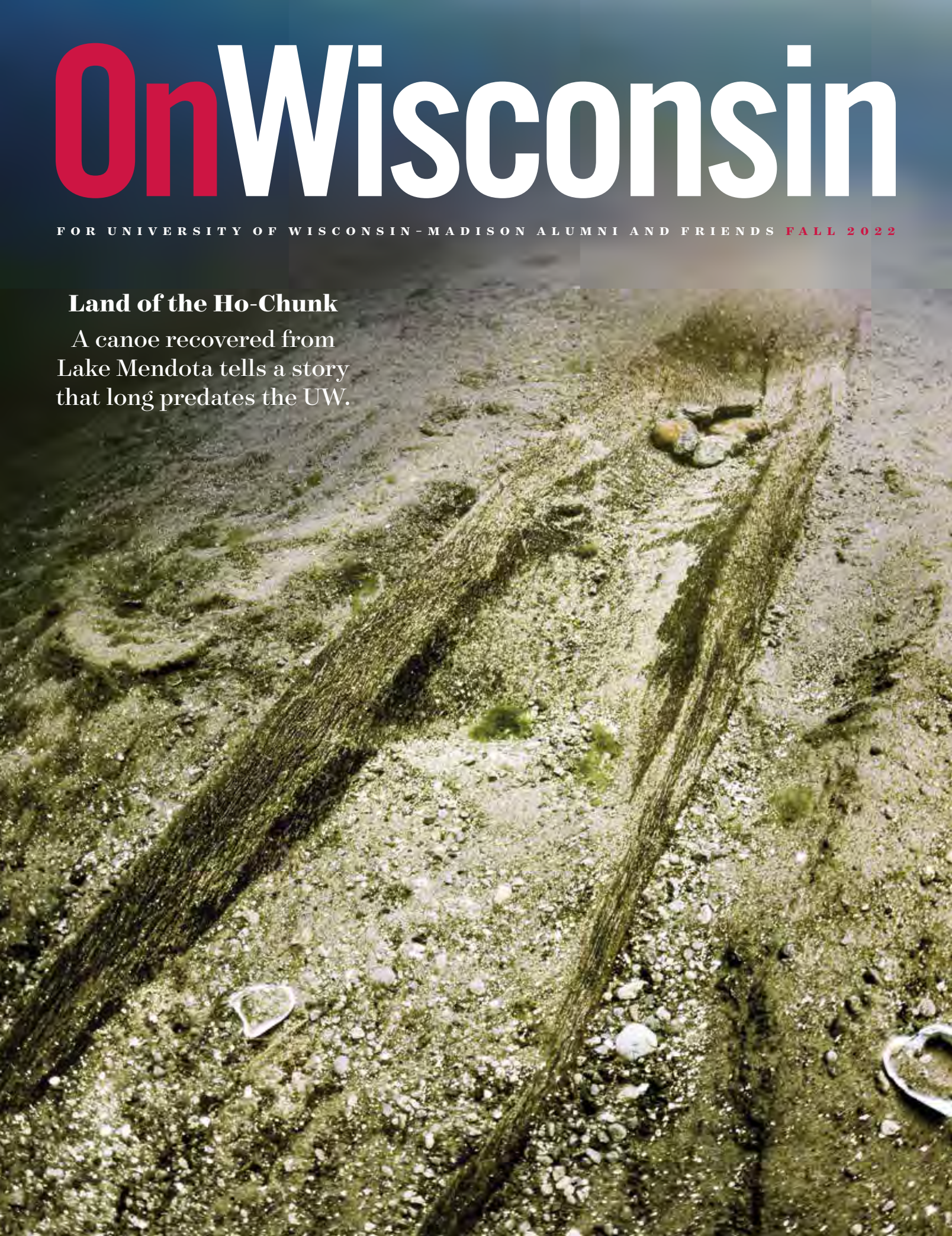
OnWisconsin

FOR UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON ALUMNI AND FRIENDS FALL 2022



Land of the Ho-Chunk

A canoe recovered from Lake Mendota tells a story that long predates the UW.


TAPS
APPS &
PIZZA

Vision

Some venues offer drive-in shows; the UW offers paddle-in shows. In July, the Memorial Union Terrace reversed the band shell for Lakefront Live, a concert aimed at the lake. The band Sleeping Jesus serenaded swimmers, boaters, and kayakers.
Photo by Jeff Miller

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Contents *Volume 123, Number 3*

OnWisconsin

BRYCE RICHTER

Greg Gard takes UW men's basketball to unprecedented heights in spite of unprecedented drama. See page 30.

DEPARTMENTS

OnCampus

OnAlumni

JULIA KOSTOPOULOS

Devyn Robinson is a leader on and off the volleyball court. See page 20.

FEATURES

COURTESY OF DREW BINSKY

Drew Binsky's travel videos have racked up 5 billion views. See page 42.

Cover
The outline of an ancient canoe is just visible at the bottom of Lake Mendota in this previously unpublished image. Photo courtesy of Wisconsin Historical Society.

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We want to hear from you! Please email your letters to onwisconsin@uwalumni.com or mail to WFAA, *On Wisconsin*, 1848 University Ave., Madison, WI 53726. You can also post comments online at onwisconsin.uwalumni.com.

I just got back from a fabulous week in Maui [Hawaii], where Wisconsin was definitely represented — I saw several Badger T-shirts and hats on fellow vacationers. In this photo, I'm enjoying Kapalua Beach. I take my *On Wisconsin* magazines everywhere I go. Go, Bucky!
Polly Meyers Clark '78
San Diego

Secret Places

"UW Secrets, Mysteries, and Hidden Places" [Summer 2022 *On Wisconsin*] was fascinating and fun. But there's at least one more place to mention: the Science Hall fire escape. At one time, you could go to the top floor, open a low set of steel doors, and corkscrew down an inside tube. You'd come out with a bang as your feet smashed open another set of doors facing the parking lot. It was a lot of fun, and the best free ride in Madison.
Richard Weil '72
Saint Paul

I appreciated "UW Secrets, Mysteries, and Hidden Places." When I came to campus in 1970, there was still an elevator operator in Science Hall, a marvelous relic from the past, and there were stories of a fire escape slide that apparently was great fun. I never had that experience, although I was introduced to something along similar lines with the acoustics of the vertical metal fluting that defines much of the Humanities Building. You can find a perch near the northeast corner of the building and sit with your head between two of these ornaments and either tap the metal or hoot and listen to the echoes.
Richard Hoops MS'87
Topanga, California

"Hidden Places" reminded me of an incident in 1970 when my future wife (Barbara "Bobbie" Mecha Wilson '73) and I were wandering the Memorial Union and came upon an unlocked door on an upper floor that led to a series of catwalks above the ceiling of Great Hall. We noticed a Lucky Strike cigarette package a foot or two off the catwalk. We carefully retrieved it and were surprised to find a shiny new mid-1940s penny between the outer and inner wrappers, leading us to believe that the package had been lying there for 25 years.
Patrick Wilson '71, MS'76
La Crosse, Wisconsin

The Impact of Title IX

I enjoyed "The Fight for Title IX" [Summer 2022]. I came to the UW in 1964. At the time, I was a good golfer. Of course, there were no girls' golf teams in high school or at the UW. There were no sports opportunities for women when I registered in 1964 — it was only academics. There are two of us who golfed together in summers before college, and we think we totally missed out on a scholarship opportunity had we been 10 years younger.
Betsy Ovitt '68
Eugene, Oregon

Doug Moe's terrific article tracing the Title IX battle at the UW reminded me of my days as a freshman in 1972. I had expressed interest in the crew and received a call from an assistant coach. Upon hearing that I was six foot two and a then-svelte 160 pounds, he sighed and said that I might have been perfect for the men's lightweight crew team, but the passage of Title IX meant that the squad had been disbanded since funds were moved over to women's crew. Little did I know that, as Moe's reporting reveals, the entire women's crew program for 1972–73 received only $8,000, hardly enough to torpedo the lightweight squad.

From early days, it seems, women's sports and Title IX were being blamed for shortcomings in men's sports. The tremendous UW women's national crew championship two years later showed such grumblings to be sour grapes. They still are.
Ned [William K.] Dodds '75
New York City

Bring Back Baseball

I loved the article on our new athletic director, Chris McIntosh '04, MS'19 [Summer 2022 Contender]. It would be nice if someone would ask Chris about the future of [men's] baseball at the UW. I played for the Badgers from 1978 to 1981, and I find it crazy that only 13 out of 14 schools in the Big Ten can have baseball as a varsity sport. My 12-year-old wants to go to the UW and play baseball. Please do the right thing and bring back Badger baseball.
Todd Feiter '82
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Unsightly Behavior

[In regard to "Sage Advice," Summer 2022 Bygone]: In 1967, I lived in Showerman Hall, a women-only dorm. There was a room where men and women could socialize until a certain hour (10 p.m., I think), and residents were assigned to be sure that men left on time and there was nothing going on that we wouldn't want our parents to know about. As I recall, if we saw a couple in a passionate embrace, our handbook advised that we say: "Cease and desist from this unsightly behavior!"
Kathleen King '70
Davis, California

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OnWisconsin

Fall 2022

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The Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association (WFAA) is open to all alumni, students, and friends of the university. WFAA encourages diversity, inclusivity, and participation by all of these groups in its activities and does not discriminate on any basis.

The canoe pictured on our cover arrives at the State Archive Preservation Facility.

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Buried Treasure

Our cover helps you see history through the eyes of an archaeologist.

Archaeological finds are rarely in want of attention. After centuries spent in the quiet stillness of the depths of the earth, they often end up under glass cases in museum exhibits, starring in television specials and documentaries, or (ahem) gracing the covers of magazines.

This is how the world at large comes to know these relics: in their best light and at their most flattering angles. A fortunate few get to share in the moment of discovery. In the case of the canoe on our cover, it was a fortunate alumna who stumbled — or swam — upon it at the bottom of Lake Mendota.

Perhaps that's part of the beauty in our cover this issue: you get to see the canoe just as she did, before it was dug up, cleaned off, and preserved. This photograph has never before been published, and it captures a moment that otherwise can't be shared, the moment in which an archaeologist confirmed that what could have easily been mistaken for a log was actually a vessel lost to time. When the photo was taken, the age of the canoe was still anyone's guess. For me, the image captures the thrill of discovery and the solemnity of being in the presence of something both familiar and mysterious — something with the potential to make history.

Take an extra moment with the cover. Notice the stones nestled in the far end of the canoe (and then learn what they are in "Mendota Remembers," page 22). This scene can't be staged or re-created in a studio. It's not every day that history reveals itself, but when it does, seize the opportunity to get a good look.

MEGAN PROVOST '20


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Beets: UW Carrot, Onion, and Table Beet Breeding Lab, Department of Horticulture. Beats: UW Dancers, Dance Department.
CAN'T STOP A BADGER

OnCampus

News from UW–Madison

JEFF MILLER

New Chancellor Lauds UW Mission

For Jennifer Mnookin, the Wisconsin Idea is personal.

Every incoming UW–Madison leader professes to understand the Wisconsin Idea, the guiding principle that the activities of the university should have a positive and lasting impact on the state and world. New chancellor **Jennifer L. Mnookin** grasps it in a deeply personal way.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mnookin donated a kidney to her father. A transplant solution developed at UW–Madison allowed the organ to be shipped from Los Angeles to Boston for successful transplantation. He's doing well today.

Mnookin has been struck by the commitment to the Wisconsin Idea and the spirit of the academic community that she joined on August 4.

"Two things make this place so special. One is just the incredible range of research activities across so many fields at such a high level," says Mnookin, who succeeds **Rebecca Blank.** "The second is just how much people care about each other, the community, and the institution."

Mnookin had been dean of the UCLA School of Law since 2015. She was a professor at UCLA, the University of Virginia School of Law, and Harvard Law School.

Those who know her best credit Mnookin with being a transformative leader at UCLA, fully prepared to transition from a successful deanship into the UW chancellor role.

"Jennifer was born to be the leader of a great research university like the University of Wisconsin," says University of Oregon president Michael Schill, who previously served as UCLA law school dean. "She is incredibly smart, strategic, inspiring, warm, and collaborative. She has been an amazing dean of one of the nation's best law schools and has moved it dramatically forward in a short period of time."

Mnookin says she won't shy away from challenges ahead and describes an engaged leadership style that will draw in an array of voices to solve problems.

"Vision comes through collaboration and engagement — working together to find common purpose. We will look for ways to improve the institution that you love and that I am coming to love."

JOHN LUCAS

Mnookin (right) has been struck by how much people at the UW care about the institution and each other.

EVERDRONE

WHEN DRONES SAVE LIVES

As a kid, **Justin Boutilier** would get roped into helping his dad, a paramedic and firefighter, perform automated external defibrillator (AED) demonstrations. Two decades later, Boutilier, now a UW assistant professor of industrial and systems engineering, is reimagining how AEDs can save more lives.

Boutilier has detailed the framework for designing a network of AED-outfitted, autonomous flying drones, which could allow the life-saving devices to more quickly reach people suffering cardiac arrest. In out-of-hospital cardiac arrests, survival rates drop by as much as 10 percent for each minute that passes without treatment.

"Ambulances are not fast enough for this, especially in nonurban areas, so drones are just such a good fit," says Boutilier, whose research harnesses optimization and machine-learning techniques to improve health care quality, access, and delivery. "They're super fast with straight-line flight. And then AEDs are a relatively light payload, so it suits the drone. The best applications for drones in health care are things that are light and where time is of the essence."

In January, an off-duty doctor used an AED delivered by an autonomous drone to save a 71-year-old man's life in Sweden — the first such documented successful rescue. Boutilier hopes that research like his will help nudge the technology closer toward mainstream implementation.

TOM ZIEMER '07

SIGMUND GOODE/MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

Bob Dylan Flops on Campus

At 19, the future star failed to conquer the UW folk scene.

The extravagant Bob Dylan Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, opened in May, completing Dylan's apotheosis. Though perhaps *completing* is the wrong word, since the 81-year-old musician shows no signs of slowing down. After selling 125 million albums and winning Pulitzer and Nobel prizes, he's still touring and writing singular songs. He even has a new book, *The Philosophy of Modern Song*.

Dylan is up there with the greatest American artists, but would you believe that his path to immortality passed through a few ratty UW–Madison apartments?

In January 1961, the 19-year-old University of Minnesota dropout headed to Madison with his acoustic guitar and harmonica, hoping to conquer the campus folk scene. He managed to meet the top UW folkies but, alas, not to impress them. At that point, only the former Robert Zimmerman saw himself as a musical genius. He performed for students at Groves Women's Co-op, whined Woody Guthrie songs at campus parties, and turned precisely zero heads. What most people noticed was the kid's oddball outfit: a brown suit and a skinny tie.

How did it feel to be in Madison as a complete unknown, with no direction home? "I've been broke and cold," he wrote to friends back in Minneapolis. The future looked grim.

Dylan crashed with his new UW friends for about a week and a half — and then fate intervened. One of his roomies offered a ride to New York City, which was folk music's mecca. The determined teenager arrived in Greenwich Village and began the artistic transformation that would soon lead to "Blowin' in the Wind," "A Hard Rain's a-Gonna Fall," and superstardom. When he traveled to Madison again in May 1961, staying with friends for another couple weeks, his guitar and vocals rang with new authority.

In 1961, Dylan's future looked grim — until fate intervened at the end of his Madison stay.

Dylan has returned to town many times since his two campus-area stays, treating generations of UW students to his various incarnations: fierce protest singer, gnomic rocker, poetic country crooner, true-believing gospel shouter, raspy jazz traditionalist. His latest Madison appearance was in 2012, at the 10,000-seat Alliant Energy Center. Were any 1961-era alumni in attendance that night, when he played a decades-spanning set of masterpieces such as "All Along the Watchtower," "Like a Rolling Stone," and "Tangled Up in Blue"?

If so, they surely marveled at how many roads this man has walked down since flopping at Groves Women's Co-op.

DEAN ROBBINS

You're Muted — or Are You?

Kassem Fawaz's brother was on a videoconference with the microphone muted when he noticed that the microphone light was still on — indicating, inexplicably, that his microphone was being accessed.

Alarmed, the brother asked Fawaz, an expert in online privacy and an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering at UW–Madison, to look into the issue.

Fawaz and graduate student **Yucheng Yang PhDx'23** investigated whether this "mic-off-light-on" phenomenon was more widespread. They tried out many videoconferencing applications on major operating systems, including iOS, Android, Windows, and Mac, checking to see if the apps still accessed the microphone when it was muted.

"It turns out, in the vast majority of cases, when you mute yourself, these apps do not give up access to the microphone," says Fawaz. "And that's a problem. When you're muted, people don't expect these apps to collect data."

Fawaz and Yang, along with colleagues from Loyola University Chicago, used runtime binary analysis tools to trace raw audio in popular videoconferencing applications as the audio traveled from the app to the computer audio driver and then to the network while the app was muted. They found that all the apps they tested occasionally gather raw audio data while mute is activated, with one popular app gathering information and delivering data to its server at the same rate regardless of whether the microphone is muted or not. The findings raise privacy concerns.

"With a camera, you can turn it off or even put your hand over it, and no matter what you do, no one can see you," says Fawaz. "I don't think that exists for microphones."

Turning off a microphone is possible in most device operating systems, but it usually means navigating through several menus. Instead, the team suggests the solution might lie in developing easily accessible software "switches" or even hardware switches that allow users to manually enable and disable their microphones.

JASON DALEY

DANIELLE LAMBERSON PHILIPP

WHAT'S YOUR DOG'S FAVORITE TV SHOW?

Television and YouTube programming to keep dogs entertained is becoming more common. But it's not clear how the canines engage with the shows and what kind most appeal to them.

Now, a new survey is asking dog owners to help shed some light on these questions. The results could lay the groundwork for developing better ways to assess vision in dogs.

According to **Freya Mowat,** an assistant professor at the UW School of Veterinary Medicine and the School of Medicine and Public Health's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, previous efforts to develop an eye test for dogs have failed.

But Mowat believes videos could hold a dog's attention long enough to assess critical information about visual function. To better understand what dogs might be most attracted to on-screen, Mowat is conducting a "Dog TV" survey that asks people to provide information on their dogs' screen-viewing habits.

Ultimately, the study could help pups to age more gracefully by providing understanding of declining vision. Because dogs are subjected to the same environmental and lifestyle factors as their owners, learning what influences their visual decline could help researchers to optimize human eye health as well.

CHRIS MALINA

NEWS FEED

BEN SWANSON/DENVER BRONCOS

Gregory Nemet (right) of the UW's La Follette School of Public Affairs was a lead author of a United Nations report on climate change. "The report documents the options available to us for mitigating climate change and argues that we need to work fast," Nemet says.

With the Cryo-Electron Microscopy Research Center and the Midwest Center for Cryo-Electron Tomography, the UW Department of Biochemistry will capture detailed information about the smallest components of living cells. The new research centers will enable cutting-edge drug development and virus studies.

Former Badger football teammates Russell Wilson MSx'14 and Melvin Gordon x'14 have reunited on the NFL's Denver Broncos. The two celebrated after Wilson was traded to Denver, posting the photo at left to the delight of Badger alumni.

BRYCE RICHTER

Divine Celebration

In May, UW–Madison added its newest campus monument: the Divine Nine Garden Plaza. Designed to honor the achievements and contributions of the nine historically Black fraternities and sororities, the plaza is situated on East Campus Mall and includes nine markers grouped in a circle. Here, members and alumnae of Sigma Gamma Rho pose in front of their sorority's marker.

The UW volleyball team not only won its first national championship last December but also had its biggest crowd in the Field House since tracking began. The official count was 7,161 tickets scanned for the December 11 regional final against Minnesota — which, of course, the Badgers won handily. The team may well beat the NCAA regular-season attendance record of 14,022 when it moves to the bigger Kohl Center for a September 16 match against Florida.

SUPER GEL BATTLES CANCER

A new biodegradable gel improves the immune system's ability to keep a variety of cancerous tumors at bay in mice, according to experiments led by pharmacy professors **Quanyin Hu** and **Seungpyo Hong** and colleagues in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health.

Surgery is an excellent treatment for many tumors, but small numbers of cancer cells that remain after the operation can allow tumors to grow back. To counteract this process, the researchers developed their gel to slowly release two key components — the drug pexidartinib and platelets bound to immune-stimulating antibodies.

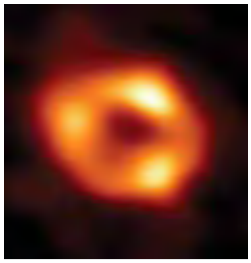
The gel significantly slowed the growth of lingering cancer cells and increased the lifespan of mice. It also greatly reduced the spread of metastasizing breast cancer. A bonus was that the gel had insignificant side effects.

In recent years, Hong and Hu have independently been developing new ways to control cancers without traditional chemotherapy, which has severe side effects. By collaborating, they hope to supercharge their ability to continue testing creative approaches that could benefit human patients in the future.

ERIC HAMILTON

NEWS FEED

A UW–Madison-led computing network paved the way for awe-inspiring images of Sagittarius A* (right), the black hole at the center of the Milky Way. The images come from the Event Horizon Telescope project, which relies on a research computing platform developed by UW professor Miron Livny.



EVENT HORIZON TELESCOPE COLLABORATION; CAROL CHEN

Eliminating air pollution emissions from energy-related activities in the United States would prevent more than 50,000 premature deaths each year, according to a UW study. It would also provide more than $600 billion in annual benefits from avoided illness and death.

In June, Olin Hacker '20, MS'22 (left) won the 5,000-meter race at the NCAA national outdoor championship meet. No surprise that the Big Ten named the speedy star its male track athlete of the year.

DANIELLE LAMBERSON PHILIPP

The Climate Diet

Changing dietary patterns in the United States are leading to lower emissions of food-related, climate-warming gases, and half of the reduction can be attributed to eating less beef. The intriguing findings come from a UW study recently published in the *Journal of Cleaner Production*.

Every choice we make as consumers has a climate impact, which is often measured in terms of its "carbon footprint" — that is, the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the process of producing a good or providing a service.

"The greenhouse gases of our food system are one of the largest portions of our footprint as a nation," says **Clare Bassi MS'21,** who led the study.

Globally, food systems contribute about one quarter of all human-caused greenhouse gas emissions. That includes emissions associated with food production, processing, transportation, cooking, and waste. Bassi focused on what individuals can most easily control: what they choose to eat. She analyzed eating habits reported by more than 39,000 U.S. adults in a national survey from 2003 to 2018 and calculated the average daily greenhouse gas emissions associated with diet. Different foods have very different environmental impacts: animal products and processed foods are often much more carbon-intensive than minimally processed and plant-based foods.

In just 15 years, the carbon footprint of the U.S. diet fell by more than 35 percent. Lower consumption of beef, dairy, chicken, pork, and eggs accounted for more than 75 percent of the observed diet-related carbon dioxide savings during the study period; beef alone was responsible for nearly half of the drop.

"The trend is quite exciting," Bassi says. "Over the study period, national greenhouse gas savings from dietary changes alone are roughly equivalent to offsetting emissions from every single passenger vehicle in the country for nearly two years."

She also examined trends based on demographic factors, such as sex, age, household income, race, and ethnicity. Every subgroup she analyzed showed a 30 to 50 percent reduction in diet-related greenhouse gas emissions.

These positive trends are encouraging, she notes, but Americans are still exceeding our fair share of food-related emissions compared to other parts of the world: the average U.S. diet-related carbon footprint in 2018 was still nearly twice as high as global targets for minimizing global warming.

"People's actions are making a difference," Bassi says, "but we still have a long way to go."

JILL SAKAI PHD'06

A MARKETPLACE FOR BADGER ATHLETES

Good news, Wisconsin sports fans: you can now book your favorite Badger.

In April, UW athletics launched the YouDub Marketplace, where businesses and Badger fans alike can pitch profitable opportunities to UW student-athletes. The online marketplace (app.opendorse.com/shop/wisconsin-badgers) is helping players and the public navigate the new landscape of college athletics after the NCAA adopted a new policy to allow student-athletes to profit from their use of name, image, and likeness (NIL).

While companies can use the platform to arrange formal sponsorship and advertising deals, fans can pitch any concept — a social media shout-out, an autograph, a special appearance — at a starting rate of $30. The student-athlete then has seven days to review the pitch. UW athletics recently partnered with Altius Sports Partners, an NIL education firm, to provide guidance to student-athletes. The players also have access to free campus resources, including legal advice and contract review from the UW Law & Entrepreneurship Clinic and business coaching from the Wisconsin Small Business Development Center.

YouDub Marketplace visitors are greeted with a photo grid of Badger student-athletes, and clicking on each profile brings up a biography, links to social media accounts, and a list of personal interests. Quarterback **Graham Mertz x'23**'s profile displays his personal logo and his interest in food, gaming, and music. Volleyball star **Devyn Robinson x'24**'s profile notes she's a pet owner.

The marketplace, developed by NIL technology company Opendorse, is one of the first of its kind in college athletics.

PRESTON SCHMITT '14

A Fiery War with Russia

Political science professor Yoshiko Herrera began studying Russia during the Cold War. Her insights help us understand the current conflict in Ukraine.

Yoshiko Herrera was earning her undergraduate degree at Dartmouth as the Berlin Wall came tumbling down and the Soviet Union faced dissolution. After a study-abroad visit to Eastern Europe in 1990 and a peek behind the crumbling Iron Curtain, Herrera switched academic tracks to study the "different world" she saw and the ethnic, national, and social groups within it. Now she's an expert in Russian politics and a professor of political science at the UW, and the war in Ukraine has given her yet another post-Soviet conflict to study. Since Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, Herrera has done countless interviews for local and national news outlets to explain Russian president Vladimir Putin's destructive actions and why she believes Ukrainians' resolve for statehood will eventually prevail.

At the start of the invasion of Ukraine, you called Putin's actions an "incredible miscalculation." What did Putin miscalculate?
It's a miscalculation based on a profound misunderstanding of Ukraine and a significant underestimation of the international reaction in terms of sanctions and military support for Ukraine. The lack of respect for sovereignty and nationhood in Ukraine led Putin and his military advisers to not seriously examine the situation, including assessing Ukraine's likely resolve, military capabilities, and lack of support for a Russian occupation. Because the 2014 Crimea invasion was such a shock for Ukraine, Ukrainians realized the danger to their state and nation, and they largely got over some of their historic differences and built a more inclusive sense of Ukrainian national identity that's not just based on ethnic or linguistic traits.

What are the consequences that Putin, and Russia more broadly, have faced?
Even if Ukraine doesn't join NATO per se, it is going to remain strongly anti-Russian, which is the opposite of what Putin wanted. Plus, Finland and Sweden are now on track to join NATO. And every other country in Europe has been put on alert that Russia is a dangerous country, and they need to treat it as such. In many ways the results for Russia have been disastrous. Regardless of the outcome of the war, for decades to come Russia will be a pariah state, possibly facing charges of war crimes and genocide, and its economy will be seriously damaged. Ironically, a military defeat of Russia and Putin may be the best hope that Russia has to improve its prospects. But I want to emphasize the war has been a terrible, unprovoked, humanitarian and economic catastrophe for Ukraine.

How do you see this war ending? Do you expect to see peace anytime soon?
Right now, nobody really knows how long this can last. Unfortunately, I think both sides are very committed to fighting, so I don't really see the prospect of a ceasefire or any negotiated settlement anytime soon. Ukrainians will not give up their state. The only question is to what extent they will be able to beat back Russian forces. On the Russian side, we see that there is no limit to Putin's cruelty.

What do you believe is the United States' role in this conflict?
Number one is in the coordination of international economic sanctions, especially with Europe, against Russia. There is more to be done on energy sanctions, and the U.S. should keep pressing on further secondary sanctions. Even though sanctions are not going to have an immediate effect on the war, they are going to weaken Russian state capacity and capabilities over the next few months or year.

Herrera is affiliated with the UW's Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia, which supports research, teaching, and outreach about that region. Learn more at creeca.wisc.edu.

Second is military support and weapons supply, and the U.S. is doing a lot, but Ukraine needs more help on this, and the U.S. should lead the way. There are a lot of reasons why Western governments might not be advertising everything they're doing — I tend to be of the view that there is a lot going on behind the scenes that we are not aware of — but the military support from the West is absolutely critical to helping Ukraine win.

Humanitarian support for people in Ukraine, as well as displaced people, is important. There is also a major role for Europe and the U.S. in terms of supporting the rebuilding process in Ukraine. The world needs to hold Russia to account in terms of war crimes.

How should the United States navigate future relations with Russia?
As long as Putin is in power, we have to deal with a threatening, malevolent, untrustworthy government. There is no building trust with an untrustworthy regime, and hence the U.S. and Europe will have to act accordingly. One thing that is likely to change is that there has to be a long-term reconsideration of energy policy generally to [take] into account both the environment and these national security issues. Given the Russian threat, it is more important than ever that the U.S. have a coordinated national security policy with a reliable executive in the Oval Office.

Interview by Esther Seidlitz
Photo by Althea Dotzour

KENT MICHAEL SMITH/COURTESY OF MADISON MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART; JEFF MILLER

Rethinking Public Sculpture

Blu³eprint by Faisal Abdu'Allah communes with the UW's Abe Lincoln statue.

In his sculpture *Blu³eprint*, UW art professor **Faisal Abdu'Allah** portrays himself seated in a barber chair. If you're walking down State Street, you'll encounter the limestone monument outside the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, which commissioned it for an exhibition of Abdu'Allah's work.

And if you've just come from Bascom Hill, you'll notice a resemblance to UW–Madison's iconic Abraham Lincoln statue.

Both figures have a commanding presence. Both gaze stoically, arms at rest. But one portrays a white man who embodies the United States' complex racial history, sitting on what might as well be a throne; the other a Black man in the more modest setting of a barbershop. It's a provocative juxtaposition, particularly at a time when many public monuments are coming under fire and occasionally even coming off their pedestals.

The country is divided over which statues should stay and which should go, but Abdu'Allah proposes an artistic solution. Rather than removing artworks, he believes in inviting sculptors of color to create what he calls "counter-monuments." *Blu³eprint*, for example, engages in dialogue with the Lincoln statue, presenting an alternate approach to commemoration.

A provocative juxtaposition: the Lincoln statue (inset) portrays a white man who embodies the United States' complex racial history, while Abdu'Allah's sculpture portrays himself in the modest setting of a barbershop.

Abdu'Allah is a professor of printmaking and associate dean for the arts in the School of Education. Last year, he was named Chazen Family Distinguished Chair in Art. He's come a long way since his days in London barbershops.

That's right — Abdu'Allah's choice of a barber chair is not random. He hung out in salons during his youth, marveling over patterns the hairdressers made with their scissors. He became a barber himself, attended the Royal College of Art, and began incorporating barbershop imagery into his work.

To him, the barbershop is a place of renewal, with particular resonance in the Black experience. Hair — on the spectrum of kinky to straight — also has political and cultural connotations. And then there's the fact that hair carries traces of our DNA, the very essence of who we are. Visitors can see how Abdu'Allah treats such rich themes when the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art opens the exhibition *Dark Matter* in September.

Blu³eprint has been up since spring, demanding attention on State Street. Abdu'Allah made the sculpture in collaboration with artist Martin Foot and Madison's Quarra Stone Company, and he chose limestone as the medium because of its imperfections.

Those are suggestive of human imperfections, of course. *Blu³eprint* acknowledges that none of us are perfect, even if we do happen to be up on a pedestal.

DEAN ROBBINS

Better Than Bulletproof

UW–Madison engineers have created a nanofiber material that outperforms steel plates and Kevlar fabric to protect against bullets and other high-speed impacts.

Basically, it's better than bulletproof.

"Our nanofiber mats exhibit protective properties that far surpass other material systems at much lighter weight," says **Ramathasan Thevamaran,** a UW–Madison assistant professor of engineering physics who led the research.

The material resembles cloth tape but is much stronger. To create it, Thevamaran and postdoctoral researcher **Jizhe Cai** mixed multi-walled carbon nanotubes — carbon cylinders just one atom thick in each layer — with Kevlar nanofibers. The resulting nanofiber mats are superior at dissipating energy from the impact of fast-moving tiny projectiles.

The advance lays the groundwork for carbon nanotube use in lightweight, high-performance armor materials — for example, in bulletproof vests or in spacecraft shields to mitigate damage from flying microdebris.

"Nano-fibrous materials are very attractive for protective applications because nanoscale fibers have outstanding strength, toughness, and stiffness compared to macroscale fibers," Thevamaran says. "Carbon nanotube mats have shown the best energy absorption so far, and we wanted to see if we could further improve their performance."

They found the right chemistry. The team synthesized Kevlar nanofibers and incorporated a tiny amount of them into their carbon nanotube mats, which created hydrogen bonds between the fibers. Those hydrogen bonds modified the interactions between the nanofibers and, along with just the right mixture of Kevlar nanofibers and carbon nanotubes, caused a dramatic leap in the overall material's performance.

"The hydrogen bond is a dynamic bond, which means it can continuously break and re-form again, allowing it to dissipate a high amount of energy through this dynamic process," Thevamaran says.

The researchers tested their new material using a microprojectile impact-testing system in Thevamaran's lab. One of only a handful like it in the United States, the system uses lasers to shoot micro-bullets into the material samples.

In addition to its impact resistance, another advantage of the new nanofiber material is that, like Kevlar, it is stable at both very high and very low temperatures, making it useful for applications in a wide range of extreme environments.

ADAM MALECEK '04

PITCHES PERFECT

In April, the UW–Madison treble group Pitches & Notes made history, winning first place at the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) finals in New York City. Pitches & Notes is the UW's first group to win that contest, as well as the first group from the Great Lakes region.

"We were so stunned," says **Hyunji Haynes '22.** "We are thrilled to bring these accolades home to UW and the greater Madison community. We could not have it done it without all the support!"

Ten groups from the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom competed at the ICCA finals. Each prepared a 10-minute set and choreography.

ILA SCHRECKER X'23

"Be kind. That two-word mantra has guided me my entire career."

— **Linda Thomas-Greenfield MA'75,** U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, speaking at the UW's spring commencement ceremony

NEWS FEED

UW–Madison has been ranked 27th worldwide and 20th nationally by the Center for World University Rankings. For those keeping score at home, that puts us in the 99th percentile of the 20,000 institutions listed in the rankings.

Speaking of rankings, 12 UW–Madison graduate programs made the top 20 in their respective fields in the new edition of U.S. News & World Report's "Best Graduate Schools." Most impressive, the School of Education's graduate program ranked in the top five for the ninth straight year, with educational psychology coming in at number one.

UW–Madison chancellor emerita Rebecca Blank stepped down as president-elect of Northwestern University after being diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. Blank completed her eight-year tenure at the UW in May and will stay in the Madison area for treatment.

DANIELLE LAMBERSON PHILIPP; JEFF MILLER

Voice. Visibility. Volleyball.

Listen up: Devyn Robinson x'24 has something to say.

If you ask **Devyn Robinson x'24** to describe herself at the outset of her time as a Badger, she uses words like "quiet," "shy," and "reserved." If you know anything about Robinson now, this may be hard to believe.

The right-side hitter and middle blocker made a name for herself on the court, joining **Dana Rettke '21, MA'22** and **Anna Smrek x'25** to form the Badgers' nearly impenetrable block last season, attacking the ball with the ease of swatting away a fly (and with far more finesse).

Off the court, she's notorious for hamming it up on TikTok, where she shares behind-the-scenes volleyball tidbits and snapshots of life as a student-athlete with more than 11,000 followers. Visibility is important to Robinson, and it's a spotlight she's seeking to grow and share, though she picked up hard-learned lessons while getting there.

Robinson graduated early from high school in January 2020 to start training with the Badgers. At 17, she had already won several national and world volleyball championships before arriving at the UW. She was also the team's youngest player.

"I'd never been in a position where I wasn't the best in the gym. I automatically had that respect from people [in high school], so I felt like I just always had a voice," Robinson says. "Then I come here, and everybody's good. I'm playing with Dana Rettke. I was like, 'I'm just going to sit back and watch and maybe speak up if I have the chance.' "

That chance was cut short by a pandemic that sent all Badgers home. Three months later, the team returned to campus to give training a tentative go. Around the same time, George Floyd was killed in Minneapolis. Age was no longer the most salient part of Robinson's identity.

"I couldn't just separate what was going on outside of volleyball from volleyball," Robinson says. "It gets to the point where it actually affects how I'm feeling and how I'm playing."

In a meeting convened by head coach **Kelly Sheffield,** the Badgers discussed the gravity of the news and their respective roles within the growing Black Lives Matter movement. Robinson, **Sydney Reed x'24,** and **Jade Demps x'24** led the conversation, encouraging their teammates to get involved.

"It gave me a voice that I feel like I didn't have initially," Robinson says. "It was a chance for me to speak up, and the way [my teammates] responded made me feel like they do care what I have to say. There's no point in being small when everyone is respecting everybody."

Instead of kicking up their feet after practices, the Badgers traded their jerseys for poster board and joined the thousands of people marching on Madison's streets. Afterward, some of the players, including Robinson, painted murals on boarded-up shop windows.

Gone were her days of holding back. When the Badgers got the green light to play their delayed 2020 season during the spring of 2021, Robinson made a strong debut: her performances in her first matches were featured among NCAA Women's Volleyball's top plays of the week, and she went on to be named to the all–Big Ten first team. Later that year, their 2021 season culminated in a historic win for Wisconsin volleyball with the program's first national championship title.

Robinson helped lead Badger volleyball to the program's first national championship in December 2021.

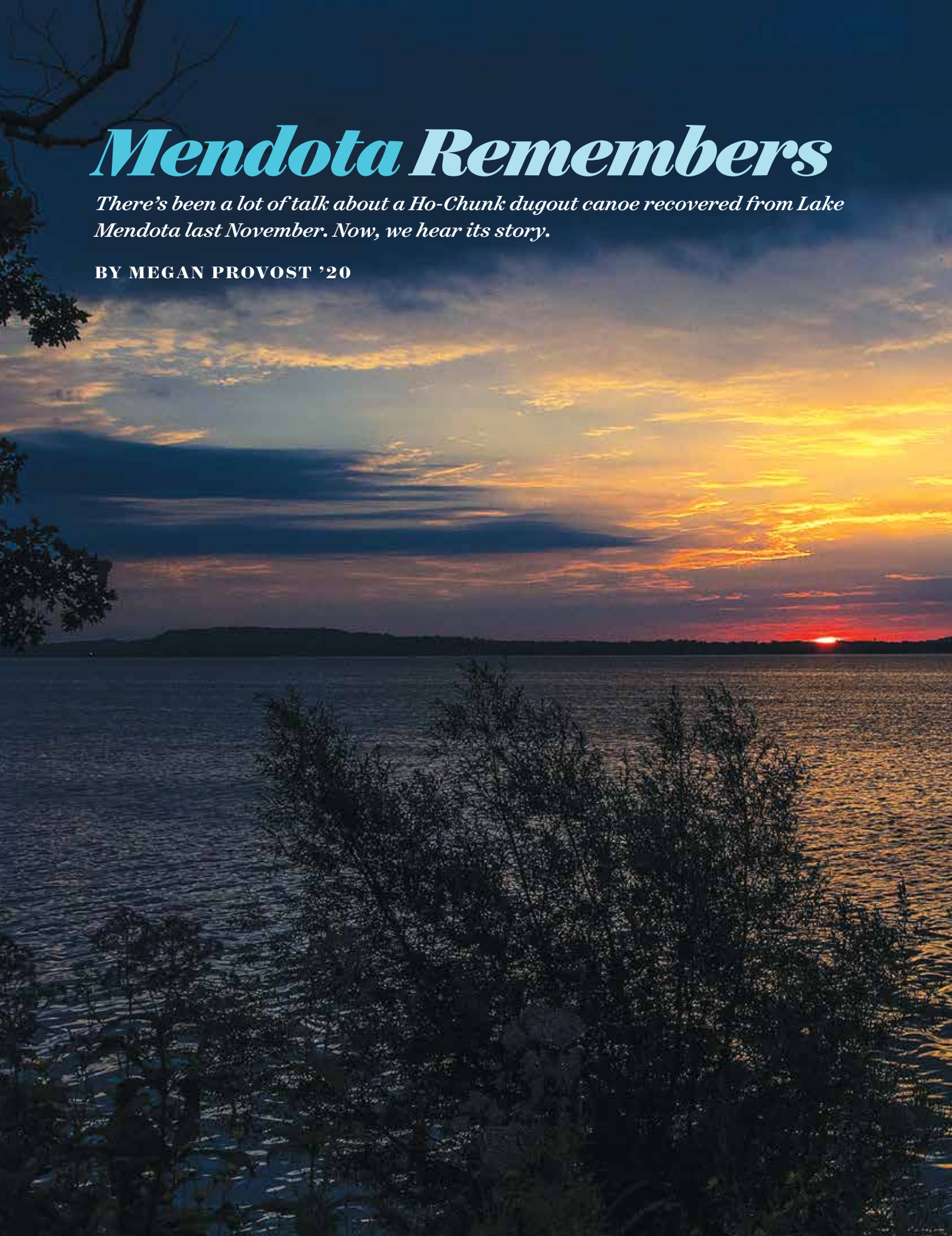
"I was on the sidelines when we won, and I literally couldn't breathe," she says. "I don't think I took a breath until the game was over."

Robinson's post-Wisconsin career is never far from her mind. Sure, she'd love to play professionally — maybe in Spain or Brazil — but when her time on the court comes to an end, she'd rather pick up a microphone than a clipboard and a whistle.

"I want to be a sportscaster because I don't see enough representation of women's sports on TV, especially volleyball," Robinson says. "I want to be someone little Black girls can look up to and see that, 'Oh, if she can do it on TV, then I can do it.' "

Fortunately, Robinson is with the Badgers for a few more years. You should catch a game while she's here. If she's not on the court, you'll surely spot her on the sidelines. She'll be the one dancing like no one's watching, though all eyes are on her. She didn't wait this long or work this hard for them to be anywhere else.

MEGAN PROVOST '20
PHOTO BY JULIA KOSTOPOULOS



Mendota Remembers

There's been a lot of talk about a Ho-Chunk dugout canoe recovered from Lake Mendota last November. Now, we hear its story.

BY MEGAN PROVOST '20

HYUNSOO LEO KIM

With 9,781 acres of surface area, 83 feet of depth, and tens of thousands of years of history, Lake Mendota, dubbed by the UW as "the world's most studied lake," still holds many secrets.

The plot of Disney's *Frozen II* is driven by a thematic refrain: "water has memory." In the movie, dams and streams and ice reveal both heart-wrenching details of the characters' heritage and ugly truths long submerged in a murky history. Last summer, when archaeologists with the Wisconsin Historical Society discovered a canoe at the bottom of Lake Mendota, the heart of this Disney tale beat a little closer to home.

Initially, the archaeologists thought it was a relatively young canoe — an artifact of the 1800s or a Boy Scouts project from the 1950s. The revelation of its true age took their breath away: the vessel was 1,200 years old, built around 800 CE by early ancestors of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

News of the canoe's discovery and recovery made waves that traveled the world, but the impact is felt most strongly at its source. For some, the vessel is a tangible reminder of a history frequently forgotten in the wake of watersports and watercolor Terrace sunsets. For others, it affirms a truth as old as the ancient lake herself, one that reflects on her glassy surface and rests in her cloudy depths.

"Madison is the water," says Molli Pauliot x'94, MA'20, PhDx'23, a cultural anthropology student and member of the Ho-Chunk Nation's Buffalo clan. It was the water that sustained this area's earliest residents, and it's the water that has drawn everyone since.

Water has memory — sometimes so vivid that it freezes a moment in the form of a dugout canoe. Lake Mendota is speaking. A great many people are eager to hear what she has to say.

A Whisper Underwater

June 11, 2021, was a perfect summer day in Madison: the weather was warm, and Mendota was beautiful. For Tamara Thomsen '91, MS'93, a maritime archaeologist with the Wisconsin Historical Society, these were prime conditions to do no work at all. Equipped with diver propulsion vehicles — underwater scooters — Thomsen and Mallory Dragt '20 set out to a popular dive spot off the lake's southwest shore.

"I have been to [this dive site] probably a hundred times, and thousands of divers have been there, too," says Thomsen. "We were going to scooter around and chase fish, and then pick up trash."

Halfway into their joyride, Dragt signaled to Thomsen that it was time to circle back to the boat. But Thomsen was focused on a log sticking out of the lake's wall. In the rare clarity of Mendota's June waters, the log resembled the dugout canoes she had spent recent years studying around the state. She counted the minutes it took to scooter back to the boat in hopes of finding the canoe again later that day, this time not as a recreational diver, but as an archaeologist.

Amy Rosebrough MA'96, PhD'10 was working from home when she got a call from Thomsen, her colleague at the historical society.

"I think I found something," Thomsen said.

Rosebrough is a terrestrial archaeologist in the State Historic Preservation Office and an expert on the Indigenous peoples who lived in Wisconsin and surrounding areas during the Late Woodland period, which lasted from 500 CE through 1200 CE. A self-described "landlubbing archaeologist," she wasn't about to suit up and dive in with Thomsen, but on a day like this, she couldn't refuse an opportunity to sit on the boat and offer her expertise.

Back in the water, Thomsen located the canoe again, recorded its coordinates, and investigated its condition. She fanned around the edges of the wood, expecting to find a fragment, only to discover the vessel almost entirely intact. She resurfaced to share photos with Rosebrough before returning to retrieve the "weird, colorful rocks" she reported finding nearby.

"We put them in a row and looked them over, and I thought, well, this is very, very strange because they're not round, they're not tumbled, and they're not smooth like you would see if they were dropped by a glacier," Rosebrough says. "But I couldn't, at that point, figure out what on earth they were."

Thomsen returned the rocks, measured the canoe, and reburied their discovery. That evening, Rosebrough realized that the rocks were net sinkers, tools thought to be used by Late Woodland fishermen. Intrigue quickly became excitement. What memories would Mendota reveal?

Resurfacing

The Wisconsin Historical Society was between state archaeologists in June 2021, so further inquiry into

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Divers with the Dane County Sheriff's Office help retrieve the canoe on November 2, 2021.

the canoe's origins was put on hold until the arrival of Jim Skibo. Skibo was a professor of archaeology at Illinois State University for 27 years before coming to the historical society.

When he learned of a story resting at the bottom of Lake Mendota, he committed to telling it. Thomsen retrieved a hair-sized sample of the wood from the canoe to send out for radiocarbon dating.

"When Jim announced what it was, I almost fell on the floor," Rosebrough says. "From that time period, we have things made out of stone. If the preservation's really good, we've got a bone tool or two. We've got pottery, but even that is usually broken into tiny little pieces, so we were making history based on scraps and impressions and the occasional mound."

But Mendota, a meticulous conservator, kept this piece of history safe: packed tightly into the lake bed, the wooden canoe evaded sunlight, invasive species, and centuries of other vessels and visitors.

"This is a chance to touch a piece of history that should, by all accounts, have turned into dust a couple of decades after it was abandoned," Rosebrough says.

On November 2, 2021, after months of careful planning and practicing, Thomsen, Skibo, maritime archaeologist Caitlin Zant, and a group made up of experienced volunteers and divers from the Dane County Sheriff's Office executed a maneuver never before performed by the historical society when they excavated the canoe from the lake. The process took hours, during which a crowd amassed on the shore where Rosebrough was communicating with the team out on the water and fielding questions from curious onlookers and media outlets.

The canoe — the oldest intact vessel ever recovered from Wisconsin waters — emerged to applause, cheers, and tears before being carted away to the State Archive Preservation Facility. The recovery made headlines from CNN to the BBC. The canoe itself harbors many more stories to tell.

Ancestral Footprint

To appreciate the canoe's stories, you have to know the people who made it. While Lake Mendota's present-day shores may be the most populated they've ever been, the vast majority of her history has been spent in the company of the Ho-Chunk Nation, who have called these waters home since time immemorial.

"We've been in Madison as long as we've been Ho-Chunk, and the Ho-Chunk have been there since before it was Madison," says Casey Brown x'04, public relations officer of the Ho-Chunk Nation and member of the Bear clan.

According to Brown, the tribe's oral histories indicate that the Ho-Chunk first entered the world at the Red Banks (near present-day Green Bay). From there, they spread throughout the Midwest, from the Mississippi River to Lake Michigan. Archaeologists refer to them as the Late Woodland people or the Effigy Moundbuilders after the animal- and spirit-shaped burial mounds with which they sculpted the landscape. To the modern Ho-Chunk Nation, they're simply centuries-removed kin who established the tribe's ancestral footprint in the Madison area: *Teejop*, or "Four Lakes," a region whose beauty lies in its waters, and whose waters spring from stories.

One Ho-Chunk account of the Four Lakes' origins tells of *Man'una*, or "Earthmaker," who was traveling through the region when he stopped to rest. He filled his kettle with spring water, *caa* (deer meat), and roots, and set it atop a fire to cook when he heard a sound in the woods. He left to investigate, thinking it might be his friend Bear. When he returned, the kettle was on its side and the water flowed into depressions in the earth, forming the Four Lakes.

Another Ho-Chunk story tells of a man who once fell so deeply in love with a water spirit that he turned into a fish to follow her, carving out the Four Lakes in a pursuit that culminated in the creation of the largest one, *Wąąkšikhomįk*, or "Where the Man Lies." To this day, mounds that resemble water spirits can be located just off Mendota's shores.

The presence of mounds in the area indicates a landscape that allowed for exploration and education, its residents' basic needs having been readily met by their environment. These early Ho-Chunk were expert navigators, engineers, and astronomers, learning from the land and sky and innovating with the abundant resources.

The mounds themselves are teachers to this day, not only educating people about their builders, but also serving their original purpose by indicating directions and reflecting cosmic phenomena such as solstices.

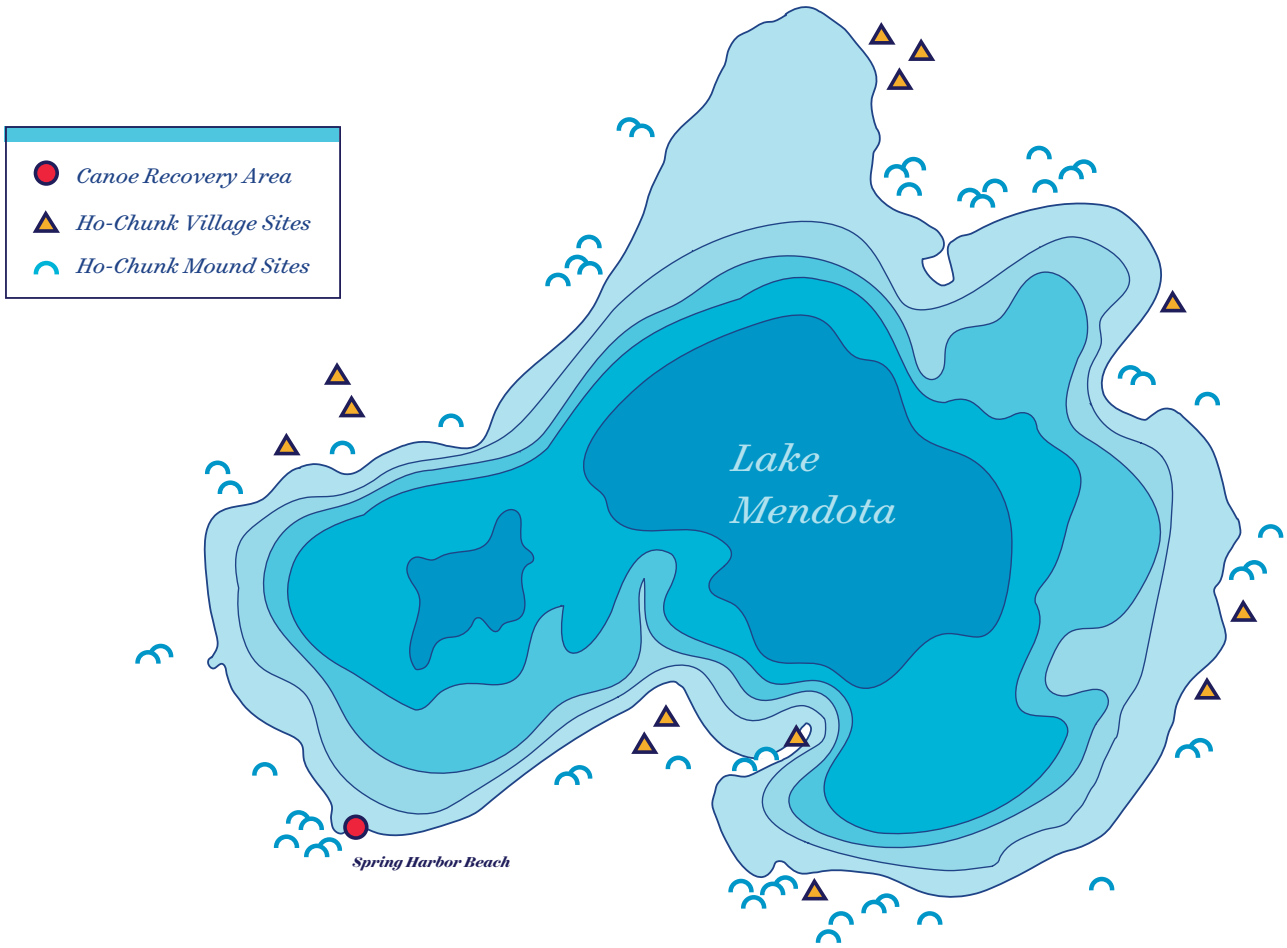
"The entire Four Lakes area is essentially a university," Brown says. "Even before the UW was there, the Ho-Chunk were using it as a teaching tool."

And it continues to be. The Ho-Chunk Nation worked closely with the historical society throughout the canoe retrieval process, and they'll continue to be involved in helping the canoe tell its story. After all, it's their story, too.

Mendota's Oldest Companions

As the leading expert on the ancestral Ho-Chunk who resided on Mendota's shores during the Late Woodland period, Rosebrough knows more than most Western academics about their customs, technology, and ways of life. With the discovery of the canoe, she also has the most questions.

In the summer, the early, seminomadic Ho-Chunk lived in small villages along lakeshores and riverbanks and grew gardens of sunflowers, squash, goosefoot, and little barley. In the winter, they spread out to preserve resources and the environment.



Lake Mendota's shores are home to hundreds of ancient Ho-Chunk effigy mounds and village sites. Popular campus areas like Picnic Point (bottom, center) still bear evidence of their earliest residents.

Hunting was integral to their sustenance; archaeologists have recovered arrow and spear points, skinning knives, and hide scrapers, along with remnants of bird and deer bone at many village sites. The importance of fishing was an educated guess.

"We've assumed that they were fishing and working on the lakes because the pottery is decorated with the impressions of fabric and cordage and, in some cases, nets," Rosebrough says. Along with a small collection of harpoons and bits of fish bone at village sites, the canoe and its net sinkers are concrete evidence of fishing in these communities, which raises more questions. Were they fishing onshore or offshore? In deep water, where the big catches lurked? With nets alone, or are there hooks yet to be found?

Inquiries into fishing are just the start. According to Rosebrough, the historical society already has stone tools believed to be axes dating back nearly 10,000 years. By comparing the tools to the markings on the canoe, archaeologists can determine if these implements, once thought to be used for cutting down trees, were actually used for canoe-building.

Rosebrough is also interested in exploring the vessel's capability for travel. Archaeological evidence suggests that early Ho-Chunk traded with the Cahokians, Indigenous peoples who lived just across the Mississippi River from present-day Saint Louis. The Cahokians were almost certainly traveling up the river to reach the northern tribes — could this canoe have traversed rough waters like the Mississippi or the Great Lakes to reach distant civilizations before meeting its end in Lake Mendota?

Wisconsin's First Shipwreck

Wisconsin is distinguished by its more than 800 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. The state flag, first adopted in 1863, features a sailor and an anchor, nods to Wisconsin's early shipyards and nautical industries, the remnants of which lie at the bottom of lakes and rivers and occasionally wash ashore or startle anglers before revealing details of historic shipbuilding in the Midwest. But Wisconsin's maritime history far predates its flag.

Thomsen is an expert in Wisconsin shipwrecks and spends a great deal of her time documenting and protecting these historic elements. With the canoe, she may have found the very first.

"When Euro-Americans are here and ships go down, we call them a shipwreck. When canoes go down and are found, we call them an artifact," Skibo says. "But this was a shipwreck."

Most Indigenous dugout canoes found in Wisconsin were recovered from shallow waters because it was common for early fishermen to cache

BRYCE RICHTER

The canoe rests in a custom-built vat in the State Archive Preservation Facility (SAPF). The accompanying pieces were recovered near the canoe and could belong to its frayed end (not pictured).

BRYCE RICHTER (2)

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Top left and bottom: Molli Pauliot, Megan Provost, Jim Skibo, and Kat Latham, director of collections management at the Wisconsin Historical Society, study the net sinkers at the SAPF.

Top right: The net sinkers as they were found in the canoe in Lake Mendota.

their canoes offshore in the fall — to commit them to the water's memory — and recover them in the spring. This canoe was found in 27 feet of water, far from the shores on which it would have been stowed.

The state of the canoe also points toward maritime mishap. Of the minimal damage the canoe has sustained, its oldest flaw may have also been its demise: a heel-sized hole in one end. Wood contains knots that stubbornly refuse to warp with the wood around them, causing them to become weak and fall out. While many recovered canoes show signs of patchwork and repairs, this one's hole remains.

"Archeologists love touching individual moments: the fingerprint impressed into the pot, the footprint in the floor of a dirt-floored house," Rosebrough says. "We have a moment here where somebody was either in that canoe or had stashed their net and gear in that canoe, and it went down."

Like the side-wheel steamers Thomsen traces back to 19th- and 20th-century shipyards, the canoe offers insight into the building techniques of its makers. The USDA Forest Products Laboratory on the UW campus determined that the canoe is made of white oak, a hard and watertight wood native to southern Wisconsin and known to the Ho-Chunk, to whom it is sacred, as *caašgegura*. Dark soot inside the hull and markings from stone tools suggest the use of burning and scraping to create the vessel. According to Thomsen, wear on the bottom of the canoe can indicate which ends might have been the bow and the stern. Studying its construction can also help archaeologists track the progression of canoe-building through time and across tribes.

"This canoe would be great, like a pickup truck," Skibo says. It may not have been built for speed or agility, but it could carry a couple of fishermen out to their nets and tote the cargo home — until it didn't.

To test this theory, Skibo partnered with Lennon Rodgers, director of the UW Grainger Engineering Design Innovation Lab, to investigate the canoe's structural integrity. Rodgers's 3-D scans of the canoe have yielded detailed digital and physical models that will be used to test its flotation and satisfy Rosebrough's curiosity about its maritime capabilities. They can also help determine whether a dislodged knot could truly be the culprit in its ruin.

The likelihood of shipwreck also raised the question of whether the canoe might indicate a burial, which would have stopped the excavation in its tracks. Wisconsin State Statute 157.70 prevents the disturbance of human remains of any kind and assigns immediate ownership of discovered burials or funerary objects to the respective tribes. Review of culturally specific burial practices and careful dredging of the area around the canoe ruled out this possibility. Still, the canoe's location and condition create emotional ties that transcend centuries and generate wonder about the person whose vessel went under one day.

"Were they panicking? Were they upset? Were they looking at shore going, 'Dang it, I didn't want to get wet today'?" Rosebrough asks. "To reach back and start to think about one individual on one day — one moment of one day — we can empathize with them as another human being."

People of the Mother Tongue

For some, these ties through time run deeper than the shared experience of a watercraft lost to the lake.

While the Ho-Chunk are the region's longest-standing residents, their numbers have fluctuated over thousands of years after repeated attempts to eradicate them. According to Rosebrough, disease and intertribal wars instigated by the arrival of French fur traders in the 17th century decimated the Ho-Chunk population. The tribe's oral histories indicate that, at one point, there were only 50 adult Ho-Chunk men. Later, federal policy displaced the Ho-Chunk from their ancestral lands and allowed for the destruction of mounds and other earthworks.

"When you're colonizing people, you take over their most beautiful sites, their most sacred sites, and you put your site on top of it," Pauliot says. "That's why the capital's in Madison."

Perhaps the most recent and haunting attempt at eliminating Indigenous influence was the rise of residential schools. The Ho-Chunk language provided the foundation for many Siouan languages throughout the American Midwest and West; the tribe is known as the "People of the Loud Voice," "People of the Sacred Voice," or "People of the Mother Tongue." After generations of cultural undoing in residential schools, the speakers of the "mother tongue" — those who taught language and its culturally preservative capabilities to others — are few.

Oral histories, the intangible and invaluable records of time from which the Ho-Chunk derive their sense of identity and connection with the past, do not die with the language, but they will suffer immensely from its absence.

"That's why historic preservation is so important," Brown says. "It is almost a form of protest, [us] just being alive."

What is a canoe, then, to those who need no evidence of their own existence and who rely not on things, but on stories?

"It's just another part of our culture," says Bill Quackenbush, tribal historic preservation officer with the Ho-Chunk Nation and member of the Deer clan. "We don't need to see items brought out of the water just to reassert that we are here."

For the Ho-Chunk, history and culture are not lying at the bottom of Lake Mendota; they're taking place on and around it. They keep their ways alive through the continuation of skills, values, and practices that have existed even longer than the canoe. This, Brown says, is how a nation survives.

One way they have done this is by building a canoe themselves. Prior to the discovery in Lake Mendota, Quackenbush gathered a group of Ho-Chunk youth to make their own dugout canoe out of a cottonwood tree. The team spent months burning, scraping, and sawing the log and, this past June, embarked on a weeklong journey through the Four Lakes region in their completed vessel, which included a stop along the Yahara River to visit the new canoe's oldest known ancestor. Even as language is lost, water remembers.

"We're going to show these kids what it means to be Ho-Chunk," Brown says. "This is Ho-Chunk land. This is where you're supposed to be. They have a 1,000-year-old canoe, but your people have been here, and they're still going to be here."

Reflecting on previous canoe-building experiences, Brown recalls that a vessel is imbued with the spirits of its creators. Submerged in busy waters, the ancient vessel found in Lake Mendota had every reason to disappear in the 1,000-plus years since it sank. It should have disintegrated into the lake bed, splintered apart, broken into bits under the churning of boat motors, or been eaten by zebra mussels — and yet. The People of the Mother Tongue had the first word, and they will certainly have the last.

Dehydrating History

Lake Mendota is not done speaking. Since the retrieval of the dugout canoe, two more have been located near the site of the first. These vessels were found in fragments and will remain in their final resting place, though radiocarbon-dating will reveal their respective ages.

The discovery of the additional canoes in such proximity challenges the theory of shipwreck: in addition to dating the new canoes, Skibo is currently working to determine the location of ancient shorelines — some of the research that has yet to be conducted on this most-studied lake. Perhaps these canoes weren't sunk, but were simply forgotten.

Today, the original canoe is back in water, this time in a rubber-lined vat in the State Archive Preservation Facility on Madison's east side, just down shore from its resting place of over a millennium. It's one year into a three-year preservation process involving a purified-water bath, UV-lights, and, eventually, polyethylene glycol, or PEG.

When removed from the environment that kept it safe through thousands of years, the canoe was held together only by the water in its cells. By gradually adding PEG to the solution in which the canoe rests, the preservative will replace the water in its cells before it's freeze-dried to remove any excess water the PEG didn't reach.

It's up to us to preserve its memory now. ●

Megan Provost '20 is a staff writer for On Wisconsin.

Visit our website at onwisconsin.uwalumni.com for an exclusive video of the canoe at the State Archive Preservation Facility and for late-breaking updates on the ages of the two additional canoes found in Lake Mendota.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Greg Gard has overcome adversity to lead Badger men's basketball to new heights.

BY PRESTON SCHMITT '14

PHOTO BY BRYCE RICHTER

Gard, who grew up in a Wisconsin village of 400, has a farmer's work ethic.

Greg Gard waited 26 years for his opportunity to lead a college basketball program. When Bo Ryan's longtime assistant became interim head coach of Wisconsin men's basketball in December 2015, he relayed a warning he'd received from several coaches about the transition ahead of him.

"When you slide over those 18 inches [on the bench] ... all hell may break loose," Gard half-joked during his introductory press conference.

It's a saying that has proven true several times over during his seven-year tenure as head coach of the Badgers. Adversity has become a fact of life for Gard: his father's death from brain cancer, an unimaginably tragic car accident involving an assistant coach, a confrontation with a rival coach that led to a slap heard 'round the basketball world, a pandemic, and a leaked locker room recording that threatened the program's viability.

It's ironic that drama follows Gard these days. His personality is measured and understated. He prefers a low profile. For more than two decades, he served quietly in the background for Ryan, following his mentor from UW–Platteville to UW–Milwaukee to Madison. Despite opportunities to seize the spotlight elsewhere, Gard stuck around as college basketball's most loyal soldier. Loyalty runs in his DNA. So do his addiction to hard work and his close attention to detail, traits that trace back to his hog-farming childhood in rural Wisconsin.

Through it all, Gard's ever-steady approach has helped the Badgers sustain nearly unmatched success in the NCAA under his leadership: five March Madness appearances, two conference championships, two Big Ten Coach of the Year awards, and a 144–78 record.

"I tell my players, 'If you haven't faced any adversity, you will,' " he says. "You can read all the books you want. You can have the greatest mentors. But the best lessons in life come from experience in adversity."

And in that regard, Gard may be the most experienced coach in college basketball.

Feeling the Pressure

As I sit down with Gard in his Kohl Center office, he points to a large white pillar across from his desk. It's peppered with decals chronicling the program's achievements: a national title, four Final Four appearances, 20 conference championships. It also lists the school's NCAA Tournament bids, with Wisconsin earning a spot 22 out of the last 23 occasions. Something of a perfectionist, Gard admits the missing year — 2018 — still bothers him.

"You talk about pressure on the job? I stare at this every day," he says.

This past year, Big Ten media picked the team to finish 10th in the conference. But the underdog squad led by emerging star Johnny Davis x'25 and fifth-year guard Brad Davison '21, MS'22 scrapped its way to a 25–8 record. They became Big Ten cochampions, earning a No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

After his father's death, Gard partnered with the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association to launch the Garding Against Cancer fund-raising initiative. Since 2016, it's raised more than $6.5 million dollars for cancer research and care in Wisconsin. The initiative became even more personal to Gard when his mother was diagnosed with breast cancer earlier this year.

"We've embodied what Wisconsin is — blue collar, hard hat, lunch pail, put your best foot forward," Gard says. "You don't get bonus points for how a victory looks. I always told them, just keep that same fight, that grittiness, that togetherness, that will, that look in your eye. And it will serve them well for the rest of their lives."

Fans will remember an ugly incident from a February game, when Wisconsin and Michigan came to blows over a late time-out with the game already decided. With 15 seconds left and a 15-point lead, the Badgers' bench players were struggling to break Michigan's full-court press. They had just turned the ball over the previous possession, so Gard took a time-out to realign his untested players and reset the half-court clock. Michigan coach Juwan Howard was visibly upset with the move.

"Those guys deserve to be coached with my same intentions and effort as my starting five do," Gard explains. "He has every right to coach his team. I felt my guys deserved that, too. That means they deserve to get every opportunity to have success. Success was getting the ball across half-court without another turnover."

When Gard approached Howard in the handshake line, Howard pointed at him and said, "I won't forget that." A heated confrontation between coaches and players ensued. Howard swung and hit Wisconsin assistant coach Joe Krabbenhoft '09 in the face, which resulted in a five-game suspension and a $40,000 fine. Gard was fined $10,000 but not suspended.

When I ask Gard whether he's spoken to Howard since, he offers a one-word response: "No."

It's little wonder that Gard's players have bought into his hard-nosed style. Their coach, after all, has become living proof of the power of grit in the face of adversity.

A Maturity beyond His Years

The village of Cobb, Wisconsin, 60 miles west of Madison, has a population of 400. Growing up, Gard and his two younger brothers got their hands dirty at their grandparents' farms, with humbling tasks such as scooping out hog manure from the stalls. Any job not done perfectly had to be repeated. Hard work and attention to detail were simply the ways of life in Cobb.

"You understand what it's like to get up early in the morning before the sun and work until it's dark. And then, hey, guess what, we're doing it again tomorrow," Gard says.

His parents also modeled loyalty. From the age of 18 to her retirement 44 years later, his mother, Connie, served as a secretary at the county high school. His father, Glen, worked for the same agricultural loan company for more than four decades,

UW ATHLETICS

helping local farmers keep their operations running through increasingly difficult conditions.

It's no coincidence, then, that their son has shown such loyalty to Bo Ryan and the UW. Gard first met Ryan as a college student at UW–Platteville, where he helped to run the coach's summer basketball camps for extra cash. After Gard was cut from the college baseball team as a sophomore, he responded to a local newspaper ad seeking a junior high basketball coach.

"The teaching, the competitive nature of it, all those things came very natural to me," he says.

Before long, Gard was recruited to help coach the varsity teams at Southwestern High School and Platteville High School. Still a college student, Gard made an outsized impression with a maturity beyond his years and a farmer's work ethic. Observing him stay late at camps and take on increasing responsibilities with ease, Ryan asked Gard to join his college coaching staff as a student assistant. When Gard graduated in 1995, Ryan convinced him to stay on at Platteville despite opportunities elsewhere. He would stay with Ryan for 23 years, following him to Milwaukee in 1999 and Madison in 2001.

"His ideology of how to play the game aligned a lot with what I was learning and believed in," Gard says.

The underrated Badgers scrapped their way to a Big Ten co-championship in 2022. Gard celebrates with Brad Davison (left) and Johnny Davis.

"He kept things simple, but you had to do it right."

Gard's reputation grew alongside the Badgers' success. After Wisconsin upset previously undefeated Kentucky in the 2015 Final Four, Ryan told the media: "Greg Gard had an incredible scouting report. If he isn't the best assistant in the country, I don't know who is."

Gard had plenty of chances to defect. He went deep into the head coaching interview process with several schools, but it never felt like the right time to leave. When he was recruited by Wayne State College in Nebraska, his now-wife, Michelle, told him: "If you go to Wayne State, you're going alone."

Family — both off the court and on it — always came first.

"Bo told me 100 times when I was working with him at Platteville, 'Make the job you have the best one.' And I've always been able to see the value of that," Gard says.

In July 2015, a few months after the Badgers lost the national championship game to Duke, Ryan announced that he was going to coach one more season and then retire. In his statement, he noted that he was doing so with the explicit "hope that my longtime assistant Greg Gard eventually becomes the head coach at Wisconsin."

UW ATHLETICS

Gard with Assistant Coach Howard Moore, who was sidelined by a tragic car accident.

But on December 15, with a rebuilding Badgers team scuffling to a 7–5 record, the winningest coach in Wisconsin history decided to step down early and give Gard an extended job audition.

Ryan's reciprocation of loyalty proved to be the ultimate validation for Gard, who'd lived out his favorite coaching and life mantra: Be where your feet are.

"I never worried about being a head coach by 35 or 40," he says. "There were more things to enjoy as part of this journey than worrying about where I wasn't. I tell our players all the time, 'Enjoy your time here in college. If you're thinking about what's next all the time, you're missing the best part.' "

For Gard, the best — and worst — was yet to come.

The Opportunity of a Lifetime

Before his first game as interim head coach against UW–Green Bay, Gard tucked a folded-up piece of paper into the breast pocket of his suit jacket. It was his father's funeral program. Glen Gard, 72, had passed away six weeks earlier from brain cancer.

For six months, Gard had stayed up late poring through treatment literature and had accompanied his father on flights around the country in a desperate search for the best cancer treatments.

Still grieving the loss of his lifelong role model, Gard threw himself into the career opportunity of a lifetime. One of his first official moves as head coach was to fill his own vacancy. He convinced his old colleague Howard Moore '95 to leave a broadcasting gig at the Big Ten Network and join him as an assistant. Moore's familiarity with the program — having played for the Badgers from 1990 to 1995 and served as an assistant from 2005 to 2010 — proved to be a luxury for a midseason hire.

After the Badgers stumbled to a 1–4 conference record, Gard made a key adjustment: getting back to the basics with an inexperienced roster. At practice, he drilled fundamentals. He also reintroduced core tenets of the swing offense, an equal-opportunity system that he and Ryan first perfected at Platteville.

"We gave the guys tracks to play on," Gard says. "It gave them a plan. It gave them some absolutes."

The changes worked, and the team won 11 of its last 13 games. As the No. 7 seed in the NCAA Tournament, the Badgers advanced to the Sweet 16 on a buzzer-beating Bronson Koenig '17 three-pointer that remains one of the most memorable plays in Wisconsin sports history. Gard became the second rookie coach to win the Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year award.

"I've had an extra assistant coach all year — my guardian angel," Gard told *USA Today* after the season, referring to his father and the funeral program in his jacket pocket.

On March 7, 2016, Gard was named the permanent head coach of the Badgers. For the first time in his career, he received a multiyear contract. He promptly confirmed the wisdom of that decision by leading the Badgers to another Sweet 16 appearance in 2016–17.

But the good times did not roll forever. The 2017–18 team finished 15–18 and missed the NCAA Tournament. The following year, the Badgers bounced back to a 23–11 record but were upset by No. 12 seed Oregon in the first round of the Big Dance.

And in May 2019, tragedy struck the program.

The Worst Day

In the early morning of May 25, 2019, Howard Moore and his family were driving to the Detroit area to visit his in-laws. A wrong-way drunk driver collided with Moore's vehicle at high speed. His nine-year-old daughter, Jaidyn, died at the scene. His wife, Jennifer, was in critical condition and taken off life support at the hospital later that day. Moore suffered severe burns on the left side of his body. His 13-year-old son, Jerell, escaped with minor injuries.

Gard still gets emotional discussing the incident. One of the hardest conversations of his life was telling his children that their friend Jaidyn was gone. He also had to console his players about an unspeakable tragedy.

"We cried together and prayed together," says Davison, who had just finished his sophomore season. "It was a very dark and sad day."

A month later, the situation went from bad to worse when Moore suffered a major heart attack. Still in recovery, he returned to his Madison home this past December from a long-term rehabilitation facility.

During our conversation, Gard has his cell phone face up next to him. I notice him tap it periodically, checking notifications with an almost obsessive impulse.

"I tell my players all the time, I have an open-door policy," Gard says. "You can come in here — this door never locks. And my cell phone never shuts off. I had my phone off the night of Howard's accident. And then I vowed, it never goes off. So it's by my bed, on, 24/7."

To learn more about Greg Gard's unique approach to basketball strategy, see this story on our website, onwisconsin.uwalumni.com.

"TRAGEDY AND ADVERSITY CAN EITHER DRAW YOU APART OR DRAW YOU TOGETHER."

The 2019–20 Badgers dedicated their season to Coach Moore and welcomed his son as an honorary member of the team. They won their final eight games and a share of the Big Ten regular season championship.

"Tragedy and adversity can either draw you apart or draw you together," Davison says. "That was one of those cases where it really brought us together. We were playing for something bigger than ourselves."

Coming Apart

But before one of the hottest teams in the nation could prove its mettle in March, COVID-19 shut down the country. The Big Ten and NCAA tournaments were canceled.

And the pandemic wasn't done wreaking havoc on the program. After sending his players home, Gard didn't see them in person for five months. The 2020–21 season eventually tipped off with strict pandemic protocols. Players had to eat meals alone in their rooms. There were no off-court team activities.

"Everything we did was anti-team," Gard says. "You agree with the protocols to keep everyone safe, but looking back, you see the erosion that it created within a team."

After starting the season ranked No. 7 in the nation, the Badgers had fallen to 9–7 in conference play by mid-February. The day after a blowout loss at home to Iowa, the team's seven senior players asked for a closed-door meeting with the coaching staff. What followed was an emotional two-hour discussion. The players aired their grievances. The word "disconnect" came up often. They told Gard that they felt he didn't care about them off the court and didn't have their backs on the court.

"I don't know if I'll ever talk to you again after this [season]," one player said.

Gard listened to the players vent without interrupting and later addressed their concerns.

"It was a very healthy meeting, and it was beneficial for all parties," Davison says. "Everyone got criticism, everyone got encouragement, everyone got coaching. And when we left that meeting, everyone was feeling good."

The Badgers responded with some of their best basketball down the stretch, and it seemed that the meeting had achieved its purpose. The only problem was that someone had secretly recorded it.

Restoring Trust

On June 23, 2021, the *Wisconsin State Journal* published a story with excerpts from the previously private meeting. An anonymous email account had sent the reporter an audio recording that was edited down to 37 minutes, cutting almost everything but the criticisms of Gard. The source of the recording is still unconfirmed.

"I felt hurt and betrayed," Davison says. "The locker room is supposed to be a safe place where you have tough conversations."

Gard immediately worked to restore trust in the program, reaching out to all players and recruits individually and holding a team discussion about it. And he adapted, too, with an assist from his college-age children. He knows that students today seek more frequent communication and closer relationships with parental figures.

"I had a coach tell me a long time ago, 'You'll become a better coach the day you become a parent.' He was right," Gard says.

"I'm Here for You"

When I ask Gard how he'd like to be remembered, his mind goes back to Cobb and the core values that his parents passed down to him.

"That he was a guy who gave his best every day, and he tried to help a lot of people, and he made it better for the people coming behind him. He did it the right way. Didn't take any shortcuts. Prepared people for what was going to be next. And they always knew they had somebody they can lean on.

"I tell our players all the time, 'Hey, I'm here for you. Until they shovel dirt on me, I've got your back.' " ●

Preston Schmitt '14 is a senior staff writer for On Wisconsin.

LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD

The UW Black Student Strike of 1969 is among the subjects of the Public History Project's new exhibition.

UW–Madison grapples with the prejudice in its past.

BY DOUG ERICKSON

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

For years, friends and family members have given Charles Holley '88, JD'91 gifts of clothes and other items with the UW logo on them. His children, he says, are always a bit perplexed by his muted reaction.

In reality, Holley's thoughts about UW–Madison are mixed. He met terrific friends on campus and received a great education, he says, but he also remembers regularly being called racial slurs on State Street at bar time and watching a fellow Black student pack up and leave school after being aggressively harassed because of his race while walking to his dorm. The administration, he says, didn't seem to care very much.

Recently, when a researcher with UW–Madison's Public History Project contacted Holley to discuss his time at the university, he agreed to sit for an oral history interview, intrigued by the prospect. As he shared his experiences as a student of color on a predominantly white campus, he appreciated the opportunity to have an extended discussion about complex issues.

"They really wanted to hear from me in an in-depth way," says Holley, a Chicago attorney.

Since fall 2019, researchers with the Public History Project have completed 140 oral history interviews with alumni and current students. They've dug deep into the university's archives, scoured decades of media coverage, and read 168 volumes of the *Badger* yearbook and the *Daily Cardinal*.

The effort is intended to give voice to those who experienced and challenged prejudice on campus. Over the past three years, the project's researchers have shared their findings through campus presentations, special events, and blog posts (at publichistoryproject.wisc.edu).

The project will culminate this fall with an exhibition at the Chazen Museum of Art and a companion online gallery and archive at reckoning.wisc.edu. Spanning more than 150 years, *Sifting & Reckoning: UW–Madison's History of Exclusion and Resistance* (September 12–December 23) will make space for the university's underrecognized and unseen histories. The title plays off "sifting and winnowing," the iconic phrase that has come to represent the fearless pursuit of knowledge at UW–Madison.

"Reckoning is an active, participatory process, and that's so important when thinking about this project," says Kacie Lucchini Butcher, the project's director. "We have to know this history and grapple with it — even if it's uncomfortable and hard to face — because that's part of making the university a more equitable place."

The challenge was to figure out how best to approach this sensitive subject.

"How can a university call itself a center of learning if it is not fully honest about its own history?"

A Clean Break

The project has roots in the university's response to the 2017 white supremacist rally that turned violent in Charlottesville, Virginia. In the wake of the tragedy, UW–Madison chancellor Rebecca Blank denounced the ideologies of all hate groups and said it was time to confront racist elements in the university's past and make a clean break with them. She appointed a study group to look at two student groups that bore the name of the Ku Klux Klan around the 1920s.

One of the groups, a fraternity house, was found to be affiliated with the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The other, an interfraternity honor society composed of student leaders, had no documented connection to the national KKK and no known racist ideology. Its name remains inexplicable.

In compiling its report, the study group identified a broader pattern of exclusion. It concluded that the history the UW needed to confront was not the aberrant work of a few individuals or groups but a pervasive campus culture of racism and religious bigotry that went largely unchallenged in the early 1900s and was a defining feature of American life in general at that time. Blank commissioned the Public History Project as one of several responses.

"The study group's findings pointed to a need to build a more inclusive university community through an honest reckoning with our past," Blank said at the time.

The project comes as the university seeks to make sure all members of the campus community feel welcome and respected. A first-ever campus climate survey in 2016 found that historically underrepresented and disadvantaged groups, while reporting generally positive experiences on campus, consistently rated the climate less favorably than students from majority groups. The survey was repeated last fall with similar findings. Both surveys also revealed that students value diversity and that it's important to them that the university does, too.

The Public History Project is uniquely suited to advance this goal.

Putting History to Use

Lucchini Butcher describes public history as an approach that seeks to elevate the stories of community members — especially those previously ignored or discounted — and share them in accessible, pragmatic ways.

"I think of history as a tool, and I'm always trying to think about how we can put it to use for people," she says.

UW–Madison is far from alone in scrutinizing problematic parts of its history. The University of Virginia, for example, leads a research consortium of more than 80 higher education institutions with historic ties to slavery. Harvard University, one prominent consortium member, announced in April the creation of a $100 million fund to study and redress its early complicity with slave labor.

Even amid this widespread reckoning, UW–Madison's effort stands out, says Stephanie Rowe, executive director of the National Council on Public History. While many such projects focus on a particular strand of a university's past, UW–Madison is employing a broader lens. And while many begin as faculty-initiated research projects, the UW created a public history project and hired a full-time director to see it through. The project is expected

CAPITAL TIMES/UW ARCHIVES; DAILY CARDINAL/UW ARCHIVES (2)

Sifting & Reckoning: UW–Madison's History of Exclusion and Resistance *makes space for the university's underrecognized and unseen histories.*

to cost $1 million and is being paid for with private funds, not taxpayer money.

"We don't often see a university initiate and support a public history project of this design and this magnitude," Rowe says.

Wrongs and Rights

In the Chazen exhibition, the Public History Project unflinchingly faces the university's past.

Visitors will see the large "Pipe of Peace" used by students a century ago at ceremonies that parodied Native American life. They'll view posters for campus minstrel shows and watch an undercover film from the 1960s that documents housing discrimination in Madison. The film was thought to have been destroyed by the university but actually sat for decades out of view in UW Archives.

They'll meet Weathers "Sonny" Sykes '50, the first Black man to enter an otherwise all-white fraternity at UW–Madison when he joined the Jewish fraternity Phi Sigma Delta in 1949, and Liberty Rashad, one of the organizers of the 1969 Black Student Strike.

They'll learn about law student Brigid McGuire JDx'96, who in 1994 contested the physical inaccessibility of UW classrooms by removing a portion of a desk with a circular saw to create room for her motorized wheelchair — amid applause from her fellow classmates. And Mildred Gordon, a Jewish woman, who sued the owners of the private Langdon Hall dormitory after arriving in 1929 and being told

her room had been given to a non-Jewish person.

Other components of the exhibition explore fraternity and sorority life, Badger athletics, student activism, and prejudice in the classroom. There are deeply shameful incidents, like the campus "gay purges" between 1948 and 1962, but also stories of bravery and resilience as marginalized groups claimed their rightful place on campus.

The exhibition also captures times when UW–Madison as an institution, and especially its students and employees, landed on the right side of history. The Groves Housing Cooperative, founded by the university in 1944, had no racial or religious restrictions and was the first interracial housing cooperative on campus. In another example, many UW–Madison professors and students fought to admit Japanese American students to the university during and immediately after World War II, against stiff government opposition.

"We share in the legacy of what our university has been in the past, whether we realize it or not," says Joy Block PhDx'23, a doctoral candidate in history who researched Japanese American Badgers for the project. "What I really like about this project is that you get a fuller picture of that history. Sometimes that reveals our failures, sometimes our successes. And sometimes it just reveals our humanity."

Essential Discussions

Supporters of the Public History Project anticipate criticism, expecting that some will question its value or view it as unnecessary or revisionist history.

John Dichtl, president of the American Association for State and Local History, says it may be helpful for people to view history as a form of detective work.

"To think critically, you need all the information, the full sweep of the past," he says. "The term *revisionist history* is often held up as bad, but this is what historians are always doing. Like detectives, they build their cases step by step over time, then revise and update their conclusions based on new evidence, questions, and perspectives."

It is especially important that institutions of higher education do this work, Dichtl says.

"How can a university call itself a center of learning if it is not fully honest about its own past and its own history?" he asks. "Engaging students in critical thinking about these issues is important for its own teaching mission."

UW–Madison history professor Stephen Kantrowitz, who chairs the Public History Project Steering Committee, says the project is providing curricular materials to instructors and encouraging them to tour the exhibition with their students.

"My hope is that all of these things the project has identified and collected — the research, the analysis, the interviews, the archives — will enable generations of students and teachers here to use the university's own history as a laboratory for their study of how people have lived and interacted, how they've resolved conflict, and how they've worked to change society," he says.

Kantrowitz likens the project to sitting down with an elder and learning the full sweep of your family's history, including the worst parts.

"All those painful silences around the dinner table suddenly make more sense," he says. "That's what we're doing here. We're collectively sitting down with the family photo album and trying to figure out why we have these ongoing conflicts — conflicts over questions that are not unique to the campus but are fundamental American struggles, about race, about gender, about sexuality, about disability, about all sorts of questions that continue to be socially difficult for us."

LaVar Charleston MS'07, PhD'10, the university's chief diversity officer, views the project as a beginning, not an end. Its findings will provide a common starting point for essential discussions about how the university addresses or redresses these long-standing issues.

"We have a tendency as a society to act like things didn't happen, to sweep things under the rug," says Charleston, who leads the Division of Diversity, Equity, & Educational Achievement. "This is the opposite of that. This is the university taking the initiative and confronting the ghosts that have haunted this campus for decades. Of course, we're going to unearth some things that may look bad, but I'm proud that we're being proactive about understanding our history. It's the only way to make the necessary adjustments so that the impact from discrimination doesn't continue to happen."

Finally Being Heard

Charles Holley's name will be familiar to many alumni. As an undergraduate in the late 1980s, he chaired the UW–Madison Steering Committee on Minority Affairs. The committee's final document, which became known as the Holley Report, was a forerunner of 1988's Madison Plan, the university's first formalized diversity plan.

Holley says the histories of institutions like UW–Madison are often told by those with money, power, and influence. The Public History Project serves as a needed corrective. To those who may criticize the university for "airing its dirty laundry," Holley has a response.

"It's already out there. It's certainly out there in the communities that I care about. If you haven't heard about it before, you might ask yourself why not."

The Public History Project welcomes comments and questions. If you have a story to share, a campus event you think should be researched, a person you think should be included in the project, or general feedback, email publichistoryproject@wisc.edu.

By interviewing current students and recent alumni, the project underscores that prejudice remains an issue today on campus. Ariana Thao '20, who is Hmong, says other students sometimes taunted or mocked her as she walked down State Street. They'd yell "Ni hao" — Chinese for *hello* — or loudly joke that she probably didn't speak English.

Thao shared these anecdotes with a researcher and says the experience proved cathartic. "It felt so good to finally be heard," she says.

Geneva Brown '88, JD'93, a campus activist in the late 1980s as a member of both the Black Student Union and the Minority Coalition, hopes the Public History Project exhibit will inspire current students to keep working to improve the campus.

"There's never a past tense to racism and discrimination," says Brown, a faculty lecturer in criminology at DePaul University. "When students hear, especially nowadays, that we acknowledge the past and understand how it impacts our future, we're creating an atmosphere where we're not just giving lip service to diversity, we're trying to do something about it. I think UW–Madison, with this project, can take the lead on that."

When Lucchini Butcher gives presentations on campus about the Public History Project, she sometimes reminds people that UW–Madison bills itself as a world-class institution. Ultimately, the project can elevate, not diminish, UW–Madison's reputation by making sure it lives up to its promise, she says.

"None of this means you have to love UW–Madison any less. You can critique the things you love. You can love something enough to want it to live up to your standards and your expectations." ●

Doug Erickson writes for University Communications.

A MORE WELCOMING CAMPUS

UW–Madison has taken many steps to make sure every student feels safe, respected, and welcome on campus. Among recent efforts, the university:

- Created, in partnership with the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association, the Raimey-Noland Campaign to fund diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts across campus. Learn how you can support the campaign at supportuw.org/raimey-noland.
- Launched the Our Wisconsin inclusion education program and made it a requirement for all first-year and transfer students.
- Pledged a future of cooperation and collaboration with the Ho-Chunk Nation and other First Nations of Wisconsin through the Our Shared Future effort.
- Opened identity centers for Black students, Latino students, and Asian Pacific Islander Desi American students.
- Increased the number of faculty of color from 446 in 2016 to 580 in 2021. Between 2012 and 2021, enrollment of students of color increased by 60 percent while overall student enrollment rose by 12 percent.

BOB CHIANG/UW ARCHIVES

The exhibition covers a 1973 protest by UW students seeking to reopen and expand campus cultural centers.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS DREW BINSKY?

The popular travel influencer has visited all 197 countries on the globe, and he's just getting started.

BY MAGGIE GINSBERG '97

On October 29, 2021, a triumphant Drew Binsky '13 crossed the Saudi Arabian border. "My 197th and final country!" tweeted the 31-year-old video creator, world traveler, and social media personality to an online community of 10 million followers across various platforms. The trip put the final pushpin on Binsky's map and completed a dizzying goal he'd set six years and one pandemic earlier: to visit every country on the planet.

It's a journey that, in many respects, began in Wisconsin.

As a geography-loving kid growing up in Scottsdale, Arizona, Binsky always wanted to see the world. Despite a full scholarship offer from the University of Arizona, Binsky — who was born Drew Goldberg; "Binsky" was a nickname given to him by his German-Jewish family — set his sights on UW–Madison. He remembers exactly where he was standing when his mom called to tell him his acceptance had arrived in the mail.

"I still have that letter framed in my room," he says.

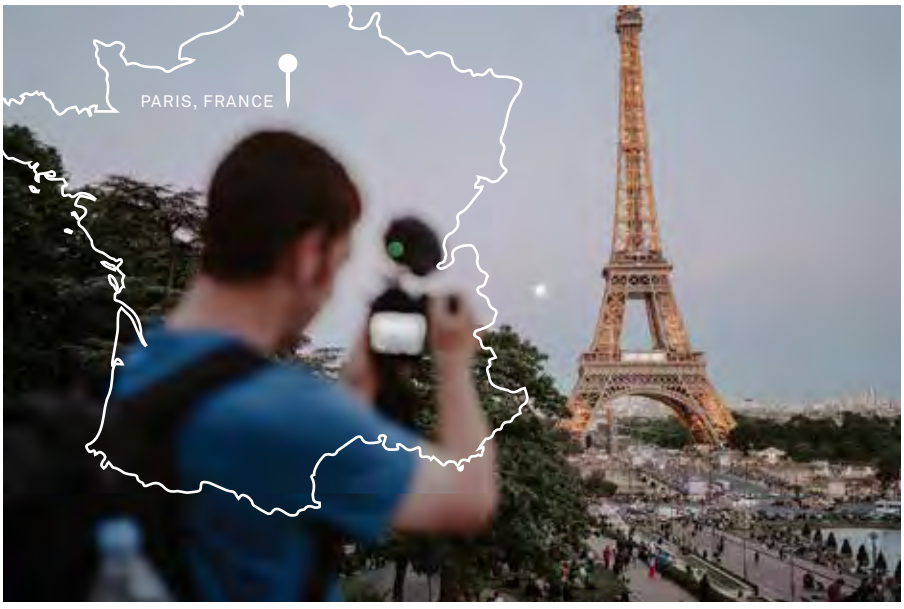
In 2009, he left Arizona for Madison — despite the fact that his forward-thinking father, a Chicago native, insisted they visit the campus in February during a blizzard. "I just loved it," says Binsky, who was undeterred. "It was just so different and exciting for me."

At Madison, Binsky scored his first international travel opportunity. He went to Israel through the Jewish Experience of Madison and then spent his junior year abroad in Prague.

"That's really when everything changed for me," he says.

He chose Prague for its easy bus or train access to other countries, and that semester, he made it to more than 20. "It was the first time I was introduced to new people, new cultures, new food, new ideas," says Binsky, who couldn't get enough. "I was fully hooked. I wanted to create a company, create a travel app, work in travel — I just didn't really know how yet."

Binsky, who built a DIY student project into a travel video empire with 5 billion views, poses near the Cairo pyramids in Egypt.



Past destinations have included, clockwise from left, France; Oman; South Sudan (the home of some of the world's tallest people), and the island nation of Bahrain.

VIDEOS TAKE OFF

Binsky graduated with a double-major in economics and entrepreneurship. In his senior year, he started a travel blog, posting food guides, nightlife guides, and articles like "Top 10 Things to Do in Budapest." He didn't exactly have a plan — he just knew he didn't want to enter corporate America. When one of his travel-abroad friends signed up to teach English for 18 months through the Gyeonggi English Program in Korea, Binsky went down to the offices near College Library to apply — then he was off to South Korea.

"Teaching English was a gateway to basically get paid to travel," says Binksy, whose round-trip flight, accommodations, food, phone bill, and health insurance were all covered by the program, plus a salary and four weeks of paid vacation. Every weekend he visited another Asian country, gathering fodder for his travel blog, which had begun to attract sponsors and advertisers.

In 2015, on the heels of a three-month solo backpacking trip in India, Binsky met Lee Abbomonte, who at 31 in 2011 had become the youngest man to visit every country in the world. Binsky, then 23 with 40 countries already stamped on his passport, did the math — could he do the same thing in five years?

Binsky began traveling to 20 to 30 countries per year. He tried to stay a week in each place and meet as many locals as he could for experiences that were both authentic and affordable.

"The more I traveled, the more I realized I didn't know anything about the world," Binsky says.

In 2016, at a travel convention in Bangkok, he fell in love with a woman named Deanna Sallao, who became his frequent traveling partner. On New Year's Day in 2017, in Hanoi, Vietnam, she gave him the gift that would change everything: a video camera. "She was like, 'Hey, you could make videos that last more than 24 hours on Snapchat. Post them on Facebook and YouTube,' " recalls Binsky.

A minimalist traveler, he initially balked at carrying more equipment. But he gave it a go, posting his first-ever video on Facebook. Within one day, "What Can $10 Get You in Vietnam?" had 100,000 views, which blew his blogging hits out of the water.

"But the biggest turning point was my seventh video, in April 2017, when I got a camera into North Korea," he says. "That video reached 10 million views. I pretty much haven't touched my blog since then."

PUSHING THROUGH A PANDEMIC

For the next four years, Binsky did everything himself — scripting, filming, editing, uploading, and responding to comments. Now he has a team of 26 freelancers and subcontractors, and his videos have clocked an astonishing 5 billion views. His business went from bringing in around $15,000 to $30,000 a year before the videos to $250,000 per year in 2019 and $500,000 in 2020 — numbers he freely shares because he hopes to provide inspiration for other independent entrepreneurs and aspiring YouTubers. Most of it goes right back into the business — as long as Binsky can keep traveling, he has no need or desire to update his trusty Honda Civic or fly first class (unless he's got points). "I'm still really frugal," he says.

Binsky's casual, personable approach and honesty about the ways in which Americans may be ignorant of other countries' cultures and customs have made him relatable to a younger audience. His favorite trips are the places his followers say they're afraid to visit, such as Lebanon and Iran.

"I love being like, well, there's actually a really cool life here, and let me show you that life," Binsky says. He particularly loves the Middle East, including Arabian cuisine and hospitality and the principles of Islam. The more people he meets on his travels, the smaller and more humanized the world becomes.

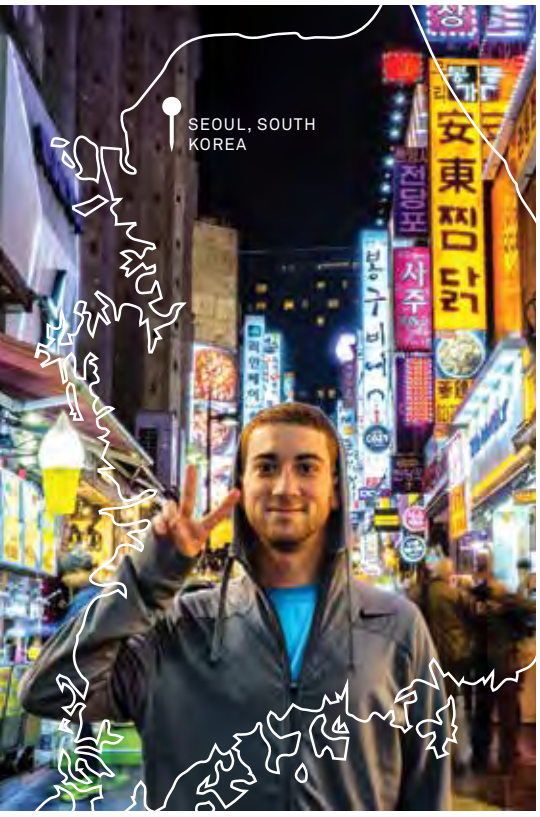
Although the pandemic grounded him in the United States for several months and torpedoed his original goal of visiting all 197 countries by May 2020, he still managed to navigate canceled flights, visa restrictions, and COVID tests before and after every flight. In 2020, he went to Mexico, Egypt, Lebanon, Dubai, Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan, Ghana, Tanzania, Ecuador, and Venezuela.

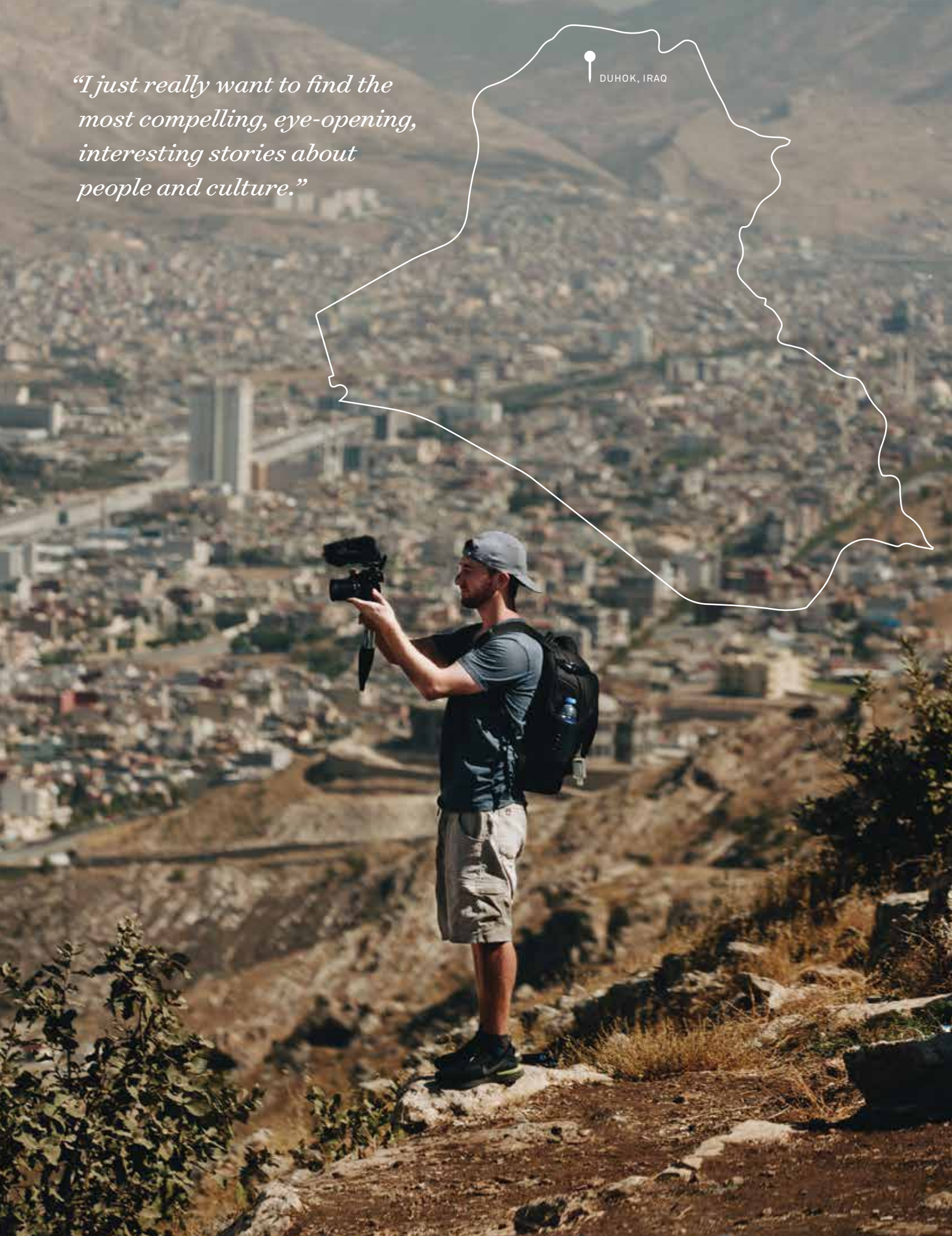
Binsky may have hit his 197th country — and last year married Deanna and bought his first house, back in Arizona — but he's hardly done traveling. Three months after that triumphant Saudi Arabia trip, he tweeted a photo of himself in Russia on a subzero day, frost encrusting his goatee and fur-lined hat. He continues to build an interactive community with weekly YouTube videos, and he's getting in on the nonfungible token craze with a collection of "travel tokens" on his website. In 2021, he launched a three-hour, $200 online "travel hacking" master class.

"Now that I've finished the countries, I'll be a little more selective about which countries I want to revisit and which stories I want to tell," says Binsky. "It's all about the stories now. I don't care if I'm in Madison or Greenland or Nicaragua, I just really want to find the most compelling, eye-opening, interesting stories about people and culture." ●

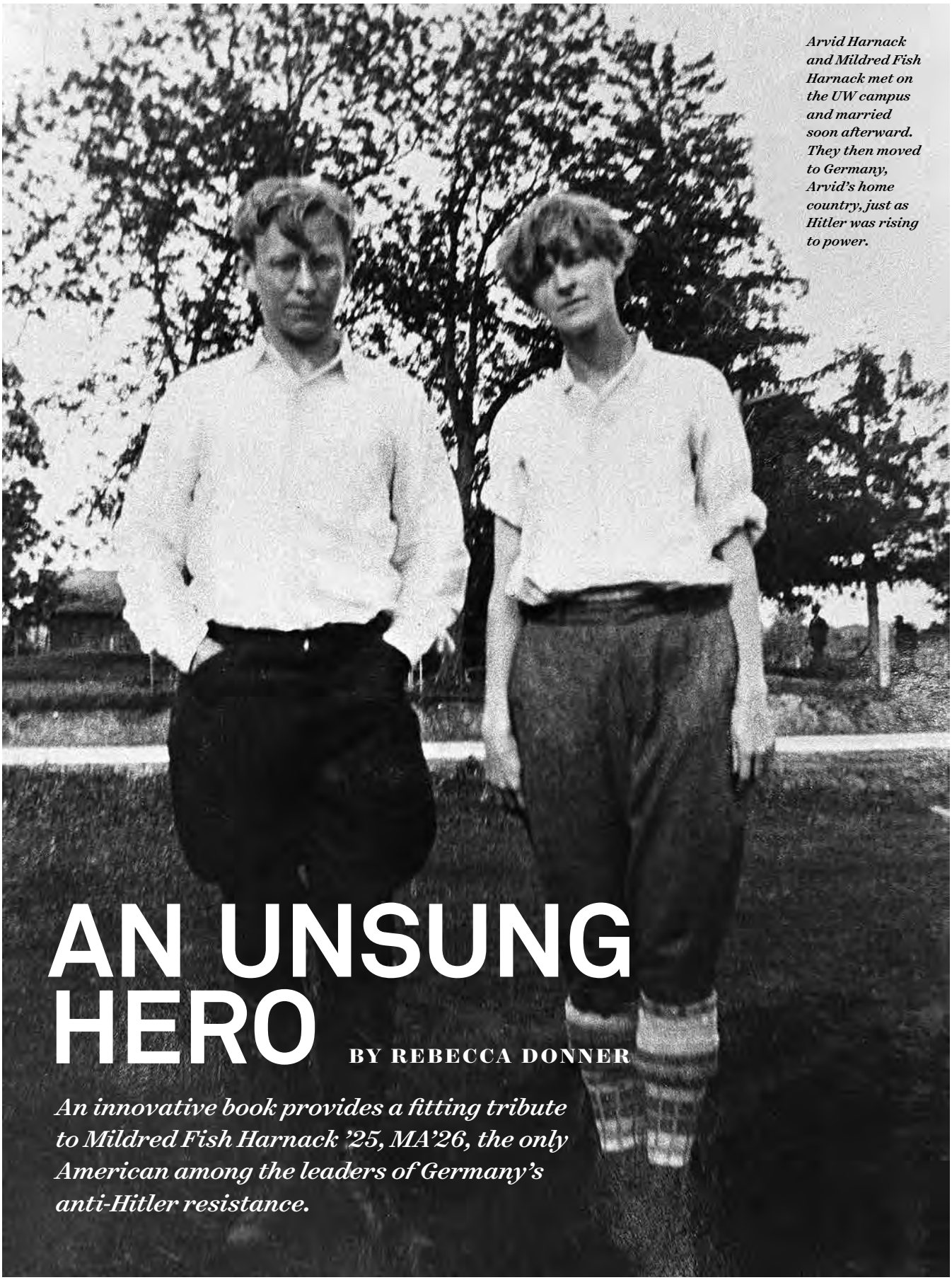
Maggie Ginsberg '97 is an associate editor of Madison Magazine. *The University of Wisconsin Press will publish her novel,* Still True, *this fall.*

Binsky mugs for the camera in South Korea and Nepal, below, and photographs the city of Duhok, Iraq, right.





"I just really want to find the most compelling, eye-opening, interesting stories about people and culture."



Arvid Harnack and Mildred Fish Harnack met on the UW campus and married soon afterward. They then moved to Germany, Arvid's home country, just as Hitler was rising to power.

COURTESY OF THE DONNER FAMILY; DOCUMENT FRAGMENT, RIGHT, NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

AN UNSUNG HERO

BY REBECCA DONNER

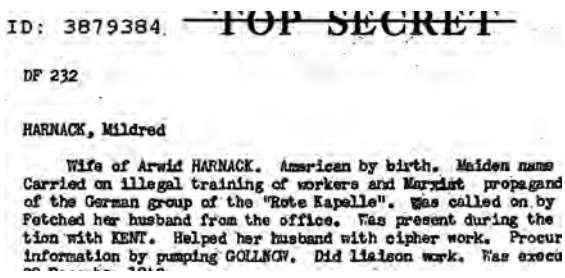
An innovative book provides a fitting tribute to Mildred Fish Harnack '25, MA'26, the only American among the leaders of Germany's anti-Hitler resistance.

All the Frequent Troubles of Our Days tells the story of Mildred Fish Harnack '25, MA'26, who met her German husband, Arvid Harnack MAx'26, while they were both graduate students at the University of Wisconsin. It recounts in riveting detail how Mildred went on to become a leader in the underground resistance to Hitler.

Mildred crossed the Atlantic and enrolled in a doctoral program in Germany when she was 26, just as Hitler was rising to power. Appalled by the Nazi leader's popularity, Mildred and Arvid began holding meetings in their Berlin apartment to discuss strategies of opposition. During the 1930s, their small, scrappy group intersected with three other resistance groups. By 1940, it was the largest underground resistance network in Berlin. In 1942, the Gestapo tracked them down. Arvid was hanged and Mildred was beheaded, the only American woman executed on Hitler's direct order.

Mildred's great-grandniece Rebecca Donner conducted extensive research, drawing on family records and archival documents in four countries — Germany, England, Russia, and the United States — to create a compelling chronicle of courageous resistance. Mildred tried to thwart Hitler by every means possible, recruiting Germans into the resistance, producing and distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, helping Jews escape Germany, and becoming a spy in an effort to defeat one of the greatest evils of the 20th century.

Donner's book, which she describes as a fusion of biography, espionage thriller, and scholarly detective story, has won numerous literary awards and is now out in paperback. We have excerpted a section that depicts Mildred and Arvid's time at the UW and their move to Germany after their marriage.



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DF 232

HARNACK, Mildred

Wife of Arvid HARNACK. American by birth. Maiden name
Carried on illegal training of workers and Marxist propagand
of the German group of the "Rote Kapelle". Was called on by
Fetched her husband from the office. Was present during the
tion with KENT. Helped her husband with cipher work. Procur
information by pumping GOLLNOW. Did liaison work. Was execu

IT IS SEPTEMBER 1, 1932.

In exactly seven years, the Second World War will begin.

This morning, by comparison, is not noteworthy. For Mildred it begins, we may imagine, like any other morning as she rises from a simple, wood-frame bed to draw back the curtains, letting in the light. Because the apartment has wide windows, there is plenty of it, even in the dead of winter, when the air in Berlin seems grainy, the texture and hue of chalk. A narrow hallway leads to the main room, where Mildred drifts from window to window, drawing back curtains. Bookcases crammed with well-loved books line the walls. Oil paintings of dense forests bring rich splashes of gold and emerald to an otherwise modestly furnished room. Here is a sofa with wooden armrests. Here are two tattered rugs. A sturdy round table, two sturdy chairs. Floor planks show their wear, pitted in places, and creak under Mildred's feet as she moves to the far corner of the room, where a white porcelain stove stands, its thick pipe stretching to the ceiling. Sometimes there's coal, sometimes there's not. Today, perhaps, there is. Mildred stokes the coal lumps with an iron rod, bringing up fresh sparks. The water in the kettle she sets on the stove is enough for two cups of coffee, one for her, one for Arvid.

It's by force of habit that she does this. She is alone, though not for long. Arvid will return from his trip to Russia soon, in time for her birthday. She will be 30 — *is it possible?* — in just over two weeks.

Breakfast is simple, usually nothing more than a hunk of bread swiped with whatever's on hand — jam, butter, mustard, she's not particular. At the center of the table, she likes to put a flower or two in a glass of water. Tulips in spring, lilacs in summer, alpine roses in the fall, honeysuckle in winter. Sometimes the flowers are from her students. Sometimes they're from Arvid.

Arvid is a romantic. It's a side others don't see. Others see a man who wears round, owlish spectacles and rarely leaves the house without a necktie. (Behind closed doors, he happily yanks it off.) Others see a man who spends hours on end at his desk. (But Arvid loves nothing more than to amble

UW DIGITAL COLLECTIONS; LETTER FRAGMENT COURTESY OF THE DONNER FAMILY

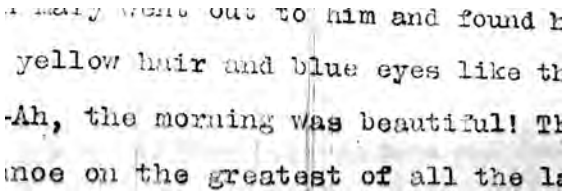
Mildred, shown here sledding on campus, also enjoyed hiking with Arvid. The two opted to stay in Germany even though they knew their lives were at risk.

around a mountain on a Sunday afternoon, letting his thoughts wander, inhaling the tart, bracing air.) And though it's true that Arvid is a man who loves the certitude of cold, hard facts, his head is stuffed with poetry. He was made to read Goethe as a boy and can now, at 31, recite long verses from memory, murmuring them into her ear.

They met at the University of Wisconsin, when Arvid wandered into the wrong lecture hall. He'd wanted to watch Professor John Commons deliver a lecture on American labor unions, but the person at the lectern wasn't Commons. It was Mildred, then a 25-year-old graduate student. The topic of her lecture was American literature, and he stayed until the end. Then he approached the lectern and introduced himself.

She'd gotten a BA in humanities and started her master's. He had a law degree and was on his way to getting a PhD in philosophy. After these preliminaries were out of the way, Arvid told her — with a sweet, tenderhearted formality that pierced her to the core — that his family home was in Jena, a small university town along the Saale River in Germany. He spoke English awkwardly, though earnestly. How different he was from the Midwestern boys at the UW, boys who tackled each other in cornfields and on football fields, boys who bragged about all the money they'd make with their degrees, boys who vied for Mildred's attention with boisterous jokes — *Har-dee-har-har!* — that weren't at all funny, at least not to her, although you were supposed to smile anyway, smile and blush and flip your hand and say, *Oh, you're such an egg.*

The second time they saw each other, Arvid brought her a fistful of wildflowers. He'd picked them himself. "A great bunch of thick, white odorous flowers mingled with purple bells," Mildred wrote later, remembering every detail.



It was morning — a "beautiful" one. Arvid stood on the porch of the two-story house where Mildred rented a room. The house was near campus, owned by a professor who lived there with his wife and their two children. The wife peeked through the curtains, absorbing the sight of blue-eyed Arvid and his wildflowers. She'd taken a keen interest in Mildred's private life. As Mildred worked doggedly on her master's degree, the professor's wife may have believed the younger woman could benefit from a little motherly guidance, mindful that the wrong man could lead her astray. Or maybe she was just nosy. At last she closed the curtains and nodded her frank approval. "Men from the North Sea," she said, "make very good husbands."

A husband — good or otherwise — was not what Mildred was looking for. Not now. She was still reeling from a heart-wrenching breakup with an anthropology major from Kansas City named Harry, but she stepped onto the porch anyway, shutting the door behind her. Arvid gave her the wildflowers and expressed his hope that Mildred was having a good morning. He labored to soften his German accent, and she realized that he'd practiced what he was about to say many times before coming to her door. He wanted to take her canoeing — on Lake Mendota, he said, "the greatest of all the lakes."

His shy gallantry.

All right, she told him, with a shy smile of her own. She would join him in a canoe.

Six months later, on a Saturday, they said their vows under an improvised bower on a ramshackle dairy farm.

Arvid returned to Germany to finish his PhD. Mildred would join him soon; Goucher College in Baltimore had hired her to teach English literature for the 1928–29 term. While they were apart, they wrote long letters. They described the books they were reading, their plans for the future. They would both become professors and teach in German universities, and perhaps American universities too. Mildred ended her letters with a drawing of a sun. Arvid ended his letters with the same sun.


GEDENKSÄTTE DEUTSCHER WIDERSTAND

THERE ARE MOMENTS — this morning may be one of them — when she misses Arvid with a force that takes her breath away. Right now, he's probably eating breakfast too, seated at a table in Moscow with a group whose very name is a mouthful: *Arbeitsgemeinschaft zum Studium der sowjetischen Planwirtschaft,* or Working Group for the Study of the Soviet Planned Economy. (Mildred prefers to refer to the group by its less cumbersome acronym, ARPLAN.) Its members include economists, political scientists, literary critics, politicians, and playwrights, among them self-avowed right-wing ultranationalists and die-hard Communists. In other circumstances, these strange bedfellows might not have shaken hands, much less sat around a breakfast table, but Arvid is optimistic; they may disagree about methodology, but they are united in their aim.

Germany is in crisis. Something must be done. By studying what appears to be a novel economic solution to the Soviet Union's woes, Arvid hopes to discover a remedy for the crisis in his own country. Arvid is secretary of ARPLAN. He receives no pay for this work, but his compassion for the poor in Germany and his desire to devise a new economic model to address this problem drive him to his desk day and night.

There are two desks in the apartment. Arvid's is a great expanse of carved wood that once belonged to his father. The other desk, equally imposing, was once his maternal grandfather's — Arvid calls him Grossvater Reichau. This is Mildred's desk now. A big slab of mahogany. Lectures, articles, translations — she writes them all in longhand, filling page after page before turning to the typewriter.

It's here, at Grossvater Reichau's great slab of a desk, that Mildred stokes her own outsize dreams. One day she will be a great literary scholar; she will write magnificent books. The desk imparts heft and weight and stability, qualities that are entirely foreign to Mildred. She has no family heirlooms of her own. Whatever slim sticks of furniture had cluttered the small, drafty rooms of her childhood she has long since left behind.

MILDRED DOESN'T LINGER LONG over breakfast. A final swallow of coffee and she's on her feet again, setting the cup and saucer in the sink, brushing crumbs from her lips. Dirty dishes will accumulate there for days before she notices them, a teetering tower of plates and cups and cutlery. There are always better things to do than the dishes.

She's still wearing a bathrobe over her nightgown and long, boiled-wool stockings knit by her mother, who bundled them up in a trim package that took two months to make its way from a transatlantic steamer ship to her front door. Her feet skim the creaking floorboards — the heel of one stocking is wearing thin — as she walks to a wide window and opens it. The air, crisp as a cold apple, invigorates her. She flings off her bathrobe.

She begins a series of exercises now, following directions from a book she bought for a few pfennigs. "Most of the exercises aim to strengthen the muscles of the abdomen," she wrote to her mother last year, scribbling a hasty assurance that she and Arvid will have children "as soon as we can." The routine — leg lifts and sit-ups and backbends — takes 20 minutes. She's slender as a dancer, but she's more earnest than graceful as she flails her arms, kicks her legs. Her nightgown bunches. Her stockinged feet on the wood floor skid and slip.

After exercising, she bathes quickly, using lard soap, and gets dressed.

Though today isn't significant in the grand stretch of history, to Mildred it's an important milestone. Today she begins a new teaching job at the Berliner Städtisches Abendgymnasium für Erwachsene — the Berlin Night School for Adults — nicknamed the BAG. There, she'll come into contact with a fresh crop of German students, and she's energized by the possibilities. They will be different from the students she taught at the University of Berlin — poorer, predominantly working class, mostly unemployed. Precisely the type of person the Nazi Party has been relentlessly targeting with propaganda.

See her now, striding out the front door with her leather satchel, descending four flights of stairs to the sidewalk. See her walking toward the U-Bahn station, swinging the satchel. In the eyes of her neighbors, she's an American graduate student, nothing more. ●

The rest of the book describes the couple's resistance work in suspenseful detail, as well as documenting their tragic capture and death.

On Alumni

News from Home and Abroad

HO-CHUNK HERITAGE REMEMBERED

Attendees learn about the campus area's original residents.

DAVE STREMIKIS (2)

Chancellor Jennifer Mnookin, right, was presented with a blanket at a Wisconsin Idea Spotlight that highlighted Ho-Chunk history. Center is panelist Molli Pauliot, and history professor Stephen Kantrowitz is taking the photo.

In June, alumni and friends gathered along the shores of Lake Mendota for a special Wisconsin Idea Spotlight. "Ho-Chunk Land — Stories of Teejop" was named for the Ho-Chunk word for the area that is now the site of the UW–Madison campus.

The program was presented by the Wisconsin Alumni Association in partnership with the UW–Madison work group Our Shared Future, which represents the university's commitment to respect the inherent sovereignty of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the other First Nations of Wisconsin. The group calls on faculty, staff, and students to deeply consider the university's shared past and present with Indigenous peoples.

Panelists **JoAnn Jones '82, MS'83, JD'86; Molli Pauliot x'94, MA'20, PhDx'23;** and **Kendra Greendeer PhDx'23** offered perspectives and stories of Ho-Chunk history, values, and traditions.

Participants also enjoyed boat rides on Lake Mendota with **Janice Rice MA'75** and undergraduate **Asia Rave x'25,** who shared stories and visuals of Ho-Chunk mounds and historical sites around the lake.

Sarah Schutt, chief alumni officer and executive director of the Wisconsin Alumni Association, says, "It was an honor to welcome Ho-Chunk alumni and students and learn from their stories and personal experiences. We look forward to future opportunities to collaborate with members of the Ho-Chunk Nation."

Chancellor **Jennifer L. Mnookin** stopped by to meet the panelists, who presented her with a blanket and welcomed her to Teejop. "I thought it was nice that she went out of her way to make sure that she met some Ho-Chunk alumni and students," says Pauliot.

Greendeer, commenting on the value of this first-of-its-kind event, adds, "We should make learning the Ho-Chunk history of these lands a requirement rather than an elective."

NIKI DENISON

$97.1 million
Amount raised as of July 2022 for the Raimey-Noland Campaign, which seeks to support diversity, equity, and inclusion at UW–Madison

8,030
Total number of donors as of July 2022

$50.7 million
Amount that will go toward undergraduate scholarships

RECENT-GRAD WEEKEND

The inaugural Recent-Grad Weekend in June was a big hit with some 215 attendees. They enjoyed two days of events that included a Madison Mallards baseball game, a brunch, a social hour at State Street Brats, a scavenger hunt, and the services of DJay Mando (Armando Saafir '16), who "curated the vibe" for the weekend. Rave reviews ranged from "amazing event in all aspects" to "I had a *blast*" and "would love to attend next year." Above are **Kyle Harrison-Woods '13** and **Lia Harrison-Woods,** who brought baby Harrison-Woods (x2044?) along for the fun.

BADGER LEADERS CONFERENCE

Also in June, the Badger Leaders Conference hosted more than 40 alumni chapter and affinity-group leaders from around the world. The two-day event featured tips on facilitating chapters and other groups, networking opportunities, and rides on the ever-popular Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association pontoon boat. "You planned and nailed every detail," said attendee **Renee Hamilton-Newman** of the Wisconsin Alumni Association: Motor City chapter. "It was wonderful to interact with everyone in person!"

BRYCE RICHTER

The Beloved Badger Bash

The pregame party has grown from low-key to high-powered.

UW Marching Band director Corey Pompey ushers in a new era for the Badger Bash at Union South.

Fifty years ago, Badger Bash — the ultimate pregame festivity for Wisconsin football fans — was born.

When the original Union South opened in 1971, former Wisconsin Union manager **Merrill "Corky" Sischo** noticed a sea of Badger fans passing through the building for food and drinks before home football games. He connected with **Mike Leckrone,** then the fresh-faced director of the UW Marching Band, and together they threw the first official Badger Bash outside Union South in 1972.

The event started as a low-stakes opportunity for the marching band and pompon squad to warm up in front of a small audience. But by 1974, more than 3,000 fans were packing Union South's grounds. They came for increasingly razzle-dazzle performances as well as brats and beer. In the early years, the event extended to after the game, with polkas and jazz by the **Doc De Haven '58** band in the Carousel room.

"As the crowd continued to grow, the performance became more 'formulated' but was still very relaxed," Leckrone said shortly before his retirement in 2019.

Today, Badger Bash's recipe largely remains the same. The free tailgate begins two and a half hours before every home football game, hosted by local celebrity emcees. Classic Wisconsin tailgate fare is still served, alongside more than 100 food and beverage options. (Bloody Mary bar, anyone?) The marching band, UW Spirit Squad, and Bucky himself take the stage around 90 minutes before kickoff with a preview of the halftime show and a plentiful helping of hip-swinging UW hits. The event is rounded out with kid-friendly activities and rivalry-related competitions. And fans without a ticket to the game can stick around and watch on the big screen at The Sett.

Badger Bash has become so beloved that the new Union South was practically built for it. The southwest plaza is roughly double the size of its predecessor, and architects specifically designed the space to accommodate the band's staging needs.

In 2019, **Corey Pompey** made his public debut as the marching band director at the home-opening Badger Bash. The band delighted the crowd with the usual Badger hits, including the "Beer Barrel Polka." But Pompey also introduced contemporary songs from the likes of Adele, The Killers, and Cardi B. Welcome to the new era of Badger Bash.

PRESTON SCHMITT '14

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In It for the Duration

From fellow migrant workers, Jesús Salas MA'85 learned that perseverance is the key to success.

In the 1960s, Salas organized migrant workers into the labor union **Obreros Unidos.**

As a labor organizer, as a student, and as an educator, **Jesús Salas MA'85** follows one principle, which he learned from Cesar Chavez: "When you start something, you stay for the duration," Salas says. "It doesn't matter how long the duration is."

Throughout his career, from teenage migrant worker to UW System regent, Salas pursued goals requiring long-term effort. In the 1960s, he helped create the labor union *Obreros Unidos,* and after earning his master's, he helped establish UW–Madison's Chican@ and Latin@ Studies program. Persistence saw him through.

Salas was born in Crystal City, Texas, in a community of Chicano migrant workers. They followed an annual circuit, traveling north as the frost receded and south as it advanced again.

Throughout the 1950s, Salas went to school in the communities where his family worked, until his parents bought a café in Wautoma, Wisconsin.

The precarious life of a migrant worker led Salas to value labor rights. In the 1960s, he began to organize fellow laborers. His initial efforts were frustrating: owners fired those who joined unions, and county officials harassed organizers.

But Salas took inspiration from Chavez, who was then organizing migrant workers in California. He chose to persist.

Eventually, Salas connected with a UW–Madison professor, **Elizabeth Brandeis Raushenbush MA'24, PhD'28,** an economist with the Institute for Research on Poverty.

"She headed the first Poverty Institute Migrant Wage and Working Conditions Study, and she hired me and my brother to go into the camps and introduce a whole core of graduate students from UW–Madison," Salas says.

While organizing, he completed his bachelor's and then master's degrees, a process that took about 20 years.

And when he was done, he took his degree in political science and began teaching at Milwaukee Area Technical College, where he helped establish a bilingual teaching program.

Governor Jim Doyle '67 appointed Salas to the UW System Board of Regents in 2003, and he served until 2007. He worked on the physical planning committee, advocating for infrastructure improvements and for continued growth in services for the Latino community.

In retirement, Salas continues to travel to Crystal City, Texas, and to advocate for migrant workers' rights.

"It's been a long haul," he says, "But we stay with it."

JOHN ALLEN

50s–70s

For 25 years of educating and accompanying budding musicians at the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse, **Joyce Babler Grill '58, MM'77** was honored with the establishment of the endowed Joyce Grill Piano Scholarship. Grill retired from UW–La Crosse in 1999 after a career of playing piano alongside student and faculty recitals, accompanying touring professionals and Broadway shows, and teaching beloved courses like Music Appreciation. In her retirement, Grill continues to compose music and conduct workshops for piano teachers.

Badger sweethearts **Robert '64** and **Jeanne '67 Bell** of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, know the power of literacy in opening doors for young readers. After seeing the impact of a donation to their local school district that provided more than 500 books to students in summer school, they established the Liberty through Literacy Foundation and partner with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to provide children in their community with books.

President Joseph Biden appointed **Cora Marrett MA'65, PhD'68** of Madison to the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science. Marrett is a UW professor emerita of sociology and has taught at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, Western Michigan University, and the University of Massachusetts–Amherst, where she was also provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. Marrett spent 11 years as an administrator at the National Science Foundation and was appointed deputy director by President Barack Obama. The Committee on the National Medal of Science comprises 12 members who evaluate candidates and recommend award recipients to the president.

Humble beginnings make for a humble farmer — even if his legacy is nothing to be humble about. After half a century of running the family business, Beach Family Farm, **Paul Beach '70** of Monroe, Wisconsin, was named one of seven 2022 Master Agriculturists by *Wisconsin Agriculturist*. In 1901, Beach's great-grandfather purchased the first 60 acres of what is now the family's 494-acre property. Since then, the Beach family has raised everything from cattle and corn to sows and soybeans.

"I am very committed to educating the next generation of responsible global citizens and artists, mentoring faculty and staff to create a better and more responsive center for the arts in higher education, and remembering at our core, the only way we will get there is through grace, respect, and imagination."
Martine Kei Green-Rogers PhD'10

Boston mayor Michelle Wu appointed **Geraldine Hines JD'71** to chair the city's police commissioner search committee. Hines is a retired Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court justice. She spent the early part of her career as a staff attorney at the Harvard University Center for Law and Education and as a founding partner in New England's first law firm of women of color. In honor of her life's work, Hines was recently inducted into the Wisconsin Alumni Association's Alumni Park in Madison.

David J. Marcou '73 of La Crosse, Wisconsin, continues to publish his books, plays, photographs, poems, and other works. Marcou has authored more than 200 titles, including the multivolume Spirit of America series.

BOOK NEWS?
See page 62.

CLASS NOTES SUBMISSIONS
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Pete Kmet MS'77 has retired after 12 years as mayor of Tumwater, Washington. Prior to being elected mayor in 2009, Kmet served for 18 years as a city councilmember, 14 of which he also spent as deputy mayor. He also recently retired from the Washington State Department of Ecology, where he worked as a senior environmental engineer and specialized in the cleanup of contaminated sites. Kmet has instructed engineering professional development courses at the UW.

80s

Bridget Haggerty '80 of Milwaukee has been named vice president of advancement at Carthage College. Since joining Carthage in 2016, Haggerty has helped launch the school's Leaders in Philanthropy donor-recognition program and led initiatives such as the 75 Years of Black Excellence celebration and the Wiggan-Kenniebrew Black Alumni Network, which together have raised more than $1 million for equity and inclusion efforts.

In Colombia's first round of presidential elections in March 2022, mathematician **Sergio Fajardo MA'81, PhD'84** won the nomination of the *Coalición Centro Esperanza*, or "Hope Center Coalition." He previously served as mayor of Medellín, Colombia, from 2004 to 2008 and as governor of Antioquia, Colombia, from 2012 to 2016. Fajardo finished fourth in the ballot count.

Craig Palmer '82 of Hillsborough, California, has been named CEO of MakersPlace, the premier marketplace for rare and authentic digital artworks known as non-fungible tokens, or NFTs. Palmer previously served as CEO of Fandom, the world's largest fan platform, and as president and CEO of Gracenote, a leading entertainment data and technology

COURTESY OF SHERREE BURRUSS

"I'm Their Voice"

CBS sports reporter Sherree Burruss '12 gives fans up-close access to their favorite teams.

Sherree Burruss '12 was a young teenager visiting a museum in downtown Chicago when the seed of her future career was planted. Burruss's eighth-grade class was touring the Chicago Museum of Broadcast Communications when their guide pointed to a small, simulated news desk and said, "Does anybody want to try anchoring?"

Burruss raised her hand. "I read the prompter," she says. "A little fake anchor read." The tour guide said, "That was good. Have you ever thought about this as a career?"

"No," Burruss replied. "I will now."

Burruss refined her goal while studying journalism and strategic communications at UW–Madison. It wasn't a classroom revelation, but rather experiencing football Saturdays at Camp Randall and buzzer beaters at the Kohl Center that inspired her. Burruss wanted to report sports.

"It was that game-day atmosphere," she says. "The passion Wisconsin people had for it and how smart they were as fans. I try to bring that to what I do now. I know there are fans watching, and I'm their voice."

Burruss currently reports and anchors for CBS Interactive, the CBS Sports Network, and CBS-TV and has worked as a sideline reporter for the network's major college and NFL football coverage. The sideline role, she says, is "much harder than I ever imagined. It's like an iceberg — the amount of work you see is the tip. There's so much more that goes into it."

Burruss's first broadcasting job was at the ABC affiliate in Columbia, Missouri. She also met her husband, David Cruse, there; they now have a young daughter. Burruss's rapid professional ascendency included sports reporting and anchoring jobs in Atlanta and Washington, DC. She credits a fellow Badger at NBC's DC affiliate, photographer **Chris Kerwin** (shown with Burruss above at the 2019 season opener for the Washington Capitals), with helping her advance. "He was my rock," Burruss says, "working with me on my scripts. He helped me get where I am now."

The job includes, of course, being in the public eye. Burruss laughs recalling a grocery store checkout clerk in Columbia who recognized her and said, "You're getting better."

"People are pretty honest when they see you out," she says. "But I love it. I think I'm approachable."

DOUG MOE '79

company that was purchased by Sony in 2008.

Northwestern Mutual wealth management adviser **Steve Braun '83** of Highland Park, Illinois, has received the company's 2022 Community Service Award. Braun was recognized for his 17-year commitment to the Chicago-based nonprofit Cures within Reach, which finds and funds clinical repurposing trials and research. As part of his award, Braun donated a $15,000 grant to Cures within Reach.

Hard-hats off to **Cal Beyer '86** of Maple Valley, Washington, who won the 2021 Excellence in Mental Health Advocacy — Industry Advocate award from the National Association of Home Builders. Beyer is the vice president of workforce risk and worker well-being at insurance brokerage Holmes Murphy and Associates.

Brava, indeed! Three Madison-area Badgers were recognized by *Brava* magazine for their commitment to empowering the next generation of girls: **Corinda Rainey-Moore '87** was honored for founding Queen Leadership Academy, a mentoring program for girls at Madison East High School. **Lilada Gee '89** was recognized for championing the power of storytelling on her podcast, *Defending Black Girlhood*, and **Alicia Pelton '94** was honored for encouraging female athletes through her Athletic Leadership Alliance and her previous work as athletic director at Madison West High School.

The forecast is showing new developments for **Todd Shea '87,** who was recently named meteorologist-in-charge at the National Weather Service forecast office in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Shea has been tracking weather patterns in the La Crosse office since 1995 after joining the agency in 1988.

Richard Baraniuk MS'88 of Houston has been elected to the National Academy of Engineering, one of the highest accolades for an engineer. Baraniuk is the C. Sidney Burrus Professor at Rice University and a professor of electrical and computer engineering and computer science. He was recognized for creating accessible educational tools like OpenStax, a repository of free, digital, peer-reviewed textbooks.

Biopharmaceutical company Clade Therapeutics has named **Derek Hei '88** of Winchester, Massachusetts, its new chief technology officer. Hei comes to the role from Vertex Pharmaceuticals, where he oversaw chemistry, manufacturing, and controls activities for the cell and gene therapy program as senior vice president of preclinical and clinical manufacturing. Clade Therapeutics specializes in developing scalable, stem-cell-based medicines.

Shaun Williams '88 of Los Angeles is the chief financial officer (CFO) of the newly formed Allen Media Studios, the production division of Allen Media Group's television, motion picture, digital, and streaming content. Williams was previously CFO of independent production company Solstice Studios.

90s

Barmak Kusha '90 of Tampa has been promoted to director of infection prevention and control at HCA Florida Trinity Hospital. Kusha joined the facility in 2019 as an infection preventionist.

California governor Gavin Newsom appointed **Philip Mercado MD'90** of Los Angeles to the California Arts Council (CAC). Mercado is the regional chief of general surgery for the Southern California Permanente Medical Group and a clinical instructor in the Harbor-UCLA Department of Surgery. A longtime supporter of the arts, Mercado has served on the board of advisers at the Hammer Museum since 2012 and is a founding member of Contemporary Friends, an art acquisition group at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The CAC supports local art infrastructure and programming throughout California.

"I'm from Wisconsin, and the motto of Wisconsin is 'Forward.' I've always lived that motto."
Gina Zastrow-Hayes '00

Beverage company Constellation Brands has promoted **Kris Carey '92** of River Forest, Illinois, to executive vice president and chief human resources officer. Carey has been with Constellation since 2013 and most recently served as senior vice president of human resources in the company's beer division. She has also led Constellation's diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and was the company's first chief diversity officer.

Matt Renna '94 of Barre, Vermont, opened Renna Shoes in downtown Burlington in 2000, making custom shoes and boots from sustainably sourced materials. Today, Renna Shoes has grown into Queen City Dry Goods and expanded into manufacturing shoes, apparel, bags, and accessories in its factory in the Champlain Valley.

Almira Chabi '95, MD'01 of San Francisco was named chief medical officer and chief development officer at HanAll Pharmaceutical International, the U.S. entity of global biopharmaceutical company HanAll Biopharma. Chabi has extensive experience in drug research and development, specifically in ophthalmology and neuroscience. She previously worked for biopharma companies Merck and Genentech.

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.

X-PLANATION
An *x* preceding a degree year indicates that the person did not complete, or has not yet completed, that degree at UW–Madison.

Syracuse University's College of Law has welcomed **Prashanth Jayachandran '95** of Princeton, New Jersey, to its board of advisers. Jayachandran is the chief supply chain counsel for Colgate-Palmolive Company. He is also a distinguished lecturer in Syracuse's College of Law's interactive JD program, where he teaches about corporate sustainability, and sits on the UW–Madison board of advisers in the Division of Student Affairs.

The Wartburg College board of regents has named **Kerri Blobaum MS'96** of Livermore, California, one of two new members. Blobaum received her bachelor's degree from Wartburg in 1994. She is a materials scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where she manages the Department of Energy's nuclear stockpile stewardship program. She also sits on the board of the nonprofit Graduate Fellowships for STEM Diversity.

Barron's has named two Badgers among its 100 Most Influential Women in U.S. Finance: **Saira Malik MS'96** of San Francisco is chief investment officer at Nuveen, a global investment manager, where she previously worked as head of global equities and currently oversees assets ranging from farmland to municipal bonds and private equities. **Katy Huberty '00** of Sag Harbor, New York, is the director of equity research for the Americas at Morgan Stanley, an investment management and financial services company, where she has spent more than 20 years analyzing technology hardware stocks like Apple and Dell Technologies.

The world is a more equitable place thanks to **Rebecca Slaby '97,** executive director of Twin Cities–based nonprofit AMAZEworks. AMAZEworks champions antibias education and programming in school

districts, businesses, government, and other organizations around the country. Slaby is also a racial justice facilitator for the YWCA Minneapolis and a trained cultural competency facilitator for the Professional Educators Licensing and Standards Board for the state of Minnesota, and she teaches courses on equity-based pedagogy at the University of Minnesota. Thank you to **Colin Slaby '97** for sharing this news!

Who is **Susan Swan '98?** A San Diego–based employee-rights attorney who recently competed on *Jeopardy!*, Swan placed third in her episode, which aired on March 14.

Newly elected Chilean president Gabriel Boric has named two Badgers to his cabinet: **Esteban Valenzuela MA'98** is Chile's new minister of agriculture, and **Marcela Ríos Tobar MA'02, PhD'09** is the country's new minister of justice and human rights. Valenzuela is a journalist who was previously mayor of Rancagua, Chile. Ríos Tobar is a sociologist who previously served as a deputy resident representative for the United Nations Development Program in Chile, vice president of Chilean nonprofit *ComunidadMujer*, and instructor at the Universities of Chile, Santiago, and Diego Portales.

Casey Batten '99 of Oak Park, California, left for Super Bowl LVI as the lead primary-care sports medicine physician with the Los Angeles Rams and came back with champions. Batten has been with the Rams since 2016 and is a member of the National Football League Physicians Society. When Batten's not bettering battered Rams, he's a primary-care sports medicine physician at the Cedars-Sinai Kerlan-Jobe Institute, where he also leads the fellowship program. Batten has taken his expertise around the world, serving as a medical staff member at the 2020 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, the 2017 World Baseball Classic, and the 2017 Genesis Open of the PGA Tour.

> **"Some of these students have stories, skills, and experiences that are simply amazing and heart-wrenching, and they just want someone to tell [them] to. They just want someone who will take the time to read [and] to listen without judgment."**
> Matthew Green '03

Biotechnology company Sigilon Therapeutics has appointed **Sarah Yuan PhD'99** of Lexington, Massachusetts, as chief technical operations officer. Yuan comes to Sigilon with more than two decades of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry. She most recently served as vice president of process and analytical development at 2seventy bio, the oncology branch of gene therapy company bluebird bio. At Sigilon, Yuan will help find functional cures for chronic diseases.

00s

Camille Bernier MA'00, PhD'10, a member of the Bad River Ojibwe, is a student-support adviser at Madison Area Technical College. She was most recently a senior academic adviser in the UW Cross-College Advising Service. Bernier was one of the first recipients of the UW's American Indian studies certificate.

Jack Koziol '00 is helping stop even more cyber criminals in their digital tracks after his Madison-based cybersecurity education company, Infosec, was acquired by global education technology company Cengage Group for $190.8 million. The move will expand Infosec's widespread influence in training cybersecurity professionals.

Gina Zastrow-Hayes '00 of Urbandale, Iowa, was named one of *USA Today*'s 2022 Women of the Year. Zastrow-Hayes is a crop genomicist with Corteva Agriscience. In March 2020, she realized that the same science used in her lab to study the genetic material of large crops — including DNA and RNA sequencing and PCR technology — could be used to test large communities for COVID-19. In just 15 days, she and her team had opened one of Iowa's most efficient testing facilities. They later developed one of the nation's earliest saliva COVID-19 tests and a "dry swab" tube that minimized contaminants during testing and increased testing efficiency. "I'm from Wisconsin, and the motto of Wisconsin is 'Forward.' I've always lived that motto. I think it's why I love technology and technology advancement: the continuous improvement," she told *USA Today* in March.

Financial services firm Carson Group has named **Nimesh Patel '01** of Laguna Hills, California, as its first-ever chief technology officer. Patel was most recently CEO of Prefix Health Technologies and previously served as chief operating and technology officer at private wealth-management firm Cresset.

Eugene Manley MS'02 of New York City has been named director of community engagement for the LUNGevity Foundation, the nation's leading lung cancer nonprofit. He comes to the role from the Lung Cancer Research Foundation, where he served as director of scientific programs. At the LUNGevity Foundation, Manley will oversee several health equity initiatives and will develop curricula for the inaugural recipients of the Health Equity and Inclusiveness research awards.

Matthew Green '03 of Rockford, Illinois, has been named one of five recipients of the 2022 Golden Apple Award from the Golden Apple Foundation of Rockford. Green has been a teacher for 18 years, the last 12 of which have been spent at Roosevelt Community Education Center. "Some of these students have stories, skills, and experiences that are simply amazing and heart-wrenching, and they just want someone to tell [them] to," Green told the Golden Apple Foundation. "They just want someone who will take the time to read [and] to listen without judgment." The Golden Apple Award recognizes teachers who make a difference in their communities through their dedication to education.

The International Republican Institute has named **Katie Harbath '03** of Arlington, Virginia, director of technology and democracy for their Center for Global Impact. Harbath also serves as founder and CEO of Anchor Change, a firm dedicated to helping clients navigate tech policy and online civic engagement. Previously, Harbath spent 10 years as public policy director of Facebook (now Meta).

Chris Carbon '04 has been named the City of Madison's new fire chief. Carbon is a lifelong Madisonian and 30-year veteran of fire and EMS services. Since joining the Madison Fire Department in 1999, Carbon has been a firefighter, paramedic, lieutenant, and training officer.

When their daughter Lucy was diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma, **Maggie '04** and **Piero Spada '05** of Brookfield, Wisconsin, wanted more than a cure: they wanted a long-term solution. Fueled by fear, fury, and fierce commitment to their daughter, who was already undergoing her sixth round of chemotherapy, the Spadas established the Little

ROBERT KAPLAFKA

Living History

Laura Keyes MA'07 impersonates women from the past.

Laura Keyes MA'07 has wonderful personalities — six, to be precise. Since 2008, Keyes has given more than 750 presentations as acclaimed 19th-century women, mostly as Mary Todd Lincoln, Laura Ingalls Wilder, and suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton (see photo at left). Her other characters include Charlotte Brontë, the fictional Irene Adler (the only woman to outwit Sherlock Holmes), and Lincoln's daughter-in-law Mary Harlan Lincoln.

In real life, Keyes heads the public library in Dunlap, Illinois, a role that meshes well with her passion for accurately re-creating the past. "I'm an extraordinarily well-organized person," says Keyes, who earned her master's degree in library science at the UW. "I am careful in what I say, and I'm careful in my research as well."

That research extends to the period clothing she wears as she works with seamstresses to ensure that apparel — from Lincoln's silk ballgowns to Wilder's cotton day dresses — is as authentic as possible. The costumes help her get into the mind-set of her characters. Some of her dresses weigh 10 pounds, and she wears three layers of underclothing. "You move and think differently," according to Keyes. "You gesture differently — not only because of the corset, but because of the [restrictive] cut of the dress."

Her avocation began when she was cast as President Lincoln's widow in a local play. Newly graduated from UW–Madison, Keyes dove into studying the tragic First Lady. A newspaper noticed her scholarship. Soon other libraries asked her to appear.

"Mary Lincoln was a complicated person who lived a very hard life," says Keyes. Besides her husband's assassination, Mary suffered the deaths of three sons. Her surviving son had her committed to a mental institution. Keyes offers five different Lincoln presentations, each at a crucial moment in her life, and shares stories of her compassion as well as of her selfish, petty behavior. Keyes acknowledges Lincoln had symptoms that match bipolar disorder. "I share different perspectives of her," she says.

Wilder has proven to be a challenging persona as well. In recent years, her books have been attacked for racial insensitivity. "They are still good teaching tools," says Keyes. "But as one tool in a series of other books."

Keyes's favorite character? Stanton, who fought for women's right to vote. "Her words are timeless. I use a lot of passages from her writings, letters, and autobiography. Some of her arguments are very, very relevant today," says Keyes.

People often ask her characters to comment on news events or current First Ladies. Perhaps mercifully, she gets to dodge those questions. Says Keyes: "Mary Lincoln says she doesn't know who those people are, but people still ask."

GEORGE SPENCER

JEFF MILLER

Taking a Swing at Cancer

When it comes to philanthropy, Andy and Susan North are pros.

As passionate supporters of the UW Carbone Cancer Center, **Andy** and **Susan North** (shown above) are making an indelible impact. Andy, a two-time U.S. Open champion and ESPN analyst, knows cancer on a personal level — he's faced bouts of skin cancer and prostate cancer. As a Madison resident, he feels fortunate to have a leading cancer center so close to home. In 2008, Andy and Susan formed the Andy North and Friends initiative, which has raised more than $16 million to advance innovative research and patient care.

The Norths' initiative has hosted numerous fundraising events, from dinner galas to golf outings. They have brought in a remarkable number of celebrity friends, including Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, former Milwaukee Brewer Robin Yount, and golf legend Jack Nicklaus. A luncheon at Madison's Monona Terrace on September 21 will feature Mike Tirico, the announcer for NBC's Sunday Night Football. Following its 10th anniversary, Andy North and Friends expanded, hosting gatherings in Arizona, California, Florida, and New York while maintaining a presence in Wisconsin.

The Carbone Cancer Center unites some 300 researchers across the UW–Madison campus. With help from Andy North and Friends, the center has been able to build an aquatic tank used to study the potential of shark antibodies for treating cancer; launch a program to support cancer survivors; help test a potential breast cancer vaccine; and assist with developing technology that captures tumor cells from a blood draw instead of a biopsy.

Andy's relationship with the Carbone Cancer Center began when his mother, Mary, was being treated for breast cancer. In 1991, Andy became the patient — years of sun exposure on the golf course had evolved into basal cell carcinoma, requiring five surgeries to completely remove the tumor from his nose. Then, in 2014, he was once again diagnosed, this time with prostate cancer.

With help from the Carbone Cancer Center, he walked away with his health and an even deeper appreciation for the center's research and life-saving care. "We want to increase awareness because this cancer center set the gold standard years ago and continues to raise the bar each and every day," he says.

NICOLE HEIMAN

Warrior Foundation in 2019 to raise money for pediatric cancer research. In less than two years, they raised nearly $1.5 million and have granted more than $900,000 to medical institutions and clinical trials. The foundation owes its success in no small part to its team of Badgers: **John Grum MD'77, Mary Molinaro-Spada '77, Kate Hallenbeck '00, MD'05, Emily McFadden '06,** and **Marco '08** and **Kristin '08 Spada** of Brookfield, Wisconsin; **Laura Hughes '05** of Mequon, Wisconsin; and **Abigail Manske '21** of Mukwonago, Wisconsin.

The American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) named ZimmVet, a veterinary clinic owned by **Maria Krenz DVM'06** of Zimmerman, Minnesota, as the 2021 AAHA-Accredited Practice of the Year. Only 12–15 percent of practices in the United States and Canada receive AAHA accreditation. Three barks for ZimmVet!

Melissa Ostrom '06, MAcc'07 of Savage, Minnesota, has been promoted to vice president, controller, at Xcel Energy. Ostrom has been with the company since 2010.

10s

All the world's a stage for **Martine Kei Green-Rogers PhD'10** of West Hurley, New York, whose dramaturgical résumé now includes the role of dean of the Theatre School at DePaul University. She most recently served as interim dean of the Division of Liberal Arts at the University of North Carolina's School for the Arts and as president of the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. Her research is focused on violence in African American theater, African diaspora theater, gender and race in American theater, and sustainability in the theater. "I am very committed to educating the next generation of

responsible global citizens and artists, mentoring faculty and staff to create a better and more responsive center for the arts in higher education, and remembering at our core, the only way we will get there is through grace, respect, and imagination," Green-Rogers says.

With the help of a USDA Local Food Promotion Program Grant, **Matt MS'10** and **Marie MS'10 Raboin** of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, are nurturing the local food community that nurtures them, through the Brix Project. A team effort between their cidery, Brix Cider; Black Krim Creative, a media company founded by **Jesse '05** and **Jonnah Perkins;** and UW collaborator **Jules Reynolds MS'18, PhDx'23,** the Brix Project aims to tell the stories of small farms and their connections to the local food system through educational events and short films. "When you source food from farms that you know and trust, it's not just that you're able to put their name up on your menu board; it's about local accountability," Marie says.

With Flowers for Dreams, a bouquet of blooms can make more than just one person's day. In addition to sourcing its flowers locally to delivery locations throughout the Midwest, the Chicago-based flower-delivery startup cofounded by **Steven Dyme '11** donates 25 percent of its profits to organizations that address domestic violence, animal rescue, mental health, homelessness, and more. The company has upwards of $1 million to more than 100 local charities.

Tyler Kattre MBA'11 has been appointed president of Madison-based payment-processing company Wind River Financial. Kattre joined the company in 2018 as its chief financial officer.

Two Wisconsin women's ice hockey alumni brought a little ice home with them from the 2022 Beijing Olympics: **Hilary Knight '12** of Sun Valley, Idaho, and **Abby Roque '20** of Minneapolis were members of the U.S. Olympic Women's Ice Hockey team that took home silver medals in a final match against Canada. The 2022 Beijing games marked Knight's fourth Olympic appearance and Roque's first.

Adam Dempsey PhD'13 of Germantown, Wisconsin, has received a $2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to demonstrate a heavy-duty engine that uses flex fuel (gasoline/ethanol blends) instead of diesel. This engine could reduce the production of CO_2 emissions by up to 50 percent compared to one running on diesel. Dempsey is an assistant professor of mechanical engineering in the Opus College of Engineering at Marquette University.

Ana Fister '13 of Bonita Springs, Florida, is keeping the coast cool and lit with Gulf Shore Electric. Fister started the company with her husband in 2018 with one electrician; today, they employ 20 electricians who service thousands in the Naples area.

Building Design + Construction has named **Jeff Kemp '13** to its 2021 40 under 40 list. Kemp is a project engineer with Chicago-based engineering consultant Environmental Systems Design (ESD), where he also cochairs the diversity, equity, and inclusion council. Kemp received ESD's inaugural Innovator of the Year award.

After graduating from the UW, **Luke Cimino '16** of Milwaukee spent four years as an athletic director at Colegio Karl C. Parrish, an elementary school in Barranquilla, Colombia. Upon returning to the United States in March 2020, Cimino established the nonprofit Amaru Esperanza to support underserved communities in Colombia. The organization focuses on meeting basic needs by building homes, providing healthy food and clean drinking water, and easing access to literacy and education.

Ajanae Dawkins '18 of Columbus, Ohio, was named the 35th Duncanson Artist-in-Residence at the Taft Museum of Art. The residency honors the work of contemporary Black artists. Dawkins is a nationally renowned poet, performance artist, and educator. She is also a cohost of the Poetry Foundation's *VS* podcast, a role she took on from her fellow First Wave alum **Danez Smith '12.**

20s

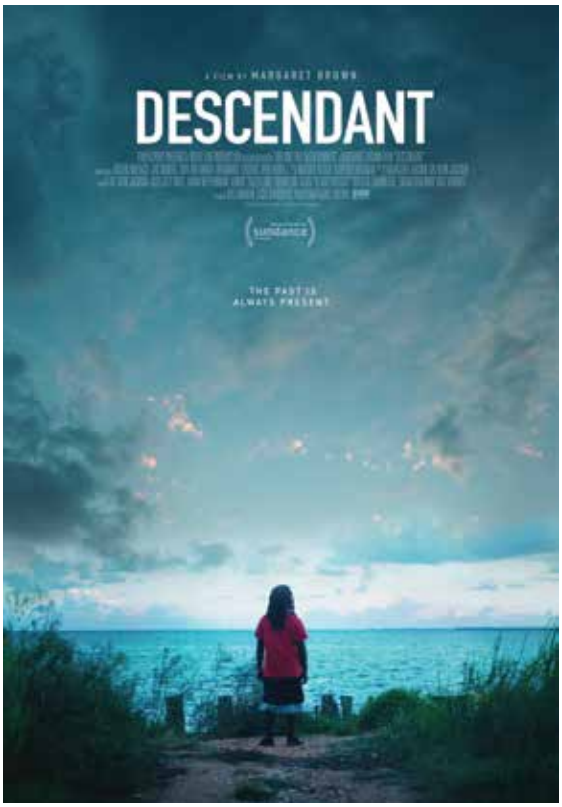
When **Clayton Custer '21** and **Taylor Waddell '21** saw their senior year at the UW go virtual, they figured, "Why not make everything else virtual, too?" The pair cofounded EduReality, a Madison-based virtual reality startup that allows users to enter the digital world known as the "metaverse" through simulated versions of hands-on classroom learning experiences. The company has developed programs used by engineering professors at the UW and the University of California–Berkeley, and by DreamCorps Justice, a national correctional reform nonprofit.

At Union South in March, **Nile Lasana '21** of Chicago, a former member of UW student newspaper the *Black Voice,* screened his documentary about the history and impact of the UW's only Black newspaper. The screening coincided with the 50th anniversary of the *Black Voice,* which was published from 1971 to 1973 and reestablished on campus in 2015.

Megan Provost '20 is already mourning the end of summer produce. Bring on the butternut squash and Brussels sprouts.

DEATH NOTICES • NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, AND EMAIL UPDATES
alumnichanges@uwalumni.com • Alumni Changes, WFAA, 1848 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53726 • 888-947-2586

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/alumni-notes/submit.**



COURTESY OF PARTICIPANT/NETFLIX

Descendant *will stream on Netflix in October.*

From Captives to Community

In *Descendant,* Kern Jackson MA'91 documents the discovery of the last illegal slave ship and the people who never forgot it.

The last known illegal slave ship, the *Clotilda,* reached the shores of present-day Mobile, Alabama, almost 40 years after African slave trading became a capital offense in the United States. The ship was intentionally destroyed upon its arrival — its remnants were only discovered in 2019 — but its legacy lives on in Africatown, a community founded by descendants of the enslaved Africans aboard the ship.

In *Descendant* (2022), cowriter and coproducer **Kern Jackson MA'91** shares the stories that have kept the *Clotilda*'s memory alive among the residents of Africatown. According to the *Hollywood Reporter,* while the documentary is not the first account of the *Clotilda,* it is among the most intimate, thanks to the rare footage, interviews, and images provided in part by Jackson, a folklorist and director of the African American studies program at the University of South Alabama.

"All of our ancestors are helping to reveal this narrative of resilience," Jackson says. "As a folklorist, my preoccupation is with the nuances. The nooks and crannies of culture are my inspiration for the historical truths and perspectives brought to this film."

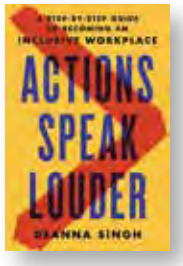
Descendant premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival and won a U.S. Documentary Special Jury Award for creative vision. The film is a Netflix original presented by Participant and Higher Ground, President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama's production company, in association with Two One Five Entertainment.

The Gilded Age
CARRIE COON MFA'06

This historical series from HBO Max stars Coon as Bertha Russell, the social-climbing wife of a railroad tycoon in late-19th-century New York City. The show, written by the creator of the critically acclaimed *Downton Abbey*, follows a young woman who moves to the city after the death of her father to live with her aristocratic aunts, one of whom (played by Christine Baranski) is in a social rivalry with Coon's Mrs. Russell. The show received a 2022 Emmy nomination for production design.

Not a Lot of Reasons to Sing, but Enough
KYLE TRAN MYHRE '05

Minneapolis-based educator and activist Tran Myhre takes readers on a sci-fi exploration of earthly phenomena in this poetry collection. Readers follow two poets as they traverse a prison-colony moon and encounter a variety of individuals who teach the poets how art can be a tool in resisting authoritarianism. This is Tran Myrhe's second collection of poetry.



Actions Speak Louder: A Step-by-Step Guide to Becoming a More Inclusive Workplace
DEANNA SINGH MBA'12

True to the title, Singh uses personal experience and leading research to detail concrete actions corporations can take to foster positive work environments, including writing inclusive job postings, reimagining the interview process, and creating mindful retention plans. Singh is a diversity, equity, and inclusion professional and founder of Flying Elephant, a holding company for social ventures dedicated to uplifting marginalized communities.

Tailspin *was published in April.*

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

The Man Who Fell to Earth

John Armbruster '89, '93 finds inspiration to tackle life's biggest challenges in an aviator who survived it all in *Tailspin.*

By the time **John Armbruster '89, '93** fell in love with the Flying Fortress airplane as a young aviation aficionado, it had been more than 30 years since tail gunner Gene Moran's Fortress fell from the sky during World War II. Moran kept the harrowing ordeal of his crash and capture by the Germans a secret for more than 60 years until he met Armbruster, now a history teacher and neighbor in Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin, with whom he agreed to share his story.

In a series of *Tuesdays with Morrie*–style interviews, Armbruster unearthed Moran's long-guarded memories, which he recounts in *Tailspin*. The book details Moran's recovery from his four-mile plummet in the tail of his plane and his experience as a prisoner of war in Nazi Germany, where he was subjected to solitary confinement, transport on a "hell ship," and a 600-mile death march across central Europe before his liberation in April 1945. At the same time that Armbruster was documenting Moran's remarkable bravery, he was trying hard to muster his own after his wife's diagnosis of brain cancer.

In Armbruster, Moran found a safe way to reveal wounds that had yet to heal after decades. In Moran, Armbruster found strength to face his life's most daunting challenges. And in a book that *Kirkus Reviews* calls "cinematically grand," Armbruster shares both stories of hope and resilience.

The Wolf and the Lion

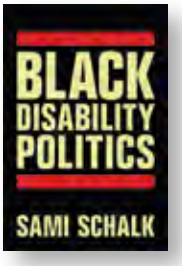
MOLLY KUNZ '14

Kunz stars as Alma, a young woman who returns to her grandfather's enchanting wilderness home after his death, only to find herself in the company of a wolf pup and a lion cub. The pup and cub are played by real animals — Paddington and Walter — who had been raised together since they were five weeks old. The film premiered at the Zurich Film Festival in 2021 and won the award for best children's film.

Female Genius: Eliza Harriot and George Washington at the Dawn of the Constitution

MARY SARAH BILDER '87

George Washington was in Philadelphia for the Constitutional Convention in the summer of 1787 when he attended a lecture by Eliza Harriot that may well have led to the gender-neutral language of the Constitution. Bilder explores how Harriot's collegiate lectures and academy dedicated to educating women helped define "female genius," the radical notion that women could be educated for the sake of their own betterment. Bilder is a professor at Boston College Law School.



Black Disability Politics

SAMI SCHALK

In her second book, Schalk digs into the archives of the Black Panther Party and the National Black Women's Health Project to explore the influence of disability issues on Black activism over the last 50 years. Schalk's research details how Black disability politics are inextricably linked to the future of Black liberation. Schalk is an associate professor of gender and women's studies at the UW.

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Photo: Joe Leute

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BRYCE RICHTER

Miracle Miles

The Lakeshore Path is a heavenly getaway in the heart of the city.

The Lakeshore Path beckons marathon runners, nature-loving hikers, and contemplative strollers.

Just steps from a bustling urban campus lies a tranquil, tree-lined trail, where birds sing in a chorus above and waves gently roll into the shore below. Such is the magic of UW–Madison's Lakeshore Path.

The path traces the shoreline of Lake Mendota for nearly four and a half miles. Officially, it's composed of two trail segments: the Howard Temin Path and the Lake Mendota Path. The former extends from North Park Street near the Memorial Union westward to Oxford Road. It intersects with the Lake Mendota Path at the main entrance of the ever-popular Picnic Point. This next segment guides travelers to the tip of the panoramic peninsula and then along the lakeshore to Wally Bauman Woods near the Eagle Heights community. These paths tie together the several distinct areas of the 300-acre Lakeshore Nature Preserve, including the less-traveled Frautschi Point at the northernmost coordinate of campus. (Those with a keen eye may even find evidence of old cottages in this portion of the Lakeshore Path.)

Completing the nearly milelong jaunt from the entrance of Picnic Point to the tip provides a unique perspective on campus, the capitol building, and much of Madison. Such views are so seductive that the *San Francisco Examiner* branded Picnic Point the "kissing-est spot in North America" in 1992. Visitors can also reserve one of the six fire circles scattered throughout this trail. And signs of the area's earliest inhabitants remain, with several Native American burial mounds near the path. (Staying on the marked trails pays respect to these sacred sites.)

It's no wonder that thousands flock to the Lakeshore Path each year. It remains one of the few natural areas in Madison that welcome dogs (on leash). Bicyclists are permitted on the Howard Temin Path segment as a shortcut to campus, and customizable routes fulfill the desires of marathon runners, nature-loving hikers, and contemplative strollers alike.

"I've walked this path periodically over 40 years and still appreciate the multitude of views it presents of Lake Mendota," writes a reviewer on the Tripadvisor website. "Whether engaging in conversation with friends or seeking inner solitude, the Lakeshore Path soothes, nourishes, and consistently delivers."

PRESTON SCHMITT '14

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