2001

**Bostonia: 2001-2002, no. 1-4**

**Stomberg, John**
Boston University

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*Boston University*
Reunion Weekend 2001 is just around the corner, and you're invited back to campus to take part in all the fun.

Get together with old friends and professors at your school or college luncheon, tour the campus and city of Boston to see how they've grown over the years, and celebrate with the rest of the BU community at events such as the President's Breakfast, the 87th BU Night at the Pops, and the 10th annual Comedy Night, with laughs provided by alumni comedians. There will also be riverboat cruises on the Charles, a Boston Harbor cruise, and the spectacle of BU's 128th Commencement.

For information, please call 617/353-2248 or visit our Web site at www.bu.edu/reunion.

Reunion 2001 classes are '31, '36, '41, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, and '96. (CGS class years ending in 9 or 4; UNI and MET, all years.)
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Photographs by Kalman Zabarsky
I believe it was one of the Brontë sisters who wrote that her dreams were so vivid and strong that what occurred in them became part of how she thought and who she was. I dream so much I sometimes wake exhausted. I have to maintain hope that at least 90 percent of my dreams are vaporized out into the greater cosmos. Moreover, most of the time when I speak about things I dream of making happen, I am not talking about anything in my real dreams, but rather, asserting hope that certain good things will come to pass.

For example, I dream of the day when every single graduate will be so proud of Boston University and committed to providing ongoing support that the University will be fully able to make the dreams of future students come true. Certainly this often happens now. Just one example: Sarkis Kechejian (MED‘63) of Dallas, Texas, feels so good about his experience and education at Boston University’s School of Medicine that he has recently completed a gift of $1 million to endow scholarships for future MED students. Sarkis came here on a scholarship himself, and now, and forever, he has enabled other students to do the same. And my next dream, of course, is that the students who receive the Kechejian scholarships will, when they are able, decide to return some of their acquired wealth to Boston University so that the next generations of students can also pursue their dreams. This is a cycle of legacy that optimally would affect every student at every school and college of the University.

As I look out at the Charles on this last day of February, the 25-degree sunshine spills across solid ice. And so I also dream that the ice will melt soon and that I will shortly see the men’s and women’s crews rowing up and down the river with excitement and in anticipation of victories. Another of our alumni, Dick DeWolfe (MET’71), recently fulfilled a dream of those crew teams by making the naming gift for our new boathouse on the Charles. This campus is filled with dreams and dreamers, and it is my hope that increasingly alumni will come forward not only to help those dreams come true, but to do some dreaming of their own. By every measure Boston University is in excellent shape — but we still have work to do and we need your help. “California Dreamin’,” as good a song as it is, just doesn’t say it all.

Cordially,

Christopher Reaske
At Sword’s Point

Kudos for publishing an article on such a sensitive and volatile issue (“The Cross and the Sword: An Interview with James Carroll,” Winter 2000–2001). It seems to me that several things are happening, not only within the Roman Catholic Church, but also throughout Christendom. Religious thought is evolving from the static and finite confines of the Bible to the more expansive realms of the Spirit. Every area of human thought has evolved with man, but religious thought is predominantly stuck in the past.

The vilification of Jews as a silent partner of Christian faith will continue until Christians put the “Christ” back into Christianity. Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom of heaven and quite clearly stated that we are all the sons (and daughters) of God. He never exalted himself nor proclaimed himself to be the innovator of a new religion. He never sanctioned the writing of a “Bible” or the creation of a church with a pope and a medieval hierarchy. As with all world historical figures, Jesus is larger in death than he was in life.

If Christianity is not to be the faith of the living, it must eventually acknowledge that God (Spirit) is infinite, omnipotent, and omnipresent and can never be circumscribed or defined by anything finite, be it Jesus, man, or the book called Bible. For even the Bible attributes God as saying to Moses: “Before Abraham was, I am.”

—Kirk C. Rascoe (LAW ‘77)
Los Angeles, California

I am not disappointed but disgusted at your decision to publish an interview with James Carroll, failed priest and anti-Catholic bigot.

Carroll’s work has been critiqued and discredited by more than one orthodox Catholic journalist. Good-faith journalism would require that you print a rebuttal of Carroll’s hypocrisies and self-serving hand-wringing, but doubtless there will be no such action. For shame, Bostonia, for falling into the quagmire of liberal leftist political correctness.

—Harry Wade (SED ‘56)
San Diego, California

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The publication of Constantine’s Sword by James Carroll should bring to mind the excellent book The Anguish of the Jews by the late Father Edward Flannery. This book has become the classic volume on the long and lamentable record of anti-Semitic teaching in the Catholic tradition. Father Flannery, a priest of the diocese of Rhode Island, was the first director of the Catholic-Jewish Secretariat at the United States Catholic Conference in Washington.

The volumes by Carroll and Flannery remind us that Pope John Paul II has, more than any other previous Pope, asked for forgiveness for all of the injustice inflicted on Jews by Catholics through the centuries.

—Robert F. Drinan, S.J.
Professor of Law
Georgetown University Law Center
Father Drinan served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1971 to 1981.—Ed.
I was deeply saddened by your fawning interview with James Carroll. How strange for you to extol one who betrayed his own faith and sows the poison seed of religious discord. Shame, Bostonia.

Jan K. Michalski (CAS'50)
Vienna, Virginia

Having grown up in the greater Boston area of the 1940s and 1950s, we remember clearly the bad old days of Catholic-Jewish relations. We were therefore heartened when we read your article on James Carroll and his new book. Carroll's ability to stand in another's shoes while being true to his own spiritual self is unique, to our knowledge. Relations have improved dramatically between Christians and Jews since World War II and certainly since Vatican II and the current pope. Courageous outreach such as Carroll's book will bring the two peoples still closer in the new millennium.

We were at a North of Boston Holocaust Memorial Service in Peabody not long ago, where James Carroll was the principal speaker. His words were moving, inspiring, and full of hope for the continuing improvement of relations between the two faiths. He, certainly, has the courage of his convictions.

Aileen Michaels (CAS'50)
Harvey Michaels (CAS'52)
Marblehead, Massachusetts

It was my understanding that one of the missions of Bostonia was to bring the Boston University community together. I am at a loss how this objective is being accomplished by your interview with James Carroll, a Boston Globe columnist whose views on religion and politics are notorious for their divisiveness.

Many people have experienced inner conflicts regarding their religious feelings, and reading about them is often humbling and instructive, especially when they are recorded by the mighty pen of, let us say, St. Augustine or Fyodor Dostoevsky. But Bostonia provided a forum to a journalist who focuses his writing on the distasteful aspects of faith and sows the poison seed of religious discord. Shame, Bostonia.

Igor Lukes
Associate Professor
The University Professors
Boston University

One empathizes with James Carroll for the distress encountered in researching the theological roots of anti-Semitism for Constantine's Sword. Even if but fractions of his findings are without challenge, the picture with respect to the Catholic Church and the Jews isn't a pretty one. The "negative weight of the history" is large, as he remarked in your excellent Bostonia interview. Small wonder he felt tempted at times to jump the ship of Church. He wasn't the first, and won't be the last.

Interesting enough, Father Hans Küng, the oft-embarassed Swiss theologian, furnishes a rationale for sensitive souls like Carroll to hang tight. "It is possible to admire the Catholic Church without being a Catholic," he once wrote. "And it is perhaps just as possible to be a Catholic without admiring it." No need for that qualifier perhaps. The Church, after all, is a church of humans, and it just may be that the Church's divinity may be proved by the frailty of its members. Which excuses nothing, of course. But it helps explain much.

John Deedy
Rockport, Massachusetts

The writer is former managing editor of Commonweal and the author of The Catholic Fact Book. — Ed.

Horrors! James Carroll! Recently named as one of the five top Catholic Bashers in the United States by the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights. I read it. I was hurt. What insensitivity to thousands of Catholic Boston University alumni. How ashamed and like me, hurt, must a great many of them be of our beloved university. How the article must affect the young, vulnerable students there. I recall reading such thoughts as "Catholic Bashing — the Last Acceptable Bigotry" and "Anti-Catholicism, the Anti-Semitism of the Intellectual Community." Now I know what they mean. It is well known that to be silent is to approve.

John J. Gaffey (SMG'51)
Naples, Florida

I am glad that Bostonia interviewed James Carroll about Constantine's Sword. I believe it is one of the most important books to have been written on the subject of Christian anti-Semitism (which, alas, is still alive and well, despite the efforts of Vatican II and Pope John Paul II).

The book should be a required text in courses on Western religion, and the Holocaust. Its 600-plus pages make easy — though painful — reading because Carroll is a brilliant writer. He is also an honest and courageous one.

Eva Fleischner
Claremont, California

The writer is a Roman Catholic theologian and professor emerita at Montclair State University. She is a member of the Vatican Historical Commission and is on the advisory board of the U.S. Bishops Office of Catholic Jewish Relations. — Ed.

As a child I found a carved wood box containing my mother's sentimental treasures: pewter charms, school pins, bubble's wedding ring, and a 1962 newspaper clipping in which the Second Vatican Council declared the Jews blameless in the death of Jesus. She saved it because of its unintended irony (which translates loosely as "Two thousand years and a pardon from the pope we need!").

The impression on my young mind was great enough that to this day I find anything resembling apology on the part of the Catholic Church fascinating. ("Apology" is used advisedly, as "reconciliation" in such a context is meaningless.) Therefore, I found the interview with James Carroll particularly striking, not only for the introspection it reflects, but also for the blind spot that always seems to shadow such discussions.

He recalls for us an almost humorous incident during an interfaith Passover seder he conducted at BU over twenty-five years ago: expressing an unstoppable inner religious expansiveness, he holds a plate of matzoh aloft and quotes, "This is my body, broken for you." Bubbling with ecumenical infatuation, he looks through misty eyes for confirmations of universalism from his Jewish brethren, only to find them all checking their shoelaces. Carroll admits to not recognizing his presumptuousness until years later. Well, it's years later, and forgive my bluntness, but his presumptuousness (again, perhaps unknowingly) still shows.

He says, "In the argument between Am-
brose and Augustine (over synagogue burning), if Ambrose had carried the day, Jews would have gone the way of pagans. Had the editor not added parentheses, the comment would have been even more esoteric in an otherwise accessible interview.

For all practical purposes, pagans have left the world stage. During periods of strength and reemergence (second to third century, CE), pagans were subject to the same indiscriminate persecution at the hands of the Church as were Jews. Carroll leaves us to complete his assumption. He suggests that had two Christian theologians agreed on a single doctrinal issue some 1,600-plus years ago, the Jews would have, to quote Mark Twain, been lost as “a nebulous dim puff of star dust in the blaze of the Milky Way.” That’s quite an assumption!

Ambrose thought that prosecuting those who burned synagogues (with or without inhabitants) was only a political mistake that could lead to a breach of public order, as it did during the rule of Emperor Magnus Clemens Maximus. (The “Clemens” by the way, is a fortuitous and coincidental salute to the author just mentioned and not a clever device invented by the letter-writer.) After all, “Saint” Ambrose agreed with the bulk of the Roman populace that Jews were “scheming.” He asked, “Shall a place be provided out of the spoils of the Church for the dis-belief of the Jews?” In fact, the greatest insult Ambrose could ascribe to any “heretic” was that he was “Jewish in outlook and manners.” (Of course, one might argue that promoting premeditated murder was a greater insult.)

Augustine (also a “saint”) had a much more liberal view. True, while having no personal knowledge of Hebrew, he was certain that the Jews deliberately mistranslated the Bible, and true, he said the Jews murdered Christ, that their manner of living, behaving, believing, and worshiping demanded vilification, but (and here he is the shining beacon) the Jews could be “suffered to live among us” because one day they would all see the error of their ways, repent of their sins, and come to understand Jesus as their savior.

The Jews have survived unspeakable and often unimaginable challenges to their continued existence — when in danger, from those who wish to annihilate them, when at peace, from those who wish to “save” them.

In the singular case of the Jews, one can ascribe supernatural causes for their survival to thinkers anywhere on the philosophical spectrum from atheist to fundamentalist (if such a spectrum makes sense) without fear of ridicule and often without contradiction. What is ridiculous, though, is the ascribing of Jewish survival to politics, economics, history, ancient clerical disagreements, or any of the numberless man-made philosophies to which humans bow and serve with perfect faith.

Larry Burrows (COM ’76)
Fallsburg, New York

Congratulations on your timely interview with James Carroll, whom we featured at an event here at Facing History and Ourselves in February. Your work is well done and relevant. The whole magazine is beautiful. As an alum, I am proud of you.

Janice Darsa (SED ’71)
Senior Program Associate
Facing History and Ourselves
Brookline, Massachusetts

Thanks for publishing the thoughtful and serious interview with James Carroll. As an avid follower of the Catholic Church’s recent attempts to confront its history and reconcile with the Jewish people, I found it all the more compelling because it described the spiritual journey of not only a well-known columnist but also a former member of the Boston University community.

While some may find Carroll’s views unsettling, as a serious, “firmly believing Christian,” he is entitled to them. He may even be correct. Bostonia should be commended not only for covering this story but also for having the intellectual honesty and courage to publish a piece that allows an accomplished writer, thinker, former clergyman, and seeker of truth to share his thoughts in a sensitive and frank conversation. I expected nothing less from the magazine of a great university, and I am proud that it appeared in Bostonia.

Paul Plotzker (LAW ’95)
New York, New York

Concerning Mr. Carroll’s reporting of the snotty remark by a fellow priest calling BU “B-Jew,” it struck me that the priest was correct if one adopts the French pronunciation — bijou. Jewel. That would affirm the Jews at Boston University, which I applaud with all my heart.

Also, one detects a certain vestige of Catholic triumphalism in his remark concerning Marsh Chapel being a “Methodist vestige” architecturally.

And for one who proclaims the itch to revolutionize the Catholic Church by separating Sword and Cross, there remains for the gentleman a lot of work to be done concerning how one relates to one’s enemies … by loving them. To say nothing of how to be in authentic spiritual fellowship with other religions.

I found offensive his comment concerning the Reformation being stillborn.

Rev. Frank A. Halse, Jr.
(CAS ’55, STH ’58)
Brandon, Florida

Alternatives to Abandonment

The induction of Robert Dougherty (CAS ’95) into the BU Athletic Hall of Fame (“Terrier Talk,” Winter 2000–2001) caused some melancholy among those of us who were loyal supporters of the University’s football program.

Robert led the Terriers in perhaps the most memorable game ever played at Nickerson Field, the 1994 overtime victory over Northern Iowa in an NCAA playoff. It’s sad to think that our students and alumni may never again share in the exhilaration of such an event.

I don’t quarrel with the administration’s decision to leave the Atlantic 10 and Division I-AA; despite the Dougherty years, that was never a good fit for the University. I strongly question, however, the school’s judgment in abandoning the game altogether. At the very least, we should have explored membership in the nonscholarship Patriot Conference. Or BU might have joined the University Athletic Association, a league in which schools such as Johns Hopkins, Case Western, and Carnegie Mellon have been able to maintain their football traditions without excessive spending or the sacrificing of academic integrity.

John Staples (COM ’66)
Castine, Maine

Glacial Contribution

As a research glaciologist for the U.S. Antarctic Research Program from 1958 to 1960, I found Jean Keith’s article “An Antarctic Rosetta Stone” (Winter 2000–2001) to be very interesting and informative. I congratulate her for writing an article that clearly articulates some complex ideas thoroughly yet without dumbing them down. It will be Continued on page 79
EXHIBITIONS ON CAMPUS

Lost Horizon and Franklin D. Roosevelt, through June 30. Mugar Memorial Library, first floor. Regular library hours.


Abel Meeropol and Strange Fruit: A Jazz Story, extended run. Mugar Memorial Library, first floor. Regular library hours.

With the Best Respects of the Author: John Lloyd Stephens's Mayan Explorations as Presented to President Martin Van Buren, through May 31. Mugar Memorial Library, first floor. Regular library hours.

Dan Rather: Reporter of History, Maker of History, extended run. Richards-Frost Room, Mugar Memorial Library, first floor. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun., 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Another View from the Vault: An Introduction to Special Collections, extended run. Richards-Frost Room. Mugar Memorial Library, first floor. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.


Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Stride Towards Freedom, extended run. Martin Luther King, Jr., Reading Room. Mugar Memorial Library, third floor. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sat., Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

PERFORMING ARTS

Konstantinos Papadakis, piano, April 18.
Schumann: Fantasy Pieces, Op. 12; Ravel: Gaspard de la Nuit; J. S. Bach: French Suite in C Minor; Bartók: Dance Suite. Tsai Performance Center. 8 p.m.

Berlioz: Beatrice and Benedict (based on William Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing), April 19-22. Presented by Boston University Opera Institute and Chamber Orchestra; sung in English; translation by Colin Graham. Michael Scarola, guest stage director; William Lumpkin, conductor. Pre-performance lecture April 19-21, 7 p.m. Special alumni event following Saturday night performance; information, 617/353-5201. Admission: $10-$15; $5 for seniors and alumni; free for BU students, faculty, and staff. Boston University Theatre. April 19-21, 8 p.m., April 22, 3 p.m.

Faculty Concert: Tribute to Gaspar Cassado, April 24. Cassado: Trio and other pieces; Schubert/Cassado: Concerto; Mozart/Cassado: Concerto. Benjamin Zander, guest speaker; Virginia Neikrug, violin; George Neikrug, cello; Kathleen Forgac, piano. Tsai Performance Center. 8 p.m.

Honors Chamber Music Recital, April 25. Tsai Performance Center. 8 p.m.

ALUMNI EXHIBITIONS


ALUMNI EVENTS

Reception for President Jon Westling, April 25. Boston University cordially invites alumni, parents, and friends in the metropolitan New York and northern New Jersey area to a reception honoring Jon Westling. 6–8 p.m. Cedar Hill Golf and Country Club, 100 Walnut St., Livingston, N.J. Space is limited. RSVP to 800/800-3466.

Reception for President Jon Westling, April 26. Boston University cordially invites alumni, parents, and friends in the metropolitan New York and northern New Jersey area to a reception honoring Jon Westling. 5:30–7:30 p.m., New York Yacht Club, 37 West 44th St., New York, N.Y. Space is limited. RSVP to 800/800-3466.


SFA Alumni Day, April 21. Reunion and open house, plus Kahn Festival. Alumni Award ceremony and luncheon; master classes in music, theater, and visual arts; performances and exhibitions. Information, 617/353-5544 or e-mail kinquan@bu.edu.


Admission is free to all events unless otherwise noted. Please call the School for the Arts Events Line for updated listings of performance events or visit the SFA Web site at www.bu.edu/sfa.

School for the Arts Events Line
617/353-3549

Tsai Performance Center
685 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
617/353-8724

Mugar Memorial Library
771 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
617/353-3696

Boston University Concert Hall
Studio 104
855 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
617/353-8790

Boston University Theatre
Studio 210
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
617/266-0800

Boston University Art Gallery
School for the Arts
855 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
617/353-3329

808 Gallery
808 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
617/358-0505

Sherman Gallery
775 Commonwealth Ave., second floor, Boston
Hours: Tues.–Fri., 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat., Sun., 1–5 p.m.
617/358-0295


Boston University Symphony Orchestra, May 1. Winners of the Concerto-Aria Competition. David Hooses, conductor. Tsai Performance Center. 8 p.m.

Opera Scenes Program, May 1–2. Presented by members of the Opera Programs. Sanford Sylvan, Claudia Catanio, and Sharon Daniels, stage directors; William Lumpkin, Allison Voth, and Jeffrey Stevens, musical directors. Studio 104. 7 p.m.


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Meredith Fife Day (SFA’82), Tulips, oil on canvas, 12” x 9”, 2001. See Alumni Exhibitions listings.
First Thing, Let's Eat All the Lawyers

Here’s a good one: the Boston University Club may be the only place in the world where you can pick up a hot Statistician. Stashed like a speakeasy in The Castle’s basement, the little pub has a popular lunch menu with sandwiches named for academic disciplines. Accountants, archaeologists, and astronomers stand in line to order Accountants, Archaeologists, and Astronomers — there’s even a Failure (less a discipline than a lack thereof), which sells well despite its name.

The people who prepare these sandwiches day after day probably don’t think much about their names, for the same reason people don’t think about Batman when ordering a hero. But to the first-time pubber, the conversation over the sandwich counter can be wonderfully entertaining. Every request sounds like a setup: guy walks into a bar, asks for a Doctor.

On a recent Friday, a computer scientist crossed disciplines to try a Communicator. After seven hours in front of the screen, he probably needed one.

“I’ve gotten the Failure the last two times,” a young man said to his friend. “I think I’m gonna get the Economist.”

Sounds like a better investment.

“Ph.D. on white with no cranberry sauce.”

“Yes, please.”


Some of the names seem to have a vague logic behind them: the Marine Biologist, for example, contains tuna salad and Bermuda onion, and the Botanist is meatless. But many are harder to account for. With both bacon and cheese, a Doctor a day won’t keep the doctor away, and if you down too many Athletes — chicken salad, muenster, bacon, and trimmings — you’ll probably cease to be one.

The Master’s is monstrous, five meats, three cheeses, three slices of bread; the Ph.D. is modest by comparison. And the Poet, which ought to be the most imaginative sandwich of all, turns out to be nothing but a run-of-the-mill Reuben with a pretentious name. — EM
**Pulpit Rock**

A rusting sign at a large boulder formation in Boston's West Roxbury neighborhood declares it to be Pulpit Rock, where Puritan minister John Eliot preached to Native Americans in the 1640s. Eliot, known as the “apostle to the Indians,” established fourteen Christian Indian communities in Massachusetts in the seventeenth century and translated the Bible into the Algonquian language.

Although there is no written record of Eliot's preaching to Indians in West Roxbury, the Pulpit Rock story has been a legend at least since it was told in Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1852 novel *The Blithedale Romance*.

Is the giant Pulpit Rock a bona fide historical landmark or merely the setting of a Hawthorne fiction? Historians and Hawthorne scholars disagree. The question was recently posed to two BU English professors emeriti: Hawthorne experts William Vance and Millicent Bell.

Hawthorne based *The Blithedale Romance* on his six-month stay at the utopian Brook Farm community in West Roxbury. But he made one thing clear: he was writing fiction.

In the novel's “Eliot's Pulpit” chapter, a man named Hollingworth lectures from atop the rock formation as if he were preaching. Writing of “a tradition that the venerable Apostle Eliot had preached there, two centuries gone by, to an Indian auditory,” Hawthorne “obviously felt free to innovate to enhance the parallels of a story,” says Vance. “But I think he used a core of actual history as a foundation.”

Hawthorne writes, “At the base of the pulpit, the broken boulders inclined towards each other, so as to form a shallow cave, within which our little party had sometimes found protection from a summer shower.” A small cave is still there, although it takes some poetic imagination to visualize the four adults Hawthorne refers to fitting inside. “He could have modified the rocks’ actual appearance in his writing,” says Bell, who is president of the Hawthorne Society. “Any novelist does this kind of thing.”

After all, what is fiction but a collection of half-truths creatively arranged? Even so, Vance says, it’s unlikely Hawthorne conjured up the entire John Eliot story. “Hawthorne was interested in local colonial history,” he says. “He wasn’t always accurate in every detail. Still, he knew that people would have been outraged if he weren’t somewhat true to history. I doubt that the story is a total Hawthorne fabrication.”

Vance points out that Hawthorne mentions Pulpit Rock by name in his journal *The American Note Books*. “The entry was made in 1841,” he says, “which was eleven years before *The Blithedale Romance* was published.” Hawthorne’s description does not mention Eliot, however.

Does the John Eliot story predate Hawthorne’s account? The answer depends on whose memories one believes. “Here the ‘apostle’ Eliot preached to the Indians,” said Brook Farmer Annie Salisbury in 1894. However, John Codman, who lived there as a child, writes in an 1894 book, “I was thinking of the big boulders that join and make a hole that we called ‘the cave’ over which Hawthorne’s fancy made the apostle Eliot preach to the Indians, giving it the name of ‘Eliot’s Pulpit.’”

There are similar pudding stone caves in the vicinity, including one in a nature reservation a half-mile east of Pulpit Rock that could easily fit several people. “It’s possible that Hawthorne hiked away from Brook Farm, found the other cave, and conflated the descriptions of the two rock formations,” says Vance. “It would have been consistent with his manipulation of physical environments in his novels.”

Indeed, in the conclusion of *The Blithedale Romance*, the suicide drowning of Zenobia in the Charles River is similar to Hawthorne’s account in *The American Note Books* of an event he witnessed at another site: the recovery of a young woman’s body from the Concord River.

To be sure, people did take exception to Hawthorne’s creative revisionism. In 1852, a reviewer of the novel complains, “No one of the excellent women who formed the community at Brook Farm was driven to suicide by disappointed love . . . we maintain that a novelist has no right to tamper with actual verities.” But he doesn’t accuse Hawthorne of taking liberties with Pulpit Rock.

If Eliot did preach at Pulpit Rock, he makes no mention of it in his writings. We do know that he used unusual boulder formations similar to Pulpit Rock as outdoor pulpits. Daniel Gookin, superintendent of the Indians in the Massachusetts Colony at the time Eliot preached, reported that Eliot’s “praying Indian” villages were located “by the Indian powwows or shamsans, at or near their historic places of ritual,” including large glacial erratics. For example, the praying village of Nashoba, in what is now Boxborough, Massachusetts, was at the site of a giant rock.

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**Letting Go of a Poem After It Is Published**

After you write a poem it no longer belongs to you, like the balloons with notes from children, released into the sky. There's no telling where the notes will land. Some may travel great distances, like the man who attached forty weather balloons to his lawn chair, then rose in the air and was spotted by a pilot who never imagined when he woke up that morning that he would see a man in a lawn chair flying in the sky.

*Ann Lynn (SSW’79)* has poems in recent or forthcoming issues of *Many Mountains Moving, Hawai'i Review, Defined Providence, and the Christian Science Monitor*.  

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*BOSTONIA • SPRING 2001 • 9*
boulder perched atop another boulder, with “a shelf or overhang large enough to shelter a person.” Did Hawthorne have this or a similar formation in mind?

Eliot’s first known sermon to Native Americans was a seventy-five-minute talk on October 18, 1646, in Nantucket, a hill near the Charles River in Massachusetts. Was Pulpit Rock an opportune place for Eliot to deliver a sermon when he was traveling from Boston to Nantucket, or to Natick, the first and largest praying town? That settlement was also on the Charles.

But even if Pulpit Rock’s past remains a mystery, attempting to retrace the steps of the people who ascended it could give us clues to the creative process of a great American writer as well as additional details about an honorable seventeenth-century religious mission. That mission harkens back to a more innocent time in New England, when colonists and Native Americans coexisted in relative peace. — BF

The Thin Manuscript

I settled into a soft seat at Starbucks with what they call a tall coffee. It looked kind of short to me. It was ten o’clock, and the place wasn’t crowded. Good. I wanted to figure out a Robert B. Parker mystery, and I needed some quiet.

It wasn’t the latest Spenser whodunit on my mind, even though the twenty-eighth, called Potshot, just came out in March. It was an earlier mystery that drew me here. How does a guy whose alter ego is the definition of toughness happen to know so much about literature? Former cop Spenser drops references to The Waste Land and The Faerie Queene while he’s issuing black eyes to wise guys. How many private eyes do that?

You go to the source when you want an answer. So I’d gone to Mugar, the BU library, and looked up the author. Lots and lots of Robert B. Parker mysteries, all of them hanging out in Special Collections — they’ve clearly got a mystery thing going up there on the fifth floor. Then I saw it in the listings, right after Valeiction, the clue I’d been looking for. It was a book I’d never heard of, The Violent Hero, dated 1971, two years before the first Spenser mystery came out. The call letters were succinct and said it all: Ph.D. 1971.

Ph.D.? Good grief. An egghead in our midst. A prim girl from circulation dragged a copy out of some basement back room and handed it to me. The typescript was bound in black; that at least seemed appropriate. I pulled out my card, checked it out, and headed to Starbucks.

The whole title wouldn’t fit on a paperback cover: The Violent Hero, Wilderness Heritage and Urban Reality: A Study of the Private Eye in the Novels of Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler and Ross Macdonald. Well, if Spenser’s creator was going to write a dissertation, he’d picked the right subject. I’d figured out a long time ago that he had a thing for Chandler. This proved it.

I dipped into — and out of — the 181 pages over that alleged tall coffee. No doubt about it, there was an English major at work here. You could tell by the names he dropped: W. H. Auden and Northrop Frye, T. S. Eliot and D. H. Lawrence, Lionel Trilling and Mark Twain. Not only that: it turned out he’d gotten a master’s in English in 1957, also at BU. But there was more. Parker had been reading and thinking a lot about mysteries. “The violent hero of the modern hard-boiled detective story is Adam in the city, one of the sons of [James Fenimore Cooper’s] Leather-stocking faced with the final conquest of the garden by the machine. . . . With a value system rooted in the nineteenth century frontier, he must confront the twentieth century city, ‘a world,’ writes Raymond Chandler, ‘in which gangsters rule nations and almost rule cities.’”

I could almost sense Parker working out Spenser’s character: “He is not of the police any more than he is of the mob. He is of the people . . . but is immune to the things that compel the people. He does not succumb to the temptations of sex and money. He has no illusions. An idealist, he realizes that most people are not. He is competent and tough. He knows his trade, he shoots well, fights well. But he is not impregnable. He often must deal with people who do both better.”

Parker saved the best for last, chapters on Hammett, Chandler, and Macdonald, filled with long quotes from mysteries I’d read over the years. Who could resist those three gods of the hard-boiled pantheon? Not Parker, not me.

As I Dispose of an Old Encyclopedia

I think of the territories
With their changed names
Like some married women,
Alises of politics and faith,
The sinuous borders that keep
Cartographers in business,
Undertakers too,
Appellations of deposed monarchs
Or gods no longer relevant;
My grandfather, for instance,
A man I never encountered,
Left his plot in the Ukraine/
Poland/Galicia/Russia,
Understood several languages
(one no longer current),
Could perform activities
Related to the earth,
Chose not to inherit
What was planned for him
(to be laughed at in a boxcar
on the tracks to the future),
Died at an early age
(the disease now curable),
Having altered his name
In New York City
Which has been called many things.

Stuart Dischell’s most recent collection of poems is Evenings and Avenues (Penguin).
One of these days, I thought, a Ph.D. candidate will write a dissertation on the novels of Robert B. Parker and maybe spin out another hard-boiled detective series. But now my coffee's cold, and it's time to make for the Brookline Booksmith to take care of some unfinished business. I lent out The Thin Man years ago and never got it back, and it's time for a reread. And maybe while I'm there, I'll pick up the latest Spenser novel. — TM

First Person Impersonal

Some writers can't see past the me in memoir.

Jon Westling, introducing Partisan Review's recent conference Autobiography, Biography, and Memoir, noted “an element of fatuousness and self-aggrandizement” often present in the first and third of those genres. It's a presence that amounts to an absence, he said, as it leaves readers “longing for a human center.”

The celebrated memoirist Leonard Michaels agrees. “It is now very common for writers to be more than usually present — even outrageously present — in their writing,” Michaels said in one of the conference’s panel discussions. “There has never been such extraordinary directness and candor. The effect is comparable to pornography, not because of explicit sexual content, but rather because the directness and candor tend to be shockingly impersonal.”

It's an ironic dilemma. If candor is impersonal and self-centeredness is human-centered, what's an honest autobiographer to do?

“One relation of being personal and finding an appropriate form can be seen in Hamlet's famous soliloquy where he thinks about suicide,” Michaels proposed. “[Hamlet] says, 'That it should come to this.' As opposed to Hamlet, a contemporary in the same situation would say, 'Incredible,' or some version of incredible, which is a cry of me-feeling.

"When Hamlet says, 'That it should come to this,' he is noticing the convergence of terrific forces outside himself. One force is justice. The other is necessity,” Michaels said. Once Hamlet has de-centered himself, he and the reader may "convene in the understanding of his personal situation. This convening is the experience of the personal. In order for it to have happened, Hamlet absepts himself in the sentence as definitively as Miles Davis turning his back to the audience."

Stanley Crouch, the inimitable cultural critic, novelist, and jazz drummer, suggested a similar strategy for restoring the memoir's me to its proper, lower case — a shift in authorial focus from the individual to the communal, from what the writer feels is uniquely his to what he knows is shared. Crouch pointed to the presence of the American blues in the autobiographical and semiautobiographical writings of Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, Albert Murray, and even Ernest Hemingway. "What these men have in common," he said, "is the blues as an aesthetic vision."

Crouch, who named his latest book Don't the Moon Look Lonesome: A Novel in Blues and Swing, said that the blues emerged as a means of expression "that offered not merely solace to Negroes who were oppressed by whites but told universal truths that were to be given progressively complex artistic form by people such as Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Coleman Hawkins, and Lester Young. "There is also," he said, "the fact that Ellison says over and over, whether through the senior characters in Invisible Man or in his own essays, that the Negro is at the center of American civilization — its laws, its labor, its politics, its music, its humor, its dance, its improvisational attitude toward life — meaning that the white person who does not know or acknowledge Afro-American influence does not truly know himself or herself."

Previous symposia have been published in PR; the entire proceedings of this one, including the lively exchanges following the speeches, appear in its winter 2001 edition. Much of the material, including Michaels's address, is also available on the magazine's new Web site, www.partisanreview.org.

In earlier recognition of the role of Partisan Review in U.S. culture (“Common Wealth,” Fall 1996), Bostonia characterized the quarterly as “of such originality and distinction that describing it puts one at peril of setting off a minefield of clichés. Nor need one attempt a litany of the Nobels and Pulitzers who wrote for that little magazine. Name the world’s best writers who were productive from 1937 to date and you’ll find an extraordinarily high percentage of them appeared in PR’s pages, many for the first time.” — JH

Flower Stand at the End of Commonwealth

This is just to say that I suspect I may have bought you that bokay only because they spelled the word that way. I hope that's ouquet.

— EM
COLOSSAL REMNANTS

America's greatest collagist, Romare Bearden, created his artistic identity the same way he created his signature works — patiently, piece by piece.

BY JOHN STOMBERG

In the early 1930s, when such a thing could still happen, future Baseball Hall of Famer Mickey Cochrane (SMG’24) brought members of the Philadelphia Athletics to Boston University for an exhibition game against the varsity baseball team. Although they were a perennial big league powerhouse, the A’s could manage only one hit off the Terriers’ star hurler, Romare Bearden. Legendary manager Connie Mack was so impressed that he offered Bearden a pro contract and a big signing bonus. But the offer had an unwritten proviso: in those days, pro baseball was still strictly segregated — Bearden, a light-skinned black man, would have to pass for white. Troubled by the idea, Bearden simply passed.

In a 1977 profile for The New Yorker, Calvin Tompkins wrote that Romare Bearden was “generally referred to as America’s leading black painter.” When Bearden died of bone cancer eleven years later, the New York Times called him “the nation’s foremost collagist.” It’s likely he would have rated a Times obit, and perhaps even a New Yorker profile, no matter what career path he had followed. Along with baseball, Bearden was a natural at songwriting: he published more than twenty jazz compositions in his lifetime, including the hit “Seabreeze,” which Billy Eckstine, Oscar Pettiford, and Tito Puente all recorded. But no other means of expression could match collage as a conduit for his distinctive voice and vision.

Bearden’s signature works — those produced after 1964 — tend towards political engagement. He thought art should be
both an individual expression and an agent of social change. Bearden understood deeply the power of images. Working from magazines, he reclaimed pictures of African-Americans by removing them from their context in the dominant visual culture and placing them in one of his own creation. This was particularly meaningful given how little control African-Americans had over the representation of black America prior to the 1960s. His canvases, in the words of playwright August Wilson, present “black life . . . on its own terms, on a grand and epic scale, with all its richness and fullness,” and “[g]ive back in fragments, in gesture and speech, the colossal remnants of a spirit tested through time and the storm and the lash.”

Bearden’s virtuosity, like that of many pioneering artists, was the ultimate product of a rigorous education in traditional media and technique. As an undergraduate at the School for the Arts, Bearden picked a program of study dominated by visual art. Of the twenty-seven classes he attended between 1930 and 1932, eighteen were in studio art and two were in the history of art. This was a notably unusual course selection at the time. Not until after World War II did most major universities accommodate such intense concentration on studio art. Formal arts training typically occurred in smaller schools dedicated to art. Bearden’s BU education, emphasizing drawing, modeling, and perspective, gave him an excellent foundation in the essentials of artistic rendering.

In his spare time, Bearden kept his quill sharp as a contributing cartoonist and ultimately as art editor for the Boston University Beanpot, a popular student-produced humor monthly. Although hardly a harbinger of the art that was to come, Bearden’s Beanpot panels show him experimenting suc-
When he wasn’t pitching for BU’s varsity baseball team, Bearden was pitching cartoons to its comic monthly, the Beanpot—a hodgepodge of tweedy college humor and now-arcane contemporary reference. Some of its jokes are tamely suggestive; others, including many of Bearden’s, are startling in their use of ethnic stereotypes. His earliest submissions were simple line drawings, but Bearden grew quickly as an artist, and his contributions grew apace. He made his way into the magazine’s masthead and eventually became art editor. These covers, reproduced for the first time in seventy years, give a Bearden’s-eye view of America in the early thirties: on the front of the “Scandal Issue!” subway riders are glued to scandal sheets. And Gandhi, recently arrested for civil disobedience in India, wears a piece of prison-stripe homespun. Bearden successfully with a variety of styles. And some have a casual wit not common to twenty-year-olds: in one, a doctor leans out his second-story office window, admonishing an apple vendor to “Keep on moving!”

In the summer of 1932 Bearden returned home to New York, where he met with George Grosz at the Art Students League to inquire about attending the school in the fall. His mother had other ideas. Well-known in the social circles of Renaissance-era Harlem, Bessye Bearden had been working to ensure that her son would eventually be admitted to medical school. She prevailed in the choice of his curriculum, and he spent the next two years studying mathematics, then a recognized path to medical school, at New York University. Despite her well-intentioned machinations, however, Bearden returned to Grosz and the Art Students League soon after completing his degree. In his eighteen-month stint with Grosz, usually cited as his only arts training, he matured expressively and put the formal lessons of Boston University to new uses. From that point on, he dedicated himself to his art.

In each of the three decades prior to achieving his collage approach to making art, Bearden achieved moderate success in the prevailing style of the time. During the 1930s, he employed a realist style informed by a social conscience. Grosz encouraged the political predilections of his young student, and Bearden’s early paintings emphasize the urban American scenes that dominated the work of New York artists in the 1930s.

Through much of the next decade, Bearden created figural paintings that relied on heavily drawn outlines and areas of pure color. His work of this period shares with that of many artists around the world a striving to make sense of the carnage and inhumanity of World War II. Many of his 1940s canvases represent Biblical narratives. They possess the religious intensity and the vaguely stained-glass-inspired aesthetics that typify Georges Rouault’s art, although Bearden’s paintings are never as somber. Rouault worked in dark, murky colors with smoky transitions from one hue to the next. Bearden chose bright colors and his exceptional draftsmanship carries the pictures.

The Piano Lesson, 1983. Collage and watercolor, 29” x 22”
Bearden shifted into Zen-inspired abstraction in the 1950s, creating paintings of brilliant subtlety. Many artists of the period were dabbling in Eastern philosophy and art styles, but Bearden undertook intense study with a master calligrapher and read deeply on the subject of Chinese art. Early in the decade he spent time in Paris (even briefly attending classes at the Sorbonne) but soon decided that the creative problems he faced could not be answered in France. He returned to the United States to focus on developing an art that truly represented his singular voice. The abstract expressionist-inspired works he created in the decade following his return to New York satisfied him personally, but he still found them incomplete as works of art. They did not engage the social and political issues that had nourished his early interest in art. He wanted to make personal pictures without denying either his African-American heritage or the dynamic complexity of contemporary New York life.

After years of struggle and periods of deep despair in the early 1960s, Bearden emerged in 1964 with an approach to making art that, while not without precedent, had certainly remained obscure since its inception in the early teens by Picasso and Braque. Bearden made collages — bold, brash arrangements of photographs from magazines along with cloth, painted paper, and other assorted elements. The collage aesthetic so fully satisfied his artistic ambitions that it influenced his work in other media as well. His late watercolors, for example, appear collaged and extend the stained-glass look of his 1940s paintings with the dizzying perspectival jumps characteristic of his collages. Yet it was not the medium of collage itself that most intrigued Bearden. It was the aggressive reorientation of space that collage made possible, in which he saw an opportunity to merge a range of interests, from politics and civil rights to jazz and poetry.

Bearden’s collages confound reduction to a single interpretation. The information carried by the source material usually interested him less than the patterns and colors they provided. When he used a magazine photograph, it was seldom more than a scrap of the original picture. He further complicated his works by adding paint — either directly or by including bits of painted paper — and other layers of collaged materials. An overarching subject dominates most Bearden collages, but the images and materials offer seemingly endless possibilities for ancillary readings.

The politics of the civil rights movement informed most of Bearden’s collages. He found the key to his art in the disjunction in scale and spatial relationships that he could create by careful juxtaposition of images scavenged from diverse sources. His art visually manifests the disparities in American life that the civil rights movement sought to redress. Viewers become aware of a profound disjunction in each of two logical systems: the laws of the picture plane and those of the American legal system. The ill-fitting features on his figures, the direct result of the collage technique, represent the inequality then built into the American judicial system. Bearden protested having to live under laws that do not offer equal protection. With jarring shifts in perspective, his work echoes that social disjunction.

Bearden felt deeply the intervening of media in contemporary perception, as well. Reproduced images had so fully supplanted reality that looking at photographs had become authentic experience. Bearden placed media imagery between himself and his audience, mirroring, and thereby co-opting, that profound transformation of American life. By making the art experience likewise mediated by photographic interlopers, he beat the mass media at their own game.

Romare Bearden achieved tremendous recognition during his lifetime — a privilege that has eluded many great artists. He re-
The Street, 1964. Collage, 9\(\frac{3}{4}\)" x 11\(\frac{3}{4}\)". Cordier & Ekstrom Gallery, New York, N.Y.

The Block, 1971. Collage of cut paper and synthetic polymer paint on masonite. Six panels, 48" x 216".
Entering the World of Romare Bearden

Playwright August Wilson believes he became an artist at age thirty-two, when he “called to my courage and entered the world of Romare Bearden.” It was a good deal easier than summoning the courage to enter Bearden’s apartment building.

“I stood outside 357 Canal Street [in Manhattan] in silent homage, daring myself to knock on his door,” the two-time Pulitzer prize winner writes in a foreword to Myron Schwartzman’s illustrated Bearden biography. “I have often thought of what I would have said to him that day if I had knocked ... and he had answered. I probably would just have looked at him. I would have looked, and if I were wearing a hat, I would have taken it off in tribute.”

Not all Bearden devotees have found their reverence so hard to scale. André Thibault (COM ’76), in fact, posed as a deliveryman in order to get Bearden’s autograph. For reasons he’s never learned, but which in retrospect seem almost astrological, the aspiring collagist received an invitation to a Bearden opening at Manhattan’s Cordier and Ekstrom Gallery in 1980. He went to it wide-eyed, an issue of Art News with a Bearden cover story under his arm. When he arrived, however, he saw minks and camel-hair coats spilling from the building’s entrance and down the block. Even those with influence were having trouble getting in.

“And I looked like a bum,” he says. “So I’m heading off down the street, very dejected — going to take the bus back to the subway, and it’s really cold. And I just happen to gaze upon this box.”

An empty cardboard box, Thibault thought, together with his shabby attire, could be his VIP pass. He returned to the building, shouldered his way up the crowded staircase, and told an official-looking woman at the gallery door that the extra catalogues had finally arrived. “I need to put ‘em down real quick,” he told her. “I have another delivery to make!”

The fbi got Thibault a grudging go-ahead. He quickly discarded the box and made his way toward Bearden, brandishing his Art News — a jeaned and sneakered kid bobbing like a beach ball across the sea of tuxedos.

“I said, ‘My hero. I’ve never asked anyone to sign even a baseball card, but I just love it if you’d sign this for me.’”

As a smiling Bearden handed back the autographed magazine, Thibault decided to give his luck one last nudge. “I said, ‘Mr. Bearden, I’m out in the woods, hacking away at collage. If I could some day bring my work by and show you what I do, it would probably save me a lifetime of mistakes.’ And he put his phone number on the back of the magazine and told me to give him a call exactly two weeks from that day. I’ll tell you, I just floated out of there. I walked on clouds.”

For five and a half years, once or twice a week Thibault lugged his canvases to Bearden’s Long Island City studio. “He’d tear them apart. He’d look at them, shake his head, then come over to me and point to the middle of my forehead and say, ‘You didn’t listen to what I said!’ It was brutal; it really was.” Gradually, though, the quality of Thibault’s images rose to meet his mentor’s expectations. By the end of Bearden’s life, Thibault was working both as his professional assistant and as his frequent collaborator. In 1987, describing a visit to the studio, Schwartzman wrote that Bearden’s former student was now assisting him “with such virtuosity that very few words passed between them: it seemed they could read each other’s minds.”

So complete is Thibault’s familiarity with the Bearden style that in recent years the FBI has been enlisting his help to identify the forgeries that have begun to appear. “I can spot one a mile away,” he says. Thibault was a bit unsettled, in fact, to learn that his talent had made him one of the bureau’s initial suspects. “They said they’d done their investigation on me. And I said, ‘Are those the clicks I’ve been hearing on my phone?’ They laughed. And then I said, ‘Look, if I were making any Beardens on the side, you guys wouldn’t even know about it. You’d never be able to tell them apart.’ And they just shut up.” — Eric McHenry

courtesy of andre thibault

André Thibault with Bearden in his Long Island City studio, 1983.

received numerous awards, including the National Medal of Arts, presented by President Ronald Reagan in 1987, and five honorary doctorates. But perhaps most satisfying for him was the widespread exposure his art gained in this country. He has been the subject of several traveling exhibitions, and most of the major collecting art museums in the country have Bearden originals. The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., is preparing a major retrospective for the fall of 2002. His work is increasingly represented in textbooks, and The Art of Romare Bearden: The Prevalence of Ritual, M. Bunch Washington’s definitive and long out-of-print 1972 monograph, is available again from Snowfire Books. If it’s true, as documentary filmmaker Ken Burns proposes, that the story of America is at its essence a story of jazz, baseball, and the Civil War, then Romare Bearden — the songwriter, the star pitcher, the great-grandson of slaves, and the great visual chronicler of African-American life — was telling it first. And he was telling it in the first person.

John Stomberg (GRS’90, ’99) is the director of the BU Art Gallery, an adjunct assistant professor of art history at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and an instructor at the School for the Arts.
A Farewell to Arms

As congressman, senator, and secretary of defense, William Cohen has remained doggedly undogmatic.

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen reviews a joint services honor guard during a farewell ceremony in his honor at Conmy Hall, Fort Myer, Virginia, on January 17, 2001. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PHOTO BY R. D. WARD

By Nicholas Confessore

I am angry at your boss,” a caller to one of William S. Cohen’s congressional district offices once famously complained. “Why?” asked a Cohen aide. “He’s too damn reasonable.”

Such are the perils of being one of that peculiar species of Washingtonian known as a moderate. After almost twenty-eight years in Washington, as a congressman, senator, and most recently, secretary of defense, Cohen (LAW ’65) has by turns earned the ire of Democrats, fellow Republicans, and even occasionally his constituents — usually for his love of the political middle and penchant for a good compromise. In recent years, the liberal New Republic has criticized him as “a man for whom the iconoclasm of the cool and independent overview trumped considerations of loyalty and purpose,” the conservative Weekly Standard, more succinctly, as “secretary of self-love”— apt illustration, perhaps, of Cohen’s dilemma. The middle, after all, has become tougher ground to stand on during the decades since he first took office, as the Republican Party has become more Southern and more conservative than in the days of Nelson
Rockefeller, and politics in general more partisan.

“Those who seek compromise and consensus are depicted with scorn as a ‘mushy middle’ that is weak and unprincipled,” Cohen wrote in a 1996 Washington Post op-ed piece. “By contrast, those who plant their feet in the concrete of ideological absolutism are heralded as heroic defenders of truth, justice, and the American way.” This, Cohen believes, is the challenge of his time. The road to sanity, he wrote, “will not be easy, and it surely will not be paved with the bloated promises or blandishments of political extremists.”

Telescope and Microscope

As it happens, compromise is literally in Cohen’s blood. He grew up in Maine, the son of an Irish Catholic mother and a Jewish father. In interviews, he often attributes his independent streak to the former and his workaholic schedule, which brought him to the Pentagon around seven a.m. and often kept him there for fourteen hours, to his father, who worked long days as a baker in Bangor. Ruby Cohen wanted to send his son to the University of Maine to become an orthodontist; his son had other plans. He attended Bowdoin College, majored in Latin, graduated cum laude, and set off for the Boston University School of Law.

By then, Cohen was married to his first wife and had a child to support. Balancing odd jobs, studying, and a stint at the Law Review, Cohen graduated in 1965 (again cum laude) and took a job as an aide to Tom Lambert, then a highly regarded BU law professor. Lambert was a prodigy in his own right, a brilliant scholar and a gifted orator who by the age of thirty had been dean of Stetson University’s College of Law and had prosecuted Nazis at Nuremberg. During the next few years, the two became extremely close. Lambert, Cohen once told an interviewer, taught him to “seek simplicity and distrust it,” to be “a master of the telescope and the microscope.” It was from Lambert, too, that Cohen imbibed what he came to consider a cardinal political virtue: eternal skepticism — not least of doctrinal truth.

Such skepticism matches both Cohen’s personality and his politics, which spring from Maine’s long tradition of pragmatic Republicanism. After a few years rising through the local political ranks in Bangor, where he practiced law, Cohen ran for Congress in 1972 and won with — as he had wished — broad support from Republicans and Democrats. And in the middle of his first term, he was the lone Republican on the House Judiciary Committee to vote for demanding Richard Nixon’s White House tapes — an act that helped set the stage for Nixon’s resignation and cemented Cohen’s reputation for independent-mindedness (or bloody-mindedness, depending on whom you asked at the time). His stand on Nixon endeared him to Mainers, and in 1978 he ran for the Senate against incumbent William Hathaway and won.

In the Senate, Cohen devoted himself to foreign policy generally, and to military budget and arms issues specifically. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he was among the proponents of Ronald Reagan’s Star Wars missile defense program, but also was cosponsor, with Democrat Sam Nunn, of the ultimately unsuccessful 1983 nuclear “build-down” program, a proposal that would have allowed the United States and the Soviet Union each to build one new warhead for every two old warheads dismantled. Cohen was also a determined fiscal conservative, criticizing both Social Security waste and the near-boondoggle B-2 bomber program. Generally skeptical of U.S. military adventures abroad, Cohen later became a critic of the Clinton administration’s policy in Bosnia. (He did support Desert Storm under George Bush, albeit with serious reservations.) In 1996, citing “frustration over the absence of political accord and the increase in personal hostilities that now permeate our system,” Cohen retired from the Senate and prepared to launch a consulting firm, the Cohen Group.

But after that year’s November elections, he got a call from Bill Clinton. The president needed a new Pentagon chief. Cohen said yes — thereby becoming the only Republican in Clinton’s cabinet, and the first Republican cabinet secretary in a Democratic administration in almost four decades.

Withdrawal Symptoms

Cohen came to the Pentagon facing two principal challenges, one bureaucratic, one political. The bureaucratic challenge was that the U.S. military establishment, though newly confident in the years following Desert Storm, was in 1997 still struggling to define its role and mission following the Cold War. The Soviet Union had been replaced by rogue states and ethnic-cleansing strongmen, churning forth an array of new commitments that were simultaneously less obviously vital to U.S. interests, greater in number (U.S. forces currently operate in 126 countries around the world), and not cheap. Yet in a political environment where fiscal conservatism reigned, the Pentagon was maintaining expensive pet projects of increasingly questionable merit (such as three separate advanced jet fighter programs) even as low military pay and the booming private sector were slowly creating a recruiting crisis. The political challenge, on the other hand, was Clinton’s dysfunctional relationship with the military — a problem rooted partly in the general fracas over his evasion of the draft during the Vietnam years, exacerbated by his han-
dling of the don’t-ask-don’t-tell policy in 1993, and unresolved by his ineffectual first secretary of defense, the late Les Aspin.

To this problem, Cohen’s appointment was intended partly as an inoculation; he was “a good moderate Republican in a position where Clinton had always been vulnerable,” as Michael O’Hanlon, a defense specialist at the Brookings Institution, puts it. And in many respects, Cohen was an excellent fit. As a former senator and representative, he had a thorough grasp of the legislative process; as a Republican, he had considerably warmer relations with many of his old colleagues than Clinton did.

Cohen was the one person in Clinton’s cabinet, says former New Hampshire Republican senator and longtime friend Warren Rudman, who commanded respect on both sides of the aisle. “When he came down to the Hill,” Rudman recalls, “both Republicans and Democrats put a lot of stock in what he had to say.” Cohen considered himself an ambassador for New Hampshire Republican senator and longtime friend Warren Rudman, who commanded respect on both sides of the aisle. “When he came down to the Hill,” Rudman recalls, “both Republicans and Democrats put a lot of stock in what he had to say.” Cohen considered himself an ambassador for the generals — most of whom came of age during the Vietnam War — a welcome change from what they considered the fickle adventurism of previous administrations.

Resistance on Multiple Fronts
But the bureaucratic challenge was thornier. For one thing, spending priorities proved as difficult for Cohen to alter as they had been for Aspin, William Perry, and Richard Cheney, Cohen’s immediate predecessors at the Pentagon. When Cohen came aboard, most experts agreed that current spending was unequal to the current force structure: a “two regional contingencies” strategy that demanded that U.S. forces be able to fight two major wars at once, without allied help. But many, such as Lawrence J. Korb, assistant secretary of defense under Reagan, also argued that the two-war strategy itself was obsolete — an excuse for the Pentagon to maintain Cold War spending levels in a post-Cold War world. A better and cheaper strategy, they contended, would be for the United States to prepare for one war (like Desert Storm) plus an array of smaller-scale interventions (like Haiti).

The ongoing debate spurred Congress to institute the so-called Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), a soup-to-nuts appraisal of U.S. forces. In 1997, Cohen unveiled the first QDR, which, like a previous assessment under Aspin in 1993, flirted with rethinking the two-war strategy. But partly owing to his own doubts about U.S. interventions such as Haiti, and partly because of the lack of a coherent White House interventionist rationale, Cohen couldn’t push through a truly new force structure and the pruning that would have accompanied it. Indeed, the sheer dislike many Republicans had for Clinton made it hard for Cohen to press for even modest defense cuts, such as shuttering unneeded bases. (“If President Bush were to ask for the same base closures President Clinton wanted,” says Rudman, “he’d probably get them.”)

So, during Cohen’s tenure, the Clinton administration more or less pursued a mildly interventionist foreign policy on top of the original force structure. The QDR, says O’Hanlon, “didn’t make a very decisive break from the past.” Not surprisingly, the Pentagon simply demanded more money — more than was spent annually during the Cold War — so that it could keep up with all the new missions without compromising its ability to fight two wars at once. “It’s very hard to make major changes in the second term of any administration,” says Korb. “He was a Republican in a Democratic administration; he didn’t have his own team — all the assistant secretaries and undersecretaries had already been appointed. He had a tough job.”

In retrospect, according to some critics, Cohen’s only major error was his initial opposition to U.S. military action in the Balkans. Although serious problems remain in the region, it now seems clear that the intense U.S. bombing of Serbia in March 1999 and the continued U.S. presence there were instrumental in halting the Serb program of ethnic cleansing, and helped catalyze Slobodan Milosevic’s fall from power last year. Still, it’s worth pointing out that at the time — the mid-1990s — Cohen’s opinion was shared by much of the Pentagon and most Republicans on the Hill. And when Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright decided to embark on the bombing campaign in 1999, the same intellectual probity that had pushed Cohen to question U.S. strategy in the Balkans made him quickly and steadfastly focus on the task at hand — which, it’s also worth pointing out, stands as one of the better executed military campaigns of Clinton’s tenure.

The Defense Rests
Looking back, muses Rudman, “I think his most lasting contribution as secretary of defense — which, although the secretary of state doesn’t like to admit it, has many of the functions of the secretary of state — was that he did a wonderful job of strengthening our alliances, from NATO to SEATO, all over the world.” Certainly Cohen leaves the Pentagon, if not radically altered, well-prepared for future Milosevics or Saddams. But on a different level, his departure comes at a cost to Washington. Like Senate colleagues Robert Byrd and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Cohen has spent his public life aspiring to an older model, taking seriously the founders’ wish that the Senate be “the world’s greatest deliberative body.” In a town where the life of the mind is widely considered a contradiction in terms, Cohen has published, among other things, two decent volumes of poetry, a memoir, and a well-regarded nonfiction account of the Iran-Contra scandal.

Perhaps a few more books are in the offing. His long-postponed private venture, the Cohen Group, is now open for business. And while corporate consulting isn’t exactly a part-time job, for Cohen — after decades of public service — it may well amount to a kind of sabbatical.

Nicholas Confessore is a staff writer for The American Prospect.
In the middle of the nineteenth century, deafness was so common on Martha’s Vineyard that islanders considered it a trait, like blue eyes, and virtually everyone knew sign language. A century and a half later, faculty in the Deaf Studies Program at the School of Education hope that history will repeat itself — bringing the deaf and hearing communities back on equal terms, as they once were on a small island off the Massachusetts coast.

As a young girl, Joan Poole Nash was fascinated when she read about Helen Keller. She began to teach herself American Sign Language (ASL), which she practiced with several deaf children at a summer camp where she was a counselor. When Poole Nash visited her great-grandmother, Emily Howland Poole, on Martha’s Vineyard, her great-grandmother told her that she too knew a few signs. “I didn’t think she meant the sign language that deaf people used,” Poole Nash (SED’80/81) says. “I thought she meant the Indian signs the Boy Scouts used.”

Much later, when Poole Nash enrolled in SED, she realized that her great-grandmother, who was not deaf, had been using “an old, old sign language” that, while similar to ASL, was unique to the island. As it turned out, in nineteenth-century Martha’s Vineyard — where travel was rare and intermarriage common — an inbred recessive gene caused a high incidence of deafness in the island’s population. In her 1985 book *Everyone Here Speaks Sign Language*, Nora Ellen Groce estimates that in the nineteenth century one person in every 5,728 in the United States was born deaf, but on Martha’s Vineyard, the ratio was one in 155. In Chilmark, where Emily Howland Poole grew up, it was one in twenty-five, and in the small neighborhood of Squibnocket, one in four. Growing up, islanders used what Poole Nash calls Martha’s Vineyard Sign Language, or MVSL, as frequently as spoken English.

But by the late 1970s MVSL had almost disappeared. Emily Howland Poole, then in her nineties, was among the last of the islanders to remember it (the last deaf person to use the signs had died in the 1950s). When she recognized the value of her discovery, Poole Nash, at the time a sophomore at BU, led a team of researchers to Martha’s Vineyard to record what her great-grandmother knew. “This is it,” Poole Nash says of the ten hours of videotape she collected. In all, she recorded 300 signs — the last of the once-ubiquitous language. “I wish I’d had my great-grandfather and his brother because they were very proficient signers. If we’d had them, we’d have the whole language.”

She did have her grandfather, who she had assumed was too
young to have known the signs. "It turned out that his friend's parents had a housekeeper who was deaf," Poole Nash says, "and he used to go over there to eat lunch on school days, so he knew quite a lot." On the black-and-white videotape, her grandfather sits facing the camera, a pipe dangling from his mouth to free his hands for forming signs: codfish, swordfish, scallop. The sign for swordfish, Poole Nash says, is "purely Martha's Vineyard," bearing little resemblance to the ASL sign.

MVSL, she says, most likely preceded, or developed concurrently with, ASL.

Poole Nash has always been enchanted by the islanders' stories portraying the hearing and the deaf interacting without boundaries. If there were social boundaries, they weren't between the deaf and the hearing; when people gathered at the general store, for example, they congregated by gender. "The men would tell stories using their voices and sign language," Poole Nash says, smiling, "but the punch line was always delivered in sign language if it was risqué."

Most important about her research, Poole Nash says, was that it revealed a community where the deaf and the hearing were equals. Both hearing and deaf islanders were fluent signers, and no one in Chilmark considered deaf people disabled. Poole Nash recalls her great-grandmother's response to those who referred to the deaf as handicapped. "Handicapped?" Emily Howland Poole said. "They weren't handicapped. They were just deaf."

"People in the deaf community were empowered by this," says Poole Nash, who today teaches the deaf and hard of hearing, in Newton, Massachusetts. "For me, it moved from being a historical, linguistic project to being almost a deaf community affirmation. I am still very interested in my data, but the stories became much more important — a hope of deaf and hearing people getting along on equal terms rather than deaf people always struggling to try to be equal with hearing people."

By the time Janis Cole moved to Martha's Vineyard in the mid-1980s, MVSL had disappeared from the island. Cole (SED'93), who is deaf, lived on the Vineyard for two years, unaware of the island's rich history in deaf culture. "There was nobody who signed at the time," she says through an interpreter. "A long time ago, it was great, of course, but I was lonely, so I moved to Boston."

In Boston, she worked as a caseworker at Deaf, Inc., for two years, then joined SED's Deaf Studies Program, first as a graduate student and later as a faculty member. Now co-coordinator of the undergraduate program, Cole too feels that Poole Nash's work is important to the deaf community. At SED, where students in the program are required to learn and communicate in ASL, she helps immerse students in both the language and the culture, emphasizing that future educators should not consider deafness a disability. "We are an ethnic group, if you will — a cultural, linguistic, minority group," Cole says. "My famous statement is, 'There is life after deaf.' We have the same rights, the same everything that nondeaf people have — the only difference is that we do not hear. And not being able to hear is not important to us."

Nor is being able to hear important on the second floor of 621 Commonwealth Avenue, the offices of the Deaf Studies Program. The halls are silent, and signs instruct the visitor that this is a signing floor and to "turn off your voice." Because 30 percent of the classes are taught by deaf faculty, competency in ASL is required; spoken English is allowed only when no deaf people are present.

The program hasn't always been ASL-intensive; twenty years ago, it taught oralism — deaf education through voice, residual hearing, and lipreading rather than sign language. Associate Professor Robert Hoffmeister, now the program's director, arrived at SED in 1979, and along with Steve Nover and Ben Bahan, gave the program its bilingual-bicultural approach. Since then, about 300 students have completed the program, which now enrolls 50 to 60 students a year. Among other subjects, students study ASL literature, deaf culture and history, and ASL linguistics. The program also helps introduce students to deaf culture, which for most is a new concept. "It's an amazing thing when you learn about the culture," says Becca Blau-Shane (SED'99), "because it doesn't occur to many people that it is a culture."

Culture, by general definition, refers to customs and values shared by a group of people, usually from a particular geographic region. While deaf people don't inhabit a shared land, they do share a language, have culture-specific social values, and live by their own customs and etiquette. Deaf literature is in ASL and is catalogued in video libraries; strong visual arts and theater arts communities exist. Deaf clubs around the world give the community a sense of place, as deaf people connect with one another internationally. "Introductions in the deaf world usually include the names of people from the school or city where
New Facility Will Aid in Understanding Sign Language and Human Movement

In American Sign Language, some of the most important expression is facial. Without the activity of the eyes, eyebrows, and mouth, much of what the hands are saying would be ambiguous at best.

"When people think about sign language, they usually think about movements of the hands. But that’s only part of what’s going on," says Carol Neidle, a CAS associate professor of modern foreign languages and a principal investigator at the National Center for Sign Language and Gesture Resources (NCSLGR), a joint venture of BU and the University of Pennsylvania. "In fact, about 80 percent of the grammar is on the face and on the body, in parallel with manual signing. Syntactic information — about negation or question status, for example — is expressed through movements of the eyebrows, the face, head nods, head tilts, eye gaze, that sort of thing.”

Too many of the existing tools for the study of ASL, Neidle explains, aren’t sensitive to the language’s subtleties. With the NCSLGR, Neidle, principal investigator Stan Sclaroff, and colleagues at UPenn plan to help bring the study of sign language up to speed.

Using a shared $1.3 million National Science Foundation grant, the BU and UPenn research teams have set up two facilities for the recording and analysis of signed data. The BU lab, in the basement of 111 Cummington Street, features four synchronized digital cameras to register four distinct views of an ASL-speaking subject. Over the next four years, investigators at both universities hope to log many hours of ASL data from native signers, establish a standard protocol for the gathering of such data, annotate it using a multimedia tool developed by Neidle and colleagues, and create computer algorithms for its analysis. — Eric McHenry

"It often develops naturally among kids — for example, they learn to get each other’s attention visually — but to really feed the culture and identity comes from teachers. Teachers have a big responsibility to make sure the child has the full essence of what it means to be deaf.”

Those unfamiliar with the deaf world wouldn’t know, for example, that there are appropriate and inappropriate parts of the body to tap to get someone’s attention, or that there are proper and improper distances to keep when waving one’s hand. They wouldn’t know that hugging is an important aspect of deaf culture, as are long good-byes. “Whenever anything’s wrapping up, it takes hours and hours to say good-bye,” says Blau-Shane, who as a hearing person found it challenging at first to mingle within the deaf world. “What’s most difficult for hearing people going into ASL or deaf culture is that it’s a very non euphemistic language and culture. It’s a visually based language, so physical aspects become very important. It’s not considered rude to describe people based on physical characteristics — even ones that wouldn’t be appropriate in hearing cultures. You can say ‘that fat lady’ or ‘the guy with the big nose.’ It’s hard for hearing people to get around the embarrassment of describing people in detail physically.”

By familiarizing them with the culture, faculty help students realize firsthand the need to approach deaf education from the deaf perspective. But what about the when-in-Rome view that the deaf community, as a minority, should learn to function according to the rules of a society where most people are hearing?

Hoffmeister refers to this hearing-based viewpoint as “hearingness,” and one of his priorities for the program is to cure students of their hearingness. “What was great about Martha’s Vineyard was that the two cultures respected each other,” he says. “We don’t have that today.” The notion that the deaf community must conform to the rules of the hearing world, Hoffmeister believes, is both unrealistic and unfair. “It’s possible for a hearing person to learn to sign. It’s not feasible for a deaf person to learn to speak — it’s very, very difficult.”

In a perfect world, Hoffmeister believes, the medical community, which favors cochlear implants over teaching ASL, would play a role in promoting sign language, not spoken English, as the first language for deaf children. Cochlear implants, surgically inserted devices that transmit sound information, offer parents the impression of a cure — that a deaf child can live just like a hearing child — but it’s not as simple as that. Poole Nash notes that when children receive cochlear implants early on, the focus...
is on learning to hear at the expense of learning a language, such as ASL, by which they can immediately communicate. While Poole Nash doesn’t dismiss the implants as ineffective or harmful, she emphasizes that they should be used in conjunction with learning sign language. If implants aren’t effective and children haven’t simultaneously learned ASL, they could face severe cognitive delays. “One thing we know for sure is that you need to have a language, and you need to have it early,” Poole Nash says. “I think the field is putting a lot of kids at risk by not starting them with both modes at the same time.”

Yet this reasoning is too often overridden by the desire of hearing parents for their child to be “normal.” “Parents look at the child and say there’s something wrong,” Cole says. “They want to fix the child. There’s nothing wrong with the child — and it’s a hard concept for many people to see.” Hoffmeister, a child of deaf parents, points out that this occurs almost solely with hearing parents. “If you asked my father if he wanted to hear,” he says, “his answer would be no. He wouldn’t want to change who he is.”

“If I were to have a deaf child, that would be the greatest thing in the world to me,” Cole says. “I would be ecstatic. I would be happy if the child were hearing, but it wouldn’t be the same. People don’t get it because they see it as a disability, as a deficit. It doesn’t fit what they perceive as the norm. So that’s where our program comes in. We try to educate people on what it means to be deaf, to remove it from the definition of disabled.”

Keeping deaf culture alive amidst rapidly progressing technology and those who seek to cure deafness rather than embrace it poses a challenge. The technological advances that enable the deaf community to interact with the hearing may one day be responsible for the extinction of ASL. “There are certainly going to be people who need sign language for the rest of my life,” Poole Nash says. “I’m not sure about the rest of my young children’s lives. Technology changed the entire way the community interacted,” she says of Martha’s Vineyard. “It all worked perfectly because there was no advanced technology. You communicated face-to-face or you communicated in writing. There weren’t any phones; there wasn’t radio; there wasn’t anything that put deaf people at all at a disadvantage.”

But while people in the deaf world communicate via TTY and e-mail, they don’t believe those forms will ever replace their first language. “I don’t think the language will disappear,” says Cole. “For a while we were very excited about e-mail, and we’d stay home and get on the Internet. After a while the newness wore off, and we realized this is still English — it’s not my language; I can’t really express myself clearly and completely. There’s no way to show facial expression or facial grammar in a printed word. So people get back to where they came from and get together. Physical contact, face-to-face contact, is a very important part of our lives. When we get together, we’re constantly talking. And the love of our language shows through the manner in which we communicate.”

Cole instructs students in American Sign Language. About 100 students from throughout Boston University take sign language classes at the School of Education each semester.

"Life after deaf." — Janis Cole (SED’93)
REVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

Geoffrey Cooper leads the biggest expansion in his department’s 100-year history.

BY REBECCA POLLARD

A little less than fifty years ago, James Watson and Francis Crick demonstrated the elegant and, until then, elusive structure of DNA. It was a revelation that bordered on the miraculous. So long had biologists wondered at the composition of the paradoxical entities called genes that Crick proclaimed they’d found the secrets of life.

He couldn’t have known, of course, that the discovery would lead to more questions than answers. A pair of studies—heard-round-the-world, published in February in the journals Science and Nature, report that the complete set of human DNA contains around 30,000 genes—far fewer than many scientists had estimated. Such findings make it clear that the field of molecular biology is more vital than ever, and that the study of life still holds a few surprises. Genomics, says Geoffrey Cooper, chairman of the biology department at the College of Arts and Sciences, will shape our understanding of the living world in ways we have not yet begun to realize.

To keep BU at the forefront of the field, Cooper has initiated the biggest expansion of the biology department since its inception nearly 100 years ago. Already he’s added nine new faculty members to a department of thirty-three, and over the next seven years he plans to add as many as fifteen more. The department has also invested in up-to-date equipment, including DNA-sequencing machines and three powerful new microscopes.

“Having the whole sequenced genome for an organism gives us all new ways to manipulate genes for the purposes of research,” says Cooper. “We can ask questions we just couldn’t ask before. And we hope to have a group of young scientists positioned to use the new technology to the fullest extent possible.”

Cooper’s new appointees have already raised the bar in one of the most important aspects of research: the funding. In just three years, BU biologists, in addition to conducting their own research, have doubled funding from outside sources—such as the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture—bringing it to about $10 million annually. That money will support new and ongoing biology research. The University is currently drafting plans for a building that will house laboratory space not only for biology faculty but for scholars from the related fields of biochemistry and medicine as well.

GENESIS

It’s fitting that advances in genetics research are driving the expansion of the biology department—and so near its 100th anniversary. Arthur Weysee founded the BU department of biology in 1904, around the same time that biologists were formulating modern notions of heredity. The theories of Gregor Mendel, the hermitic Austrian monk who had discovered the laws of inheritance in pea plants some forty years earlier, were finally gaining ground in European circles. Those theories, formed before the word gene even existed, ushered researchers into the modern era of genetic research. BU’s biology department established itself almost as slowly. In 1907, Weysee, the University’s first professor of biology, had a whopping total of six students.

By the time the department’s centenary rolls around in 2004, Cooper hopes to have 50 faculty members and more

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than 1,000 students. And he's focusing on growth in three areas of research that he believes will benefit most from advances in genetics technologies: cell regulation and development, molecular ecology and evolution, and neurobiology. Cooper's own research draws from the first category. In the early 1980s, as an associate professor at Harvard Medical School, Cooper oversaw a laboratory that was one of the first to discover human oncogenes, genes that control the growth of cancerous tumors. Now his work has led him to ponder how cancerous cells come to live, but how normal cells come to die. Biologists have only recently concluded that normal cells are programmed to die, while cancer cells don't seem to be able to.

"The failure of cancer cells to die is as important as the fact that they divide too much," says Cooper. But new knowledge of the genes that cause this phenomenon may help biologists create more effective treatments. "The trouble with current chemotherapy treatments is that they are too general," he says. "They kill every type of dividing cell. But if we can target the genes that cause certain cancers, and the new map of the genome will help with that, we can design new drugs that specifically attack cancer cells."

Cooper has recruited three researchers in the field of cell regulation and development: Kim McCall from MIT, who is also studying cell death, and developmental biologist Jim Deshler of Harvard have joined the ranks as assistant professors; Ulla Hansen, a scientist from Harvard who's made fundamental discoveries in the field of gene expression, has come aboard as a professor.

FROM RAIN FOREST TO SAVANNAH

It stands to reason that gene sequencing has improved the treatment of genetically based diseases. Less intuitive is the notion that DNA has revolutionized the study of ecology. Genomics has allowed scientists to monitor changes in the DNA of a population over time. Another Cooper recruit is molecular ecologist Chris Schneider, an assistant professor, one of the first researchers to use sequencing techniques to study the evolution of animal populations — primarily lizards and frogs — in tropical rain forests. Schneider can glean enough DNA from bits of a species's skin or blood to gauge how the DNA differs across altitude lines, or along transitions from rain forest to savannah. In this way, he is able to chart the effects of environmental cues on populations at a genetic level. He is, in essence, watching evolution happen.

Over the past few years Schneider has discovered about a dozen new species of reptiles. And he's made some novel determinations about when most rain forest creatures came into existence. Most of the species he has examined from lowland forests are tens of millions of years old. "This finding pretty much puts the nail in the coffin of one of the dominant theories of rain forest speciation, which invoked Pleistocene climate changes [about two million years ago] as a driving force," says Schneider. "It turns out that the vast majority of species diverged long before the Pleistocene."

Like Schneider, other biologists of the DNA era are in the process of rewriting the story of evolution on earth. Because it is now possible to compare DNA from different organisms, these scientists can construct family trees that reflect incremental changes over time.

No longer does all life divide into the five kingdoms of animals, plants, fungi, protists (single-celled organisms), and monerans (bacteria). Now evolutionary biologists lump the first four groups together into one kingdom, called Eukarya, which includes organisms with complex cells. Bacteria, ancient and modern, claim the remaining two kingdoms.

Fundamental changes in the way we categorize life are sure to result as scientists elucidate the DNA sequences of more organisms. That's why Cooper has recruited two other assistant professors to this area of study: John Finnerty, a molecular evolutionary biologist who hails from the University of Chicago, and Adrien Finzi, a plant ecologist from Stanford, who is interested in how rising amounts of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere affect forests.
“Relax, you’re going to be fine,” Steven Zeitels reassures his patient, gently massaging her neck. In her seventies, the woman has undergone a series of surgeries for breast and lung cancer that have left one of her vocal folds, or cords, paralyzed and dislocated, severely diminishing and distorting her voice. One attempt to repair the cord has failed, so she has come to the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston for a reoperation. Her new surgeon specializes in tricky vocal surgeries, those that many other surgeons consider too complicated or risky to tackle.

In the operating room, under local anesthesia, she responds with a weak, breathy, rasping voice to Zeitels’s request to vocalize. After he paints her from nose to chest with topical antiseptic, he makes an incision across her neck and clamps and cauterizes it in preparation for the delicate business of attempting to restore her voice. In a procedure he has devised, he cuts and sews, deftly repositioning the paralyzed left vocal fold to restore her voice. He reduces the unnaturally large gap between the two folds, allowing enough space for normal breathing while facilitating vocal fold closure for vibration and sound production.

Zeitels (CAS’82, MED’82) must work within the tiny, fragile components of the larynx, or voice box, which helps in the swallowing process, permits breathing, and protects the lungs. He explains to his assisting surgical fellow and observers, including research fellows from Greece, that the previous surgery “did half of the job — only a front-end job.” After closing the excessive glottal gap and sewing and tying the fold in place, he asks his patient, who remains conscious throughout the hour-long procedure, to mimic his speech. “Hi, hey, he,” she responds in a strong voice. As if tuning an instrument, he makes further adjustments to her vocal registration and range by ear. Seeming satisfied with what he hears, he sutures and closes.

Two months after surgery, with the aid of voice therapy at the MEEI Voice and Speech Laboratory, the patient’s voice is back to normal.

WITH GIFTED HANDS
Steven Zeitels’s specialty is saving and restoring voices. In the thirteen years since completing his residency in the Boston University and Tufts University combined program in otolaryngology–head and neck surgery, he has performed an estimated 3,000 surgeries. As associate surgeon at MASSACHUSETTS EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY
sets Eye and Ear, he treats patients with vocal cord paralysis, lesions, and tumors and other head and neck conditions. He has invented surgical tools and procedures, some of them minimally invasive endoscopic approaches that allow selected advanced larynx cancer patients to avoid losing their voice box through a disfiguring laryngectomy (total removal of the larynx). Other patients with early vocal fold cancer can undergo endoscopic resection and avoid radiation, which can scar normal soft tissue. In a majority of these cases, the patient is left with good-to-normal voice function as well as good health. Among his many professional honors, Zeiteis is especially proud of the Casselberry Award from the American Laryngological Association for his new procedure in treating vocal cord paralysis.

Remarkable skill, energy, caring, and ability to inspire trust are recurring themes when colleagues and patients, many of whom become his friends, describe Zeiteis. Being “good with my hands” he attributes partly to his passionate involvement in leather working, learned in an evening course at BU when he was an undergraduate in the University’s selective six-year liberal arts—medical education program. His ambidexterity and precision developed, he says, from cutting and sewing industrial hides to make hand-tooled leather art objects, clothing, and adornments for his friends. Mary Williams, a veteran OR nurse who works exclusively as Zeiteis’s circulating nurse, says, “He can intubate [place a breathing tube through the mouth to the lungs] anything without touching a mass.”

His energy and stamina are legendary in and out of the profession. According to Williams, “He can do eight or nine vocal cord procedures a day with no trouble.” Robert Hillman, director of the MEEI Voice and Speech Laboratory and former faculty member at BU’s School of Medicine and Sargent College, says, “Harvard teaching hospitals have a reputation for attracting workaholics, but Steve’s the workaholic’s workaholic.” And Peter Saccio, a patient of Zeiteis’s, says, “He’s the busiest man in the world; he has a fantastic amount of physical energy. But despite all his busyness, he takes the time to give the extra care.”

THE SINGER AND THE SONG
His patients are vocal performers, teachers, broadcasters, lawyers, judges — people who use and often unwittingly overuse or misuse their voices for a living. Thirty-five percent are performers, and he’s noted for saving the careers of many of them. Among them is singer and songwriter Livingston Taylor, whom Zeiteis treated for vocal cord hemorrhaging several years ago by minimally invasive removal of blood vessels from his vocal cords. “He’s a terrific surgeon,” says Taylor, “but no better a surgeon than a teacher. What he does so beautifully is teach you how to stay out of trouble. He gave me so much information to protect my voice.”

In addition to teaching medical students as associate professor at Harvard Medical School, another of Zeiteis’s pursuits is teaching vocal artists how to avoid needing his surgical skills. As the laryngologist for most of Boston’s major conservatories, including BU’s School for the Arts music division, he lectures voice students on how to care for their voices — adequate vocal rest, hydration, and proper diet to avoid reflux, a sometimes unnoticed return of acids from the stomach that can damage the vocal membranes. Taylor knows the drill. Performing about 100 shows a year, he has had no vocal trouble since his procedure with Zeiteis, whom he warmly refers to as “Stevie Z.” “There are five or so top guys,” Taylor says of Zeiteis’s international reputation among singers. “Steve is one of them.”

“I had the same thing that killed Babe Ruth. Babe didn’t have Dr. Zeiteis though. He saved my life — no question about it.” — James Walton

Performers with voice trouble, from rockers to opera singers, flock to him. Soprano Marie Danvers describes her fear of vocal surgery: “It’s very scary to go under the knife when singing is your life; singing is everything to those of us who sing professionally.” Three years ago she was singing the role of Christine in Phantom of the Opera on Broadway when the worsening of a vocal cord nodule that had been growing over ten years and limiting her professionally finally forced her to seek help. A friend referred her to Zeiteis. “I call the man a god,” she says. “Not only did he remove the nodule, but my vocal cords seem like I went out and bought brand-new ones. There’s no scarring, and I’ve expanded my range three notes. I always wanted to belt, but with the nodule I couldn’t. Now I can belt.”

VOICE CHANGES
In his performances, Peter Saccio doesn’t need to belt. As the Leon D. Black Professor of Shakespearean Studies at Dartmouth College, he gives dramatic readings of Shakespeare with symphonies nationally. Reading from A Midsummer Night’s Dream last April with Maine’s Portland Symphony Orchestra, he suddenly had trouble controlling his
produce his voice. “It’s startling to be told that the way you’ve been using your voice for fifty years is wrong,” he says. By August, he was performing at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and has been lecturing at Dartmouth since without problems.

After measuring a patient’s vocal production and function (often before and after surgery), the MEEI lab teaches proper breathing, diet to avoid reflux, and strengthening techniques for the larynx so that patients don’t run into further trouble. Several of the lab’s pathologists are professional singers, who understand the special vocal demands on fellow vocal athletes.

Zeitels and lab director Hillman collaborated on designing the lab, which meshes patient care with research. “Steve’s very supportive of voice therapy; he sees the need for objective evaluation of surgical results,” which is not universal among surgeons, says Hillman. “He’s really a partner with us.” As director of MEEI’s new Division of Laryngology, one of the few in the nation, Zeitels is co-investigator on a number of research grants from the National Institutes of Health, and principal investigator on a number of private foundation grants. He uses the lab’s database of videendoscopic recordings of vocal cords in his research. His current funded projects include developing surgical techniques to treat vocal fold scarring and collaborating on the development of engineered tissue to replace vocal cords stiffened through aging with a more elastic novel material, rejuvenating the voice. “I see the results of a lot of surgeons,” Hillman says. “He’s really gifted — the best I’ve ever seen.”

“"What he does so beautifully is teach you how to stay out of trouble."” — Livingston Taylor

MORE THAN ONE WAY...

Powerful persuasion is part of Zeitels’s approach to patient care. Bobby Sager, a Boston businessman, philanthropist, and Democratic fundraiser, spoke to Bostonia from Capetown, South Africa, where he was meeting with Nelson Mandela to establish educational and leadership programs through his family foundation. “I had been told by two other doctors three or four years ago that I had something on my vocal fold,” he says. “But I had an aversion to general anesthesia, so I procrastinated.” Sager admits he’s not easy to convince, but, he says, “Dr. Zeitels got my attention. I tried to wriggle out of it, but he nailed me.” Last summer Zeitels performed endoscopic vocal cord surgery on Sager, who now comfortably lectures twice a week on his international mission.

James Walton was diagnosed with stage-IV cancer of the tongue base three years ago. The cancer had spread to the lymph nodes in his neck; his primary care physician was not optimistic. A longtime cigar smoker at the time, Walton says, “I had the same thing that killed Babe Ruth. They all said I was tough, but Babe Ruth was tough too. Babe didn’t have Dr. Zeitels though. He saved my life — no question about it.” Zeitels removed 60 percent of Walton’s tongue and reconstructed it with local flaps that he designed. Walton no longer smokes, follows a restricted, acid-free diet, and feels at the peak of good health. He’s delighted to have his energy level at record high for his eighty-hour-a-week job as the vacuum drilling contractor for Boston’s Big Dig construction project.

THE ALLURE OF THE VOICE

The importance of being able to vocalize, Zeitels believes, is not limited to those who perform for a living. “Not only are the stakes high for opera singers,” he says, “it’s psychologically demoralizing to not have your voice functioning normally no matter who you are. Emotions are expressed in the face and voice. When people are vocally crippled, they’re very unhappy.”

An important influence on Zeitels’s educational path to vocal surgery, he says, was MED Professor M. Stuart Strong. “I’m BU all the way,” says Zeitels. “I was at BU from age seventeen to twenty-nine.” That includes teaching at MED and working at the Boston Veterans Administration Medical Center, where he is still a staff surgeon. He was a member of the first class of Trustee Scholars, a program for exceptionally promising undergraduates. In the late seventies, halfway through his six-year medical program, he had a class with Strong, then chairman of MED’s otolaryngology department.
and a pioneer in the use of laser microsurgery on the vocal cords, which was introduced at BU. Zeitels asked Strong to be his faculty advisor, and later chose a surgical specialty in otolaryngology. “Laryngology at BU was very exciting and intriguing,” Zeitels says. A major influence on his choice to become a cancer and voice surgeon, he says, was Clinical Associate Professor Charles Vaughan, who came to MED in 1957 as Strong’s first resident student and became his close collaborator in the department over many years. “The fun thing about working with Steve is that you don’t have to beat him over the head with an idea,” says Vaughan. “He takes an idea and runs with it.”

Strong has trained many of the top otolaryngologists practicing in the United States today. Among them is Gerald Healy (MED’67), chief of otolaryngology at Children’s Hospital in Boston and another Zeitels mentor. The two met when Zeitels was rotating through pediatric otolaryngology at Children’s as a BU medical student. Today he is on the consulting staff. “Steve has changed the way people look at vocal disease,” says Healy. “In consultation with him, some of his instruments are being modified for endoscopic work with children. He’s a very visionary guy — ten steps ahead of everyone else.”

Zeitels is also a laryngology and vocal surgery historian and a collector of old surgical tools. His analysis of how the field and its instruments have evolved has helped him devise improved instruments. For example, laryngoscopes, used to examine the vocal cords, generally are circles or ovals. Zeitels holds the patent for the universal modular glottiscope, a laryngoscope for which he holds the patent. He removes the tumor and sends samples from the margin area to the lab for biopsy. After surgery, there will be a vocal cord reconstruction, but if all the cancer is removed, no radiation will be needed. Zeitels says that at least 90 percent of vocal cord cancers occur in smokers.

**SPREADING THE WORD**

Zeitels’s recently published book *Atlas of Phonosurgery* displays nearly 1,000 clearly detailed color photos demonstrating surgical procedures for different laryngeal pathologies, with instruments in situ. The photos were selected from Zeitels’s database of 40,000 surgical slides taken from the side-arm of his microscope during surgery, and thus afford the surgeon’s proximal view. The book is the result of ten years’ labor. He frequently lectures around the world on vocal surgery procedures.

Last August, Strong spent a day with his protégé at MEEI, observing surgical techniques and instruments he has devised. “He’s carved out quite a niche for himself and the specialty,” says Strong fondly. “He’s an extraordinary fellow.”

Like the pilot of a spacecraft with joystick in hand, Dr. Steven Zeitels mans a suspension laryngoscope and accompanying carbon dioxide laser to remove a squamous carcinoma from a patient’s vocal fold. Viewing a magnified image of the vocal folds through a microscope, he uses a laser beam to excise the tumor in a recently enhanced and modified procedure initially designed by his BU mentors. Among his customized tools is a “BU laryngeal suspension,” which was designed at MED in 1975, and a universal modular glottiscope, a laryngoscope for which he holds the patent. He removes the tumor and sends samples from the margin area to the lab for biopsy. After surgery, there will be a vocal cord reconstruction, but if all the cancer is removed, no radiation will be needed. Zeitels says that at least 90 percent of vocal cord cancers occur in smokers.

David Brudnoy, Boston radio talk show host, film critic, and lecturer in journalism at the College of Communication, discusses the difficulty of three weeks of mandatory silence following successful removal of a vocal fold polyp by Steven Zeitels: “It awakened some enormous apprehension of uselessness … I don’t cherish not working … He got me to stop smoking my pipe, which had become my symbol since college, but it wasn’t as tough as giving up coffee. I don’t shout at hockey games anymore either.” Impressed with his surgeon’s skill (“My voice is stronger and better than ever”) and bedside manner (“He’s such a caring guy”), Brudnoy has had Zeitels as a guest on The David Brudnoy Show’s summer health series for the past two seasons. Here they chat in Brudnoy’s Back Bay recording studio.
THROWING HIS WEIGHT AROUND

Trying to win a third consecutive America East title and qualify for the NCAA championships has cut into weight thrower Bj Gary's French horn practice.

By Jack Falla

There they are, lumbering and strutting in their troglodytic massiveness beside a net cage at the south end of the Commonwealth Armory, home of Boston University indoor track and field. They are weight throwers, and they stand out like bears among the antelope and gazelles — the sprinters, hurdlers, runners, jumpers, and vaulters — gathered at the February 17 Valentine’s Meet.

The weight throw is an indoor version of the hammer, only uglier. Instead of a traditional hammer — a sixteen-pound weight attached to an arm’s length of cable — these men will throw a thirty-five-pound leather bag of buckshot attached by nylon straps to a triangular steel handle. The best of them will throw it slightly more than sixty feet. And the best of the twenty-three competitors this morning is BU senior Bj Gary (MET’01) of Dallas, Texas. That’s capital B, lower case j, and it’s short for Benjamin — his legal name — although you might not want to call him that unless you can run

Jack Falla (COM’67,’90) is an adjunct professor at the College of Communication, a former Sports Illustrated staff writer, and a regular contributor to Bostonia.
like one of those antelope. Bj gave himself the nickname in kindergarten, he says, “because I liked the sound of it and because a lot of people in Texas use initials as names.” His middle name is Thomas, but BjT sounds like some kind of sandwich, so you can call him Bj or you can call him Beej. You can also call him two-time America East weight throw champion. It’s a remarkable achievement for a man who had never thrown a weight before he came out for track halfway through his freshman year. “He didn’t even know how to hold the thing,” says track and field coach Peter Schuder. Unimpressed with the freshman’s discus throwing and Pillsbury Doughboy body, Schuder suggested that Bj spend a lot of time pumping iron. “And here, why don’t you try this?” he said, handing Bj a weight.

“First time I saw a weight I said to myself, ‘No way. That thing is just too heavy. And it’s kinda ugly,’” says Bj. “The discus and hammer are ballet. But the weight throw is like a farmer pitching hay.” Even today Bj laughs and admits that the best thing he can say about the weight is that “it’s refreshingly barbaric.”

Bj is into a little barbarism this morning. He is wearing headphones and listening to the soundtrack from the movie Gladiator. “Got to get my game face on,” he says, his bright, toothy Magic Johnson smile suddenly disappearing. His nose, with its slight bend high on the bridge, lends his game face a touch of raptorial menace.

On paper, Bj should have little trouble winning today. But that’s not what this competition, or this year, is about. Coming into the season, he set two goals for himself — to win a BU-record third league title and to qualify for the NCAA national championship for the first time. Today is not a league meet, but the records count toward the nationals. The challenge for Bj is that he has spent about a year stuck between sixty and sixty-two feet. It will probably take better than sixty-four feet to qualify for the national championship for the first time.

A qualifying-round throw of 61-5 is the day’s best and means that Bj has the meet title locked up when he walks into the cage for the last of his three throws and the last in the day’s competition. A friend, ex-roommate and former BU weight thrower Andy Starsiak (SAR’00), has stopped by to watch. “Bj’s made more progress in three years than some guys do in ten,” says Starsiak. “The key is his footwork and the speed he pulls on the ball.” But that’s also the problem. As Bj enters the seven-foot circle, squats once, grips the weight, and begins his three-turn prerelease routine, Starsiak says, “He turns so fast he sometimes gets ahead of the weight. He’s got to let the weight catch up before he releases.”

A Bj throw is an explosion of torque and power. He spins towards the front of the circle, his 6’, 230-pound body getting more compact until he looks like a human auger trying to drill himself through the floor. Coming out of his third turn, he explodes upward, releasing the weight with a grunt that sounds like something out of Jurassic Park. “UH-ARRRGHHH,” he yells as the weight flies out of his hands on a high trajectory over the forty-foot mark . . . over the fifty-foot mark . . . over the sixty-foot mark. Way over. When the weight splats to the floor, it is at 64-10. There is absolute quiet until Bj claps his hands and yells, “YES.” Then the applause rises as about twenty astonished weight throwers salute one of their own. “YES,” yells Bj again, astounded himself at the best throw of his life. He has just extended his personal record by more than two feet. “I think that gets me to nationals,” he says as he exits the cage and gets
a bear-paw slap on the shoulder from Starsiak.

Asked what made that throw so good, Bj says, “I don’t remember anything about the good throws. It’s like they just happen. But I remember everything about the bad throws and what I did wrong.”

TAKE MY WEIGHT — PLEASE

He will have much to remember the next Saturday. A lot of things go wrong at the February 24 America East Championships at BU. Standing astride Bj’s path to a third league title is his archrival, Northeastern’s Vince Tortorella, who earlier in the year had thrown sixty feet to Bj’s season-worst fifty-seven, becoming the only man to beat Bj this season.

Tortorella is about two inches taller than Bj, with a more classically proportioned body. His arms and legs are longer, if not as well-muscled. Today’s showdown matches a catapult with a mortar. Whippy leverage vs. raw power. The two have faced each other often, and they like each other. “He’s a good guy to compete against,” says Tortorella of Bj. “He wants everyone to do well.”

But Tortorella and Bj have little to say as they go through their three qualifying throws. Bj uncorks only one good throw, his first, of 62-10. Asked before the meet how he keeps from falling during his high-speed spins, Bj says, “Faith.” But his faith must waver on his second throw when he loses his balance and stumbles awkwardly out of the circle. His third throw barely clears sixty feet. Meanwhile, Tortorella is having problems of his own. One of his weights hasn’t passed inspection, and he seems dissatisfied with the one he is using.

Just before the finals, Bj is squatting near the cage, earphones in place, bouncing on his haunches to the sound of Led Zeppelin’s “In My Time of Dying” — a song that this week could prove sadly prophetic. As Bj’s head bops to the music, Tortorella walks by, reaches down, and picks up a weight from the floor near the BU thrower. Tortorella seems to like its heft. “You want to use it?” asks Bj.

“I don’t want to take your weight, man,” says Tortorella. “No, it’s OK. I’m using a different one.”

Tortorella hesitates. Then he takes the weight. “Thank you,” he says. “You’re welcome,” says Bj, who has just put himself in a position to be shot with his own bag of buckshot.

“He’s very considerate, even when things are a little emotional,” says Cynthia, who tells the story of the one and only time Bj ever raised his voice to her. “He was seventeen and he said something like, ‘Oh, Mom,’ but he said it in an angry way.” Late that night Bj knocked on his parents’ bedroom door. When Cynthia opened the door, her son handed her a long-stem rose. “I still keep that rose in a vase in my room,” she says. “It’s dry and withered. But the memory isn’t.”

It’s Bj’s chances of winning that are withering this morning. His troubles continue through the finals, where he throws a modest sixty-one feet on his first throw, then wastes his second by releasing too early, sending the weight sailing over the left foul line. Tortorella is also struggling. His best effort is a 61-5 second throw, not good enough to top the 62-10 Bj carried in from the qualifying round. “But Vince is usually very good on his last throw. It’s a mental thing,” says an apprehensive Starsiak, again on hand to support Bj, as Tortorella prepares for his final throw.

As Tortorella enters the cage, Bj is bouncing on the balls of his feet, rolling his head, twisting his body, like a boxer before a fight. In the cage, Tortorella looks perfect, turning efficiently, then releasing for what looks like his best throw of the day. The weight — Bj’s weight — sails towards the sixty-foot mark. Bj is motionless now, staring at the weight that could beat him. But while Tortorella’s throw is high, it is not very fast. Suddenly the weight decelerates, dropping like a shotgunned duck and landing just short of the sixty-foot mark.

“It’s over,” shouts Starsiak. Bj allows himself a small smile. Bj’s last throw goes over sixty-one feet, but it is of no account. He has already won his third league title.

Tortorella comes over to shake his hand. “Thanks for letting me use your weight, man,” he says.

“No problem,” says Bj, who then carries both weights into the BU team room and puts them on the floor. When he comes back to the arena, he is smiling. Two big weights are off his shoulders.
No Magnificent Seven for Men’s Hockey Terriers in Beanpot Championship

A 2001 Beanpot championship victory would have put the BU men’s hockey team in seventh heaven. Another Terrier tide, however, would have banished Boston College, Northeastern, and Harvard, the other teams in the tournament, to the seventh circle of hell. They were that sick of Boston University’s stranglehold on the title.

It was BU against the world on February 12 at the FleetCenter. To be sure, area college hockey fans, unless they wear maroon and gold, have no great love for Boston College either. But the prevailing opinion was that it was high time for a new champion. The hockey gods, along with Boston College freshman forward Ben Eaves, decided that BU’s string of six BU Beanpot trophies was enough.

BU Coach Jack Parker (SMG’68, HON.'97) pointed out at the beginning of the tournament that Boston College, ranked second in the country, was the team to beat in the Beanpot. “I was right, wasn’t I?” he says. BC is “the best team in the nation, and far and away the best team in the league.”

And the Eagles played like the tournament favorite when they stormed out to a 3-0 lead. Halfway through the second period, however, BU chose to make it a game. Just as a pressuring Boston College threatened to turn the game into a rout, BU killed off an Eagles power play, and then Frantisek Skladany (MET’04) scored at 9:22. With just 4:19 left in the period, goaltender Jason Tapp (CAS’02) fed Kenny Megowan (MET’04), who streaked down the ice, somehow regained his balance from the clutch of an Eagle defenseman’s claws, and found the net. After BU stifled another BC power play, the Terriers, down 3-2, went into the locker room plotting a way to get to Upset City.

But between periods, Eagles Captain Brian Gionta and fellow seniors gave their teammates a pep talk. The BC players responded by scoring at 2:19 into the third. Tapp had gotten a piece of the puck, but it popped up and seemed to float in slow motion over his head. A goal by Mike Pandolfo (MET’02) just 1:19 later brought the Terriers back to within one. The BU partisans in the FleetCenter crowd were whipped into a frenzy by superfan Brian Zive (CAS’94), aka Sasquatch, but BC’s Eaves put in a backhand and silenced the Terrier faithful with 7:29 left. Time became a factor, and so did the Boston College defense, which is ranked second in Hockey East.

As the clock ticked down, it was apparent that BU was about to lose a Beanpot title game to BC for the first time since 1976. The Terriers had advanced to this year’s final by defeating Northeastern, 6-4, a week earlier. “All good things must come to an end,” says Parker. BC Coach Jerry York made it clear that the victory was no piece of cake. “The champion goes down hard,” he says. “They made it difficult for us. BU really hung in there. They didn’t give you the trophy. You’ve got to earn it.”

The six-year BU Beanpot reign — which began in the Boston Garden, before the FleetCenter opened — had to end some time in the new millennium. But Captain Carl Corazzini (CAS’01) didn’t want it to happen in his final year. “We didn’t want to be the [senior] class that ended the streak,” he says.

Parker is disappointed, but he puts the loss in perspective. He recalls his team’s fourth straight Beanpot championship, in 1998 — at that time the tournament record — and thinking such dominance was a bit odd. Three years and two trophies later, it was “almost eerie,” he says. “I don’t think you’ll see that happen again, by us or anybody. I think it’s good to have another champion. I certainly didn’t want it to happen tonight, but I think people get tired of seeing BU do it every year.”

Terrier Sports on the Web

Head to www.gobu.com for comprehensive, up-to-date Terrier sports news. Our Athletics Web site has coverage of all sports at Boston University.
Say Two Prayers and Call Me in the Morning
Does Spiritual Health Equal Better Physical and Mental Health?

There may be something to losing a set of car keys, looking heavenward for help, and then remembering where they are. At least, that's what two BU professors are exploring — the effects spiritual beliefs have on improving the mind and body.

They are trying to "determine whether religious activities — participating in religious rituals or studying sacred texts or praying, for example — actually stimulate the frontal lobes to perform more optimally," says Jensine Andresen, a professor of theology who teaches in an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in science, philosophy, and religion at the School of Theology. She's collaborating with Patrick McNamara, an assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience at BU's School of Medicine, on the study, funded by the John Templeton Foundation.

The frontal lobes are the largest expanse of the human cortex and are, according to McNamara, "that part of the brain that makes us most human, allowing us to more easily develop a sense of autonomy, hope, optimism, and self-awareness." Cognitive tasks such as thinking, organizing, and conceptualizing emanate from the frontal lobes, as does mood regulation.

While studying the impact of spirituality on health is not new, exploring the link between religious practice and the frontal lobes is. Previous investigations, from nineteenth-century philosopher and psychologist Edwin Starbuck's questionnaire about people's experience of religious conversion to a new field of study by University of Pennsylvania researchers dubbed neurotheology, have virtually ignored the frontal lobes, although some have focused on the temporal lobes, which are critical for human functioning, as opposed to reasoning.

"We were most interested in spirituality and health and how spirituality might broadly improve health," says McNamara. "Maybe spiritual people have more hope because they believe in God, or more social support from attending churches and synagogues, or it gives them more tools to cope with stress. The frontal lobes seemed like the logical place to look at to find out how spirituality affects physiology."

The pair initially looked at the elderly and discovered, says McNamara, "that if you were spiritual and you had intact or good frontal lobe function, you were better off in terms of overall health than if you were nonspiritual and/or had poor frontal function. What this showed us is that stimulation of the frontal lobes by being religious may provide protection from the worst aspects of illness and might even have an impact on building up the immune system."

"If you start to understand the actual mechanisms underlying these positive correlations," adds Andresen, "it may then be possible to design clinical interventions — nonintrusive behavioral medicine interventions — that can actually help people recover more quickly, even people who may not be explicitly religious."

The pilot study, the Spirituality and Health Research Project at Boston University, is an entirely online questionnaire open to participants of all ages. But it focuses primarily on the elderly because aging has an impact on frontal lobe function, and improvement in such function in that segment of the population will be easier to measure. The researchers hope to assess 800 respondents. To assist the elderly without computer skills, an outreach component of the study invites participants to come to the School of Theology — or student researchers will make house calls.

"We have a cadre of really great student helpers who visit with the elderly, laptop in hand," says Andresen. "The students can even read the questions to participants or teach them how to manipulate the mouse in order to click on the response boxes."

For those who are still mystified about how to navigate the Web, this could be an answer to their prayers.

— Amy E. Dean

To participate in the Spirituality and Health Research Project at Boston University, log on to www.bu.edu/spirithealth/. Andresen and McNamara estimate the questionnaire, which includes 323 questions, takes approximately an hour to complete. Those without computer access can call 353-3033.
A Crack in a Cosmic Theory
BU Physicists Challenge an Established Model of the Universe

Subatomic particles don’t usually create much of a stir, but new findings about one type, called muons, are shaking up the physics world. That’s because new measurements of the muon by a team of scientists led by BU and Yale researchers apparently poke a hole in a long-dominant framework for understanding the universe.

The theory in question, known as the Standard Model of Particle Physics, has for the past thirty years been used to explain how the building blocks of matter — such as protons, electrons, and neutrons — are arranged and to describe the forces by which they interact. The Standard Model underlies many theories about how the cosmos was formed and what holds matter together. But new results from an experiment started at BU by CAS Professor Larry Sulak, chairman of the physics department, in 1984 and carried out at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island appear to contradict assumptions in this model for the first time.

Researchers from BU and ten other institutions in the United States, Russia, Japan, and Germany used the world’s largest circular superconducting magnet, built largely at BU, to observe the activity of muons, a class of heavy electrons. The muon behaves like a tiny permanent magnet, similar to the permanent magnet in a compass needle, explains CAS Physics Professor James Miller, who leads the analysis team for the experiment.

The scientists measured the strength of the muon’s magnetic power, called the magnetic moment, by placing it in an external magnetic field and watching how fast it turned. Unlike the compass needle, the muon also spins on its own axis, like a spinning top. Calculating the effects of the strong, weak, and electromagnetic forces on spin rate as the muon moved through a magnetic field, the group came up with a measurement that deviates significantly from that predicted by the Standard Model.

“The muon is unique in that it is possible both to measure and to predict its magnetic moment with great accuracy using the Standard Model,” Miller says. “The model itself seems to explain data from virtually all experiments to date, but it is in many ways an incomplete theory. Most physicists think that it is a stepping-stone to a more fundamental theory, and most major experiments in high-energy physics are trying to find cracks in the model.”

The scientists caution that while their initial finding has a 99 percent chance of being accurate, it would be premature to call it a discovery. The international team of scientists and engineers, who started collecting data in 1997, still has a full year’s worth of measurements to analyze. “If our new number agrees with our current number, then our finding will be at the discovery level,” says Lee Roberts, a CAS physics professor, who is cospokesman for the experiment.

“This work could open up a whole new world of exploration for physicists,” he adds. For example, supersymmetry, a theory that predicts a new family of subatomic particles, could also benefit from the experiment. “They are related to the particles we know, but nobody’s ever seen them,” he continues. “Scientists have predicted that there is missing mass in the universe that we can’t see, and some of that so-called dark matter could be these particles.” Results of the Brookhaven study, he says, could be the first glimmer of evidence that such particles exist.

The new finding about muons represents the second time in three years that BU scientists have challenged conventional theories of particle physics. In 1998, CAS physicists played a major role in the pathbreaking discovery that a particle known as a neutrino, which was once assumed to be massless, indeed has the property of mass. — Hope Green
Orange Juice and Tea
MED Professor Looks into Their Connection with Heart Disease

When Joseph Vita reports his research findings at conferences, it’s not just scientists who are listening. Last November, the School of Medicine professor reported that tea seemed to have a beneficial effect for nitric oxide production in blood vessels; later that week USA Today was reporting the news that “drinking black tea promotes healthy arteries.”

Interest in the research is understandable, even if the prescription is preliminary. “We were very careful not to recommend that people drink tea to avoid heart attacks,” Vita says. “We haven’t done a study that says that if you drink tea, you’re going to have fewer heart attacks.” The same could be said for his work showing that vitamin C also appears to have beneficial effects for clogged arteries.

Rather than advising us about our diets, Vita says, what he’s really interested in is the basic science behind the functioning of blood vessels, especially the arteries that get clogged, leading to heart attacks and strokes. In particular, he’s focusing on endothelial cells, which line the inside of blood vessels. “It turns out that abnormalities of endothelial cells are very important in the development of atherosclerosis, commonly known as hardening of the arteries,” he says. One way endothelial cells regulate blood-vessel function and stave off the development of atherosclerosis is by producing nitric oxide, which regulates how blood vessels work. With atherosclerosis, the ability of the endothelium to produce nitric oxide is lost.

“I’ve had some success,” says Vita. “Every cell in the body produces free radicals, which cause damage to the tissue. And every cell in the body has a set of antioxidant defense mechanisms that protect against the adverse effects of free radicals.”

Vita and his colleagues are focusing on how the balance between antioxidants and oxidants — or free radicals — affects the ability of the endothelial cells to produce nitric oxide. One way the researchers do this is by testing the effects of known antioxidants such as vitamin C directly on cells in the lab, as well as in animals and humans.

Vita has found that vitamin C can improve nitric oxide production, but more studies are needed to decipher how it works. And only then, Vita says, would there be a basis for a governmental agency to fund a large, long-term study to determine if vitamin C intake can reduce risk of heart attacks. (No drug company, after all, would shell out the big bucks necessary for a study on such a cheap and readily available treatment.)

In the meantime, people ask Vita if they should be drinking tea and popping vitamin C tablets. Wait for an answer, he tells them; the results so far are just preliminary. — Taylor McNeil
A New Twist

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is a powerful technology that allows researchers to rapidly copy a target area on the DNA double helix many times over, providing enough material to identify individuals from minute amounts of tissue or blood, to diagnose genetic diseases, and to research evolution. Now Charles Cantor, a College of Engineering professor, and his colleagues have devised a strategy that enables the amplification of multiple DNA targets with a simplified process that decreases costs and makes the process more amenable to automation.

Traditional polymerase chain reaction uses two primers, synthetic DNA fragments that correspond to those that flank the target area. The new variant uses a single primer that is specific to the target area and another primer that is common for all targets. The common primer corresponds to adapters attached to both ends of each DNA fragment. Because the common primer is rich in two of DNA's bases, guanine and cytosine, resulting in an especially strong base pair, the DNA fragments form hairpin structures, with the target DNA forming a loop. This means that only half as many primers need to be engineered to amplify multiple targets on a strand of DNA.

The new process not only holds the promise of more reliable amplification of multiple segments of DNA at the same time, it also is highly specific because it occurs within narrower temperature constraints than traditional PCR. In addition, Cantor and his colleagues believe their new form of multiplex PCR may prove effective in amplifying single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNP), genomic areas considered to be associated with inheritable diseases. — JS
Exemplary Citizens

At a White House ceremony on January 8, Charles DeLisi, BU’s Arthur G. B. Metcalf Professor of Science and Engineering, and Marion Wiesel (Hon. ’90), author and translator, received the Presidential Citizens Medal. In making the presentations, President Bill Clinton called the award “a symbol of our gratitude as a people for those who have performed exemplary deeds of service to others.” Also among the twenty-eight honored were Archibald Cox, the Watergate special prosecutor, who was a visiting professor at the School of Law from 1984 to 1996, and Hank Aaron, Muhammad Ali, and Elizabeth Taylor, recognized for philanthropic leadership.

As director of the U.S. Department of Energy’s health and environmental research programs in the mid-eighties, DeLisi conceived of government research to sequence the human genome and secured federal funding of the Human Genome Project, launched in 1990. “Charles DeLisi’s imagination and determination helped to ignite the revolution in sequencing that would ultimately unravel the code of human life itself,” Clinton said at the ceremony. “Thanks to Charles DeLisi’s vision and leadership, in the year 2000 we announced the complete sequencing of the human genome. . . . At once scientist, entrepreneur, and teacher, Charles DeLisi is also, in the truest sense, a humanitarian, a man whose life work has been life itself.”

DeLisi was dean of the College of Engineering from 1990 to 2000, when he became dean emeritus and director of the college’s Bioinformatics Program.

Wiesel was honored for her “mission of hope against hate, of life against death, of good over evil,” Clinton said in presenting her medal. Six years old in 1938 when the Nazis occupied her native Vienna, she spent several years fleeing the Nazis with her mother. “Out of that searing experience,” Clinton continued, she “summoned the courage to commit her life to teaching others, especially children, about the human cost of hatred, intolerance, and racism.”

Wiesel wrote Children of the Night, a documentary film about children murdered in the Holocaust, edited To Give Them Light, a collection of photographs by Roman Vishniac of Jewish life in eastern Europe just before the war, and translated several books by her husband, Elie Wiesel (Hon. ’74), BU’s Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities. The Wiesel Foundation, established by the couple with money from Elie Wiesel’s 1986 Nobel Peace Prize, teaches children to take responsibility to prevent the suffering of others.
Focus on the Web

New sites on the Boston University Web this spring include the first Web pages produced by the Office of the President and by the College of Arts and Sciences.

Office of the President
www.bu.edu/president/
This site presents a biography of Boston University’s eighth president, Jon Westling, along with major news announcements, an audiovisual archive of Westling’s speeches, and a history of the University’s previous presidents.

College of Arts and Sciences
www.bu.edu/cas/
Since the liberal arts are fundamental to a BU undergraduate education, students and alumni of other BU schools may be interested in the College of Arts and Sciences site. For alumni it surveys the diverse programs and courses added in recent decades; for students it provides most information needed to select and register for courses, including contacts for premed, pre-law, and other faculty advising programs.

Pappas Law Library
www.bu.edu/lawlibrary/
Part of the Pappas Law Library is at the Law Tower, the other part is at 771 Commonwealth Avenue. The library’s Web site brings it all together, listing hours of operation and library services, along with descriptions and jacket covers of recent acquisitions.

Alumni Link
www.bu.edu/alumni/link/
The growing suite of personalized services for Boston University alumni is now called the Alumni Link. This authenticated area of the Alumni Web (www.bu.edu/alumni/) is already available to alumni from the 1990s. Alumni from the 1980s will be eligible by June, with further expansion to continue as quickly as possible. E-mail Forwarding for Life (EFL) services paved the way for the Alumni Link, which will soon include an Online Alumni Directory and other interactive tools. Updated information is available at www.bu.edu/alumni/whatsnew/.

Applying Research on Children’s Health

The School of Public Health enhanced its prominence worldwide recently by hiring several scientists involved in the Applied Research on Child Health (ARCH) Project, an international research effort formerly based at Harvard University’s Institute for International Development.

ARCH, which currently supports more than fifty public health studies in fourteen countries, now is based at SPH’s international health department. Program workers collaborate with social and biomedical scientists in underdeveloped nations on research projects aimed at reducing childhood mortality and morbidity.

The ARCH team is led by Jonathon Simon, an SPH associate professor of international health, director of BU’s Center for International Health, and ARCH’s principal investigator, and Donald M. Thea, an SPH professor of international health and the project’s scientific director. They and seven colleagues, all formerly of Harvard, as well as support staff, assumed active roles at SPH on February 1.

“The arrival of Doctors Simon and Thea and their colleagues increases the University’s visibility as a leader in international health and complements the work of the international health department at the School of Public Health,” says BU President Jon Westling. “Students will be the true beneficiaries of this renowned group.”

The ARCH program offers research grants, training, and technical assistance to social and biomedical scientists in developing countries to “stimulate and support applied research on priority child health issues,” such as acute respiratory infections, diarrheal disease, malaria, malnutrition, and micronutrient deficiency, according to its literature. Research funded by ARCH has led to the publication of more than 200 articles and several books.

— David J. Craig

The Boston University Inner Strength Gospel Choir’s annual tour took choir members to the Washington, D.C., area in February for concerts in high schools, churches, and retirement homes. They perform here at Ballou Senior High School in Washington. “My expectations that we would grow closer and have a chance to get to know one another better were fulfilled,” says choir president Martenz Belizaire (SED’01). “I also wanted us to see and understand what it means to minister through song away from the busyness of life on campus, while getting closer to God.” — Desair Brown (COM’01)
TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH
BOSTON UNIVERSITY

China: The Ancient Silk Road
May 5–May 23, 2001
Professor Joseph Fewsmith leads this trip along the old Silk Road with stops including Beijing, Urumqi, Xinjiang, Kashgar, and Xian.

The Islands of the Gods: Greece
May 27–June 4, 2001
A cruise of the Aegean aboard the small yacht Callisto with Professor Peter Diamandopoulos, special assistant to the president.

Provincial French Countryside
June 14–21, 2001

Trans-Canada by Rail
July 2–12, 2001
A cross-Canada journey from Toronto to Vancouver aboard luxury trains.

Alumni Campus Abroad: Ennis, Ireland
September 26–October 4, 2001
Based in the town of Ennis in County Clare, with BU host Elizabeth Shannon.

Great Lakes Odyssey
September 29–October 6, 2001
A seven-day cruise aboard the MV Columbus.

Australia and New Zealand
October 2–23, 2001
Extensions available to Australia’s outback and Fiji.

The Culture, Cuisine, and Countryside of Tuscany
October 5–14, 2001
Tuscany and its capital, Florence, and the surrounding countryside.

The Boston University Polar Bear Watch
October 24–30, 2001
Polar bears in their habitat, near the small grain port of Churchill on Canada’s Hudson Bay with Christopher Reaske, vice president for development and alumni relations.

We welcome your inquiries about these itineraries and your suggestions for future destinations. Please contact Meg Goldberg by phone, 800/800-3466, or e-mail, alumtrav@bu.edu. Or write to: Meg Goldberg, Alumni Travel Program, Boston University, 599 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215.
Nobelist Amartya Sen Joins BU as Visiting Professor

Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen will join BU as the first scholar to hold the visiting professorship in the Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future. During the 2001-02 academic year, Sen will deliver a lecture series entitled The Future of Identity, which will explore questions arising from the ways people define themselves in terms of group membership.

"Professor Sen is the outstanding authority on the nature of economic development," says President Jon Westling. "As the first Frederick S. Pardee Visiting Professor, he will direct our attention to the issues of growth, freedom, and happiness that will shape human society in the century ahead of us and beyond."

Sen won the 1998 Nobel Prize for economics for his work in welfare economics. "Sen is a broad-based thinker with an enormous wealth of information to share," says David Fromkin, Frederick S. Pardee Professor and the center's director. "He will address the very large topics the center was formed to explore."

The Pardee Center, established in 2000 with a $5 million gift from real estate entrepreneur Frederick S. Pardee (SMG'54, GSM'54), brings together leading world thinkers from various disciplines to consider forces that will shape the global community in the next 35 to 200 years.

"Dr. Sen's incredible research and policy-oriented career directed toward alleviating poverty and his pioneering work in creating the Human Development Index make him eminently qualified to serve as the center's first distinguished visiting professor," says Pardee. "It is genuinely thrilling to learn he has agreed, through his lecture series, to help build the center's research program."

Born in Santiniketan, India, in 1933, Sen has been a professor in India, the United Kingdom, and the United States. He is the Lamont University Professor Emeritus at Harvard. In 1998, he became Master of Trinity College at Cambridge. Sen has served as president of the Econometric Society, the Indian Economic Association, the American Economic Association, and the International Economic Association.

President Jon Westling donned a Boston Breakers jacket to welcome the new women's professional soccer team to Nickerson Field at a press conference on January 12. The Breakers, part of the Women's United Soccer Association, will play their home games at Nickerson this season, beginning May 5 and extending through the summer.

Mozart's Nozze di Figaro was the winter offering of the SFA Opera Programs and Chamber Orchestra. The production was staged at the Boston University Theatre using alternating casts. Here, David Giuliano (Conte Almaviva) censors Sandra Piques Eddy (Cherubino). In the background are Aaron Sheya, David Crawford, and Saundra DeAthos.

Come Experience the Magic . . .

The Berkshire Hills are the setting, the music of the Boston Symphony Orchestra is the inspiration for the Adult Music Seminars at Tanglewood

Study works on the Boston Symphony Orchestra's current program, converse with professional musicians, and attend the orchestra's weekend concerts.

Weekend sessions in July and August and one week-long session, July 16-20.

For further information and a brochure, please contact Boston University Tanglewood Institute, School for the Arts, 855 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215 or call 617/353-3386 or 800/643-4796.
The Internet Is the Message

McLuhan Resonates with COM Professor

When media analyst and pop culture guru Marshall McLuhan declared in the 1960s that the medium is the message, he might have been describing his penchant for self-promotion as well as technology’s power to transform society. His writings, after all, are notoriously zealous and poorly researched, according to Tobie Berkovitz, a COM associate professor of mass communication.

But, Berkovitz says, history has proven McLuhan prescient. Concepts he articulated nearly forty years ago — such as the global village and hybrid technologies — help explain how the Internet is reshaping everything from economies to interpersonal relationships to political ideologies. One of McLuhan’s central theses is that people are “almost totally unaware” of the most profound effects of technology and the media, Berkovitz says. “He thought we were numbed by technology because it’s all around us and is constantly working on us.”

The Internet, of course, has had an impact on society in ways that are impossible not to recognize. Today, e-mail allows people from different parts of the world to form virtual communities online. People can shop without leaving home, and privacy and intellectual property issues raised by the Internet appear in newspapers every day.

The Internet will bring about even more powerful and widespread changes that are difficult for most people to comprehend, according to Berkovitz. McLuhan predicted the emergence of the global village, which “essentially means that the world is going to become one village and that time and space will begin to disappear,” Berkovitz says. “One impact of electronic communication, of course, is that everything seems to happen at once. In politics, for instance, as soon as a story breaks, it’s live on cable or on the wire. The traditional Habermasian public sphere is really being transformed.”

Berkovitz predicts that dramatic social changes also will occur when a personality emerges who can communicate via the Internet as masterfully as Franklin Delano Roosevelt or Adolf Hitler did through radio, and Ronald Reagan through television.

“We have not yet seen the first star of the Internet,” he says. “I think it’s just a matter of time until we do. Then it will be interesting to see how that affects politics, religion, and our ideological beliefs.”

So, can ordinary people shape the way technologies such as the Internet affect their lives? McLuhan, who died in 1980 and for the bulk of his career was a professor at the University of Toronto, didn’t think so.

“Oh of course, McLuhan did have a real habit of overstating his case,” continues Berkovitz. “I don’t think it’s necessarily important whether McLuhan was right or wrong, but that he provided us with a framework for trying to understand about the Internet, and about technology and the media.” — DJC

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Contact any of the BUA executive board members c/o Boston University Alumni, 599 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215.
The magic is in the mix. Luo Yan possesses a blend of dramatic talent, business savvy, and determination that makes her an emerging force in Chinese-American filmmaking. Her new production, Pavilion of Women, based on Nobel Prize winner Pearl S. Buck's 1946 novel (not published in China until 1994), is a pathbreaker on several fronts. It is the first film for both American and Chinese audiences to be coproduced by major Hollywood and Chinese studios, the first film by a major Hollywood studio to have a Chinese producer-writer, Luo's first venture as a film producer and screenwriter, and her acting debut in an English-language film. A cross-cultural romantic epic, Pavilion is scheduled for spring release in U.S. theaters after an April opening in mainland China, with dialogue dubbed in Chinese.

Her extensive business experience, unusual for an actress, has smoothed her transition to producer. Luo (SFA'90) owns and runs three companies: Moonstone International, an L.A. merchandising company she has operated for nearly a decade, and two film distribution companies, Silver Dreams Productions, in L.A., and Shanghai Moonstone International Entertainment, in China. In shepherding Pavilion through production, from assembling the film package for the studios, with business plan, market research, and script, to compiling the weekly financial reports required for the production loan, she has found her business experience invaluable.

But she's an actress first, she says. Buck's presentation of life in prerevolutionary China reminded her of her early childhood in Shanghai. Captivated, she persuaded the Buck family foundation to sell her an option on the book's film rights because she wanted, above all, to act in it. Looking toward release in both China and the United States, she wrote a script with her friend Paul Collins that would pass China's film censorship and contracted with Universal International Studios to distribute the film in the United States. Using contacts she has kept up in China, she shot the film on location in Suzhou and Zhouzhuang with a multinational cast and crew for about a fifth of what it would have cost here.

The inconveniences of shooting in China — delays when a caretaker took time to have tea before unlocking a studio door, when the fire engine needed as a precaution during a fire scene didn't show up for hours, and when days of rain and flooding forced temporary relocation — were outweighed by access to spectacular scenery in ancient walled gardens.

Luo Yan plays Madame Wu, the self-possessed heroine of Pavilion of Women, who seeks a more spiritual and independent life beyond her role as a traditional Chinese wife.
and other locales normally unavailable to filmmakers.

**Take a Second Wife — Please**

Luo plays Madame Wu, a traditional upper-class Chinese wife who is trying to take control of her life in what in the late 1930s is still a feudal society. At her fortieth birthday celebration, she shocks guests by presenting her husband with a concubine to take over as a second wife, because, she says, “He deserves someone younger.” In reality, she is freeing herself for intellectual and spiritual pursuits. From within and without, the family’s traditions are being challenged. Outside the protected, luxurious family compound, the beginnings of China’s Revolution are brewing, tensions between Japan and China are building, and World War II is imminent in Europe.

Willem Dafoe costars as Father André, an American missionary doctor with whom Madame Wu eventually falls in love. “In writing the script, in my imagination the priest actor had to be intellectual, kind of spiritual-looking,” says Luo. “Willem Dafoe has always impressed me as a fine actor — serious and with good work ethics.” Known especially for his roles in *The English Patient*, *The Last Temptation of Christ*, and *Platoon*, for which he received an Oscar nomination, Dafoe has shot several films in Asia, experience that Luo valued. “Shooting in China is different from shooting in L.A. or elsewhere in the United States,” she says. “You don’t have some of the physical amenities; you don’t get your own trailer.”

Luo, who was raised in Shanghai by her grandparents, knows about lack of amenities from growing up during the Cultural Revolution. Her grandfather, who had been a high-level banker, was held in concentration camps for lengthy periods and died when she was barely in her teens. Luo became head of the household, left to care for her sick grandmother, and at sixteen was sent by the government to work three shifts a day in a textile factory. Her spirit unbroken, she joined the theater group at the East Shanghai Workers Culture Club and secretly continued her education.

In 1977 restrictions on education lessened, and she entered the prestigious Shanghai Drama Institute, one of only 20 admitted out of 4,800 applicants. She became a popular stage and film actress, with successes including *The Girl in Red* (1985), for which she was nominated as Best Supporting Actress in the Hundred Flower Awards, the Chinese equivalent of the Academy Awards. Wishing to further develop as an actress, she came to the United States in 1986 with minimal command of English, and because of Chinese restrictions, only $60. When she applied to the graduate program at SFA’s theatre arts division, Associate Professor Jim Spruill permitted her to audition in Chinese — the “Romeo, Romeo” monologue from *Romeo and Juliet*. Along with her film clips, her performance won her a dean’s scholarship, for which she remains most grateful.

She recalls encouragement and a surprising suggestion from Tim Nickerson, former theatre arts division associate director: “I directed a show, *Hello Out There*, and Professor Nickerson said, ‘The show’s very beautiful, clear and simple. I think you should consider producing or directing.’” Luo was somewhat disappointed because at the time she had acting foremost in mind. “He was very sure,” she says. “Then I didn’t know what a producer did. Now I am a professional producer.”

Luo’s Madame Wu is attracted to Willem Dafoe’s Father André in *Pavilion of Women*, based on the Pearl S. Buck novel.
1930s–1960s

Martha Bartlett (PAL'39) of Jamaica Plain, Mass., was honored in November at the 75th Anniversary Gala of the Wang Center for the Performing Arts in Boston for being one of the early patrons of the Metropolitan Theatre, the forerunner of the Music Hall in the 1970s.

Ron Mosley (CAS'42, STH'44, '49) of Petite Riviere Bridge, Nova Scotia, and his wife, Eloise, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in March. Ron has written a weekly column for Lighthouse Publishing for 25 years. E-mail him at ronmosley@auracom.com.

Sumner Freedman (COM'49) of Boynton Beach, Fla., writes that he "never sees 1949 class notes in Bostonia." Sumner had a Boston advertising agency and taught as an adjunct professor at Boston College, Northeastern University, Emerson College, and Lasell College for Women. He has lived in Boynton Beach for 13 years, while teaching at Palm Beach Community College. He would love to hear from classmates at sum234@cs.com.

Because our space is limited, class notes are edited to include as many as possible. Notes should be sent to Class Notes, Boston University, 599 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215, or submit a note on the Web at www.bu.edu/alumni/classnotes. We also offer to forward letters; send them, along with identifying information on the alum, to Alumni Records at the address above.

Bruce Herman (SFA'77, '79), Pietà, oil on linen, 60" x 48", 1999. The painting is featured in Anno Domicilis Jésus Through the Centuries, a show at the Pelikan Provincial Museum of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Three years ago, Bruce's home and studio were struck by lightning and burned down, destroying nearly all his artwork. Since then he has rebuilt both and begun a new series of paintings, collectively entitled Building in Ruins. He has a solo exhibition by that name scheduled for September 2001 at Messiah College in Pennsylvania.

* Irving Finn (COM'51) of Brookline, Mass., has been reelected president of the Brookline Retired Men's Club for 2001. He is also a member of the Brookline Council on Aging and the new Brookline Senior Center.

Allan Curhan (CAS'52, DGE'50) of Newton, Mass., joined the Boston law firm of Burns & Levinson, concentrating on corporate, automotive, and franchising law.

Laurence Sharp (CAS'54) of Mesa, Ariz., is retired after a 45-year career in the sales and marketing of clinical instrumentation and diagnostic prod-
Wake Up Call

John Williams was a nose tackle during his days on the Terrier football squad in the late 1960s, but now he’s more like a quarterback than a lineman. President and CEO of Physiometrix, a medical devices company, Williams (SED’70) strides quickly through the hallways of his company on a midwinter Monday morning, checking in on software developers, his marketing team, and workers assembling the company’s latest product, a consciousness-monitoring device used by anesthesiologists. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration gave it final approval last summer, and the company is swinging into action to promote it worldwide, led by Williams.

It’s a long way from his days at BU, when he would play the football season and after that ended, a couple of weeks into ice hockey season, lace up and play for Coach Jack Kelley. “At the time, I was really unclear of what career I should have,” he says. But an interest in business led him to graduate school for industrial psychology degree, and straight out of grad school he went to work for Johnson & Johnson, an industrial conglomerate, starting in sales. Later he moved to Medtronic, a large medical devices company.

Then I got my first taste of venture capital,” he says. It must have agreed with him, because he signed on with a startup right away. “That was my first opportunity to get a hands-on feel for what works and what doesn’t work.” It came with a downside, though. “You don’t have as many opportunities to make a mistake when you’re working with someone else’s money.”

After running surgical laser and medical ultrasound businesses, he got a call in 1993 from a group that had developed “some fairly unique sensor technology.” That group turned out to be Physiometrix, and Williams was hired as president and CEO. The initial technology was an adhesive gel able to capture the faint electric signals given off by the brain. Williams saw a way to extend that technology to help anesthesiologists determine the exact state of their patients’ consciousness.

“Putting people to sleep during the administration of general anesthesia is an imprecise science,” he explains. “Back then there wasn’t a lot of expertise about how the brain responds to the different drugs used in general anesthesia, so I thought we could use our technology to gather signals from the brain and process them in a very precise way. By using a very complex algorithm we could then give anesthesiologists a way to clearly watch loss of consciousness occur.”

He assembled a team to figure out how to capture and convert EEG information and present it on a single screen for anesthesiologists to work with. The resulting product, the PSA 4000, shows in bright colors on a small screen “the precise location of the patient’s state, regardless of body weight, size, or gender.”

Another company already has a “consciousness monitor” on the market, but Williams touts his as the superior model. He points to recent contracts with Boston Medical Center, which will be using the device in some operating rooms, and an agreement for product distribution by Baxter Healthcare, a large medical supplier, as evidence of his product’s strengths.

Some industry analysts like the Physiometrix story, and have given buy recommendations to the company’s stock. But with tightening hospital budgets and tough competition, Williams has his hands full trying to win widespread acceptance of the new product. Maybe having been a nose tackle will come in handy after all. — Taylor McNeil
E-mail him at rwebb@coe.ufl.edu.

Harold Wilson (CAS'64) of Voorheesville, N.Y., retired from his position as a social studies and math teacher at the Berne-Knox-Westerlo Central High School in Berne, N.Y., after 34 years. He hopes to spend more time with his wife, Claire, and daughter Sarah, a high school freshman.

*Carl Johnson, Jr. (CAS'66) of Los Angeles, Calif., received his medical degree from UCLA and now directs the medical laboratory at a local hospital and works with dermatologists and plastic surgeons in diagnosing and removing skin cancers, "an epidemic out here in California." He also owns and directs two additional labs. Carl is married and has two daughters, 15 and 18 years old. E-mail him at SloCarl@thegrid.net.

*Skip Sesling (COM'66) of Newton, Mass., was named director of public relations and development at Mary Immaculate Health-Care Services of Lawrence, Mass. Skip teaches writing at COM. He has worked for several local newspapers and public relations agencies, including his own public relations company.

Pamela L. Kinsley (SED'68) of Goleta, Calif., is completing her 30th year of teaching at Harding Elementary School in Santa Barbara. She taught in Los Angeles city schools from 1968 to 1970. She has been a California delegate to the annual National Education Association Convention for many years. E-mail her at pamsbta@aol.com.

Brendan Kirby (CAS'68) of Revere, Mass., was recently installed into the Revere Rotary Club.

Brendan Lynch (SMG'68) of Scituate, Mass., was elected treasurer and tax collector of the town of Scituate this year. Previously he was with FleetBoston for 40 years as both an officer of the bank and as a vice president.

Alice J. Weiss Hoffman (SED'69) of New York, N.Y., is the director of licensing and product development for the Museum of American Folk Art in New York. She wrote Indian Clubs, published by Harry N. Abrams. Alice has worked in several fields since graduating, including finance, design, teaching, and law. She looks forward to hearing from classmates who are folk art collectors. E-mail her at ahoffman@folkartmuseum.org.

1970s

*Alison Devine Nordstrom (CAS'71, DGE'69) of Daytona Beach, Fla., received a Ph.D. in cultural and visual studies from the College of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is director and senior curator of the Southeast Museum of Photography in Daytona Beach, Fla., and a recent recipient of the Ansel Adams Fellowship at the University of Arizona. E-mail Alison at anordstrom@earthlink.net.

John Kittredge (CAS'72) of Tucson, Ariz., is chief medical officer for Indian Health Service in the Tucson area, where he has worked for 21 years.

Barbara Lotker Lubliner (SFA'72) of New York, N.Y., exhibited work in Figure/Disfigure at the University of Rhode Island January 25 to March 11. More information is available at www.uri.edu/artsci/art/gallery/Pages/main.html#FIGURE.

Clement Fugh (STH'73) of Brentwood, Tenn., is general secretary and chief information officer of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He previously served as pastor of the Greater Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Nashville for 10 years.

Mary Fusco Krupp (SFA'73) of Burlington Flats, N.Y., recently started teaching classes in advanced art and photography at Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton School in Gilbertsville, N.Y.

*Rita Losee (SED'73, SAR'91) of Boxford, Mass., last year hiked the 2,167-mile-long Appalachian Trail, leaving Springer Mountain, Ga., on March 5 and reaching Mount Katahdin, Maine, on August 29. Her new Internet learning program, "Beyond Stress Management: Creating Harmony and Balance in an Uptight, Downbeat, Stressed-Out World," is available online.

All those letters, all those schools

Here's a handy list of schools and colleges, with most earlier names indented.

CAS – College of Arts and Sciences
CLA – College of Liberal Arts
CGS – College of General Studies
CBS – College of Basic Studies
COM – College of Communication
SPC – School of Public Communication
SPRC – School of Public Relations and Communications
DGE – General Education (now closed)
CGE – College of General Education
GC – General College
ENG – College of Engineering
CIIT – College of Industrial Technology
GRS – Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
GSM – Graduate School of Management
LAW – School of Law
MED – School of Medicine
MET – Metropolitan College
PAL – College of Practical Arts and Letters (now closed)
SAR – Sargent College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
SDM – School of Dental Medicine
SGD – School of Graduate Dentistry
SED – School of Education
SFA – School for the Arts
SFAA – School of Fine and Applied Arts
SHA – School of Hospitality Administration (in MET)
SMG – School of Management
CBA – College of Business Administration
SON – School of Nursing (now closed)
SPH – School of Public Health
SRE – School of Religious Education (now closed)
SSW – School of Social Work
STH – School of Theology
UNI – The University Professors

* Member of a Reunion 2001 class
at www.neseminars.com. E-mail her at ritalosce@excelonline.com.

William Harding Sandbach (CAS’73) of Rehoboth, Mass., received his J.D. from the Southern New England School of Law, and now has a practice concentrating in elder law. His wife, Nancy Lena Sandbach (SAR’86), is director of nutrition marketing for the New England Dairy Promotion Board in Boston. E-mail William at SandbachLaw@aol.com.

Anne Wallace (LAW’73) of McLean, Va., joined the law firm of Alston & Bird in Washington, D.C. Her work deals with privacy strategy and risk management. Previously she was leader of KPMG Consulting’s privacy practice. E-mail Anne at awallace@alston.com.


Hope Kirsch Kluger (SED’75) of Scottsdale, Ariz., is a lawyer with the firm Broening, Oberg, Woods, Wilson & Cass. She lives with her husband and stepdaughter. E-mail her at hnk@bowwc.com.

Douglas M. Kolodny (CAS’75, CGS’72) of Baltimore, Md., recently celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary. He is director of business development for a Baltimore-based technology company. Douglas earned his Ph.D. in biological science from the University of Maryland. He also completed his M.B.A. at Johns Hopkins University, where he received the Edward J. Stegman Memorial Award for excellence in graduate business studies. E-mail him at dmkk@bowwc.com.

Polly Williams Zarella (CAS’75) of West Hartford, Conn., recently wrote and self-published Broken Beads, the true story of Concordia Gregoireff, whose family was close to the Romanovs. The book is available for $25 from Houndstooth Press, P.O. Box 4099, Hartford, CT 06147. Contact Polly at zharp@home.net.

*Ellen Allard (SFA’76) of Worcester, Mass., performs children’s music with her husband Peter. Since 1994, they have released five recordings for children and two teacher manuals. The recordings have received four national awards. Their Web site is www.PeterandEllen.com. E-mail Ellen at elen@peterandellen.com.

*Mark Hathorne (STH’76) of Can­nock, U.K., was ordained a Church of England priest by the Bishop of Wolverhampton on October 1. He serves as curate of the Holy Trinity Church in Short Heath, Willenhall, England. E-mail Mark at m.s.hathorne@virgin.net.

*Mary King (COM’76) of Swampscott, Mass., is a workshop leader and trainer for the Artists Project of the Young at Arts program at the Wang Center for the Performing Arts. E-mail her at maryvalentine@earthlink.net.

Lawrence Adams (CAS’77) of Boca Raton, Fla., was recognized by Miami Metro magazine as one of the best doctors in the field of pediatric gastroenterology in South Florida. E-mail him at pgk55@earthlink.net.

Victor E. DeRubes (COM’78) of Weymouth, Mass., works as a news editor for The Patriot Ledger in Quincy, Mass. He is the music director at the Congregational Church in East Weymouth, Mass. Victor lives with his wife, Diane, and children, Paul, 9, and twins Emma and Sarah, 7. He can be reached at vderubes@yahoo.com.

Beth Gandelman (SED’78, COM’81) of Newburyport, Mass., is director of community relations and development for Health Quarters, a nonprofit health organization in Beverly, Mass.

Dan Harary (COM’78) of Valley Village, Calif., is vice president of the public relations group at Pittard Sullivan, an entertainment marketing communications company. He is also president and founder of Asbury Communications.

Scott Biron (SED’79) of Norfolk, Mass., is a certified tennis teacher and active national speaker at afterschool tennis programs. He is a member of the U.S. Tennis New England Sports Science Committee and a national trainer for the U.S. Tennis Association. He is married, with two daughters. E-mail Scott at biron@massed.net.

Sirarpi Heghinnian-Walzer (ENG’79, ’82) of Lexington, Mass., had an exhibition, Pentimento, last fall at the Depot Square Gallery in Lexington. E-mail her at sirarp@aol.com.

Daniel Shafrner (CGS’79) of New London, Conn., and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of Noah Zane, a.k.a. Yonah Baruch, on November 29 at Yale—New Haven Hospital. Daniel writes, “I always wanted to go to Yale.” Daniel can be reached at shafrner@www.com.

1980s

Jason Altchek (COM’80) of Henderson, Nev., has been stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nev., since his year-long stint at the Osan Air Force Base in Korea. “I am still flying F-16s in the Air Force at Red Flag, and my squadron will be featured on the History Channel in March 2001,” he writes. E-mail him at jason.altchek@nellis.af.mil.

Michael David (SFA’80) of Boston, Mass., exhibited works in the 2000 Review at the Pepper Gallery in Boston. The show also featured Ben Frank Moss (SFA’63) and SFA Associate Professor Harold Reddicliffe.

Carol Keller (SEA’80) of Easthampton, Mass., received the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship and a summer residency in Italy. She returned with a collection of drawings that were exhibited at the Nielsen Gallery in Boston from January 20 to February 24. She is currently an assistant professor at SFA.

Tom Marian (COM’80) of Rye Brook, N.Y., is director of global communications at the law firm of Clifford, Chance, Rogers & Wells. E-mail him at tom.marian@cliffordchance.com.

*Chris Boyatzis (CAS’81) of Lewisburg, Pa., received tenure and a promo-
Brittany, Taylor, and Marc Hetnik look forward to round one of the Beanpot, when BU beat Northeastern 6-4. Their dad, Marc Hetnik (SMG'79), was on the 1978 national champion Terrier ice hockey team.

Jodi Levin (COM'82) of Closter, N.J., and her husband, Stephen Gerszberg, announce the birth of their twins, Arden Leigh and Alec, on September 25. E-mail Jodi at jsmarcom@aol.com.

Glenn Siegel (LAW'82) of Short Hills, N.J., is a partner in the New York bankruptcy and reorganization practice group of Dechert, a global law firm.

John Beal (SDM'83) of Andover, Mass., and his wife, Dolores, announce the birth of their grandson, Aidan Matthew D'Urso, on October 7. Their daughter Johnna Ann and her husband, Sean, also have an older child, Aidan's sister, Taylor Jordan.

Susan Fall Bird (COM'83) of Virginia Beach, Va., is an environmental attorney working for the U.S. Army's Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Va. Susan is a major in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. Her husband, Chuck, is in the rock band Catapult.

Signe A. Dayhoff (GRS'83) of Placitas, N.M., is president of Effectiveness-Plus, which produces psychology self-help books and resources (www.effective-ness-plus.com). Her latest book is Diagonally Parked in a Parallel Universe: Working Through Social Anxiety. Contact her at DrDayhoff@Effectiveness-Plus.com.

Sharon Harrison (SMG'83, CAS'85) of Sudbury, Mass., lives with her husband, Joseph Sziabowski, an architect, and their newborn son, Joseph James II. After working 12 years at an Allston day-care center, Sharon started her own home day-care center in January. E-mail her at sncosrirah@aol.com.

Maureen Prescott Atkinson (SMG'84) of Roswell, Ga., married her college sweetheart, David, in 1991. They have a three-year-old son, Nicholas David. Maureen and David would love to catch up with old friends at matkinson@ups.com.

Tamim Habal (ENG'84) of Paris, France, works as a training manager and consultant for Merant. Prior to that, he worked for Merant's Cambridge site as a software and technical support engineer. He is married, with a 10-year-old daughter. E-mail Tamim at Hatbal@Merant.com.

John Novack (COM'84) of Peabody, Mass., was elected to the Association of Health Care Journalists' board of directors as interim secretary last October. John is the associate publisher at Opus Communications, a division of healthcare trade publisher HCPro. E-mail him at jnovack@hcpro.com.

*Member of a Reunion 2001 class
Jeffrey Sass (COM’84) of University City, Mo., recently signed as a director with Illustrated Men Productions in St. Louis, Mo. This past year he received a national Telly award for a commercial for the Arizona Daily Star. He lives with his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Tali. Jeffrey would love to hear from friends at sass@illustrated.com.

Brian Smith (SPA’84) of St. Louis, Mo., was appointed chairman of humanities and performing and visual arts at St. Charles County Community College in suburban St. Louis.

Elissa Altman (CAS’85, CGS’83) of Harwinton, Conn., is editorial director of the Taunton Press in Newtown, Conn. She also regularly contributes to the Hartford Courant, Marie Claire, and other national publications. Elissa would love to hear from Warren Towers 18C floormates from 1981 to 1982. E-mail her at EMaltsman@hotmail.com.

Gilbert Cheah (COM’85) of New York, N.Y., is senior vice president of marketing for aMedia, the nation’s largest Asian-American media company. He recently served as executive producer for the Bridge Builder Asian-American Leadership Awards gala in New York City. E-mail him at gilcheah@aol.com.

Kinga Kovecses Fauser (SMG’85, CGS’83) of New Castle, Colo., married Bruce Fauser (COM’86, CGS’84) in 1987. Their three children are ages 6, 8, and 11. They run a satellite truck business, Peak Uplink, Inc., providing live television uplink service for the Arizona Daily Star. They also have a son, Will. Julie and Bruce are Internet director for eCape.com. E-mail her at jfbrooks@cape.com.

*Pamela Novak deVeer (CAS’86) of Andover, Mass., is senior director of Collaborative Communications, a high-tech public relations firm. She was previously marketing director at Lotus Development Corporation.

Julie Wallace Brooks (CAS’87) of Brewster, Mass., and her husband, Jay, welcomed their daughter, Marina Michael Brooks, in October. They also have a son, Will. Julie is Internet director for eCape.com. E-mail her at jbrooks@cape.com.

*Susman Karp (COM’89) and Kim Lirio (SMG’87) of Sudbury, Mass., announce the birth of their third child, Nicholas. Andrew writes, “Looking for Peter — still in Hamilton? Give me a shout!” Contact Andrew at amitchell@siebel.com.

Richard Sammon (COM’87) of Washington, D.C., is a political editor with Kiplinger Business Forecasts in Washington. He also provides political commentary for NPR, CNN, and C-SPAN. E-mail him at rsammon@kiplinger.com.

Giorgio Ungarelli (ENG’87) of Geneva, Switzerland, married Nancy Duppenthaler (CAS’89, CGS’87) on November 24, 2000. Nancy is expecting twins, a boy and a girl. Giorgio writes, “I think that within two or three weeks we’ll be very happy (and some-
Angela Arabia-Meyer (COM’88) of Upper Greenwood Lake, N.J., and her husband, Edward, announce the birth of their son, Dakota Jakob Noah, on September 5, 2000. They own the Lakeview Learning Center, which provides tutorial services. E-mail Angela at amtutor@warwick.net.

Kelly Cantley (SFA’88) of Studio City, Calif., still works as a freelance first assistant director in L.A. This summer she completed a Murder, She Wrote movie of the week, which should air on CBS in February. She also finished Special Unit 2 for UPN and will soon begin working on a spring break movie of the week for MTV. E-mail her at kelcant@aol.com.

Glen Cebulash (SFA’88) of Dayton, Ohio, is an assistant professor of art at Wright State University. His recent exhibitions include Painting as Landscape, a two-man show at the University of Dayton, and Figurative Painting Now, a group show at 55 Mercer Gallery in New York City. He and his wife, Rachel Stanzione, have a son, Tobias. E-mail Glen at glen.cebulash@wright.edu.

Ellen Harvey (SFA’88) of New York, N.Y., is currently on Broadway in Susan Stroman’s revival of The Music Man. Ellen sang at the Democratic National Convention and is happy to be back in New York after seven years in L.A.

Alex D. Konde (ENG’88) of Alexandria, Va., and his wife, Pam, just bought their first home. Alex continues to practice telecommunications and information technology law and is affiliated with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Field (www.akingump.com). E-mail Alex at akonde@home.com or akonde@akingump.com.

Nuria Munoz (CAS’88) of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, is an attorney. Two years ago she opened a bookstore in San Juan. “I am married, no kids, but life has been beautiful down here,” she writes. E-mail her at ivandiaz@coqui.net.

Gary S. Rudman (ENG’88) of Tucson, Ariz., was promoted to major in the Air Force in January 2000. Now he works with EC-130H Compass Call as the operations group standardization and evaluation navigator. Gary and his wife, Jennifer, have three daughters, Hannah, 3, and Rachel and Caitlin, both 6. E-mail him at rudmanfamily@netzero.net.

Lowell Handschu (ENG’89) of Great Neck, N.Y., received his M.B.A. in financial management from Pace University in September 1999. He is a financial analyst for Staff Builders, a home health-care company. Lowell and his wife, Jill, have a three-year-old daughter, Stephanie Nicole. They are expecting another girl in April 2001. Lowell would like to hear from his classmates at Beatlemen@aol.com.

Kalliopi Malai Lambrou (ENG’89, ‘92) of Limassol, Cyprus, wants to get in touch with fellow biomedical engineers from 1989. She writes, “I miss Boston, the river, the lobster at Legal Seafoods, and walking on Newbury Street on Saturday morning. Boston, I’ll be back one day!” Kalliopi adds, “To my dearest friend Robin Murray (ENG’90), I just want to express my deepest sympathy for the loss of her father and grandmother.” E-mail Kalliopi at kalliopi@cytanet.com.cy.

Bill Stewart (SMG’89, CGS’87) of Portsmouth, N.H., and his wife, Susan Spaulding Stewart (SMG’89), founded an executive search firm, Stewart Search Advisors. Previously they worked in New York City, where Bill was second vice president in corporate lending with Chase Manhattan Bank and Susan was a senior account executive with Grey Advertising. Their son, Will, is two years old. E-mail them at bill@stewartsearch.com.
1990s
Keri Laman Bocis (MET’90) of Merrimack, N.H., created Tidewater Hospitality Resources, a consulting company focusing on training, recruiting, and project management, in May of 1999. Her office is in Manchester, N.H. “Where is everyone from HOFO ’90?” she writes. E-mail Keri at info@tidewaterhospitality.com.

Gregory Casas (CAS’90) of Houston, Tex., was elected partner in the law firm of Locke, Liddell and Sapp, LLP. His practice areas include antitrust counseling and litigation, securities litigation, and other complex commercial litigation. E-mail Gregory at gcasas@lockeliddell.com.

Mara Rubenstein Charlamb (CAS’90) of Syracuse, N.Y., is director of human resources for United Radio. She lives with her husband, Mark, and their two sons, Brian, 3, and Jake, 18 months.

Sculpting from the Inside Out
This winter, Erik Blome had Jack Benny on the mind. He watched videos of Benny’s movies, listened to tapes from old radio shows, read biographies, and frequented Web sites devoted to the comedian. It’s not that he’s monomaniacal—he’s a sculptor with a commission. To do it right, he says, you have to know as much as you can about your subject.

“I’d ask older people, ‘What do you think of when you think of Jack Benny?’ And almost all of them would put their hand to their face, look to the side, and say, ‘Wellll!‘ and make that gesture he always did,” Blome (SEA’90) reports. “And so the pose I put him in is like that. He’s got his arms folded and one hand is on his face, looking to the side with a grin, and he’s got pennies underneath him as if he’d dropped them.”

The work in question is a commission from the city of Waukegan, Illinois. It’s the home of Jack Benny Way, the Jack Benny School, Benny Park, and the Benny Center for the Arts—but up until now, it’s had no statue of its favorite son. Blome is fixing that; the unveiling in Waukegan is set for this fall, and he will be there.

Blome has made a career creating what could be called civic sculpture. Right after a postgraduate year at the Royal College of Art in London, he was commissioned to do a bust of Thurgood Marshall for the mayor’s office in Chicago. A bust of Michael Jordan’s father for the Chicago Bulls followed quickly, and soon he had built a reputation for
sculptures of African-Americans. The most recent is a bronze statue of Rosa Parks, unveiled in December, for the museum and library established in her honor in Montgomery, Alabama.

Deciding how to depict Parks was easy, Blome says. “I had already done Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King, Jr., George Washington Carver, and Duke Ellington, so I really had a feel for African-American culture. Rosa Parks was sort of the catalyst for the civil rights movement that Martin Luther King and Thurgood Marshall led. If they were the spiritual leaders and spokespeople, she was the everyday person who stood up for her rights. You don’t really have to try very hard to relate to her.” And that comes through in the sculpture — Parks sitting in a bus seat, a determined cast to her face.

One of his latest projects is, like the Benny commission, closer to his Chicago-area home. He teamed up with his wife, garden designer Charlotte Jones, and submitted a plan to remake a blighted lot on the west side of Milwaukee into a haven of history and beauty.

“We’re taking a triangle that’s in the middle of two big throughways — it’s just a horrific site. Charlotte’s designed the triangle as a prairie garden.” Built into the design is undulating ground and a serpentine brick wall that will have a bronze relief by Blome of the neighborhood’s historic landmarks. “A lot of them are original Milwaukee buildings, like the Pabst mansion, amidst this horrible drug center,” he says, “Walking along the top of the wall, above that relief of the city, I’ve got three kids of various races. It looks like they’re walking into the future.”

In the meantime, there’s always Jack Benny to work on. The maquette of Benny in Blome’s studio, thinking up a quip.

Rosa Parks, by Erik Blome, at the Rosa Parks Museum and Library, Montgomery, Alabama.
Award-Winning Alumni

*Karen Zefting Alcorn (SEA’76) of Carson City, Nev., received the Sarah Marshall and Ida Kaminsky Memorial Award at the Salmagundi Club 2000 show in New York City for her painting Tied-Antler. The painting also appeared in the National Oil and Acrylic Painters’ Society Exhibit ’98 and in the Nevada Day show in 1999 with its companion piece, Tied-Gun. Her paintings Cattle Drive and Girls were also exhibited in several shows recently.

Susan Krueger Allick (SED’77, CGS’75) of Frederiksted, Virgin Islands, teaches science in St. Croix. Last year, she received the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. Susan has begun working towards a master’s degree in meteorology. She has two children, aged 9 and 12. E-mail Susan at krueger@viaccess.net.

Michael Apuzzo (MED’65) of Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., is the honored guest laureate at the 2001 annual meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons. He is the Edwin M. Todd/Trent H. Wells, Jr., Professor of Neurological Surgery, Radiation Oncology, Biology, and Physics at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

Walt Bistline (LAW’75) of Houston, Tex., received a Portfolio Award at the Fourth Annual Bay Area Photography Exhibition in Clear Lake, Tex., in October. He also exhibited at the 45th Florida Forest Festival in October and the Fourth Annual Mixed Media Art Exhibition in Clear Lake in November. When not photographing, Walt chairs the financial services section of the Houston law firm of Porter and Hedges.

Beth Budny (SON’77) of Norfolk, Mass., received the 2000 Association of Rehabilitation Nurses Distinguished Service Award at the 26th annual ARN Educational Conference in Reno, Nev., in October. She is head nurse of the acute spinal cord injury unit at VA Boston Healthcare System in West Roxbury, Mass.

Rebecca Golden (CAS’95) of Toledo, Ohio, a writer for the Toledo City Paper, won four Ohio Newspaper Women’s Association awards last October. She received first place for Best Feature Writing, Best Personality Profile, and Sprint Triple Entry, and second place for Best Columnist. She would love to hear from old classmates at goldenre@pilot.msu.edu.

Andrew List (SFA’90) of Jamaica Plain, Mass., received an eight-month artist-in-residence grant from the city of Amsterdam, becoming the first American to win the award. A four-event concert series will be presented featuring his music and that of other composers from the United States, Armenia, France, and Russia.

Sheila Nudd (SED’95) of Hampton, N.H., is the New Hampshire Teacher of the Year for 2001. She teaches music and chorus at Hampton Academy Junior High School and has taught for 30 years.

*Amy Quinton (COM’91, CGS’89) of Charlotte, N.C., recently received a Sigma Delta Chi Award for public service in journalism from the Society of Professional Journalists. She announces her recent marriage to Scott David Jagow. She and Scott are reporters for WFAE-FM, Charlotte’s National Public Radio station. Contact her at aquinton@mindspring.com.

*John Riley (GRS’31) of Nampa, Idaho, and his wife received the Lifetime Service Award from Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa. He served as president of the university from 1952 until 1971 and also wrote several books on its history.

*Kenneth E. Williams (SFA’56) of Venice, Fla., was honored along with his wife, Lynelle, by Bartlesville Wesleyan College in Oklahoma. The school named the music library in the new Chapel/Fine Arts Center after them at a dedication on October 13, 2000. Ken had been the scholar-in-residence of fine arts and sacred music and also helped restart the school’s major and minor in music. He would like to hear from classmates at lynken68@aol.com.

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Beth Tornek Schulman (COM’90, CGS’88) of Melville, N.Y., has two children, Ben, 4, and Sydney, 2. She writes, “Now that I’m a mom, it’s hard to do anything but run after the two crazy little cartoon characters that are my children.” She wants to make fellow alumni aware of a program called Wigs for Kids, a non-profit organization that helps children experiencing hair loss due to chemotherapy, burns, radiation therapy, or other medical concerns. The organization can be contacted through the American Cancer Association.

Michele Scezribniski (COM’90, CGS’88) of Warwick, R.I., works as a major gifts officer for Bryant College in Rhode Island. She will be traveling to the West Coast often and looks forward to seeing old friends out there. She adds, “Hey CGS’88 C4ers, let’s get together in honor of Dean Wells!”

Contact her at 401/232-6251 or msczerbi@bryant.edu.

Gregg Zollmann (SMG’90) of Duluth, Ga., married Carol Ciulik in Atlanta last September 23. Alumni in attendance were Jeremy Vignaux (ENG’96) and Edward Moon (MET’90). Gregg is a senior technology architect at MCI WorldCom. Two of his designs were recognized by the Smithsonian Institution as advancements in the field of computing and a third recently
received a patent. E-mail him at gregg@zollmann.com.

*John Blodgett (SMG'91) of Portland, Ore., works as the content manager for oaktree.com, a local Web development firm. “In my spare time, I write and photograph on a freelance basis and hope to start a fiction book (or two),” he writes. “Otherwise, looking forward to another West Coast ski season.” E-mail him at jmblodgett@oaktree.com.

*Nikki Domosh Elovitz (COM'91) of Lake Oswego, Ore., is the marketing and communications manager with a software company. She has been married to her husband, Mitch, since 1994. They have a 15-month-old daughter, Maude Olivia. Nikki would love to hear from old friends at nelovitz@digimarc.com.

*Todd Friedman (COM'91) of San Francisco, Calif., married Michele Doyle in Williamsville, N.Y., this summer. Attending were Brian Goodstadt (SMG'91), Eric Handler (CAS'91), John Atkins (COM'91), and Bill McLay (ENG'91). Todd is the director of investor relations for Epiphany. Michele works for Deloitte and Touche Tax Technologies. Todd invites old friends to visit when in California or e-mail him at tfriedman@epiphany.com.

*Thomas Fuerst (SMG'91) of Solingen, Germany, and his wife, Tanja, welcomed his daughter, Emilia, on January 5, 2001. Thomas recently started working at the Frankfurt branch of Credit Suisse First Boston in Germany, and his wife, Tanja, welcomed their second daughter, Emilia, on January 4, 2001. Thomas recently started working at the Frankfurt branch of Credit Suisse First Boston, an investment bank. For the next six months, he will work out of its London office. He would love to hear from any friends from BU at thomas_fuerst@hotmail.com.

*Myrene de los Santos Gomez (SMG'91) of Clearlake, Calif., is the national sales training manager for IndyMac Bank in Pasadena. E-mail her at myrene@myrenegomez@yahoo.com.

*Steven Matteo (CAS'91, CGS'89) of Boston, Mass., is a Conant Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He will earn his M.Ed. in administration, planning, and social policy as well as certification as a high school principal this spring. He has taught at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School for the past eight years. E-mail Steven at smatteo@msn.com.

*Susan Milikwicz (CAS'91) of Caldwell, N.J., is a senior manager in the global e-business innovation group at Aventis Pharmaceuticals. She would love to hear from any classmates involved in e-business, pharmaceuticals, or management at smilikwicz@yahoo.com.

*Jon Pfeifer (SED'91) of Boston, Mass., lives with his partner, Dan, and their two cats. He has been teaching kindergarten at the Lesley Ellis School in Arlington for the past eight years. He writes, “I guess a lot of my old classmates are starting their families, and I’m more than willing to impart my teaching advice to them at pfeiferj@att.net.”

*Mary Fitch Pratt (COM'91, CAS'91) of Arlington, Mass., and her husband announce the birth of their son, Ewan Alexander, on August 29. Mary left her job on the national desk at The State newspaper in Columbia, S.C., to return to Boston. She now works from home part-time as a freelance editor and writer. E-mail her at markmary@ mindspring.com.

*Stacey Romanoff (CAS'91) of Bronx, N.Y., is manager of prospect research in the development office of Montefiore Medical Center in New York. At the time of writing, she was planning to marry Daniel Betsalel of Detroit, Mich., in December.

*Jerry Sullivan (GRS'91) of Fort Belvoir, Va., an Army lieutenant colonel, has been selected for the National War College at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

*Dave Tomlinson (SMG'91) of Mannheim, Germany, plays professional hockey in Germany, after five years of playing in the NFL and minor leagues. He spends the off-season in his new home in Vancouver, British Columbia. E-mail him at datomtom@aol.com.

*Jane Yerves Twombly (SAR'91) of Southbury, Conn., resigned from her job as a critical care registered nurse to stay home with her daughter, Caroline, born in April 2000. Jane and her husband, Richard, relocated from Andover, Mass., last year.

*Jen Wutz (COM'91) of Brookline, Mass., is an analyst at Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates. “My journalism degree helps me write really nice memos,” she writes. “I am desperately seeking my old pal, Christine Benvenuto (CAS'93).” Jen is planning to wed her fiancé, Peter, in October 2001. E-mail her at jennifer_wutz@vmed.org.

Lisa Campe (SPH'92) of Roslindale, Mass., is a vice president at Woodard & Curran, an environmental consulting firm.

Richard Day (MET'92) of Seattle, Wash., opened an office for C.N.A. Credit early this year in Seattle. He works with export and domestic credit insurance in the Pacific Northwest market. He would “love to hear from any BUB alumni” at rday1@qwest.net.

Geralyn Finn (SEA'92) of Watertown, Mass., showed her work at the Clark Hall Gallery at Southeast Louisiana University last fall. She will be showing work with the Experimental Etching Studio at Newbury College in Boston and the Lancaster Museum in Lancaster, Pa., this spring. She teaches middle school visual art.

Amy Goldberg (CAS'92) of Rochester, N.Y., is an advanced practice nurse. She is enrolled full-time in the Ph.D. program in nursing at the University of Rochester, where she also teaches. She has two children, Anya, 10, and Elijah, 2. Amy would love to hear from her “running buddies.” E-mail her at superlamy@cs.com.

Dmitry Grenader (ENG'92) of Salem, Mass., is director of solutions architecture for Immersant, an Internet consulting firm. He encourages people needing help building a Web solution or looking for a job in e-space to e-mail him at dgrenader@hotmail.com.

Kerstin Grossman-Mendelsohn (CAS'92) of Sudbury, Mass., works for the American Council of International Studies, where she represents the New England division of Select Tours for adults. She and her husband, Robert, are the proud parents of Rebeka Brooke, born on December 11, 2000.

* Member of a Reunion 2001 class
Kerstin would love to hear from classmates at kerstin4@ix.netcom.com.

Tamara Algranati Jacobs (COM'92) of Atlanta, Ga., recently married Barry Jacobs. She heads the sports group for Ketchum. She would love to hear from old classmates at tamara.jacobs@ketchum.com.

Gorman Lee (SED'92) of Boston, Mass., teaches eighth grade social studies in Medford, Mass. He is currently a member of a panel selected to review the history and social science curriculum framework for Massachusetts public schools. E-mail Gorman at gormanl@erols.com.

Mike Lieberman (SMG'92) of Springfield, Ill., was recently named general manager of the Springfield Capitals, a minor league baseball team in the Frontier League. He writes, “My eight-year career has seen me host three All-Star games, earn two Staff of the Year awards, win one championship ring . . . and move over 8,700 miles!” Get in touch with Mike at baseball@springfieldcapitals.com.

Eleanor Loiacono (CAS'92) of Natick, Mass., is an assistant professor at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute’s department of management. She has developed a Web site rating system dubbed WebQual, which scores sites on a dozen categories. Visit Eleanor’s Web site at www.wpi.edu/~e-loiacono or e-mail her at elioacon@wpi.edu.

Tracy Marek (COM'92, CGS'90) of Fort Wayne, Ind., recently became engaged and plans to marry in the fall. She works for General Sports and Entertainment as vice president of business operations and team management. Tracy runs General Sports’ minor league baseball team, the Fort Wayne Wizards, an affiliate of the San Diego Padres. E-mail her at tracymarek@aol.com.

Debra Wolfert Marino (CAS'92) of Orange, Conn., is a partner in the law firm of Noyes & Marino, specializing in matrimonial litigation. She and her husband, Vincent, have two dogs. Debra would love to hear from her AEPhi sisters at attorneyclm@aol.com.

Catherine McClure (CAS'92, CGS'90) of Boston, Mass., announces her engagement to Brian Lyle (SMG'91). The wedding will be in June 2002. Brian is currently doing his medical rotations in Pennsylvania. Catherine is an assistant attorney general in the Massachusetts attorney general’s office. Brian can be reached at blyle@ix.netcom.com. E-mail Catherine at Catherine_mclure@ago.state.ma.us.

Kate Owen Morin (SED'92) of Bedford, N.Y., and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of their daughter, Victoria Joan Morin, in July 2000. Kate works as the programs director for Rippowam Cisqua School, an independent school in Bedford. Contact her at kate_morin@RCSNY.org.

Susan Abele Nelson (UNF'92, CGS'90) of Atlanta, Ga., plans to throw a party for her BU friends in Telluride, Colo., between April 6 and 15. Present will be Bill Fantini (COM'92), Philip Armour (CAS'91), Dennis Kleiman (COM'91), and Ari Orlinsky (CGS'95). Anyone who wishes to attend should contact Susan at 404/371-1172 or agentSusan@yahoo.com. Most of the attendees went to BU in the late ’80s and early ’90s.

Andy Ng (SMG'92) and Virginia Seid Ng (SMG'92) of Framingham, Mass., celebrated the birth of their son, Dakota Andy Ng, on December 7, 2000. Virgina works as a software developer for Fidelity Investments. Andy is director of operations for Savantic WebSystems, an Internet consulting firm. E-mail them at andyng67@hotmail.com.

Melissa Levy Periman (CAS'92) of Chicago, Ill., and her husband, Harris, announce the birth of their first child, Noah Gabriel, on April 2, 2000. Melissa is in private practice, providing assessment and remedial services for children with learning difficulties. E-mail her at melhar@aol.com.

Jodi Rosenberg (CAS'92) of Kansas City, Mo., and her husband, Chuck Marvine, announce the birth of their son, Joshua Robert, on August 28. Jodi practices law with the firm of Spencer, Fané, Britt & Browne in Kansas City.

E-mail her at chuckjodi@yahoo.com.

Robert St. Laurent (CAS'92) of Boston, Mass., and Sean Rabbett (CAS'92) of Brighton, Mass., successfully climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, last September. E-mail Robert at stlaurent@digitcarn.org and e-mail Sean at snrabbett@meditech.com.

Jenna Schner (COM'92) of New York, N.Y., works as a freelance writer. Ready to drop her a note? Send it to jennsch@earthlink.net. She admits she’s not the best at keeping in touch, but she’s going to try harder.

Karen Meyer Shehadeh (SMG'92) of Hoboken, N.J., joined the private clients group of Global Asset Management as a portfolio manager last April. In 1999, she married Chris Shehadeh (ENG'92), and they are expecting their first child in May.

Jill Silverstein Swearingen (SMG'92) of Parker, Colo., married Marcus Swearingen on May 6, 2000. The maid of honor was Jill’s sister, Amy Silverstein (CAS'90), and others in attendance included Jill and Amy’s mother, Nancy Petke Silverstein (CAS'57), Valerie Moger (COM'92), Susanne Wolfe Fahey (SMG'90), Christopher Fahey (COM'91), Tudy Guterman (CAS'90), Aaron Kupchik (CAS'94), and Rachel Boucher (CAS'93). Maria Sangiolo, former staff member at the SMG Career Center, added “a musical note” to the ceremony with her “presence and voice.” Jill is the human resources manager for the Access Data Consulting Corporation in Denver. E-mail her at Jillness333@yahoo.com.

Traci Burch (SMG'93) of Baltimore, Md., began practicing employment and traditional labor law at the law firm of Littler Mendelson in August. E-mail her at tburch@littler.com.

Vinay Chandra (ENG'93, CAS'93) of Atlanta, Ga., is president and COO of Resource Information Services. He previously lived in India and Germany before moving to Atlanta with his wife, Nandini.

Jason Hoogerhyde (SEA'93) of Appleton, Wis., received a doctor of musical
Javed Hosein (ENG'93) of West New York, N.J., received his M.B.A. from Cornell in 1997 and is a senior consultant with Andersen Consulting, now called Accenture. He was previously a senior consultant with Arthur Andersen.

Shaheen Islam (SPH'83) of Flint, Mich., is a resident in internal medicine at Michigan State University. Last May the Michigan chapter of the American College of Physicians awarded him first prize in the poster research section for his research on physician screening for domestic violence. He would love to hear from classmates at shaheen.islam.1993@alum.bu.edu.

Tim Ketter (CAS'93) of San Diego, Calif., has returned from three years in Japan with the Navy. He still flies for the Navy and is also pursuing an M.B.A. at the San Diego State University Graduate School of Business. Tim is engaged to be married, with the wedding planned for July 2001. E-mail him at mitketter@aol.com.

Wendy Knel-Adler (SMG'93) of San Francisco, Calif., lived in Boston until the summer of 1996, and then moved to San Francisco. She has been married to Jon Adler for three years. Wendy designs integration software for Advent Software. She would love to hear from old friends at wknel@advent.com.

Kim Kozminski (SFH'93) of Oxford, Miss., was recently hired as an assistant professor of costume in the theater arts department at the University of Mississippi. Her husband, Steven, also works in the department, as a production technical director. They have a son, Douglas. E-mail Kim at kkozminski@earthlink.net.

Linda Li (CAS'93, MED'93) of Los Angeles, Calif., joined the aesthetic plastic surgery practice of John Grossman, M.D., in Beverly Hills.

Tracy Paul (COM'93, CGS'91) of New York, N.Y., is CEO and owner of Tracy Paul Public Relations, a firm focusing in the fashion and technology industries. E-mail her at tracy@tracypaul.com.

Cherkaoui Reed Thierry (MET'93) of Lithonia, Ga., is a litigation paralegal for a personal injury law firm in Atlanta. She has been married for two years to Overton Thierry, and they recently built a home "in the 'burbs" and "have settled into the commuter life with no complaints." Cherkaoui would love to hear from anyone from the classes of 1992 and 1993, especially anyone who was active in UMOJA. She writes, "Hey, Megan Lee of Rhode Island, my roommate from freshman year, if you're out there, please drop a line. I hope all is well with you." E-mail her at thierry01@msn.com.

Cynthia Vitari (CAS'93) and Douglas Song (SMG'89) of New York, N.Y., were married on September 23. The wedding party and guests included many friends and family from BU. They write, "Hello to our friends with whom we have lost touch. If you would like to drop us a line, please do, at douglas.song@worldnet.att.net."

Kristen Bassos Weber (SAR'93, '94) of Virginia Beach, Va., works at the Children's Hospital of King's Daughters as a physical therapist, while her husband, Scott, is in the Navy. They are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Tyler, born in October 2000. Kristen would love to hear from old friends at Kbassweber@aol.com.

Andy Woodrow (SED'93) of Wokingham, U.K., is working in physiological research at the Centre for Human Sciences, "the ultimate crash test dummy job." He is finishing up 10 years in Europe and is preparing for repatriation with a new U.S. Air Force assignment this summer. He reports that he ran into two former BU professors at RAF Lakenheath recently.

Jonathan Dolin (COM'94) of New York, N.Y., is president of Gemini Artists Entertainment, a New York-based talent management and production company. He splits his time between New York and L.A. You can reach Jon at JonD@GeminiArtists.com.

* Member of a Reunion 2001 class.
worldwide. “To all of the art educators at BU: think twice,” she writes. An exhibition of her work showed at the Porter Exchange Building in Cambridge, Mass., in October.

J. C. McKnight (CAS’94) of Bethesda, Md., is senior financial consultant and vice president for Merrill Lynch in Washington, D.C. He would love to hear from friends and fellow brothers of SAE at jcmck@attglobal.net.

Alexander Rae (CAS’94) of Astoria, N.Y., who works at a residence with severe and mentally ill patients, received his master’s degree in psychology from the New School University. E-mail him at AlexR@projectrenewal.org.

Cathy Reidy (SEA’94) of Edmonds, Wash., is pursuing a master’s degree in forest hydrology and engineering at the University of Washington. She would love to hear from fellow SEA classmates, especially Jorunn Kaczmarek (SEA’94) and Maciej Kaczmarek (SEA’94). E-mail her at cathyreidy@yahoo.com.

Brian A. Zive (CAS’94) of Readville, Mass., married Christine Ferzoco at Marsh Chapel on November 11, 2000. He attends BU hockey games religiously, except when on his honeymoon. He has worked in the teufund department of BU’s office of annual giving since January 1999. His alter ego, Sasquatch, gives everyone a hearty “Go BU!” and asks that old friends get in touch at brian.zive.1994@alum.bu.edu.

Kurt Blumenau (COM’95) and Andi Weissman (COM’95) of Holliston, Mass., welcomed their first son, Miles Keith, on August 18. Both Kurt and Andi are editors at the MetroWest Daily News in Framingham. Andi is also managing editor of three weekly newspapers. They would love to hear from former Free Press friends and classmates at bluemoon@ici.net.

Brian Cleary (CAS’95) of Brookline, Mass., works in web development, “the creative end of the interactive world,” as a senior copywriter and information architect. His online portfolio can be viewed at www.tiac.net/users/delfacto/. He would love to hear from any old pals at delfacto@iac.net.

Brian Cone (COM’95) of Conshohocken, Pa., is external mutual funds sales director for the Turner Funds at Turner Investment Partners, Inc.

Robert M. Crawford, Jr. (SMG’95) of Brookline, Mass., was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar Association. He currently works as an attorney for Goodwin, Procter and Hoar. Contact Robert at robert_crawford@yahoo.com.

Neil Goldberg (COM’95) of New York, N.Y., is sports producer at New York 1 News, a 24-hour television news station. He writes, “Getting a chance to be on the field covering the Yankees-Mets World Series was a thrill second only to covering the 1995 BU hockey national championship for the Daily Free Press.” Neil would love to hear from DFP staff members from 1991 to 1995. E-mail him at neil.goldberg@ny1news.com.

Tamasin Johnson (COM’95) of Cambridge, Mass., works for a public relations firm. She is engaged to Scott Kesler (SMG’95). Tamasin would love to hear from old friends at tamsynjohnson@hotmail.com.

Melinda Kavanaugh (SEA’95) of Tulsa, Okla., received the Mary Richmond Scholarship from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. She is pursuing a master’s degree in social work.

Barbara Dustan Knight (GRS’95) of New Castle, N.H., is the new foundations department chair at the New Hampshire Institute of Art in Manchester.

Corinne Marrinan (SEA’95) of Chicago, Ill., splits her time between the Windy City and Los Angeles as assistant producer for CSI, a new CBS drama series, and stage manager at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago. She is also producing for Remy Bumppo Productions with James Bohnen (SEA’91). E-mail Corinne at marrian@verizon.net.

Joel Parmentier (COM’95) of New York, N.Y., works in program scheduling and the acquisitions department at the Sci Fi Channel. E-mail him at nywestside@hotmail.com.

Ash Sawkar (CAS’95) of Chicago, Ill., graduated from the University of Arizona College of Law last May after two years with Teach for America in Phoenix. He was recently admitted to the Illinois Bar and is now an assistant state’s attorney for the Cook County State’s Attorney in Chicago. Ash is interested in hearing from alumni who lived in the performing arts house. E-mail him at asawkar@yahoo.com.

Mark Stamm (STH’95) of Richardson, Tex., has joined the faculty of Southern Methodist University’s Perkins School of Theology as an assistant professor of Christian worship. He was recently elected abbot of the Order of St. Luke, a religious order of the United Methodist Church.

Joe Wagner (GSM’95) of Southborough, Mass., is senior vice president of global sales for Logistics.com, a transportation procurement and management site.

Robert Chaiwell, Jr. (SFA’96) of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, coordinated the first British Virgin Islands Summer Arts Institute. He serves as director of musical studies at the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College. Robert received his M.M. from the San Francisco
Japanese Alumni Association Silver Anniversary

The Boston University Alumni Association of Japan (BUAAJ) celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary with a party in December at the Akasaka Prince Hotel in Tokyo that drew nearly 200 alumni, friends, and family. The oldest operating BU international alumni association, the BUAAJ has the largest membership of any BU alumni group in Asia. Each year the association sponsors events for the more than 1,000 BU alumni in Japan. Among the guests at the Tokyo party were President Jon Westing, BUA President Bill Walker (SDM’68), School of Management Associate Professor Jay Kim, Taiwan Pan-Asian leaders Michelle Lee (COM’89) and Jean Liu (SMG’77), International Alumni Program Manager Ch’ien Chan (COM’98), and members of the Boston University Liaison Office of Tokyo. Provost Dennis Berkey, Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations Christopher Reaske, and Arthur Golden (GRS’88), best-selling author of Memoirs of a Geisha, couldn’t attend but sent congratulatory messages. BUAAJ Chairperson Sumiko Yamamoto (GRS’54) gave a warm welcome to alumni and guests and introduced President Westing.

BUAAJ officials announced at the dinner that the association is establishing a scholarship fund to help students from Japan attend BU, the first time an international alumni association has taken the initiative to set up such a scholarship fund. Yosuke Watanabe (CAS’84) will lead the fundraising effort.

Taeko Fujii (SEA’60) performed some songs from Street Scene by Kurt Weill after the dinner. Dancing followed, and capping an eventful evening was the singing of “Clarissima,” led by Takayosi Shimada (SEA’67).

Holding certificates marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Boston University Alumni Association of Japan are Sumiko Yamamoto (GRS’54) and President Jon Westing. Joining them (from left) are Wakana Nukui (CAS’94), Yasuhide Sunamura (GSM’67), Shizzo Matsuo (GSM’84), Yosuke Watanabe (CAS’84), Hisashi Shirahata (GSM’91), and BUA President William Walker (SDM’68).

The International Web Connection

www.bu.edu/alumni/intl

Stay in touch with one another and with the University through the BU International Alumni Program Web site.

Highlights include:
✓ Calendar of international events
✓ Contact information for international alumni associations
✓ Links to individual alumni association Web sites
✓ International Business Connection, a virtual networking center
✓ General admissions information for interested international students

* Sarah Bartlett Core (SED’96) of Akron, Ohio, teaches second grade at Mason Elementary in Akron. She is pursuing a master’s degree in school counseling. She married Robert Core on June 17, 2000. Amy Kaspar (CAS’96) was a bridesmaid. Other BU alumni in attendance were Andrew Dowdell (CAS’96), Sean McStocker (CAS’96), Kenneth “Chip” Craw (ENG’96), and Brynna Baird (ENG’96). Sarah writes that Robert appeared on Jeopardy! from March 20 to 22. Sarah would love to hear from old but not forgotten friends at SarahCore@aol.com.

* Sally D’Angelo (COM’96) of Oakland, Calif., works for Providian Financial, managing cardholder statements, benefits, and fulfillment. She recently managed a customer sweepstakes and got to be the “Prize Patrol, complete with four-foot check, flowers, and balloons for the grand prize winner.” Sally also handles marketing and accounting, and sometimes even cooking and serving, for In Home Dining, a local catering company. E-mail her at sdlangelo@yahoo.com.

Matthew Harper (CAS’96) of Groton, Conn., finished his tour aboard the USS Cole as an assistant operations officer in January. He will work as a junior officer detailer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Millington, Tenn., where for the next two years he will give ship assignments to new officers. E-mail him at bu_navy@hotmail.com.

* Rachel Deckman Luciani (CAS’96) and Michael Luciani (CAS’97) of Garden City, N.Y., have a 10-month-old son, Michael David. Visit their Web site at home.att.net/~luciani or e-mail them at luciani@worldnet.att.net.

* Douglas Merrano (COM’96,’90, LAW’99) of Washington, D.C., is an associate at the law firm of Swidler, Berlin, Shereff, Friedman. Get in touch with Douglas at d_merrano@hotmail.com.

* Aida Samad (SMG’96) of Boston, Mass., works for Thomson Financial. E-mail her at aida.samad@tni.com.

* Tamara Tsang (CAS’96) of La Mesa, Calif., is a development associate at KPBS Public TV/FM in San Diego, but is looking to move back to New England. E-mail her at tamaratsang@junoo.com.

* Naphali Visser (CAS’96) of Brookline, Mass., founded Furnace Labs, an e-business in Boston, two and a half years ago and “has been quite successful.” He would love to hear from old classmates at naf@furnace labs.com.

* Julia Werman (CAS’96) of New York, N.Y., is pursuing her master’s in social work at Hunter College. She previously worked as a caseworker doing permanency planning. E-mail her at julia kereman@hotmail.com.

Christopher Chou (COM’97) of Burbank, Calif., is with Walt Disney Television Animation, working on Jungle Book II, which is a year into production. Previously he worked as an agent assistant to the cohead of the television literary department at Writers and Artists Agency. E-mail him at cyrus101@soft Home.net.

Fernando Estrella (CAS’97) a lieutenant junior grade in the Navy, is serving aboard the USS Detroit as the food service officer. He finished Supply Corps School in Athens, Ga., in September and was transferred to Earle, N.J. He looks forward to hearing from other alumni and can be e-mailed at jerseynando@hotmail.com.

Jennifer Dawn Fitzpatrick (CAS’97) of New York, N.Y., works for a major talent agency in the film, television, and theater business. She writes, “So far I really like it here, although I must admit that I am still getting used to the subway!” She can be contacted at jenniferfitz@msn.com.

Seth Fox (COM’97) of New York, N.Y., is an assistant Avid editor for Broadway Video, where he works on programs for ESPN Classic and other networks. E-mail him at sethbu97@msn.com.

Connie Koenigkann (CAS’97) of Brooklyn, N.Y., works in his home studio, with Dave Greenwood (CAS’98) “laying down all the beats.” They hope to find a distributor and have it in stores by next summer. “Peace to Kaela, Renee, Mikes, Micro, and Justin,” writes Matthew.

Mathew Sheen (COM’97) of Culver City, Calif., received a J.D. from Pepperdine University School of Law and works for Ken Lindner and Associates, a Los Angeles–based agency specializing in broadcast news talent. E-mail him at matsheen@aol.com.

Melissa McCarthy Steinberg (SFA ’97, ’99) of Brighton, Mass., and her husband, Irving Steinberg (SFA ’95,’00), perform and teach in the Boston area.

Heesun Min Lee (CAS’97) of Watertown, Mass., is an alumni communications coordinator at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. Her husband, Daniel, is a second-year law student at BU. E-mail Heesun at heesun lee@harvard.edu.

Jeff Lorrie (CAS’97) of Fall River, Mass., married Margaret Herman (ENG’99) on July 29, 2000, in Rocky Hill, Conn. Alumni attending the wedding included Micah Jacobs (ENG’99), Keith Coffman (CAS’97), Amanda Coffman (SED’98), Jeff Bober (MET’99), and Loretta Hawkes (ENG’00). Jeff works as an actuary for Fidelity Investments in Boston. Margaret is a quality engineer at Pratt and Whitney in Connecticut, currently on maternity leave. They are expecting their first child in late spring. E-mail them at Jeff. Lorrie@fmr.com.

Jennifer Mack (COM’97) and Patrick Markel (ENG’97) of Pleasanton, Calif., got married in September 2000 in their hometown of Portland, Ore. Jennifer is a television reporter focusing on the technology industry, and Patrick is a systems engineer for a software company. E-mail Jennifer at jennifer_mack@hotmail.com or Patrick at pmarkel@pacbell.net.

Erin Nedell (COM’97) of Brooklyn, N.Y., is a photo researcher with Fodors.com, an online travel resource guide. E-mail her at enedell@fodors.com.

Matthew Orefice (CAS’97) of Yonkers, N.Y., is recording a hip-hop CD in his home studio, with Dave Greenwood (CAS’98) “laying down all the beats.” They hope to find a distributor and have it in stores by next summer. “Peace to Kaela, Renee, Mikes, Micro, and Justin,” writes Matthew.

Mathew Sheen (COM’97) of Culver City, Calif., received a J.D. from Pepperdine University School of Law and works for Ken Lindner and Associates, a Los Angeles–based agency specializing in broadcast news talent. E-mail him at matsheen@aol.com.
including with the Rhode Island Philharmonic, the Boston Ballet, and the Boston Lyric Opera. Melissa is also a performance librarian at the New England Conservatory. E-mail her at maylisa1@comcast.net.

Jacqueline Zander (SFA'97) of Allston, Mass., attended Kent Wall on December 30, 2000. She recently sang Proserpina in Monteverdi’s Orfeo with the Chicago Opera Theatre. In the last year, she has performed with Orchestra X in Houston and the Boston Lyric Opera.

Christine Hwang (CAS'98) of Shang-hai, China, is a senior site producer for TV Shopping Network’s Web division. She would love to hear from Priya Akhoury (CAS'99), Zenda Thomas (COM'99), Michelle Chang (CAS'98), Oliver Austria (SMG'00, CGS'97), and Mo Chanmugham (SMG'99), as well as other friends and classmates. E-mail Christine at christinehwang@hotmail.com.

Vorasek Kasemtanakul (MET'98) of Bangkok, Thailand, returned to Thailand after graduation to be a disc jockey for Bangkok radio and a video jockey for Channel V Thailand. Since then, though, he has given up his “showbiz career” to become Southeast Asia area manager for Mondragon Corporacion Cooperativa. E-mail Vorasek at hyperinrg@tchntologist.com.

Joseph Razel (ENG'98), an electronic countermeasures officer, is stationed in Whidbey Island, Wash., where he flies EA-6B Prowlers. He announces his engagement to Julie Adams (ENG’98). Julie is a product development engineer at Avery-Dennison in Cleveland, Ohio. They would like to hear from old friends. E-mail them at julieadams25@yahoo.com and joraelz@yahoo.com.

Eric Stryker (CAS'98) of New Haven, Conn., is pursuing his Ph.D. in the history of art program at Yale University. He previously worked in arts administration in New York City. Eric would love to hear from old friends, especially those with dissertation suggestions. E-mail him at ericsstryker@yale.edu.

Jennifer Tieso (CAS'98) of Plainville, Mass., now works for the financial aid office at Emerson College after six years at the BU Office of Financial Assistance. She writes, “Big Al and I got engaged last November and bought a house this past June. We don’t have any wedding plans as of yet. I’m looking for Sarah Rosenbaum (SAR'97), Tara Kniskern (CAS’98), Travis Toronjo (CAS'98), Niamh Kelly (CAS'98), Hilary Haverkamp (CAS’99), Kate Visscher (CAS’99), and Suz Mora (SED’98). Where are you and what are you up to?” E-mail Jennifer at jennifer_tieso@emerson.edu.

Brian Casper (SFA’99) of Rochester, N.Y., is the new instrument teacher at the Manor School in the Honeoye Falls-Lima Central School District, outside of Rochester.

Seda Karsit (ENG’99) of Waltham, Mass., is pursuing a master’s degree in finance at Bentley College after working for a year in New York as a financial consultant. E-mail her at sekad60@mediavone.net.

Fabiana Montoya (COM’99) of Boston, Mass., worked for a year at BBK Communications before returning to BU to pursue her master’s degree in journalism. E-mail her at fabsm@hotmail.com.

Susan Silvia (COM’99, CGS’97) of North Dighton, Mass., married James Silva in June in Rhode Island. Susan is marketing manager for the Plymouth County Convention and Visitors Bureau. E-mail her at ssilvia@hotmail.com.

Rachel Weitzenkorn (CAS’99) of Ocean, N.J., is currently at Rutgers University pursuing her master’s degree in social work, which she will complete in May 2001. She just became engaged to Michael Bronstein. They plan to marry in November 2001. She welcomes e-mails from her classmates at rfwkorn@hotmail.com.

Mike Zonshine (SFA’99) of Honolulu, Hawaii, recently performed Bach’s Brandenburg Concerto with the Honolulu Symphony. His performance on the trumpet received rave reviews. Contact Mike at mzony@earthlink.net.

* Member of a Reunion 2001 class

2000

Rachael Billig (CAS’00) of New York, N.Y., married Alexander Kohl (SMG’98) on September 3, 2000, in New Jersey. Alex works at Goldman, Sachs. Rachael works at the Anti-Defamation League. E-mail Rachael at rachael.kohl.2000@alum.bu.edu and Alex at alex.kohl.1998@alum.bu.edu.

Bryan Campbell (CAS’00) of Levittown, Pa., works in the reserve department of the Firestone Library at Princeton University. He hopes to hear from Heather Reed (SAR’00). Write him at 143 Kenwood Drive North, Levittown, PA 19055.

Gail Kaufman (CAS'00, GRS’00) of Washington, D.C., is the law and politics editor for Stars and Stripes Online. E-mail Gail at gailkaufman@netscape.net.

Loretta Hawkes McHugh (ENG’00) of Chestnut Hill, Mass., began a job as a development engineer at Wymands-Gordon in North Grafton, Mass., last September. On October 7 she married Evan McHugh in Maine, and they honeymooned in Ireland. Loretta would love to hear from classmates and old friends from the 1996-1997 London Program. E-mail her at LMcHugh@wyman.com.

Vic Sharma (GSM’00) of Stoneham, Mass., is vice president at Malden Ventures, a division of Malden Mills Industries, Inc. E-mail him at vicram.sharma.2000@alum.bu.edu.

Ted Sharon (SFA’00) of Peabody, Mass., is a member of the performance faculty of the Salem State College department of theater and speech communication. He is one of 69 teachers of stage combat certified by the Society of American Fight Directors.

Christopher Elliott Staton (SFA’00) of Collingswood, N.J., is now the technical director of the historic Strand Theatre in Lakewood, N.J.

Fay Wolf (SFA’00) of Brooklyn, N.Y., has worked on MTV, VH1, and ABC-TV’s All My Children since graduating. E-mail her at flowbi71@visto.com.
In Memoriam

William Cohen (SMG'23), Portland, Maine
Evelyn Grant Johnson (SRE'23), Franklin, Ind.
Ethel J. Birrell Ramsden (SED'23, GRS'24), Tacoma, Wash.
Pearl Kidston Carmichael (PAL'24), Washington, D.C.
Elizabeth H. Heath Jones (PAL'24), Seekonk, Mass.
Clara Goss (SAR'25), Ravenna, Ohio
Doris Campbell Biston (PAL'26), Cockeysville, Md.
Kenneth MacKillop (SED'26), Medford, Mass.
Charles N. Segal (LAW'26), West Hartford, Conn.
Melvin A. Cherwin (SMG'27, LAW'30), Wellesley, Mass.
Mary Gesner Clarke (CAS'27, SED'39), Brunswick, Maine
Lee A. Worrell (SMG'27, LAW'30), Providence, R.I.
Abraham J. Hart (LAW'28), Brighton, Mass.
Charles B. Ajemian (SED'29), Richmond, Va.
Grace Spaulding Greeley (CAS'29), Medford, Mass.
Allen L. Martin (SMG'29), Keene, N.H.
Margery E. Buker Reny (CAS'29), Medford, Mass.
Nathan D. Cantor (SMG'30), Acton, Mass.
Madeline Sheper Halper (SED'30), Brighton, Mass.
Wendell B. Hess (SMG'30), Northwood, N.H.
Albert G. Lunn (GRS'30), Dracut, Mass.
Edna M. Macmillan (SAR'30), Nashua, N.H.
Hazel E. Manzer (CAS'30), Ipswich, Mass.
Edward I. Modiste (SMG'30, LAW'33), Sharon, Mass.
Howard W. Bannister (SMG'31), Miami, Fla.
Everett R. Barrows (CAS'31, STH'34), Concord, N.H.
Gertrude Youdelovitz Freedman (SMG'31), Swampscott, Mass.
Earl R. Hudson (SMG'31), Salinas, Calif.
Robert E. Anderson (SMG'32), Newtown Square, Pa.
Edwin A. Cox (SED'32), Winsted, Conn.
James F. Poland (SMG'32), Newton Center, Mass.
Esther M. Pierce Prodgors (SED'32), South Yarmouth, Mass.
Marion Coleman Wood (CAS'32, S33), East Bridgewater, Mass.
Elise M. Conway Maly (STH'33), Selby, Ohio
E. Earl Kaller (SMG'34), Patchogue, N.Y.
Ruth Dainty Kiniry (CAS'34), Potomac, Md.
Louis J. Ailco (MED'35), Fairfield, Conn.
Dorothy Hooker Craig (SED'35), Orlando, Fla.
James J. Janusis (SMG'35), Boston, Mass.
Alisa Mackay Newman (PAL'35), Nashville, Tenn.
Samuel W. J. Walsh (GRS'35, S35), WHS'36
Mildred Merril Cook (SRE'36), Cranford, Conn.
D. Clifford Crumley (GRS'36, STH'37), San Francisco, Calif.
Eleanor Martin Dodge (CAS'36, GRS'39), Colville, Wash.
John M. Glen (SMG'36), Springfield, Mo.
William P. Goodman (SMG'36), Manchester, N.H.
Bernard H. Herz (SMG'36, LAW'37), Los Alamos, Calif.
Joseph M. Hill (LAW'36), Lebanon, Pa.
Helen W. Howard (SED'36), Kingston, Mass.
Jenny Sophia Lind (STH'36), Asheville, N.C.
Kenneth MacKillop (SEA'36), Medford, Mass.
Winifred Sullivan O'Connell (PAL'36), Hyannis, Mass.
Robert F. Pitcher (SMG'36), Hacketstown, N.J.
Carrie Ford Sawyer (SAR'36), Phoenix, Ariz.
Elisabeth Dennen Berndt (SED'37), Portland, Maine
Elmer L. Hunscomb (SMG'37), East Falmouth, Mass.
Lewis Hul (SEA'37, GRS'47), Stratford, N.H.
Rowena L'Appbe Plum (SED'37), Lynn, Mass.
Jerome J. Werby (SMG'37), Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Edward F. Curry (SED'38), Milton, Mass.
Dorothy Day Ewing (SRE'38), Sebring, Ohio
Violetta I. Leete (SED'38), Lady Lake, Fla.
Robert G. Williams (SMG'38), Niantic, Conn.
Myrtle Buckley Wright (SWW'38), Corpus Christi, Tex.
Hope Smith Byrne (PAL'39), Wellesley, Mass.
Merrill S. Cook (Sea'39, S39), Mashpee, Mass.
William F. Jones (LAW'39), Longmeadow, Mass.
Louis A. Kaplan (LAW'39), Sharon, Mass.
Russell H. Lawry (SED'39), Lynnfield, Mass.
Wilfred L. Lyon (STH'39), Roseboom, N.Y.
Delbert J. Sampson (STH'39), Bloomington, Minn.
A. Kent Foster (COM'40, SMG'40), Lewiston, Maine
Jean E. Leiser (SAR'40), Fort Charlotte, Fla.
Birdsey G. Palmer (LAW'40), Voluntown, Conn.
Ida Rossellini Rodriguez (PAL'40, GRS'42), Needham, Mass.
Gerald P. Burns (SED'41), Boca Raton, Fla.
Florence M. Sanborn Emerson (SAR'41), Epsom, N.H.
Charles W. Gardner (SED'41, S48), Rockport, Mass.
Maysville O. Page (MED'41), Richmond, Va.
Ellen H. Molloy Crowley (SMG'42), New Bedford, Mass.
Cleo E. Fisher Donaher (SED'42), Brewster, Mass.
Jennie A. Newman Easton (PAL'42), Englewood, Fla.
Robert Freedman (SED'42), Chestnut Hill, Mass.
Alma M. Joyce (SED'42), Woburn, Mass.
Richard W. Linsky (SMG'42), Framingham, Mass.
Robert D. Provost (SMG'42), Waianae, Hawaii
William H. Rockett (SMG'42), Falmouth, Mass.
Ralph Hall Sullivan (SMG'42), Silver Spring, Md.
Raul Anchau (LAW'43), Escondido, Calif.
George Cagan (SMG'43), Worcester, Mass.
Kendall O. Cass (CAS'43), Medway, Mass.
Dudley Cook (SMG'43), Waterboro, Maine
Nancy P. Newman Ferrero (SAR'43), Harlingen, Tex.
Primrose Rogers Fitzgerald (PAL'43), Houston, Tex.
Charles Hobbs (CAS'43), Brevard, N.C.
Beatrice S. Stone (SSW'43), Brookline, Mass.
Alfred E. Vesper (STH'44), Junction City, Ore.
Andrew W. Ansara (CAS'45, S46), Lowell, Mass.
Lawrence L. Brown (STH'45, GRS'47), Stewartstown, Pa.
Charles G. Colburn (MED'45), Westford, Mass.
Mary Durnion (GRS'45), Athens, Ohio
Raffi N. Hampson (SED'45), Peterborough, N.H.
Irene Gibber Leventhal (PAL'45), Doylestown, Pa.
Natalie Klein Mirkinson (SSW'45), Roslyn Heights, N.Y.
Pauline M. Younckus Berry (PAL'46), New Vernon, N.J.
Nathaniel R. Lash (SMG'46), Burlington, Vt.
Eleanor Anapolsky Newman (SAR'46), Peabody, Mass.
Bertha Rackmill Poliner (SAR'46), Boston, Mass.
Elsa K. Hall (SED’58), Melrose, Mass.
Gerald A. Moore (GRS’58), Lawrence, Mass.
Shirley Turgiss Shufelt (SMG’58), Wilmington, Mass.
Holly Pittcock Walcott (SED’58), Northborough, Mass.
Virginia Reed Wilson (SMG’58), Beverly, Mass.
Sylvia J. Bruce (SON’59, SED’71), Lakeland, Fla.
Ruth L. McGhee (SED’59), Marlborough, N.H.
Barbara Murphy Clarke Morton (SON’59), Winthrop, Maine
Estelle Sisson Stahl (SEA’59), Newton, Mass.
Hugo A. Bourdeau (GRS’60), San Antonio, Tex.
Susan Chamberlain (SMG’60), Wayland, Mass.
Judith Ptachinski Hricieniak (SON’60), Farmington, Conn.
J. Richard Huffines (STH’60, ’67), Edgewood, Md.
Lillian C. Kelly (SED’60), Cranston, R.I.
Thomas F. O’Connell (SED’60, GRS’61), Dennis Port, Mass.
Dorothy Rand (SED’60), Cantonment, Fla.
Doshia C. M. Dockett (SEA’61, SED’82), Lancaster, Pa.
Mary Roberts Fagan (SED’61), Newton, Mass.
R. Thomas Stewart (STH’61), Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Souran M. Der Ananian (CAS’62, LAW’65, GGS’60), Andover, Mass.
John G. Downs (SED’62), New Rochelle, N.Y.
Susan B. Franklin (CAS’62), Concord, Mass.
Myron J. Hirsch (SMG’62), Lynn, Mass.
Robert J. Langlois (SMG’62), Shelton, Conn.
Arthur M. Pfeiffer (SED’62), Simsbury, Conn.
Harold A. Bufi (ENG’63), Woburn, Mass.
William E. Conron (GGS’63), East Aurora, N.Y.
J. Worth Estes (GRS’63, MED’64), Westwood, Mass.
Emmet E. Ekland (GRS’64, STH’64), Edina, Minn.
Edward B. Fogerty (LAW’64), South Hamilton, Mass.
Sandra Perlmutter Morrison (CAS’64), Atalanta, Calif.
Phbe P. Bowitch (CAS’65), Cambridge, Mass.
Edward L. Grey (GRS’65), Newton Highlands, Mass.
Ennio Isabella (SDM’65), Schenectady, N.Y.
Marion E. Nolles (SMG’65), Worcester, Mass.
Gerald M. Simpson (SMG’65), Reading, Mass.
Thomas H. Boretti (CAS’66), Saugus, Mass.
Kathleen Rizk Brennan (SED’66), Dedham, Mass.
John L. Doyle (SDM’66), Hackensack, N.J.
Louise T. Gracie (SON’66), New Bedford, Mass.
Donald N. Humphries (ENG’66), Bedford, N.H.
Frances E. Penso (SMG’66), Bay Shore, N.Y.
Kenneth J. Rimpas (CAS’66), Belmont, Mass.
Elwyn E. Ayers (ENG’67), Beverly, Mass.
Lyle C. Winans (ENG’67), Denver, Colo.
Mary C. Torpey Hoag (SED’68), Salisbury, Md.
Rita Laflamme Logan (CAS’68), Miami Springs, Fla.
John W. Maddocks (CAS’68, DGE’66), Norwood, Mass.
Melva R. Osborne (SON’68), Dorchester, Mass.
Stephen C. Flashenberg (LAW’69), Andover, Mass.
Barnett J. Greene (SMG’69), Huntington Beach, Calif.
Michael W. Webster (SEA’69), Little Rock, Ark.
Carol Edward Wildman (SED’69), Fairborn, Ohio.
Calvin R. Cook (GSM’70), Sedona, Ariz.
William Russell (CAS’71), New Haven, Conn.
Judith Rae Anderson (SED’72, ’74), Andover, Mass.
William D. Craven (SMG’72), Wakefield, R.I.
Ann Smith Fitzgerald (SON’72), Shrewsbury, Mass.
Ronald Lee Kominski (GSM’72), Pelham, N.Y.
Mark J. Schiff (MED’72, CAS’72), Port Washington, N.Y.
Paul A. Stauffer (GRS’72), Cary, N.C.
Edward H. Diott (GSM’73), Natick, Mass.
Tim V. Irms (SED’73, ’86), Bainbridge, Ohio.
Elizabeth B. Laliberte (SON’73), Wethersfield, Conn.
Clifton C. Chew (SHE’74), Port Richey, Fla.
Nancy S. Gadd (CAS’74), Hollywood, Fla.
Steven P. Malinowski (CAS’74, DGE’72), Randolph, Mass.
Oliver J. Newton (CAS’74), West Newton, Mass.
Robert R. Biggs (SED’75), San Diego, Calif.
Joseph F. Mortola (CAS’75), Glenview, Ill.
Carol L. Ostroff (SED’75), Wayland, Mass.
Robert C. Hayes (SED’76), Harrisburg, Pa.
Neil S. Hotchner (GSM’76), Las Vegas, Nev.
F. Todd Miller (CAS’76), Lakehurst, N.J.
Julie A. Christoford Cunningham (CGS’77), Naples, Fla.
Carmen D. Smith Dill (SED’77), Clearwater Beach, Fla.
Amy Schlessinger (CAS’77), Boston, Mass.
Scott A. Yellin (CAS’77), Warren, R.I.
John Mercierio (SEA’78), West Boylston, Mass.
Jeffrey A. Stahl (CAS’78), Boston, Mass.
Margot Thom Nelson Swan (CGS’78), Boca Raton, Fla.
Roy E. Horton (SED’80), Glendale, Ariz.
Kenneth S. Oswalt (COM’81, STH’84), Newton, Mass.
Joseph John Zimkus (LAW’81), Port Orange, Fla.
Howard W. Oden (GSM’82, ’86), Thompson, Conn.
Jimmie R. Robinson (SED’82), San Antonio, Tex.
Michael W. Bray (MET’84), Wilmington, N.C.
Van-Alden A. Ferguson (COM’84), Bloomfield, Conn.
John M. Goodnow (MET’84), Burlington, N.J.
Juan F. Munoz (ENG’84), Paris, France.
Clyde Benn (SED’87), Midwest City, Okla.
Robin Jean MacMillan (MET’88), Boston, Mass.
Tessa K. White (MET’88), Bellevue, Nebr.
Christopher C. Cole (SED’90), Fremont, Calif.
Karen E. Lutz (SMG’90), Brooklyn, N.Y.
Maureen Elizabeth Neistadt (SAR’91), Haverhill, Mass.
Heather Hewitt Combs (CAS’95, CGS’94), Syracuse, N.Y.
Charlene Marie DiGregorio (SED’98), Milford, Mass.

Faculty Obituaries

Elizabeth Jackson Barker, 89, associate professor emerita of English at the College of Arts and Sciences and Metropolitan College, on February 16.

Barker earned a B.A. at Stanford in 1933, married Guy Barker, and began graduate studies, but the Depression and raising three children intervened. She received an M.A. at Trinity College, Conn., in 1959 and in 1961 became a fifty-year-old CAS Ph.D. student in English and a member of the first class at Rad-
cliff’s Bunting Institute. She was also a BU teaching fellow, and her zeal soon shifted from taking courses to teaching them.

Students in some freshman composition classes were writing about their summer vacations and their own philosophies; hers considered significant themes in western culture, reading for one class period, for instance, Job and Robert Frost on evil. She coordinated composition and literature programs at CAS and MET and invented literature courses, all multidisciplinary and organized around age-old themes and contemporary issues, in her determination to rescue CAS students from narrow, career-oriented paths and evening students from day jobs she deemed unworthy of them.

She had been a union organizer of New York department store workers and an advocate for Harlem tenants; her daughter Sarah recalls as a small child "holding her hand and striding down a street in New York singing 'Solidarity Forever.' I had a feeling that we were very right and very brave." She conveyed that spirit as an enthusiastic participant in BU rallies against the Vietnam War. For the times she was conservative, advising students to behave responsibly and politely (rudeness was, for one thing, counterproductive), but when disruptive demonstrators were arrested, she insisted that the bemused police take her, too. During the faculty strike in the late seventies, even her little dog marched with a placard.

In 1969 she took a BU quiz team to the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Norfolk for a practice match, and found her great reformist passion. A published poet, she began to organize poetry readings by prisoners and guests (over the years including Robert Penn Warren, Derek Walcott, and Robert Pinsky) with assorted audience members from the University and community she had invited or coerced into coming. In 1972 she accepted President John Silber as he left an acrimonious faculty meeting and outlined a degree program for prisoners. “Barker, that’s the best idea I ever heard from this faculty,” she enjoyed quoting him. “Do it.”

She did, recruiting a volunteer faculty and masterminding a curriculum in the spirit of her campus courses. Smoking incessantly because she always did and because it was forbidden there, she taught men, many with scant education, to read great literature, grapple with great ideas, and think for themselves. To admiring inmates and campus colleagues, she was soon “Ma” Barker, named for the legendary woman gangster, but also for her personal support of her prison students. When some were transferred to prerelease centers, she established degree programs there, as well as a master’s program at Norfolk. She repeatedly backed her belief in the redemptive powers of education by declaring that no student from her programs had ever been rearrested for more than minor parole violations, a statistic that was almost true.

She retired officially in 1977 and continued teaching in the prison program and at BU. Guy’s death, in 1988, was a staggering blow, and even Ma Barker could not fight off Alzheimer’s disease forever, although she managed for more years than in retrospect anyone can be certain of. She taught her last class, at MET, in 1994.

At her memorial service at Marsh Chapel, family and friends recalled the “world vision” of her classes, “wonderful musical and gestatory events” at her home, and brave and successful battles against State House opposition to her prison programs. The scheduled eulogies were followed by an invitation for others to speak. Many did: of relentless commitment, testimony at parole hearings, and fun—boisterous parties with Elizabeth leading heated discussions and Guy doing the dishes. “Elizabeth assisted me in redefining myself,” a former prisoner said; she traveled to Cincinnati to visit his dying mother because he could not, and housed him after his release. A family member urged that tributes end because time for the reception was nearly up. But honoring a woman who could not be silenced at faculty meetings, in conversation (“She would not take yes for an answer”), or when Silber was trying to meet with the chairman of the Board of Trustees, admirers kept coming forward to speak with love, respect, and amused awe of, as one said, “her wisdom and truth and passion.”

Contributions to the Guy and Elizabeth Barker Scholarships, established by a former prison student and supported by others, may be sent in care of Boston University Development Office, 599 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. — NJM

Josephine R. Lambert, 78, retired associate professor at the School of Social Work, on February 7.

Also a member of the African-American studies faculty and coordinator of the dual-degree program in African-American studies and social work, Lambert was SSW’s first tenured African-American faculty member. During her fifteen years at the school, she taught general social work practice, social group work, and the implications of institutional racism for social work practice and recruited minority students. She retired in 1985.

“Josephine made innumerable contributions to the School of Social Work,” says SSW Dean Wilma Peebles Wilkins. "She was a dedicated educator, a helpful student advisor, and a dynamic recruiter of students of color. She was also tremendously active in the community at large, particularly with young people. We will greatly miss her sensitivity, kindness, and sense of humor.”

Prior to joining BU, Lambert was director of youth programs and then program director of Roxbury Neighborhood House. She subsequently was a social science analyst and community organization specialist with the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Contributions in Lambert’s memory may be made to the Josephine Lambert Scholarship Fund, School of Social Work, 264 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215.

Thomas Grier van Slyke (SED’47, GRS’50), 87, professor emeritus of guidance, on November 12. Van Slyke graduated from Colby College and earned master’s degrees at SED and GRS. In 1948, after a year as a University admissions officer, he became a guidance counselor, eventually gaining CAS faculty rank and becoming director of guidance, and for a time, assistant to the dean and then assistant dean. He retired in 1977. “He was advisor to generations of students and was viewed with respect by his colleagues,” says Dean Emeritus Ernest Blaustein. “He was the guidance office.”

After World War II Van Slyke left the army as a lieutenant colonel. He returned to active duty during the Korean War, then transferred to the Retired Reserves, becoming a colonel. He won numerous medals, including the Bronze Star.
To Market, to Market, to Buy Some ID

If it wasn't for the Irish and the Jews

By Joshua Glenn

Shopping for Identity: The Marketing of Ethnicity by Marilyn Halter (Schocken, 2000, 244 pages, $23)

For the first half of the twentieth century, Americanization (read assimilation) was the reigning paradigm for the incorporation of immigrant populations into this country. But in the 1960s, movements for recognition and self-determination launched by blacks, Native Americans, and Chicanos signaled the beginning of what by now has become a full-blown ethnic revival. Thanks in part to those grassroots movements toward cultural pluralism, according to a new book by Marilyn Halter, today “ethnicization” has become not only a vital part of the Americanization process, but a growth industry for American business as well.

Anyone who has visited one of the new more-Irish-than-Ireland pubs in Boston, or who has marveled at the variety of "roots music" now available at Tower Records, or who has taken an organized tour of one of New York City's ethnic neighborhoods, or who has purchased a tribal-style ceremonial mask at any of J. C. Penney's Authentic African boutiques, to name just a few examples described in Shopping for Identity: The Marketing of Ethnicity, has already been exposed to the multifaceted phenomenon of ethnic marketing. It's a vast topic, and Halter, a College of Arts and Sciences associate professor of history and American studies, does an admirable job of guiding the reader both across genres — from ethnic festivals to tourism, from food retailing to wedding planning — and through decades — from Procter & Gamble's 1913 advertisement proclaiming that "The Hebrew Race Has Been Waiting 4,000 Years" for all-vegetable Crisco to the San Francisco entrepreneur who recently launched He'Brew, "the Chosen Beer."

Despite the book's apparently critical subtitle, Halter argues that while consumerism disrupts ethnic tradition, community, and meaning, it simultaneously enhances such identifications. For today's upwardly mobile hyphenated Americans, whom Halter describes as being free to "pick and choose the when and how of [traditionally ascriptive] ethnic expression," ethnic identity is increasingly made manifest through the self-conscious consumption of ethnicized goods and services. She seeks to demonstrate that in fact, without corporate America's profit-driven imperative to target specific ethnic constituencies via segmented marketing campaigns, certain acts of ethnic self-definition in our culture...
would be impossible. By way of example, Halter describes the Cajun culture of Louisiana, which had all but died out when it was resuscitated in the 1970s by an influx of tourists looking for an authentic Cajun experience. As a result, certain parts of Louisiana are now somehow more authentically Cajun than they were in the first place.

This question of authenticity, not to mention the vertiginous prospect of the more-authentic-than-authentic, is at the heart of Halter’s project; it arises whenever the book touches upon her other central theme: shopping for identity. Again, the critical-sounding title is misleading. Halter may grumble about the subject of certain recent cosmetics campaigns that seem to imply that racial and ethnic identities are so fluid that one can just paint them on in the morning and wash them off again at night, but she refuses to side with those purists who castigate the “part-time,” “convenience,” or “vicarious” modes of ethnicity with which her book is concerned. “What makes for an authentic ethnic identification?” Halter asks rhetorically. According to her study’s (rather anecdotal) findings, “it is the deliberate or conscious choice involved in participation, affiliation, and consumption that remains so full of meaning-making for contemporary ethncities.”

Authenticity, in this scenario, is something invented, as opposed to discovered. In a world that feels increasingly barren of meaning, she would have us understand, it’s the act of searching for meaning (whether by visiting one’s ancestral homeland or by visiting the food court at the mall) that is meaningful. Despite the fact, then, that authenticity has become a hot commodity, as Halter skillfully proves, pointing to examples of authenticity-mongering on the part of everyone from neighborhood bodegas to AT&T, one ought not to react by succumbing to what she describes as a “nostalgia for an idealized and fixed point in time when folk culture was supposedly untouched by the corruption that is automatically associated with commercial development.” There exists a dialectical give-and-take between “authentic cultural purity,” Halter argues, and “cultural expression that has been so commercialized that it has been robbed of any distinctive meaning.” If anything, she concludes, ethnicized consumer products and services “are replacing traditional neighborhood and community affiliations as the connective tissue of postmodern life.”

Otherwise sympathetic readers may balk at this breezy pronunciamento. They may feel, moreover, that Halter is going too far in celebrating, as she does, Disney’s Mickey Mouse and Winnie the Pooh memorials. And they may wonder whether Coca-Cola’s marketing department urging us to “Create a Cinco de Mayo Party” can really be regarded as a sign of America’s progress away from the melting pot metaphor toward a more pluralist tossed salad image, as Halter suggests it is. At moments like these, she resembles a radical antifoundationalist.

And it is precisely at such moments that one realizes the book’s title phrases are deliberately provocative; the author is playfully tweaking the sensibilities of the contemporary reader, for whom the term ethnicity has a sort of culturally conferred sacredness, and for whom a word like marketing carries all sorts of negative connotations. The fact that Halter never apologizes for the contradiction between the book’s (apparently) sks-taking titles and her contrarian argument suggests her determination to inspire further investigations into the very nature of ethnicity, authenticity, and ethnic authenticity. Original in premise, thoughtfully researched, and eminently readable, Shopping for Identity ought to do just that.

The Broken Promised Land

BY PETER LUBIN

One Palestine, Complete: Jews and Arabs Under the British Mandate
by Tom Segev (GRS ’86), translated by Haim Watzman (Metropolitan Books, 2000, 612 pages, $35)

Here is a book on Mandatory Palestine that does not include the Mandate for Palestine. The central thesis of Israeli journalist Tom Segev’s One Palestine, Complete is that the British “kept their promise to the Zionists. They opened the country to

Peter Lubin teaches writing at the School of Law and reviews books for several publications, including the Wall Street Journal.

mass Jewish immigration . . . British actions considerably favored the Zionist enterprise.” But how can a reader judge this claim unless the commitments made by Great Britain to receive the Mandate for Palestine from the League of Nations in 1922 are laid out? Surely a page or two of the book’s 600 could have been devoted to reproducing both the Balfour Declaration and the provisions of the Mandate.

After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire during World War I, Great Britain occupied — militarily and then as Mandatory Authority — what it called Palestine until Israeli independence in 1948. The Preamble to the League of Nations Mandate for Palestine states that “the Principal Allied Powers have . . . agreed that

the Mandatory should be responsible for putting into effect the [Balfour] declaration originally made on November 2, 1917, by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and adopted by the said Powers, in favour of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing should be done which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine.” Segev concedes that everyone, including the British, realized that sooner or later this meant a Jewish state. The Mandatory Authority was to encourage “close Jewish settlement on the land” (Article VI).

Failure to include the Mandate’s provisions is only the first of many bizarre aspects of this book. Major historical events — such as the creation of the Emirate of Transjordan (present day Jordan) out
of Eastern Palestine, originally expected to form part of the Palestine Mandate, and the British White Paper of 1939, severely limiting Jewish immigration — are relegated to a footnote or a sentence. On the other hand, there is a lot of historically irrelevant material of the human-interest variety. This ranges from the car worries of police superintendent Raymond Caffrata of Hebron during the 1929 massacre of its Jewish population to the epistolary passion between Sir Evelyn Barker, British military commander in Palestine from 1946 to 1948, and his Arab lover. There are the running twin tales of one Arab, Khalil al-Sakakani, and one Jew, Alter Levine, with their vaguely intertwined destinies. Segev should have resisted the temptation to use his treasure trove of personal diaries and letters in a book that is supposed to be about matters quintessentially political, diplomatic, and military. Barker’s remarks about wanting to eradicate Zionists are relevant; his amorous effusions are not.

Unkind Cut
The first great betrayal by the British of their responsibilities as a Mandatory Power was the last-minute amendment they inserted into the final draft of the Mandate for Palestine, which tore out all of Eastern Palestine, amounting to three-quarters of the territory originally contemplated for the mandatory territory, and half of historic Palestine. This was done to provide, by way of consolation prize, some territory where Abdullah, the Hashemite younger brother of Faisal, could be given a throne of his own (sons of the Sherif of Mecca, they had both been driven out of Arabia by Ibn Saud and the Wahhabis). Faisal ended up with Iraq, and to take Abdullah’s attention away from Syria (and thus avoid problems with the French), the British offered up most of the very territory that they were supposed to be tending for the Jewish national home. Although both the League of Nations Mandates’ Commission and proponents of the Jewish national home were aghast at this amputation of Eastern Palestine by a pen-stroke, the whole matter rates a single, misleading footnote in the book.

Another betrayal by some British officials was the attempt in April 1920 to encourage Arab attacks on Jews during the Muslim holiday of Nebi Musa, which that year coincided with Easter. Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, the political officer of Major General Edmund Allenby, the commander of the British military administration in Palestine, recorded in his diary that Colonel Bertie Waters-Taylor, Allenby’s aide, told the Mufti of Jerusalem that he “had a great opportunity . . . to show the world that the Arabs of Palestine would not tolerate Jewish domination . . . that Zionism was unpopular not only with the Palestine administration but in Whitehall; and if disturbances of sufficient violence occurred in Jerusalem at Easter, both General Bols and General Allenby would advocate the abandonment of the Jewish Home.”

The day of the riots all British troops and Jewish police were ordered out of Jerusalem’s Old City. After the attacks began, British troops barred hastily assembled Jewish self-defense forces from entering the Old City. Meinertzhagen protested all the way to the foreign secretary in Whitehall, Lord Curzon. Allenby threatened to resign if Meinertzhagen’s protest was accepted. It was not. Segev, however, not only fails to report the evidence that the riots were known about in advance, and likely encouraged by some British officials, but cites only a few of Meinertzhagen’s words and then casts doubt on his veracity: “Meinertzhagen,” he writes, “had his own reason for blaming the riots on his colleagues. Only four days before Nebi Musa, he had written to the Foreign Office that all was quiet. ‘I do not anticipate any immediate trouble in Palestine,’ he predicted. Thus he attributed the events to a plot by British officers.” But Meinertzhagen did not “attribute events to a plot”; he accused some British officials of encouraging, not plotting, the violence. More significant is Segev’s sly “thus,” which by grading semantically into “therefore,” implies that Meinertzhagen was only a cautious careerist intent on protecting his back. Because of his protest, and his refusal to drop it despite the opposition of his superiors, he was kicked out of Palestine. This behavior hardly suggests a careerist.

The Nebi Musa attacks were the first example of large-scale Arab violence against the Jews in Palestinian cities. After Jerusalem, there were attacks in Jaffa in 1921 and then the massacre of the Jews of Hebron, leaving the city without Jews for the first time in 800 years. Segev does not dwell on the quality of British police protection except to explain away the pitiful behavior of police superintendent Caffrata at Hebron; he does not comment on the justice of meting out punishments to attacker and victim alike.

Partisan Patterns
In the 1920s the British turned over all of Eastern Palestine to a displaced Hashemitc son for reasons of transient realpolitik, and they failed to provide security for the Jews — indeed, as the Nebi Musa episode shows, they sometimes encouraged Arab violence. Another fateful choice was the British decision to appoint Haj Amin el Husseini as Mufti of Jerusalem — a man who spent World War II in Berlin, where he helped to raise an army of Muslim volunteers to fight for the Nazis. (This episode is thoroughly dealt with in the dry and dispassionate prose of the foremost historian of the early Mandate period, Elie Kedourie, who is not mentioned anywhere in Segev’s book.) At no time in this period can the British be said to have encouraged the establishment of the Jewish national home.

The second decade of the Mandate was even more dismal. While Jewish refugees from Hitler had been able to come to Palestine in the 1930s, the British White Paper of May 1939 — just four months before the outbreak of World War II — choked off the main escape destination from Europe. By this document, the British committed two great wrongs. First, the White Paper severely limited that part of Western Palestine where Jews were permitted to buy land. But far more fatal in its immediate consequences was the section of the White Paper that limited Jewish immigration to 15,000 a year for five years, after which there would be a “review,” with an Arab veto, the clear implication of which was that all immigration would come to
an end. Thus did the British, at the moment of greatest peril and desperation for European Jewry, cut off to all but a handful the refuge of Mandatory Palestine. This document, with its severe restrictions on Jewish immigration into Palestine, led Winston Churchill to declare in Parliament on May 22, 1939: “Now, there is the breach; there is the violation of the pledge; there is the abandonment of the Balfour Declaration; there is the end of the vision, of the hope, of the dream.” The White Paper’s consequences deserve at least as much attention as that devoted to the vaporings of Sir Evelyn Barker, yet Segev treats its provisions in one misleading sentence. More attention is given to a description two pages later of a British soldier’s visit to “the Arab Can-Can Club in the heart of Haifa’s marketplace,” where “at midnight an Armenian girl danced stark naked among the tables.”

Before the war, Neville Chamberlain had said, “If we must offend the Jews or the Arabs, let it be the Jews.” During the war, while many Arabs cheered on the Nazis, Jewish volunteers from Palestine spied for the British or fought as soldiers. Jewish refugees, however, were continually blocked from Palestine. Refugee ships were fired on and some were sunk. After the war it was the same. The Royal Navy attacked refugee-laden vessels attempting to bring survivors of the death camps to Palestine, including some — like the Exodus — in international waters. There were Jews who survived the Nazis only to be killed by British soldiers blocking the way to Mandatory Palestine. In London, Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin warned of a “new wave of anti-Semitism” if the Jews did not cease making their demands in Palestine. Much later, British Laborite R. H. Crossman, who had served in the British government at the time, publicly accused both Bevin and Prime Minister Clement Attlee of “having tried to destroy the Jews of Palestine.”

As the Arabs refused the U.N. Partition Plan in late 1947 and prepared to make war, the attitude of many British officials may be gauged by their comments, the most remarkable of which are not in the Segev book. There was the chief secretary for Palestine, Sir Henry Gurney, who told Golda Meyerson (Meir), “You know, Mrs. Meyerson, if Hitler persecuted Jews, there must be some reason for it,” and was puzzled that she took offense. He also threatened David Ben-Gurion that “the RAF would bomb Tel Aviv” if the fighting in Jaffa did not cease.

The British had armed, trained, and led the Arab Legion of Transjordan; they had armed and trained (but not always led) the forces of Egypt and Iraq. British soldiers, however, spent much of 1946 and 1947 in systematically disarming the Jews of Palestine. When Israel declared its independence in 1948, a total arms embargo on Jewish forces was firmly in place; it was enforced by a tight British blockade along the Mediterranean coast. Meanwhile the British continued to pour supplies into the Arab states. When the Arabs went to war, it was the regular armies of five Arab states, not the local Arabs, who were the great threat. Many in the British political establishment were prepared to see the Jews lose, with consequences that could easily be imagined.

Few in Whitehall were glad, and many lamented, when the Jews prevailed. Sir John Troutbeck, head of the British Middle East Office in Cairo, said of the Arab defeat, “We are partners in adversity.” The British government refused to recognize the Jewish state for nine months, long after all other major countries in the world, and despite the pleadings of Churchill. And that same government continued to oppose Israel’s admission to the United Nations. None of this is mentioned by Segev.

As a history of Mandatory Palestine, One Palestine, Complete, with its omissions and sleights-of-word, its strange emphases, its ill-considered mingling of serious history and human-interest gush, is, at best, misleading. Segev is not so much a historian as a man with a mission: to overturn received ideas even if it means doing violence to the truth. Unfortunately, those not familiar with the period he covers can hardly be expected to realize just how much has been omitted, elided, or explained away.

Keeping an eye on the Western Wall, 1946.
Tales at Twilight

BY TODD HEARON

Time’s Fool: A Tale in Verse by Glyn Maxwell (Houghton Mifflin, 2000, 396 pages, $27)

A poet’s Selected Poems always marks an occasion — for celebration, certainly; for reflection, evaluation; ultimately, for moving on. Janus-like, it shows the poet at a threshold, a cusp-condition in which the light is dusk-and-dawn. Twilight: the word seems apt, then, in the title of Glyn Maxwell’s new selection from his first three books, The Boys at Twilight: Poems 1990–1995. But it’s apt, too, in that the book is flanked by a pair of fresh volumes, The Breakage and Time’s Fool: A Tale in Verse, the latter a dazzling poem of close to 400 pages. At the twilit cusp of two centuries, the thirty-something Maxwell is being hailed as “England’s brightest new poet for a decade” (the Guardian).

From first to last, Maxwell is a formalist — a term used by detractors and enthusiasts alike to signify that a poet’s verse has manners. In its adoption of traditional stanzaic forms and incursions into many that are new, Maxwell’s verse appears ever in a witty and allusive dance with poetry’s past masters. The standard comparisons inevitably get applied: “It’s like Auden”; “It’s like Larkin.” And, especially in the early work, that’s true. But Maxwell has made the music, ultimately, his own. His best poetry carries a self-generative force that, like a Bunsen flame, rides the current of its own fume. The dynamic relation between syntax — headstrong, vola-

Time’s Fool: A Tale in Verse by Glyn Maxwell (Houghton Mifflin, 2000, 396 pages, $27)

A poet’s Selected Poems always marks an occasion — for celebration, certainly; for reflection, evaluation; ultimately, for moving on. Janus-like, it shows the poet at a threshold, a cusp-condition in which the light is dusk-and-dawn. Twilight: the word seems apt, then, in the title of Glyn Maxwell’s new selection from his first three books, The Boys at Twilight: Poems 1990–1995. But it’s apt, too, in that the book is flanked by a pair of fresh volumes, The Breakage and Time’s Fool: A Tale in Verse, the latter a dazzling poem of close to 400 pages. At the twilit cusp of two centuries, the thirty-something Maxwell is being hailed as “England’s brightest new poet for a decade” (the Guardian).

From first to last, Maxwell is a formalist — a term used by detractors and enthusiasts alike to signify that a poet’s verse has manners. In its adoption of traditional stanzaic forms and incursions into many that are new, Maxwell’s verse appears ever in a witty and allusive dance with poetry’s past masters. The standard comparisons inevitably get applied: “It’s like Auden”; “It’s like Larkin.” And, especially in the early work, that’s true. But Maxwell has made the music, ultimately, his own. His best poetry carries a self-generative force that, like a Bunsen flame, rides the current of its own fume. The dynamic relation between syntax — headstrong, vola-

Tod Hearon (GRS’02) is completing his Ph.D. at BU’s Editorial Institute. His poems and translations have appeared most recently in Southern Humanities Review, Yankee, and The Formalist. In 2000, the Bridge Theatre Company premiered his full-length verse monologue, What Ghosts There Were, at the Boston Center for the Arts.

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and reining in of thought, is Maxwell’s own.

Narrative-dramatic poetry is Maxwell’s métier, a hybrid flower rare in the garden of contemporary verse, overgrown as it is with lyrical narcissus, each golden trumpet piping I, I, I. In lieu of lyrics, Maxwell offers tales — “Tale of the Mayor’s Son” (the title poem of his first collection); “Tale of a Chocolate Egg,” described by Adam Kirsch as a “pitch-perfect description of a bored young man’s growing obsession with a new kind of candy.” Or there’s the title poem of his third collection, “Out of the Rain,” the hilarious, convoluted saga of an unlikely, unnamed survivor of the Flood, who didn’t get a guest-pass for the Ark (“and this — this is that story”). The dramatic monologue is here, as are poems composed in the collective We (“We Billion Cheered,” “Just Like Us,” “Song of Our Man”), occasions for a skeptical, at times sardonic, view of English insularity.

None of this is to suggest that Maxwell shuns the lyric. Some of his most eloquent and tender moments are couched in that most personal of forms. It is to say that Maxwell runs against the grain of many of his contemporaries, for whom the poem stands as an occasion for expression of the self, of that self’s personality, of the qualities that differentiate it from all the otherJonquils in the bed. The poem, one feels in reading Maxwell, is not so much an occasion for self-expression as for the self’s expulsion — a holding out of merely personal idioms and synergies in favor of a lively yarn, full of the imagined idiosyncrasies of its characters. Again, there are exceptions, as in the lovely and balanced “Either”; but even here, the lyric’s voice seems subsumed into the larger impersonality of a determining poetic form. Note how each disyllabic line-end stands as a kind of fence that the voice trips over, finding itself in the field of each new line.

A northern hill aghast with weather
Scolds and lets me hurry over.
Someone phoned to tell my father
Someone died this morning of a
Stoke. The news has tapped me with a
Stick. I vaguely knew his brother.
No one knows where I am either.
Now I'm lost. I don't know whether this road runs along the river. Far enough. I miss my lover, town and all the south. I'd rather die than be away forever, what's the difference. Here's another field I don't remember either.

That second stanza could have been spoken by Edmund Lea, the protagonist of Maxwell's new book-length poem, *Time's Fool* (again, *A Tale in Verse*). When the book opens, Edmund has been riding a ghost train for fourteen years as punishment for a crime he cannot clearly recollect. He first believes he has been drugged, then, as time progresses, that he is insane. As a former hockey player with a ghost train for fourteen years as punishment for a crime he cannot clearly recollect. He first believes he has been drugged, then, as time progresses, that he is insane. Finally he comes to the conclusion that he is in Hell. Every seven years, on Christmas Eve, he is returned to his hometown, unaged, where he witnesses the world gone on without him. Like Wagner's Flying Dutchman, to whom he is compared by a Poet who mysteriously appears one day after the train has stopped in the middle of nowhere, Edmund must discover a way to lift the curse that is upon him. The narrative — sustained through forty-five sections, or cantos, of terza rima (Dante's form) — is at once thrilling and tortuous; time leaps and loops within the span 1970 to 2019 until after a while one understands, palpably, Edmund's ralilsickness, the blur in memory of a nondistinct countryside — grey, quintessentially English — rushing by in a state of perpetual afternoon (no twilight here: Edmund never witnesses the sunrise or sunset). The verse makes formal allusion to Dante's Hell, although as Edmund makes clear to the disheveled young Poet, his unlikely Virgil,

> It was not the Hell you know about. No one seen again, no one in here, and no one speaking this, the English language.

Maxwell here is at his absolute best. Humor, wit, pathos, poignancy — the poem presents his finest qualities in abundance. The imaginative sweep is stunning. Twilight be damned: in *Time's Fool* the Boy has come of age.

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**Lord of the Rink**

**By Paul Szep**


What a wonderful shock to open a book and for a fantastical moment think that the writer had you in mind when he created it. As a former hockey player with a *Leave It to Beaver* family history, I read *Home Ice* and saw my life come alive on the page. I now realize it is a life many have shared.

On the surface, *Home Ice* seems to be a book about hockey exclusively. It is not. Jack Falla's recent opus is a heartwarming story of one man's mission to build a backyard ice rink every winter, a rink that would house his dreams and fulfill the needs of a traditional family in an untraditional way.

Remember "Build It and They Will Come"? This is reminiscent of that dream and of other people who know dreams can become real. Falla's wife sums up the tone of *Home Ice* in an incident in which several people were skating together in bitter cold on the rink the Fallas had actually built. One of their friends whines about how bone-chillingly cold it is: "It's so cold, I'm freezing... I wish I could skate in the summer instead." Barbara replies, "Anyone can love the summer, but to love winter you must carry your sunshine around with you." She shines throughout the book.

The eighteen chapters take the reader on a voyage that includes skating with the great Gretzky and meeting and talking home ice rinks with Gretzky's father, in Brandford, Ontario. We learn of the author's obsessive love of hockey, and the excitement that comes with a trip to Boston Garden to see his Boston Bruin heroes. The book also includes a forward by one of those heroes, the legendary Bobby Orr.

*Home Ice* reminds me of my life growing up in Canada. My dad couldn't build me an outdoor rink, but he did the next best thing. He got up at five o'clock on many a frozen morning to drive me to hockey practice in an arena even colder than outdoors. There are descriptions that remind me of walking three miles to a pond, shoveling snow off and spending the entire day pretending that I was Maurice Richard, and then walking home tired but invigorated.

Falla also brings back the morning bicycle rides in full hockey gear to an outdoor rink, playing again at noon, and then in the big game in the arena at night.

Falla's culture, the culture that created his rink, the Bacon Street Omni, is rich but unmaterialistic, impressive but never ostentatious. It's the culture that created stickhandlers, not slapshooters. Sadly, it's a vanishing culture. Happily, there are those who sustain it.
Alumni Books

BY NATALIE JACOBSON MCCracken

Paramedical Concerns

Peter Baida (GRS’73). A Nurse’s Story and Others. University Press of Mississippi. Jack Davenport, a retired Detroit newspaperman blinded years before when

his crusade against mob-controlled unions earned him a faceful of acid, and Harry Moth, a retired petty mobster, are both in love with seventy-year-old Marie. She marries Jack, and after some initial political arguments, he and Harry are friends.

“They realized they saw the world in much the same way—as a racket. Jack was interested in cleaning up the mess, and Harry was interested in getting a piece of the action.”

“At this point, somehow, what matters most is that both of them love the same woman, both of them find it necessary to nap after lunch, both of them have prostate problems, and both of them would rather talk about things that happened forty years ago than things that happened yesterday.”

Marie dies, and soon the two men are living together. To their neighbors, they are “the nice elderly couple in 4-M . . . taking care of one another, living day by day, waiting for the end.”

Many stories in this collection concern peaceful years or hours before death, sometimes with appearances, perhaps real, by long-dead friends. “Thank God for morphine,” the nurse says to one in her last hours. And her ghostly visitor, a nun, replies, “I’ll do that.”

The interest in dying is not surprising: Baida was a longtime employee at a New York cancer center, and perhaps more relevant, long in poor health. When the title story received the 1999 O. Henry Award, he was not well enough to attend the ceremony and this collection, his first, is posthumous.

Still, while Baida lived only to forty-nine, when his characters die it is after a long life, and death is not the topic of their stories but the device, one way or another, to consider significant themes: labor union issues, adult children learning the truth about their parents, and particularly, the taking or avoiding of responsibility and its consequences. An employee of a pharmaceutical company opposes the release of a potentially dangerous drug and loses his job and family. An elderly German doctor, comfortable in a genteel nursing home, remembers his distasteful work in an asylum in the mid-thirties in compliance with “the eugenics of the nation.” A nurse who had always done as her supervisors asked, “who never in her life, before or after the strike, ever voted for anyone but a Republican, found herself on a picket line.” Salaries were not raised, but they won, however briefly, a more important victory: “For the next three years . . . we had the staff to give the kind of care we wanted to give.”

Life is indeed a racket and seldom fair, but in these stories and the others, Baida sees more disappointment than tragedy, more goodness than evil, more humanity than selfishness. These are warm stories but unsentimental, bittersweet and gently humorous. Literature is the poorer for his delayed recognition and his early death.

Self and Sensibility

Maria T. Miliora (SSW’85). Narcissism, the Family, and Madness: A Self-Psychological Study of Eugene O’Neill and His Plays. Peter Lang. In the late 1960s and the 1970s, Heinz Kohut was developing his influential theory of self-psychology, which augmented classical Freudianism with an emphasis on the role of family in psychological development. A well-integrated personality, Kohut wrote, requires empathetic, supportive parents or others; parents without a mature sense of self must re-create their dependence (on alcohol, for example) and unbalanced reactions to stress (anger, withdrawal, and the like) in their children.

A quarter century and more before, O’Neill was developing strikingly similar principles, overlaying oedipal motifs with an emphasis on family and family substitutes. The themes are obvious in his realistic plays. The Tyrone family of Long Day’s Journey into Night, much like O’Neill’s own, consists of addicted, self-engrossed parents and two grown sons who are at once emotionally dependent on them and dreaming of escape, all four retreating when they can into illusion. (Not surprisingly, Kohut called it and The Iceman Cometh “the greatest dramas of our age.”) The family in O’Neill’s only comedy, Ah, Wilderness! is the reverse of the Tyrones and thus of the family O’Neill grew up in: cheerful, loving, and able to empathize with their younger son and help him view the vicissitudes of teenage romance realistically.

A psychoanalyst as well as a Suffolk University chemistry professor, Miliora finds strikingly similar plots in many of O’Neill’s nonfamilial plays. The several set on ships generally concern societal outcasts seeking, with varying success, a sense of home and fellowship. So do the characters, primarily alcoholics and streetwalkers, of Iceman. Gathered in Harry’s bar and back room, they have been both protected and damaged by this family they have created, fellow alcoholics who believe one another’s stories and dreams. As illusions are shattered, so are lives, with increasing drunkenness creating a
sense of increasing fantasy.

Other plays make the same points more fantastically. *The Great God Brown*, in which sons of two families fail to fulfill their parents’ dreams or their own, uses masks to represent disparity between truth and illusion. The self-proclaimed Emperor Jones, a former Pullman porter who has convinced the inhabitants of a small West Indies island of his invincibility, can believe it himself as long he is safe in his palace. Forced into the forest, he loses all sense of self and dies. Similarly, the Hairy Ape, whose strength and rages have earned him the grudging respect of his fellow stokers aboard a liner, views himself as the superhuman who powers the ship. When the milieu he controls is invaded by a passenger, his illusion is shattered; he leaves the safety of the ship, and he dies.

All can be viewed as autobiographical. O’Neill’s third (and last) wife, Carlotta, has been quoted as saying that he “died when his hand tremor kept him from writing,” although he lived for several years after he had thus left the psychological haven writing had been for him. Suicide, along with alcoholism and madness, ran in his family, and in his final years he committed “symbolic . . . suicide,” as Miloria notes, by ordering his late manuscripts destroyed.

And So It Goes

Stewart O’Nan (ENG’83). *Everyday People*. Grove Press. The settings of O’Nan’s previous novels include, but are not limited to, post-Civil War small-town Wisconsin, the Vietnam War, Long Island in the forties, and Oklahoma as remembered from death row. This time it’s fictional East Liberty, an African-American community newly isolated from the rest of Pittsburgh (O’Nan’s hometown) by a busway that reroutes traffic around the business district, “so if you ever wanted white-folk to leave you alone, you ought to be happy now.”

The characters, interrelated by blood or friendship, are isolated too, living alone or cut off from the family they live with by private sorrows and the exhaustion of double shifts and household responsibilities. Central to the action (one “everyday” quality of the book is that various things happen to various people: there is no single, honed plot) is seventeen-year-old Chris, lonely for Vanessa and their baby, although he had broken off the relationship a month before the accident that consigned him to a wheelchair. His brother, born-again in prison, is back home and struggling unsuccessfully to save other young men from the streets, so relentlessly good and giving that even his sympathetic family draws back. Their mother, weighed down by work and Chris’s broken life, mourns the end of love but not marriage; her husband, having ended an affair, is dutifully devoted to family obligations although his heart is elsewhere.

And so it goes: Mr. Linney plays his 78s and dances with the memory of his dead wife; Vanessa lives with her mother, waitresses, attends college, then comes home to care for the baby she is too tired to enjoy. There are happy memories and even now some happy times: sociability for Chris on Wednesday evenings when he takes his portable television outside and the younger neighbor teenagers gather around to watch *Voyager*, quiet delight for his father with the young man he sneaks off to love; the pleasures of an interesting class assignment for Vanessa. But when the television show ends, the kids drift off to their own able-bodied lives; Chris’s father sacrifices love for family obligations; and how many years will a college degree take, one course at a time? In the natural course of things little pleasures flare and fade, and what is left is young men killing one another over drugs and friendship, mothers and grandmothers mourning, an enjoyable life destroyed by idle vandalism, people alone. Racial and economic inequality may be integral to O’Nan’s setting, dramatized by a busway built with state money that could better have gone to a new community center, then named with much fanfare for the most successful politician to have come from East Liberty. But by now inequality is a creature of the system, not the individuals who ride through daily without seeing, really seeing, what’s outside the bus window. Even Chris’s fall, the defining sorrow of the novel, is only indirectly the product of street life; the high walk built over the busway so that kids would not be cut off from the park was there, and so he climbed it, spray paint in hand. The tragedy in the everyday life of everyday people is lack of realistic hope: without a definable enemy, what is there to fight?

Any Hope for Healing

Melanie Rae Thon (GRS’83). *Sweet Hearts*. Houghton Mifflin. This is a novel about generations of motherless children,
she has forsaken speech; as a narrator, she forsakes other conventions. Time moves backward and forward, so that the past is always present; images interrupt; rhythms, particularly the rhythm of the catechism, repeat, messages morphing. She has witnessed only a little of what she describes.

The villains are almost entirely unnamed, but we know them: schoolmates, policemen, the brother’s fellow prisoners and guards; before them, the Europeans who took away the American Indians’ land, family structure, language, culture. The children’s Indian great-great-grandmother deserts her tribe for a stranger, a Frenchman with whom she cannot converse; daughters and then granddaughters die or leave husband and children. The contemporary children’s mother loves them, but hasn’t learned how. Left largely unsupervised, the boy is a thief by the age of four, a drinker at seven, an arsonist at eight, jailed for housebreaking at nine. Like his aunt, he embraces silence, in the safety of an isolation cell. There he longs for home, scratches the names of his mother and little sister in the concrete wall even as his fingers bleed. When he escapes, he comes home, but knows he won’t be taken in, and hides under the porch, cold and starving, for as many days as he can stand it.

He was right: his mother feeds him, gives him money and whiskey, but is afraid to let him stay. Safety and family are to be found only in his sister; they resume the crime spree that jail had interrupted five years before, seeking the means to build a life together. His development and fate are clear from the novel’s start; we watch with sorrow but without surprise. Hers is as inevitable, interrupted five years before, seeking the age of four, a drinker at seven, an opera over language, drama, acting, scenic, and the like, and for the Ring cycle, the greatest work of art in the entire history of man that is entirely the work of a single person” — putting his politics aside as, he insists, politics always should relate. “Honors came to those who survived. / But only art could take up where history ends.”

James Robert Carroll (CAS’73, MET’82). The Real Woodrow Wilson: An Interview with Arthur S. Link, Editor of the Wilson Papers. Images of the Past. Arthur S. Link had written five volumes of biography when he was tapped for the editorship of the Wilson papers. Although he went on to publish books on aspects of the Wilson presidency, the rest of the biography remained unwritten. The sixty-ninth and final volume of the edited papers was being prepared for publication in 1993 when Link sat down with Carroll for an interview conducted for a Philadelphia Inquirer Sunday Magazine story and presented here as an informal conversation. Link describes the process of organizing and studying the papers, including “the greatest excitement of my life,” when 19,000 early documents turned up at the Wilson House in Washington, and discusses some little-known aspects of Wilson’s life and character, from his delight in reciting limericks (“Carroll: Clean ones. Link: Well, usually.”) and his skill at dislocating his jaw and wiggling it, all the way to the residual effects of his strokes even after apparent recovery. “He was a typical post-stroke victim — rigid, uncompromising, unyielding, incapable of abstract thinking,” and thereby, incapable of leading. There are other historical facts and insights, but the real topic of this little book is Link: his charming enthusiasm for his life’s project and affection for its subject.

Ida Fasel (CAS’31, GRS’45). All Real Living Is Meeting and The Difficult Inch. Select Poets Series. In All Real Living Is Meeting, her third collection, published in 1999, Fasel writes of daily pleasures: music, a pair of mahogany chairs, the refusal of flowers in her garden to follow her plan, the connection of all (“... Is God / for the time being Bach?”). Mostly, she remembers her marriage, from the wind in her wedding veil to, decades later, the renewed pleasures of daily life, her husband’s cancer seemingly gone. And finally alone, characteristically whimsical, she imagines his thoughts: “Death is like a vacation, / more time on one’s hands than needed.” The Difficult Inch, published a year later, is largely about art: making it, enjoying it, understanding how it and reality relate. “Honors came to those who survived. / But only art could take up where history ends.”

Robert Finn (DGE’50, CAS’52). Exploring Classical Music: A Pleasant Journey for Novice and Expert. SuperiorBooks.com. Retired since 1992 after twenty-eight years as chief classical music critic of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, Finn is writing mostly for the novice interested, at least a little, in classical music but intimidated by the apparently complex unknown. He provides general information about musical form and about individual composers, discussing their music in its historical and personal setting, and generating enthusiasm by making his own enthusiasms clear: for Mozart, for instance, “the supremacy of music” in opera over language, drama, acting, scenic, and the like, and for the Ring cycle, “the greatest work of art in the entire history of man that is entirely the work of a single person” — putting his politics aside as, he insists, politics always should be in the consideration of art.

Nicholas Gage (DGE’61, COM’63, Hon.’85). Greek Fire: The Story of Maria Callas and Aristotle Onassis. Alfred A. Knopf. The dozens of books and thousands of articles about Callas and Onassis, individually and as a couple, are incomplete and inaccurate, says Gage. Greek-born and an experienced investigative reporter, Gage first read “virtually every
thing in print,” then located documents and firsthand observers in five countries to produce this account of a “deep and enduring” romance of classic Greek dimension: “The tragedy of their relationship was that Onassis failed to recognize until too late that he and Maria were meant to be together, like . . . two halves of the same soul.”

Alice Lichtenstein (GRS’83). The Genius of the World. Zoland Books. In this first novel, Ira begins as a dreamy small boy about to be kept back in school — and he the grandson of the Genius of the World, a Légion d’Honneur, Nobel-winning physicist! — who flees family pressures via childish rudeness and then, sequentially, drugs, running away at sixteen to California, there moving from “the smoke and toke and howl Revolution” of the early seventies into a Buddhist communal house. “There’s a spiritual energy in Jews,” he’s teased there. “Why do you think you scratch a guru and you find a Bernstein?” As he leaves both his family and the clamor and anger that have been his life for the serenity of Buddhism — “Where are you?” a younger sister wants to shout — the story becomes more that of family members and their individual reactions to his conversion. Last comes his grandfather, who has escaped from his own profoundly religious upbringing into the pragmatism of science, has been proud that he can keep his family safely there, proud of his world-famous mind. Seeing Ira prostrate himself before a brass Buddha brings back the image of “his father dropping, facedown, to the wooden floor of the shul.” His first urge is to vomit, but very quickly, at the novel’s close, he is reciting the still-familiar Hebrew prayers, one of ten “humbled, fervent men, bowing and bowing.”

John T. McGrath (GRS’89, ’95). The French in Early Florida: In the Eye of the Hurricane. University Press of Florida. Understanding the magnitude and nature of the sixteenth-century French effort to colonize North America’s southeast coast requires understanding the viewpoints of its leaders, and how shortcomings of transportation and communication limited their knowledge, according to McGrath, an assistant professor at the College of General Studies. His reconstruction of the campaign and how close it came to success against Spanish forces draws heavily on contemporary reports, analyzed for the ways in which poor communications and exaggeration might have affected their accuracy.

Mark D. McKennon (COM’78) with Roger de Anfrasio. A Garden of Thorns: My Memoir of Surviving World War II in France. Silk City Press. As the gap between World War II and the present expands, firsthand stories of the participants — no matter how peripheral they at first seem — become progressively more valuable to our understanding of what the war meant. Roger de Anfrasio, son of Italian immigrants, was nine in 1940 when the Germans occupied Dijon, his hometown. We read, not surprisingly, of the Nazis initially polite arrival and of how restrictions turned to brutal repression, but also of how ordinary folk responded to dwindling food and freedoms and to Allied bombing during the four years of occupation. What is incredible about young Roger is that the truant and minor troublemaker simply could not resist sneaking out of the house at two a.m. again and again to steal food from the Nazis just as he had snuck out to play pranks with his pals before the occupation. Even being caught and briefly locked up by the Germans cooled his sense of adventure only briefly. Largely to save their son’s skin, Roger’s parents arranged for a job at a local barber shop, and along with learning a trade — which he still practices, at the Pierre Hotel in New York — he connected with the Resistance and passed along critical intelligence. A Garden of Thorns is an as-told-to autobiography, written by McKennon, a screenwriter who turns Roger’s scrapes with the Nazis and the RAF into exciting and frightening drama. We only wish that the publisher had taken more attention with its proofreading chores: almost all the French passages contain errors. — MBS

Kevin D. Murphy (GRS’85). Memory and Modernity: Viollet-le-Duc at Vézelay. Pennsylvania State University Press. The church of the Madeleine at Vézelay, constructed over roughly 120 years beginning in 1120, was the victim of neglect and repair before its mid-nineteenth-century restoration by Eugène Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc. Preserving the structure but not the signs of age and giving the nave a stylistic coherence of his own creation, Viollet-le-Duc “established a visual dialectic between historicism and a modern aesthetic,” says Murphy. In a study with relevance to both other restorations and to broader concepts of historical consciousness, he examines the restoration in its political, social, religious, and scholarly context and in light of Viollet-le-Duc’s influential theories, without forgetting that they were developed in his writings only after the restoration was completed.

Elie Kaplan Spitz (LAW’78). Does the Soul Survive? A Jewish Journey to Belief in Afterlife, Past Lives and Living with Purpose. Jewish Lights Publishing. Rabbi Spitz’s journey to answer the question posed by his book title begins at two beginnings: to determine whether the soul even exists he goes to the Bible, first to the moment when “God formed Adam out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the nefesh hab of life” —
that is, to simplify thirteenth-century Jewish mysticism, soul. And although the Torah, the first five books of the Bible, does not discuss an afterlife, when Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Aaron, and Moses die, each is said to be then “gathered to his people,” a step between death and burial. With evidence from the Torah, centuries of rabbinic commentary, his own experience (including with a medium), and that of people he has met, he builds a case for reincarnation and an afterlife—conclusions he finds helpful in counseling his congregation to adjust to bereavement, accept disappointments, and participate in the divine by leading good and useful lives.

Denise Topolnicki (COM’80). How to Raise a Family on Less Than Two Incomes. Broadway Books. A twelve-year editor and writer at Money magazine who became a stay-at-home mom offers encouragement and detailed advice on all aspects of following her lead. Along with hints about saving money on food, recreation, child care (it needn’t be given up entirely), and the like is a good deal about areas of her professional expertise: taxes, investments, insurance, and other matters of finance.

Ian Randal Strock (CAS’87, ’89) is creator, publisher, editor, and art director of Artemis Magazine: Science and Fiction for a Space-Faring Age, a quarterly published by LRC Publications.

Also Noted

Jennifer A. Block (COM’91) and Vikki Weiss. What to Do When You’re Dating a Jew: Everything You Need to Know from Matzah Balls to Marriage. Three Rivers Press. A breezy guide (“The Sabbath is supposed to be a pretty big deal”) emphasizing home observances and customs, old jokes, and, of course, recipes.


Bruce Nortell (DGE’66, CAS’68). The Third Chair: Lendtronic. This is a three-part novel criticizing contemporary society from as many viewpoints, including outer space.


its focus by centering the sound on a steel guitar, here not country-music weepy but atmospherically melancholic. The title track is representative of much of the CD, a tale of slow awakening to the suspicion that a lover is no longer true, Gartman’s vocals low-key, almost confidential.

Alan Goodrich (CGS’80, COM’82).
Alan and the Alligators. Reptile Rock. Instant Earthing Music. This group has been together since 1989, and they’re a tight outfit, playing straight-ahead pop-rock. Goodrich, who reports that he was in the “Buzzwell Street Band” while at BU, sings, plays drums, and cowrote most the songs. Amid love songs like “Ain’t Comin’ Home” and “I Can See Forever,” Alan and the Alligators find time for humor with the catchly “Turtle the Bug Eater,” and midway through the CD, “This Is the Point,” an a cappella ditty: “This is the point at which / In the old days / You’d have to be flipping / The record.”

Margo Guryan (SEA’59). Take a Picture. Franklin Castle. Flower power and pure grooviness return in this reissue of Guryan’s 1968 album, with its long-ago hit song “Sunday Morning.” Guryan was trained as a classical pianist at SEA, but soon was attracted to jazz and pop music. The Beach Boys influence is obvious on this album, nicely packaged in rerelease. Guryan’s fragile, whispery vocals add to the ambiance, complementing the music. Take a Picture is time-bound — you can’t mistake that uttery late sixties feel, musically and lyrically. Add in the three bonus CD tracks, and you’re tripping down memory lane.

Fabio Parrini (SEA’89, ’92). Beethoven, Brahms, Rachmaninoff. There’s an interesting continuity in this selection of piano music from Beethoven’s Sonata No. 4, Op. 7, to three intermezzos from Brahms (Op. 117) and five preludes from Rachmaninoff’s Op. 23. Parrini, who has won a number of competitions and tours internationally, brings a graceful clarity in his playing, which is also in evidence on another recently released recording with Eum-Sun Lee on violin. On that disc, the duo tackle a Vivaldi sonata, as well as selections from Stravinsky, Massenet, Mendelssohn, and others.

Sigrún Thorgeirsdóttir (SEA’91). The Women’s Choir of Reykjavik. Jól. Kvennakór Reykjavíkur. This disc’s title means “Yule,” but these songs are beautiful at any time of year. Except for “Ave Maria,” all are sung in Icelandic, but their festive spirit shines through the language barrier. Thorgeirsdóttir is the choir director, and she has the seventy-five vocalists singing as one. Finding this disc (it’s on the choir’s own label, Kvennakór Reykjavíkur, which coincidentally is the name of the choir in Icelandic) might take some digging; try e-mailing Thorgeirsdóttir at that@binct.is.

Letters continued from page 5

added to my reading list for a class I teach on the Geography of the Polar Regions.
Al Stuart
Professor Emeritus of Geography
University of North Carolina

Present at the Upheaval
I thoroughly enjoyed Tom Oliphant’s review of the book on the 1952 campaign between Henry Cabot Lodge and Jack Kennedy (“Essays and Reviews,” Fall 2000). The author captures with style and insight a significant turning point in American political history.

In 1952 I had just graduated from Williams College, and during the summer I volunteered to do drops — distributing JFK campaign literature to homes and apartment buildings. It was an exciting time.

Boston University is fortunate to have on its faculty such a gifted writer and historian as Tom Whelan.

Kevin White
Director, Institute for Political Communication
Boston University
The writer was mayor of Boston from 1968 to 1984.—Ed.

Kenmore Squared and Mauld
As a lover of Kenmore Square, it was with sadness that I read Mark Leccese’s “The Design of Kenmore Squared” (“Back Bay,” Fall 2000). Unlike those who would have had Kenmore Square be Harvard Square, I was one who eschewed the refinement and street performers of the Cambridge crossroad in favor of the rawness and motley denizens of the intersection that was truly representative of the Hub of the Universe. While change is inevitable and the malfication of Kenmore will no doubt continue, I fail to see how “Kenmore’s dignity” is somehow restored by the shuttering of an institution like the Rathskeller in favor of so-called upscale retail establishments. In my mind, Kenmore Square was plenty dignified when it was occupied by the Rat, Mr. Butch, Captain Nemo’s, Pizza Pad, and yes, even Narcissus.

Daniel Sweeney (CAS’90)
West Hartford, Connecticut

Mark Leccese, speak for yourself. During my years at BU in the early 1980s, Kenmore Square was one of my frequent destinations.

Those “scruffy storefronts” contained the kind of inexpensive eateries and thrift shops that someone on a student budget could afford to patronize, and those “raucous nightclubs” showcased Boston’s local musical talents, some of whom went on to national fame.

I am lucky to have been in Boston when it was a city of unique businesses owned and run by people you knew, when you could eat out for five bucks, when there was so much going on every night that the problem was deciding where to go (and somehow getting enough sleep). Now when I come back to visit, I find that Boston is looking more and more like everywhere else, only with more brick architecture. And Kenmore Square is being overtaken by luxury apartments and condos that students can’t afford to live in, luxury hotels that their families can’t afford to stay in (not when putting a kid through BU), and “upscale retail establishments” that students can’t afford to shop in. Only someone who thinks another chain store is progress could possibly think any of this is good for Boston University.

Rachel Mara Lerner (CAS’85)
Blackwood, New Jersey
Footnote: Kalman Zabarsky (SEA '69), one of the photographers with BU Photo Services, has been working on a project about — feet. "It started out as a look at the variety of footwear on campus," he says, "and it became an odyssey when I realized that footwear and feet are expressions not only of fashion, but also of science, art, and athletics."

Jillian Boehmann (CAS '04) at the Case Center dance studio.

A student at the Case Center pool.

Elyonara Figueiredo (SAR '03), physical therapy doctoral candidate.

Lisa Giallonardo, SAR clinical professor of physical therapy, was given the Golden Foot Award when she left Northeastern to teach at BU.
REFLECTIONS ON A LEGACY

It is amazing to think that it’s been forty years since I graduated from Boston University. I had a job lined up even before leaving the campus, and I’ve been working steadily ever since. In essence, BU has given me my career.

I was so well prepared. I received a quality education at Boston University, a very thorough schooling in the arts that I’m never going to forget. And I know that this opportunity still exists at BU today.

My parents could afford to send me to college, but I know that it is a struggle for many young people today. So I’ve decided to establish a bequest for student scholarships at the School for the Arts. I like the notion of the perpetuity of the scholarship. Maybe in some small way I can help other people realize the joy in art that I have found.

— Judith S. Shufro (SFA’61)

To learn more about a bequest or planned gift designed to fit your circumstances, please write or telephone:

Mary H. Tambiah
Director, Office of Gift and Estate Planning
Boston University
599 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215

Telephone numbers: 617/353-2254, 800/645-2347
e-mail: gep@bu.edu
on the Web: www.bu.edu/gep

Judith Shufro at her home in La Jolla, California. Shufro is an artist and art educator whose paintings have been exhibited at the New York Historical Society, Boston City Hall, Boston University, the Salmagundi Club, and the Ward-Nasse Gallery. She taught at the Trinity School in Manhattan for more than twenty years and continues to teach in San Diego.
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