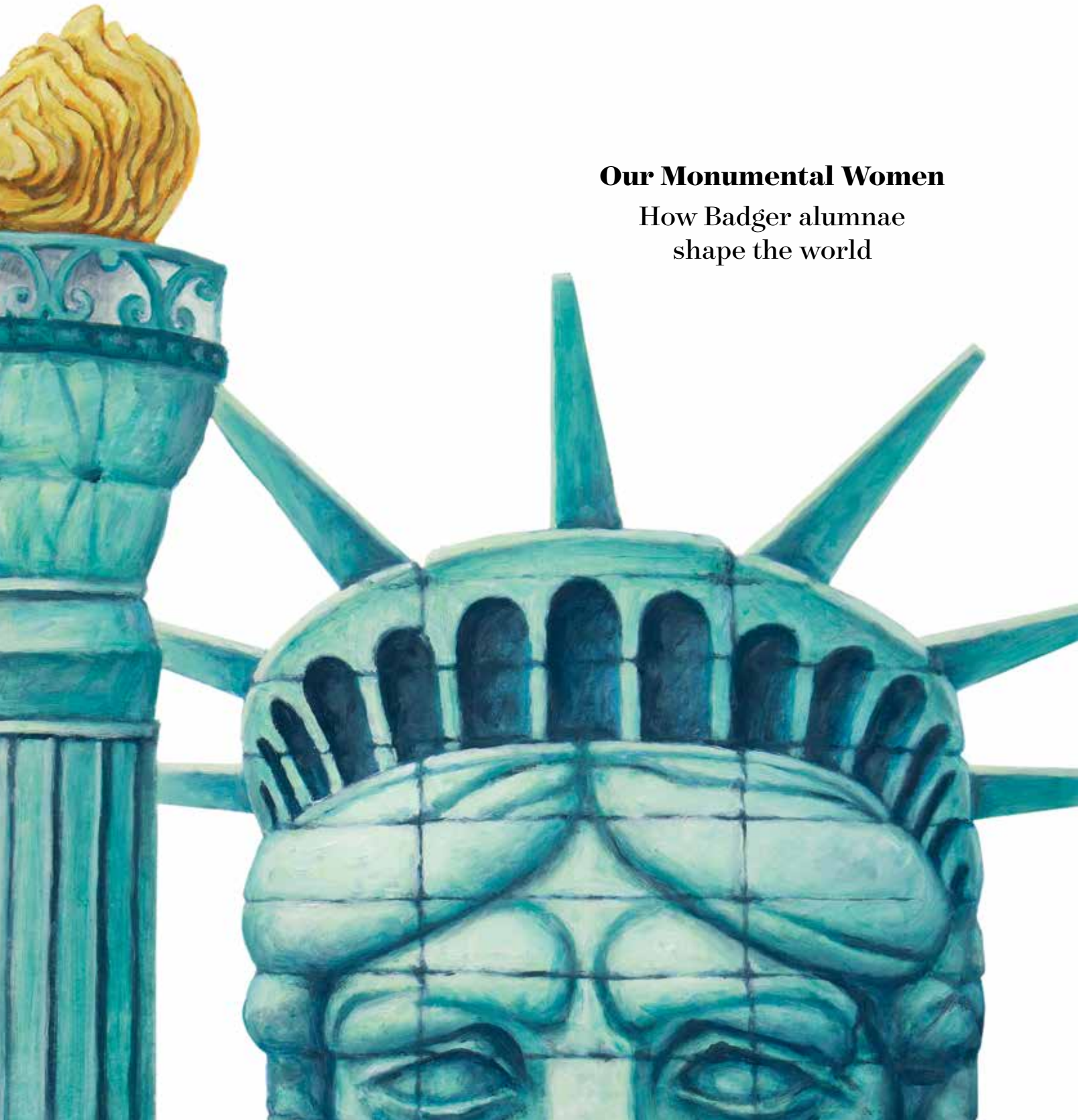
OnWisconsin

FOR UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS SUMMER 2019



Our Monumental Women

How Badger alumnae shape the world

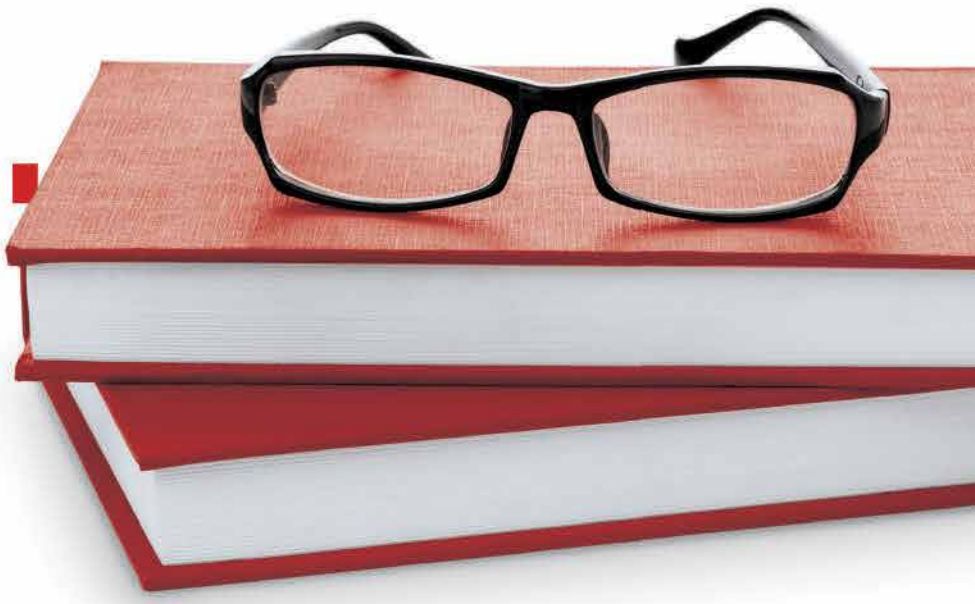
Vision

Next-generation Badger stars? Inspired young fans greet the UW women's hockey team on its return from winning the national championship in March. It was the team's fifth title since 2006.

Photo by Bryce Richter


EXIT

INVEST IN YOUR CLASSMATES. WE DO.



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UW women's basketball was popular from the get-go. See page 32.

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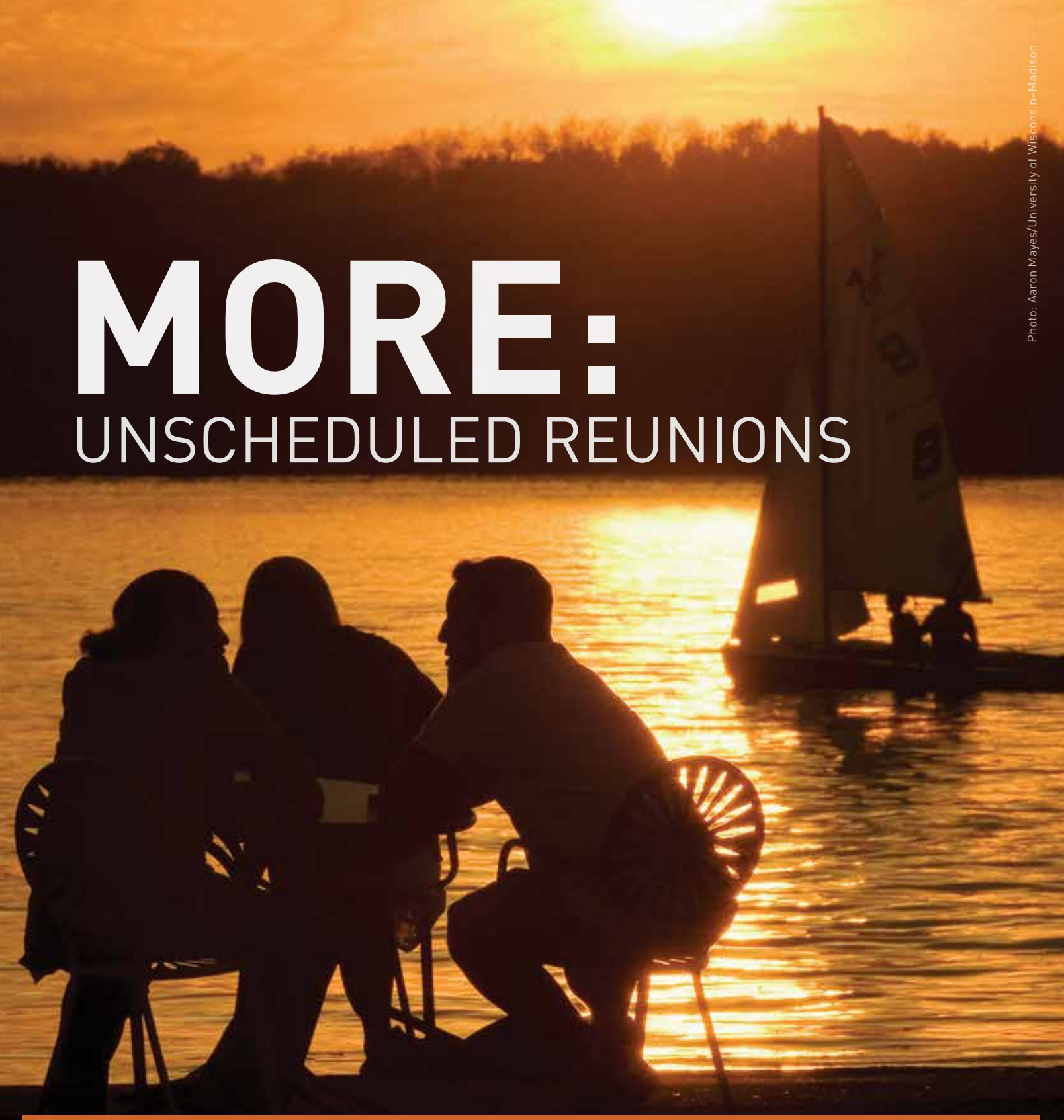
Traversing America in a Model T. See page 28.

FEATURES

JEFF MILLER

After a decade away, Lady Liberty (this time in inflatable form) returned to Lake Mendota in February — just in time to inspire our cover illustration for this special women's issue. See page 9.

Cover
Illustration by Barry Carlsen MFA'83



You may have left Wisconsin, but hopefully it hasn't left you. The geography, the values and the people that make this a great place to live are all still here. And now, thanks to a booming economy, abundant career opportunities and low cost of living, there's never been a better time to come back and make a new life in the place you once called home. Wisconsin. It's more **you**.

THINK • MAKE • HAPPEN IN WISCONSIN®

THINK•MAKE•HAPPEN in WISCONSIN®

InWisconsin.com/Alumni

Communications

Aaron Williams '01 of Madison writes that his five-year-old has confirmed that it is indeed a continuous line on the "Room for Debate" graphic in the Spring 2019 issue. The editors have been debating that since they first saw this whimsical drawing.

In Praise of Debate

Thanks to Louisa Kamps for exploring a topic that's been festering far too long ["Room for Debate"]. She'd resonate with the little book *Conversation*, written some 20 years ago by Theodore Zeldin. He writes, "I particularly value conversations which are meetings on the borderline of what I understand and what I don't, with people who are different from myself." It's good to know that "many at UW–Madison are actively seeking, encouraging, and developing the ability to discuss difficult topics fruitfully."
Jac La Tour '78
Brea, California

Space Junk

[RE: "Lost in Space," Spring 2019]: Ever since I was little, I remember my dad, Jon Leider '66, telling me how he and his friends found the fallen piece of Sputnik in the street in Manitowoc in 1962. They noticed the object because it still had a red-hot glow and was visibly steaming. They went right to the police station to report it. The police officers have always received credit for the find — not them. I just wanted to add that extra bit to the story, since it was a UW student who found it!
Lisa Rupe '92
Niantic, Connecticut

A Wall Street Gem

As a longtime *Wall Street Journal* subscriber, I was wondering when Jason Gay ["A Good Sport," Spring 2019] would grace your pages. For the influential *WSJ* readership, Mr. Gay has significantly raised the profile of the UW and uniquely captured the Badger spirit in a humorous, down-to-earth manner. Bravo!
Peter Struck '73, MBA'74, PhD'80
Mercer Island, Washington

Proud Fans

Thank you for having the courage to publish "Walking Away from Football" [about Chris Borland and CTE] in the Winter 2018 *On Wisconsin* and to Preston Schmitt for writing with such clarity. I reread this article and shared it with my husband. We agreed that it's important for you to know that we are so proud of you for publishing it.
Ginny Moore Kruse MA'76
Madison

Correction

In Diversions in the Spring 2019 issue, the item for the book *Border Country: The Northwoods Canoe Journals of Howard Greene, 1906–1916* should have indicated that Howard Greene graduated from the UW in 1886, not 1915.

UW WOMEN AT 150

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Throughout the academic year, campus celebrated the 150th anniversary of women receiving degrees from the university. The UW Women at 150 website, wisc.edu/women, featured stories on these UW trailblazers:

- **Gloria Ladson-Billings** (pictured above), a UW professor emerita known for research examining racial disparities in education
- **Signe Skott Cooper '48,** a World War II veteran and nursing pioneer at the UW
- **Ada Deer '57,** a Native American activist and the UW's first Elder-in-Residence
- **Thelma Estrin '48, MS'49, PhD '52,** a computer scientist who introduced technology to medical research
- **Lorraine Hansberry x'50,** the first black female playwright to have a show on Broadway *(A Raisin in the Sun)*
- **Grace Wahba,** the first female faculty member in the UW Department of Statistics
- **Mabel Watson Raimey 1918,** believed to be the first black woman to graduate from the UW and the first to practice law in Wisconsin

The UW has also established a giving fund called In Her Honor. Contributors can recognize special women in their lives by making a gift to the UW and sharing a story about the honoree. Names will be featured on an honor roll in Memorial Union, and gifts ($150 minimum) will support campus programs that promote gender equity. Learn more at wisc.edu/women.

OnWisconsin

Summer 2019

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JEFF MILLER

At the 2018 Homecoming Parade, students marched in celebration of 150 years of coeducation at the UW.

"The University, in all its departments and colleges, shall be open alike to male and female students." In Wisconsin's reorganization act of 1866, the state legislature declared that the UW should serve all of its citizens, not merely the half who wore neckties. The UW, however, was not entirely keen to obey, particularly because the person it hoped would be its next president, Paul Chadbourne, felt that coeducation would "cause a great deal of trouble." But after some wrangling, women were added to campus in 1867, and so was Chadbourne.

There had, in fact, been women at the UW prior to this. The Normal Department, which taught teachers, had female students since 1863. But this was not the same as full access to the university. In 1869 — 150 years ago — the UW graduated its first baccalaureate alumnae: Clara Bewick Colby, Anna Headen Erskine, Elizabeth Spencer Haseltine, Jane Nagle Henderson, Helen Noble Peck, and Ellen Turner Pierce. The next year, Chadbourne left, but women stayed.

This year, the UW is celebrating that 150th anniversary. In this issue, you'll read about just a few of the amazing women (and one who's less-than-admirable — see page 40) who have passed through campus in the last century and a half. We know we've missed a lot of influential Badger women; we plead lack of space. You can see more articles at onwisconsin.uwalumni.com. On, alumnae!

***ON WISCONSIN*'S EDITORS**

WHEN ENTOMOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE WORK TOGETHER, WE ARE BOUNDLESS.

WISC.EDU | #ONWISCONSIN

State of the UW

Flexibility, accessibility, research, and faculty: Blank lays out her priorities.

One thing was clear in Chancellor **Rebecca Blank**'s February address to the UW Board of Regents: the landscape of higher education is changing rapidly, and UW–Madison must keep up to maintain its status as a top public research institution.

Blank outlined several key goals and investments for the university. One is to build on educational outcomes by offering greater flexibility for students. An increase in online courses is helping students meet credit requirements while they're studying abroad or doing an internship. The UW is exploring all-online degree programs for nontraditional students, with the hope of developing at least one undergraduate program by 2020. It's expanding early-start programs, which allow incoming freshmen to earn credits during the summer, and rolling out gap-year programs, which will accommodate those who earn admission but wish to delay full enrollment so they can travel, work, or volunteer.

A second priority is accessibility. The UW established Bucky's Tuition Promise last year to reduce the financial burden on low- and middle-income families. Four years of tuition is now covered for any incoming Wisconsin student whose family's household income is below the state median of $58,000. Noting that the university has tripled its investment in scholarships over the past 10 years, Blank said that it still faces shrinking state and federal aid. "I want every student who can qualify for admission to UW–Madison to be able to afford to come," she said.

Blank identified research as an area of concern, with the UW's expenditures lagging behind its peers over the past decade. Despite an 11 percent increase in research dollars during the past two years, the UW has dropped to sixth in national research expenditures, following decades among the top five universities. To address the trend, the UW is increasing stipends to attract top graduate students and establishing industry partnerships with the likes of GE Healthcare, Johnson Controls, and Foxconn.

Above all, the quality of the university "rests on its faculty," Blank said. A cluster-hire program, which recruits cross-disciplinary faculty members with aligned interest in high-demand research areas, will hire more than 50 faculty members over five years. Another program is giving departments new tools and financial support to recruit faculty members from underrepresented groups in their respective fields. The biggest barrier remains the lack of competitive pay. "We're number 14 of the 14 Big Ten schools," Blank said, noting that UW professors earn, on average, 10.4 percent less than those at peer institutions. "That does not reflect our reputation and our strength."

All of these key areas, Blank said, require reinvestment from the university as well as a renewed commitment by the state. She concluded by quoting former U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan: "If you want to create a great city" — and a great state, she added — "first create a great university, and then wait 100 years."

PRESTON SCHMITT '14

18.4
percent of all new in-state students in the 2018–19 class benefited from Bucky's Tuition Promise

$154,807
Difference in dollars spent on research between sixth place (the UW's spot) and fifth (the University of Washington) in 2017

WISCONSIN PUBLIC TELEVISION

A CAPITOL IDEA

History can be challenging, remembering so many names, dates, and places. But the video game Jo Wilder and the Capitol Case, created by UW–Madison's Field Day Lab and Wisconsin Public Television (WPT), makes Wisconsin history "really cool" — at least according to fourth-graders like Camren Hokanson from Elmwood, Wisconsin.

The game commemorates the centennial of Wisconsin's state capitol and is available for free on WPT's website. The story line revolves around a young girl (Jo Wilder) and her adventures as she solves mysteries behind several historical state artifacts.

"Even kids who had a hard time reading loved interacting with [the game]," says **David Gagnon '04, MS'10** of Field Day Lab. "All the principles of the game — how you track down evidence, how you corroborate evidence, how you find experts to interview, how you find primary sources — we want those things to transfer into how kids interact with their own neighborhoods and communities."

LYNN ARMITAGE

HELEN LOUISE ALLEN TEXTILE COLLECTION

HANDBAG BLING

This elegant purse was one piece in the original bequest of Professor **Helen Louise Allen** to form the textile teaching collection that — 50 years on — still bears her name and continues to inform students, researchers, and historians today. This piece has become a talisman for the collection's golden anniversary, which the School of Human Ecology is celebrating this year. The purse is an example of an ancient art called zardozi, a distinctive metallic embroidery associated with India and the Middle East. Taken from the Persian words for gold *(zar)* and embroidery *(dozi)*, zardozi is usually formed around natural motifs wrought in silver, gold, and copper wire or metallic threads accented with sequins, beads, pearls, semi-precious stones, and jewels.

DAVID NEWELL AND MARINA MOSKOWITZ

Mueller Report

The April release of special counsel Robert Mueller's report on Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election came with a UW surprise. On page 27, footnote 71, it cited a study by researchers at the UW School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Early last year, they found that most major media outlets had inadvertently used tweets from Russian troll accounts to demonstrate opinions in news stories. "Journalists are [now] taking this issue really seriously," says **Josephine Lukito PhDx'20,** a lead author of the study.

Stars of Financial Aid

JEFF MILLER

Mackenzie Straub x'22 (pictured) was one of 796 incoming students during the 2018–19 academic year receiving free tuition through Bucky's Tuition Promise.

The first brainchild of the UW's new Student Success Through Applied Research (SSTAR) Lab, Bucky's Tuition Promise, has provided financial relief to nearly one-quarter of the Wisconsin-resident students in the 2018–19 incoming class.

By identifying a sustainable way to simplify the financial aid process for in-state undergraduates — covering four years of tuition and segregated fees for freshmen meeting income-level criteria — the SSTAR Lab created a solution to help the Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA) provide more student support.

And it aims to do more. Although the lab began research on Bucky's Tuition Promise more than a year and a half ago, SSTAR celebrated its grand opening — with a new office and classroom space tucked into OSFA — earlier this year.

"We as financial aid practitioners really were looking for ways to be more creative and innovative with how we do business and how we award funds to students," says **Derek Kindle,** the UW's director of student financial aid. As a result, OSFA decided to bring in **Nicholas Hillman** — an associate professor in the School of Education who studies higher-education finance and policy research — to provide his expertise and to direct the SSTAR Lab.

With nationwide concerns about college affordability, the SSTAR Lab, which also employs graduate students, aims to conduct financial-aid research that leads to practical and lasting solutions. Its direct partnership with the financial aid office is a rare one in the field — to Hillman's knowledge, it's the only lab of its type at a university.

"There's just a big gap between what we do as academics and what practitioners need to solve problems in real time," he says. "I think people are doing a lot of really innovative work with financial aid, but nothing in this format where we're working in partnership with practitioners to help solve problems."

STEPHANIE AWE '15

Bygone *Ladies' Halls*

UW ARCHIVES 2018S00424

No men allowed: a group of 1960s female students relaxes in the Elizabeth Waters Residence Hall courtyard. The dorm would be the last on campus to remain segregated by gender.

By 2005, Elizabeth Waters Residence Hall was the last standing gender-segregated dorm on campus. For many alumni of that time, it was a familiar arrangement. For many students, it was antiquated — *weird*, even. Wrote one in the *Badger Herald*: "The time has come for UW to end this wretched, backward invocation of sexism and mindless promotion of prudery." A year later, it became a coed dorm, ending a long era.

The UW's first-ever purpose-built dorm was also its first women's dorm. Ladies Hall was constructed in 1871 and was later renamed Chadbourne Hall after former chancellor **Paul Chadbourne,** partly in retribution for his stubborn opposition to coeducation. The paradoxical naming streak continued for the second women's dorm (and oldest functioning dorm on campus today), Barnard Hall — after former chancellor **Henry Barnard,** who opposed university housing entirely because of its high costs.

The earliest residents of Ladies Hall needed permission to leave the dorm outside of usual class hours, and they were only allowed to see visitors during scheduled receptions in common areas. The hall's principal also advised the women on their habits and how to comport themselves in public.

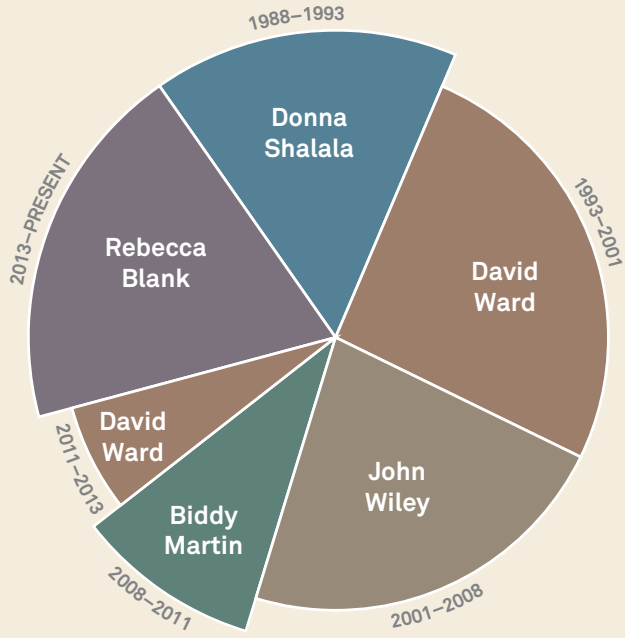
Many strict housing rules continued into the latter half of the 20th century. Between the '40s and '70s, parents received a letter from the university before the start of each academic year informing them that female students under the age of 21 were required to live in university-approved housing or provide a guardian's written permission to live unsupervised off campus.

Curfews were commonplace. According to a 1949 housing document, women who tried to return to their dorms after 10:30 p.m. on weeknights would be locked out. Only a housemother had access to the building's keys, so residents needed permission to be gone overnight or to stay out past curfew. Late-night studying at the library? Too bad. Freshmen could request a key for curfew extension until 12:30 a.m. once per semester, while seniors earned the luxury of requesting a key twice per week. Exceptions were made for university-sanctioned events and for *Daily Cardinal* staffers.

For many years, men could only enter women's dorms during certain evening hours and were never allowed to stay overnight. The board of regents approved coed housing, separated by floor (and later by wing), for select UW residence halls in 1972. All halls are now coed, and most floors and wings stopped being separated by gender in 2011. Students are free to come and go as they please. We suspect they wouldn't accept anything less.

NINA BERTELSEN '19

14 OF THE PAST 31 YEARS (45%): WOMEN SERVING AS UW CHANCELLOR



SALARY COMPARISON

$95,000 Shalala (1988) ▶ **$582,617** Blank (2019)

AN ERA OF FEMALE FIRSTS

Donna Shalala
Chancellor
1988

Mary Rouse
Dean of Students
1988

Melany Newby
Vice Chancellor
1989

Sue Riseling
Campus Police Chief
1991

PHOTOS BY JEFF MILLER; ILLUSTRATION BY N. B. RINEHART

An Uphill Climb

When **Donna Shalala** entered Bascom Hall at 6 a.m. for her first day on the job in 1988, a security guard told her, "You must have a tough boss." As it turned out, she was the boss — making history as the first woman to serve as UW–Madison's chief executive and one of only a few to lead a major research university.

"I'm sure she's going to shake the place up," **Robert Clodius,** a former UW acting president, prophetically told the *Wisconsin State Journal* after she was hired.

Just as Shalala arrived on campus as chancellor, **Mary Rouse** became the first woman to hold the title of dean of students. A year later, Shalala created the position of vice chancellor for legal and executive affairs and selected **Melany Newby,** the UW's first female vice chancellor and top lawyer. In 1991, **Sue Riseling** was hired as the director of police and security, becoming the first female campus police chief in the Big Ten and one of just a handful in the country. "I'm a manager who brings about change," Riseling told the *State Journal* at the time.

Now, a woman entering high office in Bascom Hall is a familiar sight. Between Shalala, **Biddy Martin PhD'85,** and **Rebecca Blank,** women have been in charge of the university for almost half of the past three decades. Many other central leadership positions — provost, top administrators for research and student affairs, deans of various schools and colleges — have also been held by women in recent years.

During this era, women also led the way at the Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA) and the UW System. Gayle Langer '83 was named executive director of WAA in 1989, and Katharine Lyall became president of the UW System in 1992.

Progress, however, can feel slow. A year after Shalala arrived, students criticized her for hiring three men to fill dean and vice chancellor vacancies. (The only female dean at the time was the School of Nursing's **Vivian Littlefield**.) Shalala defended the moves and insisted that the UW was still committed to diversifying leadership. "The proof is what the UW will look like in three years," she told the *Capital Times*. "Come back and take a look then."

PRESTON SCHMITT '14

FRANK FENNEMA

Why You Don't Want to Eat Hagfish

Hundreds of meters deep in the dark of the ocean, a shark glides toward what seems like a meal. It's kind of ugly, eel-like, and not particularly meaty, but to a shark, everything is probably food. So the shark strikes — and finds its dinner interrupted by a cloud of protective slime that appeared out of nowhere around an otherwise placid hagfish.

UW math professor **Jean-Luc Thiffeault** and other researchers have modeled the hagfish's gag-inducing defense mechanism mathematically, publishing their work in the *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*.

The ocean-dwelling hagfish is unique for all the strangest reasons. It has a skull but no spine or jaw. Its skin hangs loose on its body, attached only along the back. Its teeth and fins are primitive. But it can produce many times its own body's volume in slime. The goop is so thick and fibrous, predators have little choice but to spit out the hagfish and try to clear their mouths.

"The mouth of the shark is immediately chock-full of this gel," Thiffeault says. "In fact, it often kills them, because it clogs their gills."

The slime modelers set out to see if math could tell them whether the forces of the turbulent water of a bite-and-shake attack were enough to unspool the skeins of slime, or if another mechanism — like a chemical reaction — was required. What they found indicates that strands of slime get stuck to various surfaces (a predator's mouth, its fins, its flippers, or other slime strands) and then become a giant mess.

"Think of it as a roll of tape," says Thiffeault. "To start pulling tape from a new roll, you may have to hunt for the end and pick it loose with your fingernail. But if there's already a free end, it's easy to catch it with something and get going."

CHRIS BARNCARD

"Women should get to choose which practices are best for them without having to contend with anybody else's expectations. That, not an uncovered head, is what liberation looks like."

— UW LAW PROFESSOR **ASIFA QURAISHI-LANDES** IN A COAUTHORED OP/ED IN *THE WASHINGTON POST*, "FIVE MYTHS ABOUT HIJAB"

A DAY AT THE FAIR

A prototype Mars rover. A phenomenally impractical but captivating watch based on obsolete technology. An infrared surgical pen. UW engineering students showed off their inventive skills to each other and to representatives of eight Wisconsin companies at a "reverse" career fair on campus in January.

The event also showcased Makerspace, a two-year-old paradise for inventors in Wendt Engineering Library. With a broad range of equipment and tools, Makerspace is "the hub for rapid prototyping on campus," says **Taylor Waddell x'20,** a mechanical engineering student who coordinated the event.

He dubbed the event a reverse career fair because it inverts the usual relationship. "Typically, at a career fair you just hand out your résumé," Waddell says. "If you bring your prototype here, and show it to the company reps, that's a little more personal — it will create a better relationship," which could lead to internships or job offers.

DAVID TENENBAUM MA'86

NEWS FEED

ALEXANDRA BUSH; BRYCE RICHTER

Welcome, Corey Pompey! We hope you know "Varsity." In April, the UW announced that Pompey will replace Mike Leckrone as director of athletic bands. Pompey was previously at the University of Nevada–Reno.

The UW was number one among universities in sending grads into the Peace Corps for the third consecutive year. There are currently 75 Badgers serving as Peace Corps volunteers.

UW researchers discovered a protein — p53 — which, when mutated, appears to lead to the onset of many different kinds of cancer. Researchers Richard Anderson and Vincent Cryns led the study.

Swimmer Beata Nelson x'20 won three national championship races in three days in March, setting records in the 100-yard and 200-yard backstroke. Her third crown came in the 200-yard individual medley.

IRENE DUCH-LATORRE

THAT'S COOL **The UW announced the winners of this year's Cool Science Image contest in April: 10 photos and two videos, including this shot of pygmy marmosets submitted by Irene Duch-Latorre PhDx'20. "Pygmy marmosets are the smallest monkeys in the world," she wrote. "While their pocket-friendly size makes them cute, it also makes them desirable exotic pets, and [they are] frequently trafficked far from their home range in the Amazon River basin." See other winners at news.wisc.edu/the-winners-cool-science-images-2019.**

1.4 BILLION POUNDS

The amount of the United States cheese surplus, by weight. Americans ate 37 billion pounds of cheese in 2017, but they left 1.4 billion pounds more in storage. A cheese tray would have to hold about 900,000 cubic yards to serve it all.

INTERVIEWS GONE AWRY

Perhaps you have heard others' stories of unpleasant job interviews — or maybe you have a story of your own. Kristopher Olds, a professor in the UW's Department of Geography, is no exception. He took to Twitter in December to share a memory of an unexpected interview during his final year as a doctoral student, asking his 17,000 followers to share their academic job interview stories. His tweet has gathered nearly 600 responses that run the gamut from dining mishaps to giving an impromptu lecture. Yikes!

"One surprise for me was everybody knows now you shouldn't be asking questions about marital status, whether people have children, stuff like that. But people can't resist it based on the comments I got," Olds told the Wisconsin State Journal *in January. "Things get run really well [at the UW], better than anywhere else I've been, so I've sort of normalized that. But then the tweet goes out and people start talking about these experiences, and it's just bizarre."*

NEWS FEED

What's the best way for cities to fight global warming? Add trees! According to a paper authored by Carly Ziter PhD'18 and UW professor Monica Turner, tree cover can lower urban summer temperatures by as much as 10 degrees.

Professor emeritus Jim Leary was nominated for a Grammy for Best Album Notes. He wrote a 60-page booklet that accompanied *Alpine Dreaming*, a compilation of Swiss immigrant songs recorded in the 1920s. It was Leary's second Grammy nomination.

Some 18 Badger students received Fulbright fellowships this year, tied for 14th-most among American universities. The Fulbright funds international study for high-achieving American students, and it's one of the nation's most prestigious and competitive academic honors.

JEFF MILLER; COLBY SHARP

Conversation *#MeToo in Science*

The #MeToo movement reaches far beyond Hollywood and Capitol Hill. The sciences are also grappling with how to address sexual harassment. This past year, the American Geophysical Union adopted a policy that added sexual harassment as a form of scientific misconduct, saying that it willfully compromises the integrity of research just as plagiarism and other misdeeds do. **Erika Marín-Spiotta,** a UW associate professor of geography, holds a $1.1 million grant from the National Science Foundation to address the issue.

How widespread is harassment inacademia?
On average, 50 percent of women faculty [in science] have experienced sexual harassment. Between 30 and 50 percent of [all] undergraduate women have experienced sexual harassment, [according to recent studies].

Why is harassment so common?
[Sexual harassment] is about abuse of power. And in science, you have very strong power differentials between the primary investigator, who has access to the grant funding, and students. There's also a very tight mentoring model. A graduate student is dependent on one person for research funding, which [becomes] tuition; a stipend, which is rent; and access to specialized instrumentation, field sites, and letters of recommendation. We might spend a lot of time in the lab after hours or in the field in remote areas with a small number of people. Sometimes those work–life boundaries are blurred in science.

How does it compromise the research?
The way we treat people is affecting their quality of data. Some people are afraid to go to the lab and collect data. I can't imagine being out in the field and thinking, "I don't want to go over there, because then I'm going to be with this person, and I'm afraid of what they're going to do to me." How is that not affecting the science? I always tell my students: don't do important tasks in the lab when you're tired, because your brain is not thinking clearly. It's easy to make a mistake. Similarly, [harassment] is going to affect the decisions you're making.

How can the sciences combat this issue?
We need to have real, professional consequences. Even when accused faculty are encouraged to resign, they'll often get hired by another university with a higher salary. It's really important for funding agencies to say, "We're not going to give you a $1 million grant if you keep harassing students," and for a professional society to say, "We're not going to bestow honors or awards on you." But we're trying to make [faculty members] realize that it is their responsibility to intervene and check colleagues' inappropriate comments, because that's how a lot of harassment starts.

Interview conducted, edited, and condensed by Nina Bertelsen '19

53.1%
of female graduate students at the UW have been victims of sexual harassment (2015 AAU survey)

Photo by Bryce Richter

SONA PASTEL-DANESHGAR (4)

During her time as visiting artist at Tandem Press this past winter, mixed-media artist Swoon made several prints. From top to bottom, these are *Girl with Dappled Sunlight*, *Sonia*, and an as-yet untitled work created while on campus.

Every few weeks, another one arrives: a visiting artist to create a new work at Tandem Press, UW–Madison's fine-art print shop. Tandem is affiliated with the art department in the School of Education, and since 1987, it has brought nearly 100 artists to campus — to experiment, to create something new, and to work with graduate students. One of this spring's notable visitors was **Swoon,** who made the mixed-media works shown here.

Swoon, born Caledonia Curry, came to fame as a street artist. In recent years she's been featured in museum exhibits from New York to California and as far afield as Paris, London, and Tokyo. At Tandem, she created several prints, the most notable being the one shown at bottom right, which Tandem director **Paula Panczenko** describes as a multilayered print — it involves lithography, screen printing, hand painting, and gold leaf.

The visiting-artist program has been one of Tandem's pride points. Each artist creates one or more prints with the press. Sales of these limited editions (usually fewer than 30 prints) support the press. Prices for Swoon's previous works range from hundreds to more than $20,000. Tandem works hang in museums around the country, but one print of each visiting-artist project remains at the UW, joining the collection of the Chazen Museum.

JOHN ALLEN

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Probing Monsoon Mysteries

A UW–developed portable weather lab journeyed for two months and 22,000 miles to the Philippine Sea and back during the heart of monsoon season.

The lab, known as SPARCLET, traveled aboard the research vessel *Thomas G. Thompson* to learn more about how pollutants and turbulent conditions in the western Pacific affect the region and influence global weather. An international crew captured oceanographic measurements and detailed atmospheric observations.

SPARCLET is the smaller of two mobile labs developed by the UW's Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC), and SPARC stands for SSEC Portable Atmospheric Research Center. ("LET" is a diminutive.) In the Philippine Sea, SPARCLET took atmospheric measurements of aerosols, which are found in high concentrations there and are thought to affect weather patterns.

The experiment ran from August to October 2018 and was designed to observe conditions during the Asian summer monsoon. As the crew members collected data over several hundred nautical miles, they were twice rerouted when tropical cyclones passed nearby.

"The resulting ocean churning from the storm gave us a chance to observe the air and sea conditions in its wake," says **Coda Phillips '16, MSx'20,** who was part of the deck crew for one month of the journey. The project is a part of a larger NASA mission, which will include ground-based instruments, weather satellites, and high-altitude aircraft.

"This project offers a great chance to bridge science and applications into hardware development," says SSEC scientist **Bob Holz '98, MS'02, PhD'05.** "The development of this instrument took years to complete and expertise from different fields, but we're excited to take part in this campaign."

ERIC VERBETEN '10, MA'11

WYE NOT?

The "wye," a Y-shaped connector to the tube placed inside an infant's airway during surgery, is a medical device that today combines unfortunate characteristics: it's awkward, rigid, flimsy, and heavy. The design hinders the delicate process of performing surgeries on babies to repair life-threatening conditions such as heart and lung defects.

But two UW–Madison undergrads think they can improve on the wye. In December 2018, **Sara Jorgensen x'20** and **Margaret Edman x'20** filed a provisional patent application for a lighter, tighter, more adjustable wye, something they created as part of a biomedical engineering design sequence.

They are getting encouragement and expert advice from the UW's American Family Children's Hospital, where doctors perform hundreds of neonatal surgeries per year, taking care of patients from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa.

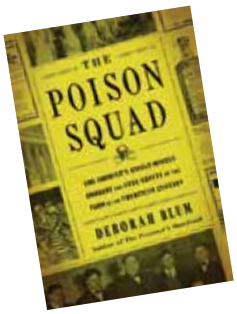
"One of the biggest challenges to getting taken seriously is that we're two girls in college," says Jorgensen. But having a patent application — even if provisional — does help.

DAVID TENENBAUM MA'86

KATIV/ISTOCK

NEWS FEED

In February, the UW's Pro Arte Quartet gave the world premiere of a new sonata by renowned classical composer John Harbison. He has won a Pulitzer Prize and a MacArthur "genius" grant for his musical work. Pro Arte has been the UW's resident string quartet since 1941.



The Go Big Read selection for 2019–20 is out: *The Poison Squad* by Deborah Blum MA'82. Go Big Read is the UW's community reading project — the entire campus is encouraged to read and discuss the same book. Blum was on the UW faculty from 1997 to 2015.

Say farewell to *Nails' Tales,* the sculpture that has stood outside Camp Randall since 2005. A new plan released in March indicates that the 50-foot-tall obelisk created by Donald Lipski will not remain at the stadium.

STEVE APPS/MADISON NEWSPAPERS

Contender *Terry Gawlik on Title IX*

Terry Gawlik remembers the day when Title IX became federal law in 1972. She was a successful multisport athlete at her Texas middle school, where her coach broke the news: "This is a great day for women's sports."

It would be hard for her to forget. As a UW senior associate athletic director, Gawlik oversees 10 sports programs and is in charge of the athletics department's ongoing compliance with Title IX — the sweeping statute that prohibits sex

discrimination in any educational program that receives federal funding. Although there were efforts early on to exempt athletics, the mandate is now fully entrenched in intercollegiate competition: men and women must have equal opportunities.

The stacks of reports sprawled on Gawlik's desk serve as a tangible reminder of her task. To comply with Title IX, athletics departments must provide equitable access to sports offerings, athletic scholarships, and all other program areas, such as equipment, travel, facilities, and coaching. The first criterion can be met in several ways. The UW applies the proportionality rule — demonstrating that its sports opportunities for men and women are "substantially proportionate" to its respective enrollment numbers. Enrollment by gender is roughly equal, but it fluctuates each year.

"People have a misconception that Title IX tells you to drop sports," Gawlik says, noting that the UW's baseball team was terminated in 1991 only because of a department-wide budget crisis. "No, it doesn't. It tells you to be in compliance."

The UW added women's athletics, which had existed as club teams, to its intercollegiate program in 1974. Although the budget grew from $118,000 to $1.1 million by 1989, a complaint was filed with the regional Office of Civil Rights (OCR) against the athletics department, citing slow implementation — one of the first such measures in the nation. Gawlik, who arrived at the UW in 1994, helped to develop various plans for compliance while meeting financial concerns. The university and OCR went back and forth for 12 years. "They told us, 'You better be spot on,' " Gawlik says, referring to the proportionality numbers.

The success of the women's volleyball team at the Wisconsin Field House is a highlight of Gawlik's tenure as a top UW athletics administrator.

By 2001, the UW had instituted strict roster management — calculating target participation numbers for each team — and had added women's lightweight rowing, softball, and ice hockey. Women made up 52.6 percent of the UW's student-athletes, effectively matching the 53.3 percent of total enrollment. OCR then dropped the complaint.

The right mix of sports and roster sizes is delicate. Rosters fluctuate, and even a practice player counts as a participant. Gawlik tracks the numbers closely — not only participation, but also practice times, support services, and expenses for travel, recruiting, and equipment.

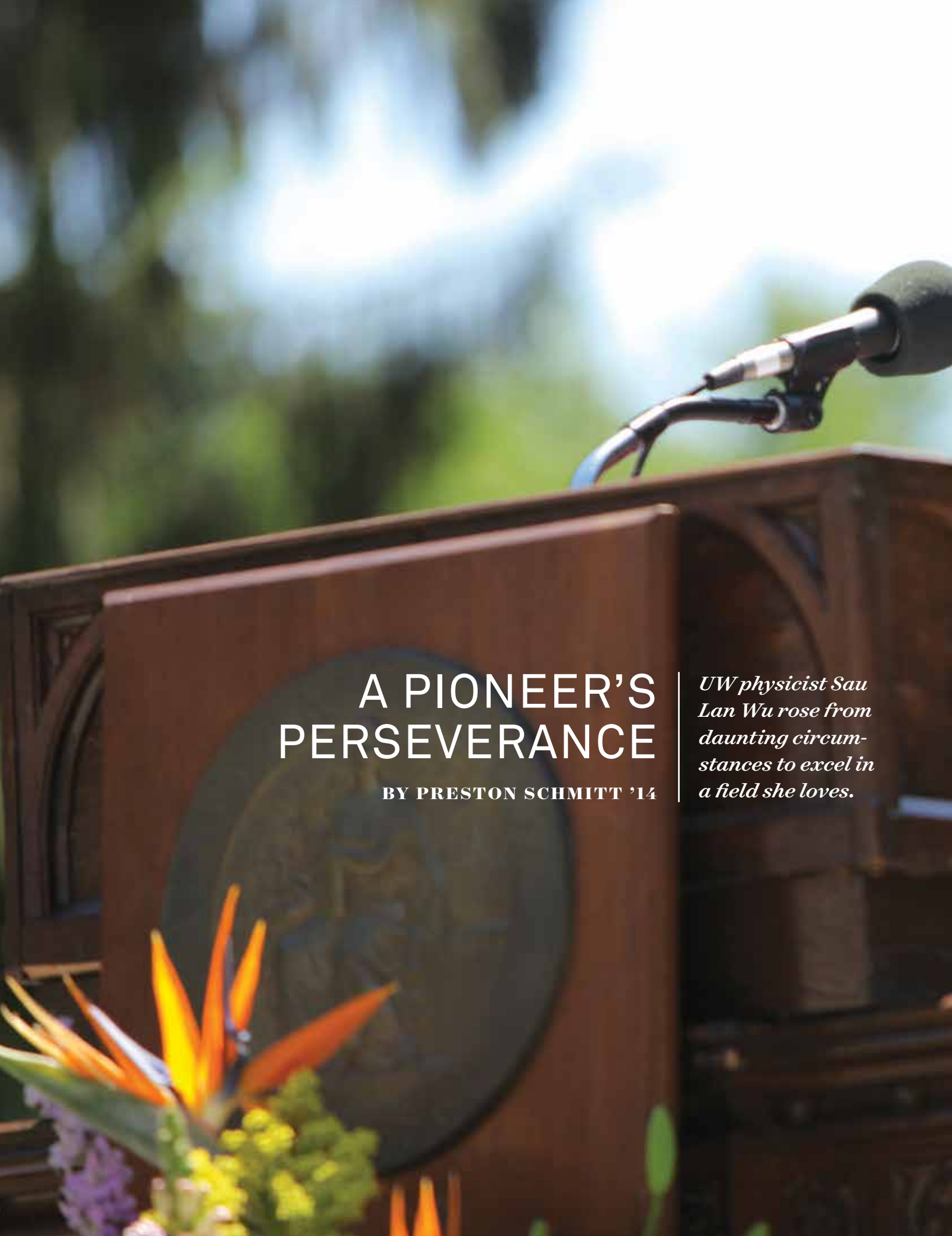
There is no plan to add or subtract sports. "Right now, our numbers match up," she says. "We're offering the sports that we would like to offer." She references assistant women's rowing coach **Monica Whitehouse '14,** who walked on to the UW rowing team her freshman year and then represented Team USA at the 2016 World Rowing Championships. "That, to me, is what participation opportunity is," Gawlik says.

As the highest-ranking female administrator in the athletics department, Gawlik has had a front-row seat to the exponential growth in women's sports. Before arriving at the UW, Gawlik coached collegiate women's basketball, volleyball, tennis, and track. Her introduction was in the early 1980s at the University of Mary Hardin–Baylor in Texas, where she coached two sports while earning her master's degree. "I didn't have any assistants. I also taught classes, half the time I was the trainer, I always drove the van, and I was doing all the recruiting and film," Gawlik recalls, laughing.

Since Title IX, there's been a 260 percent increase in the number of female athletes at the UW. The women's sports budget has grown to $24.5 million, more than 50 coaches are on staff, and the 12 teams have more than a dozen national championships combined (including ice hockey earlier this year). When asked where women's athletics would be today without Title IX, Gawlik takes a moment to ponder.

"Unfortunately, there'd be a lot of women and young girls out there not having the opportunity to play," she says. "But I also think that we would have found a way. Maybe not at this type of level. But women are competitors — we don't like to sit the bench."

PRESTON SCHMITT '14
PHOTO BY BRYCE RICHTER



A PIONEER'S PERSEVERANCE

BY PRESTON SCHMITT '14

UW physicist Sau Lan Wu rose from daunting circumstances to excel in a field she loves.

VASSAR COLLEGE/JOHN ABBOTT

Using her life experiences as evidence, Wu told Vassar College's 2014 graduating class (previous spread): "With [higher] education, and with fierce perseverance and determination, success will be your destiny."

I first heard of Sau Lan Wu last summer, when *Quanta Magazine* suggested that, in a different world, her work could have won the Nobel Prize in physics. Over the past year, I've learned much more about her life. It could be a Hollywood film.

The UW–Madison Vilas Professor's story is a lesson in dichotomy. She grew up in dire poverty on the streets of Hong Kong as her wealthy father traveled the globe as the Ginger King, so named for his success in the preserved-ginger industry. She had $40 to her name when she arrived in the United States — 10 years later, she had a PhD from Harvard. And then she devoted her life to a rarely reciprocal field dominated by men.

Wu has played a core role in three major discoveries in particle physics, advancing what we know about the tiniest parts of matter — and therefore, the world around us. Along the way, she's advised more than 60 UW graduate students and 40 postdoctoral researchers. "On track record alone, both with scientific output and with students, she's unique," says Steven Ritz MS'82, PhD'88, a professor of physics at the University of California–Santa Cruz and one of Wu's first graduate students.

As I ask Wu about the many obstacles and injustices she's overcome, I expect an air of bitterness in her responses. Instead, I get lighthearted shrugs and her signature soft laugh: *Well, that's life*. Eventually I learn why. To understand Wu is to view the world through the unwavering lens of her values: hard work, practicality, and perseverance.

COURTESY OF SAU LAN WU

"We stayed very close together [throughout life]," Wu says of her relationship with her mother and brother, pictured here with her (at left, around age 11) in Hong Kong.

Wu was born in Hong Kong in the early 1940s, as World War II began to rage. Her father, Tat Chee U, was a prominent businessman; her mother, Ying Lai, was the last of his six concubines — secondary spouses with inferior status, fewer rights, and no inheritance. (The practice, dating back 3,000 years, was legal in Hong Kong until 1971.)

Lai was in her teens when her cousin brought her from a poor village in southeast China to Hong Kong. As was customary, she was not allowed to go to school and grew up illiterate. She took a low-level job at a factory, where she met the successful and much older U — the eventual Ginger King, as a 1951 *New Yorker* article referred to him. "Mr. U is a short, friendly, authoritative man with liquid brown eyes, a slight stoop, and an excellent command of English," the article read, noting that his name, fittingly, means "object — to be prosperous." He went on to own 11 factories, amassing control of a growing industry and bringing successful commerce to the area. Britain's Queen Mary once invited him to London for a personal visit. Even today, a street in downtown Hong Kong bears his name.

U's prosperity scarcely trickled down to his sixth concubine and her children, particularly during war-torn times. When Lai became pregnant, she lived with U despite his primary wife's protestations. She was tasked with menial housework and "treated like a servant," Wu says. Just before Wu was born, Lai was cast out of the house to live in a slum on a meager allowance.

During the Japanese invasion in 1941, Lai ran in and out of bomb shelters with the newborn Wu wrapped in her arms. Wu's younger sister, Yu Lan, was born about a year later. The name Yu Lan means moon orchid; Sau Lan means graceful orchid. They were tied together by birth name only. Unsettled by war, U insisted that the younger sister be given away, and a family caretaker took her to a nearby village. The unwilling mother cried every day.

"Life was very difficult at the time," Wu says. Some years later, Wu and her mother traveled to the village to try to locate Yu Lan. But the village of wooden shacks had burned down earlier, and they never found her. "I regret very much that I didn't make [more] effort to look for her," Wu says, adding that she would have liked having a sister.

Wu's later childhood was less marked by tragedy, yet still difficult. Her brother, Ming Lun, was born when she was five. The family couldn't afford adequate living space. Wu's mother and brother slept in a small rented bedroom while she slept in the corridor of a local rice shop. Her school in the slums was overcrowded, though she felt grateful to be there. When the education department came for inspection, she knew to hide to skew the head count.

Her father moved the family to a better region and a larger apartment when Wu was 12, and her mother

ULRICH KÖTZ; COURTESY OF SAU LAN WU

International collaboration has been central to Wu's work. Late Norwegian physicist Bjørn Wiik, pictured with Wu in 1978 in Hamburg, Germany, supported her in the discovery of the gluon particle.

enrolled her and her brother in respected missionary schools. "She was a very smart woman," Wu says. "She always wanted to learn and felt very [deprived] that she could not read newspapers or write letters. She was extremely, extremely conscientious to make sure my brother and I were well educated."

Wu excelled in school — particularly in math. She could multiply three-digit numbers in her head. Prior to enrolling, she had rarely seen her father, but now he visited for two hours each week and became invested in her academic success. Wu remembers the first time she impressed him: as he was leaving her family's apartment, he quizzed her on why it was wet below all the cars except his. Because, she explained, he had arrived before it rained.

Her mother remained the steady, supportive presence. "Her life consisted of cooking for us and encouraging us to study," Wu says. "She in fact had a very simple life. She felt very insecure — she often cried because she felt totally dependent on other people."

Wu's pull to practicality is most evident when she reflects on her father, someone she continued to love and respect despite the complex circumstances of her upbringing. He was "basically a decent person," Wu says, noting that he resisted pressure from his other spouses to abandon her mother completely. "He was a very capable person. He worked very hard. He was just very successful professionally. After all, my father actually gave me a better life. ... I admired my father, and in a way, he is my role model because he was very driven. [But] I love my mother, as she was really behind everything that gave me a chance to succeed."

By the time she was 19, Wu knew only one thing for certain: she would live financially independent of men. "I saw how my mother suffered. I could not live in a life where I would need to open my palm and ask a man for support," she says.

She knew from an early age that her path to independence was education. After she graduated from high school in 1959, her father expected her to work and contribute to the family. Instead, she went to a library and pulled out a thick book with the names of U.S. universities and colleges. She selected 50 on a whim and secretly applied, asking for admission and financial aid to cover tuition and living expenses. All but four universities rejected her outright, saying they did not have full scholarships available. Only one — Vassar College, a top all-women's school in New York — sent a telegram accepting her. "So, you can see that I [paged through] from A to Z — Vassar is V," Wu says, laughing.

Her mother and brother accompanied her to the dock as she prepared to board a ship to America. She wouldn't see them for nine years. Her father came to say goodbye under the cloak of the early morning, avoiding detection. He bought her ticket to San Francisco and gave her $40. They stayed in touch by letter, but his health declined, and he died in 1969, a year before she earned her PhD. He had planned to attend the graduation ceremony at Harvard.

It took Wu nearly a month to travel by ship and train to New York. She spent most of the time conversing with passengers, determined to better her fledgling English. She barely ate, weighing just 90 pounds and worrying about every cent. When she first arrived in New York, she stayed with a Vassar alumna in an apartment near Central Park. "For the first time, I saw how the rich people live," she says.

When school administrators found out that she had only a few dollars to her name, they covered her books and school supplies. Her student adviser took her shopping, paying for basic necessities, while Wu frequented a donation closet on campus for clothes.

She fell in love with American breakfast foods — steak, eggs, toast, and orange juice — and ate as much as she could at the cafeteria.

In wider society, Wu faced two 1960 Americas: a land of opportunity, but also one of inequity. She remembers her first direct experience with racial discrimination: during a visit with friends to Virginia's supreme court building, she went to the restroom and saw signs for "white" and "colored," and wondered which applied to her. Later on the trip, she faced the same dilemma on a segregated city bus.

Wu found comfort in her coursework. To avoid distractions, she spent most of her time buried in the basement of Vassar's library. She aced her physics and math courses, but was less enamored with the humanities, taking four months to read *The Scarlet Letter*. A summer internship at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, sparked her lifelong passion for discovery and particle physics. She also met her future husband: Tai Tsun Wu, a visiting physicist from Harvard.

Sau Lan graduated from Vassar in three years with the highest distinction. Once again against her father's wishes, she applied to the most prestigious graduate schools, selecting Harvard over offers from Berkeley, Columbia, and Yale. Princeton rejected her because it only accepted women who were married to male faculty members; Caltech wrote that it didn't have a women's dormitory and only accepted "exceptional" women.

When Wu arrived at Harvard, she quickly realized she was the only woman in the physics department's first-year graduate class. Her cohorts often studied together, but because women were not allowed in the men's dormitory, she worked long hours alone in the physics library. The librarian took notice of her work ethic and encouraged her to go on a date with Tai Tsun. "She said, 'He's a good guy,' and '[You're] working very hard in the library,' " Wu recounts, laughing. The two quickly bonded, finding compatibility in their love of physics and their homogeneity of work and life. They married in 1967.

"We talk about physics a lot," Wu says. "He's a theorist; I'm an experimentalist. I consult him a lot because I feel that theorists have ... a broader picture than experimentalists — or me, anyway."

Wu made a concerted effort to stand on her own. "My thesis adviser always introduced me as T. T. Wu's wife," Wu says. "Nobody wanted to know my name." She insisted that they no longer attend conferences together. "After a while, people didn't even know that he was my husband — but that's what I wanted. I don't want to be known as his wife and not myself."

Wu received her master's degree in 1964, the first year that Harvard awarded graduate degrees to women. A guard kicked her out of the commencement lunch, telling her that women had never been allowed to join the celebration and leaving her in tears.

Hard work is a given in the field of particle physics — "A lot of people work hard," Wu says — but the real challenge is the ability to sift through the clutter of infinite possibilities to know what to pursue, and how.

"She has a wonderful intuition for what's going to be important," says Steven Ritz, the Santa Cruz physics professor and her former student, who has served as chair of the Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel (P5), a national advisory body. "You look at what she's worked on over her career, and they're among the things that in hindsight mattered the most."

After receiving her PhD in physics from Harvard in 1970, Wu was hired by MIT as a research associate, working again at the Brookhaven lab. There she participated in the first major discovery of her career: the charm quark, which resulted in a Nobel Prize for her supervisor, Samuel Ting. A quark is an elementary particle that makes up larger particles, such as protons and neutrons, and leads to matter. Physicists knew of only three "flavors" of quark at the time — up, down, and strange. The charm quark became the fourth and opened up new possibilities in the field.

In 1977, Wu was hired as an assistant professor at UW–Madison, becoming one of the first two female professors in the century-old physics department. Within two years on the faculty, she played a leading role in the discovery of the gluon, a particle that binds — or "glues" — quarks together to form protons and neutrons. That discovery put her on the fast track to a full professorship in 1983, though her compensation lagged in comparison to other researchers with her level of federal funding. Donna Shalala, the UW's first female chancellor (see page 14), later advocated for her and realigned her salary.

Wu spent much of the interim — 32 years, to be exact — chasing the Higgs boson, which was hypothesized to give mass to elementary particles (and therefore all matter in the universe). "Looking back, I'd say that most of us thought it was 50–50 that the Higgs particle really exists," says Ritz, who did research related to the Higgs under Wu in the '80s.

Over the years, thousands of physicists collaborated at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (known as CERN) in Geneva, Switzerland, where Wu spends most of her time today. The breakthrough in concrete evidence finally happened in July 2012, when Wu's group was one of the first at CERN to see an experimental sign of the Higgs. Wu appeared with four other key physicists on the front page of the *New York Times*, and *Science* journal named it the biggest scientific discovery of the year.

"I was never alone in this long and difficult

struggle," Wu says of her pursuit. She credits the steady confidence of UW chancellors Shalala, John Wiley MS'65, PhD'68, and David Ward MS'62, PhD'63; deans Terry Millar, Martin Cadwallader, Phillip Certain PhD'69, and Gary Sandefur; provost Paul DeLuca; colleagues Wesley Smith and Francis Halzen; and computer scientist Miron Livny, who helped to develop the technology infrastructure that enabled the Higgs discovery.

It's not hyperbole to say that Wu has devoted her life to science.

"I would say that she's so dedicated that she doesn't have much life outside of physics," says Haichen Wang PhD'13, an assistant professor at Berkeley, who was a key contributor at CERN during the Higgs discovery. "She usually came to the office in the late morning and stayed there until the early morning the next day."

Wu rarely talks about her upbringing with her colleagues and students. "In some sense, I'm not surprised — that was before science entered her life," says Ritz.

Such singular devotion hasn't been without sacrifice. Until recently, she'd lived apart from her husband for most of their 50-year marriage. While she's conducted research at collaborative centers in Europe, he's taught several time zones away at Harvard. They once considered having children, but they feared that it would jeopardize her track to tenure. "In those days, that was a reality," she says, adding that while she has no regrets from her career, she does envy parenthood.

Wu considers her students and postdocs at CERN her extended family. She proudly lists all of them on her website: 61 students have received their PhDs under her supervision, and 36 former students and postdocs are now professors at universities around the world. "I don't know anybody who's had as many students as she's had," says Ritz, noting that two of his current colleagues were former advisees. "She has quite a legacy."

Wu connects her students to as many professionals as she can and helps focus their research. "The most important thing that she does as a mentor is to point out the right direction and create a platform for her students to perform," Wang says.

But science is human, too. Discrimination has persisted, though Wu has seen substantial progress since entering the field. A passage she read in *Life* magazine has stuck with her throughout her career: if you are a man, people assume you are competent until you prove that you are not; if you are a woman, people assume you are not competent until you prove that you are.

"I took it as a part of life," Wu says. "I noticed what happened, and I just had to either fight it or tolerate it and move on. If you move on, eventually you'll be successful. That's what I believe."

Through all the success, Wu has viewed her mother as the most inspirational person in her life — someone who selflessly put her children before herself. After her father died, Wu moved her mother to Europe to live with her until her brother settled into a successful career in applied physics in the U.S. Her mother died in 2014 at age 94.

That same year, Wu returned to Vassar to give the college's 150th commencement address. She left the graduating class with words that only a story like hers could transform from cliché to awe-inspiring.

"I made the resolution to devote my life to science and to make a significant contribution to humanity," she said. "Since then, I have experienced the joy of discoveries, in life as in science. The search may be long or difficult. Oftentimes, it *is* long and difficult. But when obstacles strike, you fall down, and you get back up. You believe in yourself. You hold true to your determination. And you will do something great." ●

Preston Schmitt '14 is a staff writer and interim coeditor for On Wisconsin.

Alumnae You Oughta Know

Helen Dickie '35, MD'37

When Helen Dickie joined the UW medical school faculty in 1943, tuberculosis was still a threat. Dickie worked tirelessly to detect and treat the disease until it was largely eradicated on campus. She also led efforts to treat TB throughout Wisconsin.

Dickie grew up on a Wisconsin farm and graduated first in her UW medical school class in 1937. During her four decades on the faculty, she became nationally known for her work on pulmonary diseases and headed the school's pulmonary unit for 10 years.

She helped identify a disease among Wisconsin farmers dubbed "farmer's lung," which she and colleague John Rankin eventually learned was caused by exposure to moldy, fermented hay. They devised a method to prevent the condition.

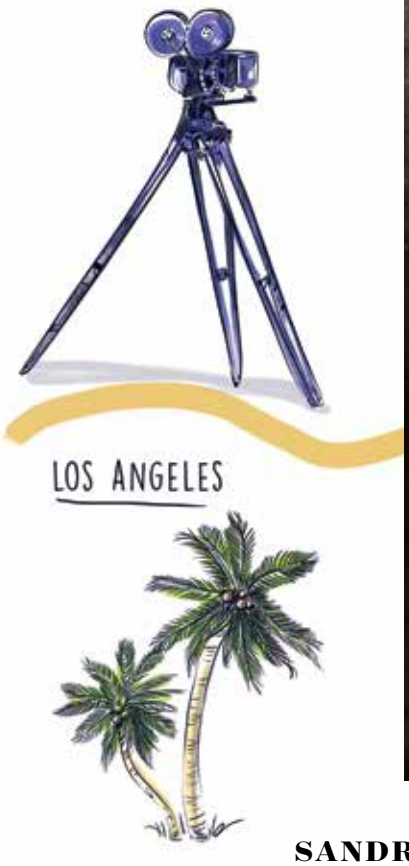
As one of the medical school's only tenured female members, Dickie was outspoken about the need to hire more women. In 1974, she was named a master of the American College of Physicians, and in 1983 she became one of the first two women to receive the UW's Medical Alumni Citation. In honor of her work, the Wisconsin chapter of the American College of Physicians created the Helen Dickie Woman of the Year award.

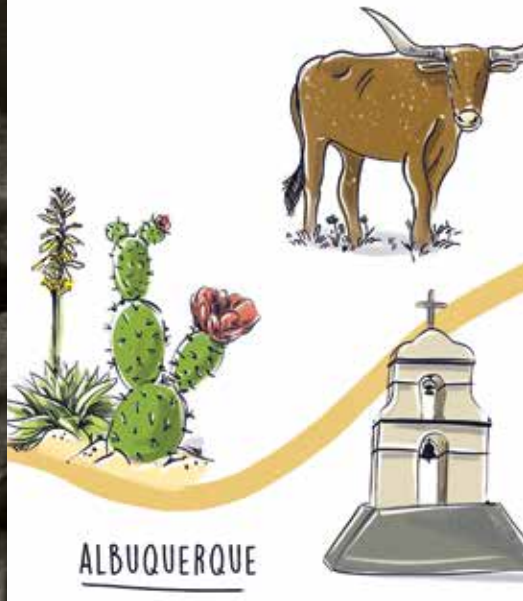
In 1983, Dickie retired to her Madison home with her twin sister, Ruth, a former professor and UW Hospital food services director.

Leaving Madison in a Model T

Emily Hahn '26 opened readers' minds by writing about her journeys across Africa and Asia. But her first adventure began with her college roommate, an old Ford, and 2,000 miles of uneven road.

EMILY HAHN ESTATE





SANDRA KNISELY BARNIDGE '09, MA'13

Emily Hahn set out on a cross-country summer drive with her roommate at a time when road trips were still unusual for Americans, and especially for women.

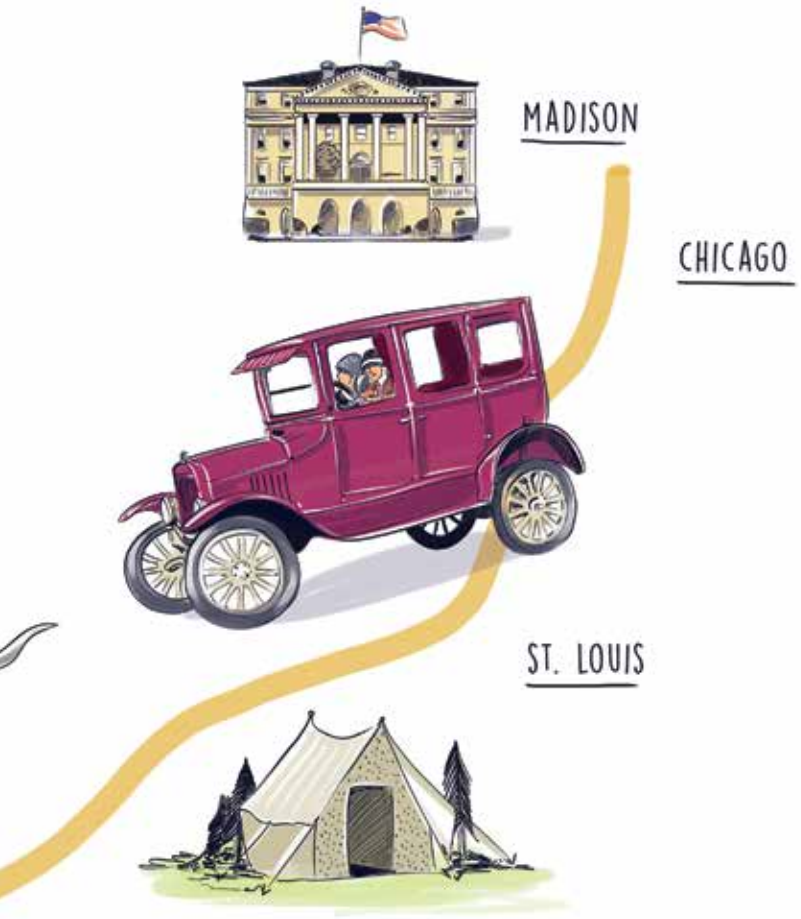
Today, the Great American Road Trip is a common rite of passage for college students and graduates. But in 1924, before there was an Interstate Highway System, interstate automobile travel was a rare adventure. That year, two Badgers undertook a special cross-country drive that made headlines and history — and forever altered the trajectories of both travelers' lives.

But first, let's back up a bit.

Emily "Mickey" Hahn '26 was one of the most prolific and adventurous writers to graduate from the University of Wisconsin, yet she's also one of the least remembered. I first came across her name by accident during my final weeks as a science writer at the College of Engineering in 2011. I stumbled on a timeline buried deep in the website of the materials science department and noticed this tidbit: *Emily Hahn, first female graduate, 1926.*

No one else in my office had heard of Hahn, and I set about investigating her. What I found astonished me. Starting in the 1920s, Hahn traveled the world and worked for more than six decades as a correspondent for the *New Yorker*. In 1931, she hid herself in a crate to sneak across borders into the Belgian Congo, and she spent most of World War II in Japanese-occupied Shanghai. She split her later life between New York and London, and she wrote more than 50 novels, memoirs, and biographies, many of which are still in print.

I was leaving the College of Engineering to go across campus and obtain a master's degree in journalism, and yet here was Hahn, who'd built



AMBER DAY/ILLUSTRATIONWEB

a substantial writing career after earning, of all things, the first engineering degree ever awarded to a female UW student. "I don't know that name," the late UW journalism professor James Baughman told me when I suggested that he make a mention of Hahn in his long-running Literary Journalism course. Both of us were genuinely surprised that she'd never made it onto the journalism school's radar.

Hahn's experience at the UW wasn't something that past generations of university storytellers were especially keen to promote. A Saint Louis native, she originally enrolled at the UW as an art major, and on a whim, she attempted to enroll in a geological chemistry course in the engineering college. She wrote later that the department chair blocked her enrollment and told her, "The female mind is incapable of grasping mechanics or higher mathematics or any of the fundamentals of mining taught in this course." Indignant, Hahn immediately switched her major to mining engineering and survived the department's appeal to the state legislature to remove her from the program.

Hahn's engineering classmates and instructors frequently tested her resolve. "I trained myself to keep very quiet and to maintain a poker face whenever I was in the college," she wrote in *Times and Places*, a collection of essays that was first published in 1970 and was recently rereleased under the title *No Hurry to Get Home*. Over time, though, Hahn did manage to make a few engineering friends, who took to calling her "Mickey," a childhood nickname that sounded masculine enough for an engineer — and Hahn used it for the rest of her life.

A multiseason series on Hahn's life is in development with the entertainment company Cinedigm (release date unspecified). Creators of the series, which will be filmed in Shanghai and Hong Kong, hope to help modern audiences rediscover this literary free spirit.

Discrimination wasn't limited to the classroom. During her sophomore year, Hahn watched with dismay as, one by one, her classmates were offered summer internships and fieldwork opportunities that were considered inappropriate for women. It was her roommate, Dorothy Raper (later Miller) '27, who unrolled a map of the world and pointed to a solution: Lake Kivu in the Belgian Congo seemed as good a place as any for a summer adventure.

But before embarking for the Congo, the roommates decided to take a practice trip to Albuquerque. Miller suggested they drive south, stay with her uncle for a while, and then finish the trip with a quick jaunt over to California to see the Pacific Ocean. Hahn's biographer, Ken Cuthbertson, describes Miller as "outgoing, energetic, and athletic; she was a competitive swimmer," and Hahn also called her "enterprising." The only daughter of a newspaper columnist in Cleveland, Miller didn't hesitate to petition her parents for $290 to purchase a Model T Ford. Miller then spent the spring teaching Hahn how to drive in the "gentle, glaciated hills of the [Wisconsin] countryside, past grazing cows and farmhouses."

However, not everyone was supportive. "Why do you talk all the time about getting away?" a date asked Hahn not long before the trip. "Isn't Madison good enough for you?"

"Madison's all right, I guess, but no one place is good enough," she replied. "I want to get around. I want to see things."

In 1903, Horatio Nelson Jackson and Sewall Crocker took 63 days, 12 hours, and 30 minutes to complete the first-ever American cross-country car trip, driving from San Francisco to New York. Twenty years later, most travelers were still unaccustomed to moving long distances by car. Most American roads were still unpaved, highways were not yet numbered, and the country's first "motor hotels" wouldn't open until 1925.

Yet the concept of Hahn and Miller's driving trip wasn't quite as radical or treacherous as it seemed to Hahn's sophomore date. Before the roommates' quest, Luella Bates had already gained a modicum of fame in Wisconsin as the "first girl truck driver" after she was hired by the Four Wheel Drive Auto Company in Clintonville. And Jazz Age Americans were far more captivated by airplanes than automobiles, anyway; female pilots like Bessie Coleman and Lillian Boyer were barrel-rolling their biplanes and walking on the wings (literally) when Hahn and Miller let their boyfriends haul the last of their luggage into the Model T. However, none of this is to say that what Hahn and Miller did in 1924 was simple or easy. In fact, what interests me most about their adventure is that it was encouraged and financially

supported by their parents — and yet was still considered audacious enough to attract newspaper coverage in the *Albuquerque Morning Journal*.

The roommates departed Madison on June 19, 1924, and made their way first to Chicago and then Saint Louis to see their families. They'd converted the back of the Model T into a fold-down bed — complete with a mosquito net — and as they tried to sleep in a relative's yard, Hahn's young cousins kept peeking in through the windows to spy on them. Finally, the women broke free of their required visits and got out on the open road and headed south.

"On our way, on our own, on the road," Hahn recounted saying to Miller as they skidded along rain-soaked country lanes, taking more than a few curves too fast through rural Missouri. When they didn't sleep in the car, they stayed at "tourist camps," which were just gated fields with outhouses. Once, a local sheriff tapped on their car window as they slept and insisted they relocate in front of his own house where he could keep an eye on them. In the morning, Hahn and Miller woke up with a crowd of locals staring at them.

They pressed on, navigating bumpy roads and regularly quieting the Model T's hissing radiator with buckets of water. The roommates named the Model T "O-O" in honor of all the times the car made an odd noise and prompted them to exclaim, "Oh-oh!" After negotiating a mountain pass and testing the limits of O-O's radiator and brakes, Miller and Hahn finally arrived in New Mexico on July 6 in mixed spirits. "I must be wrong to recall the tour as long," Hahn wrote. "Even in 1924 it was not a matter of months to drive to Albuquerque from Saint Louis. Nevertheless, that is the impression I have kept."

After six days in Albuquerque, the roommates pressed onward to Los Angeles to briefly glimpse the ocean as planned, driving through the desert mostly by night. But the trip finale was anticlimactic, wrote Hahn. By then, Miller was homesick and O-O was developing mechanical problems. "Might as well start back to Albuquerque," Hahn recounted Miller saying as they watched blue-green waves crash against the rocky shore. "We've seen the Pacific."

The drive west was the first but far from the last time that Hahn garnered public attention for her travels. When the roommates set out for New Mexico, they were almost certainly aware of some of the famous American women who'd trail-blazed before them, such as Wisconsin-born explorer and museum curator Delia Denning Akeley, along with others who circled the globe and then made money giving public lectures about their adventures.

Later in life, the "lady traveler" persona became a devil's bargain for Hahn, and she chronically struggled to get New York critics to take her work seriously. Her first major book, *Congo Solo*, originally exposed the polygamous lifestyle and cruelty of a prominent American medical missionary, but her publisher was wary of a lawsuit and edited the book to instead emphasize Hahn's challenges as a woman traveling in Africa. Reviewers dismissed the result when it was published in 1933. *Kirkus Reviews* called it "utterly unconvincing in so far as the human equation is concerned."

Some 54 books and hundreds of articles and short stories followed, covering diverse topics ranging from biographies to natural history, from the diamond trade to zoos, cookery, and communication with animals. But even her 1997 obituary in the *New York Times* was headlined "Emily Hahn, Chronicler of Her Own Exploits, Dies at 92," which strikes me as unfair. It does little justice to Hahn's extensive bibliography or her serious reporting on international politics on three continents. But her legacy does reflect that Hahn eventually recognized that to sell her work, she had to play up her more

68
years as a globe-trotting *New Yorker* writer

54
books on a wide variety of topics, along with hundreds of other works, including articles, short stories, and poems

500
miles walked during a cross-country trek across East Africa, marking the first such journey for a non-native woman

Alumnae You Oughta Know

Mary Kenneth Keller PhD'65

In 1965, Sister Mary Kenneth Keller became the nation's first woman to earn a PhD in computer science. She came close to being the first person ever, but the first man to earn the degree accepted his diploma at Washington University in Saint Louis earlier the very same day.

Keller entered the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1932 and went on to earn her bachelor's in math and her master's in math and physics from DePaul University. She also did graduate studies in computer sciences at Purdue, the University of Michigan, and Dartmouth College. Dartmouth made an exception to the no-women rule in its computer lab, and once there, Keller helped develop the computer language BASIC, which revolutionized programming by making it accessible to non-scientists.

After graduation, Keller started a computer science program at Clarke College in Iowa, a women's institution founded by her order, and ran it for 20 years. She was a strong advocate for women in computer science and for working women, encouraging adult students to bring their babies to class.

Keller proved prophetic about the impact of computers, predicting that this new tool would make the information explosion accessible to all, that it would become instrumental in teaching students, and that it would facilitate AI: "For the first time, we can now mechanically simulate the cognitive process," she said. "We can make studies in artificial intelligence."

COURTESY OF LILLY LIBRARY, INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA (2); KURT HUTTON/PICTURE POST/GETTY IMAGES

audacious angles. For example, her most lasting success, *China to Me*, highlighted her years as an opium addict in Shanghai and her romance during World War II with a married British spy, who later became the father of Hahn's two daughters.

But long before Africa and China, there were Albuquerque and California. And that's where the UW roommates' paths began to diverge. In her later writings about the trip, Hahn was quick to juxtapose her own New Woman persona with Miller's more traditional outlook. In particular, Hahn was critical of Miller's boyfriend, who sent letters for Miller to pick up at every town along their planned route.

"Letters in general were an intrusion, I felt, on this otherwise wonderful existence, reminding me that I had not always been free, that I would someday have to go back to my past," Hahn wrote. She added that Miller's "life wasn't affected by the trip in any serious way, though no doubt it altered a few details for her ... She married an Albuquerque man instead of [her college boyfriend], but what's the difference really? If that's the way you're going to be, that's it. Why, by the time I actually got there — to Lake Kivu [in 1931] — [Miller] already had two children."

It's easy to buy into the myth of Miller and Hahn as opposites, to make the practical Miller a duller foil to the risk-loving, adventuresome Hahn. Yet there's no question the road trip was originally Miller's idea, and so perhaps she knew what she was doing all along. After all, Miller effectively harnessed her plucky roommate's energy to get exactly where she wanted to go: New Mexico, where she began to lay the groundwork for a new life. Miller fell in love with Albuquerque during the trip, and after finishing her UW degree, she spent the rest of her life there.

The drive was also an important moment for Hahn's budding sense of herself as an adventurer. "My first trip West was a tremendous affair," Hahn wrote. "I don't think I ever got so steamed up again, not even when I went to Africa or China."

Hahn poses with her pet gibbon, Mr. Mills, in Shanghai; with her two daughters, Amanda and Carola; and at a 1954 lunch with British magazine publisher Edward Hulton.

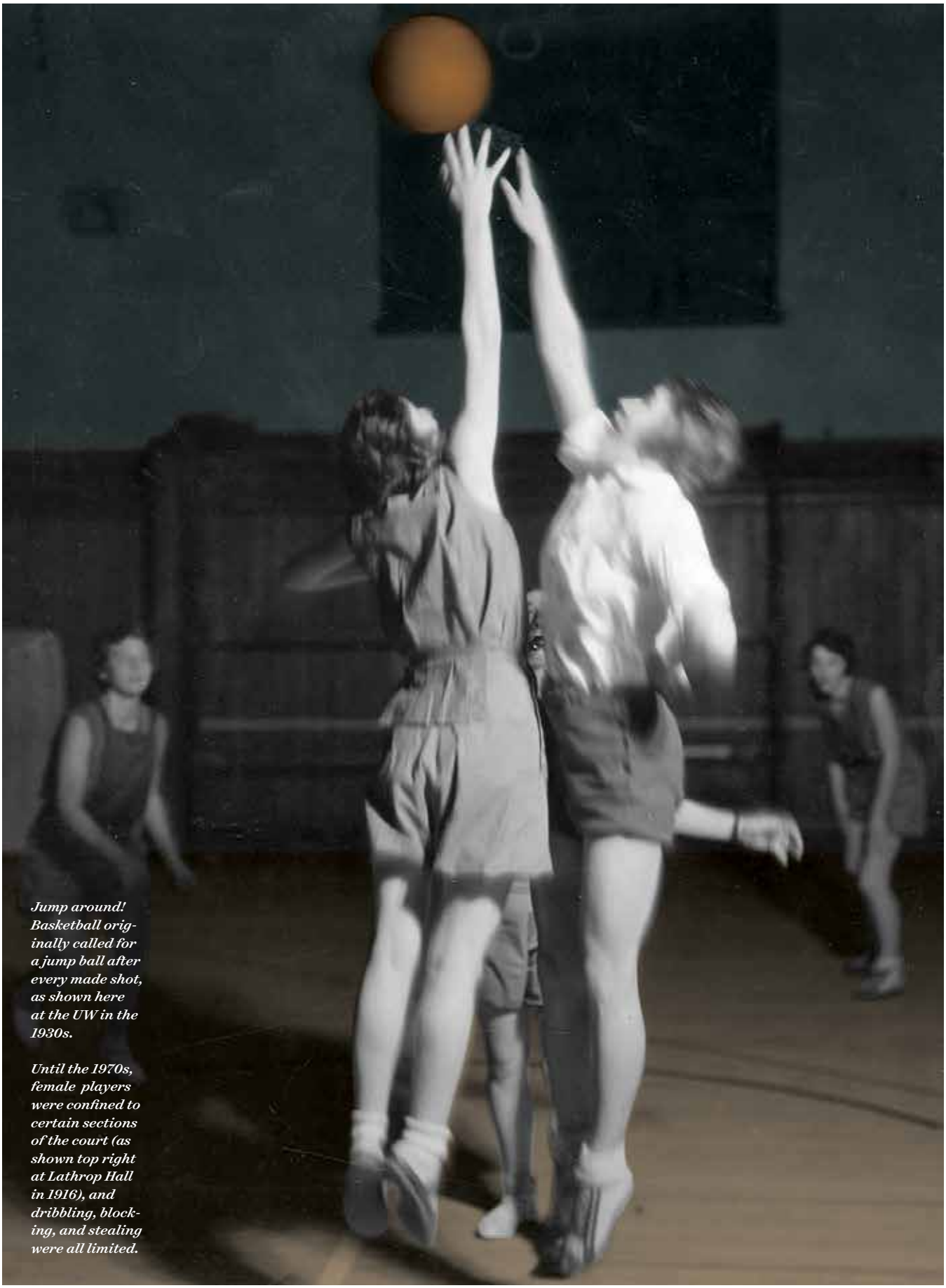
After returning to Madison, Hahn completed her mining engineering degree and landed a job with a petroleum company in Saint Louis, which she appeared to accept with a sense of resignation rather than pride. Though she did successfully become an engineer, she didn't stay one for long. One night after work, she heard that fellow UW engineering student Charles Lindbergh x'24 was attempting to fly across the Atlantic. She made a bet with herself that if he made it, she'd quit her job and become a writer. When *The Spirit of Saint Louis* landed in Paris the next day, she did just that and bought a ticket to New Mexico.

Hahn wanted to say hello to her old friend before embarking on her next adventure.

I carried Hahn's name with me through graduate school and into another campus writing job, this time at the Wisconsin Alumni Association. There, I introduced her to my editor, who put her on the list of names to be included in the new Alumni Park. You'll now find Hahn's words laser-cut into one of the metal benches along the east side of the park: "Let's not spend money on anything else, except books."

Personally, my favorite Hahn quip is what she'd say in response to those who asked why she often chose the roads less traveled: "Nobody said *not* to go." Those words became my mantra when I, too, finally left Madison. In 2016, I moved to Europe and traveled across a few borders myself — though never while hidden in a crate. I continue to be inspired by Hahn's fearlessness, along with her prolific work as a writer. And I hope that the Badgers who happen across her words in Alumni Park will now know the answer to the question I first asked almost a decade ago: *Who was she?* ●

Sandra Knisely Barnidge '09, MA'13 writes about travel, history, and culture for a variety of publications. She's currently based in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.



UW ARCHIVES (2) 24/2/3.1332-B; PHOTOS COLORIZED BY N. B. RINEHART (4)

Jump around! Basketball originally called for a jump ball after every made shot, as shown here at the UW in the 1930s.

Until the 1970s, female players were confined to certain sections of the court (as shown top right at Lathrop Hall in 1916), and dribbling, blocking, and stealing were all limited.

The Women and the Goat

At the UW, female students were the first to play the newly invented game of basketball — and their sidelines featured a live mascot.

BY TIM BRADY '79

James Naismith, a physical education teacher looking for a winter sport to entertain his rambunctious students in December 1891, hung a pair of peach baskets at the level of 10 feet on opposite ends of an indoor court in a YMCA in Springfield, Massachusetts.

He then organized the first game of what he called *basket ball* — a nine-on-nine affair in which players scored by tossing a soccer ball into the opposing team's basket. Players didn't dribble, and a jump ball was held after every goal.

Naismith tossed the ball in the air, and the game was on.

Just three years later, a group of young women at the University of Wisconsin joined a handful of other schools, including Smith and Mount Holyoke Colleges, by playing an organized game of basketball. Their court was inside Ladies Hall, later to be renamed Chadbourne Hall (see page 13).

By 1896, with enough women participating in the sport, an interclass league was formed, and a championship team emerged from four groups during a tournament held in winter 1897. That event would be scheduled at the university for the next four decades, although during the early years, the players were challenged by the expectations of the era: competing enthusiastically, yet maintaining a "ladylike" demeanor (which resulted in slower-paced, less-aggressive rules for many years to come).

Who needs Bucky Badger? Women's basketball teams at the UW once fought for the glory of a live — and eventually stuffed-animal — goat.

SADDAKO/ISTOCK

The women's sport became so popular that the tournament drew hundreds of spectators for the two or three weekends when it took place. After a foray into arranging games with area high schools and the Milwaukee State Normal School, a faculty committee put an end to outside competition around 1900.

At the UW, women's basketball preceded the beginning of men's basketball by four years. The men played their first game in Milwaukee in January 1899, and by 1902, they had an all-away-games schedule. But through its early years, the women's team remained the most popular women's spectator sport on campus.

When the cramped facilities of Chadbourne Hall were replaced by the spaciousness of the newly built Lathrop Hall in 1910, the game and the tournament gained even more fans. Lathrop was viewed as a luxurious and much-needed addition to campus when it first opened, and it quickly became a home away from

home for many of the 1,059 women then enrolled. The facility featured a cafeteria, reading rooms, a swimming pool, a bowling alley, and a gymnasium.

The formation of the UW Women's Athletic Association in 1902 helped to further organize basketball. Other women's sports teams emerged from the physical education programs, including hockey, tennis, bowling, and baseball. Letters and pins were offered to outstanding members, and points were given for both athletic endeavors and traits such as good posture, perfect attendance, and beneficial training habits.

A notice published in the *Daily Cardinal* prior to the naming of the 1916 women's basketball squads suggests just how seriously training was viewed. Rules required "eight consecutive hours of sleep every night; only one dance a week; no eating between meals except for fruit, milk, soup, graham and white crackers, plain ice cream, and frozen ices; no pie crust ... [and] only one piece of cake at a meal; no tea, coffee, or candy at any time."

Blanche Trilling 1917 arrived from Chicago Normal School in 1912 to head the UW's physical education department for women, a position she held until her retirement in 1946. Although men coached the first women's basketball players, in 1911, a recent alumna who had played on a couple of the women's championship squads took over as coach.

Then came a Friday night at Lathrop Hall in winter 1913. The last game of a tournament was about to start, matching a surprisingly good — and confident — group of freshmen against the seniors. The gymnasium was packed with excited student and faculty spectators who were ringing the hardwood floor and hanging over the railings on the gallery level. Fans were seated in chairs placed at the very edge of the court, which was divided into three well-delineated sections: a midcourt stretching in equal distance on both sides of the center line and two areas beneath the closed-bottom baskets.

By this stage in the evolution of the game, women's teams had been pared down to six — two forwards, two centers, and two guards. Positions were relegated to areas marked on the court. The soccer ball had long since been replaced by a larger leather ball. Players retrieved successful shots by yanking on chains attached to the baskets, which no longer were peach buckets, but still had closed bottoms. Dribbling still was not done.

A procession marked the opening of the final game. The three upper-class teams marched out onto the court outfitted in serge bloomers, black

UW ARCHIVES S15945

A far fashion cry from the sleeveless jerseys and shorts of today, bloomers and blouses dominated early women's basketball, as modeled by the 1897 UW team.

UW ARCHIVES CH05072202

Trilling warned in 1927 of the "evils of commercialization and exploitation of outstanding girl athletes," believing, like most of her peers of that time, that women could not handle the emotional and physical tolls of intense competition.

cotton stockings, white blouses, and neckerchiefs fashioned in class colors. Hair was typically pulled up, swirled, and piled in layers on top of the head. Shoes had recently become high-topped, with canvas uppers and rubber soles. (The Converse Rubber Shoe Company did not introduce the All-Star high-top until 1917, and it didn't hire Chuck Taylor until 1921.)

As the first teams began a parade around the court, they were joined by the freshmen, who arrived at the game "leading an adorable goat," according to a history that Trilling wrote 40 years later. She recalled her fears about what the goat might do to Lathrop's hardwood floors, but noted, "We held our breath as he made the round of the gymnasium, but he was a well-behaved goat that evening."

The goat's appearance became an almost-instant campus legend. Ten years after its arrival, during the 1922–23 women's interclass championship, a second goat appeared — this time as a stuffed animal constructed by one of the players using a bedsheet.

In Trilling's history, Florence Hupprich '23, MA'26 tells the story of what happened next: "As captain of the team, I became custodian of the goat. I left it in my closet at home to reside peacefully until the next championship game. Much to my surprise on the day of the game, no goat could be found. I accused my sister [Mabel Hupprich '26, MS'30], but my words fell on deaf ears. All the freshman majors, however, looked mighty guilty. Later I learned that they had had the goat for weeks and wondered when I would miss it."

During the game, the freshman team revealed that it had indeed swiped the goat. "A big scramble ensued, with the result that some of us came out of the heap with a leg or the tail or an ear," Hupprich recalled. "I have often wondered why Miss Rice [the referee] did not foul us for leaving the court."

As the winning captain, Hupprich took the bedraggled goat home and mended it.

The goat continued to be passed among triumphant captains well into the 1950s. Efforts to steal and hide the goat became energetic, wrote Trilling, with "daylong rides with the goat in taxi cabs when pursuers were hot on the trail; scrambles and hair-pulling matches when no holds were barred." She and others in the department stepped in and ruled that all such foolishness be confined to Lathrop Hall.

While the men's game had grown into a burgeoning national pastime, by midcentury, women's basketball seemed more than a little archaic — confined, like the stuffed goat, to its Lathrop Hall roots. But a revolution in how women's athletics was organized, played, and funded was brewing, and in March 1974, the campus's athletic board approved a 12-sport women's program with a budget of $118,000. ●

Tim Brady '79 is a freelance writer based in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Alumnae You Oughta Know

Kit Saunders-Nordeen MS'66, PhD'77

As the first UW women's athletic director (1974 to 1990), Kit Saunders-Nordeen helped open the door for women to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

She began her administrative career as the coordinator of the UW's Women's Recreation Association. When Title IX was enacted in 1972 (see page 20), Saunders-Nordeen became the focal point of meetings where advocates for women's sports and dissenters often clashed. It was not an easy position, but her quiet, tenacious leadership won others to the cause.

When the UW Athletic Board approved varsity status for women's sports in 1974, Saunders-Nordeen became the first athletic director for women. Supervising the 12-sport program, she oversaw the transition of Wisconsin women's athletics from the recreation level to intercollegiate status. In 1983, she was named an associate athletic director for men and women, and she earned the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the National Association of College Women Athletic Administrators in 2006.

"In the beginning," Saunders-Nordeen has reflected, "the major obstacle for incorporating women's athletics was a question of educating people and their attitudes — letting them know and really believe that we were serious, and that we were here to stay. Then later on, the most serious obstacle was competing for scarce resources. ... But the most significant thing for women's athletics to happen ever was Title IX."

A DRIVING FORCE

Physicist Fatima Ebrahimi PhD'03 pursues her passion with relentless energy to help discover unlimited power for all.

BY STEPHANIE AWE '15

JULIE BROWN HARWOOD

Fatima Ebrahimi PhD'03 is determined to unravel one of today's most pressing needs.

Ebrahimi is a principal research physicist in the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory's Theory Department and an affiliated research scholar in Princeton University's Department of Astrophysical Sciences. She strives to fully understand what many believe could be the answer to unlimited, clean, and reliable energy: nuclear fusion. She mirrors the very subject she studies, driven by seemingly limitless energy to help direct the future of the field.

Although nuclear fusion — a means by which the sun produces its own energy — has been achieved in laboratory settings, current strategies are neither efficient nor reliable for producing energy on a large scale. Researchers, including Ebrahimi, are working to better understand and control fusion on Earth to develop a sustainable method that produces more energy than it uses.

"It will be fantastic. The whole world will change," Ebrahimi says of the day when this method becomes a reality.

In her pursuit to understand the mechanics of nuclear fusion, Ebrahimi stands out for her desire to discover *why* things work the way they do. In addition to collaborating with fellow physicists, she takes walks and pulls late nights to think through problems alone. In her day-to-day research, Ebrahimi also explores unconventional approaches to fusion and calculates the physics behind her computer simulations.

"[Ebrahimi] has very good physical insight into the physics problems, and she complements the computer calculations with ... calculations on pencil and paper to try to benchmark and understand the output from the large computer codes," says Stewart Prager, who was Ebrahimi's doctoral adviser at the UW and is now a professor at Princeton. "This capability, plus her appreciation for experiments, I believe distinguishes her from many other computational physicists."

As a part of understanding the physics she computes, Ebrahimi fuses her work in laboratory physics with astrophysics. In one of her recent studies, she examined the behaviors of plasma (a hot, ionized gas present in fusion) and how they may affect studies about both Earth and space.

For one of these behaviors — magnetic reconnection, a process believed to be related to solar flares — she found that it has the potential to degrade the performance of a fusion reactor. Gaining a foundational knowledge about this process helps solar physicists and astrophysicists understand the nature of solar flares; understanding flares has become important for researchers to further study how to control fusion.

Nuclear fusion is a process that releases energy when lightweight atomic nuclei — such as forms of the hydrogen atom — join. In some reactors, scientists apply extreme heat to these hydrogen atoms to form plasma. The plasma is then controlled using magnetic confinement, allowing for the fusion of atoms.

Fatima Ebrahimi PhD'03 (left) stands in front of a stellarator, a three-dimensional magnetic coil system, at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. It is expected to be a configuration used for future controlled fusion experiments.

As opposed to some of today's energy sources, fuels for fusion reactors could be extracted from water and would not emit carbon dioxide. Ebrahimi also says fusion would not produce radioactive waste, and that it would be reliable — unlike the unpredictability of weather-related factors needed to power solar panels and wind turbines. Together, these factors help make nuclear fusion a coveted candidate for a new energy source.

Ebrahimi grew up in Tehran, Iran, during the turbulent times of the Iran–Iraq War.

"I was able to continue my education. But it affects [you], you have these memories," she says, noting that everyone living in Tehran faced scarcity of "almost everything" — from foreign goods to food. "I also have memories of being wakened by air-raid sirens and running for shelter, and sometimes temporarily [evacuating]."

In high school, Ebrahimi first discovered her curiosity about physics. She naturally excelled at it and found herself wanting to understand the physical laws that determine how matter and energy interact. She wondered if there was a unified law that could explain it all.

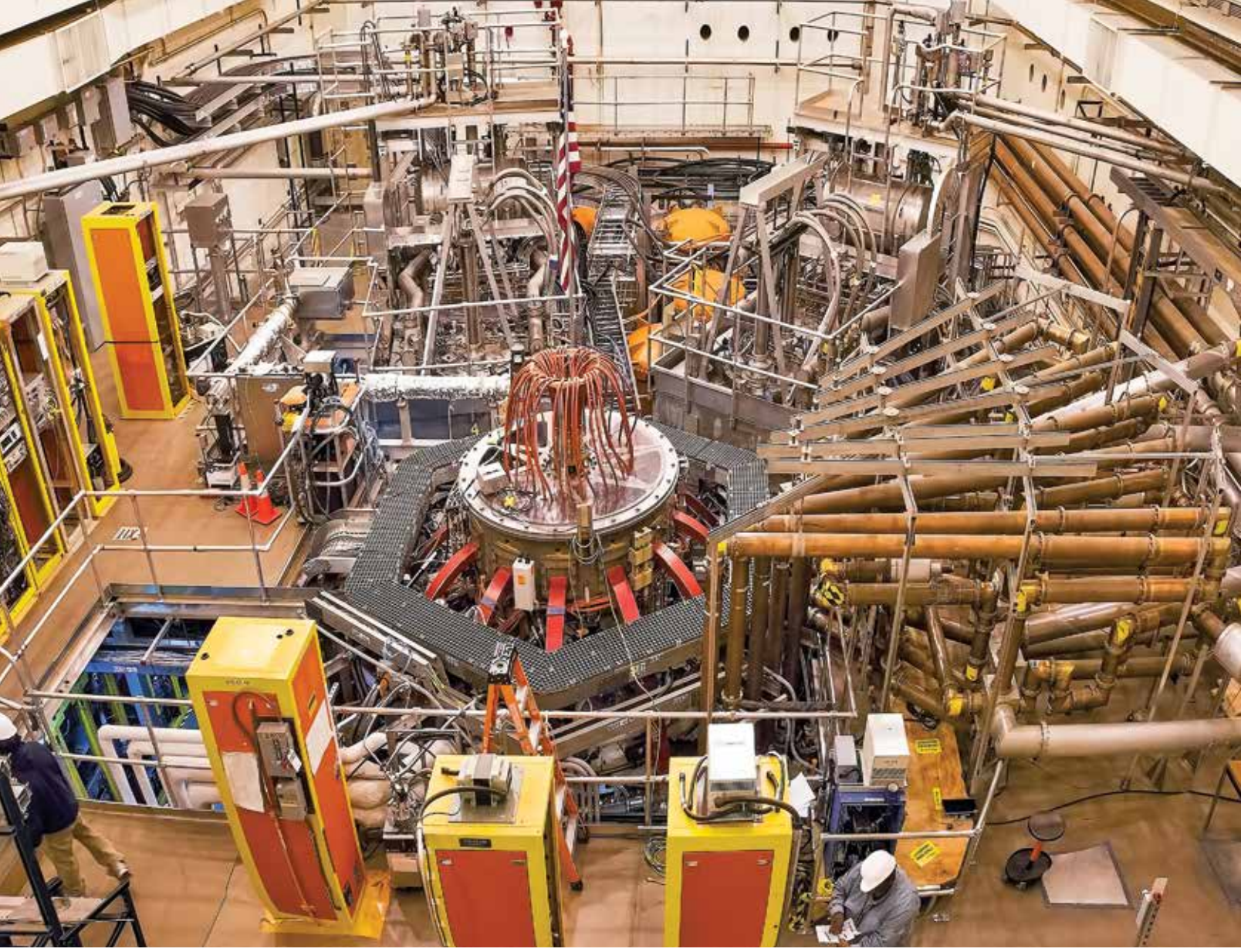
"I think that was the thing for me," she says. "The universality was something I was looking for."

She went on to earn her bachelor's and master's degrees in physics at the Polytechnic University of Tehran. During these years, she explored several areas of the subject — including plasma physics — and wanted to understand how they worked together to govern the universe. But she found herself gravitating more and more toward plasma physics. Although an area less focused on a universal law, it's one in which several branches of physics overlap.

Ebrahimi then moved to Sweden to begin a doctoral program at the Royal Institute of Technology, where she started specializing in plasma physics and fusion. After a year, however, she decided she wanted to continue her research in the United States.

"Something was missing [in Sweden]," Ebrahimi recalls, adding that research there lacked a multidisciplinary approach. Researchers from the U.S. also had visited — including some from the UW, where a world-leading fusion experiment was located. "There was something special about the research environment in the U.S. It was clear from the scientists that I wanted to be there, and I wanted to work with them."

Shortly after, Ebrahimi applied to a doctoral program at the UW. "I applied for other places, too, but I think I just felt that this was the right place for me to go to do my PhD," she says.



Ebrahimi's work utilizes the National Spherical Torus Experiment Upgrade (pictured above) at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory. It's one of the most powerful experiments of its type.

At UW–Madison, Ebrahimi saw opportunities to learn within a plasma physics program that offered a wide breadth of fusion experiments located on campus — important features that were difficult to find elsewhere.

While completing her doctorate at the UW, she continued to study a fusion method she'd begun in Sweden. She worked with the Madison Symmetric Torus located in Chamberlin Hall, conducting simulations to understand how to efficiently sustain a steady, controlled plasma current for an extended period of time — something that physicists today are continuing to study, as it will be necessary to harness if we are to use fusion for energy.

Ebrahimi collaborated with others in the lab to put her computational results into practice, hoping to understand the physics behind these simulations. This effort to validate computational research against a laboratory experiment is important because it helps provide more confidence in the results, says Ellen Zweibel, a professor in the UW's Departments of Astronomy and Physics.

Ebrahimi met Zweibel while conducting her postdoc studies and research at the UW. They worked together through the UW's former Center for Magnetic Self-Organization (CMSO), which joined the studies of phenomena seen in both astrophysics and plasma physics.

Although mainly focused on laboratory plasma research, Ebrahimi gained exposure to astrophysics by working at CMSO and with her adviser Stewart Prager, Zweibel, and a mentor whom she'd met in Sweden, the late Dalton Schnack of the UW's Department of Physics.

This cross-disciplinary approach taught her to think of problems differently, applying knowledge from her fusion research in the laboratory to astrophysics and vice versa.

"It is a strength of Fatima's that she is able to ... walk over and collaborate with experimenters and help them understand what they're seeing in the experiment," Prager says. "She also has had collaborations with astrophysicists who don't study plasmas in the laboratory at all, and she's able to bridge that gap and apply her work to both laboratory and astrophysics."

Zweibel notes that she and Ebrahimi were the

ELLE STARKMAN

A tokamak (in the center of the image at left) is one type of fusion reactor: a doughnut-shaped device. In a conventional tokamak, plasma currents are typically started through a solenoid — a spiral electromagnet — that is located at the center of the device. An electrical current pulses through the solenoid to create a plasma current in the reactor and get nuclear fusion. However, solenoids are often large, and because their electrical currents cannot run continuously, they are inefficient. At Princeton, Ebrahimi works with the NSTX-U (pictured at left), containing a compact, spherical tokamak that does not have space for a solenoid. Instead, she utilizes an innovative method — coaxial helicity injection — to insert a plasma current in the device.

only senior women involved in CMSO while it was still on campus. Since that time, Zweibel has noticed that the number of women in astronomy remains consistently higher than the number of women in plasma physics.

Despite the numbers and her hopes for more women to follow, Ebrahimi focuses on what she can control — pursuing her passion to solve the puzzle of nuclear fusion.

"You find a problem that you're excited about, and you work on it. That's it," she says.

"Women are underrepresented in the U.S. fusion community, especially in senior positions," she adds. She also recalls an experience when, for nearly a year, she faced delays in obtaining a visa to return to the United States for her postdoc at the UW — all while she continued to pay rent for her Madison apartment until her UW colleagues helped store her belongings. "In my case, being an immigrant was even harder, and until I became a U.S. citizen, several times it stalled my career."

At the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, Ebrahimi works with the National Spherical Torus Experiment Upgrade (NSTX-U) — one of the most powerful experiments of its type.

Some of her research builds from where her doctoral work left off, but it focuses on a different innovative method. She models her research using the NSTX-U — which is more compact than conventional fusion devices used by some researchers — to understand how to efficiently create a lasting, steady plasma current.

"You want to think out of the box," Ebrahimi says, and — by taking on compact, non-boxlike approaches (a torus, after all, is more of a doughnut shape) — she does just that. "I think that's what fusion also needs."

By studying innovative methods, such as using compact devices, she says researchers may be getting closer to finding a sustainable, controllable solution — the ticket to using fusion as an energy source.

Although researchers have made large strides in the past few decades, Ebrahimi says that it's difficult to predict when we will use nuclear fusion as a source of energy.

"Fusion is hard," she says. It takes a global team: a variety of fusion projects are happening around the world, all of which help physicists gain a more comprehensive understanding of fusion. This multitude of projects is expensive but necessary, Ebrahimi says. The payoff, though, is expected to be well worth it.

"It's unlimited [energy] for mankind," she says. "It's not for one generation. It's for many, many generations to come." ●

Stephanie Awe '15 is a staff writer for On Wisconsin.

Alumnae You Oughta Know

Frances Hamerstrom MS'40

Frances (Fran — pronounced "Fron") Hamerstrom was a pioneering wildlife ecologist. She and her husband, Frederick, came to the UW to study under Aldo Leopold, and Fran became the first woman to earn a master's degree in the new field of wildlife management.

Leopold encouraged the couple to help save the endangered greater prairie chicken, a species known for its bright orange air sacs and ritual mating call. The Hamerstroms dedicated years to research and to the effort to provide habitat, and they are credited with stabilizing the birds' population in Wisconsin.

Early in her career, administrators would hire Frederick and restrict Fran to volunteer positions. As women found more acceptance in the field, Fran became the second woman employed as a wildlife professional in Wisconsin, working for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for decades.

She then researched raptors (hawks, eagles, and owls) and directed the Raptor Research Foundation. A licensed falconer, she banded thousands of raptors during her career. Over the years, the Hamerstroms hosted some 7,000 wildlife apprentices and birders at their antebellum-era home in Plainfield, Wisconsin, which lacked running water and central heating, but did house a couple of live owls. Fran's passion for studying wildlife led to a host of awards during her 60-year career.

Fran wrote prolifically about her research and also authored a cookbook for game, which revealed that her secret to a perfect piecrust was lard made from bear fat.

You Can't Judge a Book by Its Coveter

More than a century ago, a charming Southern student hid a dark secret.

BY TRAVIS MCDADE

JENNY MORRILL MA1905 was a student of history — both her own and that of her beloved South. She was a Daughter of the American Revolution and, more immediately, the daughter of a Confederate naval officer. Born in Pensacola, Florida, and raised in three southern states, she had a lifelong dream to study her region's past.

To that end, she attended the University of Tennessee, graduating in 1904 with honors, before continuing her studies in Madison. The University of Wisconsin housed the Draper Collection — a lovingly curated gathering of manuscript material related to the Revolutionary War–era South. It also had Frederick Jackson Turner 1884, MA1888, who became her thesis adviser. Morrill's aim was to complete graduate school and return home to teach.

She returned with much more.

Morrill was, according to a local newspaper, "a typical Southern girl, with dark hair and eyes, olive complexion, and a lithe, graceful figure. Her charm of manner was so great that she was a social favorite." And while she was broadly popular, she was particularly friendly with members of the library staff. She counted librarian Mary Foster among her closest friends and had on many occasions dined with the family of Reuben Gold Thwaites, librarian and director of the Historical Society.

After Morrill's first year, the annual library survey showed some valuable books missing, but too few to matter. Moderate book loss is a standard hazard year to year, and in this case, there was little to suggest a pattern. Morrill completed her master's thesis — "The Settlement of Alabama, 1820–1880" — under Turner. In the summer of 1906, she headed south to spend time with family before returning to campus to continue working toward her doctorate. Like many out-of-town students, she left behind several boxes of personal material for storage at the warehouse of Sumner & Morris.

Around the same time, the library survey again showed missing books. The Southern history collection, in particular, had lost more than 250 volumes. A conference of librarians and faculty was convened, led by Thwaites. The consensus was that the only person who had access and a demonstrated interest in the subject was Jenny Morrill. Thwaites went to her lodgings to seek an explanation.

He first spoke with her roommate, who, it turned out, was also missing some books. She told Thwaites that Morrill was out of town and, just as importantly, where she left her belongings. Thwaites went to Sumner & Morris.

What he found there startled him — all the missing books, and then some. In addition to those taken from the UW, he also found volumes stolen from Morrill's roommate and several dozen taken from the University of Tennessee. Worse yet, Morrill had mutilated many of the books, cutting out any identification stamps — often by ripping out the title page. She also wrote her name inside their covers along with "bought at auction." Later surveys showed that even with books Morrill left on the library shelves, she very often cut out valuable maps and illustrations.

Thwaites wrote to Morrill — not so much asking for an explanation as to inform her that he had discovered her crime and that "the matter of criminal prosecution is being taken under advisement." Morrill pleaded for mercy, excusing her behavior on account of morphine addiction and asking Thwaites to keep this from becoming public to protect her family. But it was too late for that. Local newspapers had gotten the story from the sheriff.

Thwaites noted to Morrill how inadequate her explanation was. For one thing, her thefts (counting the ones from the University of Tennessee) had taken place at least as far back as three years earlier, "which argues a steady, persistent purpose, far removed from [morphine] hysteria."

For practical reasons, she was never charged; there seemed to be little appetite on behalf of prosecutors to bring her back to Madison. In the end, she agreed to pay for as many replacement books as could be found. Using this "Morrill Fund," Thwaites spent the next several years trying to do just that.

Morrill, for her part, remained in Florida, where she became a teacher of civics and history at Daytona High School. She taught for several decades before retiring — to become a librarian. ●

Travis McDade has written four books on rare book theft, the most recent of which is Torn from Their Bindings.

1104

Highlands,N.C. Sunday Morning.

My dear Miss Foster,-

I wrote you a few days ago about my arrival here ut did not have the strength to tell you the thing that is nearest my eart ,and even now it takes all the strength that is in me to tell you the awful things that I have done , First let me tell you that I have for some years been yaking a drug, believing that it would never get the upper hand of me , but for the last two years I have been going down hill and now realize that I have committed a most awful crime and am going to ask if you can tell me what is the best way I can repair the wrong that I hav done my friends and the greater wrong to myself.

I was loved and trusted in Wisconsin by every one and I have repayed that trust by taking and mutilating the books from the Historical library and the University library. I know that you are horrified by this confession, but I pray that you will tell me the best way of returning these books and repairing the damages.Will you go to Mr Thwaite and tell t him that they are there stored at Sumner and Morris' or would you advise me to go direct to him. My God ,what have I done ,what have I done .Oh Miss Foster tell me what to do .I will work my fingers off to repay all the damages ,what will they all think and I need their friendshi .

Dont you tell Mr Thwaites ,I will come to Wisconsin as soon as I can leave my sister and tell him every thing I know that he will pity me an advise me as to what is best. Please do not tell any one, I have been the guilty one I must now redeen myself by doing all I can to undo the wrong.

Pray for me Miss Foster and know that I am not wholly bad and help me to be strong.

I am wondering if you have gone on your vacation ,and where you finally decided to go . Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience and know that I shall go myself to Mr Thwaites and Mr Smith.

Hinkson dances in the Union Theater. Her experience with Margaret H'Doubler brought her to the attention of major dance troupes.

UW ARCHIVES S16295

Dance, Dance Revolutionary

Before she became one of the world's leading dancers, Mary Hinkson '46, MS'47 learned to thrive in a segregated Madison.

BY HARVEY LONG MA'16

"There are times when I believe 'Bunny' was born to dance," said Cordelia Chew Hinkson of her daughter in a 1952 interview.

A year earlier, Bunny — as Mary Hinkson '46, MS'47 was known to her family and close friends — had broken through the almost exclusively white world of modern dance when she earned a lead role with the Martha Graham Dance Company.

But if she was *born* to dance, she also *learned* — through her own effort and through her study at the UW. Between her youth and her debut with America's leading modern dance troupe, Hinkson came to Madison, where she discovered the science of movement as well as some of the complicated realities of what it means to be black in America.

Hinkson was born to a storied African American family in Philadelphia on March 16, 1925. Her mother had been a public-school teacher, and her father, DeHaven Hinkson, was a prominent physician and the first African American to head a U.S. Army hospital. Hinkson's aunt, Mary Saunders Patterson, was famed contralto Marian Anderson's first music teacher.

A 17-year-old Hinkson arrived at the University of Wisconsin in February 1943. She chose the UW, in part, because it offered an extensive curriculum in physical education — the subject she aspired to teach. But Madison was far different from Philadelphia, and the transition wasn't easy.

Although African Americans had matriculated at the UW since 1862, they were often excluded from white social events and faced ardent racism. An unwritten but widely acknowledged policy excluded African Americans from dormitories and most rooming houses. A 1942 survey conducted by the *Daily Cardinal* revealed that 95 percent of housemothers on the university's list of approved rooming houses preferred not to rent rooms to black students. "Many Negro, and to a lesser degree Chinese and Jewish, students have been denied rooms that are vacant and have been forced into outlying districts or have been forced away from the university altogether," the study noted.

Hinkson made arrangements to live off campus. Discriminatory housing policies coupled with the wartime economy — students were often displaced to accommodate military trainees — made securing campus housing nearly impossible. During her undergraduate years, Hinkson lived in the Groves Women's Cooperative at 150 Langdon Street, where she shared a room with fellow dancer Matt Turney '47. The interracial boarding house named for noted agricultural economics professor Harold Groves 1919, MA1920, PhD1927 brought together women from all over the world. Groves was Madison's first women's cooperative house, and it opened the year Hinkson arrived. Already well traveled, Hinkson likely thrived in the multicultural co-op, which provided vivid evidence that blacks could live with whites. Members worked together as part of a single household, cleaning floors and scrubbing toilets. Hinkson washed dishes and swept floors to defray the cost of lodging.

"World War II and its immediate aftermath led mid-century Americans to reconsider the nation's

democratic principles and the backdrop of unprecedented political, social, economic, and ideological changes," Groves later recalled.

UW Dean of Women Louise Greeley wrote to President Clarence Dykstra in 1943: "We believe ... that if a group of Negroes, Jews, and Gentiles such as this ... can demonstrate ability to live successfully together, it will be worth trying."

While at the university, Hinkson succeeded academically, earning mostly As and Bs, and she reveled in Madison's robust dance scene, joining Orchesis, the UW's modern dance troupe that had been founded in 1918. She studied English, French, history, zoology, and PE, and she impressed physical education professor Katherine Cronin with her "good mind and sincere attitude toward her work." Hinkson soon changed her major to dance after taking a course with Margaret H'Doubler 1910, MA1924, and when she told her father of the change, he was reluctant but supportive. "If that's what you want, go to it," he said. And so she went: in 1945, she appeared in Orchesis's production of *Orpheus and Eurydice*. The *Baltimore Afro-American* newspaper covered the performance, describing Hinkson and Turney as the group's first "colored dancers."

"[Mary] was in heaven," her sister commented some years later.

Hinkson would long remember the remarkable teachers in the physical education department and courses with H'Doubler, a pioneer educator who had created the nation's first academic program for the study of dance.

Though campus could be unwelcoming, Madison did attract African American artists and thinkers in the 1940s: anthropologist and choreographer Katherine Dunham and her dancers performed *Tropical Revue* at the Parkway Theater in 1944; Alain Locke was appointed visiting professor of philosophy in 1946; Pearl Primus and her "primitive modern dancers" appeared in 1948; and actor Paul Robeson was a regular feature at the Union Theater.

And Madison offered opportunities: it was at the UW that Hinkson was introduced to the Martha Graham Dance Company, which performed at the Union Theater in March 1946. H'Doubler had required her dance students to attend the show, and Hinkson said she was "completely blown away."

Hinkson graduated in 1946 but continued with graduate courses. After a year of studies and writing a thesis, she earned a master's degree and then became an instructor in the Department of Physical Education for Women — one of the first black women to teach at any majority-white university. Hinkson and three other students then formed the Wisconsin Dance Group, touring Toronto and across the Midwest in a 1933 Buick. The group included Turney, Miriam Cole '46, and Sage Fuller Cowles '47.

In 1951, Martha Graham asked Hinkson to perform a "demonstration" — a combination recital and audition. Graham then asked Hinkson to join her company, and by 1953, Hinkson held the title of principal dancer, starring in a production of *Bluebeard's Castle* in New York. For 20 years, Hinkson was one of Graham's leading dancers, and she also taught at the Juilliard School and at the Dance Theater of Harlem.

Hinkson may have found a challenging environment at the UW, but she left prepared for a key role in the world of dance. When she passed away on November 26, 2014, her obituary lauded her as "an influential teacher both in the United States and abroad," "highly versatile," and "one of Martha Graham's most important leading dancers." ●

During his library-science studies, Harvey Long MA'16 looked into the history of African American students on the UW campus. He now lives in Alabama.

Alumnae You Oughta Know

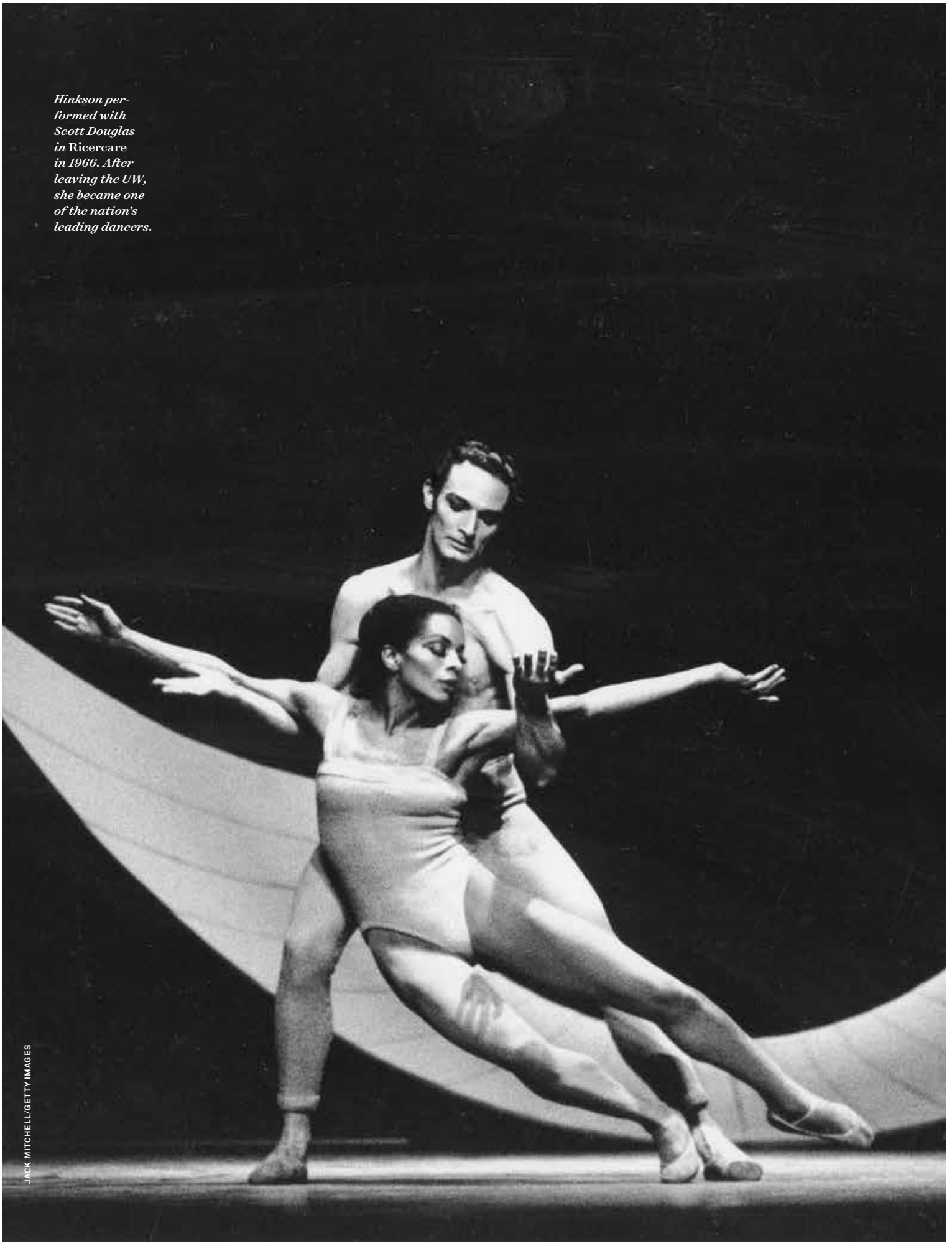
Larzette Hale-Wilson MPh'43, PhD'55

Larzette Hale-Wilson was the first female African American CPA to earn a PhD in accounting. Orphaned at age 11, she overcame many obstacles to rise to the top of her field. She encountered a steady stream of racism — for instance, when she sat for the CPA exam in 1951, Hale-Wilson was told to sit in the back of the room and was not allowed to use the lunchroom — but she didn't let it get in her way.

After completing her master's degree, she taught at Clark College in Atlanta. One of her former UW accounting professors encouraged her to return to Wisconsin for her doctorate, and with her degree in hand, Hale-Wilson established her own CPA firm in Atlanta.

Hale-Wilson later served as a professor of accounting for nearly 20 years at Utah State University and head of its School of Accountancy for 13 years. Utah's governor appointed her to the State Committee on Cultural Awareness, and she served on the Utah Board of Regents. Hale-Wilson was the national president for the American Woman's Society of CPAs and also for the honor society for accounting and finance students, Beta Alpha Psi. She initiated a series of booklets called the Heritage Series to recognize the accomplishments of contemporary African American women.

Hale-Wilson accepted frequent speaking engagements to inspire younger accounting professionals, and in 1993, the Wisconsin School of Business honored her as a Distinguished Accounting Alumna.



Hinkson performed with Scott Douglas in Ricercare *in 1966. After leaving the UW, she became one of the nation's leading dancers.*

JACK MITCHELL/GETTY IMAGES

ONE OF US

Surgeon Marci Bowers '80 brings a personal point of view to her transgender patients.

BY ANDREW FAUGHT

It's late January, and Marci Bowers '80 has completed sex reassignment surgeries on two patients at Mills-Peninsula Medical Center in Burlingame, California. A visiting plastic surgeon from Seattle is shadowing the procedures, gleaning tips from one of the undisputed experts in the field.

Bowers is in high demand for her skill: she's performed more than 2,300 sex reassignment surgeries during her career, 90 percent of them male-to-female procedures. But she also has a deeply personal connection to her work: she is a transgender woman herself, one of just three transgender doctors in the country performing the surgery.

Treatment for gender dysphoria — the conflict between one's assigned sex at birth based on external anatomy and the gender with which one identifies internally — is medically necessary, according to the American Medical Association. It can involve physical changes to the body, such as hormone treatment or sex reassignment surgery. Surgery is a personal decision for transgender people: some pursue it for their fulfillment, while others decide against it or can't afford it during their transition.

With increasing societal acceptance and medical recognition, some transgender people are starting to gain better access to sex reassignment — also known as gender confirmation — surgery. Surgical costs can exceed $100,000, and until recent years, private insurance companies have been reluctant to cover them. Yet Bowers has accrued a four-year waiting list for her services.

For her patients, she's worth the wait. Ariana Palacios, a 28-year-old flight attendant, consulted with a couple of surgeons before she met Bowers. While she did not feel at ease with others, she found that Bowers projects a special feeling of friendship and comfort. "To me, she's an artist and a genius," says Palacios, who traveled from her home in Washington, DC, to California to have the surgery.

Bowers is helping her patients to live authentically. "Today, I'm free, I'm confident, and, of course, I'm happy," adds Palacios, one of an estimated 1.4 million transgender Americans.

Boosting happiness is a big deal. Transgender people remain among the most vulnerable citizens in society, facing staggering rates of harassment, discrimination, and violence. Results from the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey are alarming: 39 percent of respondents were facing serious psychological distress from mistreatment or harassment; 30 percent were living in poverty, double the rate of the general population; another 30 percent had suffered recent discrimination in the workplace or in public; and 40 percent had attempted suicide in their lifetimes, nine times the rate of the general population.

Bowers became the second transgender woman to perform sex reassignment surgery. "Where there is diversity, there is hope," she says.

Bowers believes in the powers of visibility and education. After starting a transgender surgical program at Denver Health in Colorado, she's now helping to create a transgender fellowship for plastic surgeons at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. The University of Toronto recently gave Bowers an honorary teaching position, and she hopes to launch a program in gender confirmation surgery at its medical school. She also started a surgical program in Tel Aviv, Israel.

"An activist is someone who speaks and stands up for what they believe, and that's what I'm doing," Bowers says.

On this winter day in Burlingame, Bowers processes the latest headline. Less than 24 hours earlier, the U.S. Supreme Court revived the Trump administration's ban on transgender people serving in the military. She summons the words of Martin Luther King Jr. "The arc of the moral universe bends in the direction of justice," she says optimistically.

But she's clearly upset. The ban, she says, is born of "the fear of a few not-very-enlightened people, and unfortunately, that's who we put on the Supreme Court sometimes.

"The truth," she continues, "is [that being] transgender is an important part of the world, and it's not going away."

Transitioning is an unfolding process. It varies from person to person and can involve any combination of personal, medical, and legal steps — self-acceptance, external expression, coming out to others, updating one's name and sex on legal documents, having hormone therapy, and electing surgery.

By age four, Bowers knew she was different. But her journey would be decades long.

She was born Mark Bowers 61 years ago in Oak Park, Illinois, at the same hospital that gave the world Ernest Hemingway. She was the target of bullies in high school — "because I was so slight

DREW BIRD

and feminine appearing," she says.

The oldest of four siblings, Bowers spent a mostly happy childhood in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, the child of a stay-at-home mom and a furniture-salesman father. When Bowers transitioned at age 37 — while married and with three children — it cast a years-long chill on her relationship with her parents. It wasn't until Bowers's father was dying of cancer that they reconciled.

At 19, Bowers hitchhiked to San Diego in hopes of transitioning and expressing herself as a woman. Instead, she got caught up in the Unification Church (whose followers are known as "Moonies") — a cult, she says, that she later escaped.

"I had no prospect for paying for anything, let alone surgeries," Bowers recalls. "I decided I would go back to Wisconsin. Next thing you know, I'm in college, I'm in medical school, and I'm married. I was a pretty classic case [of denial], I'd say."

In Madison, the science-minded Bowers earned a degree in medical microbiology. It was "a really solid educational foundation" for her later work, she says.

Bowers remains married to her wife. After the birth of their third child, "there was a lot of angst," she recalls. "I just couldn't go on without making [the transition] happen. I was trying to live this false life, being a family man. I was living for others and being who I wasn't."

At that point, Bowers was a mid-career ob-gyn in Seattle, having delivered some 1,300 babies. In 2003, she relocated to the hinterlands of Trinidad, Colorado, which had been known since the 1970s as "The Sex Change Capital of the World" because of the prolific surgeon Stanley Biber. She learned surgical techniques under the tutelage of the late Biber, considered one of the earliest and foremost practitioners of sex reassignment surgery. She eventually took over his practice in the small town of fewer than 10,000 residents until she moved to California.

At 5-foot-4, Biber was a stubby figure, "but he stood absolutely upright," Bowers recalls. "He was very vertical, very proud. He had a swagger." To Bowers, Biber looked remarkably like her own father. She projects some of her mentor's toughness to this day.

Bowers's national profile rose this past year with her appearance on TLC's *I Am Jazz*, a popular reality show in which she operates on transgender teen Jazz Jennings. Reflecting on her own journey, Bowers says, "I don't identify as a transgender woman. I'm a woman who has a transgender history."

In addition to sex reassignment surgeries, Bowers has performed more than 500 clitoral restoration procedures for victims of female genital mutilation. She's performed operations on immigrant victims at her practice, and in March, she partnered with the San Francisco–based nonprofit Clitoraid to travel to Kenya and offer her services to victims there while also training other surgeons.

"This is a seismic event in a continent that is beginning to deal honestly with the centuries-old cultural practice of female genital mutilation," Bowers says, noting that it was her third trip to Africa.

"These women have been mutilated in such an intimate part of their body, and Dr. Bowers is so very sensitive to that," adds Nadine Gary, the international director for Clitoraid. "She's sensitive to how they feel and what they are trying to achieve."

Bowers's office administrator, Robin Lassiter, has held her position for 13 years. She's typically the first point of contact for people inquiring about sex reassignment surgery, receiving calls from all 50 states and from countries around the world. They're looking, she says, for clarity on the pathway to hormone therapy or potential surgery. And, ultimately, they're looking for greater happiness.

"Marci is an incredible human being," Lassiter says. "She has a very clear vision and focus, and she's an incredibly skilled surgeon. That's why people wait for her. That's why she's worth waiting for." ●

Andrew Faught is a freelance writer based in California.

Sex
The classification of a person as male or female. At birth, infants are assigned a sex, usually based on the appearance of their external anatomy.

Gender Identity
A person's internal, deeply held sense of gender. For transgender people, it does not match the sex that they were assigned at birth.

Most people have a gender identity of *man* or *woman*. Some people's gender identity (nonbinary or genderqueer) does not fit into one of those two classifications.

Definitions from GLAAD.org

Alumnae You Oughta Know

Kate Hamilton Pier LLB1887

Kate Hamilton Pier was a successful real estate saleswoman in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, when she decided to get a law degree. Her daughter, also named Kate, was headed for law school. Pier did not think her daughter should go to campus unaccompanied, so they both earned their law degrees in 1887.

Kate Hamilton Pier became the first woman in the United States to be granted a judicial appointment when she was named commissioner of the Milwaukee County Circuit Court in 1891. That same year, daughter Kate became the first woman to argue — and win — a case before the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Pier's two younger daughters, Caroline and Harriet, soon followed her path to the UW Law School. In 1891, Caroline and Harriet were admitted to the bar, meaning that the mother and daughters made up four of the eight female lawyers in Wisconsin at the time.

The women then worked in the family law firm, practicing first in Fond du Lac and then, in 1888, in Milwaukee. The firm was instrumental in the passage of two Wisconsin laws, one enabling women to act as legal assignees, and another enabling female attorneys to be court commissioners.

Kate Hamilton Pier was also the first woman to cast a vote in Fond du Lac County, years before the suffrage act passed.

On Alumni

Alumni News at Home and Abroad

JOELLE STEWART

Katie Vaughn '03, a senior university relations specialist for the College of Letters & Science, shares her spirit during April's Day of the Badger.

First-Ever Day of the Badger Rocks

The university celebrated its inaugural spring day of giving on April 9, as the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association (WFAA) encouraged alumni and friends to go online and make gifts to the school, college, or UW cause of their choice. Billed as Day of the Badger, the event featured 1,848 minutes of pure fun, spirit, and generosity summed up in the call to "give back, wear red, and stay connected." (The 1848 figure is a nod to the year of the university's founding.)

"People from all across the globe used this day to get connected to the UW," says **John Grice,** WFAA's director of annual giving. He added that donors could choose from more than 140 areas, academic departments, and causes, such as preventing student food insecurity and enhancing scholarships.

The day generated lots of positive energy, as well as:

- more than 5,000 gifts
- more than $1.8 million
- upward of $369,000 in matching gifts
- gifts from every state, more than 14 countries, and four continents

Many campus units shared their excitement as they watched totals grow online in real time, providing friendly competition as momentum built. And more than 16,660 social media engagements using the hashtag #dayofthebadger demonstrated alumni pride, including messages from former student-athletes **Michael Finley '14, Carey Lohrenz '90, Mark Tauscher '99, MS'03,** and **Melvin Gordon x'14.** Gordon tweeted: "Blessed to have been able to go to the best university in the country!!! So so so proud to be able to call myself a badger."

Donors posted thank-yous to academic departments for opening doors, to the vet school for saving pets' lives, and to retiring band director Mike Leckrone. Other comments were more general, such as "I can't believe I got to go to school here!" and "Thanks so much for helping all of us Badgers pay it forward."

See dayofthebadger.org for more information.

5,000+
gifts made, from all 50 states, 14 countries, and four continents

16,660+
Badgers shared their pride via social media using #dayofthebadger

$1.8+ million
raised in support of UW–Madison

COURTESY OF J. J. WATT

THANK YOU, 72 PODCAST

The Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA) has created a new podcast series featuring outstanding Badgers with Wisconsin roots. Former Wisconsin Governor **Tommy Thompson '63, JD'66** and filmmaker **Gillian Laub '97** (see page 61) were among the first subjects. Coming soon: NFL star **J. J. Watt x'12** and news commentator **Greta Van Susteren '76.** You can listen to these stories of alumni from Wisconsin's 72 counties at thankyou72.org.

ONE ON ONE AT ONE ALUMNI PLACE

Want an inside view of campus? Check out WAA's *One on One* conversations between **Sarah Schutt,** WAA's chief alumni officer and executive director, and campus luminaries such as Chancellor **Rebecca Blank,** professors **John Hawks** and **Catalina Toma,** and **Derek Kindle** from the Office of Student Financial Aid. You'll find them at uwalumni.com/news-stories/.

UW ARCHIVES S17032

Strength in numbers: a women-led UW faculty group meets in 1975 for the formation of what has become the Department of Gender and Women's Studies.

Before the 1970s, to study the history of the world was largely to learn of men fighting wars. Modern literature meant reading the best male authors. Insert any academic discipline, and a woman's experience or perspective was scarcely to be found.

"Teachers told me about a world in which ostensibly one-half the human race is doing everything significant, and the other half doesn't exist," said the late **Gerda Lerner,** a UW–Madison historian and women's studies pioneer.

For nearly a half century, the UW–Madison Department of Gender and Women's Studies has set out to shift that traditional paradigm in education and research. It's grown into one of the most respected and robust programs in the nation, conferring an undergraduate major and certificate, an LGBTQ+ studies certificate, a master's degree, and a doctoral minor.

Today, more than 400 undergraduates are enrolled in either the certificate or degree program. The department offers some 25 courses per semester, with 100 more cross-listed with other departments. Fifteen faculty members and nearly 50 affiliated instructors teach courses in a wide range of fields: from biology and psychology to law and politics; from literature and languages to history and religious studies. Increasingly, courses are exploring the intersections of gender identity, sexuality, race, and disability.

"We've always been strongly interdisciplinary across the humanities, the social sciences, and even the biological sciences," says **Janet Hyde,** a professor of psychology and gender and women's studies, whose research has debunked myths of biological differences between men and women related to personality and cognitive ability.

The field of women's studies rose alongside the larger women's movement in the late '60s and early '70s. On the UW campus, groups of female faculty connected demands for fair pay and hiring with a desire for a centralized women's studies program. Following an effort across the UW System, a UW–Madison committee appointed by Chancellor **Edwin Young MA'42, PhD'50** established a framework for what would officially become the Women's Studies Program in 1975.

The program began with less than a handful of courses and faculty members who held joint appointments on campus. In 2008, the program became a full academic department, with the ability to hire faculty of its own and independently offer tenure. It's currently in the process of establishing a PhD program, which would finish rounding out its academic offerings and no doubt please the foremothers of women's studies.

"I want women's history to be legitimate," Lerner once wrote. "To be part of every curriculum on every level."

PRESTON SCHMITT '14

40s

"I hope this bit of personal memory might be of some interest to the younger alums of today," writes **Angela Bewick Wyse '45, MM'46** of Evansville, Wisconsin. She's just a few years older than Memorial Union, and she worked — and met her husband, the late **John Wyse '46** — there as a student. Angela waitressed for the Georgian Grill and says the catering servers, which included her husband, worked with "the precision of a marching band." When men went to war, she became the catering captain. An applied music major, she continues her tunes today.

50s

Mick (Milton) Neshek '52, LLB'55 of Walworth, Wisconsin, has earned the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, for his contributions to U.S.–Japanese relations. The order, conferred by the emperor of Japan, honors Neshek's work with Japanese manufacturer Kikkoman Foods — with which Neshek first became involved in the 1970s — and for his dedication to the Midwest U.S.–Japan Association.

Last year, **Ronald McCord '59** was recognized by the National Association of Realtors with the status of realtor emeritus, an honor that has been presented for more than 40 years to active realtors who conduct a variety of activities and efforts — such as leadership roles and participation in educational, community, and social events — on behalf of the association. McCord is a certified hotel broker and administrator with Milmark Hotel/Motel Investments and a member of the Commercial Association of Realtors of Wisconsin.

60s

Professor Emeritus **Warren Porter '61** recently retired from UW–Madison's Department of Integrative Biology. A former tuba player in the UW Marching Band, Porter received a send-off complete with an appearance from current band members. Congratulations to you, Professor Porter!

Kenneth Voigt '66, a senior traffic engineer based in Waukesha, Wisconsin, was selected for the 2018 Burton W. Marsh Award for Distinguished Service for his leadership to the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and to the profession. Voigt served as ITE's international president in 2009 and has continued to take on key responsibilities.

Radiant Solutions, a company providing geospatial data collection and analytic capabilities, has appointed **Douglas Way '67** as its chief scientist. A resident of Hobe Sound, Florida, Way commutes to the Washington, DC, region each month to support his team members and clients, who apply geospatial modeling to issues of national security.

Susan Davis '68, chair of Susan Davis International, has been awarded the Gold Stevie Award for Lifetime Achievement in business and the Bronze Stevie Award for Woman of the Year in advertising, marketing, and public relations. The Stevie Awards for Women in Business honor female leaders and the companies they run around the world. Davis is the board chair for Razia's Ray of Hope Foundation, which supports the education of girls in rural Afghanistan; board chair emeritus of Vital Voices Global Partnership, which empowers emerging female leaders in 144 countries; and founder of the International Women's Day Forum, for which she served as the first international president.

Father-daughter duo **Charles Giesen '68, JD'73** and **Jessica Giesen '06** won the State Bar of Wisconsin Appellate Practice Section's 2018 Best Brief award for their defense filed in the Wisconsin Supreme Court in *State v. Stietz*. The award honors their writing and identifies their brief as a model for new and improving appellate lawyers. The Giesens both work at Giesen Law Offices in Madison, which focuses on criminal defense and civil litigation.

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall '68, MA'73, MA'80, preservation specialist at the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, has announced his retirement. He has served for more than 30 years in the state's libraries and cultural institutions, and he has been internationally recognized for his work in preservation and disaster preparedness. Trinkaus-Randall's latest project, "Finding Common Ground: Collaborative Training for the Cultural Heritage and Emergency Response Communities," was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. From 2011 to 2012, he served as president of the Society of American Archivists.

70s

Last September, **Jean Gaspardo '70,** affectionally known as "Dean Jean" by the more than 10,000 students she served, retired from her post as assistant dean for student affairs at Loyola University Chicago School of Law. She also received the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago's Lifetime Achievement Award. Thank you, **Arlene Gaspardo Martell '65** — self-proclaimed "proud sister" — for sharing this news.

Costume historian **Edward Maeder '71** of Greenfield, Massachusetts, has recently curated shoe designer Stuart Weitzman's personal historic-footwear collection for *Walk This Way*, an exhibit by the New York Historical Society that will travel to select states in 2019 and 2020. In his career spanning 30-plus years, Maeder has written several books, curated multiple fashion exhibits, and served on university faculties. "Fashion is symbiotic to everything else in

BOOK NEWS? See page 59.

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To submit an obituary, please see page 55.

Recognition *Nancy Spelsberg*

RENEE MEILLER

KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

Nancy Spelsberg '99, MBA'06 will gladly nudge students toward industrial engineering. And it's not just because she's a graduate of the UW Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE) and a member of its advisory board.

"You can go into business, you can go into engineering directly, or you could do just about anything," she says.

Spelsberg is living proof of those words. Never in her wildest dreams would the president and part owner of BCP Transportation have imagined herself running a trucking company. Spelsberg worked her way up at Alliant Energy during a decade-long tenure, but she had dreamed of owning a small business since high school — an ambition she traces to childhood visits to her uncle's road construction operation and limestone mine in West Virginia.

Her experience in the evening MBA program in the Wisconsin School of Business only strengthened her resolve. The trick? Finding the right opportunity. Spelsberg sent letters to some 75 small manufacturers across south-central Wisconsin to inquire about buying them out. Most didn't reply; Badger Custom Pallet did. When the pallet manufacturer decided to revisit operating its own trucking company in 2011, it asked Spelsberg to run the Deerfield, Wisconsin–based business.

"It was an opportunity to start something from scratch," she says. "I kind of thought, 'If I don't do it now, I'll always look back and wish I would have tried it.' "

BCP has grown from four trucks and fewer than 10 employees to more than 100 trucks and a team of 140, while also adding warehousing and an equipment maintenance and service shop. The company hauls freight all over the lower 48 states, even delivering the UW football team's equipment for road games.

Spelsberg has introduced a number of sustainable strategies to reduce fuel costs and carbon emissions. All of BCP's trailers are outfitted with side skirts to reduce aerodynamic drag, and the company has installed auxiliary power units in its trucks to provide electricity, heating, and cooling without idling overnight.

She's also turned to UW–Madison ISyE students to find operational efficiencies through the department's senior design course. Those team projects hone the kind of continuous improvement mentality that she gained from her own engineering education.

"There's always something that could be done better or more efficiently," she says.

TOM ZIEMER '07

your life," he told the *Greenfield Recorder* last October.

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia has inducted **Steven Present '71** as a fellow. Present is an associate professor at Temple University's Kornberg School of Dentistry, and he also has his own private practice.

Sharon Kilfoy '72, MA'80, executive director of Dane Arts Mural Arts, has recently retired. Her tenure leaves more than 80 pieces of public art in Dane County, and her work also can be found across the nation and in Madison's sister city, Tepatitlán, Mexico.

Rick (Richard) Miller '73 has retired from the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, where he served for more than 30 years. As UT Health's vice president and chief information officer for its IT department, he was responsible for supporting the center's technology initiatives. Miller previously worked for General Homes Corp., KPMG, and Schlumberger Well Services.

Captain **Thomas Blumenberg '74,** a retired member of the U.S. Public Health Service, was awarded a Quilt of Valor at a Veterans Day program in Hayward, Wisconsin, last November. The quilts were presented to veterans to thank and honor them for their service to country and community. Blumenberg was recognized for his efforts in conducting interviews for the Veterans History Project, part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

After retiring from a career in finance and financial communications, **Stanley Ginsberg PhD'74** of San Diego pursued a skill he's enjoyed since childhood: baking bread. He was recently elected as the chair of the Bread Bakers Guild of America; is the proprietor of an online business, the New York Bakers; and previously authored *The Rye Baker: Classic Breads from Europe to America* and

coauthored the award-winning *Inside the Jewish Bakery: Recipes and Memories from the Golden Age of Jewish Baking*.

Bloomberg cited **Scott Petruska '74** as the most consistently accurate currency forecaster in 2018. Petruska is a career banker based in Boston, and he works as an adviser for Silicon Valley (California) Bank. He provides forecasts and advice to e-commerce companies in New York City, including BuzzFeed, Etsy, and Kickstarter.

Richard Scheller '74 has been named an independent director at Alector, a privately held biotechnology company. Scheller, a neuroscientist and drug-development leader, is the chief scientific officer of 23andMe. He was previously executive vice president and head of Genentech Research and Early Development and a professor at Stanford University.

Photographer **Bud (Robert) Glick '75** of Teaneck, New Jersey, recently had some of his work on display at the Museum of Chinese in America as part of an exhibition, *Interior Lives: Photographs of Chinese Americans in the 1980s*. The exhibition ended in March and showcased moments from the New York Chinatown History Project, which was cofounded by NYU associate professor **Jack (John) Tchen '73.** From January 1981 to March 1984, Glick used more than 460 rolls of film for the project. "The history project was really focused on capturing Chinatown ... at a time when there was a major change happening," Glick told DailyMail.com in January.

Scott Angus '78 was among four inductees to the Wisconsin Newspaper Hall of Fame last November. Prior to retiring in 2015, Angus worked for 36 years at the *Janesville Gazette* — including 25 years as editor, and in 2005, he became the vice president of news for the owner of the paper, Bliss Communications. His career began at the *Daily Jefferson County Union*, where his late father, **Robert Angus '43** — who also was previously inducted into the hall of fame — was managing editor.

Joining the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) as a research staff member in its system evaluation division is **James Gilmore MS'78, PhD'80.** IDA, a not-for-profit corporation, operates three federally funded research and development centers in the public interest, and it provides analyses of national security issues and related national challenges.

"I hope this bit of personal memory might be of some interest to the younger alums of today."
Angela Bewick Wyse '45, MM'46

Daniel Langer '78 has been named the assistant vice chancellor for business services and controller at the UW's Division of Business Services. He has worked for UW–Madison since 2010, when he became associate dean and chief budget officer in the Wisconsin School of Business. Prior to his time at the UW, Langer worked for KPMG and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

After 17 years with Bemis Company in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and 40 years after graduating from the UW, **John Siebers '78** has retired. In retirement, he is now the president of the Wisconsin Alumni Association: Fox Valley Chapter.

John Kita MBA'79 has retired from his position as chief financial officer at A. O. Smith Corp., a manufacturer of water-heating equipment as well as water-treatment and air-purification products. He first joined the company as assistant treasurer in 1988.

80s

David van Hoogstraten JD'80 has taken the helm as associate general counsel of the Peace Corps at its headquarters in Washington, DC. Prior to this role, he served as the senior director of environmental regulatory affairs for BP America.

James Korom JD'82, a shareholder in the government law group at von Briesen and Roper in Milwaukee, has earned the George Tipler Award for Distinguished Service in School Law, which was established by the Wisconsin School Attorneys Association's board of directors. Each year, the award honors a member of the legal profession with a career dedicated to helping Wisconsin schools.

Founder of the Sewing Machine Project **Margaret Jankowski '83** of Monona, Wisconsin, has shared the group's success in 2018. Among other accomplishments, the project distributed more sewing machines than any other year so far; increased its local class offerings; revisited individuals in Houston, who received sewing machines in 2017 after Hurricane Harvey; and shipped two pallets of sewing machines to Puerto Rico to help with recovery efforts.

The CEO of BioForward Wisconsin, **Lisa Leemon Johnson '83,** has earned a 2018 Women of Industry award from *In Business Madison*. Among her accomplishments, she has helped BioForward launch Women in Biohealth–Madison, which provides support to women in the field — especially those in leadership positions. "That was important to me," Johnson told *In Business Madison*. "It was about paying it back. We don't have enough women in leadership roles, and we need more diversity in our workforce."

Derrick Mancini MS'83, MS'85 asserts that he wasn't sure what would follow after retiring from his 20-year career as a physicist at Argonne National Laboratory. Now, five years later, he has released his whiskeys for distribution in

Recognition *Melvina Young*

JASON TRACY

WRITING A KINDER WORLD

If you've been to a wedding, baby shower, funeral, or birthday party in the last 13 years, you've probably crossed paths with **Melvina Young '90, MS'92, PhDx'07.** She's a quiet party presence — she usually arrives hidden in an envelope — but Young's voice always leaves a heartfelt impression on the guests of honor.

Young is a senior creative writer at Hallmark, where she says she writes much more than greeting cards. "I write emotion across formats that have deep, authentic resonance for people," she says. "I write gift and children's books, internet content, keepsake copy, women's empowerment editorial, and for Hallmark's community-support efforts. I believe in the company's mission to touch every life in a meaningful way."

Young's work is infused with a sincere sense of compassion for people who are experiencing major milestones. She writes regularly for Hallmark's Mahogany collection, aimed at African American consumers, and credits her ability to craft personal messages that resonate with diverse communities to both her personal background and her academic training. Young grew up in rural Lepanto, Arkansas, during segregation, and she enrolled at the UW in the late 1980s, an era when campus was roiling from a series of racial incidents. She participated in the student movement that resulted in a new Multicultural Student Center and an ethnic studies requirement for all undergraduates, among other diversity and inclusion initiatives.

"I went to campus and found a language for things that explained my lived experience and helped me formulate an identity built in strength," she says. "Everything you encounter is what makes you."

Young also found faculty mentors at the UW who encouraged her to transition from activist to academic, and she earned a master's degree in African American studies and completed PhD coursework in women's history and U.S. history. She then left Madison to become a college instructor and eventually landed in Kansas City, Missouri, where she decided to apply her skills in a different industry.

"In my scholarship and teaching, I focused on relationships from a broad socio-historical perspective because I felt if you could understand the root causes of certain injustices and relationships, then you could build connections and coalitions that would actually effect change," she says. "I discovered at Hallmark, I could actually achieve a similar goal through words that touch people emotionally one to one."

SANDRA KNISELY BARNIDGE '09, MA'13

select states across the nation after starting Quincy Street Distillery in Riverside, Illinois, a few years ago.

Vincent Lyles '84, JD'87 is the new vice president of community relations at the Milwaukee-based Advocate Aurora Health Care. Lyles previously served as the president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee.

With more than 20 years of experience monetizing digital content globally, **Jeff Siegel '84** has been named the senior vice president of distribution at Group Nine Media — the parent company to digital brands such as Thrillist, The Dodo, Seeker, and NowThis. Based in Group Nine Media's New York headquarters, he is responsible for driving both sales and strategy around the "digital-first" media company's library across global platforms.

Joining Chicago-based Oil-Dri Corporation of America as its CFO is **Susan Jenstead Kreh '85.** Kreh arrives from Johnson Controls International, PLC, where she also held the role of CFO. She now oversees Oil-Dri's accounting, finance, and information technology functions. The company manufactures absorbent products for business-to-business and consumer markets.

Attorney **Daniel Welytok JD'86** of Bayside, Wisconsin, has been appointed to serve on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and Government Entities (ACT). ACT members, who are selected by the commissioner of the IRS and appointed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, serve three-year terms.

Master Gunnery Sgt. **John Cradler '87** of Fairfax, Virginia, played tuba as a member of "The President's Own" United States Marine Chamber Orchestra at the late President George H. W. Bush's funeral service. He also participated in the funeral procession for the late

President Ronald Reagan in 2004 as a member of the United States Marine Band.

Badger high-fives go to the alumni who made the lineup in *Madison Magazine*'s "Best of Madison Business 2019: Leaders with 20/20." Included on the list are **Elizabeth Roggensack Donley '87, JD'94, MS'04,** cofounder and CEO of Stemina Biomarker Discovery (cofounded by **Gabriela Cezar PhD'02**); and business partners **Troy Vosseller '06, MBA'09, JD'10** and **Joseph Kirgues JD'08,** who founded gener8tor, a startup accelerator.

Laura Schumacher JD'88 has been named vice chair of external affairs and chief legal officer at AbbVie, a research-based global biopharmaceutical company headquartered in North Chicago, Illinois. She will be responsible for legal, ethics and compliance, and corporate governance functions.

The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, has promoted **Amy Singleton Adams MA'89, PhD'94** to full professor. Adams, a member of the Russian program in the modern languages and literatures department, has been on the faculty since 1993. Her research focuses on aspects of Russian culture and society expressed symbolically in art, icons, and literature.

Renee Orlowski Kaufer '89 has been named the vice president of operations for the Northwest Center at Amazon, a social enterprise with all revenue supporting the advancement of equal opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Kaufer previously worked for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for 11 years.

90s

In 2018, the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal* recognized **Penny (Pamela) Allen '90** as a CFO of the Year. She is a leader at New Horizon Academy, a child care and early education center, and is an active supporter of several charitable causes.

Last October, **Susan Skibba Brnovich '90, MS'94, JD'94** was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the U.S. District Court in Phoenix. She served as a Maricopa County (Arizona) Court commissioner from 2003 to 2009 and had been a judge at the court since 2009.

Christopher Richardson '90, MS'93, a faculty member of Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, has been awarded a grant to study white-nose syndrome in little brown myotis bats. His research will address how the disease — which has devasted many bat populations in eastern North America — affects energy use, immune response, and reproduction. He hopes the work will lead to more opportunities to help in the recovery of the bat population.

New to the president's office at Hilltop Securities in Dallas is **(Martin) Bradley Winges '90.** He brings 30 years of experience to the president and CEO position. He previously worked for Piper Jaffray and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, where he was one of the youngest futures and licensed-seat exchange traders in the United States.

Maria Yamat '91 was recognized by *Crain's Chicago Business*, where she was listed as one of Chicago's Notable Women in Commercial Banking in 2018. She joined Fifth Third Bank in 2010 to lead the bond capital markets team, and in eight years, she has increased the unit's revenue from $4 million to more than $40 million.

Previously the associate dean in the School of Health and Human Services at Southern Connecticut State University, **Yan Searcy MS'92** is now dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at California State University–Northridge. "In order to move the college, I plan on actively listening," he told *CSUN Today* last year.

If you had to climb a cliff for two hours to reach your hotel, would you? **Darlene Fisher Willis '92** of San Antonio, Texas, did just that while on a trip to Peru. She stayed at the Skylodge — comprising three glass sleeping pods and a dining pod all built into the side of a mountain. To return her feet to the ground, she took six ziplines. We commend her for her bravery!

Former UW football player **Troy Vincent x'92** of Purcellville, Virginia, was a 2019 inductee of the East-West Shrine Game Hall of Fame. Vincent is executive vice president of NFL football operations. A first-round pick of the Miami Dolphins in 1992, he played in the NFL for 15 seasons. He was nominated to the NFL Pro Football Hall of Fame and was inducted into the Halls of Fame of the Philadelphia Eagles, the State of Pennsylvania, Pennsbury High School, and the UW.

Navamedic ASA, a pharmaceuticals and medical technology company in Norway, has named **Kathrine Gamborg Andreassen MS'93** its new CEO. She previously served as chair of the board and was the CEO of Weifa ASA. In addition, she is the co-owner and chair of the board at pharmaceutical company Novicus Pharma AS.

Bringing decades of experience — including in the U.S. House, Senate, and White House — to the American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI) in Washington, DC, is **Joyce Yamat Meyer '93.** Formerly the White House's deputy assistant to the president, serving under President Trump, and deputy director of the Office of Legislative Affairs, Meyer is now executive vice president of government relations at ACLI.

WELCOME, ALL!
The Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA) encourages diversity, inclusivity, nondiscrimination, and participation by all alumni, students, and friends of UW–Madison in its activities.

OBITUARIES
Brief death notices for Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA) members and friends appear in *Badger Insider*, WAA's magazine for its members. You also may submit full-length obituaries (with one photo each) for online posting at **uwalumni.com/go/alumninotes.**

Contribution *Patterson Family Gift*

COURTESY OF SUSAN PATTERSON

BOOSTING SCHOLARSHIPS

This past fall, **Susan Solie Patterson '79, MFA'82** and her husband, best-selling author **James Patterson** (pictured above with son Jack), announced a $3 million gift to support UW scholarships. The Patterson Family Scholarship Legacy Match aims not only to increase student aid, but also to encourage others to make estate gifts to UW–Madison.

Although James did not attend the UW, he has joined Susan in making her alma mater a priority. The couple had previously established several scholarships, particularly in support of students in nursing, education, and athletics.

"I guess all my years of cheering for the Badgers got under Jim's skin," Susan says. "He has the basketball schedules and football schedules, players, stats, and rankings memorized. He's now as big a fan as I am."

Both of Susan's parents graduated from the UW: mother **Lorraine Ormson Solie '46** studied nursing and father **Orville Solie '50, MA'51** studied art and English. But it was James who first suggested creating scholarship funds at the UW.

"My parents were deeply moved by this gesture, and it was a great way for us to honor their devotion and love for Wisconsin," Susan says. "It was Jim's idea, and I love that."

Scholarships are particularly vital at the UW today. In 2017 Chancellor Rebecca Blank initiated Bucky's Tuition Promise, a guarantee to meet the full tuition need of any Wisconsin student from a family that earns the state's median household income or less. Funds like the ones supported by the Pattersons will help make that promise a reality. And Susan and James have seen the effects that these funds have on students' lives.

"It's been wonderfully touching to read the letters we've received from the UW scholarship students over the years," she says. "And it was a very rewarding experience ... to meet them, listen to their goals and dreams, and feel their appreciation firsthand. It was moving, and I was so impressed."

Susan and James's devotion to education goes beyond scholarships. In August, they released a follow-up to last year's *New York Times* best-selling picture book, *Big Words for Little Geniuses*. Their newest creation is titled *Cuddly Critters for Little Geniuses*, which teaches small children about different animals. James's latest series, the Max Einstein books, is targeted at middle-school girls and seeks to inspire an interest in science. The first book, *Max Einstein and the Genius Experiment*, came out in October 2018. The second book, *Max Einstein: Rebels with a Cause*, is scheduled for release this September.

ADAPTED FROM *DIVIDENDS*

The association advocates on behalf of its member companies, which provide services in support of consumers' retirement and financial security.

Michael Galaty MA'94, PhD'98 has taken the reins as director of the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. Galaty is also curator of European and Mediterranean archaeology and a professor of anthropology and classical studies. He recently published *Memory and Nation Building: From Ancient Times to the Islamic State*, a book that addresses collective memory — a concept that he explains was first described by a sociologist in the early 20th century.

CANbridge Pharmaceutical, a China-based biopharmaceutical company that develops drugs to treat underserved medical conditions, has appointed **Jeff (Nam) Lau '95** as vice president of finance and as controller. Lau has more than two decades of experience in pharmaceutical finance management and operations — most recently at Sanofi China.

Kristofor Brye MS'97, PhD'99, a professor of applied soil physics and pedology at the University of Arkansas, has been nominated as a fellow — the highest possible recognition — of two professional societies: the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America. A member of several local, state, and national committees, he has authored or coauthored more than 185 peer-reviewed publications and is a registered professional soil classifier. Brye also is a faculty member in Arkansas's Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences.

Kenneth Fitzsimmons '97, MBA'10 served as artistic director for a multimedia musical production that was performed in Madison last fall. The live rock-and-roll history show, *The Greatest War: World War One, Wisconsin, and Why*

It Still Matters, reflected upon the 100th anniversary of the war and Wisconsin residents at that time. Fitzsimmons is the frontman of a 20-year-old Madison Irish rock band, the Kissers, that performed during the show.

Lieutenant Colonel **Paul Snyder '97** serves the United Nations as a military liaison officer for the Africa division at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. "Bringing professionals together from different countries with various backgrounds and experiences challenges my preconceived notions and opinions, which has allowed me to grow tremendously as an individual, a peacekeeper, and an American," he told the United Nations Foundation in January. Snyder has deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, and most recently, Mali — totaling more than 20 years of military service.

"Fashion is symbiotic to everything else in your life."
Edward Maeder '71

In 2018, journalist **Luke Timmerman '97** climbed Mount Everest for a Climb to Fight Cancer campaign that raised funds to support the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. He plans to climb Mount Kilimanjaro next, with a goal of raising $1 million.

Former Wisconsin men's basketball player **Booker Coleman Jr. '98** has been appointed to the Investigative Division of the Chicago Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Committee, which evaluates candidates for judicial offices as well as sitting judges who seek retention within Cook County, Illinois. Coleman works as an adviser and litigator at Ulmer and Berne LLP, where he focuses on business and financial services litigation. He has experience practicing in state and federal court.

In pursuit of his longtime dream to one day see his name on the library bookshelf, **Jonathan Etter MA'98** has published his debut novel, *A Dreadful Fairy Book*, after more than 20 years as a high school English teacher in Wisconsin. The comedy-fantasy, for readers ages 8 to 12, is the first of a trilogy, tagging along with a grumpy, bookish fairy who reluctantly ventures to discover a hard-to-find library.

00s

Five graduates were listed on *BRAVA* magazine's "2019 Women to Watch" list, including **Alison Helland '01,** an attorney at Boardman and Clark; **Colleen Blomgren Johnson MS'05,** a director of development and community partnerships for the UW Odyssey Project; **Ellen Merker '09, MS'12,** founder of Heart Consulting; **Emily Erwin-Frank '10, MSW'18,** creator of UpStage Stigma; and **Doua Kha '15,** a UW graduate student who helps student teachers mentor young people of diverse identities.

Nimesh Patel '01 now serves as chief technology officer and COO at Cresset Capital Management in Chicago. For nearly 20 years, he has used his technological expertise to develop platforms that facilitate product innovation and organizational expansion.

Jason Crow '02 was recently sworn into office as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, where he represents the sixth district of Colorado. A Madison native, Crow is a former lawyer who also served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Wisconsin State Representative **André Jacque '03** of De Pere, Wisconsin, was named a 2017–18 Legislator of the Year by both the Wisconsin Professional Police Association and the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association. Jacque, who had represented Wisconsin's second State Assembly District since 2011, was recently elected as the state senator for Wisconsin's first State Senate District. Among other recognitions, he earned the Wisconsin Independent Living Network's Relentless Badger award for his work helping individuals with disabilities.

Kersti Niebruegge '03 has worked for *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *Conan*, and BBC Worldwide, and now she has released her third novel: *That Summer We Stole Our Permanent Records*, a middle-grade book about an adventure among a group of friends who are nearing the end of fifth grade in 1993. She is also author of *The Zonderling* and *Mistake, Wisconsin*.

After a 13-year career at the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law in both finance and development roles, **Alan Paberzs '04, MPA'05** has been hired as the new executive director of development at the DePaul University College of Law in Chicago.

Arthur Mohagen III MA'05, MFA'06 is the new chief art preparator at the Milwaukee Art Museum, where he coordinates the installation and maintenance of the museum's exhibition and collection galleries. Mohagen joined the staff in 2014 and has helped the institution through a museum-wide renovation and reinstallation.

Alexander Meyer '06, '09, a manufacturing engineering manager at Caterpillar, Inc., in South Milwaukee, has been selected for a 2019 Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award by a committee at SME, a firm that promotes the manufacturing industry.

Eric Frailing '07 of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, a transportation project engineer at MSA Professional Services, has received the 2018 Wisconsin Young Professional Award from the Wisconsin Institute of Transportation Engineers. The award recognizes the achievements of transportation professionals who are younger than

35 years old. Frailing, a certified professional traffic operations engineer, was selected for his demonstrated passion and enthusiasm, as well as for his knowledge related to the field.

Minnesota Wild hockey player **Ryan Suter x'07** reached a career milestone last fall: playing in 1,000 NHL games. "I never dreamed about playing in the NHL," he told the *Pioneer Press* in October. "My goal was to play college hockey and play at the University of Wisconsin like my dad (Bob) and my two uncles (John and Gary)." Having reached this goal, he now has his eyes on the Stanley Cup.

The founder of Strategic Partners Marketing in Madison, **Amber Swenor '07,** was the first woman from the U.S. to take part in VV Grow — a yearlong global business-accelerator program for female entrepreneurs. From a pool of nearly 700 applicants, a cohort of 39 business owners was chosen to participate in the program, which partners with female leaders who use business growth to improve both their communities and the world.

Matthew Gonnering EMBA'09 — CEO of Widen Enterprises in Madison — was recognized this year as an Executive of the Year by *In Business Madison* for his focus on professional development and culture. He has created positions for individuals with developmental disabilities, who make up 5 percent of the company's workforce. "For the Madison business community, I wish for increases in employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities," he told *In Business Madison* in December. Other honorees included **Ralph Middlecamp '74,** national president of the U.S. Society of St. Vincent de Paul based in Saint Louis; and **Paul Hager '06,** CEO of Information Technology Professionals based in Madison.

10s

Sara Schoenborn '10 is now the director of marketing and public relations for the Wisconsin Agri-Business Association and the communications director for the Wisconsin Corn Program. She also has been named to the Easter Seals Wisconsin board of directors. Easter Seals Wisconsin programs assist individuals with disabilities across the state.

Tanner Marshall '12, MS'13 of Baltimore, Maryland, has become the creative director at osmosis.org, a medical education platform used by more than 850,000 current and future health professionals and patients. Marshall created osmosis.org's YouTube channel, and the company offers more than 1,000 educational videos. Marshall previously worked for Khan Academy, another educational organization.

> **"We don't have enough women in leadership roles, and we need more diversity in our workforce."**
> Lisa Leemon Johnson '83

Former Wisconsin men's basketball player **Jordan Taylor '12** has committed to join the Limoges (France) Cercle Saint-Pierre basketball club. He previously played for Galatasaray basketball team based in Turkey.

Jennifer Hoege MBA'14 of Waunakee, Wisconsin, has been hired as the new COO at SVA Consulting LLC. "I became a COO because I really enjoy working with people, processes, and technology. Those three things together really make an organization successful," she said.

Ben Brouillette '16 coproduced a crime drama, *Unlawful Justice*, that recently earned grand prize for best feature from the Marina del Rey Film Festival. The film, coproduced, written, and directed by Chris Baxter, was in a category with 14 films.

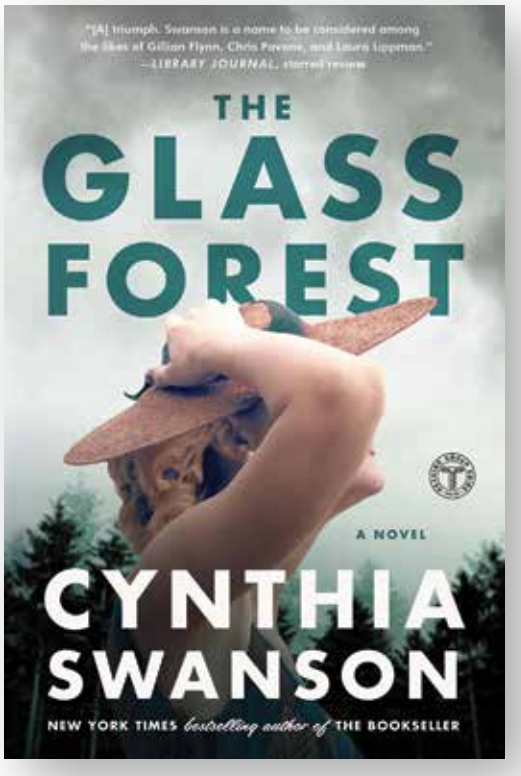
Scott Gibbel MBA'16 has been hired as vice president of Brennan Investment Group, a Chicago-based private real-estate investment firm. Gibbel will lead a team that oversees the agency's leasing efforts in the Midwest. He joins Brennan after working for real-estate company Prologis.

If we could assign creativity points, we'd give **Sam Alhadeff '17, MIPA'18** a 10 out of 10. In an article by the *Washingtonian* titled "We Ranked the Most Millennial Moments of 2018," Alhadeff was recognized for creating and posting online a housing résumé in his efforts to find a place to live in Washington, DC. On the résumé were "roommate perks," including taking calls from his mother into another room. This story has a happy ending: he found a home!

Kristian Iliev '17 of Racine, Wisconsin, is an individual of many talents. He recently released his first poetry book, *Glyphs from the Apparatus*, and he leads an alternative rock band, the Racing Pulses. The band's debut album, *Nothing to Write Home About*, ranked at number 43 on Billboard's Independent Albums chart in July 2017, which also included artists such as the Lumineers, blink–182, and Kelsea Ballerini.

Taking flight after graduation is **Emily Jewell '18,** who has received a 20 Twenties Award for 2019 from the Aviation Week Network in collaboration with the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The award recognizes students earning STEM degrees who are nominated by their universities for their academic performance, civic contributions, and research or design project. Jewell is pursuing graduate degrees in aerospace engineering at Stanford University.

Class Notes/Diversions editor Stephanie Awe '15 encourages you to seize the day.



THE GLASS FOREST

GLENDA CEBRIAN PHOTOGRAPHY

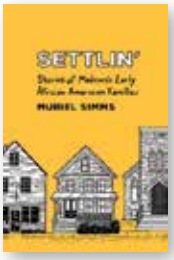
New York Times and *USA Today* best-selling author **Cynthia Fisher Swanson '87** of Denver has published her second book, *The Glass Forest*. The literary suspense novel takes place in the 1960s, when 21-year-old Angie Glass is living a picturesque life in her Wisconsin hometown with her husband, Paul, and their newborn son.

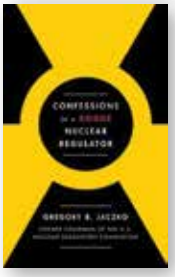
Then Angie answers a phone call from Paul's niece Ruby: Ruby's father has reportedly killed himself and her mother is missing. Angie, Paul, and their son travel to be with Ruby, but as events unfold, Angie learns more about her husband's complex family, putting her marriage into question. A story of love, secrets, and betrayal is unveiled as the ominous truths of the Glass family are brought to light.

"Swanson uses exquisitely rendered characters and an intricately woven plot to explore the cultural and political fallout of WWII, as well as the changing role and limited rights of women in the mid–20th century," says a *Publishers Weekly* review. "This intoxicating slow burn builds to a conclusion rife with shocking reveals."

In addition, Swanson's debut novel, *The Bookseller*, is expected to soon become a film starring Julia Roberts.

Submit your book news at **uwalumni.com/go/bookshelf** and see more about works by Badger alumni and faculty at **goodreads.com/wisalumni.**





Journalist and Pulitzer Prize–winner **Eric Newhouse '67** of Charleston, West Virginia, has released *Faces of Recovery: Treatments that Help PTSD, TBI, and Moral Injury*. He gives a close look at soldiers who broke their moral code to fight, laying out actions to help veterans reacclimate to society.

Recognizing a need to preserve the stories of African American settlers in the Midwest, **Muriel Simms '68, MS'75, PhD'02** has collected the oral histories of 25 subjects from Madison — whose families arrived, survived, and thrived in the late 19th and early 20th centuries — in *Settlin': Stories of Madison's Early African American Families*. Simms is a longtime educator in the Madison Metropolitan School District.

In the memoir *She Wants It: Desire, Power, and Toppling the Patriarchy*, **Jill Soloway '87** of Los Angeles — creator of and producer/writer for television shows *Transparent* and *Six Feet Under*, respectively — sheds light on a personal journey from a straight mother of two to identifying as queer and gender nonbinary, as well as Soloway's parent's journey of coming out as transgender. The book was recently featured in the *New York Times*.

Emmy Award–winner **Stacey Reiss '92** of Brooklyn, New York, has produced *The Perfection*, a thriller film that was released on Netflix in May and premiered at Fantastic Fest in Austin, Texas, last year. When cello prodigies Charlotte (Allison Williams) and Elizabeth (Logan Browning) unite, their journeys take a sinister turn. "The less you know about *The Perfection* going in, the better off you are," *Vulture* said in April.

Gregory Jaczko PhD'99 of Washington, DC, offers reflection on his time as chair of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in *Confessions of a Rogue Nuclear Regulator*. Originally a scientist in favor of nuclear power, Jaczko — who was chair during the nuclear disaster at Fukushima in Japan — describes the events that changed his mind.

Littler Women: A Modern Retelling by **Laura Schaefer '01** of Windermere, Florida, provides young readers with a new version of *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott. In the book, the March sisters — Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy — encounter new friends, challenges, and school dances. Each chapter concludes with a craft project or a recipe.

Cora Weiss '56 has long been on the front lines of the international women's and peace movements. She has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize four times for her tireless activism, including efforts to abolish nuclear weapons, end the Vietnam War, and rid South Africa of apartheid. But her lasting legacy may be her role in the drafting of a United Nations Security Council resolution ensuring that women get a permanent seat at all peacemaking tables.

"Wisconsin is where I cut my political teeth," Weiss says. "It's the best political school I've been to. We had to invent everything."

You attended the UW at the height of the McCarthy era. How did that affect you?
McCarthyism choked off free speech at the university — or tried to. When I wanted to invite [folk singer and social activist] Pete Seeger to come and sing, the university wouldn't let me have a room on campus, and we had to go to the street. When Leroy Gore, who was the editor of the Sauk City newspaper and a Republican, started the campaign to recall Senator McCarthy, I tried to run a Madison office and drove around the state collecting signatures. My car was pelted with tomatoes and potatoes and corn husks, and I couldn't understand quite why, until one day I walked around my car and realized I had New York license plates. That was my first lesson in politics: don't bring your home-state plates with you when you're working in another state.

In 2000, you helped to draft UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which became international law. Why is it important?
We saw the need for the *participation* of women at all levels of governance and at peacemaking tables for the *prevention* of violent conflict and for the *protection* of women and girls during violent conflict. It's the three *P*s. [It's true to] the purpose of the UN. In the charter it says, "We the peoples determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war."

What are the important lessons from your work?
I think people have to work together. We have to bring organizations together. We have to bring issues together. Both nuclear weapons and climate change end with the same consequence — apocalypse. One does it instantly in minutes or hours or a day, and the other takes a long time. But, both climate change and nuclear weapons mean the end of life as we know it. So, why aren't we marching together? And the other lesson is that without women at the table, the table is not legitimate. No women, no peace.

What advice would you give today's students?
Do something that responds to your feelings, your values, your passions — and don't be afraid. Look at what young people have done since [the Parkland, Florida, school shooting]. Those kids went around the country helping people understand why they had to work against small arms. I don't think I have to tell kids what to do. I think they're going to know what to do. I have a lot of faith in young people.

Interview conducted by Catherine Thompson '09; edited and condensed by On Wisconsin *staff*
Photo by Chris Nicholson

Exhibition *Southern Exposures*

GILLIAN LAUB, *AMBER AND REGGIE*, MOUNT VERNON, GEORGIA, 2011, INKJET PRINT. © GILLIAN LAUB. COURTESY OF BENRUBI GALLERY

This photo, titled *Amber and Reggie*, was part of the Chazen's *Southern Rites* exhibition, which documented segregated proms in Montgomery County, Georgia.

In 2002, **Gillian Laub '97** made what would be the first of many trips to Mount Vernon, Georgia, to photograph the lives of teenagers in the South. What she discovered was an idyllic yet racially divided town struggling to confront longstanding issues of race and inequality.

For the next decade, Laub visually documented Mount Vernon and the surrounding Montgomery County. Her photographs of the region's longstanding segregated proms were published in the *New York Times Magazine* in 2009. The photo essay, which sparked national outrage, led to integrated dances in the area.

Those photos and more, collectively titled *Southern Rites*, were on exhibit at the UW's Chazen Museum of Art this past semester. Laub says that it took many months to curate and organize the exhibition. "The photographs, captions, and case objects are meant to take [audiences] on a decade-long journey," she explains. "Unfortunately, this story is not an anomaly in this one town. There is segregation and racism all over our country. So I hope viewers can also reflect on what is going on in their own communities."

This isn't the first time Laub's lens has candidly captured and chronicled individuals' courage while simultaneously investigating cultural conflicts.

Her exhibit *Common Ground (Israelis and Palestinians)* explored the shared yet divided worlds of these two peoples, while her installation *An American Life* documented the intimacy and pain that can define family — in this case, Laub's own family. And just recently, in 2018, the photographer captured Stacey Abrams's run for Georgia governor — a race that garnered national attention.

Laub also returned to Mount Vernon one year after the town merged its segregated proms and directed and produced a documentary, also titled *Southern Rites,* along with John Legend and **Lisa Heller '90**. The film, which explores racial tensions, premiered in Madison at Union South in April.

While Laub didn't study photography at the UW, she says that taking art history and English literature classes had a "huge impact" on her future work.

"I learned I wasn't good at writing, but my love of narrative storytelling influenced my visual art-making," she says.

ADDIE MORFOOT '02

There's an apocryphal story about what set **Florence Bascom 1882, 1884, MS1887** on her rocky path to a career in geology. The story goes that her father, John Bascom, took her to Mammoth Cave in south-central Kentucky, and the trip made such a deep impression on Bascom that she was determined to pursue science from then on.

But not all historians agree that the trip ever happened, much less during her childhood. Instead, Bascom was initially drawn to other fields of study, obtaining an arts and letters degree from the UW shortly after her father took over as university president in 1874 (and pushed for full coeducational status for women).

After graduating, Bascom spent a year in Madison "engaged in social activities" before her father encouraged her to return to school and pick a more lasting direction for her interests. (They may also have visited "a cave" around this time.) She returned to the UW for a second bachelor's degree, this time in science, followed by a master's in geology. She became a protégée of **Charles Van Hise 1879, 1880, MS1882, PhD1892,** then an assistant professor.

Bascom's next step wasn't easy. After a couple of years teaching in Rockford, Illinois, she applied to the PhD program at Johns Hopkins University, which until then did not admit female students. Through her father's connections, a special exception was made for Bascom, though she had to sit behind a screen in classes to avoid "distracting" her male classmates. Ultimately, in 1893, she was the first woman to earn a doctorate from that institution. Her influential dissertation was on metamorphosed lava flows.

"The fascination of any search after truth lies not in the attainment, which at best is found to be very relative, but in the pursuit, where all the powers of the mind and character are brought into play and are absorbed in the task," Bascom wrote. "One feels oneself in contact with something that is infinite, and one finds a joy that is beyond expression in 'sounding the abyss of science' and the secrets of the infinite mind."

Bascom went on to become an expert on crystalline rocks in the Piedmont area of the Appalachian Mountains, and some of her surveys are still in use by geologists today. She balanced academic posts at various institutions with positions at the U.S. Geological Survey and other professional associations.

However, Bascom's biggest influence was in the classroom. Recruited to the prestigious women's college Bryn Mawr in 1895, she spent the rest of her career establishing — and protecting — a geology department that graduated a small but dedicated number of female geologists. When the college president threatened to shutter the department due to low enrollment in the early 1900s, Bascom's students raised a substantial amount of money to save it.

SANDRA KNISELY BARNIDGE '09, MA'13

FLORENCE BASCOM PAPERS, SMITH COLLEGE

Florence Bascom shows off a tool of her trade: a Brunton compass. During her work with the U.S. Geological Survey, she placed benchmarks like the one shown here, which denoted a site's exact elevation.

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Jack and Sandy

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ALUMNI PARK

DESTINATION: ALUMNI PARK

Photo: Joe Leute

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Make Music Madison in Alumni Park	Friday, June 21, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
WAA Birthday Celebration	Friday, June 28, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
Ask Abe Trivia Night with *Flamingle* Staff	Wednesday, July 31, 6–8 p.m.

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WISCONSIN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Destination *Helen C. White Hall*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: JEFF MILLER (2); BRYCE RICHTER; UW ARCHIVES 2018S00427

The building was named in honor of English professor Helen C. White PhD'24, who died in 1967 after 48 years of teaching at the UW. White was the first woman to earn a full professorship within the College of Letters & Science.

In addition to College Library, the hall is home to classrooms and academic departments, including English, Afro-American studies, and philosophy. The English as a Second Language program (above) is also housed within the space.

Helen C. White Hall opened in 1971 with "135,000 books, a view, and a chance to be alone," the alumni magazine stated at the time. The three-story section used for undergraduate studying and the book collection is known today as College Library, which stays open 24 hours on weekdays.

Located at 600 N. Park Street by Memorial Union, College Library lies near the shores of Lake Mendota. Finding an open table — let alone a scenic window seat — can be especially difficult during a crowded finals week.

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