



Eye on Safety

Smile — your residence hall may be on camera.

OVER HEARD

"Finding normalcy on campus during those days was very hard."

— Former Dean of Students **Paul Ginsberg**, speaking about the struggle to create consensus among protesters and supporters of the Vietnam War, during a campus forum highlighting UW-Madison's legacy of student activism. Five former campus leaders and protesters joined the panel to survey a century of sifting and winnowing on campus.

Beginning this spring, security cameras have started keeping watch on life in several UW residence halls.

Installed around the entrances and common areas of four residence halls, the cameras run constantly, although they'll only be viewed by staff in response to incidents. Housing officials decided to install them to heighten students' sense of security — but at the same time, they stress the need to strike a balance between safeguarding students and respecting their rights.

Finding that balance is not always easy. After a sexual assault was reported in Ogg Hall in January, students and staff in various residence halls met to discuss safety concerns. Several house fellows said that they would support tighter restrictions on access, including moving away from giving stu-

dents keys to enter their halls and instead creating central entrances where staff would check identification for everyone entering the building.

Paul Evans, director of UW Housing, says that his office is still considering whether to close down secondary entrances or oth-

erwise limit access. But he adds that additional security restrictions need to be measured against the costs to student privacy and freedom, as well as the limitations imposed by aging architecture.

Evans notes that unfortunate incidents sometimes can help raise awareness about the steps the university already takes to try to ensure safety. Despite the addition of high-tech measures like cameras, many of those precautions are decidedly low-tech — what housing officials call "environmental security." **Dora Valentin**, the residence life coordinator at Sellery Hall, says students are encouraged to take ownership in their communities, beginning with house meetings to elect leadership and acquaint residents with hall activities and organizations. Building community in this way can be a security measure, increasing accountability among students for making sure doors are locked and strangers don't roam freely, Valentin says.



JEFF MILLER

New doors installed at Sellery Hall sound a remote alarm if left ajar for more than sixty seconds — just one of the new security measures in place at several campus residence halls.

A Dose of Legal Aid

The needs of the elderly often go well beyond health care, even when they find themselves as patients. In the case of Medicare and insurance entanglements, they may need a lawyer as much as a nurse.

A new collaboration between UW-Madison's schools of law and nursing aims to give them both, linking students of each profession with elderly patients in two Madison outpatient clinics. The Elder Law Clinics provide free legal advice on topics such as Medicare and insurance eligibility and directives for health care.

"Older people often don't recognize their problems as legal. They assume that if you don't have something, you do without it," says **Betsy Abramson**, a clinical assistant professor at the Law School who directs the program. "We're trying to make the connection that, if you get the benefits you're entitled to, your health could improve."

While health care providers often don't have the time or expertise to dispense such advice, law students can — to everyone's benefit, says Abramson. "The idea is that lawyers will do a better job of advocacy if they are in

contact with the client's health care providers," she says.

Meanwhile, the clinics help health care professionals understand the priority of legal issues to their patients, says **Barbara Bowers**, professor of nursing. "It's important for nursing students to hear what patients tell law students when asked questions that the nursing students generally don't ask," she says. "Hearing the answers makes it clear that health care providers probably should be asking questions they have not been asking."

— Dennis Chaptman '80

Other methods include mirrors that allow front-desk staff to see around corners and even regular trimming of shrubs around entrances. Computer terminals in common areas are often positioned strategically to draw people into lounges and create safety in numbers.

With demand for on-campus housing rising steadily, new residence halls may be built to

accommodate tighter security, but for now, the goal is to find ways to make existing halls both safe and comfortable, Evans says. He and **Kevin Helmkamp**, assistant director for residence life, are studying what other steps might be necessary to help students feel secure, but both say that student support is critical to ensure those measures work.

"If we don't get buy-in from students on, for example, locking doors, they may start propping the door open and undermine the plan," says Helmkamp. "In that case, our effort to make a safer environment can turn around and create a less-safe hall. Working with our residents is a critical piece of creating a safe place to call home."

— Josh Orton '04

one
number

299

Score bowled by **Greg Thorn** of Cedarburg, Wisconsin, during the UW Comprehensive Cancer Center's "Bowlin' for Colons" event, highest among the 650 people who bowled to help advance colon cancer research. The event raised \$30,000 to fight the disease, the second-deadliest form of cancer in the United States.

Missing Student Case Raises Questions

It was the end of a very long week, one that began with a student missing and ended with **Audrey Seiler x'06** accused of staging her own abduction. Dean of Students **Luoluo Hong** sat at a borrowed desk, churning through a list of phone calls to reporters, all of whom had the same question: what did she think of this extraordinary case?

The truth was that Hong didn't really know.

"I struggled personally with the two sides to this situation," she said later. "On one hand, she is accused of doing something against the law, and we can't condone that. But on the other hand, we have to imagine that Seiler's actions were a sign of distress, and we know that students have different ways of asking for help."

In the aftermath of the Seiler case, many around the UW felt similarly torn. Reports of the student's disappearance on March 27 triggered a massive search-and-rescue mission, which ended four days later when she was found in a marsh on the south side of Madison. Soon after, police began to doubt her story about being abducted from her campus-area apartment, and she now faces criminal charges for allegedly

lying to investigators. It is not known whether she will return to UW-Madison, or whether she will face disciplinary action from the university.

But for Hong, the dilemma goes well beyond Seiler's situation. While the case was unusual for its high drama and media attention, it's far from the only story of a student in trouble. In fact, those stories are becoming more common, and that is pressing the university to reconsider how it supports students who show signs of distress.

The challenge stems from a generation of students that seems increasingly burdened by the pressures of college life. According to a recent national survey, nearly 30 percent of college students said they often felt overwhelmed, and nearly half reported that at least once in the past year they felt too depressed to function.

At UW-Madison, the offices that help students with such struggles report similar trends. Nearly 4,500 students sought therapy from the university's Counseling and Consultation Services last year, and both the number of cases and their complexity have grown steadily, says **Robert McGrath**, director of the service.

At the same time, administrators are trying to hash out

what role the university should play in the emotional development of its students. Even before the Seiler case, representatives from the dean of students, housing, health services, and campus police were meeting to discuss a growing number of disruptions in and outside the classroom. And while there's no inherent connection between students acting out and their mental health, the group is walking the same fine line between support and accountability that runs through the Seiler case.

"We're trying to define an institutional policy on these issues," says Hong. "As an institution of higher education, it's our responsibility to support the holistic development of students, not just their intellectual development. If we accept that responsibility, then we also have to recognize that each and every one of us in the campus community shares in that responsibility, and we've got to coordinate our efforts."

— Michael Penn



Audrey Seiler went missing for four days in late March.

No Contract Zone

Teaching assistants stage two-day walkout over dispute.

Q AND A

Michael Begler '90

Begler, along with his Madison roommate, **Jack Amiel '00**, wrote the script for *The Prince and Me*, a 2004 movie in which actress Julia Stiles plays a UW student who, like many Badgers, carries on a romance with the crown prince of Denmark.

Q: How did you come up with the idea for *The Prince and Me*?

A: Actually, the script was an existing project at Paramount, and it was originally set at Indiana University. Jack and I inherited it, and we pretty much rewrote the whole thing.

Q: Why did you move it to Madison?

A: Bloomington [Indiana] isn't really our experience. Madison gave us what I think of as the ideal campus life. So we tried to fit in things we remembered — life in the Rathskeller and people going to the north stacks in Memorial Library to fool around, things like that.

Q: But it wasn't filmed in Wisconsin, was it?

A: No, for budget reasons it was shot in Toronto. I wanted it to be shot in Madison — you know, the Terrace and State Street are hard to duplicate. But writers don't really have any say.

Q: Have you got any new project in the works?

A: We've got another picture that came out May 28 called *Raising Helen*.

Many discussion sections were silent, the journalism school's Muckraker Grad Student Lounge was empty, and the most melodic rendition of "Solidarity Forever" on campus could be heard on a picket line outside the School of Music.

UW-Madison's three thousand teaching and project assistants have worked for nearly a year without a contract. In late April, many of them underscored their dissatisfaction with the protracted negotiations by walking off the job for two days and setting up picket lines.

Although assistants receive waivers on graduate-school tuition in return for their services, their wages and benefits are negotiated with the state, which has asked TAs to pay for part of their state health insurance packages, as most university employees now do. The state offered a contract that would give TAs a 4.6 percent wage hike while requiring them to pay a minimum of \$9 a month for health insurance.

However, the Teaching Assistants' Association, which bargains on behalf of TAs and PAs, balked at the offer, believing that assistants' wages are too low to warrant fees for health insurance. In the past academic year, the average TA with a half-time appointment was paid \$12,144.

"We're not slaves. We add value to this campus," says **Jon Puthoff '01**, a TAA spokesman. "TAs are incredibly cost effective, because of the number of students we teach and the incredible amount of tuition money that comes in to campus."

TAA members marched from campus to the state capitol at

the end of their two-day walkout. They later abandoned threats to withhold students' grades at the end of the semester, but the impasse left raw feelings on all sides.

One strike placard taped to a kiosk just off Library Mall that



MICHAEL FORSTER ROTHBART

Action Abe: Bascom Hill's famous icon showed signs of support during teaching assistants' two-day walkout in April.

read, "I Support the TAA," had been altered to read, "Robots Support the TAA." Several chalked messages on Bascom Hill bemoaned the walkout with sayings such as, "All I Want for Xmas is a Discussion Section."

But many faculty and students respected the picket lines, either relocating classes or abandoning them altogether. **Amy Marshall**, a senior majoring in East Asian studies, not only refused to cross the picket lines, but she joined one outside of Helen C. White Library. She says she is considering graduate school, and how the strike is resolved will play a role in where she attends school.

"I don't think the majority of undergraduates see TAs as workers. But they need the collective power to act against the way the state treats them," Marshall says.

On the other side, **Frank Harris**, outgoing chairman of the UW College Republicans, believes the walkout was a slap in the face of students who faced higher tuition this year. "The action taken to strike negates the one implicit reason they are teaching assistants — to educate," he says.

While supporting their right to fair compensation, Chancellor **John D. Wiley MS'65, PhD'68** also urged TAs to accept the state's offer. In an open letter to TAA members, he recognized the contributions of assistants, but added that "the current compensation formula is a fair trade for an opportunity to teach, work closely with faculty, and obtain a high-quality, post-graduate education."

Negotiators for the state declared an impasse on May 6, citing no progress in the talks and no clear hope that future sessions would be productive. "The state has been negotiating in good faith for nine months, and it is time for the TAA to come forward with a more serious offer," said **Karen Timberlake**, director of the Office of State Employment Relations.

But Puthoff says TAA members feel strongly about the principle of free health coverage and want to defend it for future generations of TAs. With the sides so far apart, he doesn't believe that substantial progress will be made until at least the fall.

— *Dennis Chapman '80*

Catching a Ride

UW-Madison gets a car to share.



MICHAEL FORSTER ROTHBART

For people like chemistry professor Martin Zanni, the UW's new community car offers a better way to steer around campus parking issues.

On any given weekday in fall or spring, some fifty thousand students, faculty, and staff make their way to campus to carry out the business of the university. While some bike, walk, bus, or carpool, a great many drive, competing for a short supply of parking around campus.

"There's just more and more and more cars," says chemistry professor **Martin Zanni**. "To get a parking space costs a lot of money. It's crazy. Some people are paying a thousand dollars a year."

But Zanni and others have found a way to cut down the hassle and expense of parking, while keeping the convenience of a handy car. They're sharing the use of communal vehicles through a citywide program called Community Car. This spring, the UW began promoting the plan to help ease the car crunch on campus.

Launched in October, Community Car owns four vehicles, which are parked at various locations around Madison. Members pay to use the cars for short errands, returning them to their designated lots. In February, UW-Madison offered to place one of the program's cars

— a Honda Civic — in a space in the Helen C. White parking garage and subsidize up to 250 free trial memberships for faculty, staff, and students.

"We want to give people a chance to try this out," says **Renee Callaway MS'94**, manager of the Transportation Demand Management Program, which is charged with easing

campus traffic. "After all, a lot of people carpool or take the bus to get to campus, and many of them need a car for short trips during the day. Community Car has similar goals to ours, and this looks like a good synergy."

The program is the brainchild of **Sonya Newenhouse MS'92, PhD'97**, who says that UW-Madison's participation was vital in getting the first Community Cars rolling. "This is sort of an extension of the Wisconsin Idea," she says. "We couldn't have done this without the university. Faculty and alumni were instrumental in getting it off the ground, and they're helping us stay successful."

For students like **Rebecca Cors '89**, who's pursuing a graduate degree in land resources management, the program is perhaps the only way she could have access to a vehicle. "Having a car on campus is very handy," she says. "It seems like such a waste to have all these cars just parked in rows all day."

— John Allen

The ABCs of UW-ese

UW-Madison is a place where you wouldn't stick an OAR in the water, you can't reach PAR on a golf course, and you'll never find a microscope in the LAB. Around some parts of campus, the native tongue isn't English — it's university adminispeak, a jumble of acronyms that only barely resembles human language.

But thanks to UW-Madison's Division of Business Services, there's now a manual to translate the alphabet

soup that swirls around campus. The division (known as BUSSVC) recently created an index of campus acronyms, which is online at www.bussvc.wisc.edu/acronym/acronym.html. The

guide explains more than a hundred unusual abbreviations, including LAB (Legislative Audit Bureau), OAR (an Outside Activity Report), and PAR (Personnel Activity Report). Without it, a lot of

what goes on here might be LIT (lost in translation). — J.A.



SPENCER WATTS

CATCHING UP

UW-Madison's **Dictionary of American Regional English**

was one of six projects showcased on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., to celebrate Humanities Advocacy Day on March 15. Cherished by linguists

and lovers of lingo worldwide, the colossal research project has published four volumes of uniquely regional words and phrases, collected and researched over the past four decades.

In only its third year since forming, the **Clean Snowmobile Team** won the top prize at a national competition to create cleaner, more efficient snowmobiles.

Nine engineering students worked to retool an off-the-shelf sled, replacing its engine with a hybrid gas/electric model that proved cleaner and quieter than the original.

No strangers to grumbles, campus parking officials raised a few eyebrows when they inadvertently sent out a batch of **\$2,004 parking fines** shortly after the new year. A computer mistake caused about three hundred letters to go out to parking violators, soliciting the inflated fines for past-due tickets. Last heard, no one had forked over the full two grand.





An Eye for an Owl

UW veterinary clinic has plenty of odd tales about odd tails.

Even for veteran veterinarian **Joanne Paul-Murphy**, this patient presented a unique case. In December, a great horned owl



JEFF MILLER (3)

Is it better like this? Katie Diehl, a resident in veterinary ophthalmology, checks the new lenses doctors gave a great horned owl, which had been blinded by cataracts.

had been picked up in northern Wisconsin, sightless and starving, suffering from cataracts. Sight is perhaps the most important sense to the predatory birds, and blinded owls are generally euthanized or kept in captivity.

But in January, the UW veterinary clinic performed an unprecedented procedure on the bird, implanting lenses in its eyes in an effort to restore its sight so that it could be released back into the wild. Paul-Murphy, who heads the Special Species Service at UW-Madison's veterinary clinic, was responsible for nursing the owl before and after surgery. The operation itself was performed by her spouse, ophthalmologist **Chris Murphy**. After adjusting to its repaired eyes, the owl was set free in April.

But there was little time to rest on that success. Even before the owl had left the UW's care, Paul-Murphy and the special species team were dealing with new problems — a camel in podiatric distress, a ferret with

heart failure, a macaw with an abdominal tumor, and a parrot suffering from seizures.

Life in the Special Species Service is a continual stream of new challenges, Paul-Murphy says. "We're pretty much always in learning mode." She and her colleagues are responsible for all those beasts you wouldn't find in a typical home or farm — wild creatures, zoo animals, and "non-traditional companion animals," she says. In other words, their patients include just about everything that isn't a cat, dog, horse, pig, cow, or chicken.

The team diagnoses and treats a variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, and fish. "It's not easy to do surgery on a fish," she says, "but we've done it."

Paul-Murphy, whose research ranges from controlling urban deer populations to studying the kakapo, a rare, flightless parrot, has headed up the Special Species Service since 1991.

Then, she was the team's only veterinarian, but now she has the aid of partner **Jean Paré** and clinicians **Kurt Sladkey** and **Barry Hartup**, as well as **Chris Hanley**, a resident who also aids the Milwaukee County Zoo.

"Designer pets are really popular right now," she says. "We see people with sugar gliders [a nocturnal Australian marsupial], hedgehogs, and prairie dogs. They aren't really adapted to be domestic, but people keep them as pets, so we give them the best care we can."

One of her current charges is a parrot suffering from a sneeze. Paul-Murphy and her colleagues hope to restore him to his healthy state so he can go back to singing opera and Mozart.

"We like those kinds of challenges," says Paul-Murphy. "It's fun to face something completely different."

— John Allen

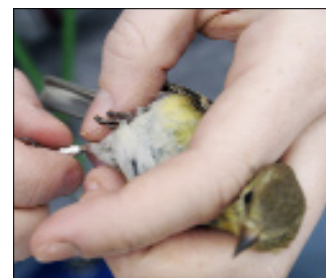
Band of Birders

As the orioles and goldfinches return to campus in springtime, so, too, does a flock of volunteers who are helping researchers understand how these and other migratory birds live. Setting up wide, airborne nets across a prairie near Picnic Point, they temporarily snare birds of several species long enough to weigh them, measure their wings, and attach numbered bands around one of their legs.

In its third year, the effort is coordinated by **Mara McDonauld**, a staff member in the genetics department, and usually draws students, teachers, children, and local birdwatchers to observe or pitch in. The data collected during the spring

catches are reported to a national laboratory, which coordinates research on bird populations and migration patterns.

— M.P.



Volunteer Katie Fitzmeier cradles an American goldfinch caught near Picnic Point in March. Birds that frequent the prairie are tagged and measured so that they can be tracked in future years.

Mine on the Moon

Fusion researchers want to go where man has been before.

When President Bush announced his desire to send humans back into deep space, he brought a dream of a UW-Madison research team one giant leap closer to reality.

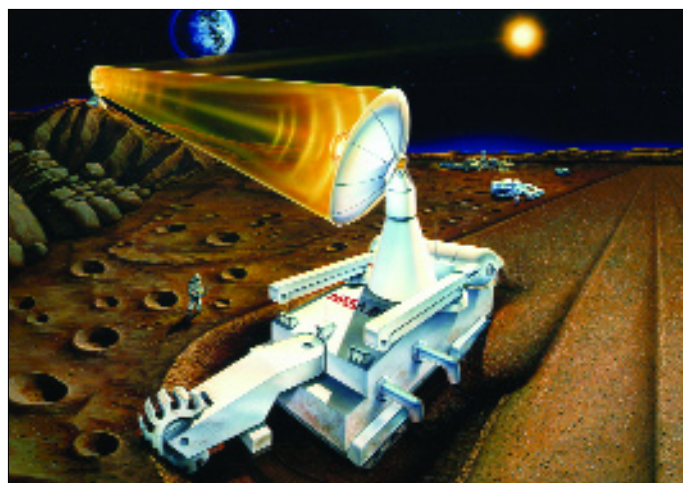
Scientists with the UW Fusion Technology Institute have been working on a plan to harness the moon as a source of energy since 1985. That year, during a 2 a.m. eureka moment, team scientist **John Santarius** realized that the moon's surface might contain large amounts of helium-3 atoms, one of the most promising fuels for creating power through fusion.

Fusion — a nuclear reaction through which multiple atoms combine to form new ones — can generate energy that is cheaper and cleaner than fossil fuels or nuclear power generated by fission, the splitting of atoms. Unlike the fuels currently used to create fusion, helium-3 atoms don't release any radioactive material, which makes them an attractive alternative. The only problem is that helium-3 is pretty rare on Earth.

On the moon, however, it's plentiful. Data from lunar samples suggest the moon contains more than a million tons of helium-3, enough to supply the earth with energy for at least one thousand years.

"A fuel cycle fueled entirely by helium-3 reactions would produce nuclear energy without generating any nuclear waste — that's the ultimate goal," says **Gerald Kulcinski**, a professor of nuclear engineering who directs the institute.

Despite that promise, the institute's work has been stuck between a rock and a hard place. Researchers have collected data and even designed prototypes of equipment that



UW researchers envision a day when mining machines would traverse the moon, harvesting helium-3 as a source of energy.

could be used to mine and process helium-3, but two of the organizations that might help them test their theories have thus far remained skeptical.

"NASA doesn't believe we'll ever get fusion to work, and the Department of Energy never thought we'd go back to the moon," says Kulcinski. "Both agencies think they can do their part, but they don't trust each other. This is where we've been ever since."

Bush's call for a lunar base could change that. The president has targeted putting a base on the moon by 2020 as a precursor to launching a manned mission to Mars. Those plans could give the UW researchers an opportunity to send along equipment and get their first chance to see how it works in space.

Although most of that technology is geared toward mining helium-3 — such as an institute-designed bucket-wheel excavator, which can scoop up enough helium-3 each year to power Milwaukee — researchers say it can also be used to support life on the moon. For every ton of helium-3, the excavator also produces nine thousand tons of life-

supporting compounds, including water, oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon, and more than six thousand tons of hydrogen that could be used in energizing fuel cells.

"By going back to the moon," says Kulcinski, "we remove one of the barriers blocking our research — the very idea that we are never going back."

— Emily Carlson

COOL TOOL

Who Cut the Cheese?

From the only-in-Wisconsin file, there's now a better way to slice the Cheddar. UW engineers **Xiaochun Li** and **Hong Seok Choi MS'02** are using the same laser light at work in eye surgery to carve cheese into nifty shapes, including Motion Ws and Bucky Badgers. But their nimble work is no mere cheesy gimmick. Health-conscious consumers want thinner slices of cheese on their burgers and salads, but conventional blades aren't up to the task, says Li. Instead, he found a variety of laser light that melts away a better-than-razor-sharp line — creating a technology that really is cutting edge.

— M.P.



Scientists have devised a way to freeze and store **human embryonic stem cells** that may make them much more useful to the researchers who are trying to unlock their potential. With current techniques, only about 1 percent of stem cells survive the process of freezing and thawing necessary to distribute them to labs around the country. Using a chemical that some animals produce to protect cells in low temperatures, the UW's stem-cell research team upped the survival rate about twenty-fold. The new method not only gives researchers more cells, but increases their genetic variability, which makes them more useful for experimentation and potential therapeutic use.

A **hairy water flea**, found in the rain ponds of an Oregon desert, is generating more than just flea-sized interest. UW zoologists have determined that the animal is one of a kind, a species never before seen. Fleas play key roles in the ecology of freshwater ponds, and finding one never seen before is nothing short of remarkable. "It is incredibly unlikely that you're going to find anything new and different today," says zoologist Stanley Dodson, whose lab identified the new flea. "That's why this is a special animal."



SPENCER WAITS

UW engineers have a way to make hot-selling **wireless technology** a little less hot. Cell phones and other handheld electronics often get quite warm during heavy use, but engineers have a new prototype that stays cooler without sacrificing power. The design could result in cell phones that receive more data while staying powered longer.

Ditch the Dodgeball

UW Health rolls out a new kind of gym class to fight obesity.

Homework usually means book reports, maybe a few trigonometry problems, or a chapter on the French Revolution. But for fifty-seven students at River Bluff Middle School in Stoughton, Wisconsin, homework recently included a little something different: bicycle riding.

The assignment was part of Fit-4-Life, a new take on traditional physical education classes created by the UW Children's Hospital, the UW Health Sports Medicine Center, and River Bluff. It's part of an effort to find more effective ways of keeping kids in shape — a battle of the bulge that schools may be losing.

"We're facing an epidemic of pediatric obesity in this country," says **Aaron Carrel**, a pediatric endocrinologist and medical director of UW Health Sports Medicine's pediatric fitness program. "What we're hoping to do with this program is to help improve the overall fitness of our children and learn

how to improve childhood physical education."

At the beginning of the study, the students were



JEFF MILLER

Seventh-grader Nicole Ellingson of Stoughton, here testing her fitness at the UW Exercise Lab, is among those liking the new wave of gym class.

brought to Madison to spend some time with **Randy Clark '80, MS'84**, manager of the UW Exercise Science Laboratory. An

exercise physiologist and former gym teacher, Clark supervised blood and body-composition tests and had students hit the treadmills to gauge their fitness.

Back in Stoughton, half the students went off for normal gym classes, while the other half enrolled in a program with non-traditional activities like bike riding. On bikes donated by the Trek Bicycle Corporation, students rode after school, logging their activity levels in journals. During class, the students received individual instruction and feedback on their progress.

Organizers say the year-long experiment is working. "The kids seem to enjoy this more than they would a traditional physical education class," says **Bob Hanssen**, the physical education teacher at River Bluff who helped to coordinate the study. "We want to turn these kids on to moving. We want them to enjoy physical activity."

— Aaron R. Conklin

Wisconsin Rock Tour

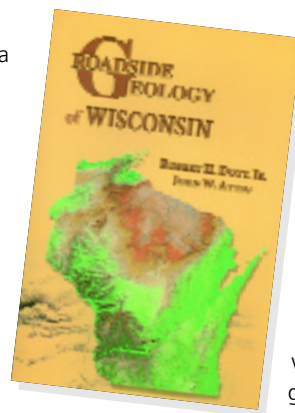
At various points in the past billion years or so, Wisconsin has had white-sand beaches, soaring mountains, and land-crushing glaciers. But you can't see any of them now — unless you know where to look for the evidence.

Robert Dott, Jr., and John Attig PhD'84, experts on the state's geology, unlock those mysteries in their new book, *Roadside Geology of Wisconsin*. Part of a state-by-state series published by Mountain Press of Montana, the guide is like having a geologist in the glove compartment — which can be a pretty handy thing.

"I can't think of a better place than Wisconsin to see a variety of geology and landscapes, sometimes literally in one

place," says Attig, a professor with UW Extension who works with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey.

Essentially everything about the way Wisconsin looks now — from its Northwoods lakes to its rich farmland to UW's own Bascom Hill and Picnic Point — is a function of geology. The effects are so deep that geologists named the last Ice Age after Wisconsin, and they touch not only the state's terrain, but also its culture and social history.



Attig and Dott, an emeritus professor at UW-Madison, left literally no stone unturned telling that story. They spent four years traversing the state to assemble the guide, which highlights the geologic formations along thirty-five driving routes. An introduction teaches enough basic concepts of reading the land that anyone should be able to understand the locations, the authors say. To buy copies from the survey, call (608) 263-7389.

— M.P.



Living the High Life

Commercials and promotions fill Errol Morris's life after Oscar.



When **Errol Morris '69** heard that his film *The Fog of War* had won this year's Academy Award for best documentary, he had little time to celebrate. He'd prepared for the awards by making sure that he'd be very, very busy. The high life was calling. And so was 7-Eleven.

"It's been a blur, to tell you the truth," Morris says. "I wanted to be sure that I had a lot of work right after the Oscars, because I didn't think I'd win. And, as my wife says, I would have been depressed if I lost, and maybe even more if I won."

Creating an Oscar-winning film has meant more fame but also more responsibility. Prior to *The Fog of War*, Morris was best known as the director of such acclaimed feature-length documentaries as *The Thin Blue Line*, *Mr. Death*, and *Fast, Cheap, and Out of Control*. But his most-seen work seldom runs more than thirty seconds. He's directed a multitude of commercials for clients that include 7-Eleven convenience stores, the CVS drugstore chain, and Quaker Oats. And he created

many of the popular "high life" series of commercials for the Miller Brewing Company.

Morris has been in even more demand since *Fog* first started gaining critical praise, after its showing at the 2003 Cannes film festival. The process of promoting the movie, he says, has gone on "longer than with any other film" he's made. "My wife calls it 'flogging the *Fog*.'"

The film's popularity is a testament not only to its cinematic achievement, but also to its topicality. *The Fog of War* is a sort of autobiography of Robert McNamara, the secretary of defense in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. Morris conducted interviews with McNamara, beginning in May 2001, and found his subject "endlessly fascinating — McNamara embodies the twentieth century." The result is a story that is told entirely in McNamara's voice, describing the events and principles that shaped this architect of America's involvement in the Vietnam War.

As Morris was making his movie, world events aligned to

increase the immediacy of the film's message. The counter-insurgency wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, along with the recent release of **David Maraniss** '71's book *They Marched into Sunlight*, have increased attention on the Vietnam War.

Morris says that the political overtones of *The Fog of War* have surprised even him. "History kind of caught up with the movie."

He says he'd like to continue that kind of work, and one of the projects he's now working on is a television series that will cover current, politically charged topics.

— John Allen

Femmebombed

School of Human Ecology visiting artist Janet Morton, below, wraps yarn around a massive spool as part of her installation project, *Femmebomb*. For a few weeks this spring, she draped the SoHE building in pink fabric, at right.

But her art, alas, was fleeting — high winds destroyed the piece on April 29, only five days after its debut. "I meant for my art to be temporary," she told the *Wisconsin State Journal* afterward, "but not this temporary."



PASKUS STUDIO



JEFF MILLER

Behind the Song

Professor's new book finds the soul in soul music.

Ask **Craig Werner** for his post-modern theory on hip-hop music, and he might look at you quizzically. While Werner teaches a course on African-American music and considers himself a big fan of hip-hop, he's not likely to engage in an ivory-tower discussion about it, or about any other type of music, for that matter.

Instead, the professor searches for the story behind the music, exploring the lives of its performers and the historical context in which it was created. Truths grow out of those stories,

he says, not out of pet theories.

In his latest book, *Higher Ground: Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Curtis Mayfield, and the Rise and Fall of American Soul*, Werner follows his faith in the stories. The book weaves together the biographies of three titans of soul, set against the backdrop of the civil-rights movement that paralleled their careers. Noting that funk musician George Clinton once called Wonder the "minister of culture" for the "chocolate cities," Werner makes the case that the stories and music of those three artists reveal a lot about the successes and failures of the movement.

"Stevie, Aretha, and Curtis encountered the obstacles of the [civil-rights] movement and, at the same time, participated in the advancements of the new world the movement created," says Werner. "The movement lived in Aretha's kitchen."

The book is another chapter in Werner's quest to use music as a tool for understanding the sixties and the struggle for freedom. The soul music of those days, he believes, was an aesthetic response to a range of experiences African-Americans lived during that time. His previous writings have explored the political context of songs such as "A Change is Gonna Come," the Sam Cooke standard that was also the name of his previous book. But in his current book, Werner regards freedom politics a bit more skeptically, pointing out inconsistent leadership and wavering hope that affected the civil-rights movement during his subjects' careers.

"At the intellectual core of *Higher Ground* is the [black



JEFF MILLER

Professor Craig Werner's fascination with music — and the meanings behind it — rings true in his latest book.

music impulse] of call and response," he says. "We have to listen to those calls, and we have to respond to them honestly, not through some set of preconceived ideas or beliefs."

Werner's background is in literature, and he can still riff on Joyce or Faulkner with authority. But he breaks the mold of a typical academic critic, having served on a committee for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and trading notes with the likes of Bruce Springsteen and John Fogerty.

"The [perspectives] that are easiest to leave out are the ones that don't come from within the academic world," he says.

That's something Werner has seen firsthand in his work with a Vietnam veterans' writing group, which reflects the side of him that prefers people to theories. "I believe we have to make a conscious effort to go out and get those stories," he says. Without them, he says, there would be no call, and no way of knowing how to respond.

— Josh Orton '04

COLLECTION

Out of Africa

From the slave trade to the recent flood of refugees fleeing war and starvation, millions of Africans have emigrated to nations around the globe, often setting up distinct communities in the lands where they settle. The evidence of those communities has generally been ephemeral, but **James Danky MA'73** and his African Diaspora Collection are trying to change that.

Danky, the librarian for UW-Madison's newspapers and periodicals collection, has spent the last thirteen years building not just the world's largest, but perhaps the world's *only*, collection of African diaspora publications — newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, and journals created by and for people of African descent living in Europe, Asia, Australia, and the Americas. Such publications, he says, "have been only lightly collected" around the world, which "makes black people easier to dismiss from the historical record."

Danky's goal, he says, is to "collect and identify examples of everything ever produced" that fits the diaspora description. Currently, his collection has more than four hundred titles, but Danky is adding more at a rate of fifty to a hundred a year, and after a trip to Europe this spring, he brought back forty-five pounds of newspapers and magazines — including *Ras Tafari Speaks* and *Omo-Oodua* from London, *Ebène* and *H+M* from Paris, and *Mundo Africa* from Spain.

For now, Danky admits, the collection is only "loosely catalogued" and kept in file drawers in his home and office. But he's willing to make copies available for research. "If someone asked me, I'd be more than happy to share."

— J.A.



MICHAEL FORSTER ROTHBART

Troy Story

What really happened in ancient city is still emerging.

Helen, the haunting hottie that legend says touched off the Trojan War, is turning out to be the face that launched a thousand film crews.

With Brad Pitt rampaging across the multiplexes and a host of Troy-related documentaries on cable, the ancient backdrop of Homer's *Iliad* is suddenly topical — a bit strange for a city whose defining moment may never have happened. Scholars have debated for years whether Homer's epic, which chronicles the bloody battles between Greek and Trojan soldiers over Helen, was fact or fiction. Now, the debate is going mainstream.

"These are questions that I've been dealing with for several years, and other archaeologists have worked on their whole lives," says **William Aylward**, a professor of classics who began digging — literally — into the story of Troy in 1996. "The movie is a great opportunity to have a broader discussion about those questions."

Discovered by amateur archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann in the 1870s, ancient Troy sits in western Turkey near the mouth of the Dardanelles. A veritable baklava of civilizations, it's actually nine cities piled on top of each other, spanning some three thousand years of occupation. The Greek siege of Troy would have taken place around the twelfth century before Christ, putting it about four layers down in the rubble, beneath Roman and Greek reconstructions of the city.

Archaeological work at the site has ebbed and flowed since Schliemann's finds, but since 1988, it's been booming. In a project coordinated by the University of Cincinnati and the University of Tübingen in Ger-

many, more than one hundred researchers are now helping to excavate the various layers of history.

The work has so far yielded little proof of the Trojan War — at least not as it's portrayed in the *Iliad*. The seventh iteration of Troy does appear to have ended with a great battle of some kind around 1200 B.C., Aylward notes. "It's not impossible that specific evidence of conflict between these legendary armies

Dating back to graduate school at Cincinnati, Aylward has spent every summer except one unearthing the more modern Greek and Roman cities, which were thriving places in their own right. In those cities, the epic tales of Achilles and Hector were very much alive — even if they may have been mythological.

"People who lived there certainly believed that their city was built upon this legendary site,"



RICHARD ROSS

William Aylward shows a documentary film crew the field where the battle of Troy may have taken place — or may not have.

could come out of the site," he says. "There's a large amount of work yet to be done."

In February, Aylward escorted a Discovery Channel crew around the site for an episode of *Unsolved History*, which aired in May. When pressed to say whether the Trojan War occurred, Aylward answered no — a skepticism based on the fact that excavations haven't turned up any written or artistic accounts of the battle from the time it is supposed to have taken place.

That doesn't mean, though, that he dismisses the importance of the legend.

he says, noting that Alexander the Great was among the pilgrims to visit the supposed battlefield. And that, perhaps, is testament enough to the importance of Troy. "The question we might ask ourselves is whether it's really important to prove the historicity of the Trojan War. If the people who lived there believed it happened, why not just take their word for it?"

Beginning this fall, UW students can take Aylward's word for it in a new course devoted specifically to Troy, covering all nine of its lives. No word on whether Pitt will guest-lecture.

— *Michael Penn*

The Elvehjem Museum of Art has acquired a painting by Theodore Robinson, one of the most important American Impressionists of the nineteenth century. The work, entitled *On a Cliff: A Girl Sewing*, was created in the mid 1880s and depicts a young woman who is thought to be the object of the artist's unrequited affection. The painting is the gift of Juli Plant Grainger '48.

Best-selling science fiction author Kevin J. Anderson '83 has released a new graphic novel called *Veiled Alliances*, the latest volume in his Saga of Seven Suns series.



History professor Stanley Payne received the Elizabeth A.

Steinberg prize for his latest book, *Fascism in Spain: 1923–1977*. Payne also received recognition for his contributions to the field of comparative political religions. The UW's Fluno Center hosted "Comparative Political Religions in the Modern Era: A Conference in Honor of Stanley G. Payne" in May.

School of Music viola professor Sally Chisholm and her spouse, violinist Eugene Purdue, traveled to **Pyongyang, North Korea**, for the Spring Friendship Art Festival in April. The couple was among only five Americans (including Jamie Schmidt '96, MMusic'98) to play at the event.



Brain Teaser

In neurobiology lab, there's usually more than meets the eye.

Graduate student **Jules Panksepp** is off target. It's not a hard throw to make — maybe a four-foot toss to hit the big X on the board. But he can't hit it.

"It's strange," he says. "I'm aiming right at the target." But that's not where the little blue balls of Play-Doh are heading. Each time he tries, they veer off to the left, as if pulled there by a magnet. If this were baseball, he'd have walked the bases full.

But this is **Tom Yin's** lab, and that means there's probably a twist. Yin, a professor of physiology who teaches introductory neurobiology to undergraduates and graduate students, likes experiments that trick the brain. Partly, that's because the brain is so easy to trick.

"We really are prisoners of our own brains," he says. "Everyone thinks that what we see, feel, touch, and hear is reality. But there are a lot of cases where you can show how our brains are fooled."

And that's the case with the ball-throwing exercise, which Yin runs as part of his Systems Neuroscience lab for graduate students. The pretense is to test the brain's capacity for motor learning — the skill that enables people to ride a bike or type without really thinking about what they're doing. After a few times performing those tasks, the brain basically hardwires the instructions into the circuitry. It's as if the part of the brain that controls movement says, "Wait, I know how to do this — no need to check with the boss."

In the experiment, Yin has students wear goggles with lenses made from prisms, which shift the wearer's vision to the left or right. With the goggles on, students instinctively aim at where their eyes tell them the target is, causing them to throw wide of the mark. Eventually, motor learning kicks in, and seeing that the balls aren't going where they're supposed to go, the brain makes adjustments. Within about a dozen throws, most people learn to compensate for their altered vision and hit the X.

The surprising part is what happens when students remove the goggles. With nothing hindering their aim, they still miss — but in the opposite direction. If they threw to the right wearing the goggles, their first few throws without them invariably sail off to the left, usually to the chuckles of their classmates.

"It's a weird feeling," says Panksepp, who is enrolled in the

neuroscience training program. "You know you're going to miss, but you can't do anything about it."

The problem, Yin explains, is that the brain learned too much. With the goggles mucking up the brain's normal routine, it thinks about what's wrong and creates a new set of instructions that produces the right result. Once the goggles are removed, those new rules have already gone on autopilot, and that's the route the brain follows. It takes several throws to unlearn that new motion.

When students get the chance to try it for themselves, the laughter turns to fascinated disbelief, and disbelief turns to curiosity. "Could I walk on a balance beam wearing the goggles?" one student asks. Reconsidering, he adds, "Okay, a low balance beam. With lots of pillows."

Reactions such as those are why Yin doses his teaching liberally with activities like the ball-throwing exercise. "This course is an easy one to teach, because everyone is interested in [his or her] own brain," he says. "And you have a ready subject available for experimentation. A lot of things you can try on yourself or on your roommate."

Of course, not everything about the brain is that easy. Although the past thirty years have seen an unprecedented period of discovery about how the brain works, much about the gray matter still defies even the best scientists in the field. Procedures like magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI, are revealing a great deal about which parts of the brain relate to specific functions like movement or memory — and in some cases, decades-old beliefs about how the brain

CLASS NOTE

A Taste of Summer

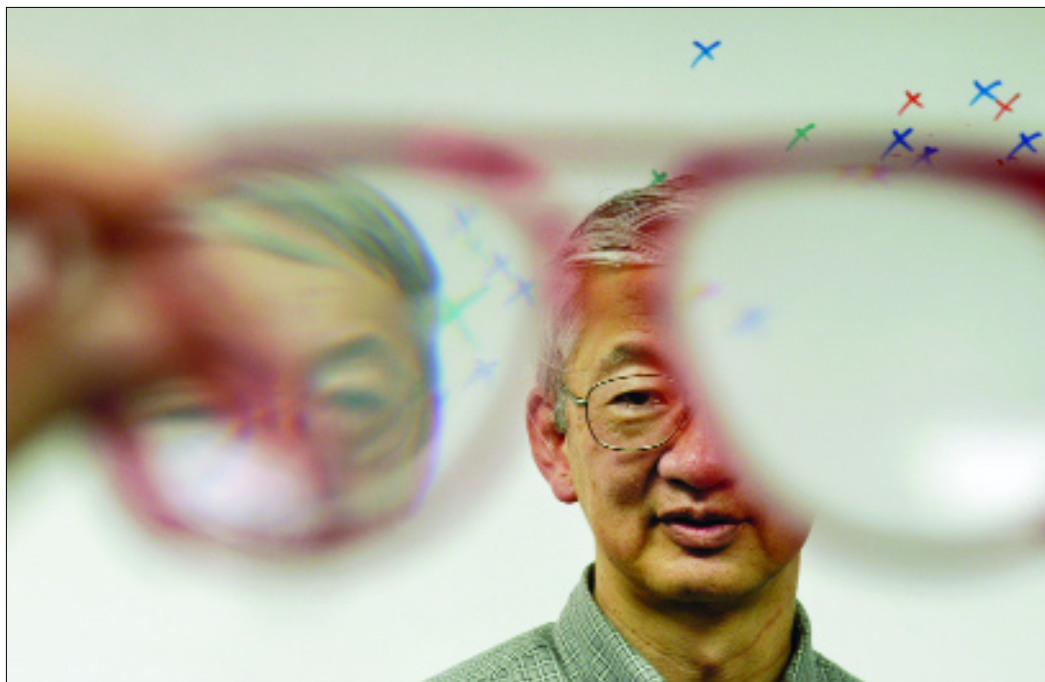
Folklore 539: The Folklore of Festivals and Celebrations

From Cinco de Mayo to Syttende Mai, from America's largest Polish Fest in Milwaukee to the Ho-Chunk Nation Powwow outside Baraboo, Wisconsin's line-up of local summertime traditional parties is a testament to the state's cultural melting pot. And this year, **Janet Gilmore's** students are hoping to find out just what it is that's melting in those pots — and kettles, skillets, grills, and deep-fryers.

Gilmore is reviving a course in which students look at the ways that customs survive and are transmitted through community parties. Gilmore is focusing the class on foodways, "the practices by which food is eaten, displayed, cultivated, and prepared — the totality of food as a cultural experience," she says. She's also encouraging her students to explore the rich variety of cultural events at nearby summer festivals. "I like to have my students do fieldwork," she says. They seem to enjoy it, too — both the summer and fall offerings of Folklore 539 are completely full.

— John Allen





JEFF MILLER

Prism goggles aren't the only thing that tricks the eye in Tom Yin's neurobiology labs. The professor of physiology loves to show students how reality isn't always what we make it out to be.

works are being overturned. Some of the things Yin teaches his students today almost directly contradict what he was taught thirty years earlier.

"Our knowledge of the brain is very fragile," he says. "We have a pretty good idea where the basic functions are located in the brain, but as far as mechanisms — how we learn — we're a long way from understanding that."

But what we don't know can be as important a lesson as what we do know. During lectures on perception, for example, Yin likes to test students about how well they see the world — which, as they discover, isn't as well as they think.

He draws two dots on a board and asks a volunteer to approach the board while looking directly at one dot with one eye closed. As students come near the board, the second dot

seems to disappear from their peripheral vision, and then reappear. What's happened is that the dot has fallen into the blind spot, a small hole in our vision where the optic nerve joins the eye. Most of us don't even realize that hole is there — and that's the point. Our brains cover it up, filling in the gap to create a seamless view of reality that isn't quite perfect.

Back in his office, Yin shows me other ways in which our senses let us down. He takes a paper clip from his desk and folds it into a narrow V, so that the two ends of the wire are close together. He tells me to close my eyes and presses the points of the clip onto my finger. "Can you tell if that is one point or two?"

Easy question. "Sure, it's two."

Then he places it on my forearm. "How about now?"

I feel only one point, but when I open my eyes, it's still the same paper clip. Yin explains that our fingertips have more sensory receptors than our arms, which is why I felt both points there, but not on my forearm.

Simple as they are, such experiments carry an important lesson. Many of Yin's students go on to become doctors or work in clinical settings, and in those contexts, it is important to recognize the limitations of even the most finely honed brain. It's not unusual, for example, for the perceptions of people with neurological disorders to be written off as abnormal, as the artifacts of a brain that isn't working properly.

"But what is normal?" he asks, still holding the paper clip. "Reality is only what we think it is."

— Michael Penn

Aiming to prepare the executives of the future for the global marketplace, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literature created a course in **Business Japanese Communication** last spring. The first-time offering is tailored to enhance students' vocabulary for business-specific situations and to develop their ability to effectively negotiate with people from different cultural backgrounds.

Uniting work from faculty in history, literature, and music, the UW now offers a **Celtic Studies** program, which will give students a chance to explore their interest in the legacy of the peoples of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Although most of the Celtic-interest courses have been around for some time, they've been spread across different departments. By creating a unified program, history professor James Donnelly says, the UW can take advantage of the "Celtomania that has been flourishing on U.S. campuses since the 1970s."

Don't worry — it's not the second (or is it third?) coming of Godzilla. Rather, **Monsters and Science: The History of Vertebrate Paleontology**, is a new online course that blends geology and history of science. Offered for the first time this fall, the class will give a view into the shifting and sometimes uncomfortable relationship between paleontology, the other sciences, and culture at large, especially in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The geology and geophysics department offers a number of popular online courses, which are open not only to degree-seeking students, but to anyone around the world who can tune in via the Web.



native

Student Casey Brown ties a bag filled with tobacco to a tree branch, a symbolic prayer offering common to many American Indian tribes. The tree, planted in 1988 atop Observatory Hill as a sign of unity among indigenous peoples, stands near an effigy mound, making it an important place in the cultural practices of American Indian students.

ground

UW-Madison's campus is full of indigenous history. But for today's American Indian students, a minority among campus minorities, the struggle is to create a present that is as rich as that past.

By Michael Penn MA'97

Photography by Jeff Miller

The night air on University Avenue stank of liquor and foul language. It was past midnight, and Kyle Aragon x'07 wanted no part of the drunks on the sidewalk. He had midterms in the morning, and he'd been at the books all day. He was too tired for trouble.

The names were easy to ignore — “Hey, Big Chief! Hey, Geronimo!” — he'd heard those before. It was the bottle that got him. It hit right below the temple, knocking off his glasses. He came up swinging, and then four guys were on top of him. When it was done, he had a busted lip and a burning fire of disgust that told him it was all over. It was time to go home.

Home, as in New Mexico. Back to the family, back to Mom and Dad. They had supported him when he wanted to go more than a thousand miles away for college. But now, just six months into his freshman year, they were telling him, “We sent you to college to learn, not to get harassed.” When he told them about the fight on University Avenue, they drew the line. “You're coming home,” they said. And this time, he didn't argue. He was through fighting.

News spreads fast, even on a campus this size. Within a few days of that February night, a lot of students knew what happened to Aragon. People he barely knew came up to him, saying, “You would have been really good here.” His friends begged him to stay, offering free rent in exchange for meals. He was known as a good cook.

But it wasn't just his culinary skills that would be missed. UW-Madison had worked hard to recruit Aragon, who grew up on the Acoma Pueblo reservation near Albuquerque. In high school, he was a two-sport athlete and a standout student interested in mechanical engineering, a field where American Indian faces aren't often seen. The university offered him a lucrative scholarship package, and, even though none of his family had left the state for college, he accepted. “I wanted to see snow,” he laughs.

It was a different kind of chilly climate, though, that awaited him in Madison. With deep brown skin

and eyes and a mane of shoulder-length black hair, Aragon looks like what many would consider the archetypal American Indian. Add a silver-and-turquoise necklace and rings — some of which he forged himself — and he appears to have fallen “straight out of a storybook,” as one of his friends says. In Madison, those looks were like a magnet for attention, and not all of it good. He overheard dozens of whispered comments and snickers, which made him wonder if he was really welcome so far from home.

Football weekends invariably brought heckling tailgaters, some of whom threw trash at him or told him to “go back to the reservation,” he says. He grew reluctant to walk the five blocks from Wendt Library, where most engineers study, back to his room at Witte after dark. “It began affecting my schoolwork,” he says. By the time the men jumped him on University Avenue, he'd heard enough.

"My friends would tell me that that kind of stuff happens to everyone," he says. "I got tired of always hearing that it happens, that it's normal. It shouldn't be normal."

Among American Indian students, especially, it happens all too often. Of the 135 American Indian or Alaskan Native students who entered the university as freshmen between 1992 and 1997, more than half followed Aragon's path into and out of UW-Madison. Only 54 — or 40 percent — earned degrees within six years of arriving. (The average six-year graduation rate for all students during that same period hovered around 77 percent.) And while some went on to earn degrees elsewhere — Aragon, for example, will continue his studies at the University of New Mexico this fall — the numbers reveal a frustrating failure of minority students to fare as well as their peers at UW-Madison.

That so-called "retention gap" has persisted for years, and it cuts across every minority group on campus. Among the freshmen who came to UW-Madison in fall 1997 (the most recent cohort for which six-year figures are available), 60 percent of African-Americans, 63 percent of Hispanics, and 67 percent of Asians graduated from UW-Madison, compared to 80 percent of white students.

"It's a huge gap, and a huge concern," says Provost Peter Spear.

Spear says cases like Aragon's are disconcerting because they reveal cracks in the support network the university tries to create for students. While there's nothing to suggest that Aragon's attackers were students, he says the responsibility for campus climate still falls with the university. "We know [students] have the ability to succeed when we admit them," Spear says. "That a relatively large percentage does not graduate suggests that we're not doing enough to support them and help them succeed."

Another effect of the gap is to undermine the university's efforts to recruit a diverse group of students to campus — a troubling reality that puts it high among the priorities in Plan 2008, the UW's



A few weeks after leaving Madison, Kyle Aragon came back for the spring powwow, an annual tradition among Native students.

ten-year outline for achieving a better mix of races in the student body. "Improving retention for minority students and faculty would make every other diversity goal easier to achieve," says Bernice Durand, an associate vice chancellor who leads UW-Madison's diversity efforts. "If everyone who came stayed, we'd be closer to a critical mass of minorities on campus. It's easier to recruit a student to a campus where there are enough others of the same background."

But no one feels the sting of attrition more than UW-Madison's American Indian community. With only 230 American Indian or Alaskan Native students enrolled in fall 2003 — about one for every 182 students on campus — it's by far the smallest racial group classified by the university. UW-Madison's retention gap may just look like a number on a page to some, but American Indian students suffer the losses viscerally.

"I lose friends every semester," says Casey Brown x'05.

UW-Madison is Native
ground, home to twenty-two Indian archaeological sites, including effigy mounds and ancient camps that shelter a

trove of indigenous heritage. Last year, surveyors working on Picnic Point found a six-thousand-year-old basalt cutting tool, a reminder that Native people have called campus home for several millennia.

When Casey Brown came to campus for his freshman year, his father took him on a meandering hike past dozens of those sites, which were built by the ancestors of their Ho-Chunk tribe. "We were going through people's back yards," recalls Brown, a native of Black River Falls, the political hub of the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk. "I think it was that that really made me want to come here — almost to reclaim it in a way, to make it Ho-Chunk again."

Steeped in such ancient tradition and within a day's drive of eleven modern-day tribal governments, UW-Madison would seem a logical focus of such a quest. But although Wisconsin is home to more Indian reservations than any state east of the Mississippi, the presence of American Indian students on campus remains small. Even in multicultural affairs, Native students feel their voices are outnumbered. "We are the minorities of minorities," says Dana Miller '03, now an engineer with Hewlett-Packard in Boise, Idaho. "When people think of diversity, we're the smallest group here, and our concerns kind of get left out."

Some of that has to do with history. Although the education of Indians appears in the charters of several of the country's oldest universities, including Harvard, Dartmouth, and William and Mary, college campuses were foreign territory for generations of Native people. By 1932, after not quite three centuries of American higher education, only fifty-two American Indians in the entire country had bachelor's degrees from U.S. universities.

For some tribes, widespread enrollment in colleges didn't arrive until casinos did. While not all tribes have enjoyed economic prosperity from gaming, college enrollment of American Indians jumped 80 percent from 1980 to 2000, according to an American Council of Education annual report released last



With only one American Indian among every 182 students on campus, it becomes essential for students like Brown to “walk two worlds” — to find ways of integrating into the majority culture while keeping touch with their heritage.

October. But success in college remains another matter: nationally, only about 38 percent of Native students who go to college earn a degree — about the same percentage as at UW-Madison.

Any number of factors might contribute to that disparity. Students leave college for a broad range of reasons, including academic or financial trouble, homesickness, or better opportunities elsewhere, and many situations are beyond universities' control. What happens before students show up on campus also proves to be fundamental to their success. “The true roots start at the seventh or eighth grade,” says Alberto Cabrera MS’82, PhD’87, a professor of education who studies why college students drop out. “That’s a critical point at

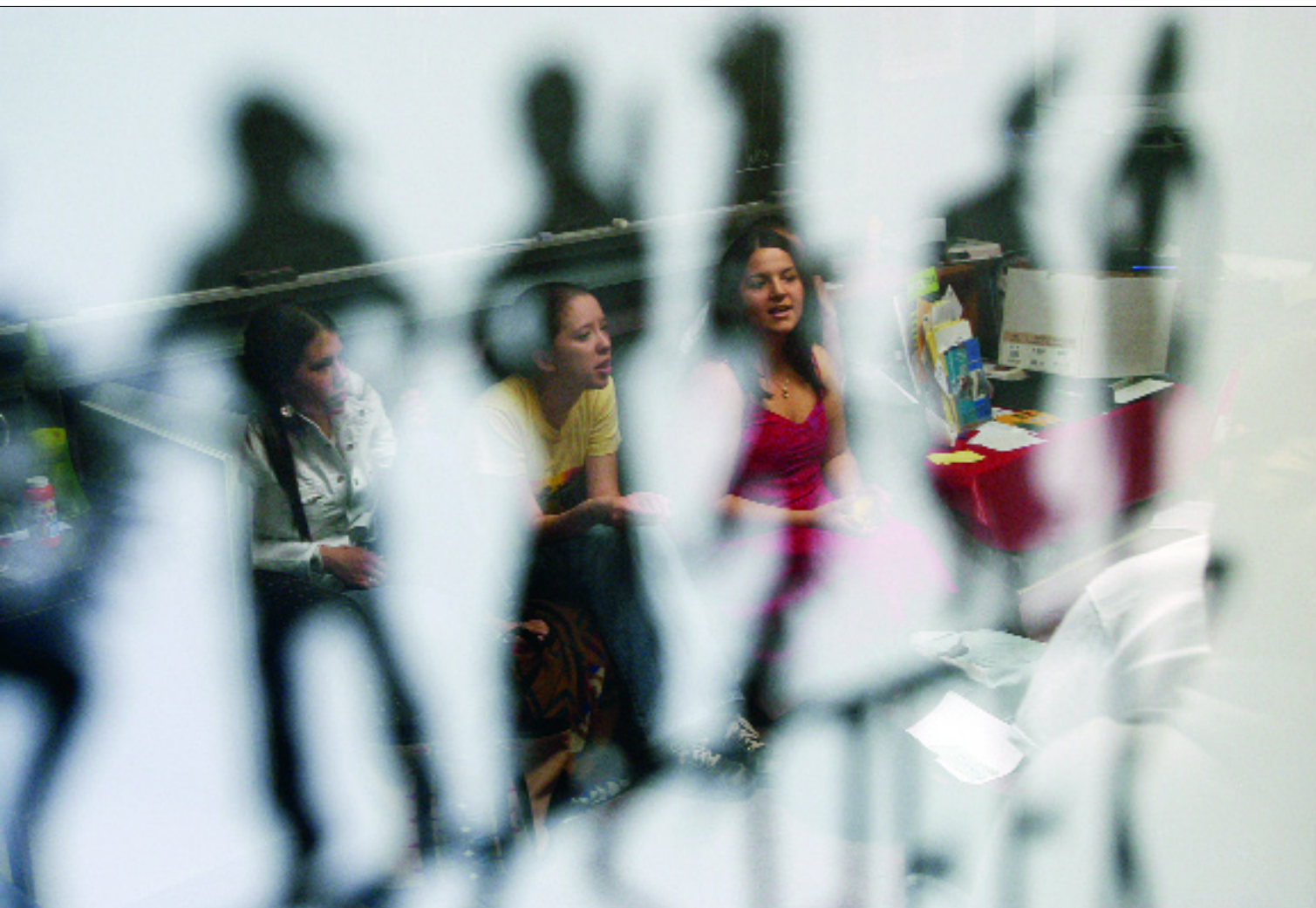
which families and students are making decisions about college.”

Cabrera says that even students who have what it takes academically can encounter problems at a place like UW-Madison, especially if they come from rural communities that pale in size and complexity to a large campus. Students from those communities may lack role models who can help prepare them and nurture them through the transition.

Cathy Caldwell MA’91 recalls how difficult it was to leave her home on the Menominee reservation in northeastern Wisconsin back in 1974, when almost no one from her high school went on to college. At UW-Madison, she would hear her roommate call home and be reassured that college was worth the effort.

“When I called home to complain, my parents would say, ‘Well, if it’s that bad, why don’t you come home?’ I ended up not calling home after that,” she recalls. Feeling frustrated and alone, she dropped out after two years.

A lot has changed since then. After marrying and having two children, Caldwell returned to UW-Green Bay to finish her bachelor’s degree and is back in Madison pursuing a PhD in curriculum and instruction. This fall, her son will enter UW-Madison as a junior, after spending two years at the College of the Menominee Nation — an option that became available three years ago, when the university and the tribe signed an articulation agreement that facilitates transfers from the tribal college.



Wunk Sheek, a Ho-Chunk phrase signifying Indian people, is the largest American Indian student organization on campus, and its weekly meetings offer a chance to build community and share common experiences. "It's like my second family," one member says.

Also new is the People program, a promising series of pre-college courses that the university began in 1999. Students enroll in the program as early as the eighth grade, shoring up their academics and learning what it takes mentally and emotionally to make it in college. Among the first cohort of kids to go through the program — part of a pilot project in inner-city Milwaukee — every one graduated from high school, and twenty-four enrolled at UW-Madison. All but three are still on campus — an 88 percent retention rate. The program has now been expanded to other school systems, including tribal schools serving Menominee and Ho-Chunk communities in Wisconsin.

But the alienation that Caldwell experienced has not gone away. Especially for the one in three American Indian students who come to UW-Madison from reservations, the sudden adaptation to living in a white-dominated world can be difficult. "You've been surrounded by family members and community who know your family, and many of the people you run into each day are members of your tribe," says Gary Sandefur, a sociology professor who is a member of the Chicksaw tribe. "Then you come here, and you won't even necessarily run into another American Indian all day long. It's just a real sense of loss for many people as they try to make that adjustment."

To a certain extent, all minority students face that transition, but American Indians have unique circumstances. Although the UW-Madison Native community is small, it's immensely complex, including members of some thirty different tribes and a spectrum of backgrounds and experiences. Some are enrolled members of their tribes, while others have little or no touch with traditional ways. And the stereotypes are strong. "People think you're either a rich casino Indian or a poor, alcoholic Indian," says David O'Connor '05, an Ojibwe from the Bad River reservation in northern Wisconsin.

"The press hasn't been kind to us; Hollywood hasn't been very kind to us in

let's stay together

how the uw is trying to keep students in school

Introductory courses in mathematics, chemistry, and psychology are the basic building blocks of a lot of freshman-year schedules. But in the wrong combination, they can also be a recipe for disaster.

After poring over hundreds of academic records, student affairs staff noticed that students who attempted courses in all three of those subjects during the same semester often found themselves in hot water. Soon, when students sign up for that challenging trifecta, they will get a warning call from an adviser or administrator — one of the small ways in which the UW is trying to win the battle against attrition.

It's called "just-in-time" intervention, and the university hopes to do more of it in the coming years. Student affairs staff are working with several departments to help watch for telltale signs of difficulty among students, who may then be offered alternative courses or help from tutors.

While such measures seem to push the envelope of pushy, they reflect a trend toward making the university a more sheltering, protective place. That approach seems to work well in learning communities, where students respond favorably to personalized relationships with faculty and staff. "I think the very important factor there ... is that there are faculty and staff who are very well connected with students, who are concerned about them," says Ruby Paredes, an assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. "People are invested in their success, and getting that kind of encouragement is critical."

The hard part is applying troubleshooting outside the classroom, where many of the problems begin for students who drop out. Nearly six in ten of the students who leave UW-Madison do so in good academic standing, but are drawn out by a constellation of other personal or social issues. In those cases, the issues may be factors beyond the university's control, such as family or medical emergencies. Other defections, such as transfers to more suitable academic programs, don't necessarily impugn the job UW-Madison is doing.

A particular challenge is determining the role climate plays, especially for minority students, who drop out in disproportionate numbers. One step that may help clarify the issues is to do exit interviews with students who leave. But there are logistical challenges, says Provost Peter Spear. "Many students don't know that they're leaving when they leave," he says. "They go home for the summer, and they don't know then that they won't return for the fall." Also, he

says it's becoming more common for students to "stop out," rather than drop out, taking a few semesters off to work or tend to personal matters before returning.

The university did conduct a pilot project in the fall of 2002, tracking down some two dozen minority students who had left school. Mary Louise Gomez PhD'85, an education professor and member of the university's diversity oversight committee who conducted the interviews, says few dominant threads emerged from her conversations. "It was a much more complex picture than I thought it would be," she says.

Many students couldn't name a particular reason for leaving, but instead cited a mosaic of individual circumstances and motives. "I was hoping that there would be an answer that had an easy, clear remedy. But I don't think there's a single fix that we can apply," Gomez says. "We need to be as thoughtful and complex in our response as students were in telling us their stories."

To Bernice Durand, the associate vice chancellor who is leading the UW's diversity efforts, such experiments illustrate the need to learn from students themselves what it will take to support them. She notes also that some promising programs haven't been in place long enough to show up in the six-year graduation rates the university uses as a benchmark.

"We might not know for a generation whether we're on the right track," she says. "There aren't any quick fixes — it's especially hard to change attitudes."

— M.P.

the retention gap

According to long-term trends in graduation rates, minority students drop out more frequently than their peers.

% graduated after six years		
YEAR OF ENTRY	ALL STUDENTS	MINORITY STUDENTS
1992	74.2	51.3
1993	74.8	52.7
1994	76.7	53.1
1995	77.9	53.5
1996	77.6	51.2
1997	78.8	56.4

Source: UW-Madison Data Digest, 2003–04



While David O'Connor, at right, says harassment of American Indian students does happen all too often, he believes it's a sign of "a few bad apples spoiling the bunch." He combats those negative influences by filling his social life with events such as a spring cookout for American Indian students — where he says he can focus on the "good apples."

depicting who we are; the American curriculum hasn't been very kind to us," says Aaron Bird Bear, who runs the College of Letters and Science's American Indian Student Academic Services office. "All of those attitudes are brought to this campus, and as these young people are going through struggles with identity and expressing themselves, a lot of Natives find that this is a really difficult climate to endure." He says those issues, more often than academics, are what make students want to leave. "They just never quite adjust to the climate, and they end up going somewhere else."

In the face of such challenges, Bird Bear says, "the best goal we have is strengthening and empowering our community." Even among the small population of Natives on campus, he says, there is still strength in numbers.

It's a four-flight climb

to the nosebleed heights of South Hall to find Aaron Bird Bear, and I'm lucky to catch him. As adviser, counselor, and friend to the 152 American Indian undergraduates currently studying on campus, he's a busy guy. "I go where the students are," he says. "I'm not in my office much."

Bird Bear is something of a one-man retention force, connecting students with everything from a calculus tutor to a ride home for spring break. When he was hired four years ago, after studying engineering at the U.S. Naval Academy and a short stint as a snowboard instructor in the Colorado Rockies, he pledged to maintain face-to-face contact with every Native student on campus. He reckons he's now seen about 127. "I know when they arrive on campus, and I go track them down," he says. "They need some-

place on campus where they feel really comfortable and safe, where they're going to get validation."

The job has its frustrations, which may explain why Bird Bear is the fifth person to hold the position since it was created in 1992. (Two of the five were interim advisers.) When he took the job, a few students told him, "We'll see how long you last." And the past year has been one of those times that try his fortitude. During the spring semester, a contentious Dane County referendum over a proposed casino in Madison put American Indian students at the middle of a raging debate over tribal rights and sovereignty. (The measure, which would have allowed the Ho-Chunk Nation to expand a current bingo hall into a full-blown casino, was soundly defeated.)

"People tended to ask the first Indian they ran into, 'What do you think about

this?’ And a lot of them wanted to argue about it,” Sandefur says. “When you have an issue like that, it brings the kind of attention to Indian students that they don’t necessarily want.”

Perhaps not accidentally, more incidents of harassment against Native students were reported in the past three months than during any period Bird Bear has been on campus. “We’ve had a tough year,” he says.

It only got worse with Kyle Aragon’s departure. Around the offices of Wunk Sheek, UW-Madison’s main American Indian student organization, there was more anger than shock. “We all know people who have had bad things happen to them, but that’s the one that pushed me over the edge,” says Kathy Milligan-Myhre, a microbiology graduate student from Alaska’s Inupiaq tribe. “It was the straw that broke the camel’s back.”

But it also proved to be a thread that tied the community together, rallying them to a cause that they say ultimately may improve the environment for Native students. Wunk Sheek organized a series of chat rooms, where elders from local Indian communities reassured students that recent incidents were not the end of the world.

“It wasn’t just the students, it was faculty members, the community,” says Wunk Sheek member Lina Martin x’05. “Everybody just started to really look out for each other even more.”

In recent years, UW-Madison has grown rich with community-building experiments, particularly among students of color. The university’s diversity plan has spawned some new ideas, including a summer orientation for minority students and a multicultural learning community, which opened last year. But communities come in many forms, from formal organizations to informal study groups. The common thread is that students often seek out safe havens — places where they feel comfortable being themselves.

“I tried to surround myself with people like me, who had similar experiences,” says Dana Miller, who before graduating in December organized a summer retreat

for all incoming American Indian students. “It was to help me, as well — to cope with the things I was encountering.”

On a chilly Sunday

in early April, I head to the Kohl Center’s practice arena to see that community for myself. Wunk Sheek’s annual powwow is perhaps the most complete picture of Indian community on campus. For most Natives, community means more than just people of the same generation hanging out together: it’s kids and parents, friends, neighbors, strangers, dogs, food, music, and arts. The powwow is all that. To the heartbeat rhythm of five drum circles, some two hundred dancers, singers, and spectators mingle, swapping stories between traditional dances. The event runs on well into evening. After a long year, the whole day feels like a big smile.

There, I see Kyle Aragon, whom Wunk Sheek named as an honorary dancer for the event, enabling him to make the trip back to Madison. Decked out in traditional clothing, with silver around his neck and waist and on every

finger, he says, “I told them, ‘I’m just going to show up. Don’t worry about me.’ But they secretly got together and did this. And that made me happy, because I didn’t think I left that much of an impact on the UW campus.”

But Aragon may have been the voice American Indian students needed to hear to embolden their own. Since the incident, Milligan-Myhre, who didn’t advertise her heritage during her first four years on campus, has become an outspoken advocate for students. Casey Brown has found something within himself, too. He says he understands now what his father was trying to tell him by taking him to all those effigy mounds. “Over the course of this semester, I’ve realized how important my traditions are,” he says.

As we talk, Brown pulls his hair away from his face. For as long as he can remember, he’s worn it short, and he’s not used to having it droop down over his eyes. But this time, he’s going to let it grow. “I feel like if I cut it now, I’d be letting down Kyle,” he says. “I don’t want to hide anymore.”

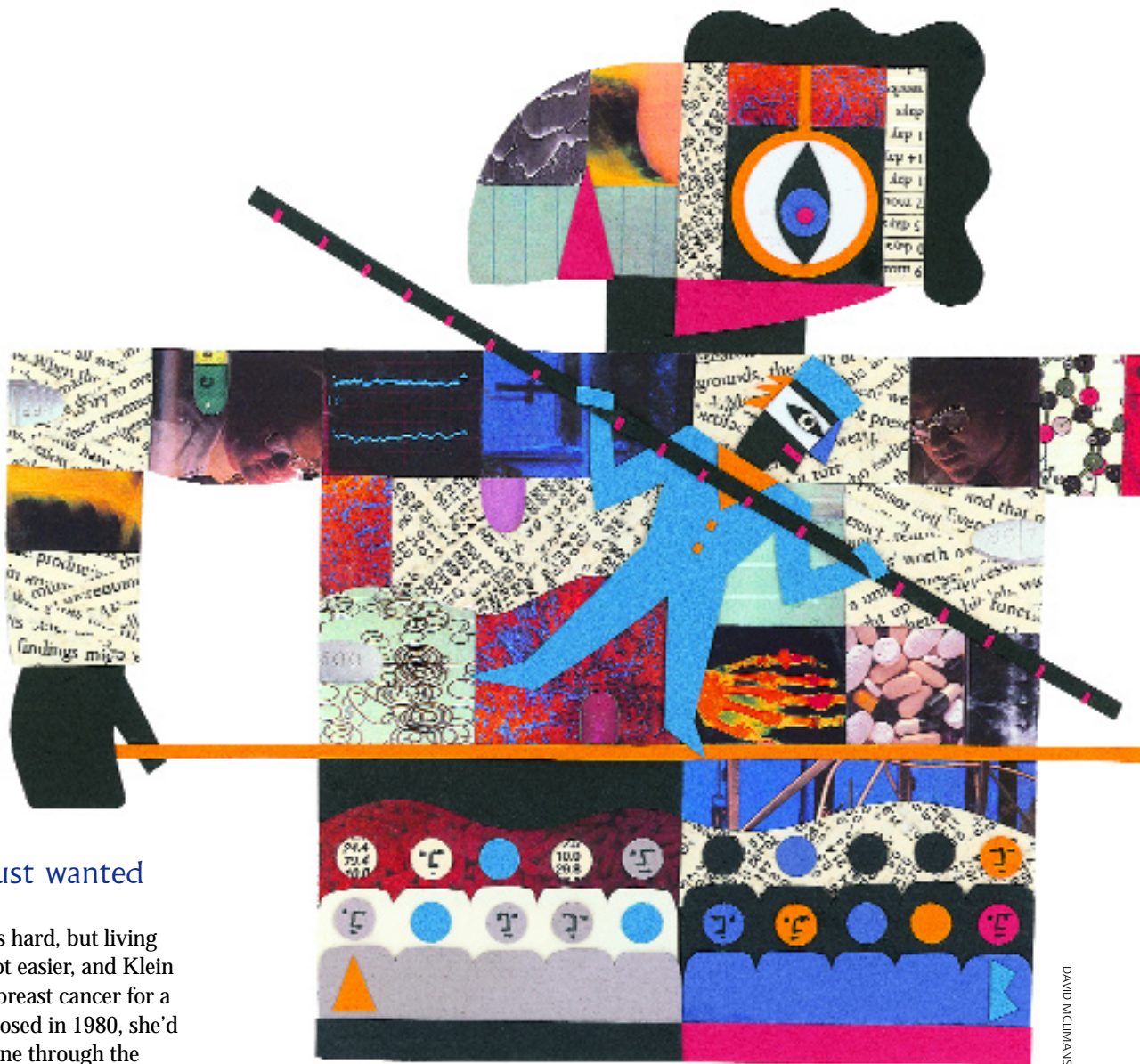
Michael Penn MA’97 is co-editor of *On*



Adrienne Thunder, left, an adviser with the UW’s Cross-College Advising Service, congratulates graduating senior Danielle James at a spring ceremony honoring twenty-nine American Indian students who earned degrees this year.

IN CONTROL

When their experiments involve human



DAVID MCCLIMANS

Nancy Klein just wanted
to feel better.

Dying of cancer is hard, but living with it isn't a whole lot easier, and Klein had been living with breast cancer for a long time. First diagnosed in 1980, she'd had a mastectomy, gone through the treatments, and felt the relief of hearing the words in remission.

But remission isn't the same as cured. In 1998, the cancer returned, and more daunting than before. It was metastasizing. It had progressed to stage four.

Physicians speak of breast cancer in terms of its stages. Stage zero is when conditions in a woman's breast favor the development of the disease, but no tumor is evident. Stage one is a tumor less than two centimeters in diameter with no penetration of the lymph nodes. In stage two, the tumor has grown to between two and five centimeters or has begun to affect the

lymph nodes, and in stage three, the tumor is greater than five centimeters wide but hasn't yet progressed to any other organ. Stage four is metastatic cancer — the disease is spreading, first to the bones, usually, then to the brain.

There is no stage five.

Today, the survival rate for breast cancer, when it's caught in its early stages, is 96 percent. Once the disease metastasizes, the rate drops to 21 percent.

Klein did as her oncologist told her. She had the radiation, then went on tamoxifen for five years. She was part of the lucky 21 percent. She's alive today, and at the age of fifty-three, in remission for a second time. But a lucky cancer patient is still a cancer patient.

"After going through the treatments, I felt an extreme amount of fatigue," she says. She couldn't perform the daily tasks that she'd enjoyed, nor return to work as a special education teacher in

subjects, researchers walk an ethical tightrope — they must protect the rights of individuals while seeing them as an aggregate sample of humanity as a whole.

BY JOHN ALLEN



Watertown. “I didn’t feel like I knew my body anymore,” she says.

She had done everything that standard medicine demanded, but still she felt less than wholly alive. So when she heard about a UW study that might help, she told her doctor that she wanted to join.

Teresa Woods, a professor at the Wisconsin Psychiatric Clinic and the HealthEmotions Research Institute, had a hypothesis that she wanted to test. She believed that if women with stage-four cancer began performing supervised exercise, they would improve both their physical and mental health. The idea was intriguing, if counterintuitive: it required asking women to put their weakened bones and bodies through yet more strain. So Woods, in collaboration with the Sports Medicine Center and the kinesiology department, put together what’s called the Metastatic Breast Cancer and

Exercise Study and started recruiting women in stage four to participate. This was the study Klein wanted to join.

It seemed like a perfect match: Klein wanted to feel better, and Woods and her colleagues wanted to help women like Klein to feel better. And yet what the two women wanted wasn’t exactly the same. The patient wanted improvement as an individual, and the researcher wanted to help women in general. While Woods did hope to see Klein increase in vitality, more importantly she needed data, to see an aggregate improvement among all the women who took part in the study.

Therein lies the essential quandary about studies that involve human subjects. When patients join an experiment, they hope to get better, but actually they sign up to be a statistic, and the difference in focus between the individual and the aggregate can be the source of ethical and legal problems. As part of its effort to address those problems, the UW depends on its institutional review boards, and on the experience of Norman Fost.

“Human-subject research,” says Fost, “is a growth industry around here.”

A pediatrician by training, Fost has built his career around bioethics. He chairs UW-Madison’s institutional review board (IRB) for the health sciences, which means it’s his job to ensure that all the human-subject research that comes out of the hospital, Medical School, School of Nursing, and School of Pharmacy receives careful review. He estimates that there are currently two thousand active human-subject protocols

in those schools alone, including Woods’s exercise study for cancer patients, and eight hundred new ones are added to the mix each year. There are also separate IRBs for the College of Letters and Science and the School of Education. And in 2004, UW-Madison launched a new “minimal risk” IRB to look just at studies that don’t involve potential medical risk but might violate subjects’ privacy — studies that look at, for instance, past medical records.

Due to increases in funding from the National Institutes of Health and the pharmaceutical industry, Fost says, the number of experiments involving human subjects has increased at a pace of 5 to 10 percent a year for the last twenty years. The Comprehensive Cancer Center, for example, lists twenty-two active clinical trials for breast cancer alone. The McArdle Lab for Cancer Research notes that its staff produced more than seventy articles on their cancer studies in 2003. There are, of course, other diseases to research as well, and the university has people looking into many of them.

All of this research activity can create great potential for trouble, either perceived or real. “The press coverage of scientific experiments tends to focus on the dark side,” says Fost. “You still hear the term guinea pig thrown around a lot. At the same time, the American public tends to have an overly rosy picture of research, and many people believe it’s better to be in a study than to get standard treatment. Both views are oversimplifications.”

As human-subject research increases, concern with bioethics must grow alongside it, and Fost has long been directing that growth. Arriving at UW-Madison in 1973, he virtually created the university’s medical ethics program. He’s worked to include ethics education in the UW’s medicine-related fields — not just on the health sciences IRB, which he’s chaired since 1977, but through the graduate and undergraduate ethics courses he teaches every year. “For most faculty, being on an institutional review board is a sideline,” he says. “It’s a major part of my career.”

Fost was a resident at Johns Hopkins University in 1966 when America's scientific community suffered an ethical earthquake. A physician named Henry Beecher published an article in the *New England Journal of Medicine* entitled "Ethics in Clinical Research," though what it revealed was anything but. Beecher highlighted dozens of recent cases in which scientists deceived their subjects, subjected newborn babies to multiple x-rays, or injected live hepatitis virus into mentally impaired children.

"It was a bombshell," says Fost. "It had a tremendous effect." And it was part of what gave Fost his calling.

When Beecher's article was published, there was no public oversight governing research, though this was about to change. In 1974, shortly after Fost joined UW-Madison's faculty, the federal government began to develop what's known as the Common Rule, the regulation that, with a few alterations over the last three decades, still governs how American research is carried out.

The full name of the rule is Title 45 (Public Welfare), Part 46 (Protection of Human Subjects), of the Department of Health and Human Services Code of Federal Regulations. It contains four subparts and forty-six subsections, and

nearly twelve thousand words, but what it boils down to, essentially, is this: researchers must see to it that risk to subjects is reasonable in relation to possible benefits; subjects must be selected in an equitable manner; and before researchers can do anything to them, subjects — or their surrogates — must give their informed consent. This last item can be the most difficult. Since experiments are based on hypotheses and assumptions, the researchers can't be certain what to expect, either in general or for each specific subject.

Still, the law requires scientists to do certain things — to give the subjects an explanation of the purpose of their research, a description of the procedure, an assessment of foreseeable risks and benefits, disclosure of alternative courses of treatment, and assurance that participation is voluntary, that the subjects may refuse or withdraw without penalty.

The enforcer of the Common Rule is the IRB — every institution that receives federal aid for its research must have at least one. An IRB's goal, according to Fost, is "to look at the experimental design and determine, first, whether anything can be learned from the study, and second, whether the information given to the subjects is complete, clear, and candid."

When Fost first became chair of the health sciences IRB, its staff numbered "exactly one, plus a clerical person to help keep track of everything," he says. Today, there is a full-time staff of ten devoted specifically to IRB work, plus additional aid from graduate students. That doesn't count the actual members of the health sciences board — twenty-five from within and outside the science community.

Every research protocol must receive the IRB's approval at least once a year. Typically, when a researcher wants to begin a study, he or she draws up a protocol — a description of the hypothesis and experimental design, as well as an assurance of how the study will protect both the safety and privacy of its subjects. The researcher then submits twenty-five copies of the protocol to the board. The IRB's staff writes a series of reviews of the protocol, evaluating how they feel it measures up to ethical and regulatory standards, to assist the board in its review. At its biweekly meetings, the board reviews each protocol and then votes either to approve it or to hold it over for further review.

While the board serves as a filter against bad studies, its major effect is to act as a tutor to help researchers under-

PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION:

Key Developments in the History of Human-Subject Research

1947: Nuremberg Code

After World War II, the experiments conducted in Nazi concentration camps come to light. In reaction, the scientific community creates the Nuremberg Code, ten principles for the conduct of ethical human-subject research. These include gaining voluntary consent from subjects and avoiding unnecessary pain and suffering.

1964: The Helsinki Declaration

The eighteenth World Medical Assembly issues a statement of recommendations guiding physicians in biomedical research involving human subjects. The declaration defines the difference between medical research, which is

designed to diagnose or aid patients, and non-therapeutic research, which is chiefly designed to advance science and does not offer direct diagnostic or therapeutic value to its subjects. "In research on man," it states, "the interest of science and society should never take precedence over considerations related to the well-being of the subject." The declaration has since been revised five times.

1966: The first IRBs

The *New England Journal of Medicine* publishes Henry Beecher's "Ethics in Clinical Research," which describes twenty-two unethical, harmful, and even "bizarre" studies. In reaction, the National Institutes of

Health begins requiring research organizations and universities to create institutional review boards to look into all federally funded research involving human subjects.

1974: The Tuskegee Syphilis Study

The *New York Times* publishes a story revealing the existence of a four-decade examination of the progressive effects of syphilis. Some four hundred African-American men were enrolled in the study in 1932, and although all of them had syphilis, they were told only that they had "bad blood" and were given no treatment. The government would apologize to the surviving men in 1997. In reaction,

Congress passes the National Research Act, making the Common Rule for the protection of human subjects a federal regulation.

1979: The Belmont Report

A National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research releases a report, named for the Smithsonian's Belmont Conference Center, defining ethical research as that which maintains respect for persons, is beneficent, and is just. Researchers are required to seek informed consent, to give an assessment of risk and benefit, and to be equitable in selecting subjects.

stand ethical and legal principles so that they can construct experiments that produce scientifically valid data and respect the rights of individuals. “Outright rejection almost never happens,” says Fost. “Out of every thirty new protocols, probably between one and three will be held over for further review because the issues they involve are complicated. The other twenty-seven will be approved, usually with modifications. Even the ones that need further review are virtually all eventually resolved.”

But academic issues of scientific validity, ethics, and the law can become muddled in the public eye, particularly when crossed with a more emotional question: do the researchers give the subjects what they want and think they need?

Experiments are all about isolating the one variable that makes a difference. This is the principle that underlies the classic experimental design, which ideally works like this: a scientist comes up with a hypothesis, X will cause Y. He or she then collects a certain population (the subjects) and randomly divides them into two statistically identical sets. One set, the experimental group, undergoes X — an exercise regimen, for instance. The other set, the control group, does not. If the experimental group shows a greater propensity for Y (say, an improvement in physical and mental health, as defined by strength and endurance tests and psychometric exams), then the hypothesis is supported: X probably does cause Y.

Woods’s breast cancer study may eventually follow this design, though it doesn’t now. For the moment, she’s running a feasibility study, which means that she doesn’t expect to produce definitive data proving quantitatively how exercise does or doesn’t benefit women with stage-four cancer, but rather whether such patients are capable of completing the protocol. “All we’re trying to learn is whether it’s feasible for women to do this,” she says. So far, the number of subjects has been small — Woods has run three cohorts of women through the process, each with no more than ten women.



PASKUS STUDIO

Cathy Burt, left, and her fellow exercise leaders were the chief point of contact for Nancy Klein and the other women who took part in the breast cancer and exercise study. Burt and Klein maintain a close relationship, while investigators like Woods can keep a more dispassionate distance when examining data.

The data the research team is producing will add one more tile to the broad mosaic that researchers are constructing in their effort to understand the relationship exercise can play in treating breast cancer. For the last seven years, UW-Madison’s HealthEmotions Research Institute has been conducting exercise studies with women at earlier stages of the disease, and some of those studies continued beyond the feasibility stage to run classic experimental/control protocols.

Cathy Burt ’98, an exercise specialist with the Sports Medicine Center, served as an exercise leader with the earlier studies and fills the same role for Woods. Burt and her fellow exercise leaders have been responsible for working closely with the subjects, taking them through their physical assessments and helping to design their exercise programs. In the earlier studies, it was Burt’s job to tell the women who’d been assigned to the con-

trol group that they could help best by remaining sedentary.

“It was hard,” she says. “Some of the control-group women dropped out right away — maybe 20 to 30 percent, which isn’t uncommon for a study. A lot of people come in with an attitude of ‘Either I do the exercise study or I drop out.’ ”

While she says that ethically, she couldn’t force the control-group women not to exercise at all, she knew the study needed that data as a point of comparison if it was to prove anything. “We all knew in our gut that this was helping the women,” she says. “Even though I hadn’t seen the numbers, I knew. But this is one of the criticisms with research. Unless you have hard data, you can’t say unequivocally that your therapy has had a positive effect.”

Woods’s feasibility study has been self-controlled — the subjects are assessed before they begin the exercise

Continued on page 62

program, again during, and again after they finish. The pre-experiment data serve as the control, a baseline by which researchers can gauge each subject's improvement. If the women feel stronger and more upbeat at the end of the study, it would indicate that exercise is beneficial. However, one disadvantage to a self-controlled study is that it's difficult to prove that the hypothesis is the sole cause of change. For instance, skeptics may argue that the women in Woods's study showed improvement simply because more time had passed since their initial cancer treatments.

Nevertheless, Woods is considering keeping that self-controlled model when she expands her study, as asking women to join the study and yet remain sedentary would make recruiting "a tougher sell," she admits. "Nobody wants to be in the control group."

This highlights a potential problem for researchers: to many subjects, being stuck in a control group feels like being deprived of care. Norman Fost knows this problem well. Until a year ago, he was a lead player in a drama that challenged the role of the control group in human-subject research.

In 1985, the UW embarked on an ambitious piece of research, under the direction of Medical School dean Philip Farrell. The Wisconsin Cystic Fibrosis Neonatal Screening Project, hailed by the university as the "gold standard of pediatric clinical trial designs," began testing children — 650,000 of them over the course of a decade — for cystic fibrosis (CF), one of the most common deadly genetic diseases. Fost was one of the UW study's investigators, and among the hypotheses that it looked at was whether identifying CF children at birth and giving them earlier intervention would help them live longer, healthier lives. CF causes mucus to build up in a person's lungs, pancreas, and liver, putting him or her at great risk of pulmonary and digestive disorders. The average life span of the disease's victims has risen over the last few decades from less than five years

If I could somehow decide whether I'd be in the experimental or placebo group, I'd pick the placebo.

to about thirty-five, thanks in large part to new, aggressive treatments.

Taking blood samples from newborns, researchers divided them into two groups, experimental and control. All the samples were tested for CF, and the parents of the children in the experimental group were immediately contacted and offered treatment if their test was positive. Those samples in the control group weren't tested until four years later. Most families with CF children in this group found out in the usual way: in time, typically before the children were four years old, symptoms presented.

During the first few years of the study, researchers found that early screening seemed to provide nutritional benefits. In 1991, they published an article in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* stating that "the majority of infants with CF, when they are diagnosed via neonatal screening and managed with appropriate dietary intervention and supplements," showed a delayed onset of the nutritional effects of the disease. There were no apparent drawbacks, except that some children registered a false positive, causing their families unnecessary anxiety.

It seemed like a pretty good system — except to Charles and Linda Ande, whose daughter, known now in legal circles as C.E.A., was born with CF in 1993. C.E.A. was randomly assigned to the control group, and her parents didn't learn that she was sick until she was nearly two. By that time, they had conceived another child, who also turned out to have CF.

When they learned about the study, the Andes became upset. Alleging that their daughter had been "unknowingly chosen to be a human guinea pig in a state-run human-research project," they filed suit against the study and its sponsors, naming Fost and Farrell among the defendants. "Failure to provide the treatment to the controls, or at least to provide the information to the controls, may

be passive conduct or non-invasive conduct — but it is 'conduct' nevertheless," the Andes and their attorneys wrote in their complaint. "It still involves the same result, that is, unnecessary and intentional injury to the person."

Since by 1991, the doctors believed that early intervention was helping the children, the argument runs, their duty to the individuals involved in the study outweighed their need to gain further information in the aggregate. By not notifying them about C.E.A.'s condition, the Andes believed, the researchers had violated their rights to due process and had committed malpractice.

The law didn't see it that way. From the Dane County Circuit Court all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declined to take up the Andes' case in January 2003, judges repeatedly rejected their claim.

Meanwhile, though the legal judgments have been consistent, the verdict of science has altered. The benefits of early screening now appear much less conclusive. "Ten years later," says Fost, "when we look at the children who had early screening, some of them are doing worse." The CF children who received the intervention were much more likely than those in the control group to be infected with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, a bacterium implicated in 90 percent of all CF deaths. Even the researchers were surprised by the turn. But, says Fost, "that's why we do the studies."

And this shows what most people don't really understand about scientific studies, says Fost. No matter how commonsensical the hypothesis may sound, the likelihood is that it's got something wrong. He estimates that only between 5 and 10 percent of new therapies succeed.

During the years of the CF court cases, he had to put up with "almost universally bad press" about the study because people felt that it treated the control group children with indifference. "The common reaction of the media is

that the non-screened group was somehow getting the short end of the stick — that being in a control group is somehow getting the short end of the stick,” he says. “But a control group almost always does better. If I were in a clinical trial and could somehow decide whether I’d be put in the experimental group or the placebo group, I’d pick the placebo.”

Norman Fost’s experience

with the CF study provides a cautionary tale for those conducting human-subject research. A scientist may do no actual harm and yet pay the price for acting in a way that’s perceived to be unfair. Researchers must be especially careful when their subjects are in a position to take on more risk than they are aware of — for instance, when they’re children or, as in the case of Teresa Woods’s Metastatic Breast Cancer and Exercise Study, when they suffer from a severe illness.

“People often join studies when they have no other known effective treatment,” says Fost. “When they have cancer, they are much more likely to want experimental treatment.”

Aware of the danger, Woods has proceeded with caution. She says that, as her subjects are so physically compromised, she and her colleagues have been scrupulous about getting their physicians to sign off on participation. But many doctors are reluctant to place their patients into an experimental program, and so finding subjects has been an ongoing struggle.

“We’re still recruiting,” says Woods, “but not at the rate we had hoped. It’s been difficult finding physicians who are willing to refer their patients. Their response has been bimodal — some are thrilled to help us, of course, but others think we’re crazy.”

For Nancy Klein, Woods’s crazy plan seems to work. It was “an absolutely outstanding experience,” Klein says. Before she entered the study in October 2002, researchers assessed her emotional state, heart rate, lifting strength, and walking speed and endurance. The exercise leaders supervised her through a sixteen-week regimen of aerobic training. By February 2003, she had improved in all

areas, and when assessed again in June and November, she was maintaining much of the improvement. She was so impressed that she joined her local athletic club and continues to meet with other women from her cohort — even though three of those seven women have died since the study ended.

Stage four, after all, is the end of the road.

Still, Klein believes that her road is lengthening. “It was a challenge at first,” she says. “The fatigue is always a challenge. But by the end, I knew I could do this stuff again. Maybe I wasn’t achieving super feats of endurance, but I learned a lot about myself as a woman, and I learned that my condition is something I can live with and shape a life around.”

For Klein, living with cancer became easier. But will what worked for her work for others? That depends on whether Woods can collect enough experiences from individual subjects to find a broader truth.

John Allen is associate editor of *On Wisconsin*.

Reclaiming

Alumni have worked hard to resolve a contentious dispute over what to do with the former Badger Ordnance Works near Bababoo.

By Susan Lampert Smith '82



SO MANY PEOPLE HAVE A CLAIM TO THIS LAND.

Consider the story of Mary Hill. When she died in 1945, she couldn't be buried next to Jacob, her husband of fifty-four years, or their little girl, Verna, who died of diphtheria at age three. Their final resting place, the Pioneer Cemetery, had been swallowed by the Badger Ordnance Works, a large parcel of land seized by the U.S. Army for use as an ammunition plant during World War II.

The separate burials weighed on the family, says Marcia Colby, who is married to Jacob and Mary Hill's great-grandson, Tim Colby, and works on the family's fifth-generation dairy farm just outside the plant's fence.

If you've ever driven over the Baraboo Hills on Highway 12, you've seen the dilapidated industrial complex of the former Badger Ordnance

Badger



ANDY KRAUSHAAK

Works, which sprawls across the plain looking like an Eastern European factory from the Cold War era.

However, the land upon which the Badger Ordnance Works was built is one of Wisconsin's most significant natural landscapes. Its 7,354 acres encompass what was once a broad prairie with islands of oak savanna, where ancient people lived and hunted; the high, wooded bluffs at the southern edge of the Baraboo Range; and a view to the banks of the Wisconsin River, with its shining and shifting sandbars.

It's perhaps best known to UW alumni as the site of Badger Village, which helped house the influx of veterans attending the university after World War II (see story, page 37). Most of the complex was thrown up in haste in 1941 and 1942, as the nation equipped itself to fight that war. But in 1997, the army decided it no longer needed the property, which had been largely closed since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. Since then, a small group of employees has maintained the buildings and begun some cleanup and demolition work.

The task of deciding how to use the land was thrown to the people. Suddenly, another chapter in the often tragic,

frequently heroic, always interesting history of this unique Wisconsin landscape is being written. It is proving to be as controversial a chapter as all the others in the long history of this land, and it is evolving with the help of a number of local leaders with UW-Madison ties.

Under the current plan, the U.S. government is expected to transfer the land in roughly three equal pieces to the Ho-Chunk Nation, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the USDA for its existing Dairy Forage Research Center, which is operated in partnership with UW-Madison. At press time, the parties were still working out details involving the allocation of land, the creation of a rail easement through the property, and the final wording of a memorandum of understanding.

In her years working on the issue of Badger's future, Marcia Colby has learned that many people have passionate — and often conflicting — histories with the plant.

These include the Ho-Chunk people, who count the plant as part of the vast Wisconsin lands they lost during fraudulent treaty making. Because the plant is considered surplus federal land, the tribe has a claim on it.



JILL METCOFF

Slides like the one above provided workers a quick escape in case of fire at the Badger Ordnance Works. Top: the buildings at Badger have been in slow decay since the plant was mothballed nearly thirty years ago.

It seemed that Badger was heading for a future rooted in yet more controversy and bitterness.



These photos, which show in striking detail the history of the Badger Ordnance Works, are part of a traveling exhibit called *Inside the Fence*. The collection combines the work of several area photographers. Many of the *Inside the Fence* pictures are currently on display at the Sauk County Courthouse administrative building in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

They were followed by those who established productive farms on the rich prairie soil. When the U.S. government needed land for the war effort, it seized the farms of eighty-five families.

Then there were the more than thirty thousand workers who saw making rocket propellants and ammunition as their patriotic contribution. Michael Goc, author of the Badger history *Powder, People and Place*, counts at least twenty-three deaths of Badger workers, ten in explosions and the rest in other types of industrial and vehicle accidents at the plant.

And its neighbors have suffered, too, from water contaminated by chemicals seeping from the plant. Also at the table to decide Badger's future were conserva-



ANDY KRAUSHAAR

tionists who saw the army's abandonment of Badger as an unprecedented opportunity to restore a giant piece of land connecting the Wisconsin River and the Baraboo Hills. And then there were those who wanted the buildings to spur industrial development and jobs in Sauk County.

To paraphrase retired state historian Jack Holzhuetter '57, MA'66, nearly every family in Wisconsin seems to have some sort of personal connection to Badger. It's no wonder that even the current degree of resolution appeared unlikely in the late 1990s, when it seemed that Badger was heading for a future rooted in yet more controversy and bitterness. A hastily devised plan to divide up the property —

Remembering Badger Village

The late Doc (Venor J.) Peckham '48, MS'51 and his spouse, Lindy, were among the thousands of married couples who flooded campuses after World War II, attending college on the GI Bill.

Because housing in Madison was scarce, especially for married students, the university ended up locating the Peckhams and hundreds of others thirty-five miles west of Madison, at the Badger Village apartments recently vacated by the war-era workforce.

It might not have had the romance of life along Langdon Street, but the thousands of Wisconsin students who called it home between 1946 and 1952 loved it. Those students included future governor Lee Dreyfus '49, MA'52, PhD'58 and his spouse, Joyce, as well as flamboyant attorney Ken Hur LLB'51, who served for a time as the village's justice of the peace.

The UW decided to lease housing at Badger Village because it was ideally set up for married students, with its school, playgrounds, post office, and community center. The university also acquired a fleet of thirty-five worn-out school buses to haul students back and forth over hilly Highway 12 to Madison, beginning each day's first run shortly after 6 a.m.

One male student described the ride to Michael Goc, author of a Badger history called *Powder, People and Place*, like this: "Remember, these were school buses for school kids ... you sat crunched in a seat with your knees against the seat in front."

Lindy Peckham remembers that while the men were gone to Madison all day, life at Badger was a whirl of social activities with other young mothers. "We were all having babies," says Peckham, who had her third child at the Baraboo hospital while living at Badger. "They called it Rabbitville."

Peckham says that green spaces between the buildings, where women gathered to hang laundry on the clotheslines, served as the area's social centers. The children played and their mothers talked.



Welcome to Rabbitville: After World War II, Badger Village helped house UW-Madison's own little baby boom as married students (above) flocked to universities on the GI Bill.



UW-MADISON ARCHIVES (2)

Badger also offered an acclaimed elementary school, a kindergarten for four-year-olds, and a nursery school.

"If you had a problem, there were always experts around," she says, recalling that when one of her children had trouble with stuttering, she consulted psychology graduate students living nearby for advice. One of the students advised the Peckhams to "ease up, slow down, and lower our expectations." The stuttering got better.

"Since we were mostly poverty stricken, we had fun times on a shoestring and a keg of beer," Lindy Peckham recalls. "When students graduated and moved out, lots of them just set their overly used furniture on the curb for pickup by anyone in need."

Helen Wick '46 and her spouse, John '48, MBA'49, lived at the complex in 1951 and 1952, and recall another consequence of the close quarters. "If someone had measles at one end of Badger, you'd get it at the other end," she says. But she also remembers good times.

"The philosophy of the veterans coming back from World War II was that they would get an education, have babies, and start a business, all at once," Helen says. "No one worried if we could afford it." The Wicks are a good example of that philosophy. John left the university just short of his PhD in business, and went on to found Wick Building Systems in Mazomanie. The Wicks also had their third child while living at Badger Village. Helen remembers the local police taking her to the hospital, because all the family had was a jeep — "not the best transportation for a woman about to have a baby."

Wayne Hatz, who is collecting video reminiscences from people who lived at Badger Village, says he's heard enough stories about midnight runs to the hospital that he believes "80 percent of pregnant ladies were taken to the hospital by police," including Joyce Dreyfus, Wisconsin's future first lady. He says that women who worried about having babies so far from their own mothers soon found they had a support network of many other young mothers.

"These women had tunnel vision about getting their husbands through school," Hatz says. "One woman told me she'd do anything she could to make it easier for her husband to study and get his degree."

People interested in sharing their stories about life at Badger Village for the Badger History Project may contact Carol Sorg at (608) 356-5883.

— S.L.S.



In 1941, the U.S. Army seized land for the Badger Ordnance Works, which would make ammunition to fight America's wars. Though the plant closed in 1975, transforming the site has been tricky, especially as some 900 of the factory's 1,400 buildings are considered to be contaminated by the chemicals used to make so many munitions.

and use much of it for industry and commercial purposes — foundered amid bickering and angry meetings.

Then slowly, painstakingly, people worked to weave together a plan for the land that would not only restore it to its natural beauty, but would also seek to heal the loss and anger that marked so much of its past.

Marcia Colby and others joined the Badger Re-Use Committee, formed by Sauk County to replace an earlier, appointed group that fell apart. She says a turning point came when U.S. Representative Tammy Baldwin JD'89 found money to hire Diane Adams MS'99 to act as a facilitator. Adams, who wrote her thesis on Badger, works for the Seattle-based EnviroIssues, which helps communities work through complex environmental problems.

"I think it was the fact that she was impartial," Colby says. "There was so much passion, and [the committee] was able to harness that energy into something positive. It's been an incredible process, where everyone began with

their own view, but an alliance grew out of that — a cooperative spirit, and it was neat to see it evolve."

Another committee member, Curt Meine MS'83, PhD'88, recalls a second turning point on a sub-zero January evening at the Sauk Prairie High School.

Local conservationists and historians decided to sponsor a series of lectures about the history of Badger. The first talk, by retired UW-Madison geologist Robert Dott, drew some three hundred people to the high school on a Monday night. Other UW speakers in the series



ANDY KRAUSHAAR

" Most
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... "

JILL METCOFF

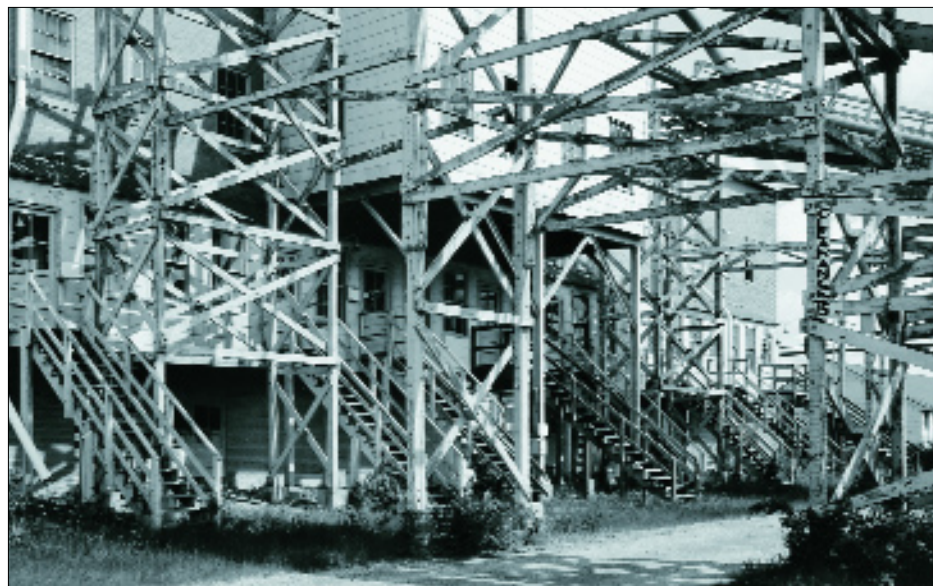
included Stanley Temple, of wildlife ecology, and Bill Cronon '76, of the history department.

"I think people were hungry for an opportunity to learn, listen, and talk about this place and the background of the issue," says Meine, who lives in nearby Prairie du Sac. "That was the moment when I first believed that we could overcome the differences."

Meine, who also works for the International Crane Foundation and is author of a biography of ecologist Aldo Leopold, is one of the unsung heroes of the process. Although he has years of experience in international conservation issues, he notes that working with one's neighbors on such a contentious issue can be much more difficult than, say, preparing a conservation plan for Bulgaria. But ultimately, it may be more satisfying.

The committee's challenge was to create a future for the Badger property that reconciled past conflicts over the land. And, says Meine, another goal was to "allow people to see this land through the naturalist's eye."

Ron Seely, a science and environment reporter for the Wisconsin State



ZANE WILLIAMS

Journal in Madison, has covered the Badger debate from the beginning. He says that one of the most difficult problems has been getting people to perform a demanding leap of imagination.

"Most people look at Badger and see a bunch of beat-up buildings," Seely says. "But Meine was asking them to look at that plant and see the beauty and the natural significance of the land beneath all the clutter." Even more difficult, Seely says, was that people were being asked to look beyond the divisive human history of the plant, beyond the loss of native lands and family farms, beyond the deep emotions from years of war.

But slowly, with the patient dedication of people willing to sit through countless hours of meetings, a consensus began to emerge, nursed along by Meine and others. The key was to have the property's three separate owners cooperate on managing the tract as a single piece of land — that is, as a natural area. Most conservationists urged this approach, including UW-Madison botanists Hugh Iltis and Donald Waller, who wrote a letter to area newspapers in 1998.

"Let us not divvy up the Badger land and squander this unique opportunity," they wrote to the Wisconsin State Journal. "We are, after all, here on this earth to do but one simple thing, to be good ancestors to future generations. And what better

way than to bequeath them a large and viable piece of Wisconsin's original landscape to love and to cherish in perpetuity."

The re-use committee's final report called for a mixture of future uses at Badger: ecological restoration, agriculture, recreation, and education. It also called for active community involvement in the transition to these uses. The new owners (the DNR, the Ho-Chunk, and the Dairy Forage Research Center) are expected to work jointly to realize the goals of the re-use plan. Cleaning up the contaminated land and ground water remain the responsibility of the army, and that process is expected to take a decade or more. In addition, most of the plant's 1,400 buildings will be removed, and since about 900 are judged to be contaminated, disposing of them will also prove a thorny issue.

Meine thinks that Badger would present an excellent site for UW researchers interested in re-using and reclaiming "brownfields," contaminated former industrial sites. There's also plenty of work for restoration ecologists. The plan is to restore at least a third of the land to native oak savanna and tall-grass prairie. Meine notes that the 1,200-acre UW Arboretum, where prairie restoration began in the 1930s, is still a work in progress, so restoring Badger will likely take generations.



The Ho-Chunk are interested in protecting cultural resources at Badger and using some of their land for what would be the nation's third buffalo preserve. (For a vision of how the restored prairie would look with buffalo, see Siberian artist Victor Bakhtin's painting at www.SaukPrairievision.org.) And the USDA will use its part to support continued research on alfalfa and other dairy forage crops.

Already, Badger has spawned several projects by UW researchers and alumni. Students from the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies participated in several workdays to restore oak savannas inside the Badger fences. Meine says the army had to halt the work due to tightened security, but it will likely resume under the new owners. Other studies have involved wood recycling, large-scale prairie restoration, and the community decision-making process.

Maybe the most important development so far was a 1998 study by Michael Mossman MS'84 of the Wisconsin DNR. Mossman found that the grassland between Badger's dilapidated buildings has become an important refuge for endangered birds. His findings were significant, because some once-common

grassland species, such as bobolinks, have declined by 90 percent as prairie and unplowed pastures disappeared. But Mossman found ninety-five species of birds nesting in Badger's unlikely setting, framed by old ammunition buildings and the slides that used to allow workers quick escape in case of an explosion. Living among the acid plant and the nitroglycerine buildings were upland sandpipers, dickcissels, meadowlarks, and Henslow's sparrows, to name a few.

"One of the many ironies of Badger is that by taking over the farms, they

preserved the pasture," he says. In other words, as farms outside Badger's fence modernized by using row crops and early alfalfa cutting, the abandoned farmland preserved the bird-friendly pastures of long-ago agriculture.

Mossman's bird study helped change the minds of those who wanted Badger to be used as an industrial park. But working at Badger also changed the researcher. Mossman is a wildlife ecologist, but he found himself drawn to the history of the place through his work with the Badger History Project. The



Badger's 7,354 acres encompass what was once prairie with oak savanna. Top: Dave Fordham came to the plant in 1971 and stayed to run the facility as the army phased out its use.

JILL METCOFF

"... But Meine was asking them to see the beauty and the natural significance of the land beneath all the clutter."



project led to worker reunions at the plant, film documentaries on life there, and a book.

Pete Shrake, of the Sauk County Historical Society, says the opening of Badger probably had more impact on the county than any other twentieth-century event. Eventually, the history group hopes to realize one of the goals of the re-use plan to establish a museum near Badger's front gate to tell the natural and human history of the site.

"The stories of the workers, the displaced farmers, the employees who died in explosions, and the Vietnam War protesters — all of that makes a neat story to tell," Shrake says. He envisions that one day, there will be trails leading through the restored prairie, with markers that point out the former locations of ammunition factories and old farmsteads, where the old garden flowers still bloom.

Nearly everyone who was involved in the Badger Re-Use Committee process changed in some way. Meine gets tears in his eyes when he talks about the late David Fordham, who came to the plant in 1971 as an engineer and stayed on to run the facility as the army put it into mothballs. Because he represented the army, Fordham was often cast as the



JILL METCOFF

enemy of those who wanted to restore Badger. Over time, Fordham changed, and so did those who sparred with him, Meine says. "Through the process, people tried to become bigger than what they were." Before Fordham died in early 2003, he had become a staunch advocate of returning the land to prairie.

Fordham also helped heal old wounds. Marcia Colby says he worked to get the army's permission to rebury Mary Hill next to her husband and daughter. But when the permission finally came through, the family decided it wasn't that important anymore. Perhaps the important thing was that the army, in some way, had acknowledged

how the family had sacrificed for the bigger cause of Badger.

"You can't give the local people there enough credit," says the *State Journal's* Seely. "It would have been very easy to simply give in to all the frustration and anger of past years. Instead, they took the hard route, putting together a future that not only acknowledges the land's human stories, but restores and protects a remarkable piece of Wisconsin's natural landscape." 🍷

Susan Lampert Smith '82 writes for the *Wisconsin State Journal* and is a frequent contributor to *On Wisconsin Magazine*.

ALL Hands ON Deck

**For Badgers young and old,
the centuries-old game of euchre is still aces.**



BY BOB COOK

When juniors Mike Emer, Chris Huard, and Jeff Hall first arrived at UW-Madison, the three friends from Appleton East High School lived in different residence halls, but all shared a typical Madison experience. To break the ice among the mostly new students on their floors, someone took out a deck of cards, threw out every one but the nines, tens, jacks, queens, kings, and aces, and started recruiting players. Emer, who lived in Kronshage Hall, recalls the initiation. “We were playing hearts,” he says, “and someone came up and said, ‘I’ve got a better game. How about euchre?’”

Euchre, like any card game, involves strategy and nuance, rewarding experience and players’ attention to chance and detail. Yet the game is stupefyingly easy to learn. It’s like a pared-down version of bridge, where players work in pairs to win tricks in a chosen suit, or trump. But there are no bids or contracts, and only twenty-four cards to worry about. Games take only about fifteen or twenty minutes, depending on the

time-honored interruptions of conversation and drink. And because euchre doesn’t require a peg board, as cribbage does, it’s portable enough to play in a Northwoods cabin or bass boat or dorm room.

Or even the remotest place on earth. Just ask James Madsen ’82, chair of the physics department at UW-River Falls. A few years ago, Madsen spent six hours playing euchre while on a flight from Christchurch, New Zealand, to Antarctica, where he was headed to join a research team burying light detectors in polar ice caps to seek out subatomic particles called neutrinos. Initiated by UW-Madison professor Francis Halzen, the project involves dozens of Wisconsin scientists — which makes it rife with euchre players.

“It’s an easy game to kill time with,” says Madsen, who played some euchre as an undergrad and sometimes plays with friends while ice fishing. “There’s a little bit of strategy, but not enough that you can’t be sleep-deprived and still play it.”

Which makes it perfect for college students. In Madison, bars and restaurants along State Street offer euchre nights, where five bucks gets you a drink and five hands. The Chadbourne Residential College's annual Olympic Games — which pit residents in athletic and skill competitions — include a euchre event. So does the Dean's Cup, the yearly showdown between students in the medical and law schools.

It's no wonder that it took only a few games freshman year before Emer, Huard, and Hall were hooked. Last spring, they even chartered their own campus euchre club.

"Everyone I've met from Madison knows how to play or knows of the game," says Huard, fresh off of a round of euchre at Pizzeria Uno on State Street.

The Deal

Euchre fits nicely into Wisconsin's long history with cards. Like its affection for making and consuming beer, which didn't wane with Prohibition, the state's passion for euchre and other games never faded when card-playing got a bad rap.

After James Polk was elected president in 1844, for example, newly anointed First Lady Sarah Polk set about to clean up the White House — and not with a whisk broom. A devout Presbyterian, she banned dancing, alcohol, and card-playing at the executive mansion. Four years later, when Wisconsin gained statehood near the end of Polk's lone term, the state honored the famously expansionist executive by naming a county after him. But it hardly embraced Sarah Polk's famously reductionist entertainment style. The new state entered the Union drinking, dancing, and, especially, playing cards.

Wisconsin never had the *cardus interruptus* that overran other parts of the nation, where some feared card-playing offered a gateway to the greater debauchery of drinking, heavy petting, and general moral turpitude. (Critics love to note, for instance, that the first

deck of cards was made in 1392 for France's King Charles VI — who was insane.) Cards are part of the Wisconsin culture — several aspects of culture, really. There's the well-chronicled Tavern Culture, which offers the perfect setting for shuffling the deck. But there's also Deer Camp Culture and



A relic of a game — something grandparents taught to grandchildren over old card tables — has not merely survived the video age. It has thrived, even among entertainment-savvy college students.

Ice-Fishing Shanty Culture, as well as the Nineteenth-Century Social Culture, all of which pushed card-playing into the mainstream of Badger State life. Eventually, parents sent their kids off to Madison and other places, where they settled into Dorm Culture, Greek House Culture, Off-Campus Apartment Culture, and Student Bar Culture, where the main activity — killing time with groups of friends — goes well with a round of cards.

In particular, Wisconsin loves three card games: sheepshead, cribbage, and euchre. Sheepshead is popular in communities with a strong German background, which is why in some places you'll still hear it called by its German name, *Schafkopf*. The game's rules are complicated for the beginner, but it's enough to think of it as a trump-bidding game in which the most powerful card is the queen. The king, as befits a game

invented by eighteenth-century central European peasants peeved at their local head of state, is worth less than a ten.

Cribbage is played with a wooden pegboard, which logs what to the uninitiated often look like undecipherable, volleyball-like scores for each hand — 15-2, 15-4, 15-6. It's most associated with the northern part of the state, especially deep in the heart of Packerland. Former Packer Jerry Kramer's book, *Instant Replay*, includes a memorable diary entry about the game, written soon after Kramer arrived for training camp before the 1967 season. "I've also got a handful of books and, most important, my cribbage board," Kramer writes. "Cribbage is the national pastime here; I usually support myself in the game ... [W]e try not to spend too much time in our rooms, except for playing cribbage and sleeping."

But while sheepshead and cribbage have their hard-core adherents, euchre has the strongest case as King of Cards, Ace of Games, Queen in the Hearts of Wisconsin card players. Ben Goebler, the euchre columnist for two southwestern Wisconsin newspapers — and one of the few practitioners of euchre journalism anywhere — says that he sees games at senior centers where people "come in wheelchairs and walkers so they can get to the table."

Turning Tricks

There are a few variations, but more than likely, a euchre game will look like this: four players in teams of two, each partner sitting across from the other to form a square. Each player is dealt five cards from a twenty-four-card deck — only the nines, tens, jacks, queens, kings, and aces are used. The remaining four cards sit before the dealer, three face down, the top card face up. It's then up to the player to the dealer's left to decide whether he or she, with the help of his or her partner, can win at least three out of five "tricks" — rounds in which each player plays a card, and the most powerful one wins. If



Journalism graduate students Mike Boyle, left, and Mike Schmierbach, far right, play a round with faculty members Katy Culver and Douglas McLeod in the Fireside Room of the University Club. J-school alumni — whose ranks may include as many intense card players as editors or writers — have a standing euchre game at professional conferences that has run for more than a decade.

that player passes, it goes on around the table until someone either decides to order the card up, making that suit trump, or everyone passes. Once trump is set, the rounds play out, and the team that claims the most tricks wins a point.

Games go to ten points, and there are plenty of variations on rules, scoring, and strategy. (For a primer, go to the card-games Web site Pagat.com.) The trickiest part is figuring out the bowers. The most powerful card, called the “right bower,” is the jack of the trump suit. Second best, or the “left bower,” is the jack of the same-color suit. So say someone calls spades: the jack of spades is the highest card and can win any trick, while the jack of clubs becomes the second most lethal. The suit-shifting left bower trips up

beginners constantly, but most people pick it up after a few hands.

The bowers also hint at the game’s roots. According to Pagat.com, *bower* comes from the German *Bauer*, or peasant, which was another name for the jack. The game is widely thought to have developed in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries in the Alsace-Lorraine region along the French-German border. (An early spelling of euchre was the German *Jücker*.) Over time, the game traveled around Europe, where new versions and rules spawned. According to Pagat.com, the joker was created to serve as high trump for a British version of the game.

In the United States, the Euchre Belt mostly traces the westward movement of the Pennsylvania Dutch, who are

believed to have first brought the game across the Atlantic. If you go to Yahoo’s euchre Web site and ask where the online players are from, for instance, you’ll get Indianas, Michigans, and Ohios — places with lots of Amish and their descendants. But the game has clearly been in Wisconsin for some time: early histories of Madison note euchre as a popular pastime among the city’s first white settlers, who came to town in the 1840s after its designation as the state capital.

But definitive works on euchre’s cultural heritage are hard to find. Like a lot of leisure activities, it’s escaped the eye of most historians, who probably consider it too trivial for serious academic scrutiny. “Among the conservatively conceived academic disciplines, who would pay attention to this stuff?” asks

Jim Leary, director of UW-Madison's folklore program.

For one, Leary. As a senior in high school in Rice Lake, Wisconsin, he spent weekends ignoring the legacy of Sarah Polk by hanging out in local taverns, drinking a few beers, and playing euchre as a warm-up to an evening of dancing. In 2001, he formed the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures to coordinate research on things like euchre, which he says are part of what makes the Upper Midwest unique.



Trumped Up

Leary says Wisconsin's devotion to the game doesn't come from the Pennsylvania Dutch so much as from its high concentration of Norwegian immigrants. That connection may explain why the most intense euchre action in the state fires up around the heavily Norsk regions southwest of Madison — the same towns that provide readers for Ben Goebler's euchre column in the Mount Horeb Mail and New Glarus Post-Messenger.

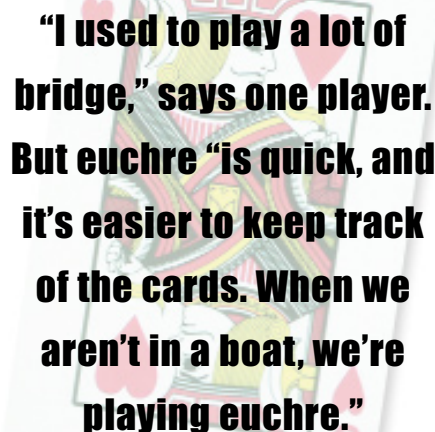
Since 1930, these towns have been part of what is called the Sugar River Euchre League. Originally, says Goebler, teams went from house to house once a week from October to April — from after harvest to before planting. Eventually, the league's teams were hosted and sponsored by taverns in the participating burghs of Mount Horeb, Verona, New Glarus, Hollandale, Blue Mounds, and Belleville, with Sauk City, Basco, and even Madison sending teams from time to time, says Goebler, the league's unofficial curator. Now seventy-seven, he has played in the league since 1948 and captained a team from his native Mount Vernon since 1951.

Most league players are in their fifties and sixties, Goebler says, although that isn't a sign that younger generations don't play the game. With a maximum of twelve teams, each having

eight members, sometimes players have to wait a while to get on a team. Goebler's Mount Vernon team has a waiting list of three, down from seven, but that was before Mount Vernon got a second team, he says.

The Sugar River league is about more than cards: it's a social club as uniting as the Elks or American Legion. For example, when a player dies, Goebler says, the league gives a cash donation to the deceased's memorial fund. (Goebler shared this right after attending, with other Sugar River players, the funeral of a fellow league member.) On a lighter note, if a player gets "skunked" — that is, loses a game ten to nothing — Goebler makes up a "skunk card" for a public presentation.

As a chronicler of the game, Goebler is perhaps no Roger Angell, but he pulls no punches, even against his own team. "Mount Vernon, at one time, was almost unbeatable," he wrote in December 2003, "but with new and somewhat inexperienced players, it has been a tough



"I used to play a lot of bridge," says one player. But euchre "is quick, and it's easier to keep track of the cards. When we aren't in a boat, we're playing euchre."

row to hoe as Captain Goebler's Hayshakers lost their fourth game last Thursday night."

"The reason euchre is so popular," Goebler says, "is because it's only a five-card game, and it's just so competitive."



King of Hearts

So simple, so competitive, so dangerously alluring, euchre hooks converts like a prize muskie. That happened to John Schmid, Jr. JD'69, a senior partner with Axley Brynerson in Madison, whose law firm biography states that he is "known as someone who has never turned his back on a cribbage board or game of euchre." Schmid grew up in Erie, Pennsylvania, and managed to duck the card bug both as an undergraduate at Beloit College and as a law student. What got him wise to the ways of Wisconsin card games were fishing trips with friends who were natives of the state. "I used to play a lot of bridge," he says. But euchre "is quick, and it's easier to keep track of the cards."

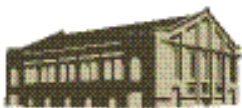
"When we aren't in a boat," Schmid says, "we're playing euchre."

All of which points toward euchre's amazing durability. A relic of a game — something grandparents taught to grandchildren over old card tables — has not merely survived the video age. It has thrived, even among entertainment-savvy college students, by being just interesting enough to keep doing.

When Emer, Huard, and Hall formed Bower Power — which last year was an officially registered student organization — they didn't have tournaments or big spectacles in mind. They just wanted a way to make contact with more players. And although they say Bower Power is currently on hiatus, that doesn't mean cards are on the outs. Emer and four roommates (who don't include Huard or Hall) spent the past winter break building an eight-person card table for their off-campus house. The prime event will be weekly poker nights, but the table hosts euchre as well.

"Euchre, it's a simple game for sure," Emer says. "There's more socializing and talking. It's more automatic — you can just play." ♠

Bob Cook, a regular commentator for National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* and sports columnist for *Flak* magazine (www.flakmag.com), has lived in the euchre-rich portions of Michigan, Indiana, and



The Kindest Cut

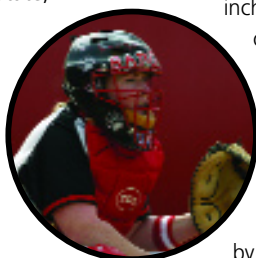
Athletes often go great lengths — and short ones — to help others.

TEAM PLAYER

Boo Gillette

Five things to know about softball player **Boo Gillette x'05**:

- The team's starting catcher, she leads the Badgers in runs batted in and has a batting average above .350 this year.
- During a game this spring against Michigan State, with the Badgers trailing 6-0, she hit a grand slam and knocked in six runs to spark a dramatic comeback. UW won, 11-8.
- A natural leader who was voted a team captain as a sophomore, she is president of the UW's Student-Athlete Advisory Board, which represents nearly eight hundred student-athletes. Last year, she was Wisconsin's representative at the annual NCAA Leadership Conference.
- From her pale skin, most people never guess that she's a native of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Wisconsin's academics and softball program — but not its weather — attracted her northward.
- When she was born, her mother looked at that light skin and blond hair and called her "Boo Bear." The tag stuck, and now no one calls her by her given name, which is Laura. — M.P.



Badger athletes typically give up a lot to compete. But along with the usual loss of sleep and free time, there's another sacrifice apparent among the women's crew this season. A few rowers are tearing their hair out — literally — for a good cause.

Team captain **Beth Redfearn x'05**, for example, has lost the long, blond ponytail she wore last season. She donated eleven

inches of her hair to Locks

of Love, a charity that provides financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term hair loss with custom-fitted wigs. She was inspired by photos she saw of the

children on the Locks of Love Web site in 2002 and decided to take action.

"It seemed like such a simple way to help someone else," Redfearn says. "I realized how much I take for granted such a simple thing, my ponytail. After that, it seemed selfish *not* to make a donation. I mean, for the rest of my life, I can grow new ponytails over and over, but some people can't."

Redfearn's donation prompted teammates **Malika McCormick x'05** and **Colleen Gosa x'05** to chop off their hair for the charity, as well. "It hasn't quite caught on to the whole team of thirty women," jokes Redfearn, "although that would be at least a couple of hairpieces."



UW SPORTS INFORMATION (7)

Acts of kindness from several members of the UW women's crew made waves recently — but for many UW athletes, giving back is an essential part of the game.

Among Badger athletes, charity runs more than just scalp-deep. Members of all twenty-three varsity sports participate in community service, whether building houses for Habitat for Humanity, speaking to children at banquets, or serving meals at senior centers. And while their work away from competition often doesn't draw headlines, it makes a difference.

Aside from donating their locks, members of women's crew volunteer throughout the Madison community. This year, Redfearn organized team service programs including a Toys for Tots holiday drive, a night of free babysitting at the Eagle Heights student apartment community, and a penny drive to help build a new playground for a local middle school.

Supporting that volunteerism is a priority of the UW's

Big Red Life Skills program, which helps promote leadership among student-athletes. Part of an NCAA initiative begun in 1991 to encourage academic excellence, community service, and personal development, the program helps athletes find opportunities to fit community service into their busy lives.

"Volunteerism is not a new initiative with the UW Athletic Department," says **Mike Moss**, an associate athletic director who oversees the program. "The students are encouraged to do community service."

Moss says when **Barry Alvarez** took over as football coach, he began encouraging team members to visit patients at the UW Children's Hospital, which has become an annual fall tradition.

But these days, Badgers visit with the kids almost year-round.

IN SEASON Olympic Games



Badger athletics may take a summer hiatus, but not its athletes. Several current and former UW stars are gearing up for a shot at this summer's Olympic Games, which run from August 13–29 in Athens. Here's who to watch for in Greece:

Kathy Butler '97

The 1995 NCAA cross-country champion has already been in the Olympics once before, competing for Canada in 1996. Now, she's out to return under a new flag. A native of Scotland, she's shooting to make Great Britain's team in the 5,000 meters.



Suzu Favor Hamilton '91

The three-time Olympian is gearing up for another run at the 1,500-meter title in Athens. Hamilton was runner-up in the event at last year's U.S. championships, and this may be her last shot at an Olympic medal. She'll have competition at the U.S. Olympic trials from fellow Badgers **Jenelle Deatherage '00**, **MPT'03** and **Bethany Brewster '03**.

Beau Hoopman '03

The former Badger rower was a gold medal winner at last year's Pan American Games and won a preliminary race this spring, putting him in good shape to join one of the U.S. boats. Six other former Badger rowers are in contention for seats, led by **Matt Smith '00** and **Katie Hammes '00**.

The men's basketball team makes trips in the spring, and the men's hockey team began visiting last winter. Men's hockey coach **Mike Eaves** says the team wanted to do something as a tribute to former Badger **Dan Boeser x'04**, a cancer survivor who has maintained close ties with patients since his recovery. "The guys would wear their jerseys to the hospital," Eaves says. "Some of them played with the kids in the arts and crafts room, and the rest went room to room to just chat."

Although making time to volunteer between the demands of practice, games, and classes was a challenge, it turned out to be a wonderful experience. "We just want to give back for the great support we get," says Eaves.

And sometimes, a special fan can make a lasting impact on the athletes. **Andrew Thiel**, a thirteen-year-old from Marshfield, Wisconsin, became an adopted member of the UW hockey team until his death in February. He was diagnosed with an untreatable brain tumor when he was one year old and was subsequently confined to a wheelchair. But Thiel's indomitable good spirit became an inspiration to the Badgers, who looked forward to his high-fives as they entered the ice.

Thiel so endeared himself to the team and coaches that he was given an all-access pass to the locker room, where win or

lose, he brought cookies and words of encouragement to the Badgers after games. For nearly a decade, a succession of Badger hockey players spent time with him, watching movies or just hanging out, and many past and present team members attended his funeral. He was buried in his UW hockey sweater, with a hockey stick and puck by his side.

It's often true that when athletes give, they get as much in return. That has been the experi-

ence of tennis player **Katie McGaffigan x'05**, who makes time to volunteer three days each week at an after-school program, where she helps supervise the kids and makes arts and crafts projects with them.

"Being on campus all the time, I don't get to interact with any younger children," she says, "and that's something I miss."

To read more about the program, visit the "Badgers Give Back" section at uwbadgers.com

— *Erin Hueffner '00*

Burying the Hatchet

After more than fifty years of heavy use, the Paul Bunyan Ax has lost its edge.

The ax, the ceremonial trophy kept by the winner of the annual Wisconsin-Minnesota football game, has become too fragile for the rough-and-tumble world of college football. And so it's been retired to the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana.

The W Club created the ax in 1948, and after fifty-six years — more than half the lifetime of Division I's most-played football rivalry — there was little room on the handle for any more scores. A fresh, clean replacement will be up

for grabs when Wisconsin and Minnesota meet for the 114th time on November 6.

— *Josh Orton '04*



After fifty-six years, the battle-weary Paul Bunyan Ax is ready for retirement.

Led by second-team All-American guard Devin Harris x'05, the Badger **men's basketball** team compiled a school record twenty-five victories and advanced to the second round of



Devin Harris

the NCAA tournament. Harris, the first Badger since Don Rehfeldt '50 to be named the Big Ten's most outstanding

player, averaged more than nineteen points a game, and his scintillating play in the Big Ten conference tournament helped Wisconsin win the title for the first time in school history.

Senior swimmer Bethany Pendleton shattered a conference record in one event and won another at the Big Ten championship meet, highlighting a record-breaking season for **women's swimming**. Pendleton, the Big Ten's swimmer of the year, and Carly Piper led a strong UW effort at the NCAA championship meet, where the Badgers finished tenth, the best showing in team history.

For his record-setting stinginess in the net, UW **hockey** goaltender Bernd Brückler x'05 won a place on the American Hockey Coaches Association's All-America team. Brückler allowed only 2.09 goals per



Bernd Brückler

game this season, a school record, helping the Badgers qualify for the NCAA championship tournament for the first time since 2001.

Adam Mania x'05

As a junior this season, Mania won honorable mention All-American honors in the 100- and 200-meter backstroke. A dual citizen born to Polish parents, he has a good shot at making Poland's Olympic squad in one or both of those events.



Kirk Penney x'03

Madison's favorite Kiwi has been honing his basketball game in the Canary Islands with an eye toward rejoining New Zealand's national team this summer. He was part of the Tall Blacks' 2000 Olympic team, as well as the team that finished a surprising fourth place at the 2002 World Championships in the sport.

Carly Piper x'05

At last year's Pan American Games, Piper swam for a relay team that won the gold and set a new U.S. record. She's qualified for the Olympic trials in three events — the 200-, 400-, and 800-meter freestyle — and will lead a group of at least nine Badger swimmers who will compete at the trials.



The Night the Stars Came Out

WAA honors UW-Madison's distinguished alumni.

They make us laugh. They make us think. They make us believe in the future. They're UW-Madison graduates, and this year they were also the recipients of the Wisconsin Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Awards.

Malcolm in the Middle actress Jane Kaczmarek '79, Earth Day founder and former Senator Gaylord Nelson LLB'42, Toshiba President Tadashi Okamura MBA'73, and philanthropy executive Joan Edelman Spero '66 were back on campus during Alumni Weekend in May to accept their honors. The Distinguished Young Alumni Award, presented to an exemplary UW-Madison graduate under the age

speaks for the quality of a UW-Madison degree."

Jane Kaczmarek is one of those alumni who make us laugh. She is perhaps best known for her Emmy-nominated role as Lois Wilkerson, the mother on the Fox network's hit television series *Malcolm in the Middle*. Her career also includes considerable success on stage and in film, as well as on television. An education major with a certificate in theater and drama, Kaczmarek entered Yale University's School of Drama after graduating from UW-Madison. In 1982, she made her television debut in the ABC-TV movie *For Lovers Only*.

Since then, she's appeared on many television programs, including *Felicity*, *Frasier*, and *Hill Street Blues*. Her films include *Pleasantville*, *Falling in Love*, and *Uncommon Valor*. She's earned four Emmy Award nominations for Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series, and three Screen Actors Guild and three Golden Globe nominations for Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series. Among other accolades, she received an American Comedy Award and two consecutive Individual Achievement in a Comedy awards from the Television Critics Association — the only woman to be so honored. Kaczmarek is married to Madison native Bradley Whitford, who appears in the NBC drama series *West Wing*.

Not only is Jane Kaczmarek a regular contributor to the UW Foundation, she also supports the Madison arts community. According to Tony Forman, managing director of the Madison Repertory Theatre, "She has been an ardent supporter of theater in Madison. In July 2001, she headlined our

kickoff fund-raising event for the Artists Fund." In 2002, Kaczmarek spoke with the alumni chapter in Los Angeles at a Wisconsin Evening among Friends and was presented with the first Badger of the Year Award from that club.

You can't think about world conservation without thinking about Senator **Gaylord Nelson**. He received his UW-Madison law degree in 1942 and joined the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war, he returned to Madison to practice law. He was elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in 1948 and held that office for ten years. In 1958, he was elected governor and served two terms, after which he spent eighteen years in the U.S. Senate.

Throughout his political career, he sponsored or co-sponsored a variety of bills aimed at promoting conservation. His best-known achievement was founding Earth Day, which was first celebrated on April 22, 1970. Nearly 20 million people participated in this collective expression of public will to create a sustainable society, making the event an instant success. Since then, ninety-five wilderness protection bills have been passed, adding approximately 80.5 million acres to the National Wilderness Preservation System. In 1995, Nelson was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to civilians in the United States.

In 2002, the Institute for Environmental Studies at UW-Madison was renamed in Nelson's honor. Consistently rated among the nation's best, the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies is widely known for its environmental scholarship and achievements.



BRENT NICAISTRO (5)

Jane Kaczmarek and her spouse, Bradley Whitford, had two engagements in Madison in May. Whitford spoke at the UW commencement.

of forty, was given to Mark Saxenmeyer '89, a Fox TV special-assignment reporter based at the network's Chicago affiliate.

"Our 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are a stellar group of alumni," says **Paula Bonner MS'78**, president and CEO of the Wisconsin Alumni Association. "The fact that their accomplishments are felt throughout the world



Gaylord Nelson, shown here with his spouse, Carrie Lee, is no stranger to the Union Theater. In his acceptance speech, he reminisced about attending the theater's opening, where he saw Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne perform.

Another alumnus with his eye on the future of the earth is **Tadashi Okamura**, president of Toshiba Corporation. Toshiba is well-known throughout the world for its manufacture of electrical components, computers, and communications systems. Perhaps less well known is that under Okamura's leadership, Toshiba has moved to the forefront of creating a recycling-based society.

Okamura received his bachelor's degree at the prestigious University of Tokyo in 1962. After coming to Madison and earning his MBA in 1973, he returned to Japan to work in Toshiba's instrument and automation division. He became a vice president in 1996, and president and CEO in 2000.

In August 2003, Toshiba developed one of the world's most advanced CT scanners in its renowned medical-imaging equipment division. The scanner's ability to capture sixteen one-half-millimeter slices simultaneously allows it to cover a large area of the body in a short time — a necessity in trauma cases.

Toshiba's commitment to the future is exemplified in the way it conducts business.

"Toshiba achieved a great deal in the areas of effective utilization of resources, prevention of global warming, strengthening control of chemical substances, development of environmentally conscious products, and recycling of end-of-life

products," says **Yoshiyuki Kasai MS'69**, president of WAA's alumni chapter in Japan. "In particular, Toshiba has achieved zero emissions of waste eighteen months earlier than originally targeted."

On September 18, 2001, Toshiba Corporation announced it would donate \$1 million in support of the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States. "We have been moved and impressed by the courage of the police, fire-fighters, and emergency-services personnel who have taken on such great burdens, and by the resolve of the American people to rise above and overcome these dreadful events," wrote Okamura in a letter to New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Governor George Pataki, and the World Trade Center Relief Fund. "We stand by our American friends in this time of need."

Okamura is a member of the dean's advisory board for the UW-Madison School of Business.



Tadashi Okamura and his spouse, Hiroko (right center), met with WAA's Asia coordinator, Kim Santiago '88 (in red), and her mother, Nedra Santiago '79.



When she accepted her award, Joan Spero (in red) made her first appearance on the Union Theater stage since working on a Humorology production with her sorority. To see more photos of this year's distinguished alumni, visit uwalumni.com/onwisconsin.

As president of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, **Joan Edelman Spero** is responsible for directing the activities of a \$1.5 billion fund that supports a variety of causes, including the performing arts, environmental preservation, medical research, and the prevention of child abuse.

Spero graduated from UW-Madison with a degree in international relations and joined Columbia University's faculty as an assistant professor of political science in 1973. From 1980 to 1981, she served under President Jimmy Carter as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Afterward, she became a vice president with American Express, but in 1993, she returned to government service as Undersecretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs. In this role, she was a leading adviser to President Bill Clinton at G7 Economic Summits and helped promote U.S. exports and investments.

Today, Spero presides over several other operating foundations created by philanthropist Doris Duke, including the Foundation for Islamic Art. On campus, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation supports the Doris Duke Conservation Fellowships at the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. The

fellowships are awarded to Nelson Institute graduate students who show outstanding promise as future leaders in nonprofit or governmental conservation in the United States.

Spero is a member of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation board of trustees. Her book, *Politics of International Economic Relations*, is in its sixth edition and is one of the most widely used textbooks in international-relations courses today.

"In addition to Ms. Spero's distinguished career in academia, international policy, business, and philanthropy," says Dean **Gilles Bousquet** of the international studies and programs department, "she still finds time to serve her alma mater. In 2001,

took his first television job at KOVR in Sacramento, California. Since moving to Chicago in 1994, his work has earned him one national and fourteen regional Emmy Awards, a national Edward R. Murrow Award, six regional Society of Professional Journalists awards, and ten regional Associated Press awards.

He may be best known for producing, writing, and co-hosting the 2001 TV series *The Experiment in Black and White* and 2002's *The Experiment: Gay and Straight*. These revolutionary broadcasting projects aimed to bridge the racial and sexuality divides that exist in Chicago and the whole nation. The projects are currently used as conflict-



Provost Peter Spear (left) congratulates Mark Saxenmeyer on his Distinguished Young Alumni Award, which honors the achievement of a UW-Madison graduate under the age of forty.

she shared her foreign-policy expertise with more than three hundred students, faculty, and community leaders as a speaker at the inaugural Eagleburger Forum, and she graciously offers her ideas and expertise on international studies."

Mark Saxenmeyer is an Emmy-winning television reporter for the Fox affiliate in Chicago. After graduating from UW-Madison's School of Journalism in 1989, the New Jersey native

resolution teaching tools in nearly one hundred schools, universities, churches, and workplaces in the United States. Later this year, Saxenmeyer will take *The Experiment: Gay and Straight* to South Africa, where he'll talk about the series and work with aspiring journalists.

"These representatives of UW-Madison alumni not only are stars," says WAA's Bonner, "they reach for them."

— Candice Gaukel Andrews '77



Compiled by Paula Wagner
Apfelbach '83

early years

"I'm writing on behalf of my mother, who must be among your oldest living (but long-lost) alums," writes Tom Mitchell, the son of ninety-six-year-old **Heidi (Adelheid) Wagner Mitchell '28**. "She recalls her years in Madison fondly." Tom Mitchell notes that his mother used her music degree to create a "long and productive career as a college and secondary school teacher," and then retired to Shrewsbury, Vermont. Heidi Mitchell still plays piano for town functions and occasionally fills in at the local church, where she was the long-time organist and choir director.

40s-50s

After WAA's reunion planners posted their list of "lost classmates" from the Class of 1943 on the WAA Web site, at least one was located: **(C.) Anne Stimple Steytler '43, MA'45**. From her daughter, Jeanne Pitz, we learned that Steytler has lived in Pittsburgh for about thirty years. Both of her spouses — the late Edmund Steytler and the late David Stimple, to whom she was married as a UW student — had been history professors and taught at what was then the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

During her nearly four decades in nursing, **Signe Skott Cooper '48** provided service to the Army Nurse Corps in India, to the UW Hospital as head obstetric nurse, to the UW School of Nursing as a professor whose priority was continuing education, and to the field of nursing history, through her extensive writing and preservation work. Finally, 2003 was the year to honor it all. In May,

Cooper received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the UW's Nurses' Alumni Organization. In September, she earned the President's Award from the American Association for the History of Nursing, and in November, the American Academy of Nursing designated her a "Living Legend." Cooper, who retired from UW-Madison in 1983, lives in suburban Middleton.

Who's *really* the Big Cheese? According to the National Cheese Institute (NCI), it's UW Professor Emeritus **Elmer Marth '50, MS'52, PhD'54**, who's received the NCI's highest honor, its Laureate Award. NCI Chair Lou Gentine said of Marth, "His groundbreaking research is a key reason that the cheese industry enjoys the excellent food-safety record that it has today." In addition to his publishing, consulting, and public speaking endeavors, Marth was the co-inventor of a cottage cheese-making process that was issued in nine countries. He lives in Madison.

R.J. (Robert) Theisen '51 of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, sent us an account of his recent trip aboard the Trans-Siberian Railway. Departing from Madison in July 2003, Theisen eventually arrived in Vladivostok, Russia, where he met up with his daughter, Tracy, who's a Russia desk officer for the Department of Commerce. The pair continued on to visit many sites, including Lake Baikal, Moscow, and St. Petersburg, with Theisen arriving almost a month later in Chicago — "all the way around the world," he concludes.

Attorney **Gordon Gregory '52, LLB'55**, a founding partner in the Detroit firm of Gregory, Moore, Jeakle, Heinen and Brooks, received the 2004 Distinguished Service Award from the labor and employment law section of the State Bar of Michigan in January.

When Barcelona, Spain, played host to the Seventh International Symposium on the Science and Processing of Cast Iron in September 2002, tribute was paid to one of the "most well-known personalities in cast iron" — none other than **Carl Loper, Jr. '55, MS'58, PhD'61** of Madison. The retired UW professor of materials science and engineering presented the first paper of the symposium.

RoseDog Books caught our attention with word of two new adventure novels set in the American West of the 1830s: *Spirit of the Scalp* and *Spirit of the Trail*, crafted by **E.H. (Edward) Haines '57**. The author himself went west as a young naval officer and lived in California, where he became fascinated with that state's early history and culture. Now retired in Fort Myers, Florida, Haines is at work on a novel about Sherman's march through Georgia and the Carolinas.

What's not to love about radio mysteries? If you read *Private Eyelashes: Radio's Lady Detectives* (BearManor Media), you might find even more. In this new work, author **Jack French '58** discusses in depth the forty-four network radio series that ran between 1930 and 1960 and featured a fictional female sleuth as the lead — such *femmes* as Nora Charles, Jane Sherlock, Miss Pinkerton, and Candy Matson. Spiced with dozens of rare photos of the women who graced the microphones — Marlene Dietrich and Joan Blondell among them — it'll give you a feel for the Golden Age of Radio. French, of Fairfax, Virginia, is quite a sleuth himself — he's a retired FBI agent who's also a professional actor with stage, film, and television credits.

Liebe Hanya: Mary Wigman's Letters to Hanya Holm (University of Wisconsin Press) — compiled, edited, and extensively annotated

Don't Forget to Write!

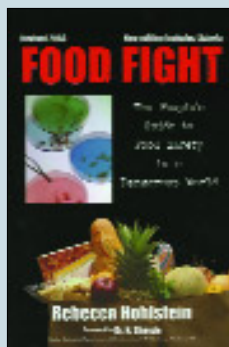
Whether you've been away from the UW for six months or sixty years, please send us the (brief, please) news of your recent accomplishments, transitions, and other significant happenings.

Alumni News operatives are on e-mail duty at apfelbach@uwalumni.com; standing by the fax at (608) 265-8771; and opening mail at Alumni News, Wisconsin Alumni Association, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1410.

Although space limitations prevent us from printing everything we receive, we love to hear from you.

Please e-mail death notices and all address, name, phone, and e-mail changes to alumnichanges@uwalumni.com; mail them to Alumni Changes, Wisconsin Alumni Association, 650 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706-1410; fax them to (608) 262-3332; or call us at (608) 262-9648 or toll-free at (888) 947-2586. Most obituary listings of WAA members and friends appear in WAA's semiannual member publication, the Insider.

Bookmark



Are you concerned about the food that goes onto your table and into your mouth? If you're not, perhaps you should be, contends food-safety consultant **Rebecca Borst Hohlstein MS'83**.

"Even with current programs and safeguards in place," she says, "approximately 76 million Americans will fall victim to water- or food-borne illness each year — of these, over five thousand will die. And these statistics precede our newest threat: the *deliberate* contamination or destruction of our food supply." To learn more, consider Hohlstein's new work: *Food Fight: The People's Guide to Food Safety in a Dangerous World, Second Edition* (Goblin Fern Press). Fully revised in 2003, the book is a plain-language reference guide that offers straight answers to those who are concerned about the threats of anthrax, *Salmonella*, botulism, *E. coli*, *Listeria*, mad cow disease, plague, staph, cholera, agri-terrorism, and more. The Madison-based author and illustrator has been a food bacteriologist for more than twenty years and has taught university-level courses in microbiology and food bacteriology. Since 1995, Hohlstein (www.rhohlstein.com) has also been a speaker and trainer in the food protection and testing industries.

by (M.) **Claudia Schroeder Gitelman '58** — contains vivid letters, written between 1920 and 1971, by two women who were at the center of twentieth-century dance modernism. Mary Wigman was a pioneering choreographer and dancer in Germany. Her disciple, Hanya Holm, took Wigman's ideas to the U.S. in 1931 and became a celebrated Broadway choreographer. Gitelman, of New York, herself appeared on Broadway and the concert stage, taught at the city's Nikolais/Louis Dance Theatre Lab, and is an emerita professor of dance at Rutgers University.

60s

Justus Paul MA'60 — dean of the UW-Stevens Point College of Letters and Science for the past eighteen years — is retiring in July after thirty-eight years as a faculty member and administrator. He's also been that institution's official historian and wrote *The World Is Ours: A History of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, 1894-1994* (Worzalla Publishing) in 1994. Five years later, Paul created *Wisconsin History: An Annotated Bibliography* with his spouse, **Barbara Dotts Paul MS'68**, who's a retired associate professor of UW-SP's Learning Resource Center.

If you're one of those folks who swoons over a bride in white — a Victorian notion that dominates Western bridal dress — perhaps you'd like to explore the wider world of wedding attire and marriage rituals offered in *Wedding Dress across Cultures* (Berg Publishing). Co-edited by **Donald Clay Johnson '62, PhD'80**, the book is a collection of essays that discuss the values and traditions associated with wedding dress within the Andean, Berber, Canadian, Greek, Inuit, Japanese, Korean, South Asian, and

Swazi cultures. Johnson is the curator of the Ames Library of South Asia at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

Four UW graduates are working to create sustainability for our world through the Millennium Institute (MI, www.millenniuminstitute.net), an Arlington, Virginia, nonprofit research and service firm. MI President **Gerald Barney MS'63, PhD'67** founded the institute in 1983. **Daniel Gómez-Ibáñez '65, MA'67, PhD'72**, a former UW assistant professor of geography, serves as the chair of its board of trustees. The director of modeling and analysis is **Weishuang Qu MS'84, PhD'86**, while **Kristen Barney MA'89** rounds out the Badger quartet as MI's operations coordinator. Created as a follow-up to the *Global 2000 Report to the President*, the Millennium Institute is a pioneer in using computer modeling and integrated analysis for holistic, long-term national planning for sustainability. It has also partnered with the Carter Center, the World Bank, United Nations agencies, and the U.S. President's Council on Sustainable Development, among others.

A member of UW-Green Bay's founding faculty was named the Herbert Fisk Johnson Professor in Environmental Studies at the institution's December commencement. It was Professor **V.M. (Vellilath Madhathil) Ganga Nair PhD'64**, an instructor in natural and applied sciences who's known for his research in the diseases of trees, reforestation, and forest medicinal plants around the world. India has honored Nair with fellowship in its National Academy of Sciences, and China has presented him with its Scroll of Distinction for scientific achievement.

The American Fisheries Society has lauded the contributions of **John Ney '67** to its membership of more than ten thousand

fisheries professionals by awarding him its Meritorious Service Award. Ney is a professor of fisheries and wildlife science at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg and a fellow of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists.

Fleming & Company Pharmaceuticals has a new president in **Tom Johnson MS'68**. Previously the executive VP of the Fenton, Missouri-based manufacturer of products such as Ocean nasal spray, Johnson has also held numerous positions at Pharmacia and Upjohn in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Now *here's* a gent who knows his grass: **Monroe Miller '68**, the golf course superintendent at Madison's Blackhawk Country Club for the past thirty years, has earned the U.S. Golf Association's annual Green Section Award for "distinguished contributions to golf through work with turfgrass." He's also won awards — nineteen years running! — as the volunteer editor/publisher of the publication *The Grass Roots*. Miller's most important industry contribution, however, may have been spearheading fund-raising campaigns to build the UW's O.J. Noer Turfgrass Education and Research Facility and to fund four annual graduate research fellowships.

We were pleased to hear from **Dianne Post '69, JD'78**, who's a legal adviser in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She's currently working with the Human Rights of Cambodia Project on issues of domestic violence, child abuse, and sex trafficking. Post was previously a gender specialist in Russia and has consulted in many countries.

70s

Kurt Vonnegut is one of the few American writers since Mark Twain to have gained and sustained a high level of popular

acceptance while walking the literary cutting edge, contends **Jerome Klinkowitz PhD'70** in his new book, *The Vonnegut Effect* (University of South Carolina Press). A pioneer in "Vonnegut studies," he describes this work as a comprehensive treatment of the writer's twenty-book body of fiction. Klinkowitz is himself the author of forty books, including the complementary, 1998 work in which he analyzed the writer's body of nonfiction, *Vonnegut in Fact*. Klinkowitz teaches English at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

The list of credits compiled throughout the career of production and costume designer **Frane Sandler Lee x'70** is impressive. She got her start designing theater sets and costumes for *Alice in Wonderland* and earned an Obie Award. That led to Broadway, two Tony Awards, her first TV credit working on *Saturday Night Live*'s first five years, and an Emmy Award. She's also designed for films, music videos, and commercials; opened a Nashville art cooperative called the Plowhaus; and teaches at Belmont University and the Watkins Film School, both in Nashville.

When she looks back, **Janet Wittler Roberts '70, MA'74** says she's been "far away for most of the thirty years since graduation" — and she's been busy! Roberts has worked with Save the Children, UNICEF, and in international education in Mongolia and Russia, and was in Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan in 2000–01 on a Fulbright award. Returning to Philadelphia, she's taught at several universities, worked in architectural preservation — an interest that began at the UW — and earned a National Endowment for the Humanities Award. Her "experience with the carpet world" became a paper presented at the International Congress of

Carpets, and her Mongolian textiles are going into the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

"I am a UW grad who dropped out of corporate life and went back to school at a Quaker seminary in 1997," began a note from **Paul Buckley '71, MS'72, PhD'74** of Richmond, Indiana. He's spent the last several years translating five of William Penn's theological works into modern English. The result is his new book, titled *Twenty-First Century Penn: Writings on the Faith and Practice of the People Called Quakers by William Penn* (Earlham School of Religion).

Three 1972 grads are newsmakers in the legal profession: **Peter Gaines '72, JD'75** has joined Faegre & Benson as a partner in its Minneapolis office. He was previously a partner in the London office of Vinson & Elkins. Another new partner — in the New York City office of Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus — is **Christa Stutius Hildebrand '72, MA'73, PhD'80, JD'83**. And in Chicago, **Harold Kaplan '72, MA'75** has been named to the management committee of his firm, Gardner Carton & Douglas; has become the firm's new chair; and was named one of twelve Outstanding Bankruptcy Lawyers in the country for 2003 by *Turnarounds & Workouts* magazine.

"As an anthropologist who taught for many years at UW-Madison, I've reinvented myself by writing fantasy," says Madisonian **Mary Fandrick Grow '72, MA'85, PhD'91**. Her latest book is *Chester & the Mystery of the Tilted World* (Studio 17), in which heroic Chester, the author's cat, takes a magical journey to the land of the ancient pharaohs. Grow shares that writing this tale was a refuge from the hard labor of trying to renovate an old farm in southern France, which she was doing concurrently. The finished

product is a sequel to *Chester Meets the Walker House Ghost*, based on the lore and landscape of Mineral Point, Wisconsin.

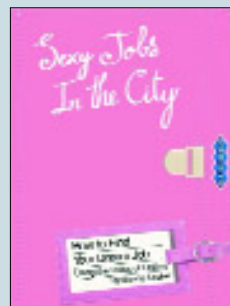
Not everyone can claim the title of vice president of blood services, but **Rick Hart '72, MA'76** can. Coming from his post as the senior VP of operations at the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Milwaukee, Hart has now joined the non-profit Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin, considered one of the top transfusion-medicine organizations in the world.

Euromoney magazine chose a UW graduate as the recipient of its global 2003 Best Legal Adviser in Islamic Finance award: **Michael McMillen '72, MD'76**, a partner in the New York and London offices of the law firm of King & Spalding. In January, he was also appointed the chief legal officer for the Islamic Financial Standards Board, which comprises sixteen Middle Eastern and Southeast Asian countries, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the Asian Development Bank. McMillen makes his home in Quakertown, Pennsylvania.

L.G. (Lester) Lennon '73 sent a brief note to let us know that his book of poetry, *The Upward Curve of Earth and Heavens* (Story Line Press), received a "nice, three-quarter-page, lead review" in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Acknowledging that even therapists need help sometimes, Washington, D.C., psychologist **Ellen Doolittle Baker MS'74, PhD'76** has authored *Caring for Ourselves: A Therapist's Guide to Personal and Professional Well-Being* (American Psychological Association Books). She has a special interest in the therapeutic benefits of personal journaling, and has led workshops at the National Museum of Women in the Arts on journal writing as a women's folk art form.

Bookmark



It's an intriguing approach: applying the guidelines you'd use to find a dream guy to finding a dream job. It's also what New Yorker **Wendy Straker '97** espouses in her first book: *Sexy Jobs in the City: How to Find Your Dream Job Using the Rules of Dating* (Hangover Productions). The work offers entertaining, irreverent, and candid inspiration for young career women who want to work in those "sexy" industries: TV, broadcasting, publicity, fashion, film, advertising, music, the Internet, and magazines (who knew?!). Full of interviews with successful women who are already working in these fields, the book offers realistic views of these jobs' "looks," salaries, working hours, girl-to-guy ratios, required skills, responsibilities, lingo, and cons — the "nastier truths about those bright lights." Straker says, "This is the book I wanted when I was twenty-three years old and just starting out in New York City — dissatisfied with my job, overworked, and underpaid." Her solutions — marathon interviewing, self-help books, and scouring help-wanted ads and the 'Net — left her feeling overwhelmed and lost. After a year of soul searching, Straker found her passion in writing and vowed to share what she'd learned with "anyone who is searching for her own perfect fit."

War Philosopher

When **Thomas Barnett '84** advocates “shrinking the gap,” he’s not referring to cutting a chain store’s inventory — he’s talking about narrowing the divide between globalized nations and those least connected to globalization.

In his book, *The Pentagon’s New Map: War and Peace in the Twenty-First Century* (G.P. Putnam’s Sons), the Naval War College senior strategic researcher and Pentagon adviser emphasizes, “States least connected to globalization overwhelmingly account for where we’ve gone with military forces since the end of the Cold War.” To reduce the frequency of these interventions, he says, we need to move from a containment strategy to extending globalization, thus shrinking the gap between rich and poor countries.

“Extend globalization; invite everybody to the party; and when’s everybody’s in, terrorists won’t hold the same sway,” he says. “The would-be suicide bomber will have other options; his life won’t be as pointless.”

Barnett, an award-winning instructor who was named one of *Esquire* magazine’s “best and brightest” in 2002 and christened a “philosopher of modern war,” collaborated with the broker-dealer firm of Cantor Fitzgerald in a pioneering study about globalization’s impact on national security. It examined — among many scenarios — possible terrorist attacks on Wall Street. Ironically, several workshops that were part of the study were held atop the World Trade Center, which would be the main 9/11 attack target and would result in the death of many of the company’s employees.

In Barnett’s view, the attacks reflected the “ultimate rise of the lesser-included,” or non-state actors, striking out against globalization’s main symbols of power. Theory had become reality.

As the assistant for strategic futures, working in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Barnett advised senior leaders on “transforming” the Pentagon’s long-range war planning from fighting “near-peer” armies to contending with the new type of threat. “I’m the most optimistic of all DOD [Department of Defense] strategists,” he says. “We’re on the verge of making war as we know it obsolete.”

At UW-Madison, Barnett majored in international relations and Russian literature, studying the language with legendary instructor **Lydia Kalaida**, and singing bass in her Slavic choir. His junior-year election to Phi Beta Kappa was a “life-changing event.” At Harvard, he earned a master’s degree in Soviet studies and a doctorate in political science.

Barnett’s parents, **John Barnett LLB’49** and **Colleen Clifford Barnett ’46, MA’55, JD’90**, met as students at UW-Madison; all six of his siblings attended the university; and he met his future spouse, **Vonne Meussling Barnett ’82, MS’85**, when they worked at Paisan’s, the University Square restaurant. The couple lives in Portsmouth, Rhode Island; has three children; and is in the process of adopting a baby girl from China — thus “shrinking the gap, one person at a time.” — *Joel H. Cohen*



ROBERT INVERSO

Hearty congratulations go to **Fred Freitag '74**, who’s been one of the Top Doctors in Chicago — a listing of the city’s top 1,500 physicians, as rated by their peers — for the past several years. In January, *Chicago Magazine* also honored him with a spot on its peer-rated list of the Windy City’s top 350 doctors. Freitag is the associate director of the Diamond Headache Clinic in Chicago and lives in nearby River Forest.

When the words *bat saliva* appear in a press release’s headline, they tend to catch your eye, and when Badger news follows, it’s even better. Such was the case with the news about **Ross Levine '74, MD'78** and **George Newman**, a UW Medical School associate professor and professor of neurology, respectively. They’re the primary UW investigators on an international study that shows that using a synthetic drug derived from vampire-bat saliva appears to extend the window of opportunity for treating acute ischemic strokes from three to nine hours. “This is the biggest breakthrough I’ve seen in twenty years,” says **Howard Rowley**, a UW Medical School associate professor of radiology who’s the lead radiologist on a twin U.S. study to identify the drug’s proper dosage and effectiveness.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has promoted two UW grads within its ranks. **Constance Traylor JD’74** is the new deputy regional attorney in the Overland Park, Kansas, office. She joined the board in 1974 as a field attorney. **Terry Ann Morgan ’81, JD’88** is now the deputy assistant general counsel in the NYC-based division of operations management, which directs the work of the NLRB’s thirty-two regional offices. Morgan has worked for the board in its Milwaukee, Cleveland, and, now, New York City offices.

The next time you’re in the Big Apple or L.A., visit the

Museum of Television & Radio and ponder the words of its new president, **Stuart Brotman MA’75**: “The museum continues to be the premier trust of television and radio’s heritage, and a place for all of us to commemorate and celebrate how these media convey artistic excellence, historic significance, and social impact.” Since 1981, Brotman has been the president of his own Lexington, Massachusetts-based management consulting firm, but has had a parallel career on the law faculties of Harvard, Boston, and Tufts Universities as well.

“Unveiling Insulin Insights” was the headline of an article about **Michael Mueckler ’76, PhD’82** in the *Record*, the campus newspaper at Washington University in St. Louis [Missouri], where Mueckler’s a professor of cell biology and physiology. He’s made a name for himself in the areas of sugar metabolism and diabetes, discovering in 1985 the first gene and protein that transport glucose into cells, and three years later, cloning the gene for the glucose transporter 4 protein (Glut4). Mueckler is also the associate director of the Washington University Diabetes Research and Training Center, as well as the editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of Physiology: Endocrinology and Metabolism*.

From the frosty forty-ninth state came a note from **Randy Zarnke MS’76, PhD’78** about his new book, *Fairbanks Hockey Pioneers: A Tribute to the Hockey Community in the Golden Heart of Alaska*. In addition to paying homage to all the folks who have contributed to the sport locally, Zarnke is making a contribution himself: he’s donating all book proceeds to the Fairbanks youth hockey organization. To get a copy, contact Arctic Lions Hockey, c/o Cork Bradish, 495 Panorama Drive, Fairbanks, AK 99712.

Barbara Paul '77 of San Francisco is now the senior VP and chief medical officer for Beverly Enterprises, which operates skilled-nursing, assisted-living, hospice, and home-care centers. To accept this new position, Paul stepped down from her post as a director for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). While at CMS, Paul led the launch of HHS Secretary **Tommy Thompson '63, JD'66's** Nursing Home and Home Health Quality Initiatives.

The Labyrinth Group, a Minneapolis-based investment firm that specializes in hedge fund products, has welcomed **James Rovner '78** aboard as its new chief investment officer. At the UW, he participated in the business school's Applied Securities Analysis Program. Most recently, Rovner was the president of HLI Management in Minneapolis.

A press release about **Christine Blumer Spangler '78** came accompanied by a note that said, "I am her proud mother, **Virgil Petter Blumer '41** [of Madison], a former Latin and Spanish teacher at Monroe [Wisconsin] High School, 1944–1949." Spangler's news is that, after starting at the *Daily Jefferson County Union* as a "cub reporter" in 1978, she's now the Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, newspaper's managing editor and has earned two editorial-page awards in the 2004 Better Newspaper Contest, sponsored by the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Two Badgers have worked hard to achieve special recognition in their respective fields — and they've added acronyms to their titles in the process.

Christine Stroebel-Scimeca '78, associate vice president and financial adviser at Morgan Stanley in Mequon, Wisconsin, is now a CFP (Certified Financial Planner).

Meanwhile, **Jeremy Graff '97** has become a CIMA (Certified Investment Management Analyst), a distinction accorded to only 2,500 people in the U.S. and Canada. Graff is a Minneapolis-based financial consultant with the Bromelkamp Group, part of RBC Dain Rauscher.

Roger Stoller MS'79, a research staff member in the metals and ceramics division of the Oak Ridge [Tennessee] National Laboratory, has joined the board of ASTM International. For nearly two decades, he's been extremely active in and lauded by ASTM, one of the world's largest voluntary standards-development organizations. Stoller is also an adjunct professor of nuclear engineering at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

80s

This will put a song in your heart — or at least in your mind: **Gary Denton '81** has been elected to the international board of the Barbershop Harmony Society. During his three-year term, he'll help guide the nonprofit group of more than 31,000 male, close-harmony singers in the U.S. and Canada. When Denton is not making music with the Men of Note chorus, he's the information systems and services operation manager for Delphi Corporation and lives — "in harmony" — in Westfield, Indiana.

Picture this: you join a company in August as its chief operating officer, and by early January, you're the president as well. That's the path that **James Lillie '83** has taken in Rye, New York, at the Jarden Corporation, whose home products carry brand names such as Ball, Diamond, FoodSaver, and Kerr.

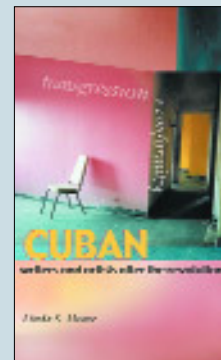
Alumni News HQ overflowed with news from the legal profession this spring. Here's what we've heard about some

eighties graduates: Lindquist & Vennum in Minneapolis has chosen three Badgers — **Eric Peck '84, JD'93**; **Joseph Humke '92**; and **John Wambold '92** — as new partners. **David Gorberg '85** writes that *Law Office Computing* magazine has chosen the Web site that he designed and operates (www.MyLemon.com) for the Philadelphia firm of Gorberg, Gorberg and Zuber as one of the nation's best law-firm sites. In Kansas City, Missouri, **Michael Brown '89** is a new associate at Shughart Thomson & Kilroy, and from Minneapolis came word that **Terrance (Terry) Newby '89** is a new officer at Leffert Jay & Polglaze.

We also heard about two eighties grads who are movers and shakers in the advertising and marketing world: **Michael Antonucci '85** has joined McCann Erickson's Detroit office as its senior VP/executive director of broadcast production. Most recently with Leo Burnett in Chicago, Antonucci was hailed as "an absolute star in this business" by McCann-Detroit's chief creative officer. Meanwhile, **Lisa Hull '88** has joined Charleston/Orwig in Hartland, Wisconsin, as an account supervisor after eight years in the Wisconsin governors' administrations as chief of staff, communications director, press secretary, policy adviser, and political strategist.

You've no doubt heard that the UW's beloved Camp Randall has been undergoing a major facelift. One of the Badger grads involved is **Wendy Johnson Thorson '85**, a senior interior designer for Berners-Schober Associates, the Green Bay, Wisconsin, architectural and engineering firm working on the project. Thorson is overseeing space planning, primarily of the private-box suites and athletic offices, as well as color and furniture selection for the entire renovation.

Bookmark



"I've been traveling to Cuba for twelve years," says **Linda Howe '82, MA'87, PhD'95**. "The more I learn about the country, the more I realize how little I know." We're impressed nonetheless. As an associate professor of Spanish and the director of Latin-American Studies at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Howe is also the founder and nurturer of that university's Cuba Summer Study Program — six weeks of learning at the University of Havana, along with excursions and workshops, during which Wake Forest students team up with Havana's university and elementary-school students to learn about Cuban culture, history, and architecture. Howe has also turned her knowledge into a new book — *Transgression and Conformity: Cuban Writers and Artists after the Revolution* (University of Wisconsin Press) — that's been called the "ultimate guide to understanding the cultural policies of the island." In it, Howe delves into the political, aesthetic, racial, and historical factors that have influenced — and constrained — Cuban culture, its artists, and its intellectuals, both during and after the Revolution.

Pulitzer Power Trio



The Pulitzer Prize jury was smiling on Badgers this spring when it conferred three of its coveted honors on **Lowell Bergman '66** ("Breaking the News," Spring 2000 *On Wisconsin*, pictured at left); **Anthony Shadid '90** ("One Shot in Ramallah," Summer 2002 *On Wisconsin*); and **Abigail Goldman '92**.

The *New York Times* received the Public Service category award — considered the most distinguished

Pulitzer, and the only one that doesn't include a \$10,000 prize — for the work of Bergman and his fellow investigative reporter David Barstow. They produced a series that "relentlessly examined death and injury among American workers and exposed employers who break basic safety rules."

Bergman is also a producer and correspondent for the PBS documentary series *Frontline*, an adjunct professor at the Graduate School of Journalism at UC-Berkeley; and the founder of the Center for Investigative Reporting and the Investigative Reporters and Editors Group.

Before joining the *New York Times* in 1999, Bergman spent twenty-one years as a producer, reporter, and supervisor for ABC News and then CBS News, where he was a producer for *60 Minutes*. His efforts to tell the story of Jeffrey Wigand, a former Brown & Williamson Tobacco executive, on *60 Minutes* were the subject of *The Insider*, a 1999 Academy Award-nominated film. Bergman was a *Daily Cardinal* reporter in 1965. He lives in Berkeley, California.

Shadid, a *Washington Post* Islamic-affairs correspondent, earned the Pulitzer in the International Reporting category for his "extraordinary ability to capture, at personal peril, the voices and emotions of Iraqis as their country was invaded, their leader toppled, and their way of life upended."

Shadid speaks and reads Arabic, which offers him insights uncommon to most Western journalists covering the Middle East, where he's based. He received the UW School of Journalism's Ralph O. Nafziger Award in 2002, shortly after he was shot in Ramallah while reporting for the *Boston Globe*. Shadid has also worked for the Associated Press and was the *Daily Cardinal* campus editor in 1990.

Goldman, who followed in Shadid's footsteps as the *Daily Cardinal* campus editor in 1991, is part of the four-person *Los Angeles Times* team that is sharing the National Reporting prize for its series "The Wal-Mart Effect" — an "engrossing examination of the tactics that have made Wal-Mart the largest company in the world, with cascading effects across American towns and developing countries." This is Goldman's second Pulitzer; she was also part of a staff team that covered the 1994 L.A. earthquake. — P.A.

"Wisconsin Bookstore Quenches the Thirsty Mind" began a piece in the American Booksellers Association's publication *Bookselling This Week*. It told the story of **Jodee (Jodeen) Miller Binder Hosmanek '87**, who, while contemplating a career change away from teaching high school chemistry and biology, decided to fulfill her dream of owning a bookstore. Ten days later, she'd bought a building in Richland Center, Wisconsin, and in November, opened Ocooch Books & Libations — a bookstore that also sells specialty beer, wine, scotch, and handspun yarn.

Taking her place among the Badgers who are helping to make the world more inclusive is **Norma Register PhD'87**. Since 2002, she's been a contributing writer for *Urban Spectrum*, a periodical dedicated to "spreading news about people of color" in her home community of Denver. Register also contributed advice on socially sensitive language to the *Dictionary of American English* 1997, 2000, and she's helping to develop a historical resource on Colorado's African-American organizations.

What would it be like to go to work every day in a casino? **Kip Ritchie '88** has been doing it since he became the marketing director of Milwaukee's Potawatomi Bingo Casino in 1997, and now he's been promoted to assistant general manager. Ritchie is a member of the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe.

Soil scientist **Matias Vanotti MS'89, PhD'93** has been named the South Atlantic Area's Early Career Scientist of 2003 by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) — the chief scientific research agency of the USDA. On the staff of the ARS Coastal Plains Soil, Water, and Plant Research Center in Florence, South Carolina, Vanotti is

acclaimed for his research on water quality, animal-waste treatment, and nutrient-recommendation systems for crops.

90s

"**Bill Hunt [90]** has made a name for himself in Hollywood, and has been the editor of the Internet's most respected DVD Web site — www.thedigitalbits.com — since 1997," writes Hunt's spouse, **Sarah McCall Hunt '90**. She adds that he's helped to influence the formation of the DVD format and co-published a book in October that reached the number forty-three spot on amazon.com's Top 100 list: *The Digital Bits Insider's Guide to DVD* (McGraw-Hill/TAB Electronics). The couple lives in Irvine, California.

When you look at the volunteer record of **Gary Kalas '90**, it's easy to see why the Chicago Bears chose him as one of ten Chicago-area finalists for their third annual Bears Community Quarterback Award, which honors Walter Payton. As a team coordinator for the Chicago Cares program, Kalas has put in more than five hundred hours of service since 1995. His compassion and hard work were recognized at a December luncheon with first-runner-up honors — and the knowledge that he's setting an inspirational example.

Roger Kittleson MA'90, PhD'97 has hit the tenure trail at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, where he's an assistant professor of history. Kittleson's research focuses on the politics of culture in modern Brazil. He's completing his first book, *A New Regime of Ideas: Transformations of Political Culture in Porto Alegre, Brazil, 1845–1895*, and is beginning a second project on race, region, and masculinity in Brazilian soccer.

Congratulations go out to these attorneys who graduated in the nineties: **Jonathan Fogel '91** is the new chair of the family law department at Hellmuth & Johnson in Minneapolis, while **Kyle Fox '92** has become a partner in the Austin, Texas, office of Vinson & Elkins. Milwaukeeans **Douglas Patch JD'95** and **Dennis Connolly JD'96** are new shareholders at Godfrey & Kahn, and the real estate law firm of Pircher, Nichols & Meeks has welcomed **Carrie Risatti '95** to its Chicago office as a new associate.

The word from two Milwaukee companies is that **Kris Lueneburg Naidl '91** has been promoted to executive vice president — from her previous role as VP — of the public relations firm of Zeppos & Associates, and **Dean Poulos '94** is a new VP at Ellingsen Brady Advertising, after serving as its director of new business and as an account executive.

Ted Osthelder '92 and his spouse, **Jill McNaughton '92**, are partners in life and partners in aid of Wisconsin Governor **Jim Doyle, Jr. '67**. They've moved back to Madison from New Mexico, where Osthelder had been the director of operations, and McNaughton had been the finance director, for Governor Bill Richardson's campaign. Osthelder is now Doyle's director of external relations, while McNaughton is the Doyle for Wisconsin campaign director. Both spouses were named 2002 political "rising stars" by *Campaigns and Elections* magazine.

Kathleen McDonald '94 is playing a part in the war on terrorism. With a recent promotion to senior associate at DFI Government Services in Washington, D.C., she manages support to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness. DFI provides research, analysis, simulation, strategic

planning, and other services to the U.S. national security community. Previously, McDonald was the deputy director of ReadyNet in Oklahoma City, an initiative of the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism.

More than two hundred people competed for the national, two-year fellowship that the Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) ultimately awarded to **Bridget Bergquist '96**. ELP brings together rising leaders from all sectors of the environmental community and supports them as they develop solutions. Bergquist, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, is a PhD candidate in the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution-MIT Joint Program.

Many little girls would love to have someday the position that **Jamie Schmidt '96, MMusic'98** does: he's the music director for the Pleasant Company's new American Girls Place NYC. But Schmidt first used his master's in opera conducting to music-direct the shows presented in the theater at the original American Girl Place in Chicago — the first retail and entertainment site launched by the Madison-based firm known for its high-end dolls. Schmidt also music-directed *Godspell* at Chicago's House of Blues.

If you were to look among the ten New Faces of Civil Engineering for 2004 — as chosen nationwide by the American Society of Civil Engineers — you'd find that of **Nahid Afsari '98**, a structural engineer at CH2M HILL in Milwaukee. The New Faces program honors engineers who have been out of college between two and five years. Afsari is working on replacing the interchange that links three interstate highways near Marquette University — an expanse traveled by more than three hundred thousand motorists daily. She also

participated in Leadership Milwaukee, an eight-month program for emerging leaders, and is an engineer mentor to elementary school students.

Dreams, love, mysteries, and madness: these are what you'll find in *At Shadow Edge* (Amber Dragonfly Press), a collection of poems and prose written over a period of more than thirty years by **Mike Sabacinski MS'99** of Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania. The writings, which encompass a range of styles, are also illustrated by Sabacinski.

2000s

"We grow brains" is the motto of the NeuronFarm, where **Ankur Malhotra MBA'01**, a graduate of the UW's Weinert Center for Entrepreneurship, is now the chief operations officer. The firm is a Madison-based educational software startup that recently launched a new Web site (www.NeuronFarm.com) to introduce its products: e-learning literacy modules that incorporate evidence-based learning theory, interactive feedback, and real-time assessment.

The "excellence in teaching and dedication to music education" that Madisonian **Joanna Grace MMusic'02** has demonstrated as a full-time, independent piano and horn teacher was recognized recently. She received the 2004 Music Teachers National Association Studio Teacher Fellowship Award, given annually to a studio teacher, under thirty-five years old, of any instrument, nationwide. Grace also developed a course for the UW-Madison summer music clinic in 2003 called Practice Strategies, which grew out of her focus on efficient practicing.

WAA's alumni news editor, Paula Wagner Apfelbach '83, wonders how the heck it got to be swimsuit season again.