Whores and Madonnas: Beyond the Dichotomies and Towards an Integrated Sex Workers’ Rights Movement
Emily Gastineau ’09
Set in Motion: Dance Studies, Embodied Activism, and Social Transformation
David Schmitt ’08
Religious Commitment to Environmental Sustainability

NOW IN ITS SEVENTH YEAR
at Macalester, the Lilly Project for Vocation & Ethical Leadership enables students to explore how their religious or ethical commitments shape the work they do and the meaning they attach to it. The Lilly Project is coordinated by the Institute for Global Citizenship through the Civic Engagement Center, in partnership with the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life.

SAVING THE SOVIETS

• When was the Chernobyl nuclear accident?
• Who was Konstantin Chernenko?
• Whom did Khrushchev denounce in his secret speech of February 24, 1956, and why did it send shock waves throughout the Communist world?
• What are TASS, the taiga, and the Truman Doctrine?

Answers to these questions about Soviet Russia, as well as essays, bios, newsreel clips, music, and more, are available at www.soviethistory.org, a unique Web site created and directed by Macalester Russian studies professor James von Geldern, together with Michigan State University’s Lewis Siegelbaum. Von Geldern teaches courses related to Russian culture and revolution, as well as international human rights and codes of conduct.

The Web site, funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, offers a menu of significant years in Soviet history. The site introduction suggests why so many continue to be fascinated by those particular 74 years in Eurasia:

“Soviet history, like few others, has a beginning and an end. Born in a surge of optimism on October 25, 1917, and dissolving in chaos on December 8, 1991, the Soviet experiment gave the world vivid examples of collective endeavor and civic self-destruction. The Bolsheviks . . . empowered the lower classes to govern, integrated ethnic minorities into state power, gave women rights unknown in other countries, and offered universal education and opportunities for self-improvement. These same Bolsheviks and their successors were also responsible for some of the bloodiest state crimes the world has known.” —Seventeen Moments in Soviet History, www.soviethistory.org

The Web site was awarded the 2006 MERLOT Classics Award for Exemplary Online Learning Resources for its ability to illuminate a world that no longer exists, but which still has a tremendous influence on the shape of our world.

“... Sometimes, to resolve a conflict, you need to use force. It’s rare, it’s undesirable, but sometimes you just can’t avoid it. With the bombing in Bosnia... it lasted 16 days, but it was extremely accurate, and we negotiated while it was going on. ... Using force is the last resort . . . It’s something that you do only if you have to.”

— Former Ambassador and Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke, Macalester Opening Convocation, September 10, 2007
Mini Mac Jargon Quiz

IN THE FIRST NEWSPAPER of the academic year, a team of Mac Weekly writers introduced first-year students to jargon often heard in Mac classrooms. This quiz draws heavily on their tutelage. Can you still sling these popular academic terms?

1. Debunks modernist projects and ideas, claiming rather that not everything is knowable; an observer cannot be objective; the observer does alter the observed; and objective truth does not exist.

2. The study of signs and symbols, both individually and grouped into sign systems. It includes the study of how meaning is constructed and understood.

3. Dominating something else with its discourse, an example being the English language. Because it is spoken by many in power, others need to learn English to participate in those circles.

4. Communication that goes back and forth, as in a debate. It is usually associated with a specific vocabulary and perspective.

5. The idea that heterosexual social relationships and male-female gender identities constitute what is “normal.”

6. An idea or word created by peoples and cultures and made up of their ideas and vocabularies. The ideas of social status and race may be considered examples.

7. The philosophical study of knowing or knowledge. Deals with questions such as “What is knowledge?” and “How is knowledge acquired?”

8. Examination of meaning through discovering and understanding the underlying—often unspoken and implicit—assumptions, ideas, and frameworks that form the basis for thought and belief.

9. That which is not considered the norm. For example, where being white and male is the norm, such a person may be called “a doctor,” and others may be identified as “a black doctor” or “a female doctor.”

10. Anything that can be “read,” in the sense of being critically examined. Examples are academic writings, films, novels, The Mac Weekly.

ANSWERS
1. postmodernism
2. semiotics
3. hegemonic
4. discourse
5. poststructuralism
6. social construct
7. epistemology
8. deconstruction
9. other
10. text

100 PROJECTS FOR PEACE: Philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis had an unconventional idea for celebrating her own 100th birthday. In honor of the occasion, she donated $1 million to fund 100 Projects for Peace, awarding a $10,000 prize to at least one project from each of the 76 U.S. United World College Scholar Schools (see UWC scholars article on page 30). Macalester students submitted 17 proposals, and projects by Dara Hoppe ’10 (Chicago) and Fiorella Ormeño Incio ’09 (Cajal, Peru) were selected for funding. Here’s what they had to say about their summer 2007 projects.

DARA HOPPE
What was your project?
I conducted a handicrafts training workshop for women living in an agrarian reform settlement in the Brazilian Amazon. Processing seeds into necklaces, earrings, and bracelets would provide a new and sustainable source of income to subsistence farming families.

What was the hardest part?
When the electricity generator broke and the workshop came to a standstill for several days.

What would you do differently?
I would make sure the husbands all knew what we were doing. Some women who were doing well stopped showing up, so I went to their houses and learned that their husbands were discouraging their participation. Then I had to sort it out with the husbands.

What did you learn?
I learned that I can coordinate a huge project. I was making phone calls, writing e-mails, and meeting with people from the moment I got up in the morning. The workshops were unpaid and held on Saturday afternoons, yet two teachers traveled on buses 14 hours each way to attend. Seeing how motivated the teachers were reinforced my belief in the power of education.

FIORELLA ORMEÑO INCIO
What was your project?
I organized workshops on conflict resolution addressing racial and gender discrimination in high schools in Peru. Teachers from across Peru attended workshops, then shared their experiences with others at their home high schools.

What was the hardest part?
I really had to be flexible. Just before the first workshop, the consultant we had hired quit. Then there was a teachers’ strike, and an earthquake.

What would you do differently?
I would try harder to incorporate the participants in the planning; the project was very top down, something I have often criticized myself. If they didn’t have input, why should they participate?

What did you learn?
I learned that I can coordinate a huge project. I was making phone calls, writing e-mails, and meeting with people from the moment I got up in the morning. The workshops were unpaid and held on Saturday afternoons, yet two teachers traveled on buses 14 hours each way to attend. Seeing how motivated the teachers were reinforced my belief in the power of education.
Humanitarian Workers

LAST FALL That the World May Know: Bearing Witness to Atrocity, which explores the good intentions, difficulties, and challenges of humanitarian work, was published by Harvard University Press. The following Q&A is excerpted from a podcast interview conducted with the book’s author, English professor James Dawes.

Q: That the World May Know takes the reader on a careful, somewhat personal journey into the realities of humanitarian work. What motivated you to write this book?
A: It goes back to when I was a student and met my wife, who comes from a country that has experienced significant political turmoil and human rights abuses. She told me about a friend of hers who’d been in a political club in high school and had been imprisoned because of this. And I remember thinking, this was high school? What was I doing in high school? And I couldn’t come up with any answers that didn’t make me ashamed. That was one of those moments that sets a path. Since then, I’ve met many human rights workers doing heroic work under difficult circumstances. I thought people should hear their stories.

Q: Your book focuses on the storytelling, and the role it plays in the human rights movement. Say more about that.
A: From my perspective, storytelling is everything. And one way to talk about that is to ask what happens when stories fail to move the world. Rwanda is such a case: When the stories fail, the worst is possible. In Rwanda it meant that 800,000 people were killed with machetes in four months. A story often told to summarize this failure of storytelling is that the entire world watched and did nothing while people were being killed, yet when the invading army that stopped the genocide killed some scavenging dogs that were feeding on dead bodies, the world was shaken out of its torpor. Animal rights groups launched protests to protect the dogs.

Q: What were some of the surprising things you discovered as you researched the book?
A: One example that haunts me is of a humanitarian worker in Liberia with supplies to deliver in a really violent area. To do so she had to cross a checkpoint guarded by child soldiers, the most dangerous kind. They’re often drugged, they’ve often been abducted, and in some cases their initiation into the army comes when they’re forced to kill their own parents. So they’re unbelievably traumatized, and they’re just kids. They have no idea what the consequences of their actions are; they’re 11 or 12 years old. Because she didn’t want to get shot or taken hostage, she had to deal with these kids. And how she handled it was to walk up to them and say, “That’s a nice T-shirt you have,” or, “How fast can you run, can you show me?” And these kids, like kids anywhere, would suddenly become children again—they’d smile and react to that small act of human care, despite everything that had happened to them.

Q: What do you hope your readers will come away with after reading your book?
A: I’d love for my readers to come away wanting to do humanitarian work, especially the students here at Macalester who are so bright, ethical, and passionate. But I’d also want them to bring some sadness to this work, to really understand that this is tragic work they’d be engaging in.

EXPANDING Religious Holidays

LIKE MOST AMERICAN COLLEGES, Macalester has an academic calendar built around a winter break that includes western Christmas and New Year’s Day, so Christian students never had class on December 25. But students who were Jewish, Islamic, Hindu, Wiccan, Buddhist, Bahá’í, or Orthodox Christian are not always so fortunate. They might find a major religious holiday and a major exam colliding on their calendars.

No more. While unofficial accommodations have long been made, an official college policy is now in effect that recognizes the diversity of religious traditions at Macalester. A recent letter to faculty from Provost Diane Michelfelder and Chaplain Lucy Forster-Smith reads, in part:

It is the policy of Macalester College to make every reasonable effort to allow students to observe religious holidays without academic penalty. It is desirable that no exams or other major assignments or activities occur (or are due) on major religious holidays of obligation . . . Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or other assignments as a consequence of their religious observance shall be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent . . .

Michelfelder says, “We hope this policy, along with greater awareness of where major religious holidays fall on the calendar, will guide faculty and students with respect to responsibilities and help reduce scheduling conflicts for individual class activities as well as all-campus events.”

In an effort to avoid such conflicts, the Center for Religious and Spiritual Life has compiled a list of major religious holidays. View it online at www.macalester.edu/religiouslife/calendar.
Three Rivers Run Through It

“SURGE” is one of six prints created by Macalester art professor Ruthann Godollei and chosen for inclusion in “Political and Poetical,” the 14th Tallinn International Print Triennial at KUMU, the Estonian National Museum of Fine Art in Tallinn, Estonia. Only nine Americans were accepted for the internationally juried competition, which featured printmakers from 33 countries. The museum also bought one of Godollei’s prints for its permanent collection. Godollei is chair of Macalester’s Art Department.

and the place where various disciplines can explore issues such as urban development, natural preservation, water quality protection, and public access.

Mac’s proximity to the Mississippi, Minnesota, and St. Croix Rivers “provides an exceptional opportunity for field instruction, research, and community engagement,” says center director Dan Hornbach. “We know environmentally engaged students often choose Macalester for our integrated, firsthand approach to environmental studies. The Three Rivers Center will allow us to do even more.”

The grant will support developing curriculum, funding student field research, upgrading the Geography Department’s Geographic Information System labs, and installing environmental monitoring equipment at the Ordway Natural History Study Area on the Mississippi.

Some of the work that will be tackled at Three Rivers Center:

- Research on sediment and endangered mussels in the St. Croix River—Dan Hornbach, environmental studies and biology, and Kelly MacGregor, geology
- Urbanization and development in St. Croix River Watershed—David Lanegran, geography, and his “Urban Field Geography” class
- Work with the St. Paul Capitol Region Watershed District on rural land use and development trajectories that affect water quality and storm water management—Holly Barcus, geography and urban studies, and her “Geographic Information Systems: Concepts and Applications” class
Searching for Japan’s Debt to China

WHEN MACALESTER HISTORY PROFESSOR Yue-him Tam first offered a course on Japanese war crimes in 2003, he worried about how it would be received. The ultimate challenge came with the enrollment of a mid-career student from Tokyo’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a man with a master’s degree in international studies who would later become a friend. Tam’s allegiance to historical integrity means that he constantly walks a fine line.

Tam was born in Canton (Guangzhou), China, where his father and uncle ran a private school. When Chairman Mao established the People’s Republic of China in 1949, many intellectuals became enemies of the state, and Tam’s father fled to Peru. Tam remained in the PRC for primary and junior high school before studying at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Kyoto University in Japan, and later earning a Ph.D. in history with a focus on modern Japanese history and Sino-Japanese relations from Princeton.

It was at Princeton that Tam first became interested in studying modern China’s cultural indebtedness to Japan. He became a pioneer in researching the largely neglected history of Chinese students in Japan and their impact on China’s modernization. But the Sino-Japanese war that preceded U.S. involvement in World War II also caught his attention.

While modern China’s debt to Japan is significant, the scope of Japan’s atrocities and war crimes over the 15-year invasion of China also is larger than most people realize, he points out. “There were six million victims of the Holocaust, but there were several times more victims in China—the Nanjing Massacre alone involved 300,000 victims,” says Tam. “The whole world seems to be forgetting about it. The Chinese government, for instance, hesitated to push for redress because it was concentrating on economic development, for which they need Japanese investment and technology. The attitude of the government has changed recently, however.”

From 1998 to 2000, Tam served as president of the Global Alliance for Preserving the History of World War II in Asia, an umbrella group of organizations worldwide dedicated to study, remembrance, redress, and reconciliation. “I subscribe to the notion that people should respect history and not repeat its mistakes,” says Tam. Although he believes the Japanese government should officially and sincerely apologize, he feels nothing but sympathy and friendship for the Japanese people, many of whom also suffered under their country’s militarism.

Tam came to Macalester in 1990 after an 18-year career at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. An internationally respected scholar, he has published in Chinese, Japanese, and English, including the 2,000-page Chinese-language Encyclopedia of Sino-Japanese Relations. He is also one of just two scholars living outside China to be on the advisory board of China’s recently published 28-volume history of the Nanjing Massacre. His current projects include a book on Japanese thinker and Sinologist Naeto Konan and another looking at 300 years of Japanese/Chinese translation. He’s also a popular speaker, often hosted by organizations such as the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and the Foreign Press Club in Tokyo.

Tam believes it’s important to bring students face-to-face with history. In 1994 he invited to campus one of the first Korean “comfort women” to talk publicly about being a sex slave to Japanese soldiers. Several years later he invited an anti-war activist from Hiroshima to speak about the atomic bombs. In 2005 he organized a delegation of 23 students from Macalester, Hamline, and the University of Minnesota to attend a peace conference in Kyoto.

Mac Named Campus Most Accepting of Gay Community

The Princeton Review last summer named Macalester the school most accepting of its gay community, based on the Review’s survey of 120,000 students at 366 top colleges across the United States.

“Providing support and encouragement for all students is an important part of the Macalester experience,” Dean of Students Jim Hoppe told the gay daily online newspaper 365Gay.com.

At Macalester, Queer Union serves the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community and their straight friends, offering social, educational, and political events throughout the year, including a National Coming Out Week celebration. The Scots Pride alumni organization offers LGBT support after graduation.

The Princeton Review’s college guidebook Best 366 Colleges—2008 Edition ranked the top 20 colleges in more than 50 categories.

BEYOND FRENCH

AS THE WORLD GETS SMALLER, it’s becoming increasingly important for students to learn a second language—and not just the time-honored ones of French, Spanish, and German. That’s among the reasons Macalester is now offering both Chinese and Arabic language instruction on campus.

Chinese has actually been taught at Mac for two years, thanks to a Freeman Foundation Undergraduate Asian Studies grant awarded to the college in 2001, which also helped faculty develop other Asian studies course work. Both beginning and intermediate classes are now available.

But this fall another significant step was taken when Xin Yang, the first tenure-track faculty person in Chinese, arrived on campus. “Student interest is enormously high,” says Provost Diane Michelfelder. “And it will only continue to grow given our mission and our world-class outlook.” She has recently approved a second tenure-track position in Chinese.

This fall also marked the first time Arabic was offered on campus. Adjunct instructor Antoine Mefleh taught two jam-packed introductory level classes fall term, when a Middle Eastern studies/Islamic civilizations concentration also was initiated.

“One of the stages of developing into a global citizen is to understand other cultures,” says Michelfelder. “And one of the best ways to do that is through language.”
Dakota Ryan ’09 says that cost wasn’t the first factor he considered when he applied to nearly a dozen colleges his senior year of high school—but it was the second. “I was more interested in the quality of the education, rather than how much I’d end up paying for it,” he says. “But cost became a primary concern in the later stages of my search.”

Ryan, an English and economics double major who grew up in Wellesley, Massachusetts, as the only child of a widowed mother, says securing financial aid for his college education was critical, since there was no way he and his mom could foot the entire bill. “I applied for a ton of scholarships and got a few, but the rest had to be made up with financial aid and whatever my family could contribute,” he says.

Ryan had narrowed his search to Reed and Macalester, and Macalester’s financial aid tipped the balance. He expects to graduate after four years with about $20,000 in loans—not pocket change, to be sure, but well below the four-year sticker price of Macalester’s tuition, room, and board, which is $41,914 for 2007-08.

If you just did a double take at that figure, you’re not alone. Macalester President Brian Rosenberg acknowledges that the cost of a college education isn’t just a tough topic for the students and parents shouldering the costs. “Keeping Macalester affordable is probably the largest challenge we face,” he says. “It’s a complex and difficult balancing act necessitating many compromises.”

It’s a balancing act that the college has negotiated well, according to at least one source: U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Macalester among the 25 liberal arts colleges with the lightest debt load for graduating students. Other schools on the list include Williams, Wellesley, Pomona, Amherst, Middlebury, and Swarthmore.

College costs across the nation have spiked, and Macalester’s are no exception. A closer look reveals reasons behind the escalating prices, and more importantly, what Macalester is doing to make sure that every student who is accepted for admission can afford to attend.

**Increasing Costs**

If there’s a single word that best explains the reason behind the rising costs, it’s this: people. Macalester’s remarkable 10:1 student-faculty ratio means professors can spend time with students during office hours, write personal letters of recommendation for jobs and graduate school applications, and hire them for summer research projects and internships. It means that students can develop close working
Helping Meet the Need

Prospective students and their parents may find it tough to wrap their minds around the costs that any college requires, but Macalester has a key tool to help make the burden more manageable: some $27 million (in 2007-08) in financial aid. Outside of personnel costs, it’s the largest line item in Macalester’s budget.

Financial Aid Director Brian Lindeman, who works with five other staff members in the Financial Aid Office to divide those funds fairly, says the trustees have long been willing to support that substantial financial commitment. “Part of the reason for the large [financial aid] budget is to make sure that we can provide aid that allows all types of students to come here.”

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wanted to find a school that would support her interest in international travel and learning. Macalester fit the bill, but she knew it would be tough for her parents to contribute much to her college education. Her mother, a nurse, and her father, a substitute teacher and consultant, had to consider the college costs of Hillary’s twin sister, Abby, and her younger sister, Susannah.

For Mohaupt, now a history major with minors in French/francophone studies and American studies, Macalester’s grant-heavy financial aid package was enough to seal the deal. She also appreciated that Macalester covers the majority of costs that students incur for study-abroad trips. (Last spring she studied for a semester in Toulouse, France.) In addition to her grants and loans, she works about 10 hours a week on campus—enough to help cover the $1,500 she spends each year on books and incidentals. Her earnings from working three different jobs last summer fund her rent, food, clothing, and a small savings account she plans to use for future travels. She expects to graduate with about $15,000 in loans.

The average financial aid package for first-year U. S. students comes in at about $24,000 per year, about 60 percent of the comprehensive cost. According to Lindeman, about 85 percent is grant aid, while another 15 percent is split between loans and work.

Currently, most of Macalester’s financial aid is need-based (based on a family’s finances), rather than merit-based (based on a student’s talents and achievements). The move is part practical and part philosophical. By focusing on need-based aid, Macalester provides a more level playing field for students of all economic backgrounds. And because Macalester students are all top-notch, it’s tough to single out particular students as being more worthy than others. Any student talented enough to get into Macalester in the first place, administrators believe, should be given the same opportunity as everyone else to attend.

Students are also taking matters into their own hands, finding clever ways to cut costs and earn a bit more cash. Ryan, who spent the summer working at an on-campus job and an unpaid internship, pays just $350 for his portion of an apartment he shares with friends—far less than the going rate. Mohaupt takes advantage of free concerts put on by nearby museums and discount bus passes offered by Macalester. She’s also added a few hours of work each week at a local dog boarding facility, in addition to her campus job. “I keep busy,” she admits. “But all my friends are the same way.”

Although almost any student who wants one can get an on-campus job (about 75 percent of students work), they’re limited to no more than 10 hours a week. “We don’t want student employment to have a negative impact on academic and other pursuits,” explains Lindeman.

Juggling jobs, an academic schedule, and extracurricular activities has never been easy, but Mohaupt believes the rewards are significant and Macalester has helped ease her financial burden. “My parents both had college educations, and they recognize the importance of higher education,” she says. “We knew that there would be sacrifices, but we also know that in the long run, it’s worth it.”

ERIN PETERSON is a Minneapolis writer who writes regularly for Macalester Today.

“We do our best to manage our costs tightly. We want to make sure we use funds to do things that are directly related to the student experience.”

—DAVID WHEATON, VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Advance Purchases
Think Junior has what it takes to join Macalester’s class of 2029? Then you might consider taking advantage of a recently developed program called the Independent 529 Plan, which allows you to pay for tomorrow’s tuition at today’s prices. You hand over a semester’s worth of tuition at today’s cost, and when Junior enrolls, one semester is already paid for. (You can pay for all four years, or any fraction smaller than that.) If Junior decides not to become a Scot, he or she can choose from one of more than 250 other colleges. Learn more at www.independent529plan.org.

TIME WELL SPENT
Is a college degree worth it? Here are the statistics:

• EARNING POWER: Women with four-year degrees earn 70 percent more, on average, than those with only high school educations; for men, that number is 63 percent.

• UNEMPLOYMENT: People with bachelor’s degrees are far less likely to be unemployed (2.3 percent) than those with high school educations (5.4 percent) or less (8.8 percent).

• ECONOMIC GROWTH: Research suggests that cities with high proportions of college graduates (several surveys put the Twin Cities in the top 10) experience more rapid economic growth, thanks to productivity increases, effective management, and rapid implementation of technological innovations.
Don Hudson holds a special place in college football history. Macalester recently honored him for it.

AT FIRST GLANCE, Don Hudson doesn’t look much like a football coach. He’s 5-foot-4 and 140 pounds, and his hair is closely cropped and white, handsomely framing his weathered face. On this day, as he sits in the dining room of his son’s Brooklyn Park home, tubes in his nose are connected to a mobile oxygen tank, a necessity after four decades of heavy cigarette smoking and a long-ago lung surgery. Still, the booming voice he once used to direct linemen and running backs remains strong, and the eyes that watched game films over and over again—“117 times once, after we lost 59-0,” he says—possess a brightness that seasons of defeat and obscurity could have erased.

Hudson is now 78, retired after years of coaching, teaching, and working as an administrator at various high schools and colleges in Minnesota, Missouri, and Colorado. His slight stature belies both his legacy as a fearless college quarterback and his outsized place in the history of college football: He may be the most significant American sports pioneer you’ve never heard of.

When the University of Minnesota opened its football season last fall, the Gophers—off-season legal matters notwithstanding—took the field with a rejuvenated maroon-and-gold-tinted glow. A new coach, Tim Brewster, has brought energy and excitement to the program—if not many victories—and a new on-campus stadium is finally under construction. One of the most significant changes on the team may have been among the least noticed: Last season, the football team employed six African-American assistant coaches, the most of any big-time program in the nation. For the University of Minnesota, that diversity might hold a special place. As Hudson says: “This is progress?”

Hudson desperately wanted a head-coaching job. He had spent a decade as an assistant coach—in the Kansas City public school system and at the historically black Lincoln University—and felt he knew as much about football as anyone. “Sometimes, I think that was my biggest drawback,” he says. “I thought I knew everything.” He finally got his shot in 1968, when he was offered the head-coaching job at Minneapolis Central High School, where he became the first black head football coach in the city league. Immediately, all of his white assistant coaches quit, and only 10 players attended his first practice—five black, five white.

By his second season, though, Hudson had managed to develop a winning team, success that led to an opportunity at Macalester College, long known for its progressive politics and its abysmal football program. Offered an assistant coaching position and teaching job, Hudson jumped at the chance, mostly because he had two teenaged children and a tuition break was part of his compensation. After Mac went 1-7-1 in 1971, Hudson’s boss, head coach Dick Borstad, resigned. With little fanfare and even less of a chance to win, Hudson was promoted to head coach. “My opportunities to get a head-coaching job were terrible,” he says. “So when the Macalester job came, I just took it. I didn’t care what it was. I just knew I could build that program.”

From the beginning, Hudson found himself a stranger in a strange land. When he attempted to recruit players in places like Silver Bay and Cloquet, coaches were known to drop jaws and clipboards when Hudson walked into their schools. He did successfully woo some African-American athletes from the Twin Cities, a move that drew a predictably depressing response from other teams’ fans. In 1975, the Mac student newspaper reported that fans at Gustavus Adolphus had taken to referring to Macalester as “BLACK-alester.”

The significance of Hudson’s hiring went largely unnoticed. In the official press release announcing his promotion, the school noted he was the first black head coach at a Minnesota college, but failed to say that he was also the first at any mostly white school in the country. Incredibly, other schools would tempted to recruit players in places like Silver Bay and Cloquet, coaches were known to drop jaws and clipboards when Hudson walked into their schools. He did successfully woo some African-American athletes from the Twin Cities, a move that drew a predictably depressing response from other teams’ fans. In 1975, the Mac student newspaper reported that fans at Gustavus Adolphus had taken to referring to Macalester as “BLACK-alester.”

The significance of Hudson’s hiring went largely unnoticed. In the official press release announcing his promotion, the school noted he was the first black head coach at a Minnesota college, but failed to say that he was also the first at any mostly white school in the country. Incredibly, other schools would soon receive credit as the first to hire a black coach. In Oregon, Portland State University claimed that it made history when it hired Ron Stratten to be its head football coach in 1972. Less than a year later, Oberlin College in Ohio claimed it was the first to break the color barrier when it hired Cass Jackson to
I was part of the reason Don Hudson was so late getting credit for being the first black football coach at a predominantly white college.

Four days before Christmas 1971, Hudson—then an assistant coach—was promoted to Macalester’s head football coach. In those simpler days before Google and rampant self-promotion, the college’s public relations office underplayed the event. His hiring was noted in a press release as being the first of a black coach in Minnesota, but not in the nation. Perhaps no one knew.

Then, in January 1973, with great fanfare, Oberlin College announced that it had hired the nation’s first black coach at a predominantly white school. Under media-savvy athletic director Jack Scott, Oberlin called Cass Jackson the first black coach, which the New York Times promptly reported as truth. Soon, Howard Cosell had produced a feature on Jackson, sanctifying his status. I was then sports editor of the Oberlin Review, and thus also guilty of trumpeting Jackson’s arrival as a historic first.

Flash forward 34 years to March 2007. While working on a book project about my Oberlin years, I started writing about Jackson’s hiring. But I’d heard reports about some fellow at Macalester who had actually preceded Cass Jackson, so I called college sports information director Andy Johnson to ask about it.

“Funny,” Johnson said. “I just got a call from Hudson’s son-in-law.”

Hudson’s son-in-law Eric Parris and I connected, and he in turn introduced me to Don Hudson. Then I wrote a story about him for Minnesota Monthly magazine, which was picked up by the Web site of the Black Coaches and Administrators organization, a group still fighting to increase the number of black head football coaches.

Meanwhile, Macalester athletic director Travis Feezell began to work with other administrators to fete Hudson at a game last fall. It was with great satisfaction that I saw Don Hudson honored during halftime at that game. I may have contributed to a crooked history back in 1973, but I was also glad to have played a part in setting the record straight.
NEVER SAY NEVER
Abe Woldeslassie’s rise from an unknown to one of the league’s best is a testament to the power of persistence.

BY | ERIN PETERSON

ABE WOLDESlassIE ’08 could have decided to pull the plug on his fledgling basketball career in sixth grade, when he was cut from the A team in a house league. After all, he’d shown promise in soccer, and his compact stature (he’s now 5’7”) suggested he wasn’t necessarily suited to basketball.

Instead, he redoubled his efforts to improve his skills. He might never be the tallest one on the court, but he planned to be the fastest—and the smartest. He worked diligently on his ball handling, dribbling, and passing over the next three years.

Still, coaches weren’t convinced, and he was cut from the traveling team in the ninth and tenth grades. He persisted, studying the game and spending hours on the court shooting. He made the team his junior year, and by the time he graduated from St. Thomas Academy in 2004, one Web publication ranked him among Minnesota’s most promising players.

But not even his Twin Cities high school accomplishments could help him earn a starting spot on a college team. When Woldeslassie arrived at the University of St. Thomas as a college freshman, he was relegated to the JV squad for two years—another time he might have called it quits. Instead, he hit the weight room, building his strength. He continued to learn about every facet of the game. By the time he transferred to Macalester as a junior last year, he was too good to be overlooked. As a starter for the Scots, Woldeslassie put up numbers that rocketed him to the top of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (MIAC) in scoring average, assists, and three-point shots. He was named to the All-MIAC team and was given a nod by College Sporting News. And he earned the respect of his teammates, who voted him co-captain for his senior season.

Woldeslassie modestly agrees it was a good year. “It was a pretty smooth transition,” he says. “I think I was able to help the team out.”

What was behind the blockbuster year? Woldeslassie’s work ethic helped, no doubt, but he also credits Mac coaches with their willingness to adapt team strategies to play to his strengths and mask his weaknesses: As point guard, Woldeslassie takes plenty of shots from the perimeter, and an up-tempo pace allows him to showcase his speed. Helpful defensive players make sure he’s not overmatched by taller players.

Perhaps no one was more surprised by Woldeslassie’s performance than Head Coach Curt Kietzer. “We felt he could be a solid player for us, but we had no idea he’d be the spectacular player he’s ended up being,” he says. “He might not strike fear into anyone’s heart when he walks out on the court, but his skills have made him one of the conference’s top players.”

As a point guard, Woldeslassie calls the shots, communicating with players and serving as an on-court coach. Kietzer praises his knowledge of the game and says the players respond to Woldeslassie almost as they would to another coach. He’s a vocal player, praising teammates who perform well and demanding more from those he feels are falling short. It’s a delicate balance, says Woldeslassie. “I want the team to do well, but I don’t want to be overbearing.”

After finishing near the middle of the pack last year, the Scots hope to be in the race for a conference title this year. Kietzer says much of the responsibility for that effort will fall on Woldeslassie. “We have lofty goals, but Abe has done a lot of work in the off season to prepare himself to lead that charge” he says. Woldeslassie, as expected, has put in countless hours at the gym to hone his skills.

After Woldeslassie wraps up his final season at Macalester, he’s set his sights on what might seem an unlikely goal for a sub-six-footer: a spot on an overseas professional team. His stats may be good, but he knows that many coaches will be deterred by his height. “It’s going to be tough for me, and I know that,” he says. “But I really want to play somewhere.”

A long shot? Sure. But he’s used to having people write him off—and proving them wrong, again and again.

ERIN PETERSON is a Minneapolis freelance writer.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DARIK BACK

Here’s a statistical look at Woldeslassie’s breakout season.

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A Passion for Fashion

Stephanie Lake ’96 has forged a career preserving the legacy of designer Bonnie Cashin.

BY BETH HAWKINS

Near the end of third grade, at the height of her Shirley Temple phase, Stephanie Day Iverson ’96 moved from Houston to Minnetonka. Her grandfather, K.G. Iverson, was president of the now-defunct Donaldson’s department store empire, and the family favored suits and elaborate Easter costumes. Day Iverson, now Stephanie Lake, had never worn jeans, only dresses.

It was March, and Lake was excited to have somewhere cold to wear her Neiman Marcus fur coat, a hooded number with pom-poms that tied under the chin. But as the only kid on the playground not wearing ripstop nylon, “Of course, I got teased,” she recalls.

The next show-stopping coat came into Lake’s life when she was 25. With her art history degree from Macalester complete, she was enrolled at the Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the History of Decorative Arts, Design, and Culture (BGC) and working in the newly created fashion department at Sotheby’s. There she evaluated potential consignments and helped organize auctions with cheeky themes, including “Cocktails,” “Pulp Fashion,” and “Nothing to Wear.”

The coat in question hung on the wall, its hem brushing Lake’s desk. Long, made of turquoise leather, and encircled by oversized “paperback” pockets for carrying books, it was designed in 1974—“a year and a spring collection after I was born,” Lake would later write, by a designer named Bonnie Cashin.

A prolific ready-to-wear designer, Cashin had retired in 1985, but her influence was still felt throughout the fashion world. Indeed, though the coat was a quarter of a century old, it wasn’t the least bit dated. On the contrary, its simplicity and elegance seemed contemporary and fresh. “Every season I
PORTRAIT BY TRAVIS ANDERSON
see things that are copied right out of her collections,” says Lake. “They’re modernist staples.”

In 1937, Cashin was working as a Broadway costume designer when she was discovered by the editor of Harper’s Bazaar. She arranged for Cashin to be named chief ready-to-wear designer for the prestigious coat and suit manufacturer Adler & Adler. Design contracts followed with virtually every major department store and numerous clothing and accessory manufacturers, including Lord & Taylor, Neiman Marcus, and Macy’s. Cashin also was Coach’s first handbag designer; the company’s signature toggle closures were inspired by hardware on the roof of her convertible.

After World War II, Cashin opened her own design studio and began traveling widely. Her adventures sparked her to borrow silhouettes she saw on her journeys, such as the poncho, the kimono, and the Noh jacket. Frustrated by how fussy and constrictive most women’s fashions were, Cashin designed the clothes she wanted to wear—elegant, chic, practical things for active women. “They cross boundaries and lifestyles,” says Lake. “You know a Cashin garment not because of a label, but because it’s so distinctive. From her collections over 40 years, you can mix and match pieces.”

Lake was happy enough researching the provenance of the vintage clothes at Sotheby’s auctions, but then she was awestruck by the marriage of style and functionality she saw in the Cashin coat. “Couture dresses would come in and they were so over the top. We’d hold them up and imagine playing dress-up,” she recalls, bemused. “But the Cashin coat—I didn’t want to do that with it. It was so relevant you couldn’t tease about it that way. It was really just an enchanting thing.”

Lake had considered writing her master’s thesis about her grandfather. But as she researched the items in the Cashin auction, she realized no one had ever chronicled the designer’s life. Shortly afterward, in 1998, a friend of a friend who worked as an editor at Harper’s Bazaar placed a call to Cashin, who invited Lake to tea at her United Nations Plaza apartment.

Cashin could be prickly. “Lots of people had tried to write about her,” says Lake. “She could be very critical and dismissive. But if she respected you, she could be sweet and generous.” Lake had done her homework, though,
and Cashin was charmed. After two hours of conversation, neither woman wanted to say goodbye. “The elevator would open and close and we were still talking,” Lake recalls. “I thought, ‘Oh, my thesis is going to be fabulous, because I’ve actually met her!’”

Lake may have found her thesis topic, but Cashin had found her heir apparent. She offered Lake exclusive, unlimited access to the scrapbooks, clothing, swatches, and other items that made up her life’s work, all of which was housed in a separate apartment in her building. Over the next few years, Lake spent many days there, poring over Cashin’s high school sketches of costumes and letters home from her world travels.

Often Cashin would pop down to talk as Lake worked, and the two discovered they had many things in common. Convinced that every woman should have a boutique in her home, Cashin had lined entire walls with folded garments. Mesmerized by collages of color and texture, Lake, too, kept her clothes on display. Both did their best work on their own, following their instincts.

And both were fearless, a trait that was apparent in each early on. At Macalester, Lake had written her senior honors project about Czech-Canadian artist Jana Sterbak, then relatively unknown but now infamous for having created a dress out of meat. Lake tracked down Sterbak and interviewed her—in French. “I remember being impressed that an undergraduate would do that,” says Ruthann Godollei, chair of Macalester’s Art Department. “Stephanie was doing graduate-level work as an undergrad. It’s a pleasure to be around someone like that.”

For her part, Lake loved the freedom she had as a student at Macalester. Her professors “really did foster my creativity as an individual, my right to go out on a limb, to not be told...”

“I’ve always been fascinated by issues of identity,” Lake says. “The objects with which we surround ourselves and what we put on our bodies are the first layer of that.”
what to think about,” she says. “I was able to go off the syllabus and do stuff that inspired me.”

Underlying Lake’s love of fashion was a keen curiosity about the intersection between culture and design. “I’ve always been fascinated by issues of identity,” she says. “The objects with which we surround ourselves and what we put on our bodies are the first layer of that.”

Cashin died in 2000 at the age of 92, leaving a two-paragraph will. Lake inherited her clothes. More significantly, the executors of Cashin’s estate asked Lake to decide what belonged in Cashin’s design archive. At Lake’s urging, a foundation was created that would retain the rights to her collections and serve as a resource.

After “secret-shopping” several museums, Lake selected the Library of Special Collections at the University of California–Los Angeles as a permanent home for the archive. She was living in Los Angeles four years ago, organizing Cashin’s papers, when she got a call from the University of Minnesota’s Goldstein Museum of Design. The museum’s first exhibit had been a Cashin retrospective and its curators wanted to mark the institution’s 25th anniversary with another Cashin show. (The Goldstein Museum owns several Cashin designs.)

The Goldstein call brought Lake to the Twin Cities, and on the last day of her visit, she looked up a high school pal named Cory Lake. The owner of a St. Paul store that specialized in rare, handmade guitars, he had his own passion for functional design. By the end of the evening, each confessed to having long nursed a secret crush on the other. They married soon after. When Lake moved back to Minnesota a year and a half ago, she bought herself a Valentino black fox jacket as a homecoming present.

Cashin’s clothes now occupy a large, specially outfitted and climate-controlled room in the Lakes’ Minnetonka house. Because she and Cashin were almost the same size, Lake can—and does—wear most of the items, including one-of-a-kind pieces Cashin designed for herself. “There are several hundred coats, hundreds of cashmere garments, 150 or more handbags, a hundred pairs of gloves, umbrellas, tote bags,” Lake says. “Living here, I have a lot more opportunities to wear them than I did in L.A.”

In addition to serving as creative director of the Cashin Foundation, which is headquartered in Manhattan, Lake is finishing her Ph.D. at the BGC. Her master’s thesis chronicled the years before the designer became a name; her dissertation analyzes how Cashin “created her persona and crafted her inimitable aesthetic within the fashion industry.” Lake is also working on a book based on the same research; when it’s finished she’ll shop for a publisher.

In the meantime, Lake has turned her professional eye to new targets. She recently helped her husband design their Maple Grove store called American Guitar & Band, and she curated a photographic history of the local music scene to decorate it. She’s cautiously seeking a manufacturer to reissue Cashin’s designs, and is always open to exhibit proposals. (The Cashin Foundation website, www.bonniecashinfoundation.org, has online exhibits and other information, including a timeline of the designer’s life and career.)

As for the turquoise coat, it belongs to Lake, too, though not by inheritance. As luck would have it, the coat didn’t sell at auction so Lake’s boss at Sotheby’s bought it for her. She wore it to that first, life-changing meeting with Cashin. And wears it still.

BETH HAWKINS is a freelance writer based in Minneapolis.
“Every season I see things that are copied right out of her collections,” says Lake. “They’re modernist staples.”
As the ’08 presidential race heats up, recent graduates dive in and get to work.

BY | ANDY STEINER ’91 | PHOTOGRAPHS BY | DARIN BACK

Matt Klaber ’07 is naturally competitive, but he’s not a natural at activities typically defined as competitive.

“I’m not particularly athletically gifted,” Klaber jokes. “My parents were always impressed to see me walk and chew gum at the same time. But as early as middle school, I became active in politics. I was just drawn to it. I always had a desire to change what was happening in the world, and I really loved working on campaigns.” Last summer, for instance, he managed Democrat Ryan Winkler’s campaign for the Minnesota Legislature. Klaber’s candidate won the tight three-way race with 38 percent of the vote. “I love strategizing, organizing—it’s all very competitive,” Klaber continues. “In high school I used to say, ‘Politics is my sport,’ and it still is.”

If politics is Klaber’s sport, then he’s on the first leg of an ultra-marathon, one that began just weeks after he graduated from Macalester and may continue until next November. These days, Klaber, a computer science major, is putting his political passion and tech savvy to heavy use, working as data director in the New Hampshire office of Democratic presidential hopeful John Edwards.

Almost since he landed in New Hampshire, Klaber has been working around the clock helping position his candidate to win that state’s key primary. He shares an apartment in downtown Manchester—just eight blocks from campaign headquarters—with another senior campaign staffer. By his own account, Klaber works 12 to 13 hours a day, six and a half days a week, leaving little time for a social life.

“When I have time to hang out, chances are it’s with other campaign staff,” he says, adding that the Edwards campaign employs about 65 paid staffers in the state. “There isn’t much time to make other friendships or to drive to Boston to see friends.”

Klaber’s job responsibilities are varied, but include managing the massive state voter file database, coordinating technology infrastructure in area field offices, and filming and posting online selected candidate appearances. It’s hard work, and he’s not exactly earning a princely sum (“more than the typical starting salary,” is all he’ll say), but Klaber clearly loves what he’s doing.

“Campaigning is almost an addiction for me,” he says. “There’s a rush that’s involved. The work we’re doing for this cycle is unprecedented: We will be going full blast all the way through the primary in January. It’s totally intense but something I enjoy.”

ALL HANDS ON DECK

Klaber is not the only recent Mac grad working for a presidential candidate. In fact, all the Democratic frontrunners employ at least one campaign worker with a newly minted Macalester degree. Why the preponderance of recent Mac alums on campaign staffs?
SUPPORTING EDWARDS:
Matt Klaber ’07 is part of John Edwards’s New Hampshire primary team.
**Zachary Teicher ’07**, a field organizer for Hillary Clinton’s New Hampshire office, believes that many of the values taught at Macalester—like civic responsibility, social awareness, and global connectedness—naturally inspire graduates to seek political careers. It also doesn’t hurt to be sprung from college just as an election cycle is heating up.

“This is the kind of work that Macalester preps you for,” Teicher says. “It’s exactly why I went to school there. And then graduating when I did, right when everybody was gearing up for primary season, it seemed only logical for me to move out here and get right to work.”

And that’s precisely what Teicher did. Since moving to New Hampshire in June, he has basically signed over his life to Clinton for a salary he describes as “enough for someone who has very few expenses.”

Teicher is usually busy every moment of the day: “I get to the office by 9 a.m., catch up on the news, see what’s happening,” he says. “Then I meet with my coworkers to discuss the day ahead, do computer work, work with volunteers, talk to voters in my region about who they’re supporting in the primary, go to town Democrat meetings, go to community events and represent Hillary, and get out of the office by 9 p.m.”

The long hours and competitive race means that Teicher’s social life tends to be limited to hanging out with other Clinton staffers, but that’s okay with him. In some ways, he says, it feels like he never left college. “There are quite a few of us who have just graduated from college and are in very similar situations, which is comforting in some ways,” he says. “Because most of us are living in New Hampshire for the first time, the only people we know are those related to the campaign. So when we have free time, we hang out with each other.”

**Emily Arsenault ’00**, seacoast regional field director for John Edwards’s New Hampshire campaign, took a slightly less direct route to politics than did Teicher and Klaber. A theater arts major, Arsenault worked as an actor and bartender in Minneapolis and New York before landing a job as a program coordinator for SEIU Local 1199, a union representing New York–area healthcare workers.

During the 2004 presidential race, Arsenault worked full time for the Kerry–Edwards campaign through an SEIU-sponsored program. When the new presidential race started heating up, Arsenault decided to follow Edwards—a candidate she believes stands firm on workers’ rights and has a strong health care proposal—to New Hampshire. Her connections from the ’04 race helped put her on the short list for her current position.

“There were a lot of people applying for this job,” Arsenault says, “but I think it helped that they already knew my track record.” When she found out she’d landed the coveted spot, the next step was a big one. “Moving here was difficult because I had to put my life on hold and move to a state where I didn’t know anybody and probably couldn’t even afford an apartment.”

Luckily, Arsenault found a spot in supporter housing, a common program in New Hampshire around primary time. Local backers open their homes to financially strapped campaign workers. Arsenault lives in the home of State Representative Otto Grote and his wife, Jaci, Edwards supporters who let her bunk in their spare room rent-free.

“The Grotes have been so generous to open up their home to me,” Arsenault says. “Sometimes I take care of their dogs, but I’m hardly ever there except to sleep. I keep telling myself I want to make dinner for them someday, but I haven’t had any time to cook yet.”

For now, work takes priority over cooking. Arsenault is busy managing Edwards’s Portsmouth office, supervising a staff of four paid employees and 80 active volunteers. She maintains political relationships with supporters and manages the work of the political organizers responsible for doing community outreach and organizing in three surrounding regions. She also prepares and oversees the work of 45,000 delegates, poli-

**St. Paul: GOP Central**

**MACALESTER** students will be only minutes away from GOP Central when the Republican National Convention is held in downtown St. Paul September 1–4.

The GOP is expecting some 45,000 delegates, volunteers, media, and assorted politicians to con-}

vene at the Xcel Energy Center and nearby venues during the four-day event. The huge convention will definitely impact Macalester. The college is starting classes a week earlier than usual to ease hotel and traffic problems for parents ushering their offspring to school.

The convention brings with it unique student opportunities as well. Political science professor Julie Dolan hopes to get her “Political Participation” class members to the convention. In addition, the college is paying for three students to attend a two-week long seminar that includes working at the convention, says internship director Mike Porter. Sophomores David Klock and Kyle Archer and junior Carolyn Ettinger will hear speakers and learn about the workings of the convention, and then be assigned to a volunteer job for the duration of the event.

**Mac GOP club president Martin de la Presa-Pothier** also plans to volunteer at the convention, and expects many of his fellow club members to do the same. (The group’s membership has doubled in the past year.)

And as for the convention that will kick off his senior year? Says de la Presa-Pothier, “Having it right here in St. Paul is a great opportunity to get real political experience.”
SUPPORTING CLINTON:
Field organizer Zachary Teicher ’07 believes Mac values inspire political careers.
volunteers. All these responsibilities mean that Arsenault is usually in the office 12 to 15 hours a day, seven days a week.

“It’s the most difficult job I’ve ever done, but it’s also so rewarding in so many ways,” Arsenault says. “If you can survive a New Hampshire primary, there are so many things you can go on to do.”

TRUE BELIEVERS

Early campaign workers may be their candidates’ most fervent supporters. To pick up and move across the country to work countless hours with no guarantee of long-term reward—takes faith, hope and courage. In other words: You have to believe to get in early.

Nicole Derse ’00 is one such believer. In March 2007 she left her job and friends in San Francisco and moved to New Hampshire to work full time on the political desk of her candidate, presidential hopeful Barack Obama.

“I’ve never been this excited about a presidential candidate,” Derse says. “And I’m not alone. I’ve never seen anyone with this ability to inspire people and challenge them to be partners and work to make change happen. It’s a historic moment because Barack Obama is a candidate with the power to motivate others. Voters have become disenchanted over the last eight years, and they’re looking for inspiration. I know I was. We can now be part of driving historic change. Because of that, every day is exciting for me.”

Derse’s days—and nights—are spent gathering and meeting with community groups, building an organization of voters committed to the Obama campaign. She works with religious groups, members of the LGBT community, youth organizations, and others.

While at Macalester, urban studies major Derse held internships at community-based organizations around the Twin Cities. Through her work with these groups—which included Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, the Minneapolis Center for Neighborhoods, and the Elliot Park Neighborhood Center—she became convinced that community organizing and direct service work had the power to effect change.

After graduation, Derse, who grew up near Milwaukee, moved to San Francisco and landed a job advocating for young Californians at the San Francisco Youth Commission. Disenchanted by the changing course of the political scene, she began working for local campaigns. In 2004 she managed Ross Mirkarimi’s successful bid for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. “I started to realize that to see real change,” she says, “we needed to have the right people in the right chairs making the decisions.”

When Barack Obama began making national headlines, Derse took notice. She was inspired by his message and heartened by his background as a community organizer in Chicago. Then Obama announced his run for president. Learning of an opportunity to work on Obama’s campaign, Derse applied. Working for Obama, she believes, is exactly what Macalester prepared her to do.
Although there’s no shortage of recent Mac graduates laboring away in far-flung field offices this election season, there’s also a significant crop of less-recent alums volunteering their time as political fundraisers and organizers.

Don Schwartz ’71 is a senior partner in the Chicago office of Latham and Watkins. He and his wife, Susan Dunst Schwartz ’71, are Republican activists and powerful fundraisers. Schwartz doesn’t have time to work phone banks or staff field offices for the candidates he supports, but he does have an important way of supporting his chosen candidates.

“I feel like I just had to jump in right now,” Teicher says. “It’s fascinating to be here on the ground floor, working like crazy on this campaign. I’m not working for just any candidate; I’m working for Hillary. I really think she’s the one, and that we’re going to make history in this election cycle.”

Jerry Crawford ’71 is a business owner and founding partner of the Des Moines–based Crawford Law Firm. As Midwestern co-chair of Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign, Crawford speaks in the state and region on his candidate’s behalf. “I also help formulate strategy,” he explains. “I travel with her when she’s in Iowa. I recruit people to vote for her in Iowa and in other places.”

Crawford is also a reliable fundraiser for Clinton, just as he was for her husband. “I think Hillary is ready to be a great president on Day 1,” Crawford says. “I suppose that makes the most difference to me in this race. She’s ready to jump in and go, and that’s what this nation needs. Also, as the parent of two grown daughters, I think this nation is ready to elect a woman.”

Because Iowa has its caucuses, it only makes sense that John Sprole ’71, another Iowa-based Mac grad, also works as a big-time backer for a presidential hopeful. Sprole, an attorney in private practice in Des Moines, is enthusiastically backing New Mexico’s Democratic Governor Bill Richardson. “I’m backing Richardson because he best represents the values of Macalester,” Sprole says. “He’s an internationalist.”

In the months leading up to the Iowa caucuses, Sprole is fundraising for Richardson, hitting up friends and colleagues. But unlike many of his peers, he’s also doing the campaign grunt work: “Telephone calls, organizing rallies—there’s no quick money in it, but it’s the fun stuff for me,” he says. “I still like to get my hands dirty.” —ANDY STEINER ’91 is a St. Paul freelance writer and a regular contributor to Macalester Today.

The King (Or Queen) Makers

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UNITED WORLD COLLEGE SCHOLARS (and seniors) Victor Llanque-Zonta (left) and Nagi Otgonshar are among the international students who help bring the world to Macalester.
When it comes to international students, Jack Weatherford is picky. In a world of jet-setters, the DeWitt Wallace Professor of Anthropology says, it’s easy to foster a kind of bland internationalism on college campuses, to enroll international students so worldly they’re boring.

Luckily, Weatherford can afford to be picky. Macalester’s international student body isn’t composed, as some are, of mostly affluent foreign students from a handful of countries. Representing 12 percent of the student body, Macalester’s international students come from nearly 90 nations—the largest number of countries represented on any liberal arts college campus in the United States.

The college’s success in cultivating an authentically international student body is partly the result of its ability to attract students from the United World College system (UWC), a set of 12 international high schools that operate on five continents. Selection committees in 124 countries send their brightest high school students to the highly selective schools, where students spend their last two years of high school following the challenging International Baccalaureate curriculum.

By all accounts, the perspectives brought by UWC students to their undergraduate institutions are anything but bland. Having spent two years interacting with others from widely different backgrounds, they arrive at Macalester with a strong sense of themselves and the world. “In a way, the students who come from these schools are models for Macalester,” says Jimm Crowder, director of international admissions. They’re also socio-economically diverse. “Most of these students are from modest backgrounds, and they receive their scholarships to go to UWC based on need. We follow that.”

Macalester’s financial support of UWC students has been buttressed by the generosity of philanthropist Shelby M. C. Davis. Impressed with the quality of the UWC schools and the interactions they foster, he launched the Davis United World College Scholars Program in 2000, contributing need-based grants of up to $10,000 per student to colleges that enroll UWC graduates. Macalester’s first class of UWC Davis Scholars is graduating this spring: Thirty-three students from 28 countries.

Pleased with the success of the program, Davis has announced an expansion of his support: Beginning next fall, schools like Mac that enroll five or more UWC students will receive a grant of up to $20,000 per student per year. The goal, says Philip Geier, executive director of the Davis Scholars program, is to foster a critical mass of UWC students at every college campus. Schools already enrolling five or more scholars, the foundation found, have reported the best outcomes. “What appears to be happening is the formation of new networks of future decision-makers, creating greater potential for all students to be more engaged in and appreciative of the world’s opportunities and challenges,” he says.

The expansion of support from the Davis Foundation will have a snowball effect for Macalester, Crowder predicts: The increased contribution will free up money in Macalester’s financial aid budget to fund international students who did not attend a UWC, making the network of future international decision-makers even larger.

And that, in turn, will maintain Mac’s reputation as a destination liberal arts college for international students who want to go to college where international relations is a daily reality rather than just an academic department or a viewbook platitude. Indeed, it was precisely that impression that brought Victor Llanque-Zonta and Nagi Otgonshar, two of this year’s graduating Davis scholars, to St. Paul nearly four years ago.

On campus, the United World College Davis Scholars Program is turning dynamic internationalism from theory into practice.
AN UNLIKELY Transformation

VICTOR LLANQUE-ZONTA’s parents didn’t have to worry, as some parents of college-bound students do, that their child would become a hippie in college. He already was one.

It was no surprise, really. He’d grown up in the Bolivian Amazon, the son of academics who specialized in teaching indigenous people how to manage the environment. It’s hard to shock your father with your new radical politics when he’s a Communist himself.

So when he arrived at Macalester three years ago from the Norway UWC, Llanque-Zonta found himself ahead of the hippie curve: he sported long hair, dressed in tattered pants, and wore wooden earrings. He regularly attended leftist protests in the Twin Cities and, when immigration returned as a hot-button topic, organized several protests himself.

But while it fostered his idealism, his Mac experience was also forcing him to think more deeply about the nuts and bolts of power and social change. All the protesting served a purpose, he says, but he wasn’t sure if it was the right purpose for him. “Once you start thinking of outcomes, you realize that the problem is way more challeng-

MAKING Connections

NAGI OTGONSHAR can’t stand humidity. So initially he was excited when he looked at a map of the United States and saw that his new college was about as far away as possible from an ocean. Perfect, he thought. No humidity.

But when he arrived at the end of a sweltering summer three years ago, he got a quick lesson in Minnesota geography: “How was I supposed to know that there were 10,000 lakes around?” he says, laughing.

If the Minnesota weather wasn’t as ideal as he thought it would be, his other expectations about life at Macalester were met—and then some. Before he’d even decided to come to Macalester, he says, e-mails he exchanged with anthropology professor Jack Weatherford were already giving him a feel for the kind of relationships students have with their professors at Mac.

“Are you a real Mongolian who knows how to ride a horse, sing a song, and drink horse milk?” the e-mail asked. “Or are you a city boy who plays hip-hop?” Weatherford says he was testing Otgonshar—trying to make sure he had both the authenticity and the sense of humor that would make Macalester’s first Mongolian student an asset to the college. Otgonshar proved he was the real deal.
“ing,” he says. The immigration debate, for instance, ultimately will be settled by legislators, he notes. “I wanted to be inside, making those decisions myself.”

He turned to his majors of economics and anthropology to ponder how to change the system from within. During Llanque-Zonta’s junior year, a visiting speaker on microfinance provided one answer: Small loans to startup entrepreneurs in developing countries were dramatically improving the lives of the poor.

“When he described it, I thought, ‘Wow, that’s exactly what I want,’—a very practical solution, serving the neediest in Latin America.” After he graduates this spring, Llanque-Zonta hopes to find a job working for a nonprofit dedicated to development in poor nations. With that experience in hand, he’ll be positioned to do that kind of work back home in Bolivia.

Llanque-Zonta admits that he’s less of a hippie these days. The wooden earrings are gone, and he wears nicer pants. He even cut his curly hair. But his parents can rest easy. He may not organize marches anymore, but he still attends them. Microfinance may have taken him off the soapbox, but it hasn’t distanced him from his vision of a more just world. “The means more than the ends have changed,” he says.

Macalester’s international students come from almost 90 nations—the largest number of countries represented on any liberal arts campus in the United States.

by detailing with mock indignation his diet and horse-riding experience to Weatherford. Indeed, before he attended the UWC in Norway, he had lived in western Mongolia, in a tribe of about 10,000 people.

Since arriving at Macalester, Otgonshar has worked closely with Weatherford, whose book about Mongolia, *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World* (Crown, 2004), was a *New York Times* bestseller. These days Otgonshar is combing through Mongolian history books, picking out tidbits that Weatherford might find useful as he works on a book about Mongolian queens.

And he spearheaded, along with other Macal-ester students, the creation of the book *Doorways to the World, Doorways to Ourselves: Cross-Cultural Multilingual Folktales for Children*, a compilation of stories from the United States, Mongolia, Lesotho, and Jamaica. He translated each story into Mongolian so the book could be distributed to children there who have limited access to texts written in both English and Mongolian.

It wasn’t until he brought copies of the book to a center for homeless youth in Mongolia last summer that he realized the significance of Weatherford’s mantra—“It doesn’t matter what you believe. What matters is what you do.” Says Otgonshar, “At Macalester it was, ‘We created a book—great.’ But there I was able to see what I could do, what the result was.”

Economics courses, meanwhile, have helped him to think about investing in Mongolia’s future—about how he can successfully bring monetary as well as intellectual capital to his country. He hopes to work on Wall Street as an investment banker because it can “bring together people who have ideas and great projects with those who have capital and are looking for a return on it. It’s like being a matchmaker.”

After getting work experience in the United States, Otgonshar hopes to return to Mongolia and put his matchmaking skills to work there. Those skills, he predicts, will be crucial for the continued growth of the booming Mongolian economy, which doesn’t have much of an investment banking infrastructure.

Yet.

DANNY LACHANCE is a Minneapolis-based freelance writer.
Storytelling as Witness

BY ANNA SOCHOCKY ’88

I am 30 years old. The pain in my left knee is so unbearable that my joint buckles when I try to walk. For the past six days, I have watched as hundreds of other riders have succumbed to injuries, weary muscles, and blistering heat on this weeklong bicycle trek between Minneapolis and Chicago to raise money for HIV/AIDS hospices, and now—40 miles from the finish line—I fear I’ll be next.

But more than my knee has collapsed in this maze of twisting roads and cornfields. As the miles have passed, I have concluded that the political career I have spent the past 14 years building has been a big mistake.

In the beginning, my motivations were genuine. I wanted to confront policies and practices that denigrated the lives of others and to advocate on behalf of those in need. Yet I now saw that, beginning with my first job on a congressional campaign at 16, each of my subsequent job choices had originated from a desire to run away from my fractured life. Politics had become my refuge, not my destination.

Like many offspring of war refugees who have cast their hopes on America, I grew up on the edge of a tent and chilling history. Born in England to European parents who had survived World War II—one as a child in England and the other as a political prisoner in Eastern Europe—I tried to navigate my way through the murky waters of a war I did not witness and to understand a country that was my birthright and the foundation of my selfhood but a puzzle to me.

Before I learned to write, I was struggling to interpret my father’s harrowing explosions and devastating silences, as well as the terror the aftershocks of his war brought into our home. I did not understand the sacrifices my mother had made when she relinquished a home and community of family and friends that stretched back for decades—a country that breathed life into her heart.

As I sat on that suburban Chicago lawn nursing my knee, I finally understood that the unconscious absorption of my family’s experiences had not only ineradicably marked my conscience, it had affected my career choices—choices that were never truly mine, but were instead driven by the weight of history.

For years, writing about my family’s wartime experiences had terrified me, yet had I been braver, I might have chosen this path from the beginning. On the eve of my graduation from Macalester, journalism professor Ron Ross—a mentor who would succumb to lung cancer a few years later—had tried to persuade me to seek a writing job instead of heading off to Montana to work as a union organizer. “We need witnesses to history, not just people who try and often fail to make change,” he said. “I’m afraid that by the time you’re 30, you’ll be worn out chasing causes.”

That advice, from a professor who understood me better than I understood myself, relied on insight and reflection, not just action. Ron had envisaged my eventual disintegration. He understood that I had abandoned writing—what my heart wanted and what I needed to do were I ever to understand the effects my family’s tumultuous history and emigration had on my own life.

Ron knew that change comes in many forms. Indeed, he would probably have agreed with Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz who wrote, “It’s astonishing to think about the multitude of events in the 20th century and about the people taking part in them, and to realize that every one of those situations deserved an epic, a tragedy, or a lyric poem.”

Ten years have passed since I successfully finished that life-defining bike ride. With a master’s degree in creative writing and the final draft of a memoir under my belt, Ron’s sage advice continues to help me forge a path that is both true to my role as a global citizen and to my commitment to telling forgotten stories.

ANNA SOCHOCKY ’88 is a 1999 graduate of Hamline University’s Graduate School of Liberal Studies. She was selected to participate in the Loft Literary Center Creative Nonfiction Mentorship program as well as several writing residencies. Sochocky (asochocky@yahoo.com) lives in Santa Fe, where she works as a freelance writer. Submissions to Grandstand are welcome at mactoday@macalester.edu.
MY FAVORITE Advent prayer begins, “Cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light,” an inspiring message for the holiday season. The winter promise of peace and goodwill stands in stark contrast to the daily news coming from the world’s dark places, places full of terror and despair where peace is a fragile illusion. Sometimes it’s the small stories about people that restore our hope. There are many such stories told by Macalester students.

Last summer I traveled with others from Macalester through the divided island of Cyprus, where Turkish Cypriots live on the north side and Greek Cypriots live on the south. The border is called the green line because that was the color of ink used to mark it on the map. It is not green. Rather it is a cruel collection of barbed wire, fences, boulders, and cement barrels that passes through the middle of the island’s largest city, cutting through yards and buildings. This city is called Nicosia by some, Lefkosia by others. You must show your passport to cross from one side to the other.

The partition is the result of a bitter civil war. Although the armed conflict ended more than 30 years ago, distrust remains. The war forced people from their homes, created thousands of refugees, destroyed homes and villages, and killed many. There are monuments and memorials to the dead on both sides; statues of military heroes and sculptures of weeping mothers dot the countryside. It’s surprising that people tolerate each other as well as they do, given this history and what they’ve been taught. Now that there’s no war, people pass more easily from one side to the other. But memories are long and opinions are strong.

We have a surprising number of alumni from Cyprus—from both sides of the island. They laugh a lot and listen to country-western music and eat in Japanese restaurants and treat Macalester people like visiting royalty. They are both realists and optimists about the future. When questioned about the prospects for reunification they shrug as if to say, who knows? Some of them have been around the world, but never to the other side of their own island. When we asked a student from the south to join us on a tour of the north, she refused.

Most of us had our minds opened at Macalester, our ideas and beliefs challenged and reshaped. But can you imagine arriving on campus to find that someone you’ve always known as the enemy lives just down the hall?

Yet students from countries in conflict do become friends at Macalester—students from both sides of Cyprus, Israelis and Arabs, Indians and Pakistanis. Somehow they find the courage to overcome the prejudices of their upbringing. They choose the armor of light. It’s not easy. There are heated arguments and sometimes agreements to avoid politics, to choose friendships over issues. (Although they might keep these friendships secret from those back home.)

For students from countries with long histories of conflict, Macalester provides a neutral space to come together in ways impossible at home. It may be the only place where these students have any chance of getting to know the enemy.

There are currently 10 students from Cyprus at Macalester, five from the north and five from the south. Late last summer the student who had refused to tour the north became acquainted with a fellow student from that area and ended up crossing the border, with him as a guide. At Macalester students from all over the world live in peace and cross borders together. It’s a small story, but one that gives me hope that peace on earth could begin right here.
In Memoriam

1934


1936
Wilbur A. Jackson, 89, of St. Paul, died April 28, 2003. He was a member of the St. Paul Men’s Bowling Hall of Fame. Jackson is survived by two sons, a stepson, and three grandchildren.

Martha Broom Kidd, 91, of Minneapolis died Dec. 13, 2006. She is survived by a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren.

1937
Marcel J. DelMas, 91, of Chico, Calif., died April 5, 2006. He worked in the maintenance department at Vallejo General Hospital, served in the Army National Guard during World War II, and then worked for Pacific Gas & Electric for more than 20 years. DelMas is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two sons, six grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Sue Momsen Del Valle, 91, of Stillwater, Minn., died July 7, 2007. She is survived by two daughters, two sons, eight grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren.


1938
William C. Ball, 91, of Edina and Minneapolis, Minn., died Jan. 1, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II and worked in the trust department at Northwestern National Bank for many years. Ball is survived by his wife, Marje, two sons, a daughter, three grandchildren, and a sister.

Marjorie Gray Betzer, 91, of Delavan, Wis., died April 10, 2006. Betzer and her husband, Robert, owned and operated Betzer Funeral Home. She also served on the Delavan School Board and was active in church and community organizations. Betzer is survived by two sons, a daughter, and four grandchildren.

1941
Audrey Olson France, 87, of Grose Point Park, Mich., died Feb. 18, 2007. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, and 10 grandchildren.

C. Leigh Roberts, 87, of Neptune Beach, Fla., died July 15, 2007. He served in the U.S. Army in the European theater during World War II. He worked as an accountant, was active in Kiwanis and other organizations, and sang in the choir of First Presbyterian Church in Albert Lea, Minn., for many years. Roberts is survived by his wife, Mildred Davis Roberts ’43, two sons (including Warren Roberts ’71), daughter Mary Jane Roberts ’74, five grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and two brothers (including Stanley Roberts ’60).

1942
Mary Johnson Rohrbacker, 86, of Salem, Ore., died Aug. 11, 2007. She was a retired clock maker. Rohrbacker is survived by her husband, Roger Rohrbacker ’42, a son, great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandson.

1943
Helen Primrose Andresen, 85, of Eau Claire, Wis., died Sept. 3, 2007. She taught high school in Atwater, Minn., and also taught at Center College and Pennsylvania College for Women. She served as director of the Minneapolis Council of Campfire Girls and was executive director of the Eau Claire Development and Training Center for 14 years. Andresen is survived by her husband, Karl, three sons, seven grandchildren, a sister, Margaret Primrose ’40, a stepbrother, David Primrose ’48, and a nephew, David Primrose ’77.

1945
Ruth Engst Shallcross, 84, of Stillwater, Minn., died March 25, 2007. She was a scientist and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. She received a degree in medical technology from the University of Minnesota in 1950. Shallcross is survived by her husband, Edward.

1946
Eileen McGandy Thornton, 85, of Guilderland, N.Y., died March 19, 2007. She received her pilot’s license and assisted the Civil Air Patrol during World War II. She sang in the choir, taught Sunday school, and served as a deaconess at Pineview Community Church. Thornton is survived by five sons, 14 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

1948
Elizabeth Borge Geurts, 80, of Shoreview, Minn., died April 3, 2007. She taught English and music in Browns Valley, Minn., and served as a substitute teacher in Mounds View, Minn. Geurts is survived by her husband, Don, four sons, four daughters, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Rose Fraher Honkala, 78, of Lexington Park, Md., died Aug. 14, 2005. She was a counselor at the University of Montana–Missoula, and worked as a public and private school teacher. She also was a statistician at an Army installation in Alexandria, Va. Honkala is survived by a daughter, two sons, four grandchildren, and a sister.

1950
Robert G. Lyngstad, 81, of Fargo, N.D., died Aug. 13, 2007. He served in the Philippines during World War II and in Japan after the war. Lyngstad later bought E.W. Wyllie Inc. and relocated it to Fargo, started Midwest Mack Trucks in Fargo, and served on the board of trustees of Jamestown College. Lyngstad is survived by his wife, Lorraine, three children, numerous grandchildren and Youth Crime in Washington, D.C. In 1963 he returned to Minnesota to work on the Rolvaag recount for the gubernatorial race, and subsequently was named executive assistant to the governor. In 1965 he returned to Washington to help in the development of President Johnson’s War on Poverty and was sent by Sargent Shriver to the Kansas City regional headquarters to act as regional director for 11 Midwestern states. Later he was transferred to the Seattle regional office, where he served until his retirement. Shovell is survived by his wife, Mildred, a son, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

1951
Bill Stos, 84, of Wheaton, Ill., died July 27, 2007. He was a member of the St. Paul Men’s Bowling Hall of Fame. Jackson is survived by two sons, a stepson, and three grandchildren.

1952
Eleanor Crosswell Thomas, 79, of Waupaca, Wis., died April 16, 2007. She was an active volunteer in her community and church, and a past elder and deacon at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Thomas is survived by her husband, Alun, four daughters, eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

1953
Bo von Horn, 83, of Orebrop, Sweden, died March 17, 2007.
great-grandchildren, a sister, and a brother.

1951

Fayette Bradley Castle, 84, of Stillwater, Minn., died March 15, 2007.

Gerald E. Grant, 79, of Fort Ripley, Minn., died July 10, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Joyce, six children, eight grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and five siblings.

Robert E. Olsen, 78, of Paynesville, Minn., died Aug. 11, 2007. He was a chiropractor in the Paynesville area for many years. He also enjoyed scuba diving in local lakes and was a pilot. Olsen is survived by two sons and a grandson.

Beatrice Larson St. Angelo, 76, of Minneapolis died Feb. 11, 2007.

1952

Robert J. Charlson, 76, of Summit, Wis., died Nov. 27, 2004. He was a veteran of World War II and a life master member of the American Contract Bridge League. Charlson is survived by his wife, Marilyn, three daughters, 13 grandchildren, and a brother.

Doyle E. Larson, 76, of Burnsville, Minn., died Aug. 13, 2007. He began a 32-year career with the U.S. Air Force in 1951, ultimately attaining the rank of major general. He was a veteran of the Korean War. He spent most of his career in the U.S. Air Force Security Service, where he helped establish the Electronic Security Command and the Joint Electronic Warfare Center. After his retirement from the Air Force in 1983, he served as national president and chairman of the board of the Air Force Association, launched defense-consulting firms, and led a special task force for homeland security in Minnesota. Larson served on Macalester’s board of trustees, revived the M Club, and received a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester in 1987. He is survived by his wife, Lois James Larson ’53, two sons, two daughters, four grandchildren, two sisters, and brothers-in-law Ralph James ’59 and R. Alan James ’56.

Janet Benson Youlden, 76, of Grand Forks, N.D., died Feb. 5, 2007. After completing a master’s in counseling and guidance at the University of North Dakota, she worked at Northeast Human Service Center in the mid-1980s, developing a program named “Just Friends” that helped the chronically mentally ill make the transition to independent living. Youlden is survived by two sons, a daughter, and five grandchildren.

1953

Raymond W. Monteith, 75, of Warsaw, Ind., died July 30, 2007. He was a sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve. After 13 years with Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., Monteith opened Monteith Tire Co. in Warsaw in 1966. He was also active in his community and served as a trustee of Grace College. Warsaw is survived by his wife, Janis Lindor Monteith ’53, two daughters, a son, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

1955

Ruth Casey Lloyd, 94, of Butterfield, Minn., died April 27, 2007. She was an educator and administrator in the St. Paul Public Schools for many years. She also taught elsewhere in Minnesota and in Germany. Lloyd is survived by a son, a daughter, two grandchildren, a brother, and a sister.

1956

Mary Evans Bailey, 72, of Brooklyn Park, Minn., died March 10, 2007. She was a schoolteacher in Osseo before her retirement. Bailey is survived by two daughters, a son, nine grandchildren, and a brother.

1958

Robert J. Specht, 73, of Plymouth, Minn., died Nov. 28, 2006. He was a retired employee of Honeywell. Specht is survived by his wife, Judy Mickle Specht ’57, a son, two daughters, four grandchildren, a great-grandson, a brother, and three sisters.

1959

Mary J. Gludt, 70, of Annapolis, Md., died July 19, 2007. She began working for Sen. Eugene McCarthy in 1958, and in 1964 joined the State Department and worked at the U.S. Embassy in Austria and in Washington. After earning her J.D. in 1972, she became the first female attorney in Wabasha County, Minn. Gludt also worked for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and retired as chief of the disabilities litigation branch.

1960

Harvey A. Guttmann, 69, of Buffalo Grove, Ill., died in May 2007. He is survived by a son, two grandchildren, and a brother.

1963

Dorothy Schmidt Buyert, 66, of Stone Mountain, Ga., died May 9, 2007. She worked as a registered nurse for many years and was active in her church. Buyert is survived by her husband, Arlin Buyert ’64, and two children.

1964

Glenda Gary Sweitzer, 64, of Asheville, N.C., died Sept. 9, 2007. She was a musician, actress, and artist. Sweitzer is survived by her husband, Paul Sweitzer ’64, three daughters, a son, numerous grandchildren, and a brother.

1966

Marjorie Young Benavides, 62, of Huntsville, Texas, died Dec. 7, 2006. She is survived by a daughter, a grandson, and sister June Young ’59.

Geoffrey M. Busse, 63, of Tucson, Ariz., died July 24, 2007. He was a miner with Magma Copper for 25 years and later worked for Home Depot. Busse is survived by a sister and a brother.

1976

Sandra Kimpel Hammer, 55, of Waunakee, Wis., died March 23, 2007. She worked for the State of Wisconsin as an affirmative action/equal opportunity employment officer. After her retirement in 2005, she began graduate studies in marriage and family therapy at Edgewood College in Madison, Wis. Hammer is survived by her husband, Michael, a daughter, a granddaughter, her parents, and two sisters.

OTHER LOSSES

Duane R. Elvin, 75, of Marine on St. Croix and Grand Marais, Minn., died Sept. 22, 2007. He was director of human resources at Macalester from 1969 to 2002. He also served in the Army National Guard for many years. After his retirement, he volunteered as a board member of the Sawtooth Mountain Clinic and Grand Portage National Monument. He was also a member of the board of directors of YMCA Camp Warren. Elvin is survived by his wife, Karen, sons David ’84 and Peter ’88, a daughter, two grandsons, and a sister.

Harry W. Morgan, who started the World Press Institute at Macalester and taught generations of journalists, died of a heart attack in Timisoara, Romania, on October 30. He was 73. During an almost 50-year journalism career working for Reader’s Digest, Morgan traveled to more than 100 countries and interviewed numerous presidents and personalities, among them Mother Teresa, Eleanor Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, Elvis Presley, and Ernest Hemingway. In 1961, he founded the World Press Institute at Macalester, which for 45 years provided fellowships for foreign journalists from around the world to spend time living and working in the United States. Morgan moved to Romania in 1994 to help develop journalism schools. For the past 11 years he had lived in the western Romanian city of Timisoara, where he taught at the university and established a journalism club and an American library. He was made an honorary citizen of the city. Morgan is survived by his wife, Margareta, four sons, and six grandchildren. A memorial service was held in Romania and a future service is planned for the United States.
Every year 78 million Americans suffer sunburns, and the DNA damage wrought by ultraviolet light causes 1.2 million new cases of skin cancer. Molecular biologist Daniel Yarosh ’76, through his biopharmaceutical company, AGI Dermatics, is developing ways to repair that damage, including Dimericine, a prescription DNA repair drug now in the FDA approval process, and Remergent, a non-prescription biotech-based skin-care line.

Yarosh has experimented with DNA since his junior high school science fair days, and by 1980 was a Fellow at the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health. “I started out as a pointy-headed scientist and was becoming more and more of an expert about less and less when I realized that I wanted to see that knowledge applied,” says Yarosh. So it was that he founded AGI Dermatics in Freeport, New York, in 1985.

When you support Macalester, you support important work everywhere.

“At Macalester I got the skills to transition from an academic to a businessperson. The liberal arts taught me to explain science to non-scientists.” —Daniel Yarosh ’76
Early winter view of the Library and Old Main