SWARTHMORE
College Bulletin
February 1994

Osage Avenue, Philadelphia, 1985:

A Neighborhood Destroyed.

11 dead, including five children. A Swarthmore sociologist examines a tragic failure to communicate.

It brought much of the East Coast to its knees, but the January 7 ice storm transformed the campus into a glittering wonderland.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DENG-JENG LEE

SWARTHMORE

COLLEGE BULLETIN • FEBRUARY 1994

Departments

Cover: On May 13, 1985, a confrontation between Philadelphia city authorities and the black radical group MOVE resulted in a gun battle and ultimately a fire that consumed more than 60 homes. Story on page 14. Photo: UPI/Bettmann

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PARLOR TALK

Can we all get along?" asked Rodney King two years ago as riots tore apart Los Angeles. It is, in a way, the essential question of the age. What seems to trouble us most these days is "getting along." From the streets of L.A. or Sarajevo to the halls of our colleges and universities, the greatest challenges facing us are those of human relationships—between Serb and Moslem, rich and poor, among races and cultures, and, need we say, between the sexes. It's as though the great geopolitical and historical questions have all been resolved (which of course they have not) and what we are left with is each other.

In this issue we meet conservative students who are trying to assert themselves on a decidedly liberal campus by challenging the language of "political correctness" and multiculturalism. We examine the lives of great women scientists who were ignored because their male peers refused to acknowledge their contributions to basic research or thought them incapable of thinking in certain ways. We learn how 11 people died in the 1985 Philadelphia–MOVE cohfrontation because neither the city bureaucrats nor the black radicals could understand what the other was trying to say. And we spend some time with student poets and their teachers who value language for other reasons—for its magnificent ability, as Shakespeare wrote, to "give to airy nothing a local habitation and a name."

Language in the '90s has become as sensitive as a seismograph—and as indicative of upheaval. Simple statements carry aftershocks of political inference, and we are often more attuned to connotation and context than to intention and meaning. (Some even argue that there is no meaning—only context.) We arm ourselves with loaded words, and sometimes they go off. Maybe we can't get along because we're losing the ability to listen to each other, to respond honestly and thoughtfully, to sympathize and to understand.

Among the letters in this issue are three responses to Joseph Kimmel '44, whose December letter was highly critical of the College. My favorite is from Kenneth Anderson '86, who urges Mr. Kimmel and similarly disaffected alumni to "remain engaged with the College and [to] continue to make their opinions heard." Anderson challenges us to "resist the temptation to shut out dissenting opinions," because our "ideas and beliefs may be strengthened and [our] arguments improved for having been challenged."

Challenge and language are inextricable. In *King Lear,* Shakespeare admonishes, "The weight of these sad times we must obey; Speak what we feel, not what we ought to say." It's good advice.

—*J.L.*

LET

A Neat Juxtaposition From Three Generations

To the Editor:
Wow! Great work, you guys! The December *Bulletin* had not been in our house for even one hour before I felt compelled to give you my reactions. What got my attention was the neat juxtaposition of contributions from three generations at Swarthmore: the letter from Mr. Kimmel '44, "Our Back Pages" from Ms. Chijioke '67, and the essay by Andrea Gibbons '97.

As an almost-contemporary of the dispirited Mr. Kimmel, I hasten to distance myself from his unhappy views. If he is right in characterizing Swarthmore as "an elitist center of multiculturalism," I find that far from dispiriting. In the sense that I would give those words, Swarthmore is squarely in the mainstream of what is best in America today. His attitudes are what I find dispiriting.

I was refreshed by the history in Chijioke's "Friends Forever?" and reminded again of how the College's culture, beyond the curriculum, has subtly but surely enriched my life.

Last, it was a joy to note how Andrea Gibbons' essay reiterates themes from "Friends Forever?" I know Tucson, I know poor, and her words summon up many memories. I wish I could write about them as well as she has done. As long as students of her caliber enroll, Swarthmore will not lack for support.

DAVID WITHEFORD '49
Reston, Va.

Get Down, Swarthmore; Live and Work at the Bottom

To the Editor:
Joseph Kimmel makes some good points, evidences of tunnel vision notwithstanding. Is no one minding the store while Swarthmore deals with pressure groups, personal agendas, political correctness, and fad courses? I hope not. Because it's a howling certainty that no one is minding vast sections of America.

I work for the Social Security Administration as a teleservice representative (TSR), one of 90 in the Philadelphia area. Each week the average TSR answers 250 calls—mostly from people in need.

T E R S

We hear from old people who don't have enough food or medicine. From young mothers whose children have learning and behavioral problems, often beginning with parental neglect, physical abuse, drug addiction, alcoholism.

We get calls from men in their 40s and 50s who've been sold out or dumped by their employers. Some file for disability benefits—not because they are disabled, but because they can't find work.

We get calls from addicts in their 20s and 30s who can't or won't stop. Sometimes we hear from their parents or spouses, who plead for help or curse the benefit check that buys more drugs.

We hear from mothers whose husbands have been murdered or are in jail. Old women who need replacement ID cards after their handbags are torn from them. Street people who should be in hospitals. One of my very first calls was from a young mother whose son had seen his father taken from the home by police: "All he talks about is stealing a fat car and being just like his father. It scares me."

In a year, the average TSR takes 7,500 of these and other such calls.

Swarthmore has to get real. Get down! Live and work at the bottom! Do without! Watch others get what they need, want—even though you are deserving. Feel the pain, the anger, the desperation.

And while you are there, witness a most incredible irony: that these people—these bottom dwellers, ignored, taken for granted, warehoused, shit on—are some of the strongest, warmest, fairest people you will ever know. Many are devoted to the ideas that got this country under way—even though they're out of the running—even though too many of them accept that they're out of the running. (Sickening irony.)

Get down to the bottom! Not for a couple of weeks or a month or two, but for years—decades!

Forge the necessary links with local, state, and federal government and get a different kind of education. Check out the unemployment lines, take the claims, hear the

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POSTINGS

Okaaay! Everybody limmm-bo!

The crowd hovered in a circle as the last two participants arched their backs, threw back their heads, and carefully, oh so carefully, skimmed their bodies under the limbo pole. With the pole just two feet from the ground, all eyes watched Matt Schenk '95, 6-foot-1-inch volleyball captain and editor of the conservative campus newspaper *Common Sense*, inch beneath the bar. The crowd cheered his efforts. "He's the limbo king!" a friend praised. Schenk attributed his success to strong thigh muscles.

The limbo contest was one of many activities the Committee on Alternative Entertainment planned for its kick-off event—a '50s-style sock hop held before December finals in the Tarble in Clothier Student Center. The committee planned the event specifically to be one *without* alcohol. They got financial support from the Dean's Office and help from Fernando Chang-Muy, the new assistant dean for student activities.

A shimmering curtain of gold streamers hung in the doorway of Tarble, welcoming students into the streamer-and-balloon-filled all-campus space, where a professional deejay spun CDs. On this Friday night, more than 160 enthusiastic students filled the hall.

"We were sick and tired of the bad attitude people brought to parties. There was no place for a positive psychological release," said committee member Tavis Tindall '94 as he went around the limbo line. "We put a lot of planning into this. We had a lip-synch contest at dinner and we're giving away prizes tonight. We knew this would be successful."

Wearing James Dean peg leg jeans, T-shirt, and slicked-back hair, Fridtjov Markussen '94, another committee member, agreed. "There are 1,350 students on this campus and usually only two or three social activities to choose from. There's also a lot of stress and burnout, and we needed something to alleviate these problems. Usually there's a frat party where alcohol is served, and that's fine. But we wanted to show students they could have a good time without alcohol, and they seem to agree."

At first it might seem curious for '90s students to hold a '50s dance, but they were quick to offer their thoughts on the matter. Some felt the theme was chosen because some committee members are political conservatives. Others thought it was a nice change from the '90s rock and pop music.

Amy Karpinski '95, with her hair in pigtails and a construction paper and cotton ball poodle adorning her skirt, said, "It takes us back to an era that we don't always agree with politically, as far as family values—but we do identify with the culture of the youth at that time. It brings out the rebel in us. Not that we aren't rebellious enough now." And then Amy bopped back into the crowd dancing to Sam the Sham & the Pharaoh's *Wooly Bully*.

Dancing with a frenzy was Jeremy Dilatush '97, who with his scruffy beard and tie-dyed T-shirt looked like he walked right out of the '60s rather than the '50s. Dilatush said he came because it "was the coolest thing going on campus." He had to leave early, though, because he was in a math competition the following day.

Nicole Hollings '94 said she tried to think how Joanie on the '50s-themed television show *Happy Days* would have dressed when she put together her ensemble, which included tight straight-legged jeans and bright red lipstick. She and her friends agreed that high school gym class dance lessons came in handy.

Scott Friesen '97 thought the dance was just a good excuse to "act ridiculous and weird."

At the bottom of the stairway outside the party, where the music could still be heard and single strands of gold streamer were strewn on the steps, David Plastino '97, a "safewalker," waited to escort students who didn't want to walk alone to their residence halls. As the party rocked on into the early morning hours, Plastino diligently sat and read medieval literature for classwork.

—Audree Penner

Feeding the Fires

COURTESY KATHERIN McINNIS '95

Does one become a poet in the act of crafting a poem, or is one a poet to begin with? Swarthmore's Poetry Workshop explores the question as it feeds the fires of student poets.

The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
Are of imagination all compact....
The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,
Doth glance from heaven to earth,
from earth to heaven;
And, as imagination bodies forth
The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen
Turns them to shapes, and gives to airy nothing
A local habitation and a name.

Shakespeare's famous lines from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are as pithy a characterization of the poet's art as any written. From Hesiod and Plato onward, much has been written on the question of what constitutes a poem. But though we still have no definitive answer to that question, the writing and reading of poetry has never been more passionately indulged in, nor has it been indulged in by so many. The current edition of *Poet's Market* lists some 1,700 separate poetry markets in the United States alone, including mass circulation and literary magazines, trade book publishers, small presses, and university quarterlies. Poets and readers of poetry abound.

At Swarthmore and on other campuses across the nation, poetry readings are frequent, well-attended events. And while practitioners and critics may differ on what a poem is or should be, the writing of poetry is taught at Swarthmore and elsewhere because there is heavy, and growing, demand for it. More and more students want to learn to be poets.

By Judith Egan

Still, while writing classes and poetry programs proliferate, there is some controversy about just what they do. Can anyone be taught to write poetry? Do poets teach themselves? Do they become poets in the act of crafting a poem, or are they poets to begin with, acquiring facility and control through practice? At Swarthmore every spring semester a professor-poet and 12 students come face-to-face and mind-to-mind to grapple with these and other realities in the Poetry Workshop.

Poetry has deep roots at Swarthmore. In the early 1940s, W.H. Auden taught European Romanticism from Blake, Rousseau, and Goethe to Joyce, Proust, and Kafka. He lived—and presumably wrote—in a third-floor apartment on the corner of Ogden Avenue and Walnut Lane. But Auden did not teach the writing of poetry to Swarthmore students.

The Poetry Workshop came into being as a regular offering in 1968. In the years since, Adrienne Rich and Jean Valentine, among others, have taught it, and many other famous and not-so-famous poets have come to the campus to give readings and offer students insight about making poetry of their own.

For the past decade or so, the workshop has been taught by members of the English Literature Department who are also published poets—Nathalie Anderson, Peter Schmidt, and Craig Williamson. Just this year Anderson was awarded a prestigious

DENG-JENG LEE

Students from last spring's Poetry Workshop gather in Associate Professor Nathalie Anderson's living room in December to share some new work. From left: Dito Van Reigersberg '94, Julia Bryan-Wilson '95, David McKay '94, Melissa Running '94, Professor Anderson, Michael Rothbart '94, and Katherin McInnis '95.

Pew Fellowship in the Arts, one of only 16 Philadelphia-area writers and artists to be so honored. The Pew Fellowship program was established to support artists at critical junctures of their careers, to enable them to dedicate themselves wholly to their creative work for up to two years. For Anderson, this means freedom from the pressures and constrictions of the academic calendar and the opportunity to concentrate entirely on poetry during her 1994–95 leave. Now she typically crowds creative work into the wee hours or into concentrated bursts during the summer months.

Anderson last year initiated an advanced poetry workshop that she describes as "the most exciting course I've ever given." The 11 students who participated had all taken the introductory workshop and had written independently—and all were required to submit extensive portfolios of their work to gain a place. (For admission to the introductory workshop, students submit a smaller sample of their work—about five pages of poetry. Still, the competition for places is intense, with about 40 students applying for the dozen available slots.) Anderson strives for variety in making her workshop selections, winnowing through several readings until she is left with her class, with alternates designated to fill the occasional spot that opens up because of schedule conflicts. It's a difficult process, according to Anderson: "The quality of submissions is typically high and occasionally dazzlingly accomplished," she says. In addition to gender balance and representation across the classes, she looks for "individuality in the poetic voice or a willingness to experiment."

under the ice

Sarah DeWeerdt

COURTESY SARAH DEWEERDT '95 / PHOTO: WALTER HOLT

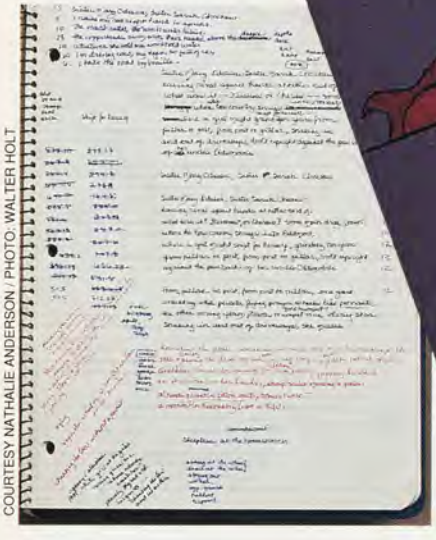
The workshop is modeled on the seminar format, meeting once a week for four to five hours. Typically, the class begins with a concentrated examination of one student's work, followed by 10-minute discussion periods devoted to each student in turn. Though the format Anderson employs is very structured, it is flexible in allowing students to focus on their individual strengths. Anderson relies also on a set of exercises that sharpen the sense of rhythm, metaphor, and other elements of voice. Background assignments—which are neither handed in nor shared with the class—encourage the writing of an "emotional autobiography" comprising early memories, experiences, and imagined situations, not in poetic form but making use of "poetic" material.

In another exercise students analyze their individual writing inclinations, composing a prose poem that they then convert to lines. Do they feel more at ease in "free" writing or writing lines? What patterns or

STEVEN GOLDBLATT '67

Professor Craig Williamson (right) and Associate Professor Peter Schmidt (below) have both taught the Poetry Workshop.

The workshop got you to see developing themes, to discover your preoccupations and personal cosmologies."



COURTESY NATHALIE ANDERSON / PHOTO: WALTER HOLT

COURTESY MEGHAN CLANCY HEPBURN '93 / PHOTO: WALTER HOLT

Poet-teacher Nathalie Anderson shares her writing methods with students. A page from her notebook shows how she crafts a poem.

variations do they observe, what syntactical or metaphoric tendencies can be discerned? They then go on to try their hands at standard forms: the three-line stanza, quatrain, sonnet, sestina, and villanelle. Anderson asks them to write a lyric expressing joy in love (expressions of pain are much more common, she notes), to compose a narrative in verse (a "confession" or monologue), and to write in the voice of the opposite sex.

One of the most productive and interesting exercises Anderson assigns focuses on translation. Students listen to a Chinese or Russian lyric and based on the actual sound of the verse (making use of a sound transliteration) render a "false" translation into English. Workshop students are paired and encouraged to share their work in one-on-one sessions outside the class. They benefit immensely from the challenge of getting to know each other's work intimately, Anderson says. She urges her poet-students to push at the edges of what they can do by trying alternatives to what they normally find most comfortable, poetically speaking.

Julia Bryan-Wilson '95 says that the advanced workshop enabled her to ritualize a stage of writing in her life. She valued having scheduled time to compose and to draw creative nourishment from the group. Feedback and critical interactions with her peers were especially useful, Bryan-Wilson says. "The assignments were challenging and helped me to tighten up my style. You could really direct yourself to create your own voice. There was a lot of freedom."

Senior David McKay agrees. A philosophy major, McKay transferred to Swarthmore from Princeton and had taken poetry writing classes both there and at an independent summer program. He found the structure of the course liberating. "The workshop got you to see your work in terms of developing themes, to discover your own preoccupations and personal cosmologies," McKay says.

As a culmination of last spring's workshop, it was decided that each student would create and publish a volume of work—and they would produce the volumes themselves. This provided the opportunity to deal at another level with the "physiology of poetry," a term coined by John Frederick Nims in his book *Western Wind: An Introduction to Poetry*, the text Anderson uses in the workshop. With the purchase of desktop publishing software and the guidance of Jane James of the College Computing Center, student-poets metamorphosed into graphic designers and typesetters. According to Anderson, dealing with the physical appearance of lines on the page offered the group a further challenge, another opening to the poetic process. The student poets found the experience thrilling, a "tremendous challenge," according to Bryan-Wilson. "It made you see that there is more than linear narrative in the poems on the page; it made you think about the relation between the poems in a new way, kind of a gathering process. The juxtapositions opened up new ways of thinking about poetic material."

"Figuring out how to compose the book made you look beyond the structure of individual poems," adds David McKay. "You had to think about the effect of their posi-

tion—if you put two poems together on a page, did they cancel each other out? You had to decide where to locate them if you wanted them to build on each other." According to McKay, the group project was enhanced by working together outside class, when problems—and potential solutions—were shared. "It helped to see what you were trying to get at, to look at it from another writer's perspective," McKay says.

Composing poetry demands both flair and drive," says department chair Craig Williamson, author of *African Wings*, a volume of poems, and translator of Anglo-Saxon riddles and the poetry in French of Léopold Sédar Senghor, the African lyric poet and statesman. Though Williamson is ambivalent about whether you can actually teach someone to write publishable poetry, in his view almost anyone can be taught to write more interesting poems. "You can teach students about imagery and about understatement, about poetry's capacity to startle and make you think or feel or notice something for the first time." Williamson values the way

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COURTESY DITO VAN REIGERSBERG '94 / PHOTO: WALTER HOLT

COURTESY MICHAEL ROTHBART '94 / PHOTO: WALTER HOLT

Student poets published handmade limited editions as part of last spring's workshop.

Bill Ehrhart '73 was taken seriously as a poet during his student days. Now, with a $50,000 Pew Fellowship, he still is.

Like Associate Professor Nathalie Anderson, Bill Ehrhart '73 received a Pew Fellowship in 1993. After struggling as a writer for more than 20 years, he remains skeptical about locating creative writing in an academic setting. "It can become a little haven," he says, "a respite from the world. Writers have to engage the world. Their work has to be reflective of the real world."

Though he has taught poetry writing at private and public schools, Ehrhart said he is less and less inclined to do so at the secondary level. "You can't write poetry if you don't read poetry. I feel uncomfortable about teaching unless there's a real commitment on the part of the writers. Students can't just say 'Teach me how to write a poem' because they think it looks interesting. They've got to make it part of their daily routine."

Ehrhart's daily routine has included poetry since his own student days. He enrolled in Swarthmore's Poetry Workshop in the spring of 1971. That year it was taught by Dan Hoffman of the University of Pennsylvania, previously a member of the Swarthmore English Department. "Dan Hoffman was an accomplished poet," Ehrhart says, "and he was taking my poetry seriously. He made me think that my secret fantasy to become a poet could really happen. That propelled me forward in a way I've never forgotten."

LEON ROBINSON / MT. AIRY EXPRESS TIMES

Poet Bill Ehrhart '73: "Students can't just say 'Teach me how to write a poem' because they think it looks interesting."

Ehrhart went on to earn a master's degree in creative writing at the Univerity of Illinois at Chicago and has since published 10 books of poetry and nonfiction. As he struggled to make a living in recent years, often without regular employment, "scrambling around to pay the bills," he sometimes felt weighed down by a sense of failure. "When I couldn't meet the bills," he says, "I'd think the choices I made 20 years ago weren't the right ones. Here I was 44 years old and I didn't have a job." The Pew Fellowship has changed Ehrhart's outlook. As soon as he learned of the award, which carries a stipend of $50,000, Ehrhart was able to arrange for some long-needed house repairs and to purchase a computer system. "I hope to concentrate on my writing for three years with this fellowship," he says.

More important, the Pew Fellowship is a validation of Ehrhart's life and work. "In a way," he says, "it's done the same thing as the workshop with Dan Hoffman did. It says, 'You've done this work and we take it seriously. The choices you made were the right ones.' It's given me the mental space to concentrate on my creative work, and that feels wonderful."

—*J.E.*

Why so few?

Only nine Nobel Prizes in science have gone to women. Sharon Bertsch McGrayne '64 wondered why, and her recent book provides some answers.

Above: Sharon McGrayne with a photograph of Marie Curie, one of 14 women scientists she studied for a recent book. Next page: Bare-breasted woman adorns the reverse of the Nobel Prize medals for physics and chemistry.

MARY LEVIN

No women allowed. Not even Marie Curie.

During her lifetime, one of the best-known scientists of our century discovered two new elements and was honored with two Nobel Prizes. She became the first female professor in the 650-year history of the Sorbonne. And meanwhile she had exposed herself to more radiation than any other human being before World War II.

But none of these achievements could help Curie win her 1911 bid to become a member of the prestigious French Academy of Sciences in her adopted country.

Curie was a transplanted Pole, and it was rumored that she was a Jew. Anti-foreign, anti-Semitic, and anti-feminist sentiments in France at the time led to her defeat. Curie wasn't the only woman rejected. The academy continued to exclude females until 1979.

Ever since women have been allowed to work in the sciences, they have largely been passed over for recognition. Of more than 300 Nobel Prizes for science awarded since 1901, only nine have gone to women, notes Sharon Bertsch McGrayne '64, author of *Nobel Prize Women in Science: Their Lives, Struggles and Momentous Discoveries*. That means less than 3 percent of Nobel science laureates are women. McGrayne opens her book by asking, "Why so few?"

"I was trying to answer several questions in my head," she says of her motivation for writing the book. "I kept hearing that women couldn't do science and math, but I knew too many women scientists to believe that. I was told that women had an especially hard time with physics, but I knew there are a lot of women physicists in France, Italy, and Spain." It was through her husband, George Bertsch '62, professor of physics at the University of Washington, that she met so many scientists and began to think about women in science.

MEDAL © NOBEL FOUNDATION

The Nine

Women who have won a Nobel Prize in the sciences

Marie Sklodowska Curie
Physics, 1903
Chemistry, 1911

Irène Joliot-Curie
Chemistry, 1935

Gerty Radnitz Cori
Medicine or Physiology, 1947

Maria Goeppert Mayer
Physics, 1963

Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin
Chemistry, 1964

Rosalyn Sussman Yalow
Medicine or Physiology, 1977

Barbara McClintock
Medicine or Physiology, 1983

Rita Levi-Montalcini
Medicine or Physiology, 1986

Gertrude B. Elion
Medicine or Physiology, 1988

"Some people write coffee table books—in the back of my mind, I call this a dinner table book. The idea for it began because I entertained so many physicists, and I knew that if they came from the United States or northern Europe they would almost invariably be men, but if they came from southern Europe, I often had a woman to dinner. And the statistics bear out my experience. So I wondered—why could women do physics in southern Europe and even in India?

"Because of my experiences, I had gotten over the hurdle of whether women can do science. Clearly they can—if they're in a certain kind of environment. So I thought if I looked at a group of women scientists, I might be able to learn something about what they had been through."

But when she started calling around to explore the idea, experts discouraged her. "I was told that the public perception was that there's been only one woman scientist—Marie Curie. And people don't know much about her, so they think she's boring. If they know about other women scientists, they assume they don't do world-class work. So I thought that by choosing women who had been touched by the Nobel Prize, either by winning it outright or by working on a project that won it for someone else, the public couldn't argue about the quality of the work the women had done."

McGrayne, who has a degree in art history from Swarthmore, says she learned about science by reading and asking questions. In 1964, right out of college, she married George Bertsch, who at the time was working on a Ph.D. in physics at Princeton. She worked for daily newspapers for 15 years and later wrote about physics for *Encyclopedia Britannica* before switching to full-time book writing.

McGrayne's original idea was to write a book on women scientists for children, but then she realized that very little had been written about many of these women at all. "A few had been written about for children," McGrayne says, "but I wanted to present a more well-rounded picture of them and what they were really like, both good points and bad."

So she began the three-year project of researching and writing a book on the lives and work of 14 women scien-

By Evelyn Hess

tists. In addition to using primary and secondary written sources, McGrayne interviewed the seven women scientists who were still alive; the students, family, and friends of all the women; and experts in each field who could comment on their contributions.

In the course of her research, she discovered an answer to her question "Why so few?": Many of these women faced enormous obstacles. Most of the women scientists profiled in McGrayne's book either volunteered or worked for low wages as a way to get experience. Some snatched their education as they could, reading advanced texts on their own, sneaking into lectures, and taking instruction from private tutors.

When Viennese nuclear physicist Lise Meitner arrived in Berlin in 1907, the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Chemistry did not allow women into its public areas. Meitner was consigned to performing her radiation experiments in a damp carpentry shop in the basement. She grew unbearably curious about what the men were learning upstairs, so she would occasionally sneak into the amphitheater and hide under tiers of seats to eavesdrop on chemistry lectures.

In time, Meitner and other women were allowed upstairs, and the research she and German chemist Otto Hahn produced led to the discovery of nuclear fission. Her work brought her in contact with the world's great physicists: Max Planck, Albert Einstein, James Franck, and Niels Bohr. But Meitner was snubbed by the Nobel Prize committee in 1944, when they decided to give the prize to Hahn alone.

Women scientists were often denied credit that they deserved. In the early 1950s, English X-ray crytallographer Rosalind Franklin was on the verge of discovering enough information to explain the molecular basis of heredity when her work fell into the hands of James Watson, a young American geneticist who was working on DNA with an English graduate student, James Crick.

After a visit to Franklin's lab in 1953, Watson ran into Franklin's labmate and scientific rival, Maurice Wilkins. Wilkins showed Watson a copy of an X-ray photo Franklin had painstakingly devised, which showed clues to the existence of a double-helixed molecule of DNA. Wilkins later said that Watson and Crick could not have devised their correct model of DNA without this information, which he got without Franklin's permission.

Watson and Crick also used research data from a report Franklin had prepared for government funding. With Franklin's data and information they collected from other scientists, Watson and Crick built models explaining how genetic information is passed from generation to generation.

Franklin succumbed to ovarian cancer at age 37 in 1958. Four years after her death, the Nobel Prize for medicine was awarded to Crick, Watson, and Wilkins. "On the basis of what the three winners said in their Nobel Prize lectures, no one would have known that Franklin contributed to their triumph," McGrayne writes.

Even the great Marie Curie was nearly passed over for the Nobel

"It's not the same struggle...."

Two Swarthmore faculty members talk about women in the sciences.

DENG-JENG LEE

Swarthmore faculty members Lynne Molter '79 (left) and Alison Williams.

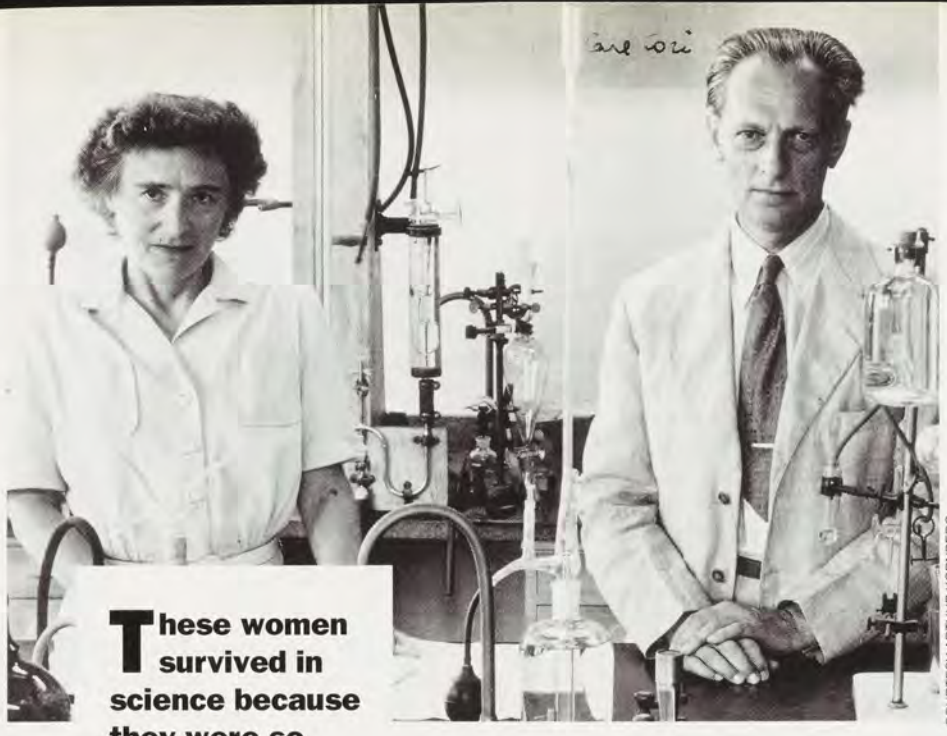
What is it like to be a female scientist at Swarthmore College today? According to two of them, assistant professor of chemistry Alison Williams and associate professor of engineering and physics Lynne Molter '79, the College is generally a supportive place to be.

"We don't have quite the problems at small schools that you might have at the big universities," Williams says. "There are some women students here who feel they are not fairly treated, but the Chemistry Department has had at least 50 percent women graduates for about 15 years."

Williams, a 33-year-old biophysical chemist who studies DNA, has taught at the College for five years. Her father is a chemist, but she says that wasn't the reason she turned to science. Her interest was first sparked when a man for whom she was babysitting gave her a job in his lab—washing glassware and weighing manure. Eventually, he allowed her to do research, and she was hooked.

"When I went off to college [at Wesleyan University in 1977], my first chemistry professor told me to become a nurse, because women didn't become chemists," she recalls. "That put me off for a few years. But it helped having a father who said, 'Don't listen to that guy.'"

To this day, women often get off to



COURTESY ARTHUR KORNBERG

Biochemists Gerty and Carl Cori worked so closely that it was hard to tell who had contributed what. But Gerty was once told, "It is un-American for a man to work with his wife."

These women survived in science because they were so incredibly nuts about what they were doing that for them the discrimination they faced paled in comparison."

Prize. In 1903 the French Academy of Sciences nominated only Pierre Curie and another male scientist for their work on radioactivity, but with support from a friend on the nominating committee, her prize nomination from 1902 was renewed for 1903. This behind-the-scenes wizardry also set Curie up for a second Nobel Prize in 1911 for her discovery of radium.

Many of these women pioneered science in the days before huge grants, expensive labs, and dozens of subordinates were available. Most if not all of the laboratory work was done by the researcher herself at the cost of long hours and personal health, working in sheds, basements, or attics with outdated and inadequate equipment.

American geneticist Barbara McClintock dealt with these problems by doing most of her research with a simple microscope and a few corn plants. Molecular biologists ignored her work for years, and it wasn't until 1983, at age 81, that McClintock won the Nobel for physiology. Asked if she was bitter about having to wait so long, she said, "When you know

a slower start in their professional careers, she says. "A lot of women enter the science field later than men. Why? I guess for several reasons. They went back to school later in life, they raised kids or went to school part time, or they waited to start their postdoctorals until after their husbands got jobs.

"It's not the same struggle the earlier women scientists had, but we still have to work hard to get around the subtle things. I still see it in my students working in the labs. The men sometimes want to pooh-pooh a woman's ideas, until I intervene. And these are 18-year-olds!"

Lynne Molter, who earned a B.A. in math and a B.S. in engineering from Swarthmore and is now a member of both the Engineering and the Physics departments, has seen Swarthmore's science programs from both sides. As a student, she doesn't remember being being treated differently than the men in her classes or being concerned that she was one of a small number of women students in two departments made up mostly of men.

"It wasn't until I was in graduate school, when someone asked me how many women professors I had at Swarthmore, that I realized I had none," she says. But she doesn't believe that inhibited her learning: "I took my role models for science from the scientists I worked with, and it didn't matter what gender they were; for other parts of my life, I had other role models."

Now she's more conscious of gender issues than she was then. Looking back, she sees that although she knew she would be a scientist "since before I can remember," she faced the same kind of subtle discouragement most girls face. She says that in our culture, both when she was a girl and now, parents and teachers don't expect girls to be interested in mechanical or scientific subjects, as they might expect boys to be. Therefore, girls don't get as much encouragement in those subjects as boys do.

"My first chemistry professor told me to become a nurse, because women didn't become chemists."

As a faculty member, Molter finds the atmosphere at Swarthmore to be very supportive of her work. But she does notice some differences in the ways female scientists and male scientists approach their work. Women seem to be more interested in working cooperatively and are less concerned about preserving the hierarchy than men are, she believes.

And the problem of balancing science and family life comes up for her, as it often does for women. Molter, who has found it possible to have both a family and a scientific career, a few years ago attended a lecture on campus by a female scientist who said that women who want to succeed in science have to work so much they don't have time for families. Molter wanted to stay to contribute to a discussion on that subject, but she had to leave to pick up her children from the baby sitter.

—E.H.

you're right, you don't care. You can't be hurt. You just know, sooner or later, it will come out in the wash."

Many women scientists, like Marie Curie, were able to do their work only in company with male scientists. Mathematician Emmy Noether, for instance, began her career assisting her father, a university professor, and by age 31 she was lecturing in his place at the university because he was too ill. (Noether also faced difficulties leaving Germany in the 1930s, when Swarthmore professor Arnold Dresden, among others, was active in getting her out of the country.)

Czech American biochemist Gerty Cori is another example. With her husband, Carl, she laid the foundation for our understanding of how cells convert food to energy and pioneered the study of enzymes and hormones. The Coris worked so closely for 35 years that it was hard to tell who had contributed what, and they jointly won a Nobel in 1947 for their research.

In the 1920s Carl was offered the job of his dreams at the University of Rochester—provided he stop working with his wife. University representatives took Gerty aside and informed her she was ruining her husband's career, telling her "It is un-American for a man to work with his wife."

"In private later, Gerty burst into tears," McGrayne writes. "Carl reassured her. Collaborating with one's wife was not un-American, he said. 'It is merely unusual.'"

McGrayne says that although working with a male scientist has always been a common way for women to get the opportunity to do scientific research, the women paid a high price. "Professor husbands and their low-ranking, low-paid wives often worked together for decades," she writes. "Other men formed lifelong collaborations with unmarried women scientists who dedicated their lives to their protectors in return for the privilege of working. In either case, the women were generally volunteers or low-level instructors, lecturers, or research assistants while their male partners were professors with tenure. A woman had a permanent position only as long as her personal relationship with the man continued."

The structure of the Nobel Prize itself may also help explain why so few women scientists have won it. The categories of prizes in science are limited to physics, chemistry, and medicine-physiology, so the burgeoning fields of medicine and physiology must compete for a single prize. There are more natural scientists than physicists and chemists, and women tend to gravitate toward the biological sciences and away from physics and chemistry, McGrayne says.

Today, more young women than ever are studying the sciences, but they are still a minority. In the United States in 1990, 40 percent of bachelor's degrees in science and engineering went to women, as did 33 percent of master's degrees and 28 percent of doctorates. How can women make their way in fields that men continue to dominate?

"Rosalyn Yalow, Nobel Prize–winning medical physicist, said, 'They simply will have to do better than the men,'" McGrayne replies. "Nuclear physicist C.S. Wu said, 'Just put your

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Viennese nuclear physicist Lise Meitner would sneak into the amphitheater of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute and hide under tiers of seats to eavesdrop on chemistry lectures.

MPG–ARCHIV

COURTESY DONALD L.D. CASPAR

Above: Lise Meitner, whose work helped lead to the discovery of nuclear fission. Right: X-ray crystallographer Rosalind Franklin, who never received recognition for her contribution to our understanding of DNA.

But it's not over yet

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Biochemist Mary Polacco '66 won her discrimination case against the University of Missouri.

In 1979 Joseph and Mary Schaeffer Polacco '66, both biochemists with doctorates from Duke University, came to Columbia, Mo., to work at the University of Missouri. Today Joseph Polacco is a tenured professor in the Biochemistry Department at the university, and Mary Polacco has lost her job there, which was always somewhat precarious. She had been discriminated against because of her sex, Mary Polacco said, and last summer a federal jury in Jefferson City, Mo., agreed with her.

Polacco says that although she had worked for years in the Department of Biochemistry as an assistant professor not on the tenure track, doing the same kind of work as faculty members with higher status and pay, the last straw came in 1990. She and her husband were on a research leave when she received a letter from her department chair telling her that funds were no longer available to fund her position. "I was 'reallocated,'" Polacco says with a laugh. "But if somebody stops paying you, you're fired."

So Polacco filed a grievance with the university and waited. When her grievance had not yet been heard a year and a half later, she filed suit. The trial was held in early June, and the jury awarded her $160,000 (plus attorneys' fees). The university is appealing the ruling.

Polacco faced some of the same problems that have made pursuing science difficult for women for decades. One problem, Polacco says, is that she was seen as a "faculty wife" rather than as a scientist in her own right. "There's a pattern at institutions of higher education all over the country," she says. "They just don't know how to treat couples because they're so used to hiring one person at a time. Often when there *is* a double hire, they're recruiting the woman and they make a position for the husband. But it very rarely happens the other way around, from what I've seen."

"As soon as people I worked with found out I had a family, I could see the look on their faces—you don't count."

For some time before she was fired, she had been calling on the university to develop a policy on hiring academic couples: "If you're recruiting people who are part of an academic couple, you look at their spouses right up front and find a position for them if they're qualified. If they're not qualified, you tell them that, rather than string them along." Polacco believes that the fact that she had become more vocal about this issue may have contributed to the department's decision to stop funding her position.

Another reason she wasn't taken seriously as a scientist, Polacco contends, is that she played the "womanly" role of wife and mother; she and her husband have three children, now 24, 21, and 19. "From my work, the people in the lab next door, people who weren't close to me, were not even aware that I had a family. But as soon as they found out, I could see the look on their faces—you don't count," she says.

"If you have to leave at five to pick up your kid at day care," she continues, "that's not a good reason. But if you want to take off the afternoon to play golf, that's OK, or if you want to go to the gym and shoot some hoops, that's OK too." When she looked into some statistics before she filed the lawsuit, she discovered that of 15 people recently hired in the Plant Sciences program, "maybe three or four were women. That sounded pretty good—but none of the women were married and all of the men were."

Right now Polacco is still housed at the University of Missouri, working on a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the maize genome data base, which is an on-line source for a array of information on maize genetics and breeding. "It's not research," she says, "it's like writing an on-line book. There is opportunity for research in the future, but it's not quite the same as doing things the way everybody else was able to do them."

Perhaps she can take some comfort from the fact that Barbara McClintock, Nobel Prize–winning geneticist, came to the University of Missouri in 1936 as an assistant professor and became one of the leaders of the university's genetics center with her research on corn plants. Five years later, after being told she would never get a permanent position and in fact would probably be fired when her male mentor left, she walked out the door—and into some of the most profitable years of her life as a researcher.

—Rebecca Alm

Fighting Words

Philadelphia city officials, neighborhood residents, and members of the black radical group MOVE spoke "different languages" during their violent confrontation in May 1985, says Swarthmore sociologist Robin Wagner-Pacifici.

PHOTOS: UPI / BETTMANN

The target: A fortified row house at 6221 Osage Ave. in West Philadelphia.

The weapons: Military and commercial explosives, automatic and semiautomatic weapons, sharpshooter rifles, M-16 and M-60 machine guns, Uzis, shotguns, a .22-caliber rifle, a Lahti antitank weapon.

The army: Five hundred members of the Philadelphia Police Department.

The dead: Six civilian adults and five children.

It's been almost nine years since police officers dropped a bomb from a helicopter onto a house in Philadelphia, burning down two city blocks. The 11 residents who died belonged to a militant movement called MOVE. Another casualty was public trust in civil authorities who confront unorthodox groups that challenge community standards.

Among the thousands who watched the MOVE catastrophe on live television May 13, 1985, was Philadelphia native Robin Wagner-Pacifici. A member of Swarthmore's sociology faculty since 1983, she shared the nation's shock at this fatal collapse of efforts to establish coexistence among MOVE, its neighbors, and city government. As a sociologist, she saw in the tragedy an illustration, both classic and horrific, of how people with different personal and professional identities may fail to communicate across chasms of habit, training, and occupational expectations.

Wagner-Pacifici had written about the ways that politicians and the media interpreted another violent event, the kidnapping and murder of former Italian prime minister Aldo Moro by the Red Brigades over 55 days in 1978. This study became her first book, *The Moro Morality Play: Terrorism as Social Drama.*

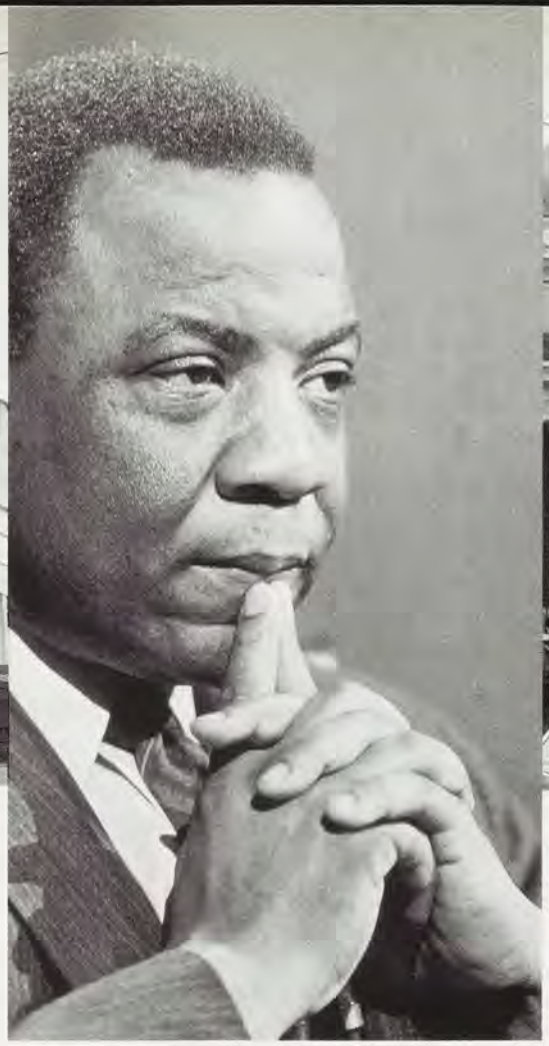
The MOVE confrontation was just as compelling, and closer to home: a lethal clash of American "cultures" in Wagner-Pacifici's hometown—the City of Brotherly Love. "I'm analytically attracted to violence," she said in an interview. "Violent events tear apart society or a family or a city or a culture. They can be devastating and horrible. But they're also very revealing. It's as if you have a piece of fabric, and you can see the colors, but you can't see the weave until you rip it. Violence exposes parts of a city or family that normally are latent or 'hidden.' Violent events are arrows that point to things we normally don't have access to."

After eight years of research, Wagner-Pacifici has completed *Discourse and Destruction: The City of Philadelphia Versus MOVE* (University of Chicago Press). She calls it a study of "the relationships among discourse, social power, conflict, and violence." She believes a major cause of the disaster was the different "languages" of those involved—and the absence of mediators who would help them speak in a language all could relate to.

The book describes the founding of MOVE in the early 1970s by a black handyman named Vincent Leaphart, who changed his name to John Africa. His followers also took that surname. This was in the Philadelphia of Mayor Frank Rizzo, whose police department eventually would be the subject of a federal investigation into alleged brutality toward black citizens.

In those early years, MOVE members shared a house on 33rd Street in the Powelton Village area of the city, not far from the University of Pennsyl–

By Barbara Haddad Ryan '59



PHOTOS: UPI / BETTMANN

Above: *Police sharpshooters climb to the top of row houses near the MOVE house.*
Right: *Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode, who gave approval for a helicopter to drop explosives on the house.*
Far right: *Smoke billows over MOVE's neighborhood after the bomb is dropped.*

vania. Their neighbors included liberal white professionals and working-class blacks. The MOVE people earned money washing cars, walking dogs, and chopping firewood. Although some had middle-class roots, they rejected bourgeois domestic values and civic traditions. Their babies didn't wear diapers and defecated on the lawn along with their pets. They despised technology and ate mainly uncooked fruits and vegetables. Their vocal demonstrations for animal rights at pet stores, zoos, and political rallies often ended in their arrest. They refused to pay their utility bills.

Wagner-Pacifici notes that obscene language played a central role in MOVE's development. In a 1992 history of the group written by some members, she read that MOVE "strategized profanity to expose the profane circumstances of the system's injustice." Whether or not this was deliberate from the start, Wagner-Pacifici said, the profanity of MOVE's public diatribes "took on a political life of its own." Neighbors and mayors alike "focused as much of their energy and concern on MOVE's language as on its alleged hygiene and legal infractions."

Wagner-Pacifici says that perceptions of MOVE have varied according to circumstance, with outsiders seeing the group as anything from a local nuisance to a terrorist organization. The members' bitter clashes with police led to trials and jail terms, and tension grew in May 1977 when members staged an armed demonstration on their Powelton Village porch. Police reacted with a blockade that lasted for months. Neighbors, some of them sympathetic to the group, hoped for a negotiated settlement. But such attempts were fruitless. Then, in August 1978, a police officer died in a shoot-out and a MOVE member was badly beaten by police during his arrest. The house was bulldozed by the city, and nine MOVE members were convicted of the policeman's death.

The other members eventually moved to 6221 Osage Ave. in a predominantly black West Philadelphia neighborhood. Some had grown up in the area, and Wagner-Pacifici describes the early '80s as a time of relative harmony. W. Wilson Goode had become the city's first black mayor, and MOVE petitioned him to reopen the case of those convicted of the policeman's death. Goode met with members but told them he had no authority to do so.

Meanwhile MOVE members began using a loudspeaker on their Osage Avenue roof to blast political leaders with streams of high-decibel invective. "Their language," Wagner-Pacifici writes, "was harsh, threatening, and profane." And once again, their neighbors were caught in the middle.

After a police show of force on the August 1984 anniversary of the 1978 shoot-out, MOVE members fortified the house with railroad ties and pieces of steel. Concerned neighbors formed an organization to protest conditions caused by MOVE's presence, including harassment and disruption caused by the loudspeaker—now blaring threats to kill Mayor Goode and police. They publicly asked Goode to intervene. Concluding that MOVE was planning an armed conflict, Goode gave responsibility for action to his managing director, Leo Brooks, a retired black Army general. He instructed Gregor Sambor, the white police commissioner, to prepare a tactical plan to be executed under Brooks' supervision.

Commissioner Sambor put the MOVE house under 24-hour surveil-

Violent events tear apart a society or a family or a city or a culture. They can be devastating and horrible. But they're also very revealing."

***Left:** A police helicopter prepares to drop a bomb on the roof of the MOVE house.*
***Above:** Managing Director Leo Brooks, Fire Commissioner William Richmond, and Police Commissioner Gregor Sambor before the investigation commission.*

lance on May 9, 1985, and on May 12 he ordered the neighborhood evacuated. Early on May 13 hundreds of police officers surrounded the house. At 5:35 a.m. Sambor delivered an ultimatum through a bullhorn. It was rejected. Tear gas and smoke projectiles were used in an attempt to force the occupants out and to provide cover for insertion of explosives. Returning shots from the house, police fired at least 10,000 rounds of ammunition in 90 minutes.

In late afternoon a citizens' group took the bullhorn and pleaded, futilely, for the MOVE people to surrender. At 5:27 p.m., with Mayor Goode's approval, a helicopter dropped explosives onto the roof. Flames shot upward and were allowed to burn for 40 minutes before the Fire Department turned on high-pressure water guns that had been set up nearby. By then the fire was out of control, destroying more than 60 houses over two city blocks.

The bombing and the death of 11 adults and children—including John Africa—set off shock waves across the city and the nation.

Mayor Goode issued an executive order on May 22 creating the Philadelphia Special Investigation Commission, made up of 11 private citizens. After 10 months of investigations and hearings, they produced a bluntly worded report that put primary responsibility on the mayor, the managing director, the police commissioner, the fire commissioner—and on badly flawed communications.

Wagner-Pacifici's book analyzes what she calls "two crystallizing moments": the days in May leading to the conflagration and the weeks of the Commission hearings. She examined the bulk of the written record: memos between city officials; minutes of meetings; newspaper reports, feature stories, and editorials; police surveillance sheets; transcripts of MOVE's loudspeaker declamations; transcripts of MOVE trials in 1981 and 1985; and videotapes and transcripts of the Commission hearings. Those hearings provide what Wagner-Pacifici calls the centerpiece of her study.

There have been four or five other books about the disaster, Wagner-Pacifici said, one by a Commission member and the others journalistic reports that focus on interviews, who did what, and the chronicle of events. Hers is the first to analyze the impact of the ways the involved groups talked to—and past—each other.

As she studied the materials, she was guided by both sociological and literary theory. "The different languages emerged," she said. "Each social institution has its own way of capturing reality. Courtrooms differ from hospitals, which differ from military bases. Sociologists look at the norms undergirding institutions. And from literary theory, we see language as a medium through which norms are brought to life."

She identified four "distinct discursive formations" in the MOVE case. First was the domestic, "comprising images of home, family, children, and neighborhood." Second was the bureaucratic, comprising images of policies, hierarchies, plans, memos, agencies, and meetings. Third was "the military, comprising images of war, enemies, operations, and tactics." Fourth was the legal system, "comprising images of guilt, crimes, rights, discretions, and warrants."

An example of the revealing insights produced by Wagner-Pacifici's approach is a comparison of the statement Police Commissioner Sambor was supposed to read at 5 a.m. that May 13 and what he actually said when he raised the bullhorn.

The text: "This is the Police Commissioner. We have warrants for the arrest of Frank James Africa, Ramona Johnson Africa, Theresa Brooks Africa, and Conrad Hampton Africa for various violations of the criminal statutes of Pennsylvania. We do not wish to harm anyone. All occupants have 15 minutes to peaceably evacuate the premises and surrender. This is your only notice. The 15 minutes start now."

But Sambor actually began his announcement: "Attention MOVE, this is America. You have to abide by the laws of the United States."

Wagner-Pacifici writes, "In the official version, the MOVE members are simply criminals, about to be arrested. In the delivered version, they are both cultural deviants, defying the culture of America, and criminals, breaking the laws of the state."

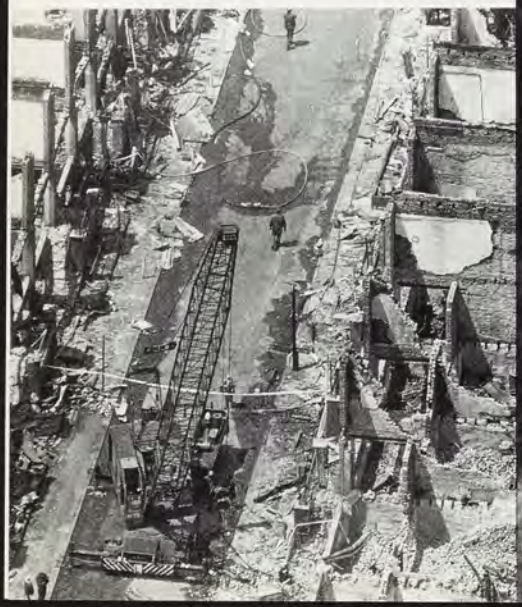
Of course many people live in more than one environment; they can be both private individuals and part of a professional, social, or other group. How did such people react and communicate in the MOVE case? "It's an interesting question," Wagner-Pacifici said. "The bureaucratic administrators were asked during the hearings about their emotions. Their struggles to articulate those emotions sounded awkward, phony, and insincere. The language they spoke as representatives of the bureaucracy was all about denying emotion.

"Certain kinds of languages are existentially incapable of saying certain kinds of things. Although the bureaucrats couldn't acknowledge emotions, both at the time and later they had to have felt emotions. But bureaucrats aren't supposed to be emotional."

The book explores the relationship among talk, power, and violence: Wagner-Pacifici is drawn to the issue of "an individual having power versus a language having power. Certain individuals have access to forms of talk that both attract and repel certain kinds of audiences, while if you talk in

Gregor Sambor, the police commissioner, to MOVE members: "Attention MOVE, this is America. You have to abide by the laws of the United States."

PHOTOS: UPI / BETTMANN



Below: *Two city blocks were destroyed by fire.*
Right: *Ramona Africa, the only adult MOVE survivor.*
Far right: *Mourners for John Africa at the site of the former MOVE house on Osage Avenue.*

a bureaucratic idiom in the public arena, that kind of language is recognized as official and gets respect, just because of the source.

"The neighborhood people—the 'organic' mediators—that day used vernacular speech and emotionality. The representatives of the city didn't or refused to understand them, so they were not heard."

This recalls the old saw that where you sit determines where you stand. "Yes," Wagner-Pacifici said, "and what you speak determines where you sit."

Wagner-Pacifici saw missed opportunities in the potential contribution of the "organic" mediators, MOVE's neighbors. "If only they could have continued the dialogue," she said. "It's not to say MOVE would have left, or changed. But there was *no* reason for its annihilation. There was nothing to lose by waiting and reformulating. One would-be negotiator said the MOVE people wanted to *reopen* the 1978 case [of the killed police officer]—not release members from prison, but just reopen the case.

"If you go in this direction with a military, bureaucratic, and legalistic framework and there's a broadside attack, the chance of a good outcome is nil." If you persist with attempts at mediation, she added, there's at least a possibility of averting disaster.

"I recommend a hybridized form of discourse," Wagner-Pacifici said, "that would be elevated to respectable status. We should not be afraid to have

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Interdisciplinary Sociologist

Robin Wagner-Pacifici didn't take a single sociology course as an undergraduate.

STEVEN GOLDBLATT '67

Robin Wagner-Pacifici says she differs from the typical sociologist in being "drawn to events with different interpretations. Sociologists generally are interested in charting the long-term structure of phenomena, and this is dramatic only in its cumulative nature, for example unemployment or deindustrialization. Thousands of people are affected by these conditions, but sociologists don't usually look at specific events; they chart trends and gauge causes. My book is more interdisciplinary and not as mainstream."

She said the possibility of such a study was part of what attracted her to sociology in the first place: "It's an open discipline that permits a wide range of methodologies, from the very statistical and quantitative to how people say hello on the telephone.

Wagner-Pacifici, who's 39, didn't take a single sociology course as a comparative literature major at Brown University, Class of '76. The daughter of a physician, she returned to Philadelphia after college and got a job as a secretary at the University of Pennsylvania. One fringe benefit was free classes.

"They all ended up being in sociology," she recalled. "I wasn't goal-oriented—they just sounded interesting, and they connected with my literary and political interests. They fit in terms of the narrative process and how society talks about itself."

Within two years she earned a master's degree in sociology, and Penn awarded her a Ph.D. in 1983, the same year she joined the Swarthmore faculty. She was attracted to the College because "I'd always admired it, and I liked the idea of getting to know people in other disciplines. At Penn I made forays into folklore, anthropology, communications, and education while getting my doctorate. I really like interdisciplinary work, which you don't get teaching at big universities."

Wagner-Pacifici met her husband, Maurizio, at Penn's International House. A native of Tivoli, Italy, he's a biologist at Penn. They have three children, ages 8, 5, and almost 2. (In the book's acknowledgments, she warmly thanks her husband for his support. As for the children, "I'm not sure they should exactly be thanked. But I am sure that I adore them, and I figure this is as good a place as any to say that.")

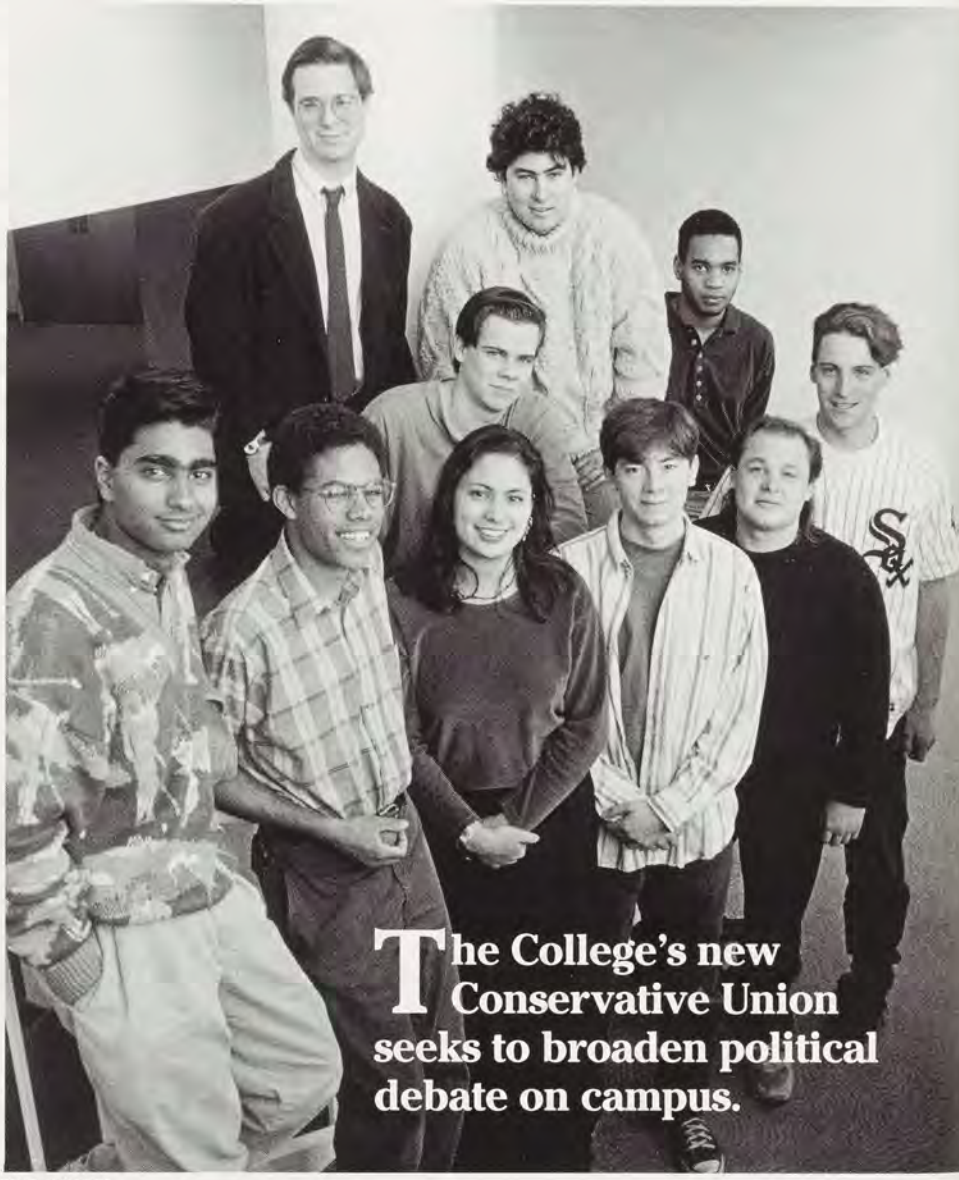
Wagner-Pacifici was pregnant with her youngest child during part of the 1½-year leave when she worked on the book. Her research was made possible by a grant from the Fund for Research on Dispute Resolution and a Eugene Lang Faculty Fellowship from the College. While the entire project extended over more than seven years, she wrote the book in two months. She said the combined activities of mothering, teaching, and scholarship represent another "hybridization" that she values.

"I'm active on the task force that's looking into College-wide child care," she said. "Building community doesn't involve only task-oriented issues. Having kids and thinking of them growing up and teaching them about the freedom of ideas, about patience and tolerance—I have used this in my teaching and research. I hate to see life rigidly divided into separate spheres. I want to be a good citizen of the College and the community. I want to use being a mother and a scholar. It shouldn't be a matter of choices. It shouldn't have to be either/or. The voices of mother, scholar, and teacher should be able to be useful to each other."

—B.H.R.

Swarthmore's New Right

The College's new Conservative Union seeks to broaden political debate on campus.



DENG-JENG LEE

More than 60 students have joined the College's new conservative student group since its founding a year ago. Shown above are members (clockwise from top) Tom Makin '97, Matthew Ram Lee '95, Sean Wright '96, Ron Smith '96, Carl Heiberg '96, Eric Jansson '96, Alice Stillman '96, Arthur Krause '97, and Vijay Toke '96. At center is Matthew Schenk '95, editor of the new conservative campus newspaper, Common Sense.

By Jeffrey Lott

On December 2 at a few minutes before 8:00 p.m., the Pearson-Hall Theatre was filling up fast. Campus security officers hovered around the edge of the crowd, ten-fouring into their two-ways as student organizers in blue blazers and dressy blouses scurried about taking tickets, pointing VIPs to reserved seats up front, and giving last-minute instructions backstage. The Board of Managers was on campus, and a number of members had decided to join President Alfred H. Bloom at a well-publicized talk by William F. Buckley Jr.

As the famous sage of the right strode onstage, members of the Swarthmore Conservative Union (SCU) sat on the edges of their front-section seats. Buckley smiled a benevolent smile at them and they knew they had arrived—big time.

Though Buckley was the third high-profile speaker to have been sponsored by the SCU during the fall semester, he was clearly the most important and talked-about. Conservative economist Walter Williams had drawn about 200 to the Friends Meeting House in September, and Eagle Forum founder Phyllis Schlafly had filled the same theater with students in October when she delivered a talk titled "The Truth About Feminism." But Buckley seemed to possess the right mix of intellect and ideology to attract the broadest range of Swarthmoreans—faculty members, staffers, even the president.

The 800-plus people in Buckley's overflow crowd were a mix of the curious and the committed. The curious were wondering what the 68-year-old editor of the *National Review* might have to say to Swarthmore College—and, of course, what Swarthmore might have to say in return. One admitted political voyeur, Dominic Sagolla '96, said: "This is one of the reasons I came to Swarthmore. I'm not too involved in politics, but I wanted to see the reaction of the crowd."

The committed, in addition to the SCU's 60-plus members, included a carload of excited conservative students from Bucknell University and a caucus of about 20 well-dressed Delaware County Republicans. Buckley was a god, and they weren't going to miss a word.

They had to pay close attention. Speaking in his patented ironic pentameter, Buckley launched into a rambling 40-minute critique of the Clinton administration and everything else he believes is wrong with America. His polysyllabic exegesis was alternately amusing and confusing, predictable and provocative: a jab at Clinton's

approach to health care reform—"It's as though every few minutes he were rushing downstairs to the excitement of the Christmas tree"; a lesson about Federalism—"The money coming back from Washington is the same money that is going to Washington, except while it's in Washington it goes out on the town"; and a denunciation of the evils of illegitimate births—"What if the moral sensibilities of the community were sharper? What if the community concluded that unwed mothers are irresponsible citizens?"

Buckley's appearance at Swarthmore was something members of the Conservative Union had worked toward for nearly a year. The student group is new, springing from a core of six or eight social and political conservatives who got together in February 1993 at the urging of Matthew Ram Lee '95. Lee had put up a few posters asking, "Are you conservative? Feeling lonely? Feeling marginalized?"

"Marginalized?"

Lee's irony was obvious—it's the ultimate politically correct word. On a campus that to conservative students seemed to harbor nothing but politically correct groups, he wanted to start a different one—a conservative force that would, more than anything, lead the attack on PC.

Lee's appeal did not fall on deaf ears. It wasn't long before the nascent group applied for and received a Student Council "charter"—something student organizations need before they can get access to the $231,000 activities fund. Before long, a budget of $690 was approved for the 1993–94 school year.

The SCU's coming-out party was an April 29 talk by author Dinesh D'Souza, whose 1991 critique of academia, *Illiberal Education: The Politics of Race and Sex on Campus*, has become a manifesto for those who see political correctness and multiculturalism as great evils. D'Souza attacked multiculturalism during his well-attended Swarthmore speech, and it was a fitting opening salvo in the SCU's campus campaign: "Liberal education," he said, "is not about freezing us into categories of race and class. It's about emancipating us from those categories."

Vijay Toke '96, SCU co-chairman (with Geoffrey Cline '96), elaborates: "Focusing on differences only makes people less willing to work together. Why don't we focus on our similarities instead of our differences? Instead of pulling people together, [multiculturalism] is just pushing people apart.... Sure, Americans come from a very diverse number of cultures, but to put them into one American identity would be very important for unity."

As an Indian American who favors English as an official language for the United States, Toke doesn't see any problem with learning about other cultures. "I'm from another culture myself. But what we learn is only a politically correct version of other cultures." For example, he says, Rigoberta Menchú (the Guatemalan Quiché activist who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992) is held up as a representative of all Guatemalan culture. "Why? Because it's PC," says Toke. "Because Menchú is a Marxist-Leninist lesbian."

Co-chairman Cline says that the conservatives are more interested in changing attitudes at the College than they are in electoral politics or conservative activism off campus: "We're joining forces with other campus organizations, not to change society but to change college campuses across the country." A political science major, Cline says he "wasn't very political" until he came to Swarthmore but was "pushed to the right by what I was exposed to when I got here." As a freshman, he said, he felt unable to be open about his conservative views, either in or out of class: "It seemed like if you tried to oppose something in a class where 20 people believe it, you were going to get totally shot down.... Even outside the classroom, I didn't bring up politics, but now [with the Conservative Union] I think that people are no longer afraid to express a political belief."

The D'Souza talk opened up an important source of support for the SCU. The students had approached the Young America's Foundation (YAF), a Washington nonprofit group, to help fund D'Souza's appearance. There they found an enthusiastic friend in James Taylor '72, executive director of the foundation, which publishes conservative critiques of academia and funds more than 200 speakers per year on college campuses (see next page). The YAF provided most of the money to bring D'Souza, and Taylor established a relationship with the SCU that led directly to its higher profile last fall.

Swarthmore is a "special project"

DENG-JENG LEE

SCU co-chairmen Geoffrey Cline '96 (left) and Vijay Toke '96. As a freshman, Cline felt unable to express his conservative views.

for the YAF this year, explains Taylor. After meeting with SCU leaders last summer, he invited them to draw up plans for a concentrated effort to "reform" Swarthmore "to be more receptive to conservative ideas, speakers, and students."

"We wanted to do this at a small liberal arts college, so we asked students from Amherst, Williams, Oberlin, Wellesley, and Swarthmore to submit a proposal." The YAF chose Swarthmore because, says Taylor, the SCU "had the most underclassmen and an enthusiastic set of leaders.... I felt like a football coach who has had a good recruiting year."

YAF support not only launched the SCU speakers' program, it also led to the publication of a new conservative campus newspaper, *Common Sense*. Editor Matthew Schenk, a junior English major, had served as editor of *The Phoenix* in the spring of 1993. In his inaugural editorial, he wrote, "*Common Sense* was founded on the belief that a lack of ideological, political, and philosophical diversity will ultimately result in ignorance, small-mindedness, and a dangerous intolerance of ideas that do not fit into the popular, liberal, and often narrow-minded category of what is acceptable." In an interview, Schenk said he wanted to "collect together conservative views on campus ... so that people could see that there are others out there who believe the same things." Schenk criticizes *The Phoenix* as "a few people standing on their private soapbox," though he admits he did the same thing when he was the paper's editor.

After the debut of *Common Sense*, a journalistic battle was joined throughout the fall semester, with writers in each paper criticizing the other, most notably over the issue of outside funding for conservative activities.

"My concern is that it seems so imported," said Andrew Perrin '94, a

PAOLA TAGLIAMONTE

Michael Flynn '95 moderates as William F. Buckley Jr. answers questions after his December talk.

The goal: "to change college campuses across the country." The hot targets: political correctness and multiculturalism.

Jim Taylor's Campus Crusade

"In the '60s radicalism was more among the students. Today the left-wing students of the '60s have tenure."

When Jim Taylor '72 arrived at Swarthmore in the fall of 1968, he was a world apart from most of his new classmates. They were 18-year-olds for the most part and were mostly opposed to American involvement in Vietnam. Taylor was older, 25, and his ideas about Vietnam were quite different because just two months before his freshman orientation, he'd been there—as an Air Force sergeant. Attending college on the GI Bill, he saw the student anti-war movement as responsible for the impending American defeat in the war. For Taylor it was the beginning of a lifelong commitment to changing the political atmosphere on America's campuses.

Now, as executive director of the Young America's Foundation (YAF), he's making a special effort to have an impact on his alma mater, a place where he admits he was "angry most of the time." Before joining YAF in 1980, Taylor worked at the conservative Intercollegiate Studies Institute in Bryn Mawr, Pa., and at the National Right to Work Legal Defense Fund. He served on President Ronald Reagan's Equal Employment Opportunity Commission transition team in 1980 and as a member of the president's advisory council on the Peace Corps in 1986–87. He also served as vice president of the International Youth Year Commission in 1985–86.

"I was generally conservative before Swarthmore," said Taylor in a recent *Bulletin* interview, "but my college experience really put a sharp edge to my beliefs. In just about every class, the fundamental principles I believed in were undermined by professors and the curriculum. If you were patriotic or religious, you just did not say so publicly without being laughed at." And Swarthmore in the late 1960s, he observes, was "not as bad as some other schools."

Taylor hears today's conservative students echoing some of the feelings he had as a student, and he gives the members of the Swarthmore Conservative Union (SCU) "a lot of credit for sticking their necks out and proclaiming their beliefs."

SCU leaders say that their ability to be so visible has been greatly strengthened by YAF support. Foundation dollars and political connections have made high-profile conservative speakers possible, and YAF funds have helped launch the new conservative campus newspaper, *Common Sense*.

The YAF, which has an annual budget of $3.5 million, grew out of a 1969 student group at Vanderbilt University. Until it became independent in 1978, it was an arm of the now-defunct conservative youth group Young Americans for Freedom. It raises its

left-wing activist who was elected editor of *The Phoenix* for the spring semester. "A lot of the content of *Common Sense* comes from off campus, and their speakers have been largely funded from off campus. They're part of a national conservative campaign that believes the university has become a tool of the left. Multiculturalism, deconstructionism, feminism, gay rights, racialism—they're the new bogeymen now that communism is gone as an international force."

The funding issue caused a minor flap with the College's administration in November, when the YAF sent a three-page letter to several hundred alumni asking for financial support of the "Swarthmore Project." The letter, which was not sanctioned by the College, came from a group that called itself Swarthmore Students and Alumni for Meaningful Diversity. It was signed by Taylor, Charles Floto '68, and Michael Flynn '95 of the SCU and asserted that despite President Bloom's provision of $3,000 for the speakers' program, the SCU "feels that the [administration] is not serious about bringing true intellectual diversity to the College." It asked for donations from $25 to $10,000 to the Young America's Foundation in order to "bring balance" to Swarthmore.

The letter, said Harry Gotwals, vice president for alumni, development, and public relations, was "unfortunate." Gotwals had already proposed to help the SCU approach a limited number of alumni whom the College believed to be sympathetic to their cause. A communications mix-up occurred and Flynn didn't receive Gotwals' offer until after the YAF had mailed the solicitation. Gotwals says the College administration and the SCU are working together on the organization's funding.

Justin Herring '97, treasurer of the SCU, thinks that the controversy was "overblown" by *The Phoenix*. "In retrospect [the letter] was a big mistake. I wish it hadn't happened. But the administration has a vested interest in encouraging alumni involvement in whatever goes on here." He estimates that the SCU has already received "about $1,000" in alumni support. Gotwals, for his part, urges alumni who are interested in helping the SCU to contact him to learn a direct way to support the organization through the College.

The funding controversy aside, fostering diverse views on campus

PAOLA TAGLIAMONTE

Phyllis Schlafly attacked feminists during her October talk. Referring to the Hill-Thomas hearings, she said that charges of sexual harassment are used as a "tool to destroy any man they set out to destroy."

funds through direct mail solicitations and grants from other foundations.

The YAF has committed up to $35,000 for the one-year Swarthmore project, Taylor said, with the understanding that the SCU will find other sources of funding to match as much of the foundation's money as possible. Celebrities like William F. Buckley Jr. don't come cheap. His talk cost $12,500, said Taylor. Phyllis Schlafly got $5,000, and economist Walter Williams was paid $3,000. Former Attorney General Edwin Meese ($5,000) and former Secretary of Education and drug czar William Bennett ($15,000) are scheduled for the second semester.

The purpose of all this, according to Taylor, is to counter a trend he sees on campuses across the country. "In the '60s the radicalism was more among the students. Today it's switched to where the administrations and faculties are on the cutting edge of what the left wants to achieve on campus. The left-wing students of the '60s now have tenure.

"There seems to be more of a willingness on the part of the campus left to put aside principles of fair play and free speech, more of an openly expressed intention to use the campuses to change society. You see this with the multicultural programs, speech codes, mandatory courses, sensitivity training, things of that sort. It's tending in a totalitarian direction, though you see some developments recently that may start reversing this."

TWIN LENS PHOTOGRAPHY

Jim Taylor '72

Responding to objections to outside influence on campus politics, Taylor contends that "without our involvement there would be no program like this at Swarthmore." He is "skeptical that there will be any conservative program next year without further outside help. College administrations usually wait for these things to blow over, then go back to business as usual."

At Swarthmore, said Taylor, the YAF's goal has been to "show that students will come out to hear conservative speakers and that they will respond to them positively even if they don't agree with them. Our other goal is to leave behind a strong organization and a good publication that will continue to make an impact." He thinks that both of these goals are well on their way to being met.

—*J.L.*

remains the SCU's primary goal. Even among its members, there is a wide range of economic, political, and social thinking. While political correctness and multiculturalism may seem like their hot topics, abortion, homosexuality, and other "lifestyle" issues are also on some members' conservative agenda. Intersections with student pro-life and religious groups exist in a few members, for example SCU founder Matthew Ram Lee and Alice Stillman '96, both of whom are also active in the Swarthmore Christian Fellowship.

Stillman sees the two organizations as quite separate. The Christian Fellowship tries to stay focused on spiritual matters, while the Conservative Union is more issue-oriented. Like many members of the conservative movement, she is concerned about being able to express both her political and religious views freely. To illustrate, she hypothesizes a "spectrum ranging from an upper-class, white, heterosexual male on one end to, let's say, a black, lesbian, underclass woman on the other. People today are wondering who has more of a right to speak. Because this woman has 'suffered' so much, has been so 'oppressed,' should her voice be given more weight than the man's?

"There's almost a ranking going on, even among minorities. Where do Jewish people fall? In the middle? What if you're half white and half Asian [as Stillman is]? Where do you get to speak? To have people feel that what they have to say is not as worthwhile as what some other people say, because they haven't experienced as much oppression ... that scares me."

Stillman sees feminism as a further example: "I don't think that women should bond together as 'victims.' There are so many excuses as to why the world is out to get you, as to why you can fail." She supports equal rights for women and says she knows that there is sexism and racism in the world, but "you shouldn't harp on it because in America people have so many more opportunities than anywhere else in the world."

(Phyllis Schlafly had said much the same in her October talk. Referring to feminist consciousness-raising, she said, "Grievances are like flowers. If you water them, they grow.")

People come up to me and say, 'I think you're dead wrong, but it's great that you're here.'"
—Vijay Toke '96

PHOTOS BY DENG-JENG LEE

***Top:** Alice Stillman '96: "People are wondering who has more of a right to speak."*
***Bottom:** Matthew Schenk '95: "Lack of ideological and political diversity ultimately results in ignorance and intolerance."*

Stillman knows she is in the minority among Swarthmore women. The SCU has clearly attracted more male than female students, and Stillman is the only woman among its leadership—and one of only about 10 women among its total membership of more than 60. She thinks that abortion and other issues tend to make Swarthmore women more liberal and that "so-called educated women tend to be more liberal because they are the ones who are aspiring to be more successful, to get somewhere in life."

The spring semester is bringing its share of conservative activism. The SCU has brought former Attorney General Edwin Meese to campus and hopes to get former Education Secretary and "drug czar" William Bennett as well. But the big-name speakers can last only so long. Next year co-chairman Vijay Toke (who is a sophomore) wants the SCU to "bring in more conservative intellectuals, more policy people—from the Heritage Foundation, for example. The crowds might not be as big, but I think this would be far more intellectually stimulating and more significant in bringing balance."

"Balance is the key," interrupts Geoff Cline. "Our whole purpose is to provide a balance that I think is sorely lacking here now. The College is heading down one path, and until now it hasn't been worried about the other side at all."

Andrew Perrin disagrees: "At Swarthmore there hasn't been a single instance of censorship or the disallowing of speech. No one has made that claim. All they've claimed is that they feel uncomfortable being conservative on campus—and I don't think that's so terrible, frankly. Conservative ideas—and anybody else's ideas—are just that, ideas."

Point. Counterpoint. As President Bloom settled into his seat to listen to William F. Buckley Jr., he was asked about the impact of the SCU. "Conservative voices add to the intellectual diversity and the diversity of expression on campus," he said. "It's a good thing for the College."

Vijay Toke would agree: "I can't tell you how many times people have come up to me and said, 'I think you're dead wrong, but it's great that you're here.'" ■

THE COLLEGE

College judicial case gets national attention

It's usually difficult for small colleges to attract national publicity. But this winter a surprised Swarthmore turned up in the headlines and on the airwaves across the country—even with competition from the Los Angeles earthquake, Tonya Harding, and Whitewater.

The College found itself in—among dozens of other news outlets—*The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *Time* magazine, and *U.S. News & World Report*; on the Associated Press and UPI wires; and on ABC, CBS, NBC, and CNN.

The stories, many of which were inaccurate or incomplete, discussed what normally would have been a confidential student judicial case at the College. In mid-January President Alfred H. Bloom and Board of Managers chairman Neil Austrian '61 decided to send a letter to alumni, parents, and friends to explain the College's actions in the case.

A first-year woman had brought charges against a male classmate of sexual harassment and intimidation, and of violating a pledge to actively avoid her. A dean's committee heard the case, and although it dropped the charge of harassment and intimidation, it recommended suspending the male student for violating a prior agreement to avoid the woman. Both students appealed the recommendation to Bloom, who, after a lengthy investigation, found that there had been intimidating behavior. To resolve the case, he reached an agreement with the man that he would take a leave from the College and seek counseling.

"We agreed that his return to the College would be conditional on his demonstrating an ability and commitment to respect the standards of conduct of the community," said Bloom.

The case had started to draw national attention in early December, when the young man decided to profess his innocence to *The Washington* (D.C.) *Times*. Although the newspaper's circulation is small, explained Barbara Haddad Ryan '59, associate vice president for external affairs, its column about the case was read by the huge capital press corps. The column led to an avalanche of calls from newspapers, magazines, wire services, television networks, local TV stations, radio networks and talk shows, college newspapers, and specialized newsletters.

NBC's *Today*, for example, decided to send a camera crew to campus during exam week, with or without the College's cooperation. Meanwhile the young man and his attorney were readily available to reporters. The media demands grew so frenzied over the holiday period that the College found it necessary to hire a Philadelphia public relations firm to help handle inquiries.

"There were several legitimate reasons for this attention," said Ryan, a former newspaper reporter and public relations executive. "First, the case involved two major issues that the media have been covering in the '90s. One is how society is revising the 'rules' for relationships between men and women and reconsidering appropriate responses to unwanted behavior. The other is how colleges and universities are dealing with campus controversies about free speech and race and gender relations."

Ryan said another reason was the innovative nature of Bloom's decision, which included the College's agreeing to pay for up to four courses at another institution while the male student is on leave and undertaking counseling. He has enrolled at Boston University.

"He's been on full scholarship at the College," Ryan said, "so Swarthmore would be paying his tuition, room, and board if he were here. The young woman's family liked the decision. It reflects the fact that the College's primary mission is to educate students, and our Quaker tradition emphasizes the positive potential in every person."

Among other reasons for the media blitz, Ryan said, "the weeks around the holidays traditionally are 'slow news days.' The young man lives in New York City, so it was a 'local' story in the media capital of the country. And finally, this case had built-in sex appeal—one original charge, later dismissed, was sexual harassment."

Swarthmore officials worked diligently to protect the confidentiality of the case while deliberations were under way. But the one-sided coverage eventually led both the College and the woman to

DENG-JENG LEE

Pearson readied for north campus project.... *Construction began last month on Pearson Hall to house departments that will be displaced during the three-year renovation of the north campus. Two offices plus a large hall storage section have been added on the second floor in space formerly occupied by a computer lab. The old theater space (above) has been gutted so that both the first floor and the basement can be used. When completed in June, the first floor will house more than 20 offices for people who will have to vacate Parrish Annex—members of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and the College's Personnel Office. The basement area will hold meeting rooms, rest rooms, and copier space. The reconstruction is planned as permanent space, although long-term use has not yet been decided. Groundbreaking for a new academic building north of Parrish Hall is scheduled for June, to be followed later by the complete renovation of Trotter Hall.*

release more detailed information. The woman agreed to a single national television interview, on CBS News' *Eye to Eye with Connie Chung*. Associate Dean Robert Gross '62 explained President Bloom's decision on Chung's program, NBC's *Today*, ABC's *Good Morning America*, and CNN —which sent the story around the world.

Ironically, for several months a committee of the Board of Managers had been discussing ways to enhance Swarthmore's national profile, primarily to help with student recruitment. "Even if many more people have heard of Swarthmore," Ryan said, "and even if fewer will ask, 'Isn't that a girls' school?', no one would have predicted—or recommended—getting publicity this way."

DELAWARE COUNTY DAILY TIMES

From 1968 to now... *Former U.S. senator and presidential candidate Eugene McCarthy visited the campus in late January for two days of lectures and seminars. Sponsored by the College's Peace Studies Program, his appearances included a speech on "Threats to Democratic Society," in which he talked about the declining state of American politics, government, and society in general. McCarthy also discussed and read poems from his latest book, which contains poems written during his 1968 presidential bid.*

Let it rot: The College composts

So you have a 300-acre campus with thousands of trees and miles of lawns, and you face the same dilemma as many homeowners: What do you do with grass clippings and leaves?

At Swarthmore, as is true in many area municipalities, the words are recycle and compost. By state law the College must recycle aluminum, high-grade office paper, corrugated cardboard—and leaves.

Jeff Jabco, director of grounds and assistant director for horticulture for the Scott Arboretum, said the majority of leaves—those that fall on the lawns—are mulched on site by mowing several times with a rotary lawn mower. "The particles are small enough to sift down between the grass blades," he says, "and over time the clippings and leaves break down into humus and enrich the soil. Many people feel that grass clippings need to be constantly removed to prevent thatch buildup, but there shouldn't be a problem unless the grass is too high at the time of cutting."

Where leaves are heavy on the lawn or in landscaped beds, they are collected by a large vacuum and taken to the leaf composting area in the Arboretum's nursery. The compost area consists of long windrows of leaves that are piled and turned over a nine-month period. By then the leaves have broken down into composted leaf mold and can be used as soil amendment.

Jabco said that tree removal and pruning waste is also recycled. "Tree trunks are either cut into lumber or split into firewood. Limbs and stumps are either ground out, chipped to use as mulch, or added to compost piles."

With landscape waste accounting for nearly 18 percent of the total volume of trash in the nation's landfills, Jabco urges everyone to emulate the College's policies of dealing with green matter.

610

610 in effect as College's area code

Last month the College's telephone area code was changed to 610. You can also reach us using the old 215 code for the balance of 1994, but Bell of Pennsylvania suggests you make note of the change now. Calls to this area after Jan. 1, 1995, will not be completed using the old area code.

Five fall teams have winning seasons

Under the direction of first-year head coach Ted Dixon, the **men's cross country** team finished the season with an overall record of 5-1 and tied for third place in the Centennial Conference. The harriers were led throughout the season by sophomore Scott Reents, who placed eighth at the Centennial Conference Championships at Dickinson College on Oct. 30. Kerry Boeye '97 and John Freeman '96 also gave strong performances throughout the season. At the Regional NCAA Championship held at Allentown College on Nov. 13, the Garnet placed ninth in a field of 26 teams, and six of Swarthmore's seven competitors ran their personal best times. Nine of the team's Top 10 runners will return for the 1994 season.

The **women's cross country** team also had a successful season under head coach Ted Dixon. Margaret Sloane '94 consistently led the way for the Garnet, finishing fifth at the Centennial Conference Championships and 16th of 176 runners at the NCAA regional qualifying meet. Sloane received All-Centennial honors and All-Mid East honors for these outstanding performances. Kate Dempsey '95 was another top performer throughout the season. The team finished in third place in the Centennial Conference and had a record of 4-2.

The **men's soccer** team had an impressive record of 11-5-2, after playing a tough schedule that included several nationally ranked teams. Despite missing several weeks because of an injury, Nate Fairman '95 led the team in scoring with eight goals and four assists. Seven players received Centennial Conference honors at the season's end; senior captains Jeff Nebelsieck, Todd Kim, and Peter Jacobs were named to the second team, while Fairman, Len Cuello '96, Ben Cook '95, and Shawn Bundy '97 were honorable mention selections. Kim and Nebelsieck were also selected as third team Mid-Atlantic Region Adidas Scholar Athletes.

The **field hockey** team had its most successful season since 1987, finishing with a record of 13-7. Melissa Bonder '95 and Lia Ernst '97 combined to lead an extremely powerful attack.

JOHN FERKO

Melissa Bonder '95 scored a record 26 goals, leading the field hockey team to its best record since 1987.

Bonder finished the season with 26 goals and nine assists, establishing new school records for most goals in a season, most points in a season, and most career points (50 goals, 14 assists, 114 points). She led the entire Centennial Conference in scoring (61 points). Ernst contributed 21 assists and two goals, also establishing a school record for most assists in a season. Both players were named as first-team All-Conference players, while Kristen Osborne '97 and Kelly Wilcox '97 received honorable mention recognition.

The **volleyball** team squeaked by with a winning record, ending up 15 wins and 14 losses. The final match of the season was a hard-fought battle against Albright, which the Garnet won by taking the final game of the match, 16-14. Highlights of the season were taking second place at the Cabrini Tournament and the ability of sophomores Diana Bieber and Kaori Shingledecker to step into the setting roles without having prior experience in that position. Senior standouts on the team included Jenny Willis and co-captains Katie Westin and Way-Ting Chen.

After losing outstanding quarterback Chip Chevalier to graduation, the **football** team experienced a season devoted to rebuilding. Wide receiver Josh Drake '94 finished his stellar career with 177 receptions for 2,500 yards. Drake now holds 10 Swarthmore College football records. He and place-kicker Matt Minero '96 were named as first-team All-Conference players. Minero was the team's leading scorer with 38 points (eight field goals, 14 PATs). Other players who received postseason honors were second-team selections Nick Milligan '96 and Mark Fink '95 and honorable mention selections Chuck Hudson '96, Dan Maher '95, and Mike Vagner '94. Additionally, eight players were named Academic All-Conference.

Despite the **women's soccer** team's record of 6-14, the team had more wins this season than any Swarthmore women's soccer team has had since 1989. Madeline Fraser '95 was third in the Centennial Conference in scoring with 13 goals and five assists for 31 points. She was named to the first-team All-Centennial Conference team, while fellow juniors Bess O'Neill and MaryCatherine Arbour received honorable mention status. In her second year as head coach, Cheri Goetcheus was pleased with the performance of her team and expects to see even more improvement in the coming years.

Hood Trophy: The fall sports season ended with a 3-3 tie in the annual competition between Swarthmore and Haverford. Swarthmore defeated Haverford in field hockey, volleyball, and men's soccer, while Haverford came out on top in men's cross country, women's cross country, and women's soccer.

Wrong about Wright

In the "People and Transitions" section of the 1992–93 *President's Report*, the date for the arrival on campus of Harrison M. Wright, the Isaac H. Clothier Professor Emeritus of History and International Relations, was incorrect. Professor Wright joined the faculty in September 1957, not 1958.

ALUMNI COUNCIL

The Alumni Council does much of its work through its nine committees and devotes a portion of each of its meetings, held three times a year, to working sessions of these specialized committees: Admissions, Athletics, Career Planning, Connections, Long-Range Planning, Social Outreach, and Student Life.

The Admissions Committee, co-chaired by Elenor Reid '67 and Deborah Van Lenten '90, works closely with the Admissions Office in a variety of outreach activities designed to find and encourage prospective students. The Book Award Program was initiated by the committee to increase name recognition of the College and promote applicant diversity by recognizing academically outstanding high school juniors in schools with large minority student bodies. Ten awards are now presented, and plans are under way to expand the program as quickly as additional schools and interested alumni "presenters" can be identified. Committee members, as well as other alumni, also interview applicants to the College.

The Committee on Athletics was established in 1991 partially in response to a request from the Athletic Department that alumni assist in revising a mission statement on athletics at Swarthmore. This has been done, and the closing paragraph of the statement reads: "Swarthmore's program must pursue the amateur ideal in athletics by offering a wide range of activities for the novice as well as the skilled and charging no fees for any contests. The program exists for students, not spectators. The College must be committed to maintaining excellent facilities, an outstanding staff, and an appropriate balance between athletics and other aspects of student life." The Committee also established an award to be presented at the annual spring sports banquet to an alumna/us "who actively participated in athletics at Swarthmore and has reached a high level of achievement in some aspect of his or her life after graduating." Award winners to date have been Neil Austrian '61 and Lee MacPhail '39. While trying to decide whether its work is over, the committee, chaired by Catherine Rivlin '79, intends to look at the women's athletics program and the role of Friends of Swarthmore Athletics.

The Career Planning Committee assists the Career Planning and Placement Office in identifying ways alumni can provide a leg up to students seeking career advice, intern or summer job opportunities, or postgraduate employment. Recognizing the obvious interest the Parents Council has in this area, we have invited it to have an observer at meetings of the committee, which is chaired by Martha Salzmann Gay '79. A current project is under way to identify graduates employed in human resources who are willing to assist in creating a network to help students and alumni find jobs.

The chairs of each of the 13 Swarthmore Connections comprise a Council committee that meets to exchange war stories of successful (and unsuccessful) Connections events and practical advice on the staging of these events. The chair of the chairs is Virginia Mussari Bates '73.

The Long-Range Planning Committee, chaired by Howard Vickery '70, was set up to "think ahead" about matters the Council should be addressing. The committee is reviewing Council activities—past, present, and potentially future—and preparing a draft mission statement designed to set forth the Council's purpose and aspirations. This will be followed by a look at the selection process of Council membership.

The Social Outreach Committee, chaired by Salem Shuchman '84, works to promote awareness of, provide support for, and encourage service activities by the College community. Specific activities include coordinating community outreach, facilitating the interaction of students and alumni who are involved in service activities, and sponsoring presentations about social action.

As its name implies, the Student Life Committee concerns itself with issues that affect student life on campus and attempts to keep alumni informed about them. The committee sponsors panel discussions at Council meetings on topics such as multiculturalism, Honors, and social responsibility. Panels are comprised of members of the faculty, administration, and student body. Members of Council have an opportunity to provide their perspective as well. Alan Symonette '76, president designate of the Alumni Council, serves as chair of this committee.

Responsibility for selecting candidates for officers and members of the Alumni Council and for Alumni Managers of the Board of Managers rests with the Nominating Committee, which is chaired by Adalyn Purdy Jones '40 and which meets twice in the fall.

The five officers of the Alumni Association and the committee chairs constitute the Council's Executive Committee, which meets during the summer to map out the coming year's activities. As needed at the time of Council meetings, the committee also deals with other matters, including the selection of an alumna or alumnus to receive the Shane Award for contributions to the well-being and health of the College over an extended period of time.

The Alumni Council welcomes suggestions on ways these committees in their ongoing efforts can help serve the College and the alumni body more effectively.

Gretchen Mann Handwerger '56
President, Alumni Association

SWARTHMORE HAPPENINGS

Recent Events

New York: On Dec. 10 alumni, parents, and friends gathered to view the Quaker Tapestry, on display in the Lower Gallery at the Citicorp Center. Dinner at La Brochette followed. The evening was arranged by Philip Gilbert '48.

On the same evening, Swarthmore young alumni had the chance to participate in a Young Alumni Tri-College (Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, and Haverford) Event. Marissa Tirona '93 helped to organize a private show at the Boston Comedy Club and a late-night get-together at the Sun Mountain Bar and Café.

Note: Recently the remaining balance from the treasury of the former Swarthmore Club of New York was sent to the College by Penelope Owens Adelmann '66. These funds are now a part of the George B. Jackson '21 Scholarship Fund, which is a need-based scholarship with preference given to New York metro area students.

Philadelphia: Dulcimer expert Ralph Lee Smith '51 spent a November Saturday afternoon on campus with alumni, parents, friends, and students demonstrating the Appalachian dulcimer. Ralph and dulcimer maker Bernd Kraus showed several rare instruments, discussed the history of the dulcimer, and entertained the audience with a variety of songs.

Lorraine Lindhult, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, is forming a women's a cappella singing group in the Philadelphia suburbs and invites Swarthmore alumnae a cappella singers to join. You can call her at (215) 657-5786.

Seattle: The Seattle Connection kicked off the new year with a January get-together at Jazz Alley in downtown Seattle. The evening of good food and live music was arranged by Anke Van-Hilst Gray '73.

St. Louis: On Dec. 11 Robert DuPlessis, professor of history and member of the North Campus Planning Committee, talked about "The North Campus...What's Happening?" Close to 20 alumni, parents, friends, and prospective students gathered at the home of Walter '52 and Marie Lenfest Schmitz '52 to welcome Professor DuPlessis and get caught up on campus news.

Washington, D.C.: Harrison Wright, the Isaac H. Clothier Professor Emeritus of History and International Relations, met with the Washington, D.C., Connection in early February for a discussion about South Africa today. The presentation, organized by Chuck '60 and Susan Willis Ruff '60, explored liberal and radical approaches to the country as well as some dilemmas that face an independent government.

Garnet Sages: More than 25 Garnet Sages came to campus for a November luncheon/lecture, "Perspectives on Health Care Reform," given by David Smith, the Richter Professor Emeritus of Political Science, and Robinson Hollister, the Joseph Wharton Professor of Economics.

The Garnet Sages gathered at the Highland Park Club in Lake Wales, Fla., from Feb. 1 through Feb. 6. A Garnet Sage reunion, with all local Sages, was held Feb. 4.

Upcoming Events

New York is planning a gallery talk and exhibit of paintings by Alice Zinnes '77 on March 2. Also coming up for the New York Connection in late spring: Symposium VIII will be led by David Wright '69 and Don Fujihira '69; John McIntyre '51 will lead a tour at the Newberger Museum of La Frontera—an examination of the Mexican American experience; and Margaret Helfand '69 and her team of architects will show plans for and discuss the north campus renovations.

The **Paris** Connection is planning a spring panel discussion about international organizations.

An informal gathering of students and parents from the **Baltimore** area is in the works for March 5 at the home of Sidney and Salam Mir, parents of Samy '96. Also in the planning stages is a visit to the Baltimore Museum of Art to see a Matisse exhibit.

April Coolfont Weekend Will Explore Medical Care

Alumni, parents, spouses, and friends are invited to the fourth annual Swarthmore Weekend at scenic Coolfont in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains on the weekend of April 15–17.

Coordinators of the 1994 event are Barbara Starfield Holtzman, M.D. '54 and Neil A. (Tony) Holtzman, M.D. '55, professors of medicine at Johns Hopkins and internationally known authors. They'll help lead discussions of the weekend's theme: Health Care Reform: What Should It Accomplish.

Swarthmore Weekend has become a tradition at Coolfont—an ideal place for contemplation, recreation, and fellowship.

Participants also will enjoy live entertainment and such diversions as hiking, swimming, bird-watching, and aerobics. Although last March's gathering was snowed in by "the blizzard of the century," a great time still was had by all. So we're confident that the certain glory of an April weekend will guarantee a memorable 1994 retreat.

Coolfont is a picturesque resort, conference center, and health spa near Berkeley Springs, W.Va. It's owned and operated by Sam Ashelman '37 and his wife, Martha.

For program and reservation information, please write or call Alumni Relations at (610) 328-8402.

"Peace Must Begin With Me"

Ted Herman '35 is developing a peace studies program in the former Yugoslavia.

Like trying hold air in the palm of your hand, achieving peace in the war-torn former Yugoslavia seems an almost impossible feat. But there are some who never stop striving to educate, communicate, and humanize what is inhumane. Ted Herman '35 is one of those people.

When he retired in 1981 after 26 years as a professor of geography at Colgate University, Herman took on a new job—education for peace. And while the task may be daunting, Herman refuses to give in. You sense it in his demeanor and his body language when he discusses the daily tragedies that occur in the former Yugoslavia. His motto is simple: "Peace must begin with me."

While Herman says he has always been an activist, he attributes his interest in the peace movement to his becoming a Quaker in his senior year at Swarthmore, the death of fellow Swarthmore student Joe Selligman '37 while fighting in Spain against Franco, and the suffering he saw when he went to teach at the Shanghai American School in 1936. During the Sino-Japanese War, he was in the anti-Japanese underground, organized industrial cooperatives in unoccupied China, and was eventually interned by the Japanese in Shanghai until exchanged back to the United States in 1943. In 1970 he helped to start the Peace Studies program at Colgate, and in 1981 he organized, with a colleague, the first global course on nonviolence at the Inter-University Center for Post Graduate Studies in Dubrovnik.

Herman has been to the former Yugoslavia several times, most recently in the fall of 1993 for more than six weeks to help develop a

"If you can get one soldier to lay down his gun and tell another soldier why he has done it, it's likely the other guy may put down his gun too," says Ted Herman '35.

Balkans Peace Center at the University of Skopje, Macedonia, for which he is now seeking funds in the United States. It will include an academic peace studies program and a community outreach program designed to give practical training and research opportunities in conflict resolution, reconciliation, and nonviolent social change to faculty members and students. He is promoting the same idea in other regional cities so that peace education will spread in the Balkans with help from members of the International Peace Research Association, UNESCO, and the new European University for Peace in Schlaining, Austria.

In the United States and abroad, Herman works as a consultant to colleges and universities for this new interdisciplinary field that seeks solutions to violence at all levels of human contact, whether between individuals, groups, or nation-states. His own specialty is nonviolence training based on personal transformation that uses group activities that lead participants to do away with personal barriers and build trust.

"As a Quaker I believe that 'there is that of God in every person' and that this good must be recognized and strengthened through use," he says. "For many this is a powerful spiritual experience that needs only encouragement to take action for good." He shares a personal letter from Mother Teresa, born in Skopje, that has helped him check his own strong ego with the reminder to "do what you are doing for the glory of God."

"What do you think it's like," Herman questions, "to be a young guy from an ordinary home who's drafted against his will and who knows that a lot of guys who are doing these awful things are, in fact, prisoners purposely released from jail in Belgrade and fired up with brandy and drugs every day? You try to encourage these guys who are *not* happy to talk, to begin to show some decency among themselves and to their enemies, and perhaps eventually to lay down their guns.

"The public needs to know that opposing individual soldiers and civilians do many acts of goodness for each other," he says. "If the media covered these acts, it would encourage others to become involved.

"At the same time," he says, "you try to work on soldiers' families to write letters asking their sons about what they've seen and done. You want to generate enough movement in people so they will refuse to obey these terrible orders and so that the men in command realize they don't have power."

Little things mean a lot to Herman. He carries around a banner with Gandhi's picture on it that states in bold lettering: "I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary—the evil it does is permanent." The banner is almost completely covered with signatures of people who oppose the war. Signatures include the president of Macedonia, high Roman Catholic and Serbian Orthodox clergy, a philosophy professor at the University of Sarajevo, as well as Tibetans and Chinese citizens and students from all parts of the world.

"What I want to do is take the banner to the United Nations and get the ambassadors from opposing countries to sit down and sign it," he says with a laugh.

Many people in the Balkans realize they can't keep killing each other, but education is necessary. "Peace does not grow out of the barrel of a gun," says Herman. The way Herman educates is to get people to examine their own experiences. A typical conversation challenges people to confront their own thoughts and feelings and then take action, he says.

"That's what I like about the Media (Pa.) Friends Meeting. They wanted to do something about the Balkan situation," Herman says. "They decided to invite three musicians from the former Yugoslavia who now live in this area to give a concert. Swarthmore College opened the Friends Meeting House for it and they raised more than $3,000." Media Friends gave part of the money to the children's ward at the University of Belgrade Hospital and part to a refugee program in Slovenia. And while Herman knows that the money didn't do anything to actually stop the war, what it does say is: "You and I can do something for human distress, and that gives us courage to go on and do something else. We grow through our experiences, and they show what we can do together."

—Audree Penner

A Calling of the Heart

Griff Raymond '82 took a leap of faith into furniture making.

From all appearances it seemed as if Griff Raymond '82 had nailed the trappings of success with his dual college degrees and a promising career in the engineering field.

Yet three years ago he decided to leave it all behind and do something he'd wanted to do since he was a boy: become a furniture maker.

"The tragedy is people who work in jobs they don't like and become experts at something they don't like," he said.

Griff Raymond '82 developed his own style by using angular cutouts in furniture arms and legs.

Griff knows all about transition. He grew up in an academic family (his father and sister are both doctors) and said he felt an unspoken pressure to follow in their footsteps. After earning a degree in biopsychology at Swarthmore, he worked as a research assistant at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass. While at MBL he applied to medical school. During an interview at one school, he was asked questions about his father's educational background.

"I didn't have a lot of answers," he said. "It made me realize I probably wasn't that interested in becoming a doctor."

Instead, he went to the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and got a degree in mechanical engineering. For a time he felt content at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where he worked with the group of engineers responsible for maintaining the submarine Alvin.

"It seemed like I had a satisfying and exciting career, but ... I wanted to create something of my own and work for myself."

Griff decided finally to take a leap of faith. He quit his job and went to work with local kitchen cabinetmakers for a year.

He branched out on his own "because I was more interested in the artistic end of furniture," he said. During the winter of 1991 he built a large barn shop in the backyard of his Woods Hole home. He's spent the last two years in the well-lighted, airy workshop developing a design concept.

His sleek, contemporary-style furniture is characterized by angular cutouts in the arms and legs. It is lightweight yet strong.

Griff said the unusual design came to him when he was making his first piece, a library ladder made of cherry and walnut.

"It's a style I've never seen in furniture before," he said. "The cutouts take away the material that is not necessary for strength."

He liked the look so much he carried it through in his other pieces, including a dining room set and a chest. His smallest tables start at $200, while his largest ones are in the $1,000 range.

When Griff isn't working on his line, he does custom work. Recently the Falmouth Historical Society commissioned him to design display cabinets for their exhibit of Cape Cod artifacts.

"I wanted to develop my own recognizable style but not something so artsy people wouldn't want it in their homes," he said. "I wanted something that stands the test of time and is not a fad. I call it structuralism because it contains elements reminiscent of classical structures in bridges."

His mechanical engineering background is reflected not only in his designs but in his technique. He does all of his design work on a computer instead of a draftsman's table.

"It's a useful tool," he said. "It's a lot quicker to change proportions of things. You can design parts and change them before you actually make a piece."

A self-described perfectionist, Griff pays careful attention to detail.

"When I make a piece of furniture, I get an incredible amount of satisfaction," he said, "especially when someone else is pleased with my creation."

—Johanna Crosby

Steindorf in a sunny wedding in the cloudy Northwest. **Marilyn Howarth**, husband Lawrence Livornese, son Lawrence, and daughter Katie welcomed the latest addition to the family, Michael Scott Livornese, on June 12.

Lifestyles: **Margaret Gillespie** has taken up with the TM movement. Their aim is to get 5 percent of Boston meditating with hopes of levitating City Hall. **Jason Greenberg** would rather have the majority of Bostonians be deluded into thinking that has happened (through the miracles of psychosurgery).

Career: **Andrea Turner** has been appointed special assistant to the chancellor for affirmative action and equity at the U. of Wis.–Stevens Point. She has also been asked to head the task force on shorter job titles. **Pat Holmes** is taking and teaching classes in computing at UCLA Extension. **Hallie Robbins** is becoming certified in craniosacral therapy (?!) in the last year of her residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation in Cleveland. She hopes to leave there soon. **Griff Raymond** has won praise in the Woods Hole, Mass., area by making fine custom furniture with lots of holes in it. **Andrew Bradbury** has taken up beekeeping.

Obituary: It is with a great sense of loss and frustration that we must report the death of **Drew Siegel** on Sept. 27 after a long struggle with AIDS. We quote from newspapers and friends: "**Drew** was a dedicated political activist, particularly for gay and lesbian rights. He was a board member of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, as well as a past director of policy for Mobilization Against AIDS. He helped organize the gay community's first March on Washington and greatly increased worldwide participation in the annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorials. **Drew** died as he had lived, bravely and honorably. **Drew** chose his own death by jumping to the waters under the Golden Gate Bridge." Contributions may be made in his name to the

Recent Books by Alumni

We welcome review copies of books by alumni. The books are donated to the Swarthmoreana section of McCabe Library after they have been noted for this column.

Linda W. (Wiles) Davis '67, *Weed Seeds of the Great Plains: A Handbook for Identification*, University Press of Kansas, 1993. Illustrated with more than 600 photographs and drawings, this handbook provides information about the seeds of 280 species of plants of the Great Plains, including ones commonly found in crops, rangeland, lawns, and along roadsides.

W. (William) D. Ehrhart '73, *The Distance We Travel*, Adastra Press, 1993. Ehrhart's central concern of how to perceive contemporary events in humane and universal terms is reflected in these 22 poems dealing with topics ranging from war and death to wife, daughter, and country.

David Hapgood '47, *Year of the Pearl: The Life of a New York Repertory Company*, Alfred A. Knopf, 1993. Taking the reader day by day, step by step, Hapgood provides insights into the life and workings of the Pearl, a small off-Broadway repertory company dedicated to the classics.

Judy (Branch) Hart '58, *Love, Judy: Letters of Hope and Healing for Women with Breast Cancer*, Conari Press, 1993. Written as a resource for breast cancer patients and their families and friends, this book is made up of original letters sharing the author's accounts of healing activities that sustained her through treatment for her second breast cancer.

Geoffrey C. Hazard Jr. '53 and Michele Taruffo, *American Civil Procedure: An Introduction*, Yale University Press, 1993. This book discusses specific details and broader themes of American civil litigation, explaining (without legalese) jury trial, the adversary system, the power of the courts to make law, and the role of civil justice in government and in the resolution of controversial social issues.

Ken Hechler '35, *The Bridge at Remagen*, Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, 1993. Revised and updated, this history chronicles the crossing of the Rhine River in 1945 when U.S. Army troops, despite Nazi efforts to destroy Remagen Bridge, secured the vitally important span to help shorten the war in Europe.

Seth Koven '78 and Sonya Michel (eds.), *Mothers of a New World: Maternalist Politics and the Origins of Welfare States*, Routledge, 1993. In this collection historians of Australia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Sweden, and the United States provide a sweeping view of the scope of women's work and make comparisons across societies and over time.

Molly M. (Miller) Kyle '80 (ed.), *Resistance to Viral Diseases of Vegetables: Genetics and Breeding*, Timber Press, 1993. This book provides a critical synthesis of information on plant viruses from breeding programs and genetic studies that integrates developments in molecular biology and biotechnology, including the biology of infection and the process of its interruption.

Christoph K. Lohmann '58, *Discovering Difference: Contemporary Essays in American Culture*, Indiana University Press, 1993. This collection of essays is the result of a lecture series that included a deliberately eclectic mix of scholars, chosen for their stimulating lectures rather than their political alignment or theoretical orthodoxy.

Richard Martin '67, *Fall from Fashion*, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, 1993. This catalog was produced to accompany the 1993 exhibition at the Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art of works expressing complex ideas related to fashion: style, gender identification, sexual identity, self-image, and clothing as a vehicle for social and political commentary.

Betty Nathan '50, *Top Paddock*, Brolga Press, 1993. In this novel Will McHugh, a specialist in conflict resolution, returns to Australia to retire peacefully on a farm on the Southern Tablelands. But lurking in the top paddock are death, passion, and jealousy, waiting for his special talents.

Robert L. Pfaltzgraff Jr. '56 and Richard H. Shultz Jr. (eds.), *Naval Forward Presence and the National Military Strategy*, Naval Institute Press, 1993. Focusing on maritime power and the future roles and missions of the U.S. Navy, this book is the outgrowth of a series of conferences held to assess this country's defense needs in an era of change.

Robert Roper '68, *Cuervo Tales*, Ticknor & Fields, 1993. These 10 interlinked stories, set in California, chronicle the life of Abel Richards, a man who came of age in the late 1960s and witnessed much of the turmoil of the next decade: drugs, the "back to the earth" movement, and experimentation with love and its permutations.

Mary Roelofs Stott '40, *Bluenose Country*, The International University Press, 1993. Told in blank verse, this is the tale of any and every family that piles the kids in the backseat, in front of a camper trailer, to live out a summer together of loving, playing, tussling, and growing.

gy efficiency consulting business. He had his second daughter in August and is gaining a greater understanding of the term "terrible twos" with his first. **Jorge Munoz** planned to finish a Ph.D. at Stanford last fall and then work in the Washington, D.C., area. **Pauline Price** has moved to Berkeley, where she has entered the clinical psychology program at UC–Berkeley. She writes that one advantage of being back in school is taking free dance classes at a great studio. **Alex Valsamakis** has updated us on 1992, "the biggest year of my life so far." In May she completed an M.D./Ph.D. at UPenn, got married to Andy Golden, and moved West. **Alex** is now a pathology resident at UCSD, and Andy is doing a postdoc at Caltech in Pasadena. Their commuter marriage thrives thanks to wonderful weekends spent together. May you have many more, **Alex**. **Laurie McPherson** has joined the faculty of San Mateo High School, where she teaches physical science. **Lisa Silverman** is living in Los Angeles with **Mitchell Hartman** '85. She finished her dissertation in French history through Rutgers U. and is teaching history at USC.

Finally, we have a mystery location. **Kathryn von Frankenberg Maneval** writes she passed the CPA exam in November 1992 and is working toward acquiring the required experience for becoming licensed. Congratulations.

That concludes our wild and wondrous tour. We look forward to seeing you at reunion. Until then.

FEEDING THE FIRES

Continued from page 7

poetry permits the making of arguments by image and how, at its best, a poem communicates between conscious and unconscious thought.

Williamson has found the student selection process to be straightforward. "You can tell in 10 lines whether there is sensitivity and the ability to control language," he says. "You know it when you see it." In teaching the workshop, Williamson requires students to make use of models, such as the Anglo-Saxon riddle and the sonnet, which they are asked to imitate. In this exercise, originality is directed but it is also left free to generate its own perceptions.

The best technique for teaching the writing of poetry, William-son believes, is to take a poem you like to read and use it as a springboard to move beyond the limits of the confessional/ autobiographical mode. "We all articulate in one way or another," he says. "When a poem works, it is the *only* way. It's the only way to catch the truth of a particular experience."

Associate Professor Peter Schmidt first taught the workshop in 1983 and finds it to be challenging, immensely satisfying, and fun. Each workshop develops its own dynamic and ethos. Schmidt characterizes the difficulty of trying to describe exactly what happens in the group. "It's very hard to talk about," he says. "The atmosphere must be honest, because the writers are very vulnerable. Their egos are both tough and fragile. But poetry is an art form that can help students understand things in their own lives and in the culture generally. Nothing else can do that like poetry."

When a poem works, it is the *only* way to catch the truth of a particular experience."

Like Anderson, Schmidt uses a variety of set assignments to teach the writers different ways of seeing. An interior monologue, practice with indirection and multiple voices, and metrical exercises are typically assigned, though Schmidt mixes them up. Metrical work is especially useful, he believes. "It's a challenge that's good for them; it helps the ear and teaches how to use line breaks and internal as well as regular rhyme. And it makes them better at writing free verse."

In struggling with the challenge of writing poetry, workshop participants also learn about tact. "It's very important to be alert to feelings," Schmidt says. "Students have to learn you're not questioning the validity of the experience [they write about]. The workshop gives them a chance to get honest readers." Anderson, Schmidt, and Williamson concur that writing poetry makes students better readers of poetry, able to respond to literature more intensely. "A positive workshop experience helps them to get out of themselves, to be good witnesses to what happens around them, to take risks," Schmidt says. "They get into their own life-material in a new way. The teacher's role is to help them to teach themselves." Or, in the case of the exceptionally talented, he says, "You just stay out of the way. And feed the fire." ■

Judith Egan is the author of a range of nonfiction articles and of a novel, Elena: A Love Story of the Russian Revolution. *She is a longtime resident of Swarthmore.*

WHY SO FEW?

Continued from page 12

head down and keep working.'

"These women survived in science because they were so incredibly nuts about what they were doing that for them the discrimination they faced paled in comparison," McGrayne concludes. "They were willing to put up with whatever they had to put up with to do scientific research. Scores and hundreds of women fell by the wayside because of all these problems, and these are the survivors."

But women's opportunities to win a Nobel science prize have improved by now, haven't they?

"The chances have improved dramatically," McGrayne says. "I'm told women do better in the science professions than they do outside of science. They have better salaries, better hours, and more job flexibility than women working outside of science, but it's still not totally equal."

Research institutions have not completely embraced the needs of women scientists, McGrayne says. By the time a woman lands an assistant professorship, she is likely to be in her late 20s or early 30s. She then has five or six years to turn out enough first-rate work to gain tenure. If she has children, she often must take care of them while competing against men who work 60 and more hours a week.

"I think one of the major problems is that research science is so very competitive and it moves so fast. If women take time off to rear children, it sets them back," McGrayne says. "The research system at universities is set up for men who had wives do their cleaning and cooking."

But scientists can no longer count on having someone at home to deal with every need while they devote themselves to science. "Universities have not adapted to that. They'll have to, because now there are so many different kinds of people in science, when it used to be only one kind of person."

But by and large, the women in McGrayne's book did not complain about hardships. Instead, they spoke of the joys of doing science.

"The love for and dedication to one's work seems to me to be the basis for happiness," Gerty Cori said. "For a research worker, the unforgotten moments ... are those rare ones, which come after years of plodding work, when the veil over nature's secret seems suddenly to lift and when what was dark and chaotic appears in a clear and beautiful light and pattern." ■

Evelyn Hess is a free-lance writer and manager of communications at the Philadelphia chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

LETTERS

Continued from page 3

stories, walk the job searches. Go to the prisons, see the minds and bodies just sitting there. Speak to them, listen to them, hear how they got there. See what prison does to a man or woman.

Get down to the public assistance offices, the Social Security cubicles. Sit in on the disability claims. Spend time with the overworked social workers. Listen to the endless phone calls for help. Listen to the shouting and crying and cursing in the background—the raging, narcotic televisions.

Sensitivity specialists? Gender education advisers? Alternative lifestyle facilitators? Okay. Now invite in the ones who can talk about teenage pregnancy, premature birth, "high lead," asthma, "young bruises." Hear the mothers who talk about 7- and 8-year olds who set fires, pee out the window, beat up classmates, and threaten family members. Listen to mothers who talk about a world that looks the other way when their kids are caught in drive-by shootings. Get to know what their alternative lifestyle means for the future of this country.

Talk about it, write about it. Argue. Take what you learn, what you think you understand, and go back down. Don't stop going back down. Meet and deal with an insane, tragic holocaust of inches. Do it soon!

MIKE PETRILLA '73
Upper Darby, Pa.

Swarthmore Needs Everyone's Voices

To the Editor:
As a gay alumnus, I am deeply disturbed at Joseph Kimmel's statement that "Swarthmore's indulgent policies will make it a haven for gays, lesbians, and various races and ethnics that seek the pampered college life." Presumably he would like only straight white people to be admitted to the College.

That said, I believe Mr. Kimmel brings up a number of valid issues. As a political centrist who is employed in the business world, I too am tired of simple-minded negative characterizations of industry. The positive contributions of industry leaders should be recognized by the College—and have been. One of the honorees at my Commencement was Jerome Kohlberg Jr. '46, who is not anyone's idea of a far left-winger.

Many liberals tend to ridicule conservative beliefs and dismiss conservatives out of hand without hearing what they have to say, and frustration or anger is a natural response to such treatment. But conservatives who claim to be oppressed for their views demonstrate a lack of understanding of what life is like for anyone who is truly oppressed. I doubt very much that Mr. Kimmel has ever been assaulted while walking down the street for not being politically correct, as I have for being gay.

It also does not help conservatives when they oversimplify issues, such as when Mr. Kimmel terms multiculturalism "the denigration of Western thought and literature of the last 3,000 years and the exaltation of tribal and aboriginal practices instead." To my mind, multiculturalism is about *including* non-Western thought, not denigrating anything. But I guess it is easier to knock down a straw man than to learn new ideas or seriously re-evaluate one's habitual modes of thinking.

It is ironic that while Mr. Kimmel is against boycotting corporations for infringements of left-wing causes, he seems to implicitly support alumni who boycott the College for infringements of right-wing sensibilities. Swarthmore needs thoughtful conservative voices, and I would urge that Mr. Kimmel and similarly disaffected alumni remain engaged with the College community and continue to make their opinions heard. I also challenge all members of the Swarthmore community to resist the temptation to shut out dissenting opinions. One's own ideas and beliefs may be strengthened and one's arguments improved for having been challenged.

KENNETH R. ANDERSON '86
Wheaton, Ill.

The College Today

To the Editor:
As an alumna, a former faculty member, and faculty wife, I am so filled with admiration for your College Today issue that I only wish I could begin my undergraduate years again. Congratulations on a faculty and administration unafraid of questioning and exploring. Please continue to share it all with us as you can.

BEATRICE BEACH MacLEOD '31
Ithaca, N.Y.

The writer served as instructor and director of dramatics from 1934 until 1946. She is the widow of Professor Robert MacLeod, who founded the Department of Psychology at the College.

To the Editor:
I have come to rely on the *Bulletin* for a feeling of where the College is at the moment. I am accustomed to reading of new ideas, wider horizons, dedicated pursuits of alumni. The December issue told me none of the above. It was nearly a generic Development Office tool for attracting funds and new students; not memorable, not enlightening, not empowering. If this issue is, as usual, a reflection of the current College, then the world is poorer for the loss of a unique institution.

I can only hope that Swarthmore is still intact and that it is only the alumni publication that has fallen victim to a vision of an intellectually and emotionally challenged readership. Never before has there been any question that the magazine, as well as the College, is independent.

JANE DIXON McCULLAM '62
Newbury, Ohio

To the Editor:

Just a note to say how very illuminating and enjoyable I found the College Today issue of the *Bulletin.* It gave a flavor of campus life and people for those of us who don't have much connection to Swarthmore these days.

Although I don't think I could afford to send a child to Swarthmore, I value the type of education it provides and realize that the scale of giving from alumni has to increase to keep the College afloat. When I look at the Alumni Fund annual report, I am amazed at how little the average alum my age seems to be giving. We're in our peak earning years, and something like five or 10 bucks a week would hardly be noticed.

Keep telling people what a good job Swarthmore is doing.

ANNE THOMPSON '70
Greenbelt, Md.

Steam Heat—Ouch!

To the Editor:
I enjoyed the interesting article [December 1993] on the steam-producing part of the College. You were very subtle about announcing that the College has made a stunning breakthrough in the

conversion of 2.1 million gallons of water into 81.3 million pounds of steam. This should be front-page science news, as 2.1 million gallons of water weighs about 17 million pounds, which somehow gets transformed into five times its weight in steam. I knew the folks at Swarthmore were clever, but Jeez....

EDWIN SEVERINGHAUS '48
Langley, Wash.

To the Editor:
A number stumble interrupted my enjoyment of the nice article "Steam Heat" in the December *Bulletin*. I calculate that 42 billion cubic feet of natural gas at 1,000 BTU/cubic foot equals 42 trillion BTU. This much heat would create roughly 42 billion pounds of steam (at 1,000 BTU/pound). Since fuel oil use is said to be 250,000 gallons, this oil (at 150,000 BTU/gallon) would yield roughly 37.5 billion BTU. So I believe that the gas consumption is actually 42 *million* cubic feet, yielding about 42 billion BTU. Thus the combined oil- and gas-generated BTU (79.5 billion) would roughly equal the heat necessary to create the stated 81.3 million pounds of steam.

JEROME T. COE (MIT '42)
Greenwich, Conn.

Mr. Coe is right. Incorrect figures on natural gas usage were supplied to the Bulletin. *As for the water, director of maintenance Ralph Thayer explains that the 2.1 million gallons is "makeup water" that replaces water lost or drained from the system over the course of a year.*

We're Sorry You Don't

To the Editor:
I don't care much for the recent graphic and editorial changes in the *Bulletin*, though it's not my intention to suggest that you change back again. I have seen the same types of change in *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*. There's a different media-trained generation that's now the desirable editorial target. I guess I'm a has-been target. But I don't have to like it.

LOUIS A. KISLIK '52
Hewlett, N.Y.

The *Bulletin* welcomes letters from readers concerning the content of the magazine or issues relating to the College. Address: Editor, *Swarthmore College Bulletin*, 500 College Ave., Swarthmore PA 19081-1397. Letters may be edited for clarity or space.

FIGHTING WORDS

Continued from page 19

different ways of speaking intersect with each other—to expand instead of detract—so that some are not less legitimate than others."

Although the MOVE tragedy was not primarily about race, only one Commission member dissented from a statement in the final report saying that official response to the organization would have been different "had the MOVE house and its occupants been situated in a comparable white neighborhood." It said that "the sad fact exists that racial and other prejudices remain in our society."

"If the MOVE house had been in Society Hill, it wouldn't have been tolerated to this point," Wagner-Pacifici said. "That's the only place in a long report where race takes center stage. It placed MOVE and a destroyed neighborhood in the context of a racist society. The Commission speculated, and it felt this was important."

Wagner-Pacifici holds both master's and doctoral degrees in sociology (see page 19), and much of the book is written in what she would agree is "academic discourse." Casual readers might be stopped cold by lines like, "This involves aspects of the poststructuralist problematization of a unified, autonomous, self-contained subject who surveys a world from a vantage point outside of it." So who is her intended audience?

"This may be an experiment," she said. "My first book was my doctoral dissertation. It was very topical and 'a grabber' because it was about terrorism, but it was very academic. In this new book, I wanted to pare down my language and make it more accessible. It's an academic book, with some complex and theoretical parts, but a hybrid. I moved consciously between academic and vernacular prose."

In other words, she used two "languages" to write a book analyzing four others.

Wagner-Pacifici said she'll consider her book a success if it inspires dialogue—"a colloquy"—that continues the discussion of the issues she explores. She also hopes its lessons can help prevent other conflagrations. The book opens with a reference to parallels between the MOVE bombing and the 1992 Los Angeles riots—the burning of neighborhoods and "charges of police engaging in both excessive force and excessive inaction, along with the difficulties of a black mayor dealing with a white police commissioner, along with issues of misfired judicial encounters."

But Wagner-Pacifici also is struck by similarities to last year's Branch Davidian catastrophe. "The parallels with MOVE are eerie," she said. "For example, the way the Branch Davidians were characterized by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and its notion of negotiations; the narrative expectancy of a television audience—an audience set up to wait for a climax, and the clock ticking. There was a delay in putting out the MOVE flames, and there were no fire engines nearby when the fires started at Waco. Neither [official response] was planned or executed well."

The tremors from the MOVE saga continue to reverberate. Investigations by state and federal grand juries did not lead to criminal charges against any city officials. But among pending civil lawsuits is one filed against the city of Philadelphia by Ramona Africa, the only adult MOVE member to survive the conflagration.

A federal judge ruled on January 3 that the decision to bomb the house—a decision Mayor Wilson Goode had approved—did not justify a lawsuit. According to *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, the judge "found the bombing reasonable in light of the goal of destroying the gunport-equipped bunker.... He noted that under a ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court, police are entitled to use deadly force to prevent injury to themselves or others."

But at the same time, the judge opened the way for Africa to sue former Managing Director Brooks, former Police Commissioner Sambor, and former Fire Commissioner William Richmond. The city's highest official at the time—former Mayor Goode—was granted immunity because he was watching the fire on TV in his office and didn't participate in the decision to let the house burn. Appeals are expected. ■

Ten Days in Moscow

By James Freeman

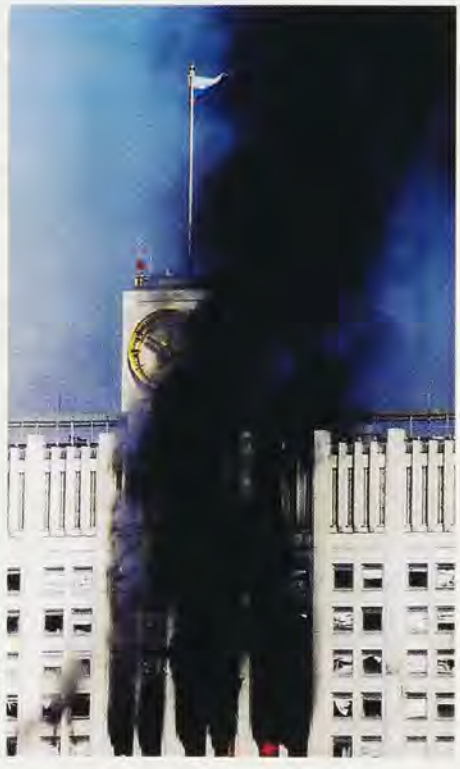
We wake to the staccato sounds of machine gun fire rattling in the streets just outside our windows, to the ominous roar of tanks and the bursting of shells a half-mile away at Moscow's Parliament Building. Is this the life-altering experience we anticipated when we arrived in Moscow two days ago, or is it simply a life-ending experience?

It is 6:30 a.m., the morning of October 4, 1993. We are 10 members of Orchestra 2001, Philadelphia's 20th-century music ensemble, which has been invited to give a series of three concerts in the beautiful Rachmaninoff Hall of the Moscow Conservatory. With us are Pulitzer Prize–winning composer George Crumb of the University of Pennsylvania and music critic Lesley Valdes of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. The first of our concerts is scheduled to take place the day after tomorrow.

We are all staying in the Conservatory's spartan dormitory-style apartment a block away from the school. We have three and four people to a room, no phone, no TV, and only my short-wave radio (from which we manage to coerce a static-impaired BBC newscast) to keep us abreast of the cataclysmic events now taking place three blocks away in Red Square and eight blocks away at Moscow's "White House." The absence of our stage manager, Seth Brenzel '94, who is visiting his Russian cousins somewhere on the other side of Moscow, is alarming. But strangely, despite the shelling and nearly constant gunfire outside, we do not feel particularly threatened.

That is probably because we were in much greater danger last night as we returned at 1 a.m. from a gala party at the home of a Russian friend. After several hours of wonderful food, vodka, much toasting, and an unforgettable bilingual songfest led by George Crumb and our host's elderly Russian grandmother, we had ventured onto the dark streets to return to our apartment. Suddenly, we were surrounded by a menacing group of gun-wielding Russian hoodlums screaming at us "Amerikanski!" Our Russian grandmother, her arms entwined around three of us, shouted back in Russian, "These are our friends. Leave us alone!" With hearts pounding, we were allowed to proceed. Later we learn that three people were killed during the night at this very place.

We are elated when Seth returns with his cousins at 9 a.m. Despite the continuing turmoil outside, our greatest concern now is whether or not we will be able to present our scheduled concerts. Five other members of Orchestra 2001, still in Philadelphia, are due to board planes for Moscow in seven hours. We know they must be seeing this mini-revolution unfold on American TV and will understandably be reluctant to come. We realize too that there is not a single piece in our repertoire for the three concerts that can be performed without them.



UPI/BETTMANN

American musicians perform American music while tanks rumble in the streets.

Our host and principal contact at the Conservatory, musicologist Svetlana Sigida, arrives at our apartment at 10 a.m. Her determination, energy, vitality, sense of humor, and concern for our well-being are incredible. Characteristically, she has made her way this morning through dangerous streets and blockades of all kinds, carrying a pot of borscht for us so that we will not go hungry.

At noon five of us brave the block-long walk to the Conservatory. There Svetlana arranges an international phone call to George's wife, Liz, who promises to call all our families to tell them we are safe. Three hours later we place calls to our Orchestra 2001 colleagues in Philadelphia. The U.S. State Department is sternly warning Americans not to travel to Russia at this time, and we realize it will be impossible for the five to fly today. Our hearts sink as we realize, too, that our opening all-Crumb concert on the 6th cannot take place as scheduled. We huddle with Svetlana and determine that the first concert can be delayed until the 8th, with the second and third concerts taking place on the 9th and 11th. Our Philadelphia colleagues make hurried calls to Delta Airlines, which arranges for them to leave on the 6th—if the situation in Moscow is stable by then.

Sporadic gunfire prevents us from sleeping very much during the nights of the 4th and 5th. But the Parliament Building has been stormed, burned, and taken, and despite the appalling death toll that has caused, Moscow thereafter gradually resumes its normal life. We now begin to prepare in earnest for our concerts. We need the Conservatory's permission to mark, damp, and pluck the strings on the insides of the Rachmaninoff Hall's two beautiful Hamburg Steinways (several pieces on our programs require muting, harmonics, and other pianistic extensions). At first the administra-

tion will not budge: We cannot touch the insides of the pianos. Svetlana calls Edison Denisov, one of Russia's most respected composers, and his approval convinces the authorities to allow our intrusions into their instruments.

The next problem is finding rehearsal time in the hall, which is in nearly constant use by the Conservatory's students and faculty. The woman in charge of scheduling is reluctant to give us the time we need. I finally fall on my knees in front of her, kissing her feet (Svetlana says, "Go ahead and try it"), and curiously this works.

DENG JENG LEE

Above: *James Freeman (center) and Orchestra 2001. "For me the concert is the most moving we have ever given," says Freeman of the group's Oct. 9 Moscow performance.*
Opposite page: *The Russian Parliament Building under attack by pro-Yeltsin forces.*

Our biggest problem is locating and transporting the mountain of percussion necessary for all three concerts. Our percussionist Glenn Steele, our executive director Allison Herz, Svetlana, and our always-reliable Seth Brenzel spend the greater part of the next two days gathering drums, crotales, chimes, marimbas, and xylophones from different corners of Moscow, and finally all the percussion is in place. At the same time, our five colleagues from Philadelphia arrive safely, and we throw our arms around each other. Now we are ready.

Our opening concert, with Crumb's *Lux Aeterna*, *Eleven Echoes of Autumn, 1965*, and *Zeitgeist*, goes extremely well. George introduces each piece himself, and at the end he and we are recalled to the stage six times by the typically Russian rhythmic applause. It's a good beginning.

The following evening we play Thea Musgrave's *Orfeo III*, Richard Wernick's *Kaddish-Requiem*, and two works by Swarthmore College faculty composers: Thomas Whitman's *Aubade* and Gerald Levinson's *Bronze Music*. The Wernick *Requiem*, written in 1971 in tribute to the victims of the war in Indochina, with its tumultuous opening movement and concluding whisper of hope for peace, seems especially appropriate for Moscow at this time. For me, the concert is the most moving one we have ever given.

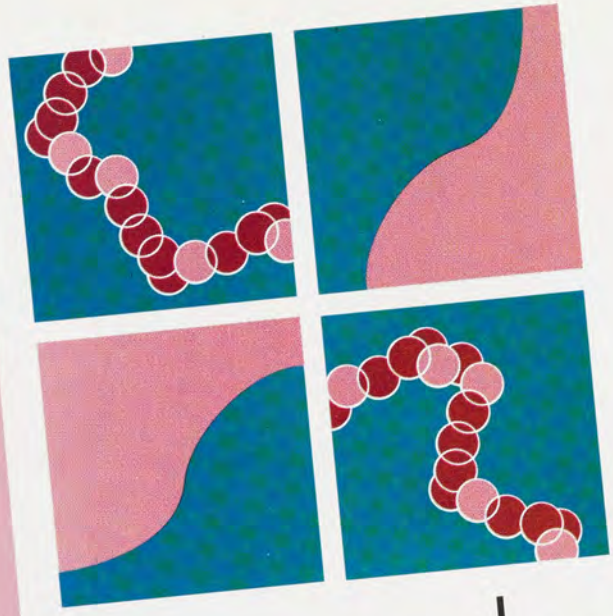
October 10 is our free day, and Svetlana takes advantage of it by hiring a van and taking us to Novodivichy Convent, where a mass for the victims of the uprising a few days earlier is in progress. We are stunned by the beauty of the Russian Orthodox Church, by a superb a cappella choir, and by the rapt devotion etched onto the wrinkled faces of ancient Russian women as they pray and weep. We leave the church with tears streaming down our own faces.

It is October 11, the day of our last concert in Moscow. Because we are performing at one of the world's great music schools, we begin with two pieces by very young Americans, composers the same age as many of the members of our audience: the *Nonet* of James Matheson '91 and James Primosch's *Septet*. We also play Timothy Greatbatch's *A Clockwork Legend* (its premiere performance) and Joseph Schwantner's gorgeous chamber arrangement of his *Distant Runes and Incantations*. They provide a haunting ending to our series, and we are besieged by well-wishers. Flowers, bottles of vodka, dishes, trays, and mementos of all kinds are heaped on us in appreciation.

Back at our apartment, we celebrate with Stolichnaya vodka and cakes that have been made for us by our Russian friends. With very little sleep in between, we are driven in several cars and vans the next morning to Moscow's busy international airport and climb wearily aboard the Delta flight home.

As the plane takes off, we are beginning to plan our next trip to Moscow. The Conservatory, full of enthusiasm about our three concerts, has just invited us to return in November 1994, and Olympia Records has already begun to plan a series of CDs we will make on our next trip. Can we arrange our individual schedules—so busy and so varied—in such a way that the next trip can take place? We agree that we will all do everything we can to make it possible, for in our week and a half of living in this huge, sprawling city of dramatic contrasts, of great beauty and great chaos, of great love and great anger, Moscow has become our second home. ■

James Freeman is Daniel Underhill Professor of Music at Swarthmore College and musical director of Orchestra 2001.



A Window to the Future

Swarthmore Alumni College on Campus June 1, 2, 3

Explore either of these two topics in a unique three-day seminar, held prior to Alumni Weekend. Housing and meals are provided on campus. Complete information and registration will be mailed in March.

Boundary Crossing: Visionary Writers and Thinkers for the 21st Century

Over the past decade, a great many cultural, social, and geopolitical lines have been crossed and even effaced as perceptions of what comprises nationhood, community, and collective and individual identity have shifted with increasing velocity and vehemence. As we approach the year 2000, the stakes appear to be no less than what it means to be fully human. Using the lenses of sociology, literature, psychology, dance, art, and religion, this seminar will ask: What strategies are the best visionary minds using to make their way into the next century? What models of inspiration, agency, social re-evaluation, and cultural critique are on the horizon for our most visionary writers, performers, and thinkers? And how wide is the horizon to which these writers look?

Faculty Chair: Abbe Blum,
Associate Professor of English Literature

Our Genetic Destiny: Technological Windows to our Biological Soul

Our knowledge of human genetics has exploded in the past decade thanks to the development of new, exciting technologies. Now these same advances are providing us with a window to our biological soul. This seminar will examine some of these recent technological advances and what they have revealed to us. To what extent does our biological inheritance control our personality and behavior? How do our genes determine diseases such as cancer and neurological disorders? What exactly is the human genome project and what are its implications for us? How will we be able to use this expanding base of knowledge for the betterment of all?

Faculty Chair: John B. Jenkins,
Professor of Biology