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Macalester Today November 1999

Macalester College

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Macalester Today

November 1999



Gary Hines '74

Musician-bodybuilder
leads Grammy-winning
Sounds of Blackness

PLEASE SEND letters intended for publication to Letters to the Editor, *Macalester Today*, College Relations, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. You can also send your letter by fax: (651) 696-6192. Or by e-mail: mactoday@macalester.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

Student activism

I WAS very glad to see my uncle, Harris Wofford, featured in the August *Mac Today* with two current Macalester students.

While I am delighted that Macalester students are interested in volunteerism, I am left wondering whether any current students are involved in activism to change society. The difference between the two is whether one brings to their work a critical analysis of the power structures in our society, and a commitment and ability to change the inequality in society. I would suggest that volunteerism alone does very little to change society in the long run.

While I was a student at Macalester, I worked with other students, faculty and staff to initiate the first Women's and Gender Studies Program, and Studies of American People of Color Program. We organized effectively around a diversity of issues like divestment in South Africa and examining the societal factors leading to women's inequality and a rape culture. I was deeply grateful to Professors Karen Warren, Peter Rachleff, Emily Rosenberg and others for inspiring in me both a critical analysis and a sense of action to change injustice.

Many of us left Macalester having gained incredibly useful organizing skills, and we are still organizing for social justice. I've been organizing for social justice for 10 years and currently work for the national AFL-CIO Organizing Department as the Northeast recruitment coordinator. I certainly hope the next generation of Mac grads does more than simply volunteer on occasion. In a time when many college students are working to expose the injustice of sweatshops and

Corrections

Art Professor Jerry Rudquist will continue teaching full time through the 1999-2000 academic year, then enter the four-year phased faculty retirement program in 2000-2001. In August's *Macalester Today*, we erroneously reported that he had entered the retirement program this year.

A photo caption on page 18 of the August issue misidentified one of the alumni attending a Class of '74 gathering during Reunion Weekend. The photo showed Markie Harwood '73 of Springfield, Va., whom we erroneously identified as Barbara Mustoe-Monteith '74. Our apologies to both Markie, who is a journalist with the *Federal Times*, and Barbara.

—the Editors



Pictured at a Class of '74 gathering during Reunion last May are (from left) Bob Matters '74, Joel Monteith, Markie Harwood '73 (in back), Loretta Frederick '74, Jane Lin Falle '74, Doug Strandness '74 and Doug's wife, Lynette.

to support workers' rights, I wonder where Mac students stand. Could *Mac Today* please cover the current state of student activism at Macalester?

Jen Wofford '89
Washington, D.C.

Violet Bjornberg Tupper '44

I WAS heartsick to read about the death of Violet Tupper '44. One may talk about Mac's far-reaching influence and lessons taught, retained and spread, but Violet Mary lived them.

I was 10 years old when I first met her. She was a missionary sent to our very tiny town of Starks, Maine, along with another young woman, to teach us elementary schoolchildren in our brand-new and enlarged three-room schoolhouse every Friday. These women also conducted church services in our town and three

other towns. Violet married a young man from the town and returned to Minneapolis to teach and raise a family. We kept in touch all these years. I was out of town for three months and only learned of her death reading August's *Mac Today*.

Violet was a beautiful woman in body and spirit. She had a lovely singing voice which I remember her using to encourage a disparate group of rural kids to embrace and celebrate life. I remember her just last year still taking classes for life and spirit enrichment.

I loved her.

Marian Phocas Johnston '58
Woodbury, Minn.
e-mail: gandmjohnston@juno.com

Sport utility vehicles

I READ the "Quotable Quotes" in the August issue and was disappointed by your inclusion of Professor Clay Steinman's quote on the contribution of SUVs to global warming gases and loosely tying them to the "... destruction of those natural landscapes" by using "expected to account for" sales data in his statement.

I would like to see his empirical data upon which he based this statement of "destruction" and why you believe this to be such a "noteworthy comment." I believe the truth is, we do not know all the factors that cause the sun to heat our planet Earth, and it is irresponsible to point the finger of blame at the gases given off by the SUV for global warming and certainly "for the destruction of those natural landscapes." Remember we pointed the finger of blame at the logging industry for the destruction of the "only" nesting habitat of the spotted owl, and then we found their nests in the red "K" of a K-Mart sign!

When I attended Mac, one of our environmental concerns was the "return of the Ice Age." Now just 30 years later on a 5-billion-year-old Earth, we're talking about global warming. I think we have a lot more to learn about what is truly happening to our planet before we recklessly point fingers of blame at objects of truly unknown impact, especially those like the SUV that add safety and quality of life to the people of this planet. Many young impressionable minds may read Professor Steinman's quote and take it as truth, not realizing it is only one man's opinion. I do not see anything noteworthy in his comment, other than its narrow view of what factors affect our environment.

continued on inside back cover

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Steve Woit photographed Gary Hines '74 in late August on the Concert Hall stage of the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center at Macalester. See page 32.

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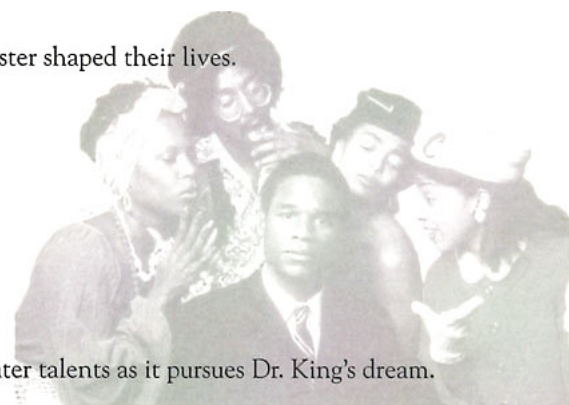
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Campus Center

College's new gathering place named in honor of alumna Ruth Stricker-Dayton '57

MACALESTER'S new central gathering place will be called the Stricker-Dayton Campus Center in honor of Macalester graduate Ruth Stricker-Dayton '57, President Mike McPherson announced in October.

Stricker-Dayton and her husband, Bruce B. Dayton, have been major contributors toward the \$18.5 million building, which is under construction and will be completed in 2001.

Stricker-Dayton has been a member of the college's Board of Trustees from 1978 to 1984 and again since 1995 and also serves on the executive committee of Touch the Future, The Campaign for Macalester College. She is a former president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and in 1987 received the Distinguished Citizen Citation, given by the Alumni Association for achievement and for contributions to society and the college.

She is owner and executive director of The Marsh, A Center for Balance and Fitness in Minnetonka, and is widely known for promoting physical fitness and well-being.

In addition to being generous donors to the Annual Fund, the couple made major contributions toward construction of a new residence hall named for George Draper Dayton, founder of the department store and one of Macalester's first major benefactors. The Dayton family has been active in Macalester College for more than 100 years. In keeping with Ruth Stricker-Dayton's interest in mind/body health, the residence hall counts a wellness center among its features.

"The Stricker-Dayton Campus Center will be a central part of life on the Macalester campus, and we are pleased that it will bear the name of an alumna who has contributed in so many ways to the college and to our sense of community," said McPherson.

The Campus Center will house a dining service, a lecture hall, student organization facilities and other services designed to bring the campus community together.

Anthropology Professor David McCurdy, who served on the Campus Center Planning Committee, said Macalester "has never had an effective center.



Ruth Stricker-Dayton '57 and her daughter Kimberly Stricker '87 were special guests in 1998 at the dedication of George Draper Dayton Hall. The residence hall includes a wellness center named after Ruth.

GREG HELGESON



The Student Union had room for offices and a Grille, but half the building space could rarely be used. By combining the food service with gathering places and rooms for guest lectures and other events, Macalester finally will have a place where most people will see each other regularly and where faculty can come to eat and present lectures and engage in discussions."

He noted that without a campus center, the college has had to hold special events in classroom buildings, isolated from one another and with no food service available. "The new building will certainly be a more attractive venue for student life and activities and various campus programs. I look forward to seeing it completed and to hanging out over there," McCurdy said.

The Campus Center is part of the college's comprehensive fund-raising campaign, which has raised \$46 million toward its goal of \$50 million. The campaign will close May 31, 2000.

To complete construction of the Campus Center, the college still must raise \$1 million in gifts, which in turn will trig-

ger a \$1 million "capping" gift from The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich. Last March, the foundation challenged Macalester to raise \$11.5 million to build the Campus Center.

The college also has two other challenge grants:

- The Bush Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar campaign gifts of \$25,000 to \$200,000 from individuals in support of the Campus Center, Kagin renovation or endowment priorities. Its contribution will be applied to the Campus Center. As of this fall, \$500,000 in contributions had been raised toward the Bush Foundation's \$1 million challenge.

- The W.M. Keck Foundation made a \$300,000 challenge to Macalester in sup-

Touch the Future, The Campaign for Macalester College

Goal: \$50 million

Allocation:

- \$24 million to endow faculty and academic programs and student financial aid and student programs
- \$16 million toward capital projects, including new Stricker-Dayton Campus Center that will become focal point of community activities
- \$10 million for current giving, including the Annual Fund

Raised so far: \$46 million as of Sept. 30

Campaign ends: May 31, 2000 •

port of a \$1 million endowment for summer student-faculty research stipends. The college still must raise \$100,000 toward the \$700,000 needed to meet the terms of the Keck challenge.

John B. Davis

*Lecture hall named after
Macalester's 13th president*

THE LECTURE HALL in the new Campus Center will be named in honor of John B. Davis, Macalester's 13th president, who served from 1975 to 1984.

"His breadth of vision and confident leadership inspired the college's faculty, staff and students, strengthened ties to our alumni and the larger community, reaffirmed the college's commitment to a high-quality liberal arts education and put the college on solid financial footing," President McPherson said.

Davis retired from Macalester in 1984, the year after his wife, Barbara, died. Widely admired for his conciliatory skills, he has been called on to rebuild several troubled institutions in the Twin Cities. He and his wife, Joy, remain loyal friends of Macalester and have stayed involved in important college activities, such as the Touch the Future campaign. In 1992, he received Macalester's Trustee Award for Distinguished and Meritorious Service.

John B. Davis served as president from 1975 to 1984.



The 270-seat lecture hall will be a highly visible space within the new Campus Center. Housed on the lower level of the new building, the hall will be the site for intellectual and social gatherings involving students, professors, staff members, alumni and friends. The hall will be equipped with state-of-the-art technology to support teaching and other presentations, and with an assisted-listening device. It also will be wheelchair accessible.

Volunteers and Development staff members are seeking to raise \$1 million for the project. To learn more about the lecture hall and the opportunity to honor Davis through a gift to the project, please contact Tom Wick, director of development (651-696-6034, or e-mail: wick@macalester.edu). Donors who make commitments of \$10,000 or more, which can be fulfilled over a multi-year period, will be recognized on a plaque that will be prominently displayed in the lecture hall. All donors will be included on a list that will be presented to Davis.

Assistant alumni director

MOLLY GLEWWE has joined Macalester as assistant director of alumni relations.

Glewwe (pronounced Glov'-ey) came to Macalester in August from the Office of Alumni Relations and Development at Hamline University School of Law.



Molly Glewwe

A 1998 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she earned a bachelor's degree in history and history culture. As a student, she served for three years as a member of the Wisconsin Alumni Student Board and was involved with planning and implementing campus and community projects, including alumni weekend.

U.S. News ranking

*Macalester remains 24th in list
of nation's top liberal arts colleges*

MACALESTER remained in 24th place among the top 40 national liberal arts colleges in the latest rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*. The college tied for 24th last year with Barnard, Colorado College, Connecticut College, Oberlin and University of the South.

But this year, Macalester was the only college to be ranked 24th, while the other five schools tied for 25th place.

In 1998, Macalester moved into the top tier of schools, ranking 25th. The college ranked 32nd in 1997.

The year 2000 edition of "America's Best Colleges" guidebook arrived at newsstands in August and is available online at www.usnews.com.

U.S. News ranks colleges by seven broad categories: academic reputation, retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance (the difference between actual and predicted graduation rates) and alumni giving.

Macalester ranked very strongly in academic reputation—only 16 colleges ranked higher.

In the "Best Values" category which lists "great schools at great prices," Macalester was 19th among national liberal arts colleges. This category looked at areas such as the percentage of students receiving grants based on need (67 percent at Macalester),

Body of work

Gabriele Ellertson, an art instructor who has taught drawing at Macalester for 14 years, will have a solo exhibition of her work Nov. 19–Dec. 20 in the Macalester Art Gallery. She is pictured with her 1997 painting “Silky Chicken Buddhist Style.” In an essay for a catalog accompanying the show, New York art critic Eleanor Heartney wrote: “Gabriele Ellertson was trained as a medical researcher and X-ray technician, and has fought a number of battles with illness on her own and her family’s behalf. Such experiences bring a heightened sensitivity to her depictions of the human body. She endows human and animal forms with a poignant vulnerability that grows from her own consciousness of the body’s inherent fragility.” An opening reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19. More information: (651) 696-6416



the average cost a student pays after receiving grants (\$15,361) and the average discount from the total cost (the percentage of total costs including tuition, room and board, fees, books and other expenses covered by the average need-based grant).

In another category, which did not affect the rankings, Macalester tied for third in the proportion of international students (11 percent). Last year, the college tied for second.

In the overall rankings of national liberal arts colleges, Swarthmore ranked No. 1, followed by Amherst, Williams and Wellesley.

J. Michele Edwards

Music professor retiring after 25 years; holds dual appointment in Women’s and Gender Studies Program

J. MICHELE

EDWARDS, professor of music with dual appointment in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, will retire effective June 2001. During the next two academic years, Edwards will continue her work at



J. Michele Edwards

Macalester with a reduced teaching schedule.

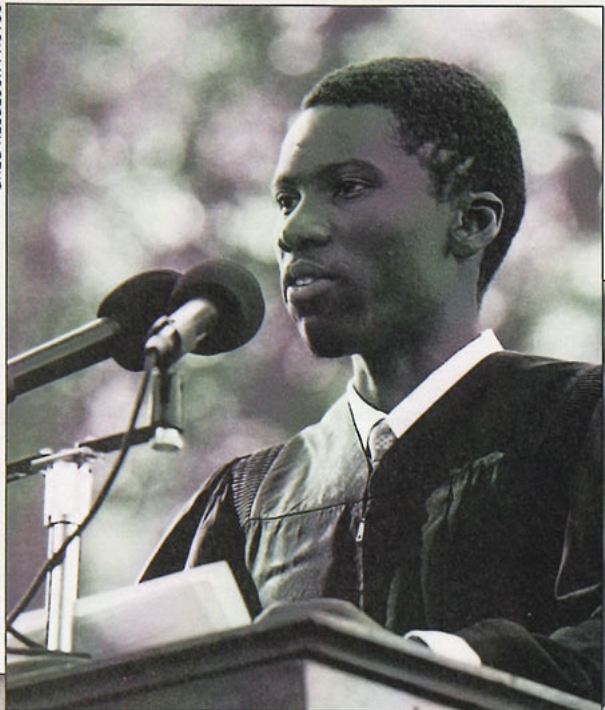
Edwards first taught at Macalester in 1974 and joined the full-time faculty in 1978 after a national search. In addition to teaching conducting, women making music, and various music history and literature courses, she has successfully directed

the Macalester Festival Chorale during the past seven years. During this time the Chorale, an ensemble of 85–120 student and community singers, has performed a broad range of repertoire for large, enthusiastic audiences both on and off campus. Their performances have balanced innovative and canonic works from chant by

Class of 2003

- **Number:** 460 (271 women, 189 men); 3,161 applications, highest total ever
- **Regional distribution by high school:**
 - 23% Minnesota
 - 28% other Midwest
 - 15% New England/Mid-Atlantic
 - 7% Northwest
 - 7% West/Southwest
 - 4% Southeast
 - 3% Mid-South
 - 13% outside U.S.
- **Largest school delegations:** 7 students from South High School, Minneapolis; 5 each from George Washington High School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Red Cross Nordic United World College in Norway; 4 each from Marshall School, Duluth, Minn., Hopkins High, Hopkins, Minn.; Mayo High, Rochester, Minn.; Kodaikanal International School, India; and American School, Japan
- **Nations represented (by citizenship):** 40
- **U.S. students of color:** 77, or 17% of the entering U.S. students, largest number in entering class since 1992
 - 33 Asian American
 - 21 African American
 - 16 Hispanic
 - 7 Native American
- **Children of alumni:** 15; 7 with a grandparent who attended Macalester; 20 who are following one or more siblings to Mac
- **Academic distinctions:**
 - 42 National Merit Scholars and Finalists
 - 51 ranked 1st or 2nd in class
- **Most common female names:** Emily (11), Anna, Elizabeth and Jennifer (6 each)
- **Most common male names:** Daniel (7), Andrew, Benjamin and David (6 each) •

GREG HELGESON PHOTOS



A new year begins

President McPherson and Student Government President Collin Mothupi '00 (Johannesburg, South Africa), left, were the speakers at the opening convocation in September. It began with the traditional procession led by the Pipe Band and the flags of the countries represented in the student body. The convocation concluded with a prayer for peace read by five students, each in her or his native language. They included Ironelly Mora '00, below, of Elizabeth, N.J., a native of the Dominican Republic, who read the prayer in Spanish.



President McPherson spoke of beginning "a new era for planning at Macalester." Through a set of facilitated conversations, "we aim to involve literally hundreds of Macalester people this fall—students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees—in focused discussions of our core values and purposes," McPherson said. The starting point will be a Statement of Purpose and Belief created by the faculty in 1971. The president said the goal is to have a statement ready to bring to the Board of Trustees by the end of February that will "collectively affirm what we stand for." The real challenge, he said, "will be to translate those principles into action."

Hildegard von Bingen to world premieres along with numerous major choral-orchestral works such as Haydn's *The Creation* and requiems by Verdi, Brahms and Mozart.

In diverse thematically organized programs, Edwards and the Chorale have collaborated with local musicians, including Sowah Mensah and the Macalester African Ensemble in "Music of the African Diaspora," and with a Jewish Cantor and an Islamic ensemble in "Jerusalem 3000." Under Edwards' baton, Festival Chorale was invited to appear in Rosemary Clooney's *White Christmas* program with the Minnesota Orchestra, to present

a newly commissioned work by internationally recognized composer Libby Larsen and this spring to record Marta Praszynska's *Holocaust Memorial Cantata* for commercial CD.

Edwards also contributed to the formation of the Women's and Gender Studies Program at Macalester and gave strong leadership as director during crucial years of growth and expansion during the late 1980s and 1990s. Her terms as director marked an era that included increased student and faculty involvement, hiring of the program's first full-time faculty member, development of a major in women's studies, the move into new offices in Old Main and a Ford Foundation grant for

curricular development focusing on women of color.

Reflecting on her 25 years of teaching at Macalester, Edwards said, "I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the students at Macalester. They are bright, creative and often willing to challenge conventional ideas. I have learned a great deal from their questions and their willingness to probe. In addition to their expanded knowledge and experience of music, I hope students leave my classes with an array of life skills."

Provost Dan Hornbach said Macalester wishes Edwards continued professional success.

Book Keeping

Works by Nabokov and Frost strengthen library's collection of rare books

WHAT DO Vladimir Nabokov, the Russian emigre novelist, and Robert Frost, the New England poet, have in common?

Rare, signed and first-edition works by both writers constitute the two most recent major gifts to the rare books collection in Macalester's DeWitt Wallace Library.

First organized in 1961–62, the collection boasts such treasures as a first edition of Samuel Johnson's 1755 *Dictionary* and Diderot's 13-volume *Encyclopedie*. But most of the books are by American writers, such as Willa Cather, Kay Boyle, Hamlin Garland, William Faulkner, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Edna St. Vincent Millay and Sinclair Lewis. The library has 287 works by Lewis alone, far more than by any other author.

"Our focus for building the collection is on American authors who achieved prominence in the first half of the 20th century. It just makes sense to build on that strength," says Bruce Willms, who is in charge of collection development at the library. "We didn't have any Nabokov in the rare books collection until this gift was proposed, but he fits our criteria. Collections like these tend to appreciate. One of the things that adds to its value is the completeness, the comprehensiveness of the collection."

About 50 first-edition works by Nabokov in the collection of the late David F. Wheeler '80 were given to Macalester in 1998 by his mother, Charys Wheeler of Geneva, Ill., and brothers Timothy of San Diego and Eric Wheeler '70 of LaCrosse, Wis. David Wheeler majored in English literature and Russian

studies and was active in theater at Macalester, where he met and studied with the Russian poet Josef Brodsky during one semester. He earned a master of library science degree from Columbia University in 1984. Co-founder of the Archive of Contemporary Music of New York in 1986, he also worked in rare-book collecting, specializing in the works of Nabokov, Stanley Elkin and his friend David Mamet. His long fascination with film culminated in *No, But I Saw the Movie*, an anthology of short stories which he edited and which was first published in 1989. David

Wheeler died in 1997 in New York City.

Among the Nabokov works given to Macalester are a 1955 first edition of *Lolita* published by Paris Olympia Press and a 1967 Russian translation of the novel, done by Nabokov himself and inscribed in Russian and autographed by Nabokov. The latter work has been valued at \$6,000 by a professional appraiser.

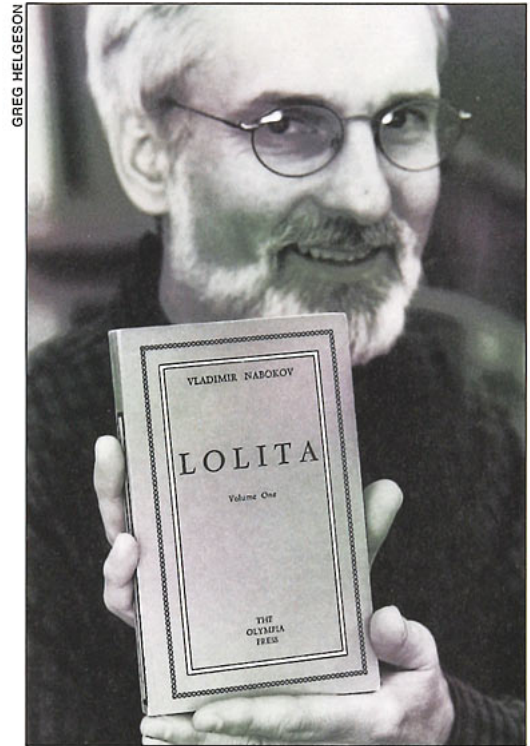
"David was an ardent collector. It was a passion for him," his mother said. "People tell me they were so amazed by the knowledge and information he had at his fingertips. Macalester was a very important part of his life. He made very dear, lasting

friendships there. We are really very happy that Macalester has his Nabokov collection because David's interest in Russian literature was nurtured at Macalester, particularly through his association with Professor David Lowe."

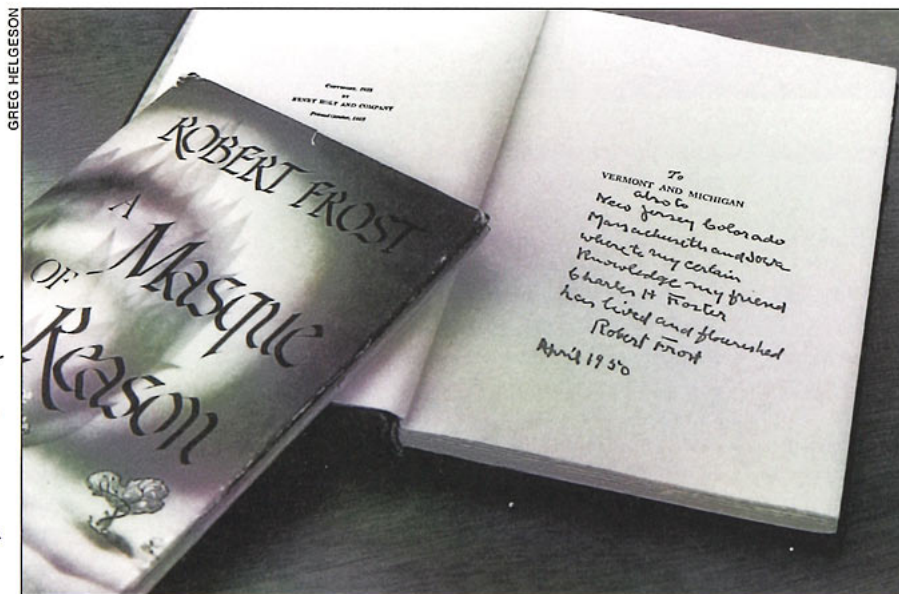
The Frost books were a gift in 1997 from the Foster family: David A. Foster '67 of Minneapolis, his three siblings and their

'Our focus for building the collection is on American authors who achieved prominence in the first half of the 20th century.'

—Bruce Willms



Above: Bruce Willms holds a 1955 first edition of *Lolita*, given to Macalester from the collection of the late David Wheeler '80 (pictured at his graduation on page 7) by his mother and two brothers. The library has also received a major gift of works by Robert Frost. They include the book *New Hampshire*, which Frost dedicated "To Vermont and Michigan." In April 1950 he wrote on this gift copy to a friend: "Also to New Jersey, Colorado, Massachusetts and Iowa where to my certain knowledge my friend Charles H. Foster has lived and flourished." Foster, who died in 1995, was the father of Macalester alumnus David A. Foster '67.



late parents, Charles and Doris Foster. Charles, a University of Minnesota English professor and book collector who died in 1995, was a close friend and former student of the poet's at Amherst College.

Most of the 11 Frost books in the collection include Frost's handwritten greetings to Foster, who was 30 years his junior, and his wife. In one book, a 1942 first edition of *A Witness Tree*, Frost wrote: "Charles Foster thinks I have a lovers quarrel with the world"—the famous phrase that was later used on Frost's tombstone. The Foster collection also includes 17 Christmas cards that Frost sent to his friend and other Frost ephemera.

David Foster said he and his siblings wanted to keep the Frost collection together and gave it to Macalester because



they wanted it to be "a significant contribution to a rare books collection rather than just another contribution." The college has also received many other books from Charles Foster's collection.

"My father went to Amherst because he had a vision of being a poet," David Foster said. "He started corresponding with Frost before he got to college. The impression I had growing up was that my father, in many respects, felt a lot closer to Frost than he did to his own father. Frost was inspiring him to do what he wanted to. My grandfather and Frost actually had a confrontation in Amherst, Massachusetts, one day about young Charlie's future."

To make sure the books are well preserved, they are kept in a climate-controlled room.

Trustees Award

William George of Medtronic recognized for his philanthropy and community leadership

FORMER TRUSTEE William W. George, who heads Medtronic, Inc., received the eighth annual Macalester Board of Trustees Award for Meritorious and Distinguished Service in September.

George, a college trustee from 1987 to 1993, has "served with enthusiasm, distinction and a strong sense of values as a corporate CEO and chairman, community leader, philanthropist" and trustee, the citation said. "Your leadership qualities and style are an inspiration not only to your employees and colleagues, but to the young men and women of Macalester and other colleges throughout the community."

George joined Medtronic, Inc., the world's leading medical technology company, in 1989 as president and chief operating officer. He was elected CEO in 1991 and became chairman of the board in 1996.



William George

In 1997, he served as general chairman of the United Way of Minneapolis campaign, contributing \$1 million to United Way himself. His family also became members of the "One Percent Club," donating 1 percent of their net worth annually to charitable organizations. He, his wife, Penny, and their two sons, Jeff and Jon, have also established the George Family Foundation to benefit many causes.

George has served as vice chair of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, chair of Abbott Northwestern Hospital, president of the Guthrie Theater and member of the Harvard Business School Board of Directors. In 1998, he was named one of the "Top 25 Managers" in the world by *Business Week* and one of the "Top Five Executives of the Decade" by *Twin Cities Business* magazine.

Previous recipients of the Trustees Award have included Kofi Annan '61, Walter Mondale '50, former Macalester President John B. Davis, Jr., former Macalester Trustees Carl B. Drake, Jr., Mary Lee Dayton and Margaret Weyerhaeuser Harmon, and Bruce B. Dayton. ●

Quotable Quotes

HERE ARE SOME of the noteworthy comments made recently on and around the campus:

"EMILY S. ROSENBERG'S [new] book, *Financial Missionaries to the World: The Politics and Culture of Dollar Diplomacy, 1900-1930* (Harvard University Press), is an example of what might be called the new diplomatic history—grounded in multi-archival research and cognizant of recent developments in cultural studies. Ms. Rosenberg, a historian at Macalester College, examines the diplomatic practice of financial strong-arming through U.S. coordination of private-bank loans to developing economies. Her book is filled not only with the murmuring of diplomats, but with the holler of pop culture as well."

The Chronicle of Higher Education, in a Sept. 24 article by Jeff Sharlet on diplomatic historians. For more on Professor Emily Rosenberg's book, see page 11.

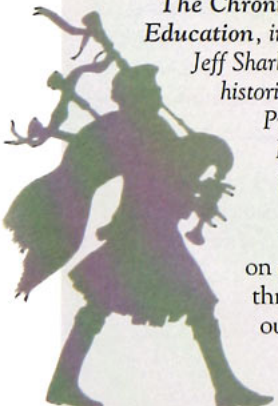
"WE'RE RESPECTED on campus. We did this through hard work, doing our homework, eating well and getting enough sleep. The

scholastics are so great at a Division III school, you don't expect favors by being a soccer player. The school realizes that. We haven't taken advantage of anything, and people respect that."

Kate Ryan-Reiling '00, All-American midfielder and co-captain on the Macalester women's soccer team, quoted in a Sept. 6 St. Paul Pioneer Press article on the "Scots' encore performance" as the women prepared to defend their national championship

"UNFORTUNATELY, many colleges and universities are producing biologists whom Herbert Marcuse would have referred to as 'unidimensional.' They are, essentially, illiterate biologists who have never read Theodosius Dobzhansky, Ernst Mayr, Richard Dawkins, or even Darwin—to the point where they believe that if you know how to operate a sequencer, you know how to do science. To answer the larger questions in biology, we need to provide our students with broader perspectives and an appreciation of science as a human endeavor."

Aldemaro Romero, a Macalester professor and director of the Environmental Studies Program, in a letter published in the Sept. 24 New York Times. ●



The single-minded man who invented Macalester College

by Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83

IN 1999, the 125th anniversary year of the signing of Macalester's charter, it's only fitting to feature the college's founder, Edward Duffield Neill.

Neill and his wife came to Minnesota in 1849, the year the Territory of Minnesota was established. An eager pioneer and Presbyterian missionary from Philadelphia via Galena, Ill., Neill began a long career devoted to the ministry and education.

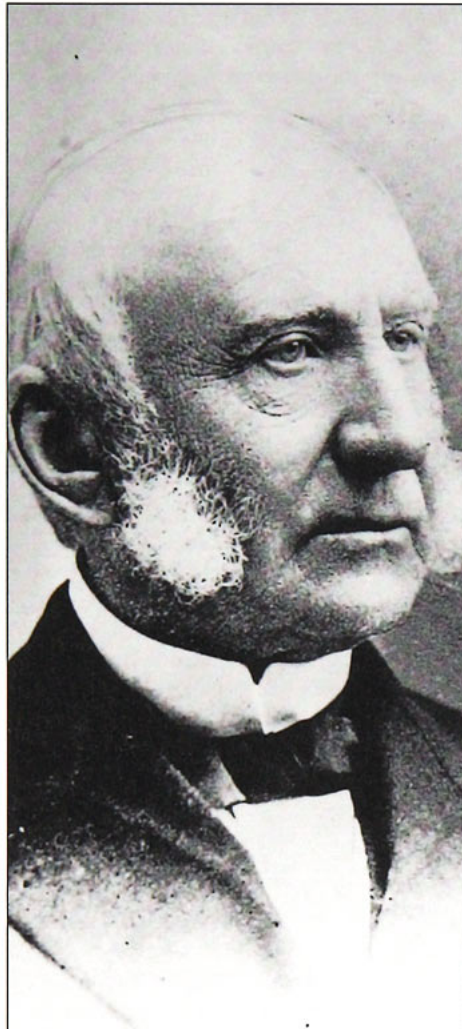
He was called Minnesota's "apostle" of education. "Neill adapted to the new Northwest the rich heritage of privately-endowed education in the East, of which he was a product," wrote Macalester Professor J. Huntley Dupre.

Neill was one of the first trustees of education and the first secretary of the Board of Education of St. Paul; the first superintendent of schools of the Territory; the founder of Baldwin School and of the College of St. Paul; the superintendent of public instruction of the new state; the first chancellor of the yet-unorganized University of Minnesota; and the founder of the short-lived Jesus College. All this before he founded Macalester and served as its professor of history, English literature and political economy.

Neill left Minnesota for a decade, first to serve as chaplain of the Minnesota First Regiment during the Civil War. He gave comfort to wounded soldiers during heavy fighting in the battles of Bull Run, Fair Oaks and Malvern Hill. He later held positions in the Lincoln, Andrew Johnson and Grant administrations.

He returned to Minnesota "with the determination of building up a College for young men upon a broad Christian basis," he wrote. His first effort—Jesus College—failed because of lack of public support for college education to supplement the newly formed University of Minnesota.

Neill turned to Charles Macalester, an elderly millionaire philanthropist, for support of his educational interests. At first, Macalester didn't take Neill's proposals



Edward Duffield Neill, in old age and youth

seriously. He didn't believe the country needed any more educational institutions. However, he said he would be happy to stand corrected. And Neill was just the man to do it. Before his death in 1873, Macalester deeded his Winslow House (in what is now Minneapolis) to the cause with two caveats: Neill had to raise \$25,000 for the college's endowment and the college had to be named after Macalester.

By December 1874, Neill had the endowment money in hand and the charter was signed. Baldwin School became Macalester's preparatory department. But Macalester College remained nothing but a name and a hope for several years.

Neill left the Presbyterian Church in 1874 for the Reformed Episcopal Church. His departure alienated many of the people whose support he needed to get Macalester College off the ground. His decade-long absence from Minnesota had left him out of touch with the new com-

munity movers and shakers. And finally, Neill created ideas better than he could execute them. He ultimately returned to the Presbyterian Church when he realized the cost to Macalester of his departure.

The Presbyterian Synod of Minnesota adopted Macalester at the end of 1880, and Neill offered to resign as president of the college to make way for a Presbyterian. However, he made it clear he would agree to the transfer of the college to the synod only if the college remained exclusively for men, even though nothing in the school charter prohibited coeducation.

Baldwin School suffered serious financial problems. Meanwhile, the Macalester trustees bought the land where the Macalester campus now stands in 1881. In a letter to W.W. McNair, secretary of Macalester's Board of Trustees, Neill offered his

Edward Duffield Neill, 1823–93

Born: Philadelphia, Aug. 9, 1823

Education: University of Pennsylvania; Amherst, bachelor's degree, 1842; attended Andover Seminary (Delaware), 1844; private instruction for the ministry

Married: Nancy Hall, 1847; five children

Macalester career: founder and president, 1874–84; professor of

history, English literature and political economy, 1884–1893

Died: Sept. 26, 1893 •



library of 500 books and wrote:

"It becomes us to provoke each other to do good, and to go forward in the grand work of building up a broad college in this vast North-West Territory which in the words of the 'Ordinance of 1787' will promote religion, knowledge and morality, the essentials of good

continued on page 47

This is the ninth in a series of profiles of great figures in Macalester's history by Rebecca Gonzalez-Campoy '83, a writer who lives in Shoreview, Minn.

Will the Internet replace the classroom? Let's discuss.

by Michael S. McPherson

THERE HAS BEEN a flurry of news stories lately about several Web sites where notes from college classes are posted for free. Managers of the Web sites pay people to sit in the classes and take notes, and hope to clear a profit by selling advertising to the sites' patrons. The immediate responses from faculty and university officials at the schools from which notes originated was to want the sites to disappear, owing to worry about the impact on class attendance and about the professors' or the universities' copyright in the material being given away.

These are both legitimate concerns, but it is inconceivable in this Internet age that, in the long run, colleges and universities can prevent sites like these, or their functional equivalents, from coming to be. Any fact, idea, turn of phrase or piece of argument that can be uttered in a lecture hall can be written down on a page, and anything that can be written down will, sooner or later—and probably sooner—find its way onto the World Wide Web. Moreover, it has to be an uncomfortable thing for faculty members or colleges to find themselves in the position of trying to suppress the free transmission of information. If someone can learn from a professor's notes posted on the Web, we ought to make sure the professor gets compensated for them, but we oughtn't want to hide them from students who could benefit from them.

So this small incident raises a rather large question: what exactly do colleges and universities provide to their students that can't be replaced by a Pentium II computer with a fast Ethernet connection? How, to bring the point home, can we justify asking families to pay upwards of a hundred thousand dollars for their son's or daughter's education at Macalester College at a time when the world's collected wisdom is increasingly available with the click of a mouse?

The answer, boiled down to a word, is relationships. Even in that rarity at Macalester, a large lecture course, a relationship is forged between professor and students over the course of a semester. The opportunity to track the lecturer's thoughts and expressions, to sense the rhythm of an unfolding narrative, can't be duplicated by reading a transcript or reviewing notes. Even video and audio recording won't do it: why else do people pay a fortune to see



Shakespeare in a theater or risk lung cancer by venturing into smoky clubs to hear jazz performed live? Moreover, any skilled lecturer will tell you that the facial expressions and body language of the audience provide important cues to the lecturer—hard ones to duplicate in cyberspace.

Still, if college were only big, rather impersonal lectures (and, sadly, at some schools it's not much more), then the Internet might be a

decent substitute. But college can be so much more. Most Macalester classes rely heavily on a discussion format—on an intense, multi-layered conversation among students and the professor. To track the levels of that conversation in real time, to relate your own evolving thoughts and reactions to those of your colleagues emerging along with yours—this is hard to duplicate in front of a monitor. Any veteran teacher of discussion classes will tell you the experience is like nothing else in their lives. The teacher needs a kind of "dual consciousness": following the threads of talk in the room and, at the same time, tracking the trajectory of the discussion she had in mind in designing the class. It is, in my experience, as deeply rewarding and physically draining an activity as any I have known.

Interactive video teleconferencing can get you part way there, and that technology will surely find greater use as time goes on, but real time, "live" interaction will still require everybody involved to plunk down in front of their monitor at the same time and give the group their undivided attention. There is a need for physical

simultaneity here that is, often, most cheaply and effectively achieved by just getting everybody in the same room. Presumably this is why lots of people in the computer and networking industries spend much of their lives on airplanes, flying to conferences for real meetings. Chat rooms and e-mail lists are a great extension of the discussion in class, but not a satisfactory substitute.

All this is only one dimension of the rich interaction that is central to the residential college experience. From the laboratory to the studio, from the playing field to the student government, there is a density of interaction in the residential college setting that computers are very far from duplicating.

NONE OF THIS is cause for complacency about what we do or for hostility to new educational technologies. There are lots of things computers and the Internet can do as well as or better than humans, and much more cheaply. I had a professor in graduate school who used to read to us from his econometrics book. He was obsolete 30 years ago, or 200 (indeed, Adam Smith decried the same practice at Oxford in the 18th century), but the Internet has made it clearer than ever that the mechanical conveying of information is best left to machines. There are a thousand ways in which these new technologies can extend our reach and can free us to do our real work better, and we have only

Any veteran teacher of discussion classes will tell you the experience is like nothing else in their lives. It is as deeply rewarding an activity as any I have known.

scratched the surface. With the help of generous grants from the Andrew Mellon Foundation, a number of our faculty are actively engaged in projects and workshops exploring the uses of these technologies

for learning in and out of the classroom.

As we explore new educational technologies and refine old ones, we must never lose sight of what lies at our core. Our job at Macalester—and it is not easy—is to make sure that we deliver on the promise of genuine human interaction in a framework designed to promote personal, social and intellectual growth, and that we do this in everything we do, every day. ●

Mike McPherson, the president of Macalester, writes a regular column for Macalester Today.

Courageous women; Dollar Diplomacy; murder in Boston

Shaping the Discourse on Space: Charity and Its Wards in Nineteenth-Century San Juan, Puerto Rico

by *Teresita Martínez-Vergne* (University of Texas Press, 1999. 235 pages, \$32.50 hardcover, \$17.95 paperback)

As an inchoate middle class emerged in early 19th century Puerto Rico, its members sought to control not only public space but the people, activities and even attitudes that filled it. Their instruments were the San Juan town council and the Casa de Beneficencia, a state-run charitable establishment charged with responsibility for the poor.

In her new book, Macalester history Professor Teresita Martínez-Vergne, a native of Puerto Rico, explores how municipal officials and the Casa de Beneficencia shaped the discourse on public and private space and thereby marginalized the worthy poor and vagrants, indigent and unruly women, destitute children and "liberated" Africans. Her research clarifies the ways in which San Juan's middle class defined itself in the midst of rapid change. Her book also offers insights into notions of citizenship and the process of nation-building in the Caribbean.



Teresita Martínez-Vergne

Teaching Working Class

edited by *Sherry Lee Linkon '81* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1999. 344 pages, \$60 cloth, \$18.95 paperback)

This book explores the possibilities and problems that arise in teaching working-class students, who have made up an increasing proportion of students enrolled in higher education since the 1970s. At the same time, working-class studies has emerged as a new academic discipline, updating a long tradition of scholarship on labor history to include discussions of working-class culture, intersections of class with race and ethnicity, and studies of the representation of the working class in popular culture. These developments have generated new ideas about teaching that incorporate both a sensitivity to the working-class roots of many students and the inclusion of course content informed by an awareness of class culture. This vol-

ume brings together 19 essays that offer innovative approaches to a class-conscious pedagogy.

Sherry Lee Linkon is a professor of English and coordinator of the American studies program at Youngstown State University, where she is also co-director of the Center for Working-Class Studies.

In Memory of My Feelings: Frank O'Hara and American Art

by *Russell Ferguson '77* (University of California Press, 1999. 160 pages, \$39.95 cloth)

American poet Frank O'Hara (1926–66) was intimately involved with the art world of the 1950s and '60s, a time when New York had become the cultural capital of the world. As an associate curator at the Museum of Modern Art, he organized a series of important exhibitions, notably of the work of Franz Kline and Robert Motherwell.

In this book, Russell Ferguson, associate curator at The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, explores this key period in modern art by presenting artists who were

associated with O'Hara and whose seminal works are reflected in his poetry. Featuring more than 80 works by 23 artists, the book focuses on works closely tied to specific poems by O'Hara, notably Jasper Johns' "In Memory of My Feelings—Frank O'Hara" and Grace Hartigan's "Oranges."

The exhibition, "In Memory of My Feelings: Frank O'Hara and American Art," is being held at The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles through Nov. 14, 1999; at The Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, Ohio, from Jan. 28 to April 16, 2000; and the Parrish Art Museum in Southampton, N.Y., in May 2000.

The Business of Memory: The Art of Remembering in an Age of Forgetting

edited by *Charles Baxter '69* (Graywolf Press, 1999. 256 pages, \$16 paperback)

For another volume in the Graywolf Forum Series, novelist and short-story writer Charles Baxter asked a dozen other creative writers to reflect on memoir, memory and forgetfulness in an information-driven society. The resulting essays address such topics as the explosion of interest in the memoir, the recovered-

memory movement, America in the grip of an "amnesia plague" and the need for stories about the past to help organize the present.

Among the contributors are Macalester Professor of English Emeritus Alvin

Greenberg, Patricia Hampl, Margot Livesey, James Alan McPherson and Sylvia Watanabe.

Baxter is the author, most recently, of the fiction collection *Believers* and *Burning Down the House: Essays on Fiction*. He was recently honored with an Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



Charles Baxter '69

1001 Ways to Market Your Books

by *John Kremer '71* (Open Horizons, 1998. 704 pages, \$27.95)

This is the fifth edition of what has become a standard reference work in the book industry for promoting books.

John Kremer has been the editor of the *Book Marketing Update* newsletter for more than 13 years. He is also the author of *Book Marketing Made Easier, High-Impact Marketing on a Low-Impact Budget* (Prima Publishing), and the *Complete Direct Marketing Sourcebook* (John Wiley & Sons).

Published a book?

Editors' note: If you have published or contributed to a book recently, we would like to mention it in *Macalester Today*. Some publishers send us news of books by alumni and faculty authors, but many others do not. Hence, we often must rely on authors themselves to let us know about a book, or to make certain their publishers notify us.

To have a book mentioned in these pages, send us a publisher's press release or similar written announcement that includes the following: title, name of publisher, year of publication, retail price (if known), number of pages, a brief, factual description of the book, and brief, factual information about the author (such as professional background or expertise relating to the book's subject). A review copy is welcome but not necessary if all of this information is provided.

The address, e-mail, fax and phone numbers for *Mac Today* are on page 1. ●

For more information: Open Horizons, P.O. Box 205, Fairfield, IA 52556-0205. Phone: 1-800-796-6130 or (515) 472-6130. E-mail: JohnKremer@bookmarket.com. Fax: (515) 472-1560. Web: <http://www.bookmarket.com>

Financial Missionaries to the World: The Politics and Culture of Dollar Diplomacy, 1900–1930

by Emily S. Rosenberg (Harvard University Press, 1999. 352 pages, \$45 cloth)

A volatile global economy is challenging the United States to rethink its financial policies toward economically troubled countries. In this book, Macalester history Professor Emily Rosenberg suggests that perplexing questions about how to standardize practices within the global financial system, and thereby strengthen market economies in unstable areas of the world, go back to the early decades of this century. Then, “dollar diplomacy”—the practice of extending private U.S. bank loans in exchange for financial supervision over other nations—provided America’s major approach to stabilizing economies overseas and expanding its influence.



Emily Rosenberg

In her interdisciplinary study, Rosenberg shows how U.S. loans-for-supervision arrangements with other countries became central to foreign policy debates during the 1920s, when increasingly vocal critics at home and abroad assailed dollar diplomacy as a new form of imperialism. She explores how such arrangements were related to broad cultural notions of racial destiny, professional expertise and the virtues of manliness. She seeks to illuminate the dilemmas of public/private cooperation in foreign economic policy and the incalculable consequences of exercising financial power in the global marketplace.

Restructuring Societies: Insights from the Social Sciences

co-edited by David Knight '64 (Carleton University Press, 1999)

This multi-disciplinary examination of societal change due to economic and social “restructuring” considers contem-

porary debates about the nature of restructuring processes and their interconnection with public policy. The importance of words and their manipulation is emphasized.

David Knight is dean of the College of Social Science at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada.



Michael Fredrickson '67

A Cinderella Affidavit

by Michael Fredrickson '67 (Forge Books, 1999. 384 pages, \$25.95 cloth)

A legal thriller inspired by a famous murder case in Boston, Michael Fredrickson’s first novel concerns a routine drug raid gone awry. When a police officer is killed executing a no-knock search warrant in

Boston’s Chinatown, the cops arrest and charge a man for the crime but the court orders them to produce the confidential snitch whose information was the basis for the warrant. The book’s title is a term used by cops and prosecutors for an affidavit that relies on fictitious information, usually a fake snitch.

Fredrickson is the general counsel to the Board of Overseers, the agency in charge of prosecuting attorneys for legal wrongdoing in the state of Massachusetts. A Rhodes Scholar, he studied English literature and language at Oxford University and earned a law degree from Harvard Law School. He lives in Watertown, Mass.

Women of Courage: Inspiring Stories from the Women Who Lived Them

by Katherine Lane Martin '70 (New World Library, 1999. 369 pages, \$14.95 paperback)

Women of Courage features the stories of 41 women who have had life-changing experiences and called upon their inner resources to conquer challenges and grow stronger. Among the women who shared their stories are polar explorer Ann Bancroft, writer Isabel Allende, artist Judy Chicago, marketing guru Faith Popcorn, actress Sharon Gless and physician Elizabeth Pirruccello Newhall.



Katherine Lane Martin '70

Katherine Martin is a former senior editor of *New Realities* magazine, an author and screenwriter. She lives in Lake Oswego, Ore.

The Voice That Was in Travel

by Diane Glancy (University of Oklahoma Press, 1999. 116 pages, \$19.95 cloth)

In 20 stories, ranging in length from one-page vignettes to novellas, Macalester English Professor Diane Glancy offers insights into contemporary American Indian life and the sense of displacement her Indian travelers endure. Whether the characters are working or on pleasure trips, in Oklahoma, the back roads of Arkansas or Italy, their journeys are always superimposed on the memories of old tribal migrations.

This volume is part of the American Indian Literature and Critical Studies Series. The general editors are Gerald Vizenor and Louis Owens.

Glancy is also the author of a new novel, *Fuller Man* (Moyer Bell). Set in rural Missouri, it is the story of the

Williges family, a family divided, and Hadley, the observant narrator. Hadley’s father is a newspaper reporter and his free-wheeling independence and absences from the family are the source of bitter fights between him and his wife. Their stormy

relationship influences each of the three children in profound ways.

Glancy and Mark Nowak, a professor at the College of Saint Catherine, have co-edited *Visit Teepee Town: Native Writings After the Detours* (Coffee House Press, 1999), an anthology dedicated to postmodern Native American poetry and poetics. It features work by such writers as Sherman Alexie, Lise McCloud, Barbara Tedlock and Peter Blue Cloud.

Glancy is also the author of *The Cold-and-Hunger Dance* (University of Nebraska Press, 1998), a collection of essays influenced by her Cherokee heritage and Christian faith. They offer an imaginative account of journeys to and from the margins of memory, everyday life and different cultural worlds. Being a “marginal voice in several worlds,” she feels empowered “to tell several stories at once.” She describes the migratory process of Native American storytelling and the narrative



Diane Glancy

multivocality it produces as a "cold-and-hunger dance."

Chax Press in Tucson, Ariz., has also recently published two books of poetry by Glancy, *The Closets of Heaven* and (*Ado*)ration.

To Heal the Scourge of Prejudice: The Life and Writings of Hosea Easton
edited by George R. Price and James Brewer Stewart (University of Massachusetts Press, 1999. 123 pages, \$30 cloth, \$14.95 paperback)

Hosea Easton (1799–1837), a black minister, activist and intellectual from New England, rose to prominence in the 1820s and '30s by joining the struggle of free African Americans to resist Southern slavery and secure racial equality. From this experience he developed a deep understanding of the problem of "race" in the United States and became a trenchant critic of white supremacy and its devastating consequences.

This volume, edited by Macalester history Professor Jim Stewart and George Price, who teaches Native American studies at Salish Kootenai College and the



Jim Stewart

University of Montana, restores to print the only extended writings of Easton that have survived. The book also provides a biographical portrait of Easton and his family, drawn from primary documents as well as secondary sources.

Julian M. Sturtevant, 1805–1886: President of Illinois College, Ardent Churchman, Reflective Author

by Iver F. Yeager '44 (Illinois College, 1999. 537 pages, \$31.56 cloth, \$26.25 paperback)

Julian Sturtevant was a contemporary of Macalester founder Edward Duffield Neill. Both men experienced the frustrations of finding sufficient funds to sustain a new college in "the West." Sturtevant, an 1826 graduate of Yale, assisted in founding Illinois College, a Christian, independent liberal arts college in Jacksonville, Ill. The story of his life is virtually the history of

the college during its first half-century. He was also involved in many of the major educational and social issues of his time. Strongly opposed to slavery, he spent three months in England in 1863 seeking to win greater support for the Northern cause.

Iver Yeager is Scarborough Professor Emeritus of Religion and Philosophy at Illinois College. An ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, he is also the author of *Church and College on the Illinois Frontier, 1829–1867*.

Scooter Mania!

by Eric Dregni '90 (MBI Publishing Co., 1998. 96 pages, \$14.95)

Scooter Mania! charts the history of motor scooters from their dawn when Amelia Earhart sang their praises through the popular film *Roman Holiday* to the present-day revival. Eric Dregni's text is complemented by more than 80 illustrations. The cover photo shows Tim Gartman '89 on his Lambretta TV 175.

Comprehensive Volleyball Statistics: A Guide for Coaches, Media and Fans

by Stephanie Schleuder (American Volleyball Coaches Association, 1999. \$21.95)

Stephanie Schleuder is now in her second year of coaching the volleyball team at Macalester, which she guided to a third-place finish in the conference in her first season, after a successful career at the University of Minnesota and University of Alabama. In this book, she explains how to compile and utilize statistics to advance individual players and the entire team. The book is replete with forms, explanations and tips designed to help a team achieve success in a myriad of situations.

Proofs and Confirmations: The Story of the Alternating Sign Matrix Conjecture

by David Bressoud (Cambridge University Press and Mathematical Association of America, 1999)

This book by David Bressoud, chair of Macalester's Mathematics and Computer Science Department, is the first joint publication of Cambridge University Press and the Mathematical Association of America. Bressoud sets out to describe recent research in mathematics that is accessible to anyone who has completed a course in linear algebra. The central problem discussed in the book, first posed in 1980, was a fairly simple-looking counting problem that arose from research con-

ducted at the Institute for Defense Analysis in Princeton, N.J. Eventually involving more than a hundred researchers from around the world, the problem was finally solved by Doron Zeilberger at Temple University in 1995.

Bressoud also describes the serendipity that often occurs when mathematicians chase the solution to a good problem. In this case, the solution spawned a host of new questions and revealed deep structures that no one thought had existed. Bressoud also uses the story of the search for proof as a frame from which to hang introductions to interesting mathematical topics, including generating functions, determinant evaluation techniques, partition theory, symmetric functions and

hypergeometric series. Usually viewed as unrelated, they all played a role in the ultimate solution of the problem.

The first two chapters of the book are being used this fall in Bressoud's first-year seminar, "Discrete Mathematics: The Art of Counting."



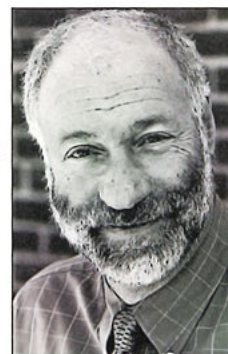
David Bressoud

Healing Our Anger: Seven Ways to Make Peace in a Hostile World

by Michael Obsatz (Augsburg Books, available February 2000. 128 pages, \$12.99 paperback)

Macalester sociology Professor Michael Obsatz, who is also a family counselor, writes about how spiritual concepts of grace, forgiveness, compassion and justice can help people be peacemakers in a sometimes hostile world. His book deals with such questions as understanding anger and how it works; reducing stress; learning quick ways to defuse one's own anger and that of others; developing a more realistic attitude toward life; and building one's spiritual resources.

Obsatz also helped prepare the *Instructor's Manual* to accompany the seventh edition of *Understanding Human Sexuality* (McGraw-Hill), by Janet Shibley Hyde and John DeLamater. The manual is designed to help teachers enhance their classroom lectures. ●



Michael Obsatz



The Macalester contingent at the site

Hands-on History

Unearthing a Roman temple in Israel, Macalester students reach into the past, and discover a lot about themselves

Story and photos by Doug Stone

CMRIT, NORTHERN ISRAEL — While studying last spring in Edinburgh, Scotland, Theresa Vogel '00 received an e-mail asking her to come to this dusty, brown, panoramic hillside tucked between Lebanon and Syria to look for a 2,000-year-old Roman temple. It was an offer she couldn't refuse. After barely a week back home in the Twin Cities, she left again, for the Mideast.

Ben Rubin '01 spent last spring studying the site of the Roman temple in his history and classics texts, trying to figure out why it was built "in the middle of nowhere." A participant in an archeological dig last year on the Black Sea in Ukraine, he came to Israel to test his research theories and "because I'm addicted to archeology."

Jason Schlude '02 saw the dig as a chance to travel and a way to adhere to his philosophy of experiencing as much as he can, knowing that "if I don't do something, I'll regret it."

Vogel, Rubin and Schlude—together with 12 other Macalester students, four professors and eight others, including a Macalester alumnus—spent three weeks living on a kibbutz (Israeli cooperative farm), getting up at 4:30 a.m., walking 300 yards down and up a hill, and digging for eight hours in



the hot Israeli sun. They were Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and people from multiple religious traditions, all working toward a common goal.

Their archeological finds for the first year of a dig were quite extraordinary, according to the dig's organizer, Macalester classics Professor Andy Overman. They included uncovering six feet of wall of the Roman temple, architectural ornaments, coins, pottery and a sense of the history of the site. (See story on page 15.)

Perhaps more significant than the discoveries themselves, however, was what the students learned: about ancient history, archeology and spirituality in the birthplace of three great religions; about teamwork; and about themselves.

"They were absorbing ancient Israel while living in modern-day Israel," Overman said one afternoon after a long day of digging. "Every day those students go out with trowels in their hands and they have more knowledge at the end of the day and have an opportunity to advance that knowledge. This is internationalism and student research outside the classroom."

Excitement and pride

"Israel just has so much history. It continues to make history," said Vogel, also a veteran of the Black Sea Project.

For the second year in a row, Vogel, a classics and religious studies major, was a site supervisor. Her job was to oversee the work of four other students



Above: The Macalester group leaves the site for the day.

Far left: This rosetta stone, an ornament above a column holding up the Roman temple, was found during the excavation.

Doug Stone, director of college relations at Macalester, accompanied Mac students to Israel last summer. His articles on several Macalester alumni who live in Israel will appear in February's Macalester Today.

Right: Jason Schlude '02, left, measures elevations at the site.

Below: Rabbi Bernie Raskas, a visiting professor at Macalester, and his wife Leah hosted a party at their Jerusalem apartment for the Macalester group. Among the guests were Jason Schlude '02 (St. Louis), left, Greg Stoehr '98 (Winter Park, Colo.), Theresa Vogel '00 (Minneapolis) and Ben Rubin '01 (Madison, Wis.).



in one of seven dig “squares”—sectioned-off sites where the actual work takes place. “We were a little disappointed that what we found [in her square] was from the Byzantine period [later than the Roman period of the temple], but we found many interesting things and that’s all part of archeology.

“The teamwork is great,” she said. “Everyone is interested in learning. Everyone’s excited. Everyone takes pride in their work. We have to get up early, but no one complains. The dig reinforced the idea that I love archeology and like to travel. It reinforced my interest in Israel and the Middle East.”

When Vogel was younger, “I always

thought of digging for treasure. I thought of this as digging for treasure . . . digging for history, for information about the period, for information about the area.” Her

experiences on the dig have influenced Vogel’s plans after Macalester. She may go to law or grad school and is interested in international relations, archeology, classics and international law.

Mysteries in the dirt

For Rubin, going on the dig was the result of a longtime interest in classics and archeology. He took four years of Latin in high school and four semesters of Greek at Macalester. His father is Jewish and Ben has studied Hebrew. “Studying Judaism and Christianity has shown me how similar religions are. Coming to the Holy Land was amazing to me: the Wailing Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Dome of the Rock. I learned about Islam.” A classics and English major, Rubin wants

The dig in Israel

Goal: uncover remains of a Roman temple

Where: hillside in northern Israel

Mac participants: Faculty members Andy Overman, Richard Dunn and Nanette Goldman, and 15 students

Lodging: Kibbutz Kfar Szold, founded in 1936 by European Jews and moved to present location at foot of Golan Heights in 1944

Toughest part: getting up at 4:30 a.m. every day

Best part: side trips to Jerusalem, the Dead Sea and Masada, and Bethlehem

Could do without: shelling alerts on the kibbutz loudspeaker ●



to teach, and his experiences reinforced that desire.

Rubin and two classmates studied the area while at Macalester. While some of their theories about the temple were not borne out, they still learned a great deal about the Herodian Dynasty and about Israel 2,000 years ago.

"The site is full of mysteries," Rubin said. "You're almost invading someone's place. It [his square] is a late Roman or Byzantine house or marketplace, but it's a mystery. You're studying the past, but you're really studying yourself. You're in the dirt, dirt in your mouth, your eyes, all over your body. It's a different experience than sitting in the classroom reading a book."

At history's crossroads

Schlude, who is from St. Louis, found the dig "a life-changing experience. It's what I hoped I would get out of Mac. I became intoxicated with it."

The physical work on the dig appealed to Schlude, whose father is a bricklayer. He dubbed himself "the blue-collar scholar." "The archeology was spectacular, but the trip to Jerusalem was amazing." Raised a Catholic, Schlude said that "Jewish people have had such an impact. It's neat to see all this and the land and where it came from. It's a crossroads for so much." ●

'You're studying the past, but you're really studying yourself.'

— Ben Rubin '01

A fortunate fire led to dirty work in Israel

WHEN A FIRE LAST YEAR exposed an archeological site on a northern Israeli hillside, the district archeologist called his old colleague, Professor Andy Overman of Macalester. Moti Avam, the Israeli, knew Overman would be interested in the relationship between the Roman Empire and Jews of the period.

It was a fortunate call, indeed.

Overman, who conducted earlier digs in Israel and on the Black Sea in Ukraine, is convinced the Omrit site will reveal a wealth of information about the "interplay between Judaism and pagan-

probably built around the time of the Roman Emperor Herod about 2,000 years ago to honor Emperor Augustus, who visited the area about 20 B.C.E. (Before Common Era), Overman says. "It was a public monumental complex."

Overman's Macalester students uncovered six feet of what he believes is the wall of the temple. They also found an architectural ornamentation from a column.

The Macalester dig's first year attracted considerable attention among archeologists in Israel, where digs are commonplace. Nearly every day brought a new group of visitors, including former Gen. Amir Drori, the head of the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

Overman plans to return to Omrit for several more years because, he says, there is so much to look for. He also envisions involving Macalester

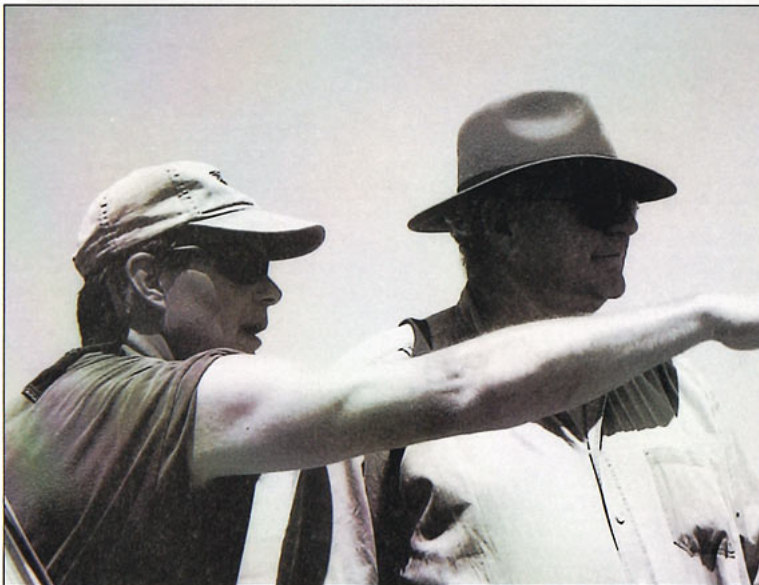
Professor Andy Overman shows the layout of the archeological site to former Israeli Gen. Amir Drori, the head of the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

scholars from other fields such as geology, geography, communication studies, computer science, religious studies and environmental studies.

And he plans to keep bringing Macalester students and alumni.

"We believe there is no experience like this. It's hands-on," the classics scholar says. "It's learning to work closely and rigorously with other people. It's easier to go to the library and write a paper. Here you have to work together. It teaches civility. Archeology is also an excellent way for students to practice their interpretive skills, fitting small pieces of the puzzle together."

— Doug Stone

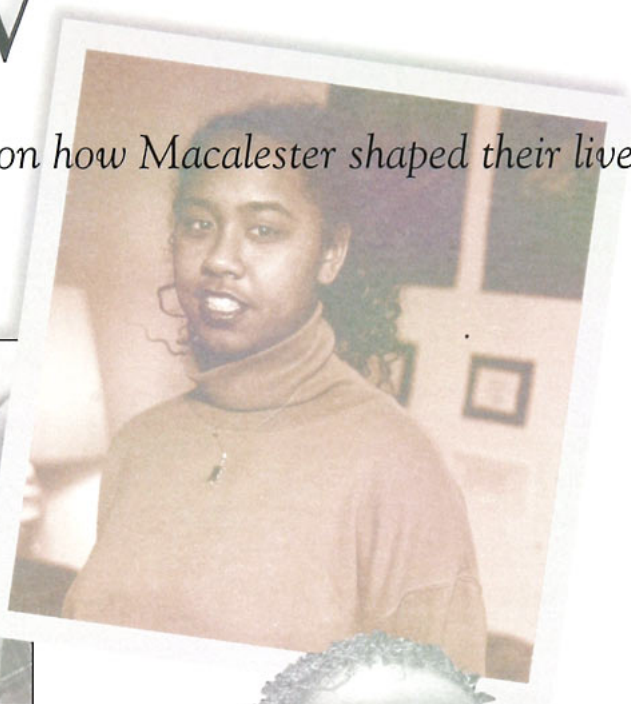


ism, between the local Jews and the Roman political rulers, and about the history of the era, a time when Judaism was changing and Christianity was being born. The site is historically and architecturally significant. Nowhere except in Jerusalem do we have major Roman architecture like this."

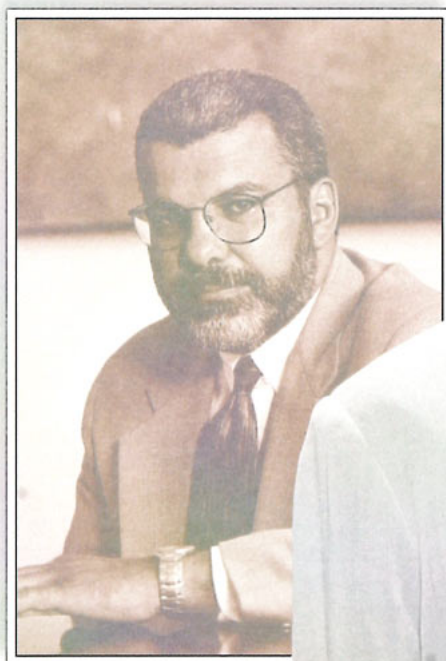
Preliminary archeological evidence and historical descriptions by Josephus, a Jewish writer at the time, indicate that the temple at the site was

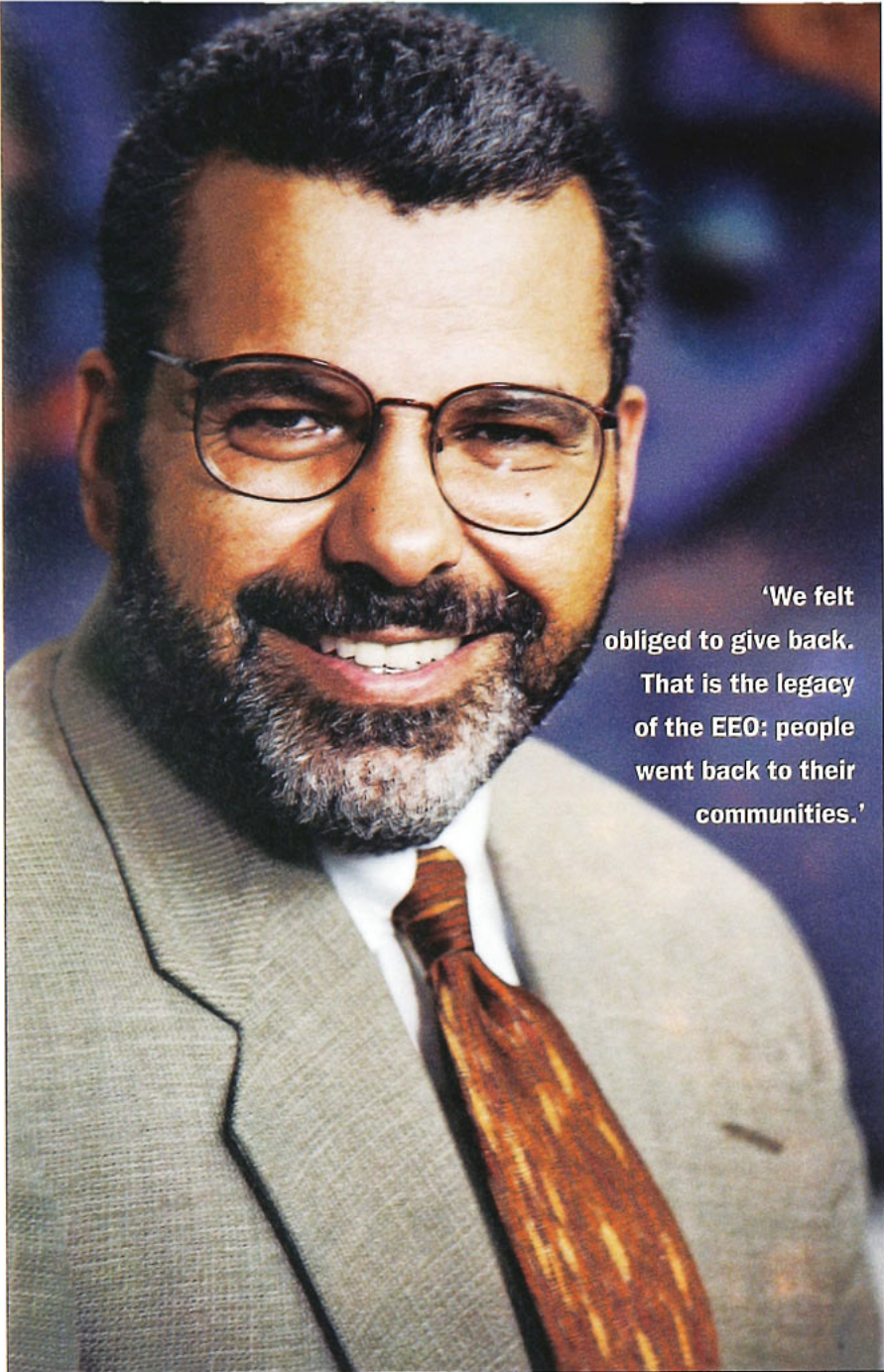
The 'M MINORITY' VIEW

*U.S. alumni of color reflect on how Macalester shaped their lives.
Second in a two-part series.*



Macalester's first Alumni of Color Reunion, which was held Oct. 15-17, will be covered in the February issue of *Macalester Today*.





'We felt obliged to give back. That is the legacy of the EEO: people went back to their communities.'

Jeff Hassan '73: 'We want recognition for the EEO program and for what it accomplished. And reconciliation.'

by Doug Stone

WHILE HIS PEERS were busily applying to colleges, Jeff Hassan '73 was making little preparation in early 1969. A high school senior at Minneapolis Central and a member of the National Honor Society, Hassan remembers thinking that "someone was going to swoop me up and take me away to college. God looks out for babies and fools and I fall into the latter category."

Then his older brother, who had helped raise Hassan, heard about the Expanded Educational

Opportunities program at Macalester. Hassan applied and was accepted.

"My experience at Macalester was one of the most important and pivotal experiences of my life," Hassan, a Minneapolis attorney, says now. "It opened my eyes up to the world outside the little neighborhood in which I lived. The educational process, the reading, the intellectual exchange, it all gave you a broader view." His classroom education at Macalester took place against a backdrop of historic events that would shape a generation and made Hassan's Macalester years even richer.

"It was the period of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement. There were so many dramatic social and political events taking place." Those were the contributing factors, but it was inside the classroom where Hassan began to think and question. A political science major, he took classes on world politics and revolution, on constitutional law from the late Theodore Mitau and sociology classes on "social deviancy."

"I wrote a paper about how being black was socially deviant in and of

itself," he recalls. "That's the way society looked at it. I remember reading books that had been written about black people by people who weren't black, and thinking, 'They're talking about us, talking about me.' It was probably the first time I looked at and thought about how black folks are represented and viewed by the larger society."

Growing up in Minneapolis and St. Paul, the son of a white mother and African American father, Hassan says such exploration was "particularly interesting for me. Until that time, I was oblivious to political and social casting and stereotyping that had taken place. . . . I wasn't consciously aware of racism or discrimination."

Macalester in the early '70s was "way ahead of the curve socially and politically. We had coed dorms, political activism, demonstrations, the EEO

Jeff Hassan '73

Came to Mac from: Minneapolis

Major: political science

Mac mentors: Professors Shelton Granger and Michael Allen Rynkiewich

Current home: Brooklyn Park, Minn.

Career summary: lawyer in private practice in Minneapolis, Washington, D.C. and now Minneapolis again. Clients include Minneapolis School Board, Metropolitan Council, St. Paul Urban League and Piper Jaffray. ●

program itself.” Hassan adds that he pushed himself “to see how close I could go to the edge without falling over. I would look over the precipice.” As a smile comes over his face, he says, “God, if my kids ever did that kind of thing. . . .”

Hassan remembers fondly his academic adviser, political science Professor Shelton Granger, and anthropology Professor Michael Rynkiewich. Granger advised him about how to prepare for law school by developing his writing skills and by taking classes—such as math and science—that teach discipline and logical thinking. Rynkiewich asked Hassan to think about what he was really interested in learning. He wanted Hassan to develop a bibliography. “A lightbulb went on. . . . You mean I can develop my own curriculum and determine what I really want to learn?”

He became a member of the Political Science National Honor Society, did a number of independent study courses and had an internship his senior year with the late Sen. Nick Coleman, one of the state’s leading political figures.

“The EEO program took students from lower-income backgrounds who had abilities but wouldn’t have had opportunities to attend private schools like Mac and it allowed them to grow and develop and benefit,” Hassan says with pride in his voice. “Students have achieved a good deal of success and the program is as relevant today as it was then.”

Hassan certainly has been successful. After graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School, he started his own law practice in 1977 in Minneapolis. “We called it ‘money law’: if you’ve got the money, we’ll take the case.” He handled divorces, immigration and some criminal cases. After a few years, he began to focus on civil litigation, particularly personal injury cases. He handled a major sexual harassment case for the attorney general’s office that established employer liability in such cases. He formed Hassan and Reed in 1985, but moved to Washington, D.C., in 1991 to be with his wife, Rochelle Avent-Hassan ’73, who was working there as a dentist. He worked in the firm of Jordan and Keys until 1997, when the Hassans decided to move back to the Twin Cities. “There’s no sense of community [in Washington]. . . . And the call of my family [back in Minnesota] became stronger.”

Returning to his old Hassan and Reed firm in 1998, Hassan, with his three partners, is trying to develop what he calls an “institution-based” practice in Minneapolis, representing such organizations as the Minneapolis School Board, the Metropolitan Council, the St. Paul Urban League and Piper Jaffray, as well as individuals in the community.

From his first days out of law school, Hassan has been guided in part by the desire to give something back. “We had been given an opportunity for four years of college. That wasn’t the result of our efforts, but the people who came before us. We felt

obliged to give back. That is the legacy of the EEO: people went back to their communities. There was a commitment to service, a commitment to help others.”

Because the program was regarded so positively by the participants, Hassan says, their perception that some other members of the Macalester community viewed EEO as a failure “was a surprise and a major disappointment to us.” And that perceived attitude led in part to the Alumni of Color Reunion Oct. 15–17, Hassan says.

“We want recognition for the program and for what it accomplished,” he says. “And reconciliation. Students of color need to hear that the program was successful. Finally, the college needs to recommit [to the ideals behind EEO]. There are students out there just like us who are bright and need the opportunity to be exposed to learning, to blossom and explore and develop.”

Hassan says that Macalester “was the single most significant social and academic event in my life. That feeling is shared by most students of color.” ●

Ann Scales ’83: ‘The beauty of the place is that it lets you find your own way, and then it helps you be the best you can be wherever that path leads you.’

by Donna Nicholson

GROWING UP in a black neighborhood in St. Louis, attending a black high school, Ann Scales ’83 chose to enroll at Macalester—which she thought of as “this white, cold, intellectual but nonetheless rather austere place”—precisely because it was so different from anything she had experienced.

“It was like my equivalent of Broadway,” she recalls. “If I could make it there, I could make it anywhere.”

Scales not only made it at Mac, she thrived. “I found that I could meet the standards of a college like Macalester. I was just as smart as the white students there. I was just as beautiful. I could speak English just as well. And I had just as many questions as they did.”

One of Scales’ first recollections upon arriving at Mac was “seeing white students protest apartheid in South Africa. Having come from a city like St. Louis, where the races are pretty well separated and I lived in the black community, I thought, ‘Wow, white people are upset about this, too.’”

A political science major and journalism minor, she wrote stories for the *Mac Weekly* and the college’s News and Publications Office en route to a highly successful career as a newspaper reporter. Since 1996, she has been the White House correspondent for the *Boston Globe*, covering the Monica Lewinsky case and President Clinton’s

Ann Scales '83

Came to Mac from: St. Louis

Major: political science

Mac mentors: Professors Dorothy Dodge, Patricia Kane, George Moses and Mahmoud El-Kati, and alumni such as Melvin Collins '75 and Stanley Berry '76

Current home: Washington, D.C.

Career summary: reporter for *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *Dallas Morning News* and now *Boston Globe*, where she has been White House correspondent since covering the 1996 presidential election ●

impeachment trial, and traveling with the president to such places as Africa, the Mideast, Paris and London.

"[Macalester] opened my mind with people who had enough of an open mind to accept me where I was and not to look at my background as an excuse for why I should fail but as a reason for why I should succeed there," Scales says. "That was the


most remarkable thing about the place to me. . . . The beauty of the place is that it lets you find your own way, and then it helps you be the best that you can be wherever that path leads you."

Scales fondly recalls professors like Patricia Kane, "who made me love F. Scott Fitzgerald and gave me an appreciation for Hemingway and some other great writers"; Dorothy Dodge, who taught her "how the overlay of politics affects every single thing we do"; and Mahmoud El-Kati, "the conscience of the campus when we were there." And there was George Moses, "this older white man who told this 18-year-old black kid from North St. Louis that 'you can write and you have a special talent. I'm just going to teach you what I know to help you develop it.' It was the most selfless act I'd ever been a witness to. And he did!"

There were African American alumni like Melvin Collins '75, Stanley Berry '76 and others, "great role models," who were also supportive. And she could "escape" to Black House, which felt much like home. "There probably wasn't enough of a social life for black students *on campus*. That's why we needed Black House, to have our own parties. Black alumni took care of us; they were like

'I thought I was open-minded and tolerant, but I really wasn't until I went there. It's like the whole world opened up to me.'

MARK CHARETTE



The White House, visible in the background, is Ann Scales' beat for the *Boston Globe*.

brothers and sisters. We had a whole village taking care of us.”

“My view of race and ethnicity was forever changed by my going to Mac,” Scales says. “I thought I was open-minded and tolerant, but I really wasn’t until I went there. It’s like the whole world opened up to me and I could see brothers and sisters and people who looked remarkably different from me. That’s the part of the experience I will never, ever forget. I understood finally where Iran was, where Egypt was.

“Some of these places I would finally get to visit [while covering President Clinton], but there were people there I had known because I met them at Macalester. That was the most profound impact the college had on me—it opened up my world.” ●

Sheridan Enomoto '99: 'I had the opportunity to create my own education'

by Jan Shaw-Flamm '76

SHERIDAN NOELANI ENOMOTO '99 finds it impossible to fit in any single box—those ethnic identity boxes that Americans are commonly asked to check. For her, “multi-cultural” is personal as well as political.

The strands of her heritage are carried in her very name. Sheridan is her African American mother's middle name, and also recalls her father's Scotch-Irish ancestors. Noelani, “heavenly mist” in Hawaiian, represents that branch of the family, and


Enomoto links her to her Japanese ancestry.

It was her cousin Stanton Enomoto '89 who first recommended Macalester. The international aspect of the college attracted Sheridan, who had visited perhaps a dozen countries by junior high.

“Because of the way Macalester is,” she says, “there are opportunities to be open to new perspectives since so many people come from different places.”

As such, it was a natural community in which to cultivate various components of her heritage. Enomoto already had a thorough grounding in Hawaiian culture, including 10 years of dancing hula, and once on campus she quickly became involved in the revitalization of

GREG HELGESON



“Being native Hawaiian, I felt that I could learn more about the Indian community already in Minnesota and also teach others about my own culture.”

Sheridan Noelani Enomoto '99

Came to Mac from: Inglewood, Calif.

Major: Comparative North American Studies

Minor: psychology

Career plans: applying to AmeriCorps*VISTA to be followed by graduate school in creative arts therapy ●



GREG HELGESON

"The Esther-fest": That's what her nephew Jay called it when many family members of Esther Torii Suzuki '46 gathered last May to celebrate her Alumni Service Award at Macalester. Esther is standing between her sister Lucy Kirihara, left, and her husband, George Suzuki '47, right. Their daughter, Nami Suzuki Vizanko '71, center, is also a Mac grad.

PIPE (Proud Indigenous People for Education), a student group for indigenous peoples.

"Being native Hawaiian, I felt that I could learn more about the Indian community already in Minnesota and also teach others about my own culture." As PIPE chair, she worked with Mac alumni Janice LaFloe '92 and LaVon Lee '77, students and other Twin Cities groups to produce the gathering, "Native Women on the Cusp of the Year 2000."

For two years, Enomoto co-managed Cultural House, which supports a multicultural learning community at Macalester through various activities, including Art Night, Poetry Slam and Music Fest. In her senior year, friends introduced her to capoeira, an African-Brazilian martial art that incorporates playing instruments and singing in Portuguese. "One reason I got involved," says Enomoto, "was to have a balance between my Hawaiian culture and my African culture."

One of the challenges of her college years was to encourage others to recognize her multicultural heritage, rather than just one portion of her lineage. "It's a comfort issue. People usually feel more comfortable with what they can personally identify with, so that's what they see in you."

Enomoto's intense interest in cultures led her to Comparative North American Studies, and she became one of the first Macalester students to graduate with that major. Her senior project was a "literary ethnography," a work of creative non-fiction in which she explores her own perspective on her grandfather's experience. A Japanese American, he served in the military intelligence language school during World War II while stationed at Minnesota's Fort Snelling. She credits Professors Jim Stewart, Clay Steinman, Diane Glancy and Janet Carlson with "helping to foster the idea, empowering and supporting me."

Carlson, a chemistry professor and a founder of the Comparative North American Studies program, said the program "has two main goals, to create academic situations for students to study race as a topic

itself, and to allow students to study historically marginalized racial and ethnic groups."

"Race is more complex than just black and white. Issues of race go beyond that," says Carlson, director of the program. "Having students who are multi-racial really brings home the point. Sheridan was particularly good at that. She made people around her think about race in a new way just because she was so interested. She was much more sophisticated in her understanding, so much further ahead in her life experiences, [and ready] to start thinking about these things academically."

Looking back on the experience of developing the Comparative North American Studies major, Enomoto says, "I had the opportunity to create my own education. When someone said I could not do it, or it was impossible, I tried another way to do it. These challenges really fostered my educational growth. Instead of expecting someone else to do it for me, I did it for myself, and that's what I was able to do at Macalester. Now others can say, 'Someone else did it; I can do it, too.'" ●

Esther Torii Suzuki '46: 'Macalester was a haven in a world of madness'

by Jon Halvorsen

AMERICAN HISTORY has finally caught up with Esther Torii Suzuki '46. Ever since 1994, when she made her first public speaking appearance, the retired social worker has enjoyed a sort of second career as a highly sought-after "storyteller," a Japanese American elder who relates her own life, trials and triumphs.

Whether she's addressing junior high school kids in Chicago, Asian immigrants in the Twin Cities or

appearing in a “cabaret” at the Minnesota History Center with the Asian American Renaissance, the warm, diminutive, witty Suzuki makes a compelling witness to her times.

“I’m so gratified,” the 73-year-old Suzuki says, “because it seems I have an audience. Before, no one listened to me.”

Macalester was more than a college to Esther Suzuki. “Macalester was a haven in a world of madness,” she says. In the hysteria that followed Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor, she and her family were among the 120,000 people of Japanese descent who were forced from their homes by the United States government—even though most of them, includ-

ens the pain with humor. For example, she recalls how she truthfully answered “Yes” in 1942 to standard personality-test questions like: “Do you feel people are out to get you?” Or she’ll observe that Macalester admitted three men and three women of Japanese descent—“I suppose so we could date each other.”

“People don’t like to hear a sob sister,” Suzuki said in an interview this fall. “I was asked to give a lot of talks at Macalester when I was [a freshman]. I would go to these churches and say, ‘This internment is unconstitutional,’ and I would tell the truth about it. Everyone in the audience, especially older church women, would tell me, ‘My dear, you must realize this is wartime.’ They would either justify it or they would get defensive. I used to cry on the way home after I gave these talks.

“As I got older, I decided that I have to let people know what happened but I cannot try to guilt anybody because no one will accept that, so I made it more palatable. I tell these little stories. There is a point to every story, but I don’t come right out and say it. My daughter says that is how I am getting my message across—obliquely.”

She has co-authored a play about the internment experience, but Suzuki speaks on other important subjects. She seeks to dispel stereotypes about Asian Americans, noting how tiresome it gets when people keep asking about her country of origin. The only Asian social worker in Ramsey County when the first wave of Southeast Asian immigrants arrived in 1975, she is especially concerned about today’s immigrants, young and old. “When I speak to Asian students in high schools and so forth, I tell them, ‘Don’t be ashamed of your parents—speaking English is not the only measure of intelligence.’

“I want to encourage [recent Asian immigrants] not to give up, and also I want the public to know they will make real contributing citizens. I have to do things to make things better.” ●



GREG HELGESON

ing Esther and her two sisters, were American citizens. She was not even allowed to attend her high school graduation in her hometown of Portland, Ore. After several months in a detention camp, and just hours before the rest of her family was sent by guarded train to be “interned” in Idaho, Esther was released from custody because Macalester had accepted her as a student. Frightened and alone, the 16-year-old arrived in St. Paul by train in September 1942.

In 1996, for her 50th reunion, Suzuki spoke of the “kindness and acceptance” she met with at Macalester. “Without Macalester College, I wouldn’t be where I am today,” she wrote.

When she tells the story of her family’s ordeal, and her own escape to Macalester, she always leav-

‘I have to let people know what happened [to Japanese Americans], but I cannot try to guilt anybody because no one will accept that, so I made it more palatable.’

Esther Torii Suzuki '46

Came to Mac from: a detention camp in Portland, Ore., her hometown, where Japanese Americans were being held in 1942

Major: sociology

Mac mentors: Mary Gwen Owen, Milton McLean, Margaret Doty, Edwin Kagin, Georgiana Palmer, Kano Ikeda, Charles Turck

Current home: Minneapolis

Career summary: retired social worker; devoted volunteer for Macalester and former Alumni Board member; now frequent speaker on her experiences as a Japanese American ●

Steve Colman '92 at Macalester this past spring. He and his 1998 national champion slam teammates from New York's Nuyorican Poets Cafe are riding the wave of a poetry revival.

light up the auditorium. People jump to their feet and clap their approval.

"It felt more like a rock concert than a poetry reading," Colman says later, chuckling. "They were really hooked into the words."

It's not like Colman's never seen people get excited about poetry before. He and the other members of the 1998 national champion slam team from New York's Nuyorican Poets Cafe have had plenty of experience working an audience into a frenzy with their socially conscious rhymes. They're riding the wave of a poetry revival that started earlier this decade in Chicago and New York, and slowly made its way to the rest of the country.

Today, Nuyorican poets are celebrities of sorts, and people come to the cafe from all over the world to hear them read poems in raucous competitions, where entrants are judged for the quality of their writing—and the style of their presentation. In fact, the market for poetry's so strong right now that Colman is a full-time poet, touring the country to read at colleges and universities; editing poetry anthologies; recording tracks for albums; and leading workshop

Pro-noun rallies

I wanna hear a poem
where ideas
kiss similes so deeply
metaphors get jealous,
where subject matters
so much
that adjectives start holding
pro-noun rallies at city hall.

—from "I Wanna Hear A Poem"
by Steven Colman

Rhyme with a Reason

Steve Colman moves to the top in the new art they call hip-hop

by Andy Steiner '90

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE of Springfest at Macalester, or maybe it's the warm, clear night, or maybe it's just because they like poetry. No matter what the reason, when hip-hop poet Steve Colman '92 steps to the microphone center stage at the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, the overflow crowd hoots and hollers its approval. When he launches into "Hip-Hop Scotch," a rhyme about growing up a white boy in black culture, the audience strains to hear the words. Then Colman reaches the final stanza:

At first they thought I was a snake
because I shed my skin.
Then they saw how I could shake,
that's why they took me in.

He punctuates the words "how I could shake" with an old-school breakdance move. Cheers and laughter

residencies, like the one that brought him—and two of his fellow team members—to Macalester this past April.

In some ways, the New Jersey native is an unlikely candidate for a career in poetry. It's not like he's been spending the years since graduation writing sonnets in a garret. Rather, post-Mac he spent some time organizing unions in Iowa, working with mentally retarded adults in New York and getting a master's degree in history from Case Western Reserve University. All along he was writing

continued on page 34

Andy Steiner '90 wrote about Gregory Stavrou '93, arts and humanities coordinator at the Virginia Piper Cancer Institute in Minneapolis, in May's Mac Today.

Blood Ties

Trampling over racial barriers, Mixed Blood Theater draws upon generations of Mac theater talents as it pursues Dr. King's dream

by Carolyn Griffith

FOR JACK REULER '75, founder and artistic director of Mixed Blood Theater in Minneapolis, things have come full circle back to Macalester—if you'll forgive the forthcoming pun. In the fall of 1998, Reuler's 12-year-old daughter, Taj, performed in a Macalester production of Bertolt Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. It was the same play that, 25 years earlier, brought Reuler together with the small circle of classmates and cast mates that would help him build Mixed Blood from the ground up.

Today, Mixed Blood continues to thrive as a vehicle for both outstanding drama and social change, and has renewed its role in helping younger Mac alumni launch their careers in theater.

In its early days, Mixed Blood drew sustenance from the youthful energy of a handful of Macalester students and recent graduates, their frustration with racial politics and their desire to create, on stage, the kind of world envisioned by Martin Luther King. This founding group—which included Reuler, Stephen Yoakam '75, Kim Hines '77, Faye Price '77, Russell Curry '78 and James Williams '77, among others—coalesced during that production of *Caucasian Chalk Circle*.

"The interesting thing about Mac in the early '70s was that there were all these African American students coming from places like Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia and Detroit to lily-white Minnesota. It was a cultural mix, but at the same time a culture shock," recalls Stephen Yoakam,

Carolyn Griffith, a St. Paul free-lance writer, wrote about theater Professor Sears Eldredge and his new play in August's Macalester Today.

who, as part of his senior thesis, directed many of the *Caucasian Chalk Circle* cast members in *No Place to be Somebody*, a '60s play about racial conflict. "That cultural soup was an interesting mix. There were a lot of tensions, and a lot of wonderful discoveries. MBT was a natural outgrowth of that."

Mixed Blood Theater now operates with about a \$1 million budget and has 170 employees on contract in the course of a year. The organization's resources are evenly divided among its three enterprises: the main stage shows on Minneapolis' West Bank, tour-

Since its founding in 1976, Mixed Blood Theater has drawn upon a couple generations of Mac talent. Jack Reuler, foreground, who is still the artistic director at Mixed Blood, is pictured this past summer with classmate and close friend Stephen Yoakam '75, rear, a veteran of the Guthrie Theater, and young actors Andre Samples '99 and Aditi Kapil '94.

ing shows and EnterTRaining, a venture that dramatizes issues of cultural diversity for corporations and professional associations. "We do a hundred to 125 performances a year here at the theater, and the touring company does 500 or 600 shows for schools, community centers and churches in nine or 10 states. Last year, we performed in 67 of Minnesota's 87 counties," Reuler says, noting that these shows, dramatizing African American, Hispanic



STEVE WOIT



Above: Aditi Kapil '94, center, appeared in *Good News About Third World Shoes* at Mixed Blood in 1997. Kapil, who majored in theater, is now getting more and more roles in Twin Cities theater. Right: Stephen Yoakam '75, left, in *Ohio Tip-Off* at Mixed Blood in 1985.

‘That cultural soup [at Macalester in the '70s] was an interesting mix. There were a lot of tensions, and a lot of wonderful discoveries.’

— actor Stephen Yoakam '75

American, Native American and Asian American culture and history, were written expressly for schools.

Dr. King's dream

Since its inception in 1976, Mixed Blood has staged works that challenge the way audiences view issues of race, gender and class. “‘Dedicated to the spirit of Dr. King’s dream’ has always been our catch phrase,” Reuler says, adding, “We don’t do ‘victim theater’; we show positive images of people.” There is, however, no list of criteria by which a season’s works are selected. “I pick plays I like,” Reuler says simply, without apology.

One of the ways MBT keeps audiences on their toes is in the way roles are cast. The “color-blind casting” label that’s been widely used, Reuler says, is a misnomer. “I think of what we do as culture-conscious casting,” he says.

For example, the theater recently staged *Boy*, written by Asian American playwright Diana Son, about a doctor with three daughters who wants a son—and decides simply to treat his fourth female child as though she were a boy, a tactic that seems to work until the child reaches adolescence. “The playwright was adamant that she didn’t want this to be an ‘Asian’ play, but a parable about the human condition,” Reuler says. The family members were played by actors of different races, by design, to show that the issue of a father wanting a son cuts across cultural lines.

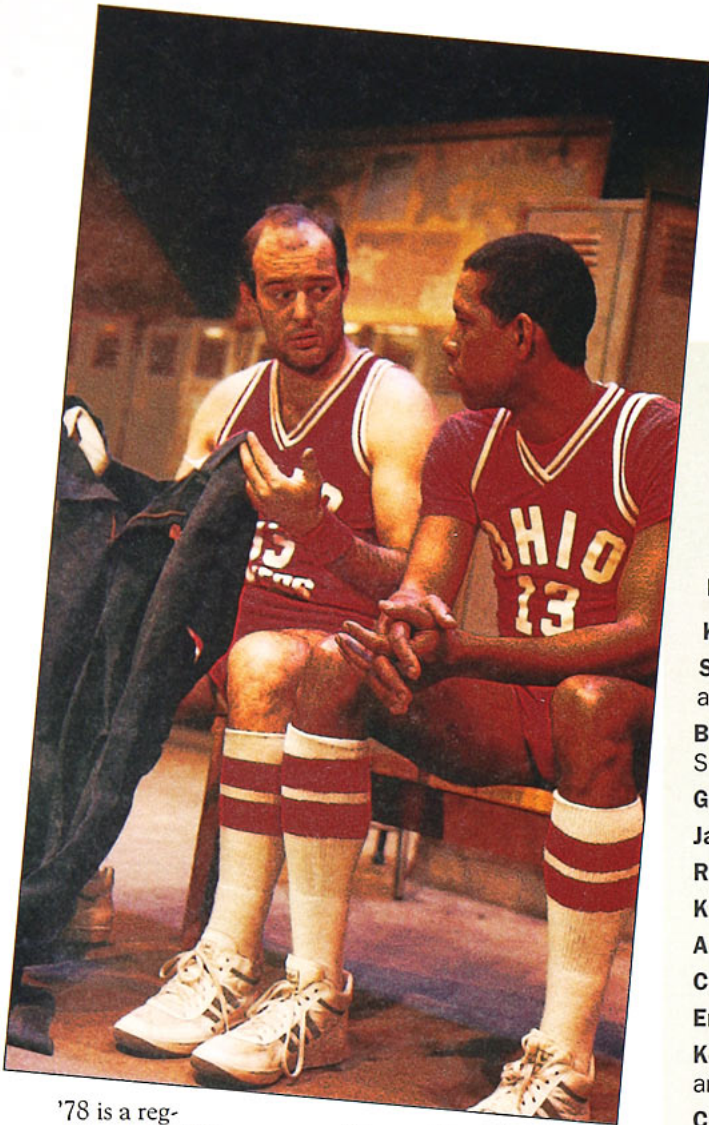
“Quite honestly, if the playwright hadn’t been so insistent, we might have tried to create a stage family that was genetically realistic,” Reuler says.

EnterTRaining, MBT’s corporate training arm, performs for only 20 to 25 audiences a year, far fewer than the main stage or touring companies. These shows take far more effort, because most are custom-written for particular companies or industries. In the last decade or so, EnterTRaining has dramatized racial bias in the legal system for the Hennepin County District Attorney’s staff, as well as for police officers, private law firms, law schools and law professors. Reuler’s partner in this venture, well-known Twin Cities playwright and columnist Syl Jones, has written such training vehicles as a “country-western musical set in a small Minnesota town” to illustrate the intertwining of violence and medical treatment, and a “Motown opera on pre-natal care.” Both were written for health care organizations.

“EnterTRaining has opened up such great avenues of opportunity for us to say things,” Reuler notes. “It’s been fabulous, because the people we’re talking to actually have the authority to change policy, and by changing policy to change attitudes within their own organizations. And unlike most non-profit programs, it more than covers its costs.”

Moving on, branching out

Most of the '70s Mac contributors to Mixed Blood’s growth have long since moved on in the dramatic world. Carl Lumbly '73 is well known for character parts in film and television, Russell Curry



For Yoakam, that happened at MBT during the early '80s, and again from 1988 to '93, at the Guthrie.

While playwright and actor Kim Hines made lifelong friends at Macalester, her college experience was soured by the racism she experienced as the campus community slowly and unevenly adapted to its new com-

Cast of characters:

Mixed Blood and Mac

IN ALL, 25 MAC ALUMNI have worked, in one capacity or another, briefly or for long periods, at Mixed Blood Theater in Minneapolis, according to founder Jack Reuler '75, who is still the artistic director. Here are their names and *current* occupations:

- Karah Bausch '96**, production assistant, film/video, Twin Cities
- Sean Brennan '96**, free-lance production assistant, script supervisor and assistant editor in film/video production, Twin Cities
- Brian Bull '91**, host of "Morning Edition" and assistant news director, South Dakota Public Radio
- Genoveva Castaneda '96**, soft-prop artisan, Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis
- Jane Clark '77**, photography editor, *SmartMoney* magazine, New York
- Russell Curry '78**, actor, Los Angeles
- Kim Hines '77**, playwright, Twin Cities
- Aditi Kapil '94**, actor, Twin Cities
- Corrine Larson '97**, free-lance costume designer for theater, Twin Cities
- Eric Laurion '99**, actor at Mixed Blood this fall
- Ken LaZebnik '77**, writer and co-producer of TV series "Touched by an Angel"
- Carl Lumbly '73**, actor, Berkeley, Calif.
- Sara McFadden '95**, stage manager, Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis
- Alan McCutchan '76**, lives in Maplewood, Minn.
- Jane Eldridge Miller '76**, professor of literature, Princeton University
- Alison Neet '78**, actor, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- Faye Price '77**, dramaturg, Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis, and actor in Twin Cities
- Jack Reuler '75**, artistic director, Mixed Blood
- Andre Samples '99**, actor, Twin Cities
- Sarah Schreiber '89**, theater consultant in Minneapolis office of Schuler & Shook, Inc., and free-lance lighting designer
- Kim Walton '79**, lives in Oakland, Calif.
- David Wheeler '80**, deceased (see page 6)
- Paul Whitaker '97**, graduate school, lighting design, Yale University School of Drama
- James Williams '77**, actor with Guthrie, Penumbra and other Twin Cities theaters
- Stephen Yoakam '75**, actor, Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis and elsewhere ●

'78 is a regular on the TV soap opera "Sunset Beach" and Faye Price '77 is dramaturg at the Guthrie. James Williams '77 joined Penumbra Theatre. Stephen Yoakam '75 and Kim Hines '77, in particular, have become pillars of the Twin Cities theater community.

Yoakam stayed with Mixed Blood until the mid-'80s, when he joined the Guthrie Theater Company. Still a member there, he spent part of the past winter in Los Angeles, exploring opportunities during the television "pilot" season. In addition to MBT and the Guthrie, Yoakam has performed in Minnesota with the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, the Actors Theatre of St. Paul, the Playwrights Center, Park Square Theatre and also at the Arizona Theater Company, the Actors Theater of St. Louis, Washington, D.C.'s Arena Stage and the Kennedy Center, and Seattle's Contemporary Theatre.

Yoakam numbers two Mixed Blood shows among his proudest: a 1982 production of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, and a year or so earlier, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*. "In a theater company, there'll be a period of about five years when you're clicking on all cylinders as an ensemble," he says.

plexion. A theater major who'd begun acting with the Children's Theatre Company at the age of 12, Hines managed to get a part in a Macalester production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*—cast as the cook. Frustration with the racial stereotyping fueled her desire to help get *Mixed Blood* off the ground. A different kind of frustration prompted her to leave MBT after several years to join Penumbra, an all-black theater whose own founder, Lou Bellamy, had helped build *Mixed Blood*.

"Most of the plays Jack liked had terrible roles for women," Hines says, noting that she later left Penumbra for similar reasons, and began writing plays precisely because of the scarcity of good, black, female characters in existing dramatic literature. Associate artist since 1994 at Minneapolis' Illusion Theater, where she acts, writes and directs, she's also worked with the Guthrie and the Southern Theatre, as well as with theaters in Philadelphia, Oakland and Chicago. This past winter two of her plays ran simultaneously on Minneapolis stages, and in March her *My Lord What a Morning*, a commissioned script about opera singer Marian Anderson, premiered at the Kennedy Center.

New Mac blood

In his own words, Reuler "got reinvested" in Macalester in the early 1990s, paving the way for a new generation of Mac theater people to find a home at *Mixed Blood*. In 1991, Reuler received a Distinguished Citizen Citation from Macalester. In 1993, Sears Eldredge, chair of the theater department, invited him to talk to a senior seminar. And during Commencement/Reunion Weekend in 1995, he emceed a showcase of writers and actors, and connected with another battery of people. "We've had a wave of really good Macalester people, both on stage and back stage, since 1994," he says.

Aditi Kapil '94 was one of the seniors in that '93 seminar. "At the end of the class I asked if I could audition for him," she recalls. "You walk into the theater world thinking it's going to be really hard, that you're going to have to struggle—I was in awe of MBT; I thought maybe Jack would let me sweep the floors or something. But he cast me right away," Kapil marvels.

Under Reuler's direction, she performed at a summer theater connected to St. Cloud State University, soon after her graduation. After that, she worked with EnterTRaining. "I worked with five experienced actors, and it was a really great way to learn," she says. Kapil's been involved with *Mixed Blood* ever since, but has also performed at Pillsbury House Theatre, St. Cloud's New Tradition Theater, the Playwrights Center, Theater Mu and, this year, in Jungle Theater's *Macbeth* and Park Square Theater's production of *The Heiress*.

'The fact that my overt ethnicity and my cultural identity are at such odds with each other makes Jack's particular brand of colorful casting a blessing for me'

— actor
Aditi Kapil '94

The question of ethnicity in the theater is particularly interesting for Kapil, who is of Bulgarian and Indian ancestry and grew up in Sweden. "I look Indian, but I've never lived there. I'm European to the core, and 'technically' more suited to the works of Chekhov and Strindberg

Mixing the races:

It's all in the family

IN ADDITION TO PROVOKING audiences to think about race, gender and cultural issues, Jack Reuler has succeeded in creating his own small world mirroring Dr. King's dream, wherein questions of race and culture are so well understood that they can remain tacit.

At *Mixed Blood*, the blood truly is mixed. Reuler's daughter is of both Sri Lankan and European American ancestry. His partner in EnterTRaining, Syl Jones, is African American. Jones' wife is white and they have four interracial children. Steve Yoakam is white and his wife is black.

Among the most recent Macites to become involved with MBT, Eric Laurion '99 is of white and Latin American ancestry, while Andre Samples '99 has white and black parents.

"In 1987, we had this picnic at my house, and that's when it hit me," Reuler says. "We had 35 people—about a dozen couples and their children. All but one of the couples was interracial; all the children were interracial." He notes that MBT staffers have included every possible hyphenated combination.

ATTEMPTING to explore the questions inherent in belonging to two races, Reuler in 1991 commissioned a number of writers to create vignettes that would be quilted together into a play called *Melting Pot Rebels*. That work was never completed or produced, but next year, drawing on some of that material, Syl Jones will create a new play about "biracialness."

Since the late 1980s, when multiculturalism became a buzzword, some in the arts world have looked askance at a white guy running a theater whose works are about race. With 10 years at MBT already under his belt, Reuler was able to shrug off such criticism.

"I've embraced that I work with issues of race, but I do it as a white person," he says. "I know I can always retreat into a world of skin privilege. I know what I don't know—I don't tell actors how they should define their roles, based on some pre-conceived notion about a character's race."

—Carolyn Griffith



than Asian writers. The fact that my overt ethnicity and my cultural identity are at such odds with each other makes Jack's particular brand of colorful casting a blessing for me," she says. Kapil was pleased and surprised when her audition for the Jungle Theater, known for strong, traditional productions, netted her the part of Lady MacDuff.

A way to see the world

At the same time that Reuler is introducing his daughter to his alma mater, the Macites who make their way to *Mixed Blood* find a welcome as warm as a familial embrace. "I really enjoyed the sense of camaraderie and community—it's not just 'all business' there," notes Eric Laurion '99. Because he's bilingual in English and Spanish, he became part of the tech crew for *The True History of Coca-Cola in Mexico*, performed this past winter in both languages.

Kapil notes that both Reuler and his daughter Taj participated in her wedding to Sean Brennan '96, which was performed by a judge who serves on MBT's advisory board. "MBT is very much a family place; I feel like if I was dead broke, I could call Jack, and he'd give me a job," Kapil says.

Though he hasn't done a show at *Mixed Blood* in more than 10 years, Yoakam says "I still think of it as one of my artistic homes," and a place with an above-average artistic success rate, from the actor's viewpoint. "If four out of five of the shows you do are blessed with honesty and integrity, you're lucky. And the absence is palpable; you feel like you're

wasting your own and everyone else's time. More than 80 percent of MBT's productions have that core integrity," he says.

Artistic differences aside, Hines, too, admires Reuler, and sees her MBT years as pivotal in her own professional development.

‘Helping to start *Mixed Blood* really gave me a sense of my own power. I felt like, “If I can do this, I can do anything.”’

—playwright
Kim Hines '77

With each successive wave of immigration to the Midwest—most recently from Laos, Russia and Somalia—creating new cultural and ethnic frictions as well as wonderful possibilities, Reuler is likely to be in business for a long time to come. "Mixed Blood has been a great voice for me," Reuler says. "I'm not a politician, preacher or orator, but theater's been a voice for the way I want to see the world. When I started this, my notion was that it would be successful when it was no longer necessary. But that's part of the idealism and naiveté of being 23." ●

Russell Curry '78, center, and Faye Price '77, second from right, in *Mixed Blood*'s 1987 production of *The Colored Museum*. Curry is now a regular on the TV soap opera "Sunset Beach" and Price is dramaturg at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

Woman's Work

Sarah Craven '85

acts globally to secure human rights for women

by Paula Hirschhoff '66

WOMEN WITH BABIES strapped to their backs crowded into the clinic waiting room, weary after walking hours from their mountain homes in Bolivia. In the clinic's operating room, doctors were treating a 16-year-old girl who had miscarried after her boyfriend kicked her in the stomach. A statue of the Virgin Mary stood atop an ultrasound machine, serenely watching over the chaos.

The scenes made a deep impact on a group of U.S. congressional staff who were touring United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) clinics in Bolivia and Ecuador last March. They saw local medical staff providing prenatal, natal and maternal services. They learned that these clinics are the sole source of primary health care for many impoverished women. They came to realize that UNFPA, by supporting clinics that keep women healthy, plays a vital role in preventing abortions.

Sarah Craven '85, who accompanied the delegation to South America, rejoiced at the change in attitudes she observed

Sarah Craven '85 at the U.N. Foundation building in Washington, with the U.N. flag in the background. She is the Washington representative for UNFPA, the largest internationally funded source of population assistance to lesser developed countries.

during the tour. "I think the congressional aides arrived with visions of Western doctors dragging women into the clinics by the hair!" she joked. As Washington representative for UNFPA, the largest internationally funded source of population assistance to lesser developed countries, Craven is determined to dispel notions of coercive tactics and other misconceptions that led to the termination last year of U.S. funding for the agency. "My No. 1 goal on this job is to get U.S. funding for UNFPA reinstated," she said.

To that end, she works to educate the Washington power structure—including Congress, the State Department and the Agency for International Development—on UNFPA's work in 150 countries. She coordinates her work with a coalition of nonprofit groups concerned with global women's health, human rights and the environment. Craven noted that UNFPA staff toil under a "double whammy: We're in the U.N. and we're in family planning, which are both areas of continuing controversy." But she actually relishes the role. According to David Harwood, chief of staff at the U.N. Foundation, Craven is a passionate, outstand-



MARK CHARLETTE



Top left: Sarah Craven '85 with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan '61 this past June in New York. The occasion was a reception on the fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development.



Lower left: with the late Congresswoman Bella Abzug, left, and Chief Bisi Ogunleye of Nigeria at the U.N.'s World Conference on Women in 1995 in Beijing.

health care, the best way to slow growth is to provide women with education and economic opportunity, to support them in the context of their families and communities. Once women are educated, they bear fewer children."

Beginning as an undergraduate at Macalester, Craven dreamed of working in the field of international human rights and development. Born and raised in Hawaii, she chose Macalester for college because she wanted to be different from her private high school classmates who favored West and East coast schools. She took an anthropology course her first year. "[Professor] Dave McCurdy opened my eyes to the world," she recalls. "Without his influence, I'd probably be practicing law in Honolulu." She majored in both anthropology and political science.

AFTER EARNING a master's degree in anthropology from Cambridge University, she came to Washington in 1987. She dropped by the office of Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) to pay a constituent visit and walked out with her first Washington job—with the senator's Subcommittee on Aging. Subsequently, she worked for Sen. Timothy Wirth (D-Colo.). Although she was not involved in international issues, those years on the Hill gave her vital lessons in coalition building and strategizing to accomplish legislative goals in the nation's capital.

Craven also earned the law degree that she describes as "a union card in this town," although she had no plans to practice law. "The law studies helped clarify my thinking, writing and negotiating skills," she said, but "anthropology is where my heart is." Anthropology is her "secret weapon," useful both inside and outside Congress. "Each congressional office has its own unwritten code of conduct. You have to learn how to decode the behavior. So much of what happens on the Hill is based on personal relationships. As an anthropologist, you can use participant observation to understand how relationships work."

While studying law at Georgetown University, she moved closer to her professional goal, serving an internship in Geneva, Switzerland, with the International Commission of Jurists; a one-year Ford Foundation International Law Fellowship, examining the African Human Rights Charter; and

continued on page 34

'So much of what happens on the Hill is based on personal relationships. As an anthropologist, you can use participant observation to understand how relationships work.'

ing advocate for women's reproductive health and rights on the international stage.

Craven hopes to organize an educational tour to China, similar to the South American trip, to give key congressional staff an opportunity to view UNFPA in action. China tops the list for such a tour because legislators hold many misconceptions about population programs there. "Critics have blamed UNFPA for China's past abuses in meeting population goals. But the UNFPA program in China is a model for voluntarism and human rights. China has agreed to lift all birth quotas [which restrict each couple to one child] in the 32 counties where UNFPA works," she said. Moreover, UNFPA will provide women with a wider range of contraceptive choices, literacy programs and micro-credit funding for women entrepreneurs.

"Our true emphasis is actually economic development," Craven said. "It's hard for nations to develop when their population growth is running at unsustainable rates. In addition to reproductive

Paula Hirschhoff '66 is a writer/anthropologist, based in Washington, D.C., who focuses on international development issues.

"Coming here, it's always special," says Gary Hines, photographed on the Concert Hall stage at Macalester's Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center. Behind him is the cover art for the Sounds of Blackness' new album.



'We can reconcile our differences or we will destroy ourselves,' declares Gary Hines '74, who leads the Grammy-winning Sounds of Blackness. Appropriately enough, the group's new album is called Reconciliation.

Sounds of Healing

by Jon Halvorsen

AS COLLEGE STUDENTS, Gary Hines and his friends would sit backstage in Macalester's rehearsal rooms and muse about the time when they might take their musical group on the road and even win a Grammy.

"We can never say we *knew* we'd win a Grammy," Hines recalls. "But did we believe and did we

visualize that? Yes, we did. It's the whole scriptural thing of speaking it into existence."

It took about 20 years, but led by Hines, the Sounds of Blackness won a Grammy Award in 1992 for best gospel performance by a choir for the group's debut album, *The Evolution of Gospel*. The Twin Cities-based group has also won Grammy Awards for two other, multiple-artist projects: *The Apostle* film soundtrack (1999) and *Handel's Messiah—A Soulful Celebration* (1993).

Hines, the director, producer and chief songwriter, and Russell Knighton '72 are the only original members still with the 30-member group. They began at Macalester in 1969 as the Macalester College Black Choir. In 1971, Knighton approached Hines, then just a sopho-

Jon Halvorsen is the managing editor of Macalester Today.

more, about becoming the music director. "They had the foundation for it—to establish a legitimate black music ensemble to embrace the whole range [of black music]," Hines recalls. "We needed a name." "Macalester College Black Choir" did not reflect the variety of music that the group performed, nor the fact that it drew upon students from Hamline and other Twin Cities colleges, although Mac students made up the core. A student publication named *Sounds of Blackness* proved inspirational, Hines says.

Macalester continues to be "home" to the Sounds. It's not just that the group often rehearses at the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center. Macalester is also where you'll find Hines on many weekday mornings. Right after his daily workout at a blue-collar gym in Minneapolis, he heads over to Mac, slips into a practice room in the Music Department and spends 30 minutes or more playing the piano. That's where he sat down for an interview one morning this past August.

A longtime bodybuilder with an impressive physique—he was Mr. Minnesota in 1981—the 47-year-old Hines is gracious, warm and exquisitely polite, the kind of person who often uses your first name in conversation and listens as intently as he speaks. He also exudes confidence. It's quickly apparent that Gary Hines believes: in his religion, in his music, in himself. Reared in the strong Christian faith of his parents and grandparents, he belongs to the Progressive Baptist Church, though he is quick to add that he is not concerned with religious differences. "I'm a Christian. Jesus is Lord for me," he says. "But I revere the quote of Gandhi when asked, 'What religion are you?' He said, 'I'm a Jew, I'm a Muslim, I'm a Hindu, I'm a Buddhist,' et cetera. That's more the spirit of what I am."

HINES, THE YOUNGEST of six children, moved with his family to Minneapolis from Yonkers, N.Y., in 1964, when he was 12. His mother, Doris Hines, a well-known jazz singer, had fallen in love with the city during her tours. "When we first moved here, we [children] hated it," he recalls. "The music was way behind [New York], the fashions were way behind." Hines eventually grew to like the city and still makes his home in Minneapolis, but he admits he's still a New Yorker at heart.

But the musician to whom Macalester proudly gave an honorary degree in 1997 almost chose Dartmouth for his college education. He was "just about there" when he had a talk with Earl Bowman '50, then assistant to Macalester's president, and Don Hudson, Mac's football coach. They persuaded him to enroll at Macalester, where he majored in sociology, played offensive guard on the football team, threw the discus on the track team, and was active in student government and BLAC (Black

'This is my life's purpose. [We want] to make a positive difference in people's lives.'



Liberation Affairs Committee). Not to mention his passion for music. "Coming here, it's always special," he says of his morning ritual at Mac. "It takes me back. If I would have 15 minutes between classes, I would rush over [to the Music Department] even just for that 5-, 10-minute period and try to work something out on the piano."

He thanks many Macalester faculty and staff for their support: Dale Warland, Edouard Forner, Donald Betts, Doris Wilkinson, David Lanegran, Thad Wilderson, Sowah Mensah, among others. And he's grateful to friends like Jeff Hassan '73 (see page 17), who negotiated the first recording contract for the Sounds, and Sharon Sayles Belton '73, the mayor of Minneapolis, who still serves on the Sounds' board of directors. Most of all, he credits history Professor Mahmoud El-Kati, his "cultural, political and spiritual mentor." The two first met when Hines was still in junior high and El-Kati would talk to young people about African American history, black pride and folks like Duke Ellington.

continued on inside back cover

Hines, foreground, and Russell Knighton '72, at middle left wearing glasses, are the only original members still with the Sounds of Blackness, which began at Macalester in 1969 as the Macalester College Black Choir.

COLMAN *continued from page 23*

poems, mostly for himself, but by 1997, he decided to take a leap and step on stage at the Nuyorican. He was a success, and soon poetry became his life.

"How it happened is I started reading and people wanted to hear me. What happens is people just emerge on the scene. I was one of them. It wasn't anything I set out to do."

But now that he is a poet, Colman has focused on making his poetry culturally significant. While he does write about love and sex and food and other personal subjects, a thread of political activism is woven through all of his work. In fact, the entire Nuyorican team are self-described poet-activists, who use their words to challenge

'What happens is people just emerge on the scene. I was one of them. It wasn't anything I set out to do.'

their audiences and inspire radical social change.

So, 20 years from now, will Colman still be standing at the mike, reading poems about revolution and working the crowd? Probably not, but he plans on sticking with poetry for the time being. His twin

brother David, also a Mac grad, is getting his Ph.D. in history at the University of Iowa. Colman thinks one day he'll likely follow his lead.

"I want to continue to practice as an artist and perform for a few years and then go back to school later on when I feel like I have some experience to bring with me. I've always wanted to go through the back door, to have academia come to me. Is this arrogant? I guess I mean I want to have something to offer it, too." ●

CRAVEN *continued from page 31*

a one-year fellowship with the National Women's Law Center, working on reproductive health issues.

Then one day she spotted a notice that the Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA), based in Washington, D.C., needed a coordinator of international advocacy for the International Conference on Population and Development, which was to take place in Cairo in 1994. "I leaped at the chance. Finally I was working for an international development organization."

AT CEDPA, Craven's job was to prepare women leaders from around the world for the Cairo conference and later for the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing. During conference preparatory meetings, she trained these women in techniques for reaching their goals for women's rights. She recalls the four women who came to New York from Romania, where family planning had been illegal under communism. "They were distressed at first because the official Romanian government delegation was all-male," she recalled. With Craven's help, they ensured that women's voices would be heard. "By the end of the first week they were having coffee with the male delegates. A week later they had drafted the delegation's talking points for the conference. They didn't have a chance to say goodbye to me because on their way to the airport they were lunching with Romania's permanent representative to the U.N. By the end of the Cairo conference, one of them had worked her way onto the official delegation to the conference."

The Cairo conference was a catalyst for tremendous change in population program priorities throughout the world, Craven said. Previously, governments had focused on providing contraceptives

'They used to say I was working on "chick" issues. [But today] women's rights have become integral to every discussion of human rights.'

to meet demographic targets. After the conference, priorities shifted to an emphasis on reproductive health. In addition, other women's priorities came to the fore. "In Bolivia, legislators passed the first national domestic violence law giving women a cause of action to bring abusive spouses to court. In Gambia, women who conducted female circumcision were retrained to earn a living by other means. In Nigeria, women organized a political network that mobilized 1 million women to get involved in the election process. Even China is opening up to new approaches."

After four years at CEDPA, Craven got a call from Wirth, then undersecretary of state for global affairs, asking her to coordinate the U.S. review of progress resulting from the Cairo conference. In that position, she advised and informed top officials on population and reproductive health policy and programs. A year later, when Wirth left the State Department to head the U.N. Foundation, she joined UNFPA to continue her work on women's rights.

Craven and her husband, Matthew McGuire, a securities attorney, live in Washington. Together they do pro bono work for the Legal Clinic for the Homeless. They know many individuals in the D.C. homeless community and greet them on downtown streets. Once a month they get new clients at Miriam's Kitchen, a soup kitchen near the State Department.

Despite her dismay over the lack of U.S. financial support for UNFPA, Craven is optimistic about global progress in international women's rights. "Years ago on the Hill, they used to say I was working on 'chick' issues. I don't think people would say that today. Women's rights have become integral to every discussion of human rights. Women's voices are being heard and making a difference. We have much to be hopeful about." ●



Motion pictures

Close friends Peter Berg '84, an actor, director, and writer, and Ari Emanuel '83, a Hollywood talent agent, were featured speakers at the Los Angeles regional campaign event last spring. From left: Ari, Jasper Simon '96, Sherman Wu '99, Marie Zemler '98 and Peter.

Calendar of alumni events

FOR MORE INFORMATION on any of the following, call the Alumni Office, (651) 696-6295, except where noted. Toll-free: 1-888-242-9351. For more current information on alumni gatherings in your area, see the alumni Web page: www.macalester.edu/~alumni/calendar. For campus events, see the on-line campus events calendar: www.macalester.edu/whatshap.html. Or call the campus events line: (651) 696-6900.

Dec. 4–5: Alumni Board of Directors meet on campus

Dec. 8: Alumni from Macalester, Carleton and several other colleges invited to Festival Chamber Music Society Concert, Merkin Hall, New York; contact: Rob Nutt '90, (212) 353-1164; e-mail: rnutthouse@aol.com

Dec. 9: Bay Area Happy Hour, 6:30–8:30 p.m., Tonga Room, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco (see below)

Feb. 12: Regional Macalester campaign event, Phoenix, Ariz., brunch, home of Win and Maxine Houghton Wallin '48, The Boulders (call Tom Wick at 651-696-6034 for more information)

May 19–21: Reunion Weekend and Commencement; Commencement takes place Sunday, May 21

Bay Area Happy Hours: Contact: Emily Stone '98, (510) 420-6958 or Emilysvt@aol.com

Boston Happy Hours: Contact: Mary Kate Little '97 and Lauren Paulson '97, (617) 713-2971

New York Happy Hours: Contact: Nora Koplos '93, (212) 222-4102 (h) or noisynora@chickmail.com; and Rob Nutt '90, (212) 353-1164 or rnutthouse@aol.com

Washington, D.C., Happy Hours: Contact: Paul Batcheller '95, (202) 224-7306 or Batchster@aol.com; and Chuck Szymanski '91, (202) 473-5733 or cszymanski@worldbank.org ●

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Christine Swanson '01

We're glad to be here

A 60s-something remembers when the Class of '59 were 20-somethings

by Kathleen Osborne Vellenga '59

OUR 40TH REUNION! I've become accustomed to the old lady that looks back at me in the mirror, but what throws me is meeting someone with graying temples whose nametag says: Class of '72. They were in the first kindergarten class I taught! They were babies when my classmates and I graduated from high school.

We are at the age where we can't remember anything, but understand everything.

Forty years is an introspective time. We've become wise about all that information stored in our brains. It's the *concept*, not the nouns, stupid. I don't know about the rest of my classmates, but despite all that mind-boggling theory we were exposed to at Macalester, I wasn't doing much introspecting 40 years ago. Mostly checking out my love life, my grades, my roommates' love lives and grades.

I knew I would get a job. I knew I would probably become a mother. I knew the bomb probably wouldn't be dropped, but did feel uneasy. I knew communism abroad had become a cruel dictatorship and that communism at home was threatening. I knew we elected white Protestant males to be president and everything else, but Coya Knutson was a Minnesota congress-somebody and I thought maybe my friends Nancy Slaughter '58 or Mary Gludt '59 would follow her.

What I didn't think about was the significance of our generation's position in mid-century. I didn't think of us as "Post-World War II." The war ended only 10 years before most of us graduated from high school, but we had been little kids in 1945. That was a different era to us. The fact that all of us could find work was a combination of two things: First, we were

born near the end of the Depression and there weren't many of us. Second, the United States was all geared up with industry and research during the war effort, but was not leveled by the war as Europe and Asia had been. I just assumed that ample job opportunities existed because we were all very clever people, full of energy, good humor and the will to make the rest of the world as good as the Midwest. In short, I was full of confidence and didn't dwell on bigger issues.

Yes, I knew people of color had limited rights "down South," but I was skeptical of the stories of discrimination right here in the Twin Cities told to me by a few local students of color in our class. It wasn't until later that I came to realize the "civil rights" struggle included all of us. I knew my grandmothers couldn't vote until after all their children were born, but my mother had been only 6 years old when women got the vote, so I assumed women's "issues" were solved. I didn't know that when my uncles came back from the war and my aunts gave up their jobs making war stuff, we were only entering the era when women of all classes—not just the wealthy—would not have any work other than taking

care of children at home, spending the family budget, running the machines. I knew both my grandmothers drove horses to bring in the crops, made butter, sold eggs, canned like crazy, and I knew my mother got restless after we were all in school.

Some of my classmates may have thought more than I did about what "post-

something" we were: post-horse and buggy, post-trains connecting the country, post-mass production of cars—then nearly everything else, post-radio bringing information, post-party-line telephone, post-silent movies. Post colonialism—well, maybe dying colonialism.

None of us could be aware of the pre-somethings we were, having lived our most significant years before the enormous changes that came with the war. We were pre-television (for those of us in the hinterlands, that continued through high school). None of us grew up with the daily visual images during our significant years.

Our own children were pre-video, pre-Internet and almost pre-MTV.

No one knew about the global economy then; no one could ignore its vast effects now.

We came of age before the feminist and sexual revolutions. The latter came with the pill. We were in the fading years of segregation of the sexes. Did we question the

warning bells in our dorms and the strict hours? We were locked out if we were late, and wore girdles, no matter how skinny we were, so we would not appear to be trying to attract lust-crazed men with a wiggle. The point was to keep us young women from losing our virtue, and the point of that (which I learned later) was that children had to have a father who would support them. One writer pointed out recently that the sexual revolution put the burden



for preventing pregnancy on women, which gave men of all classes the opportunity to consort with many women and not feel responsible.

The feminist movement which brought us into the job market crashed head-on with the sexual revolution. Did any of us—men or women—in 1959 know we were on the verge of that?

WE GRADUATED at the dawn of the information age. Yes, there were computers then, but they computed, they didn't write. They took up an entire room and cost enormous sums. A few of us still don't truck with them, but we live in a global society sustained by them.

Here we are! Glad to be here, well aware now that not only our parents but even we don't live forever. Adjusting to enormous change, we're rejoicing in the third generation now arriving in our extended family or neighborhood.

We won't all be here for the 50th reunion, but we'll all have lived a long, full life in a time of extraordinary, incomprehensible change. The innocents of 1959 now have pearls of wisdom for the Class of 1999. Should we tell them? ●

Kathleen Osborne Vellenga '59, a former Minnesota state legislator, is director of The Children's Initiative in St. Paul. This article was adapted from remarks she prepared this past May for her 40th Macalester reunion.

We wore girdles, no matter how skinny we were, so we would not appear to be trying to attract lust-crazed men with a wiggle.

LETTERS continued from inside front cover

I believe I have a better and much more positive environmental quote to add for the young impressionable mind: "The world is progressing and resources are becoming more abundant. I'd rather go into a grocery store today than to a king's banquet a hundred years ago." —Bill Gates.

James F. Burho '70
Glendale, Ariz.

Radio days

IN RESPONSE to the appeal of Carleton Sumner Gholz '99 in the May issue of *Macalester Today* for the history of campus radio station WMCN, here's a tidbit from two radio enthusiasts of some 60 years ago:

Calling themselves "Campus Commentators," two Macalester seniors of 1938, the "Bev and Barb" team, set up a "news network" by which they gathered newsworthy items from Twin Cities colleges and shaped them into a 15-minute script for live broadcast over one of the city's commercial radio stations, KSTP, every Friday afternoon.

The dormitory room they shared at Wallace Hall became the scene of an overnight session of hammering out a lighthearted and often humorous script based on the news items from other campuses combined with whatever they had gathered from the Mac campus during the week. Enthusiasm overcame tiredness as they mounted a streetcar the next day and headed downtown to their scheduled broadcast each week.

The women had made personal contacts with students on other campuses through their activity as members of the Macalester debate team. But when they tried to transfer the broadcast privilege to another campus, they found no one willing to take it on.

Thus, out of sheer exhaustion, "Campus Commentators" was discontinued, but the team, Barbara Lee Durkee Strite and I, happily recalled our "radio days" when we attended the 60th reunion of our class at Macalester a year ago.

But did they participate in the early days of WMCN? Of course, but only as inspired precursors!

Beverly Batzer O'Reilly '38
Jackson Heights, N.Y.

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"Mahmoud was our role model for Sounds of Blackness, in terms of embracing the whole music of a culture and people, and presenting it to people of all backgrounds," Hines says. "Mahmoud always talked about music in general, and African music in particular, as being healing and having a functional place in life, as opposed to just art for art's sake." To this day, whenever the two run into each other, "I'll say, 'Mahmoud, do you got a word for me?' He always has something that will feed me."

Hines admits to being a workaholic. His day begins with his morning prayers, followed by a half-hour workout in the gym, the piano practice at Mac, and then countless phone calls. His phone work sometimes stretches into the evening as he confers on everything from administrative details to rehearsal schedules, video shoots to radio interviews. He also pleads guilty to being a demanding boss. Even in the days when the Sounds were not making a dime, Hines insisted on punctuality, preparation, professionalism. "I've been characterized as a benevolent dictator."

So where is his personal life? "There you go," he says with a laugh. "I need to be more driven about my personal life. I've come *that close* [he holds two fingers almost together] to marriage a couple of times. I need to get the eye of the tiger, in terms of my personal life, the way I have about music and working out, or else it's not going to happen."

But while he concedes he is driven, Hines adds that "what drives the drive—the wheel in the middle of the wheel, as the scripture goes—is really that this is my life's purpose. [We want] to make a

positive difference in people's lives with this music that's therapeutic and spiritual and uplifting."

Although the Sounds of Blackness is commonly thought of as a gospel group, its music draws upon diverse influences—from blues and jazz to reggae and R&B—in keeping with Hines' own broad tastes. Depending on his mood, he enjoys listening to such disparate artists as James Brown, Rachmaninoff and Jewel.

The new Sounds of Blackness album, *Reconciliation*, features the diverse sound. And, as always, it's music with a message. This time, the message is nothing less than millennial.

"FOR US," he says, "it's clear that with everything going on in this world and more madness every day, on all sorts of levels, we've two options: we can reconcile our differences—in terms of nationality, race, religion, color, political ideology, et cetera—or we will destroy ourselves, probably sooner rather than later. . . . Everybody overcomplicates this thing. At some point in time, you have to make up your mind that you're going to reconcile. This [album] is our effort to encourage people to do that."

Having already won a Grammy, and performed everywhere from Harlem to Amsterdam to Japan, what mountains are left to climb for the Sounds of Blackness? Hines mentions Russia, China, Australia and India—for starters. "We want to have this music make a difference in situations around the world, wherever we can go," he says. "We know this music is strong enough to do that." ●



Environmental studies?

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