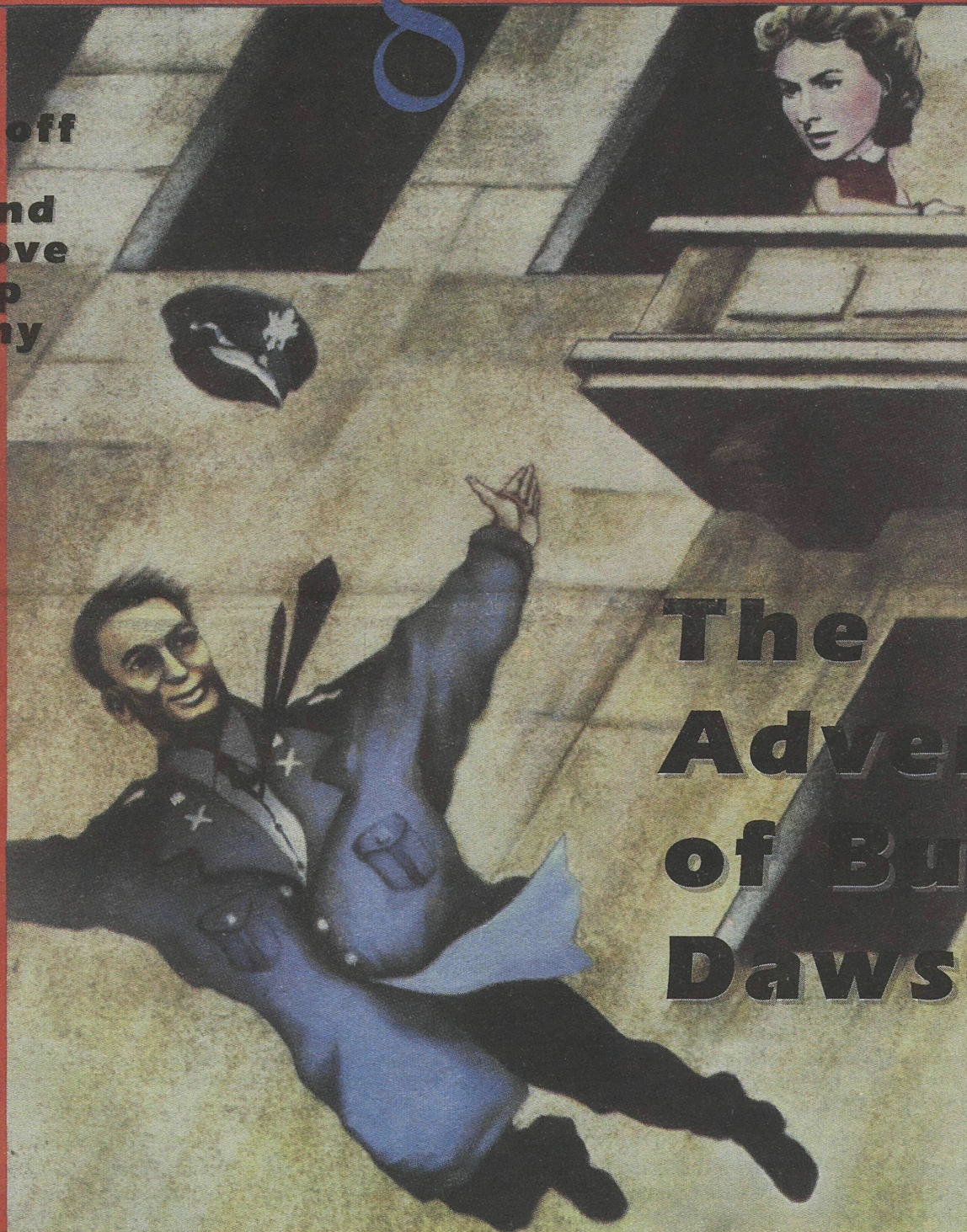


Michigan Today

**'I jumped off
Hitler's
balcony and
nearly drove
my legs up
through my
chest.'**

(See Page 8)



**The
Adventures
of Buck
Dawson**

Illustration by Tara Sterling

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We all know the commercial slogan that has entered the popular culture: When such-and-such an expert speaks, people listen. But if some manufacturers had their way, you wouldn't get a chance to listen when Dr. Walter C. Willett speaks about health and the American diet.

Perhaps it's because he doesn't mince his words despite the calm and earnest manner in which he serves them up: "Some major food manufacturers attempt to control the content of research conferences. More than one has told academic organizers that they'll withdraw funding if I'm a participant."

Willett assumes the opposition is in response to his advice to the public to reduce or avoid consumption of trans-fatty acids (present in hydrogenated cooking oils used to cook fast food and in baked goods, dairy substitutes, snack foods, margarine and shortening), red meat and olestra (a no-calorie, polyester fat substitute made of fatty acids and sugar).

Manufacturers of processed foods—especially of fattening snacks—are eager to use olestra as a "nonfat ingredient" because it slides through the body unabsorbed. The problem is, Willett said in an interview in his Cambridge, Massachusetts, home, olestra flushes certain key nutrients out with it, including the carotenoids, a group of yellow-orange-red pigments that seem to protect us against cancer and heart disease. "One ounce of potato chips a day—one of those tiny bags with 15 or so chips—would contain enough olestra to drop absorption of the protective carotenoids by 60%," Willett argues. The means of carotenoid protection are unproved so far, he concedes, "but it's a big area of ongoing research."

Unilever, a Dutch corporation, also developed an olestra-like synthetic fat, Willett says, but announced that research it sponsored had indicated that the product should not be introduced into foods.

"Even if olestra can help people lose excess weight, which no research has showed," Willett adds, "isn't it strange to encourage people to gorge on junk food rather than just not eat it? Consuming too many calories is what makes a person fat, whether the source is a carbohydrate or fat. Fat intake is down in this country, but obesity is skyrocketing."

But after analyzing 150 studies of olestra, the US Food and Drug Administration approved the artificial chemical early this year, and it is expected to be marketed soon. Critics succeeded, however, in getting the FDA to require foods containing olestra to carry a label warning consumers that olestra can cause diarrhea and cramping, and that vitamins had been added to the foods to replace nutrients olestra leaches from the body.

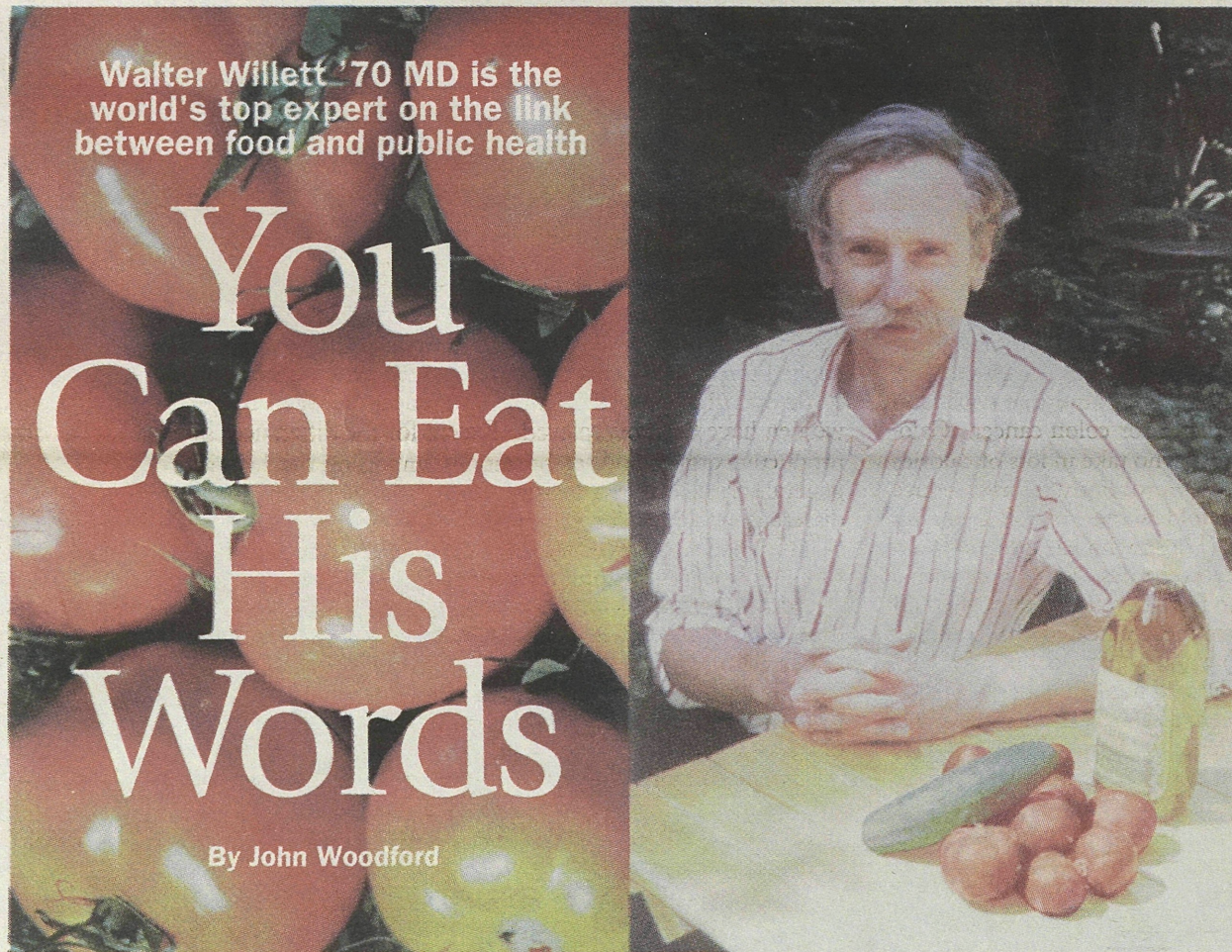
Willett issues his pronouncements on nutrition atop a mountain of evidence. He heads the largest, longest-running and most respected study on the relationship between nutrition and human diseases. *Science Watch*, a publication that tracks trends in basic research, reported last June that in the entire field of medicine, Willett and his colleagues "account for three of the Top Ten papers," as ranked by average citations per year.

A 1970 graduate of the U-M Medical School, Willett, who is 50 years old, earned a PhD (1980) from Harvard's School of Public Health, where he is chairman of the Department of Nutrition, professor of epidemiology and professor of medicine at Harvard's medical school. His interest in food dates to his gardening days with his mother in Okemos, Michigan. He focused on the safe processing and storage of foods while majoring in food science at

motivated to fill out the surveys, which are conducted every two years, and they tend to be honest in their answers," he says.)

In 1980, Willett launched a massive ongoing survey of the diet and health of the nurses, who were aged 34 to 59 at the time. He has since added 52,000 male health care professionals in 1986 and 116,000 more nurses aged 25 to 42 in 1989. The size of the study is key, Willett says, "because if you want reliable data, you can't look at major disease events without looking at large numbers of people."

Data from the biannual questionnaires, plus samples and analyses of blood, urine, toenail clippings and drinking-water from subsets of the nearly 300,000 individuals being studied now fit in a shoe-box-size container of magnetic discs. "We have sort of a 'virtual study' now," Willett says of his 80-person research team. "Without the progress in computerized information, we would have been awash in data by now."



Walter Willett '70 MD is the world's top expert on the link between food and public health

You Can Eat His Words

By John Woodford

Willett eats what he preaches: a diet of plenty of foods containing antioxidant vitamins, olive oil, unprocessed grains, vitamin supplements, a daily glass of wine or two, and virtually no red meat or hydrogenated oils. And he exercises vigorously and often (he's never driven the two miles to work in 20 years).

Photos by Amenti Willett

Several factors affect the relationship between food and our health—evolution, the environment, genes, diet and individual life style. "We can tell that genetics is not the main factor in disease—diet, environment and life-style are," Willett says. "We've compared ethnic groups in their homelands with those who migrated to other countries and found that the migrants tend to develop the same health profile as other residents of their adopted countries."

Evolutionary factors are interwoven with our individual and cultural lifestyles. "The circumstances of human life today are vastly different from the conditions under which we evolved," Willett says. "In paleolithic times, humans fashioned a diet sufficient to survive through reproductive age, not to survive cancer at age 65 and sustain health into their 80s. The ability desired back then was to be physically strong enough to hunt animals and ward off predators. The

ability to store fat during times of famine was also a great biological advantage. We are designed to withstand a starvation diet, yet we now find food abundant and industry trying to get us to eat even more."

Willett upset the US Department of Agriculture's apple cart by overturning its 1992 food pyramid, a guide to daily food choices. USDA's pyramid suggested several servings daily of meat and dairy foods. Willett advocates the "Mediterranean diet" of the trim, hardy peoples of southern Italy and Greece. The Mediterranean diet includes plenty of tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables, whole grains and olive oil, with most dairy products consumed moderately in fermented form like yogurt or cheese. "The

nearby Michigan State University, where his father was a researcher in the reproductive system of cattle. Studying the nutrition of residents of a Pottawatomie reservation in the Upper Peninsula when he was a U-M medical student sparked Willett's interest in nutritional diseases. "The project was headed by Dr. John Robson of the School of Public Health," he recalls, "and it influenced me to go into public health here at Harvard."

Dr. Frank Speizer had launched a long-term health study of 120,000 nurses in 1976 to look at the effect of oral contraceptive use. Willett joined the Harvard team in 1977 and began devising a study of dietary intake in the same population. ("Health care workers are highly

American diet is slowly moving in this direction," Willett says. "As time goes on, we'll see what impact these changes in diet have on national health.

Scientists have not yet shown many of the mechanisms involved in food's beneficial or harmful effects on our health, but Willett thinks that conclusions drawn from his study can help the public make wise dietary choices and guide policy makers on the regulation of the food industry. In response to questions, he offered the following observations and advice:

Heart disease: The conventional wisdom is that saturated fat and "bad" cholesterol are the main risk factors, but we find that they may play only a modest role. Other risk factors are more important. By far, weight gain seems to me to be the biggest factor—and I don't mean just to the level of obesity. Even relatively pudgy or paunchy levels of weight gain in relatively inactive people appear to increase risk. Reducing saturated fat intake might reduce incidence of heart disease by 10 to 15%, but leanness would reduce the rate by 40% or more.

Fat: Quantity of fat *per se* seems to make little difference in health. It's the type of fat one eats that is important. Substituting olive oil, a monounsaturated fat, for animal and hydrogenated fats would have a beneficial effect. Olive oil also contains antioxidant vitamin E, oxidation being the process of decay. Antioxidants appear to protect critical cell components from damage, although no one has yet proven the biochemical process involved.

Low-fat diets: There is not good evidence that low-fat diets are beneficial in and of themselves. In fact, for people who are not already lean, substituting carbohydrates for fats seems to result in bad things—a change in metabolism, reduction in good cholesterol and rise in the triglycerides.

Colon cancer: Reducing body fat seems to be one of the best ways to reduce the risk. Our cohort of male respondents measured their waists and hips, and we found that waist and hip expansion was a strong predictor for colon cancer. Calorie-intake, therefore, is key. Those who take in lots of calories need regular physical activity to control body fat and reduce the risk of cancer. There is a five-fold increase of risk if you put on body fat and don't exercise. Those who eat more chicken and fish and less red meat have lower rates. Something seems harmful in red meat beyond the fat. It could be iron, it could be the substances produced when meat is heated or it could be a combination of effects. Smoking and heavy alcohol consumption are risk factors, as is low folic acid intake. Folic acid [Vitamin B complex] supplements seem to cancel the alcohol risk.

Eggs: Not much direct evidence of harm. They slightly increase blood-cholesterol levels, however, so it's good to mini-

mize consumption, though there's no need to avoid them. They're a small risk compared with weight gain.

Alcohol: It very substantially reduces heart disease risk if you have one or two drinks a day. But it also causes traffic accidents, induces over-drinking and presents a modestly greater risk of breast cancer and other cancers. Balancing risks and benefits is a complicated issue. There is no health reason for younger people who do not face risk of heart disease to drink alcohol, but if middle-aged persons do face such a risk and are not disposed to alcoholism, perhaps one or two drinks a day would be beneficial for some.

Sugar: They are empty calories, which means that by acquiring 10 to 15% of our calories from sugar, Americans are displacing many nutrients present in beneficial foods. There seems to be evidence of a link between sugar consumption and diabetes. Sugar is not a poison, but limiting it is a good thing to do. Honey is no better.

Breast cancer: Nearly 5,000 of the 120,000 nurses in our original study have developed breast cancer, or a bit more than 4%. That's very close to the rate among the general population—the lifetime risk is about 12%. Breast cancer accounts for about 20% of the deaths so far. Cardiovascular diseases account for another 20%, and lung cancer and other cancers are the other major causes of death in our first cohort of nurses.

Fractures: High dairy intake as an adult does not seem to protect against fractures.

Vision: High intake of fruits and vegetables containing carotenoids protects against cataracts. Smoking is a great risk factor—that wasn't appreciated when I was in medical school.

Prostate problems: High consumption of animal fat and dairy products are risk factors, while there is no evidence implicating vegetable fats. The lycopene in tomato products—especially cooked tomatoes—seems to protect against prostate cancer.

Sexual differences: Health differences between men and women have been overplayed. Except for the differences in reproductive organs and sex hormones, important risk factors are generally similar. As a matter of fact I showed in my doctoral dissertation that smoking compromised women's health as much as it did men's. Some researchers were claiming at the time that smoking was less harmful for women.

Adult onset asthma: There's a huge increase in cases, many thousands, but no one has found out why this is happening. Some researchers suggest that vitamin E and fish oil supplements may be protective. We've found no support for the fish oil hypothesis and are still looking at vitamin E, which may be protective.

Coffee and tea: Our studies show coffee is not an important risk factor for heart disease, but one area of concern is for fractures. Coffee causes calcium loss in those who drink more than two or three cups a day. There is a 60 to 70% reduction in suicide among female coffee drinkers and an appreciable reduction among men, too. Perhaps that's because it's an antidepressant.

Liquid diets: These can be a good source of vitamins, but don't have other important ingredients of natural food, plus there is no evidence that they provide any long-run benefits in weight loss. A few low-calorie diets have been fatal. We're going to look at them further.

Kidney stones: We found no link between vitamin C and kidney stones.

Research: The National Institutes for Health must continue to play the big role in supporting research on nutrition and public health, and fortunately the NIH has sustained funding levels in such research, as they should, because everyone has an interest in it. Biomedical research is one of the few areas where the US has leadership, and almost all of the funding comes from NIH. MT

Trans-fatty acids: Are they life-shortening?

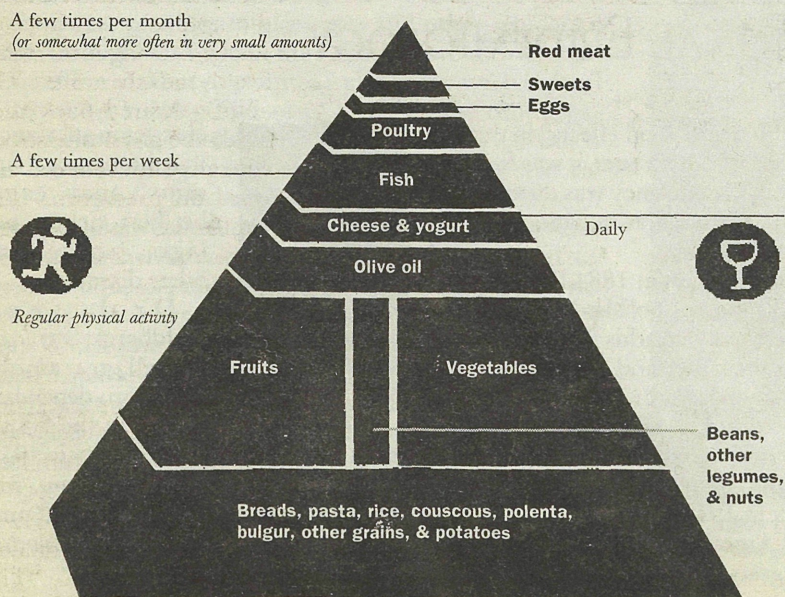
"Fats are not just fuel," Walter Willett says. "They're incorporated into body tissues and cell membranes. Fatty acids find their way there and into many hormones as well. There, as an altered form of a natural fat, trans fats act as a monkey wrench thrown into the complex machinery of our cells. Trans-fatty acids [TFAs] are by far the largest amount of artificial chemicals in the American food supply.

"Trans-fatty acid" is a chemical description. Almost all natural unsaturated fats have their molecules arranged in a *cis* position, that is, there are bends that put the carbons opposite one another, but in processing artificial fats the molecules are rearranged along a line in what chemists call a *trans* position, which permits them to be packed tighter and transformed into a solid with the consistency of a shortening, margarine or even harder.

"The fats in fast-food burgers, baked goods and other processed foods may contain 25% or more TFAs," Willett says. "Considering how many pregnant women and children eat these foods, one should be concerned about putting such things into the food supply. They have unique effects. They raise bad cholesterol and reduce good cholesterol. No other type of fat does that."

Getting trans-fatty acids from hydrogenated fats out of our diets would have the same benefit on heart disease rates as spending billions on drugs that lower cholesterol levels, Willett says. He indicts TFAs as being involved "in 30,000 premature deaths from heart disease a year in the United States."

Willett criticizes sections of the US food industry and regulatory agencies for defending TFAs "while the World Health Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization and some European countries have concluded that they should be greatly reduced in our foods." US industry officials and the FDA maintain, however, that allegations of the harmful effects of TFAs are unproved.



Vitamin and mineral supplements

"Overrefining and overprocessing foods is a real issue," Willett contends. "We've been told that there is no problem with vitamin and mineral intake in this country because gross deficiencies like scurvy and pellagra have been eliminated. But when I was in med school at Michigan, if someone suggested that something as simple and cheap as providing women of child-bearing age with folic acid supplements would reduce spinal bifida by 70%, I'd have said they were kooks. Today, it's almost malpractice not to recommend folic acid supplements to women of child-bearing age. It can be too late if they wait until they are pregnant to start taking it.

"To me, that demolishes the idea that there's no problem with vitamin adequacy in this and most other countries. Our study provides strong evidence that heart disease and colon cancer also are associated with folic acid deficit. Eating plenty of broccoli and oranges would help supply higher levels, but average intake gives you only about half the optimum level. People who aren't getting enough in their foods should take a supplement. That's true for other vitamins as well, especially vitamin B6 and vitamin E. Having sufficient amounts of folic acid and reducing red meat appear to be more important in protection against cancer.

"Our study showed a 40% lower risk of heart disease for those taking vitamin E supplements. That's a greater benefit than you get from fat-reducing drugs, which cost about \$1,000 a year versus \$10 to \$20 for vitamin E. People with macular degeneration, a rare eye disease, could be harmed by high doses of vitamin E, however.

"It makes sense for most people to take a multivitamin that contains vitamins E, B-complex, A and C. A large body of evidence supports taking a vitamin E supplement beyond the multivitamin amount. Women should choose a multivitamin/multimineral supplement that adds iron if they are of child-bearing age. They are a good nutritional safety net. Older people, especially those who live in the north, can benefit from the vitamin D in these supplements.

"People should tell their physicians what supplements they're taking, and if they don't, their physicians should ask them about their vitamin intake in detail and not treat vitamins as trivial chemicals. Unfortunately, most physicians don't even discuss vitamins with their patients."

Nutritionist helps students eat for cognitive power

BRAIN FOOD

By Joanne Nesbit

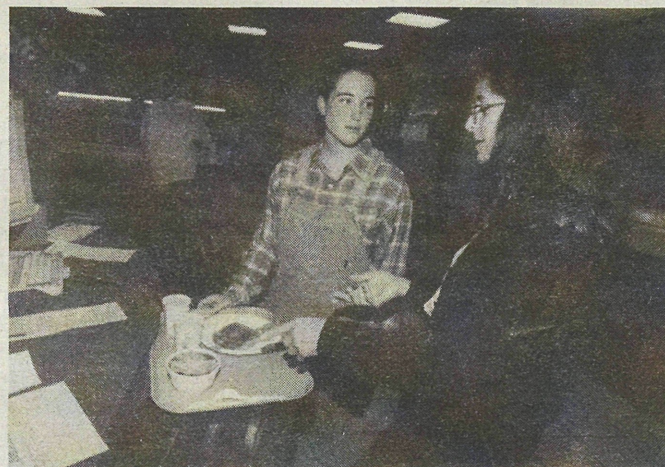
Chicken soup may be good for what ails you, but it takes a more complex diet than that to feed the brain. How physical health supports mental efforts that can lead to a winner's edge is called "Brain Food." It is the most popular program nutritionist Paula Herzog gives for students in U-M residence halls.

"We're talking about all four food groups," Herzog says, "We're looking for time-released energy and hydration for good brain activity. This means drinking at least a half gallon of water each day and avoiding the major dehydrators during the week of exams: alcohol and excessive caffeine found in coffee, tea and colas."

The second step is to eat what Herzog calls "time-released" energy foods every four to six hours during the student's sometimes extended waking hours. Time-released energy foods include combinations of carbohydrates, proteins and fats from the foods in the four major food groups. No need to spend time selecting elaborate menus during this time of concentrated study. Small meals such as peanut butter and jelly sandwiches with milk or a bean burrito with cheese and salsa will do the trick. Even cereal with a banana and whole milk or a bologna sandwich with lettuce and mayonnaise will become time-released fuel for efficient brain activity. But don't forget the water.

The eating behavior of students at U-M and any other college or university is based on choices. Herzog collaborates with the University Health Services to help students make wise choices. "We don't intrude or baby-sit," she says. "We respect the students as adults, but recognize that we are actually helping phase them towards adult health habits."

That road to adulthood can be pretty bumpy, and we're talk-



Paula Herzog tells Stacey Ehrenberg '00 of Akron, Ohio, about the calories-per-weight computations available on the nutritionist's computer in Mary Markley residence hall dining room.

Photo by Bob Kabinbach

ing about more than acne here. Among these "bumps" is: how to follow special diets for allergies and diabetes in an "all-you-can-eat" smorgasbord every meal. Herzog helps the students adapt their special needs in the residence halls dining rooms for practice out in restaurants and eventually, when they are on their own recognizance in off-campus living.

Other bumps in the road to healthy adult eating styles include disorder eating. "These trendy low-

fat and no-fat diets are so unsatisfying that they can lead to bingeing," Herzog says. "With no fat grams, vital organs suffer because many foods that contain some fat are our most protein- and mineral-rich foods and are often avoided by dieters. The immune system can be suppressed. The students are tired and they don't do well on tests. In fact, they can be malnourished. And they may cut even more calories to make room for alcohol."

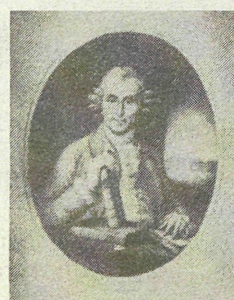
Herzog doesn't try to sermonize the students into following sound diets. She prefers to station herself in residence hall dining rooms, using her lap-top computer. Students wonder what sort of data she's analyzing so they get into conversation about nutrition.

Compared with higher education's other registered dietitians and nutritionists, Herzog says she has yet to find anyone else who regularly interacts with students in dining halls and in classes she teaches in the halls. Her counterparts are generally more involved in defining menus, helping chefs or testing recipes. But Herzog is out there on the cafeteria line, willing to answer any question students have about their diets.

MT

CLASSIC STUDIES IN NUTRITIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

Epidemiology is the study of the occurrence of human diseases. Nutritional epidemiology focuses on the relationship between our diet and our health. The field is often dated to 1753, when Lind



Lind

observed that fresh fruits and vegetables could cure scurvy and conducted one of the earliest clinical trials with lemons and oranges, which, he noted, had

"most sudden and good effects" in treating the disease. Much later, it was found that vitamin C deficiency was the cause.

Other milestones in nutritional epidemiology include:

Kanehiro Takaki in 1884 links Japanese sailors' diet of polished rice to the disease beriberi. He adds milk and vegetables to their diet and eliminates the disease. Much later, in 1933, Robert R. Williams synthesizes and names the key nutrient, (vitamin B1), completing research begun by Japanese J. Suzuki and colleagues in 1912.

Polish-American scientist Casimir Funk suggests in 1912 that dietary defi-



Funk

ciencies in substances that he names "vitamins" may cause beriberi, rickets, pellagra, sprue and other diseases.

Dr. Joseph Goldberger's tracing of pellagra among poor, corn-dependent people in the Southern states to a dietary deficiency in 1915. The missing vitamin component, niacin (vitamin B3) is not identified until 1938, however, by Conrad Elvehjem.—JW.

The Food Semester

The University is serving a smorgasbord of food-related events in this fall's Food Semester—an intellectual feast intended to stimulate fresh thinking about food and global history.

Raymond Grew, professor of history and editor of the international quarterly *Comparative Studies in Society and History* notes that “As far as we know, the Food Semester is a unique scholarly event in terms of its scale and variety. No one has ever assembled so many food scholars from such a variety of disciplines for a project of this nature.”

The feast, which includes courses, public lectures, an international conference, food films, exhibits and catering by local ethnic restaurants, comes packaged in this year's theme semester, “Food in Global History.” U-M theme semesters are interdisciplinary, and focus on a general problem that human beings have confronted throughout history and will face well into the future. Prior theme semesters have included “The Comedy Semester,” “The Theory and Practice of Evil,” “Death, Extinction and the Future of Humanity: Approaching the Millennium,” and “The Americas: Beyond 1492.”

Grew, who organized the food theme semester with several colleagues, said that they picked food as the theme for several reasons: “It invites interdisciplinary analysis in an unusual way, and as a deep and intrinsic part of all cultures, it's present everywhere. Religious rules proscribe or require certain food practices which may in turn become an important part of the definition of a cultural community, raising questions that interest anthropologists, cultural historians, art historians and literary historians. And what happens when food crosses cultures, when, for example, cultures that were based on certain crops—say wheat or rice—began to trade surpluses with neighbors? This led to trade routes and to improvements in the technology of raising and transporting foods. Or, from another angle, how do cuisines emerge and become characteristic of a culture, so much so that food becomes a symbolic instrument of nationalism?”

Food also provides to historians and other scholars a frame through which they can explore the theoretical question of what constitutes a global approach to food or any other subject. “We often hear that the contemporary world makes us think globally,” Grew says. “But is this the first time people have thought globally? In ancient times, too, global networks were at work. Although perhaps things happened along them more slowly, they were nevertheless there. Historians are obsessed by periodization, so I ask, Did the modern situation exist before, and if so, since when? Since World War II? Since the First World War? Since colonialism? Since the Middle Ages? Since ancient times? Some say that the technological changes in the last 50 years have brought an entirely new quality of globalization. Others, and I'm among them, question this assertion.”



'A Still Life' by Ansel Adams (1932), one of 25 Western and Asian objects at the U-M Museum of Art exhibition 'Art of Eating', curated by Prof. Raymond Grew and School of Art & Design graduate student Warren Rosenblum, which runs through November 17.

The semester, which is part of LSA's Undergraduate Initiatives, includes eight free public lectures by U-M faculty followed by receptions catered by various Ann Arbor restaurants and 13 undergraduate courses. The courses address such topics as food in literature; food, culture and nationalism; therapeutic nutrition; eating disorders; nutrition and evolution; and edible and “drinkable” wild plants.

Additionally, an international conference, “Food in Global History,” to be held Oct. 25-27, will feature 30 scholars discussing the contemporary reshaping of the human diet, processes of change in food systems, cross-cultural aspects of food, food rituals and social barriers related to food.

Other semester events include a free film series at the Michigan Theater on Fridays at 5 p.m. The films include *Tampopo*, *Babette's Feast*, *Delicatessen* and others. And the U-M Graduate Library, the Clements and Kelsey museums, and the Museum of Art have mounted exhibits of cookbooks, artworks and archaeological artifacts featuring food during the Food Semester.

For more information, contact Raymond Grew or James Schaefer at (313)764-6362 or e-mail them at cssh@umich.edu. MT



Profs. Adam Drewnowski (left) and Raymond Grew planning the menu for one of the Food Semester receptions. Nutrition researcher Drewnowski got the United Nations to list the semester as an official event of the UN's Year for the Eradication of Poverty.

Photo by John Woodford

Neal outlines goals of interim presidency

Interim President Homer A. Neal announced in September the approach he would take to ensure the smoothest possible transition between the administration of President James J. Duderstadt and Duderstadt's successor, who is expected to take office next year.

In a publication called *The Interim*, a vehicle for communicating with students, staff, faculty and alumni, Neal cited the "challenges facing us in the months ahead." These included the following:

- Planning for the recruitment of a new dean of the Medical School and director of University hospitals in an era when "academic health centers are undergoing tremendous strains as they seek to adapt to an environment of managed care and competitive non-teaching hospitals."

- "Developing our response to growing pressures on affirmative action, issues of campus climate, addressing the conditions experienced by our primary research faculty, and preparing our faculty for changes in the federal research funding profile."

- "Ensuring that we offer every undergraduate a research, scholarly, or service-research opportunity."

- Getting the renovation of Hill Auditorium under way "at the earliest opportunity, perhaps in connection with the 'Year of the Humanities and Arts' planned for next year."

Neal restated the U-M's commitment to the Michigan Mandate and the Michigan Agenda for Women. Noting that recent court decisions have caused uncertainty about the stability of the Agenda and the Mandate, he said it was "essential to sustain these programs" because both the Mandate and the Agenda "are as much (perhaps more) about intellectual expansiveness as about social change."

"It is possible," he continued, "to cite numbers documenting the effect of these programs on our campus demography, but far more impressive than any numbers is the testimony of deans and department chairs about the enrichment of many disciplines under the impact of growing diversity. ... These are not programs designed to benefit a few but rather to bring to the University itself and the society it serves the benefits that derive from inclusiveness."

Neal then addressed his desire to see Michigan assume national leadership in undergraduate learning through "research, scholarship and creative activity." "Research experience," he noted, "engages students in the intellectual life of the university; it helps them to develop, through practice, genuine skills of inquiry; it helps them see at first hand what the life of a researcher is like. In my own career, I have been pleased to have a number of undergraduate students work with me on physics projects. I know from them that, in addition to deepening their understanding of physics, of computing, of the engineering of large electronic systems like particle detectors, they found the experience invaluable as well in helping them reach decisions about their own career objectives."

Neal urged the U-M community to realize his vision and "ensure that every student at the University would in fact work at some point in his or her undergraduate education with a member of the faculty on a significant research, scholarly or creative project—or for that matter, be engaged in research throughout his or her time here."

"Such a guarantee," he emphasized, "would be unique among research universities in the United States."

Neal welcomed all members of the U-M community to share their thoughts on these and other topics with him during the transition period in the months ahead.



'Research experience engages students in the intellectual life of the university,' says Interim President Neal.

General Fund expenditures totaled \$837 million in 1995-96

Total expenditures and transfers in the General Fund of the University's three campuses in 1995-96 totaled \$836,977,000.

Revenues totaled \$862,817,000, an increase of 6.6 percent, said Farris W. Womack, U-M executive vice president and chief financial officer, in the annual financial report to the Regents at their September meeting.

The General Fund relies largely on student fees and state appropriations. These funds pay for teaching, research, library services, student scholarships, fellowships, and maintenance and operation of physical properties, among other services.

Student fees totaled \$452,372,000 and accounted for 52.4 percent of the fund last year. In 1994-95, student fees accounted for 51.5 percent of the fund and 40 percent in 1986-87. State appropriations totaled \$335,561,000 and accounted for 38.9 percent of the General Fund last year, compared with 39.2 percent in 1994-95 and 52.5 percent in 1986-87.

The General Fund is one of four operating funds that make up the U-M's operating budget. Of the three remaining funds for the Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Flint campuses in 1995-96:

- The Designated Fund had expenditures and transfers, including departmental activities and other revenues with use restricted by University policies, totaled \$91,892,000.

- The Expendable Restricted Fund has gifts, grants and sponsored programs that come from alumni, individuals, foundations, industry, and federal, state and local government units. These funds are used for educational and general purposes. The total expenditures and transfers in this fund were \$454,602,000.

- The Auxiliary Activities Fund includes activities maintained with revenue from their own operations, such as the University's hospitals and residence halls. Total expenditures in this fund amounted to \$1,060,561,000, a 5.5 percent decrease from the previous year.

Vice President Womack, commenting on the University's total operating budget last year, noted:

"Private gifts and sponsored programs for operations increased by \$1,401,000 from 1994-95 to \$130,909,000 in 1995-96. Private gifts for permanent funds in 1995-96 were \$45,691,000 compared with \$66,143,000 in 1994-95. Total gifts and grants were less than those of the previous year by more than 19 million dollars.

"The volume of research was \$441,295,000 in 1995-96, an increase of \$32,059,000 over the previous year. The federal government continues to provide the largest portion of funds and represents 64.3 percent of the total.

"Federal support totaled \$333,374,000 for 1995-96, a decrease of \$9,159,000 from the previous year. The Department of Health and Human Services was the major source of federal funding, accounting for \$176,259,000, or 52.9 percent of the total."

U Library offers 'scholarship' to alumni

By John Woodford

"The University Library is the main reason we live in this region," says Joseph Gies '39, who with his wife, Frances '37, '38 MA, forms perhaps the most successful husband-wife historical writing team ever, with seven books still in print.

The Gieses are taking advantage of the University Library's new reduced-rate borrowing privileges for U-M degree-holders. A full-privileges borrowing card will cost \$125 annually (no limit to the number of books charged) or \$65 annually for a limited-privileges card (no more than five items charged at any one time). The annual borrowing fee for non-alumni remains \$250.

"It's like a scholarship," Frances Gies said of the new program. "We've written about 10 books on the Middle Ages. Our most recent is *Cathedral*, and now we're working on



Hot-selling historians Joseph and Frances Gies.

a book on the Paston family of England. We'll write what amounts to a nonfiction novel." Another recent work, *Forge and Water-Wheel, Technology and Invention in the Middle Ages*, was a main selection of the Book of the Month Club.

The Gieses moved to the Ann Arbor area from Washington, DC, 14 years ago. "We sort of fell into the Middle Ages," Frances recalls. "Joe had written several books on technology, and I was writing at home. We proposed a book on modern cities to Harper and Row, but they said they needed a book on medieval cities to replace their very popular *Life in a Medieval Barony*. So the Gieses researched and wrote *Life in a Medieval City* (1969) and followed that success with *Life in a Medieval Castle*.

This semester, the Gieses will also lecture in the Food in Global History theme semester (see related story on p. 5) at 4 p.m. on Nov. 19. The lecture, "International Cuisine in the High Middle Ages," will be in the Rackham East Conference Room. "We'll talk about peasant food in contrast with rich people's food," Joseph Gies says, "and also show how the spice trade—which included pharmaceuticals and other easily transported items like gold leaf—influenced the age of exploration."

Another alumnus who is taking advantage of the new Library program is Roy Wetzel '59. Like the Gieses, Wetzel also returned to his collegiate environment after retirement.

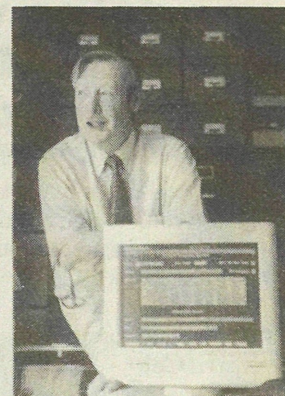
"I'm building a German history database from 1870 to the present," Wetzel says. "It's a 10-year project begun after my retirement from NBC News [where he was general manager of the unit that covered politics for several years]. But you could say it began when I started collecting German stamps when I was 10 years old. I was born in a German neighborhood in Detroit, and collecting the stamps sparked my interest in German history."

The computerized database lets Wetzel "quickly put my finger on a particular piece of information—what was the inflation rate, what were prices, what was the unemployment rate at the time of Hitler's Beer Hall putsch? The project is a reference for me to support my stamp collection. Stamps re-

flect history. They mirror, for example, the terrible inflation of 1923 because new stamps and stamp rates appeared every week."

Wetzel says he is grateful for the U-M Library's new program not only because it has reduced the cost for alumni and simplified borrowing procedures. "I know the Library is primarily for students and faculty and that the public supports it with that understanding," he says, "but by having an official connection, I feel I'm more legitimate when I work there. Plus, my wife and I support the Library through the Friends of the Library, so I don't feel I'm ripping off the public."

Alumni may apply to the program through either the Friends of the Library, (8076 Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1205, phone: (313) 763-7368), or from any of the library circulation desks in the University Library system.



Roy Wetzel has put his childhood philatelic passion to good use.

Photo by Bob Kalmbach

LESSONS OF THE STONE AGE

By Jared Blank

"The best teachers I've had have been dead for 10,000 years," says archaeology graduate student James Payne, who spent many childhood afternoons digging for arrowheads in the yard of his northwest Ohio home. Soon, he was flint knapping—chipping away at stones to form primitive tools and creating his own arrows, knives and hammers.

Payne shared his enthusiasm and skills with 15 undergraduates, his "modern Stone Age family," last summer when he taught Anthropology 296, "Stone Age Technology: Crafts of Our Ancestors."

Visitors to Payne's class would find students using tools and goods that were available during the Stone Age to chip away at rocks, shape wooden implements, fashion homemade arrows and knives and decorate various objects. The classroom exercises show students that the people of that era had a strong grasp of some principles of physics and geology.

"It doesn't matter who your ancestors were," Payne said, "everyone was doing

this. I'm interested in how people used these tools to make a living."

The first class periods cover the methods archaeologists use to interpret the history of tools uncovered during digs. Payne likens the process to trying to complete "multiple three-dimensional jigsaw puzzles all mixed together."

Once students understood how archaeologists determined the age and uses of tools, they spent weeks learning the skills to create rather complex arrows using 10,000-year-old-technology. An arrow is a composite tool—it's made out of multiple parts—so it serves as a way to learn different skills.

The first classes were spent with everyone grabbing a piece of a broken toilet bowl and practicing chipping a sharp point out of the porcelain with a deer or moose antler. The skill was later transferred to sharpening stones to make the tip of the arrow.

The arrow is tied to a wooden shaft using deer sinew—tendon that Payne de-

scribed as "kinda grody." When cut and dried, Payne said, sinew makes excellent string.

Finally, students fashioned crude knives out of stone flakes to split feathers, which are then placed on the end of the arrow. The feathers make the arrow spin, like a bullet shot out of a rifle.

Personalized markings were painted on the arrows with a water/iron oxide/rabbit-hide glue mixture. Payne says that this was done so the owner of a kill could be easily identified. "It's interesting," he said, "that a hunter gained status from the amount of fat in his kill, not the size of the antlers like people think of today."

Students' individual interests also helped to guide the direction of the course. Art student Angela Dregansky '97 of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, taught a lesson on her specialty—ceramics. Other students' inter-



Susan Charlesbois '97 dyes an arrow she's made with Stone Age tools.

Photo by Bob Kalmbach

ests ranged from paleo-Indian technology to crafts, and Payne encouraged students to create projects based on their interests.

Senior anthropology major Susan Charlesbois of Stockbridge, Michigan, appreciated the freedom to be creative. "This is an involved, sincere approach to education," she said. "I've been pleasantly surprised."

'Hey, Kid,' said Bogie. 'Whaddaya think you're doing?'

By Linda Robinson Walker

What U-M senior Buck Dawson was doing was kissing Lauren Bacall, Humphrey Bogart's wife, at producer S. P. Eagle's Hollywood party the night before the 1948 Rose Bowl game.

"It's New Year's Eve," said Dawson, backing off. "I'm here with the Michigan team."

"Oh, yeah," Bogart said, "who's going to win?"

"Michigan," said Dawson.

"What score?"

"50 to 0."

"O.K., put your money where your mouth is," Bogart replied, offering a \$100 bet on Southern Cal.

Dawson, egged on by others and heady from having bussed the new year in not only with Bacall but also Marlene Dietrich, Rita Hayworth and Evelyn Keyes, took the bet.

The next day, the legendary Michigan squad with stars like Len Ford, Al Wistert, Dan Dworsky, Bruce Hilkene, Bob Chappuis, Chalmers and Pete Elliott, Bob Mann, Gene Derricotte and Dominic Tomasi, won U-M's first Rose Bowl game since 1902, and by the same score—49-0. But with the point difference off by one, Dawson fretted about how he could pay filmdom's toughest tough guy and what would happen if he couldn't. But his pal, director Billy Wilder, offered reassurance: "Bogie'd never take your money with the victory so close."

Recounting the story almost 50 years later, Dawson says, "So I got away with that O.K."

Buck Dawson was out in Hollywood not only to follow Michigan's championship team, but also to cast an eye on the film community where he intended to make his mark as a publicist after graduation in June. Newly returned from World War II, Dawson was rekindling friendships made in Europe with Marlene Dietrich and Billy Wilder who had arranged the invitation. He'd begun the evening catching up on things with a former sweetheart, Betty Jane Raze, a beauty queen who had just succeeded Ava Gardner as wife of Mickey Rooney.

Dietrich couldn't go to the game with Dawson, but he passed the days with her and Wilder at the Paramount lot, where they were making *Foreign Affair*, and took the *Michiganensian* yearbook staff—Dawson was the editor—out to meet her. One day on the set, "who should come but [football coach] Fritz Crisler and the entire Michigan team," Dawson recalls. "They were taking a tour, and so I introduced everybody and we had pictures of her taken with the team and the staff."

'He's Got the Best Press Agent's Mind I've Seen'

William Forrest (Buck) Dawson, the son of the president of the Dixie Cup Company (his father went on to head the "Keep America Beautiful" campaign) came to the U-M in 1939 from his home in Easton, Pa. He hit the campus big time and became vice-president, by his count, "of over 17 extra-curricular activities," to the detriment of his studies.

"I flunked out the third year by never going to class," Dawson says. "I was Mr. Joe College, but my studies suffered. Fortunately, there was an unwritten law that if you went away to serve in the Army, you would get another chance."

So Dawson enlisted as a private in 1942 and

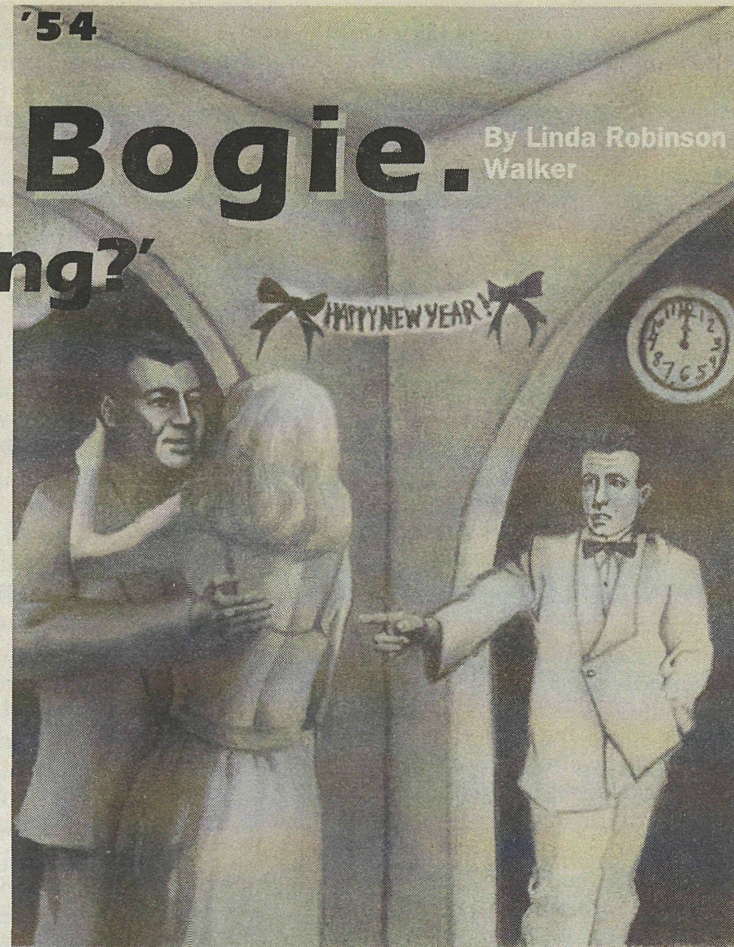
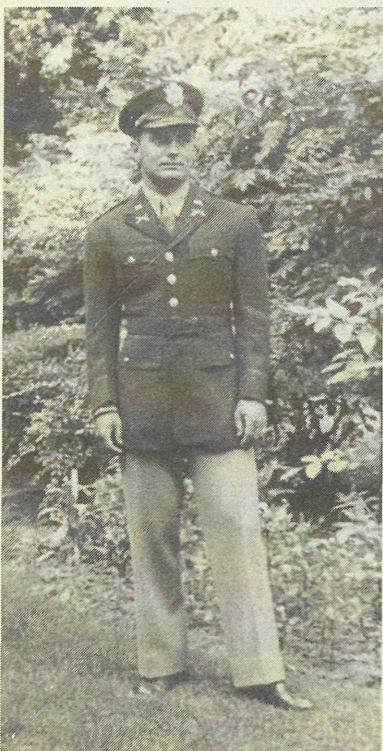


Illustration by Tara Sterling



Photos courtesy W.F. Dawson

Dawson wrote the definitive history of his unit, the 82nd Airborne.

volunteered for overseas duty, ending up in the infantry glider troops in the 82nd Airborne Division, making his entrance into Holland in the September 17, 1944, invasion at the end of a long cable pulled behind a C-47 "Dakota." "Look, Hermann, no motors! That's what we used to say," Dawson says of the Yanks' dig at Goering, head of the Nazi air forces. "The gliders were pulled by planes, and they'd cut us loose and we'd crash into the ground. The landing could kill you if there were jeeps or howitzers on board. But ours carried just 14 men, and we landed in a sugar beet patch and only tipped over."

Once in Holland, whipped up by a kind of bravado engendered by the intensity of the war, Dawson, who thought of himself as a "poor man's" version of the actor Pat O'Brien, embarked on the first of his film-struck adventures.

Maj. Gen. James M. Gavin, commander of the division, sent Dawson to Paris to get the story of America's achievements—specifically the 82nd's Dutch campaign—back to the press. He drove through a British tank column in a captured German car that once belonged to none other than "Look, Hermann" Goering, himself. "The press guys in Paris got a kick out of it. They dared me to go see Marlene Dietrich, who'd just arrived and was staying at the Ritz. I put on the dirtiest combat stuff I could find, didn't shave, carried my parachute, carbine and helmet. Then I went to the Ritz and told those rear-echelon b*****ds who'd never seen combat that General Gavin had sent me and I wanted to see Dietrich.

"Absolutely not," a fat major said. I sent up a note and waited. There was a hush and there she was, sashaying down the big circular staircase. I went up to her, talking fast because I assumed I wouldn't have much time: 'I'm Lieutenant Dawson . . .'

"Let's go into the dining room and have tea," she replied. All those colonels in full dress and I'm filthy. We start talking. I made up this proposition: She should come up to Holland as guest of General Gavin and the 82nd Airborne, to be the first German and the most famous legs to go into Germany—we'd taken Bergendahl near the Dutch border.

"She said it was impossible, 'a prisoner of the Army,'—she put it that way—I'm their guest and I have obligations, but first chance I get, I'll come up, I promise."

"She autographed this big picture. All the time I'm surrounded by people staring daggers at me. I drank my tea and got the hell out of there."

In France, Dawson helped organize a war bond contest to "get rid of some of the back pay." "We'd go into Rhiems," he recalls, "to spend money and end up fighting each other. That #%*!/Patton had commandeered our new jump boots for his truckers, so we dragged them out of their cabs and took our boots off their feet.

"A recon guy and I went to Paris to take the war bond money to the finance headquarters. Marlene was there at the George V hotel with [French actor] Jean Gabin and

gave me a pair of garters to use as publicity for the war bond drive with a trip to the states as the prize.”

He got back from Paris just in time to move out for the Battle of the Bulge (“terrible conditions, lots of our guys got killed”). In its European campaign, the 82nd Airborne liberated Holland and fought its way through the Bulge, meeting the Soviet troops 60 miles across the Elbe. Dawson was present at the liberation of the Ludwigslust concentration camp.

It was a welcome antidote to see Dietrich driving into camp near Cologne in a general’s staff car. Keeping her promise, she asked for Dawson, telling everyone within earshot, “I wouldn’t be here if not for him,” Dawson says. “My platoon was just amazed. My battalion commander was furious. ‘We can’t have all these disruptions,’ he said.”

The next day Dawson was transferred back to division headquarters and Gavin gave him a job as public relations officer. Maj. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway had previously assigned him to write the 82nd Airborne’s history, and he published that book, *Saga of the All-American*, in 1946.

With the liberation of Berlin, Dawson was able to return Dietrich’s favor. Dietrich, who detested the Nazis, left Germany in the 1930s, but her mother, Josephine von Losch, had lived out the war in Berlin. “Marlene gave me a ‘care package’ to take to her mother, and she took more care of me than I did of her, and we became great friends.”

The press job not only got him out of combat but also into a position to meet more of the great and famous, who began to throng through occupied Berlin. Martha Gellhorn, then married to Ernest Hemingway, became a friend and contributed a preface to his book. Ingrid Bergman, touring with Jack Benny, was so reserved that to impress her as he guided her around the war-torn city, “I jumped off Hitler’s balcony and nearly drove my legs up through my chest,” Dawson says.

But best of all, he got a job offer. Marlene Dietrich urged Wilder, “‘You have to get this man signed, Billy. He has the best press agent’s mind I’ve seen,’” Dawson remembers. Wilder promised him a job at Paramount.

The Roses of January Fade by June

With four bronze stars and a goal for his future, Dawson returned to Ann Arbor to complete his BA, one of the millions of war veterans who swarmed onto the nation’s campuses after the war, thanks to the GI Bill. So many, in fact, that he and his roommate, Dick Wakefield, the Tigers’ American League batting champion, couldn’t find a room on campus.

Dawson placed an ad, “Are your evenings long and dull? Do you need company? We laugh at all jokes and won’t study if it bothers you. All we need is a room.” They got almost 20 offers.

Dawson focused his boisterous energy on the *Ensi*. The yearbook hadn’t made money for seven years, so when the board chose him as managing editor, he offered a deal. “They paid a small salary—\$300—but I told them I didn’t want any salary, just half the profits. They agreed and it made \$3,200—\$1,600 for me.

“We filled the office with volunteers from all the fraternities and sororities and made it an all-around promotion office. To prove it was superbly bound, we threw it off the roof of the Michigan Union tower. Of course, as a paratrooper I knew how to tie it and how to rig a little parachute.”

With less success but maximum exposure, he lobbied the Rose Bowl authorities to choose a queen not from Pasadena, as was traditional, but from Michigan. He personally nominated Ann Gestie, the fiancée of his friend, All-American tailback Bob Chappuis. Her photograph appeared on the front page of the *Los Angeles Times* as “Overlooked Michigan Beauty,” but the Pasadena women remained queens.

With graduation a mere formality the next June (“since I was allowed to graduate without a major or a foreign language”), Dawson set out with the team to celebrate the new year in Hollywood.

It was during these champagne days, partly financed by auctioning off at Paramount a football he’d had signed by the Michigan team, that Dawson arrived on the set of *Foreign Affair* to see Billy Wilder about the promised publicity job Marlene Dietrich had touted him for. Wilder not only reiterated his offer, but “also offered the use of his Cadillac while I was out there,” Dawson says.

But everything fizzled between January and June. When he hit Hollywood after graduation, Dawson recalls, “Movies were in a depression due to TV; all the live stuff was moving to New York. Hollywood panicked and tried to come up with things like cinemascope to offset TV. I went out to talk to Billy Wilder, and he said he couldn’t get me a job. Publicity and public relations men were out of work, so they were not about to hire someone untried.

“Instead of the supreme confidence I had that I could do anything that I got from bouncing around in the Army, the ball went flat. My whole thinking was geared to movies, nurtured all my life. I stayed on, playing volleyball on Santa Monica Beach with Peter Lawford, [Rams quarterback] Bob Waterfield, Jane Russell and people like that. I stayed there six months and then went back east with my tail between my legs and took a job selling hosiery through vending machines for Roman Stripe, and then with Vicks.”

Trying to regain the excitement of nine years of student and army life, Dawson rejoined the Army in Europe during the Korean war and was in on the beginning of NATO. A terrible jeep accident in 1954, a long hospitalization in Walter Reed and a lost eye put an end to that.

Plunging Back Into the Swim of Things

Where could he go on shaky legs but back to Ann Arbor? This, his third stint at Michigan, saw a different, more serious student. He took writing classes, and his memoirs of the war won a Hopwood writing prize. And at a lecture at Hill, he found a wife. It was there he ran into Rosemary Mann Corson whom he’d dated years before. Rosemary, a widow with three children, was the daughter of Matt Mann, Michigan’s swimming coach from 1925 to 1954.



All-Americans Bob Chappuis and Chalmers (Bump) Elliott with Dietrich.



Buck Dawson, Marlene Dietrich and Maj. Gen. James Gavin backstage at a USO show in Berlin after the war.

Buck and Rosemary married in 1955, when they were both 35, Rosemary wearing the other pink garter that Marlene Dietrich had given Dawson.

The Mann family ran Camp Ak-o-Mak in Ontario, Canada, and this was a way of life that Dawson easily fit into. “Since I was 10, I never missed a year camping. Working with kids is the sober underpinning of my crazy life. Rosemary always says she doesn’t know whether I married her for herself or the camp,” Dawson jokes.

Rosemary became a women’s swimming coach, and at the camp they trained top swimmers, including Marty Sinn, Susie Thrasher and Diana Nyad. They also founded the Ann Arbor Swim Club, providing competitive opportunities for women swimmers at a time when the University’s physical education program didn’t support women’s competition. Dawson also found time to publish more books—on topics ranging from Edwin Forbes’s Civil War sketches to surveys of notable swimming pools.

Swimming led Dawson to the final chapter of his career. In his work with the Amateur Athletic Union he urged the creation of the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and was its first director from 1965 to 1988. He is now director emeritus.

“To establish an International Hall of Fame took great vision and energy,” says current ISHOF president Dr. Samuel J. Freas. “I was fortunate enough to inherit a viable and solvent institution from Buck. It’s his enduring legacy. It really is a shrine and center for the aquatic sports world, a place for everyone who swims,” Freas continues. “People are moved to be inducted into this hall of heroes.”

Now retired, Buck and Rosemary divide their time between Camp Ak-o-Mak and Ft. Lauderdale. **MT**



Buck and wife Rosemary, the daughter of legendary swimming coach Matt Mann, at a party at the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and which he helped found and he directed for 23 years. (Olympian Johny [Tarzan] Weissmuller swings in the background.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ENSIAN

The Michiganensian turned 100 this year and celebrated with a reunion of staff members in September in Ann Arbor. As part of the celebration, the current staff is trying to find copies of volumes missing from its collection. Specifically it is looking for years 1898, 1900, 1903, 1906 and 1970. If you have one you would like to contribute, or know of one, please contact Lisa Harby, Editor, 420 Maynard St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109, 313-764-9425.

The *Ensi* was founded in 1896 at a mass meeting of students who demanded a new and more representative yearbook than the one controlled by administrators and faculty.

WHICH MAIZE?

WHICH BLUE?

By Liene Karels

"Hail to the colors that float in the night, hurrah for the yellow and blue."

"Go Blue!"

"We bleed Maize and Blue!" et cetera, et cetera, et cetera

The true colors of the University of Michigan are maize and blue, right? Of course they are and they always have been. However, which maize—or shade of yellow—and which blue have been subject to poetic interpretation, personal preference, evolving tradition, and variations in definition for almost 150 years.

The first recorded association of any color with the University appears in 1859, when a ribbon of deep blue was attached to the diploma of an Elisha Jones.

Not long afterward, in 1867, a committee of students from the Literary department was appointed to select and recommend emblematic colors for the University. At a meeting in the College Chapel that Feb. 12, the students made the following report:

"Your committee, appointed to select emblematic colors for our University, unanimously agree in presenting as their choice, Azure Blue and Maize, and recommend that the following resolution be adopted: 'Resolved, that Azure Blue and Maize be adopted as the emblematic colors of the University of Michigan.'

The resolution passed. Though heartfelt, however, the recommendation fell subject to the inexactitudes of the times—no standards for colors existed; no artifacts represented exact shades of maize or blue. And so began varied attempts over the ensuing years to provide standard definitions or descriptions of the University's colors, often by citing dictionary definitions, including the following:

AZURE:

Oxford Dictionary 1888:

The precious stone lapis lazuli.

A bright blue pigment (A. of Almayne, Prussian blue).

The clear blue color of the unclouded sky, or of the sea reflecting it (originally, the deep intense blue of more southern latitudes).

Century Dictionary 1895:

The fine blue color of the sky.

Cobalt blue (a pure blue tending toward cyan-blue and of high luminosity).

Standard Dictionary 1895:

A clear blue; the color of the sky.

A sky-blue pigment, usually cobalt blue, but sometimes ultramarine and smalt [a ceramic pigment—Ed.].

LAPIS LAZULI

Webster's New International 1909:

The clear blue color of the sky.

MAIZE

Oxford 1888:

Indian corn.

One of the coal-tar colors, a pale yellow resembling that of maize.

Maize-Yellow, a yellow like that of maize.

Century 1895:

A coal-tar color, the sodium salt of the disulphonic acid of azoxy-stilbene. It dyes silk and wool reddish-yellow in an acid bath.

Also called sun-yellow.

Standard 1895:

Indian corn. Maize Yellow. A yellow like maize.

Webster's New International 1909:

Maize yellow. A delicate pale yellow.



Author Karels displays the President's Flag (left) and the University Flag in the Regent's Room of the Fleming Administration Building.

Evidently, even with these guidelines, uncertainty existed as to the exact hues of azure blue and maize. Artifacts collected from close to the turn of the century show variations in use from dark blue to a very pale "sky" blue.

Shades of both the yellow and the blue became increasingly lighter over time, as the definitions from the 1909 *Webster's* indicate. Baby blue and pale lemon yellow were deemed too anemic for the mighty Wolverines, however, and around the turn of the century the U-M Athletic Association unofficially adopted its own deep blue and bright yellow for team uniforms. But the pale colors continued to prevail in official circles.

For many years Michigan in effect had two sets of colors, one for athletics and a shifting set for other functions. This situation continued until the celebration of the University's 75th anniversary in 1912. (Dualism is common to the University; the 1912 anniversary was calculated from the 1837 date for the U-M's origin, rather than the 1817 date, which also is used, because it was then that a Board of Regents founded an institution that later became the University. As a result, U-M has double opportunities to celebrate every grand anniversary.)

In 1912, the University Senate appointed a committee to come up with a consistent representation for all decorations, robes and flags. The chairman was Prof. Warren

P. Lombard, Physiology. Other members were Professors S. Lawrence Bigelow, Chemistry; H.R. Cross, Fine Arts; Emil Lorch, Architecture; and University Librarian Theodore W. Koch. The charge was to "determine the exact shades of maize and azure blue which would be suitable for the official colors of the University and embody them in some lasting form."

Lombard's committee searched out early diploma ribbons, dance cards from the 1890s and programs from various events, assembling an array of rich blues and saturated but clean yellows. They selected a group of professors, students, alumni and administrators to vote their preferences of the collected color samples. By this process they arrived at a recommendation to the Senate, and subsequently to the Regents of the University, that their proposed colors be adopted as Michigan's official colors.

From the March meeting of the Regents, 1912:

Doctor W.P. Lombard, Chairman of a Senate Committee, presented a report with regard to the exact shades of the University colors, maize and azure blue. On motion of Regent Beal, the Board voted that these colors, in the shades filed by Professor Lombard with the Secretary as one of the exhibits of this meeting, should hereafter be the official "maize and azure blue" colors.

The second part of the committee's mission was "to embody them [the colors] in some lasting form." This task was to become Lombard's plague. Seeking to embody the colors, Lombard commissioned enamels from the best artisans in New York and Norway to match the selected colors, but none could guarantee an exact match. So the colors remained embodied in the form of several sets of broad grosgrain ribbons that were distributed to a University book store, robe manufacturers and the Secretary of the Faculty Senate. In 1935, the ribbons were deposited in the newly established University Archives.

But after 1912, the existence of the official ribbons faded from people's minds, and the University colors began to fade again. Again, too, it was among official circles that pale blue and creamy yellow took hold. And again the

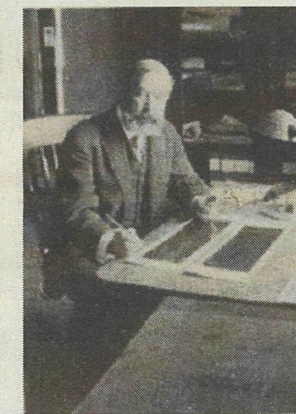
Athletic Department adopted its own rich, vibrant hues of blue and gold, followed by the University Medical Center, which selected yet another set of official standard colors.

As a graphic designer, I felt the search for a standard, official, consistent color to represent the University was a driving mission. I tracked every reasonable reference in the historical literature. On a fluke, I followed up an obscure reference to the minutes of the senate meeting of 1912. In the file at the Bentley Historical Library were the ribbons with the official shades of azure blue and maize that Lombard's committee had chosen as Michigan's colors. All this time, as if hiding in the Bentley, were ribbons of rich, deep, pure blue, and a soft yellow—the color of the summer's finest filled-with-sunshine sweet corn.

Graphic designer Liene Karels, an MFA alumna of the School of Art and an assistant in the President's Office, thanks former President James J. Duderstadt and his wife, Anne, "for taking great interest in this project and encouraging me in it."

GOING FOR THE BLUE

Prof. Warren P. Lombard, a physiologist and masterful artist, was meticulous, dedicated, thorough in every way. His files on the 1912 project to select U-M's official colors include his correspondence with tile-makers around the world. In his quest to fulfill the committee's charge to "embody the colors in a lasting form," he even sailed with



Lombard sailed to Norway on his colorful quest.

his wife to Norway to study the manufacture of fabled Norwegian-blue tiles.

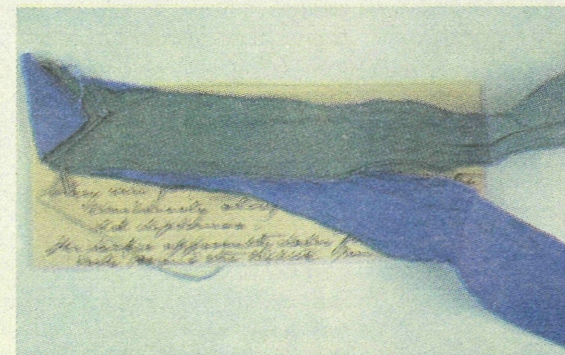
No one Lombard consulted abroad or locally could guarantee a color that would last on any material, however. So the committee compiled verbal definitions of the colors. My favorite is a reference University Librarian Theodore Koch cited as a guide for the right "azure blue" from a 1908 poem "The Mother" by Eden Philpotts: "...he woke to find lamp smelling and the light of it reduced to an azure bead of fire."

Attempts were made in 1995 to embody the official colors in lasting form by creating a permanent ink formula. Ink composition and paper surfaces vary so much, the effort failed. However, the blue cover for the President's Office Michigan Mandate serendipitously matched the 1912 blue ribbon. The cover of another document, *The Strategic Plan*, mirrored the official maize. These samples were cut out and framed, and are now on display in the Office of the President.—LK.

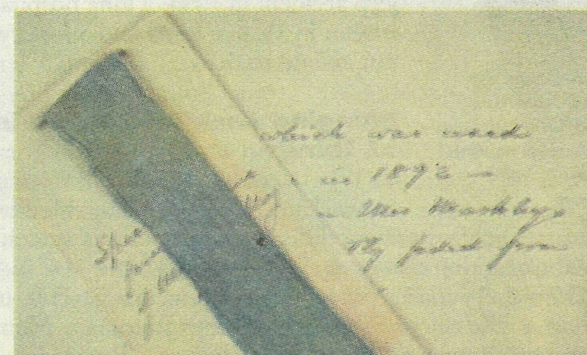
KELLY WHITE, NOT KELLY GREEN

A brochure from 1955 suggests the Regents readopted the pale blue and yellow on the recommendation of a Professor Gores, who had been commissioned to create the University's flags. Color choices were based on availability of fabric, so a paler shade of blue was introduced into the University Flag.

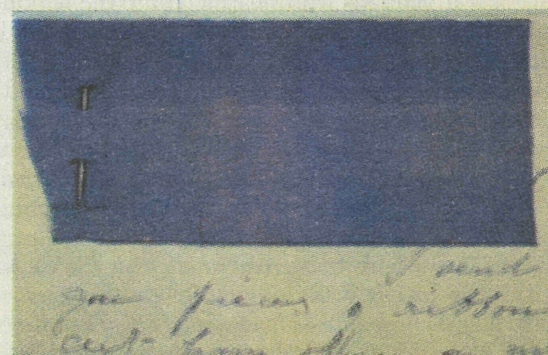
Quality fabric was important in flags. The pure white for the background of the President's Flag is from the same bolt of fabric used in actress Grace Kelly's wedding gown.—LK.



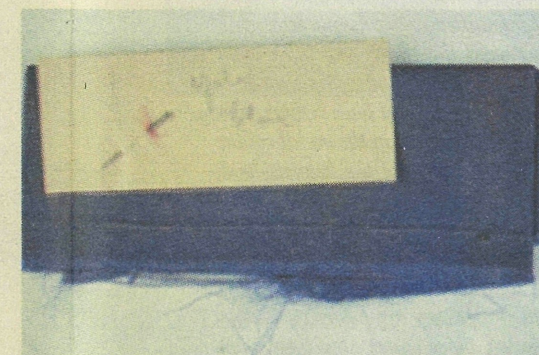
A darker blue form the 1870s and a lighter blue from the 1890s



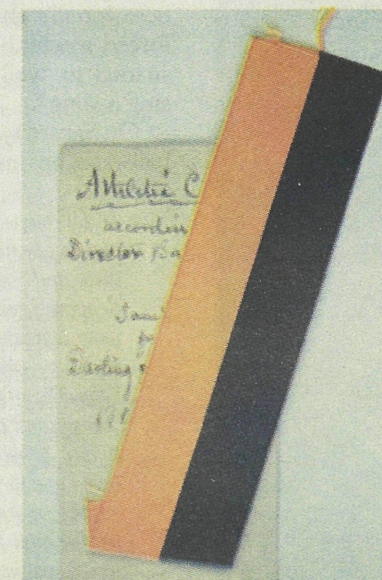
Pale official blue of 1892



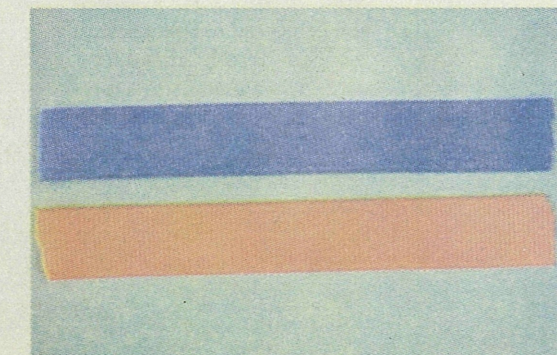
A ribbon from 1859



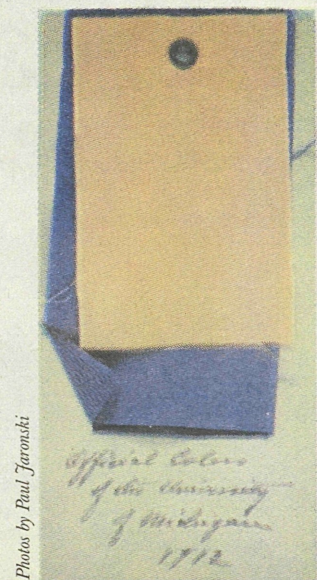
Yale Blue was among many other university hues studied by the 1912 committee



Athletic colors



Modern ribbons of the 1950s based on 1900 shades. This blue made it into the University Flag



1912 colors that U-M now recognizes as official

An Undergraduate's Experience a Century Ago



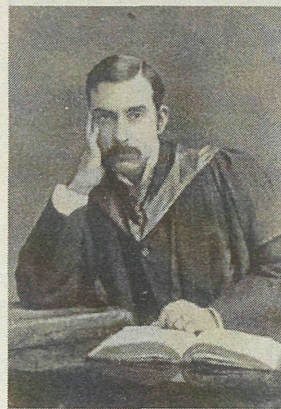
Emily Wolcott's Freshman Year

By Edgar L. McCormick

On September 22, 1902, Emily Wolcott could not believe her good fortune. The room she had found at 331 East Jefferson Street in Ann Arbor had an alcove window that looked out upon "a garden of vines and flowers," fruit trees, a grape trellis and "a picket fence covered with morning glories and nasturtiums," she wrote to her mother and her sisters, Kate and Clara, as she contributed to their weekly round-robin of letters.

Emily, enrolling in the Literature, Science, and the Arts, had been accustomed to such beauty in rural Tallmadge, Ohio, where she had grown up, and at Mount Holyoke College, where she had studied, but after 10 years as a high school teacher in Baltimore and in Akron, Ohio, she had not expected to find such charm in Ann Arbor.

After arranging for her room at \$1.50 a week and supper at \$3.50 a week at a nearby boarding house, Emily "walked about 50 miles" the next day, mostly in the rain, buying books and "tracking down professors" with whom she wished to study. "Blessed be short skirts and a landlady who starts a furnace fire on a cool damp day," she wrote that evening as rain poured steadily down. "It rains all the time here," she noted a week later.



Professor Wenley

Photos courtesy Bentley Historical Library

Far more momentous for Emily than Ann Arbor weather was her encounter with such scholars as Fred Newton Scott in English and Robert Mark Wenley in philosophy. Interested in literature and the humanities in general, she had planned to include French in her schedule. But Professor Scott would have none of that. "German by all means," he advised, after she asked him which language went best with the study of English. He volunteered no explanation and Emily, confused, appealed the next day to Professor Wenley.

Since she knew neither French nor German, Wenley reasoned, it would take her two years of "grind and toil" to master either one. The choice, he explained, would finally depend upon her "taste" in English. If she decided to study the age of Pope, she would need to be proficient in French so she could read Voltaire and Racine; but if she preferred to specialize in more modern English literature, she must know German, for its literature had influenced all English poets "from Coleridge down." Emily reluctantly chose German, convinced that "these two knew best." Besides, she had no intention of spending the rest of her life specializing in "such old has-beens as Pope."



Professor Dow

Emily scheduled four courses: "The Development of Modern Society" with Wenley; the very popular "General History of Europe from the 4th to the 13th Century," offered by Earle W. Dow at 8 a.m. to a class of about 400; "Chaucer and His Age," taught in a very warm room by a professor whom she identified only as being "old and thin"; and first-year German with Warren W. Florer who, she was told, was excellent but also "very ugly, sarcastic and hateful, and a great poker player." He did have an occasional smile, Emily discovered, and eyes "like little black-headed pins." After a few class meetings she decided, "I like him all right."

The "great Mr. Dow" and "the dignified and scholarly" Wenley impressed her profoundly. Professor Dow, she wrote on November 11, "is balm to my soul after all the years I have lost hearing people talk in teachers' meetings, and school principals, and public speakers in general. I almost weep for joy every time I sit down before Mr. Dow. He knows his subject perfectly, expresses himself very clearly and never wastes a minute. Think of such a privilege three times a week! And Wenley was even "grand—just imagine listening for an hour and not hearing a single flat or poor or unnecessary thing!"

On Sunday afternoon, September 28, President James B. Angell addressed the new students. "He is a great man, sure enough," Emily wrote her family. "His features are all large, he is bald, gray-haired, has red shiny cheeks and the most twinkling blue eyes when he smiles. His face is smooth except for a fringe of gray whiskers around his chin." Music from Handel's "Messiah" preceded and followed his address.

Emily Wolcott was 36 years old in 1902, but curious and young enough in heart to be a good observer of student activities. On Friday night (October 3) she attended the freshman-sophomore "rush" (or "Black Friday," as Charles A. Sink '04 remembered it in our *Our Michigan*, 1966), enjoying it "very much more" than if she had learned about it second-hand from "some article about Traditions in American Colleges." Hatless, under an electric light on campus, the two classes milled eerily about, occasionally charging one another, with freshmen being forced to climb trees and stay aloft until they were persuaded to "yell for the other class or make a speech or sing a song."

On Saturday, October 25, Emily went to the great football game against Ohio State at Ferry Field and wrote home about it:

Of course the game was wonderfully interesting, [The players] look like great fat stuffed dolls, their suits are all dirty and tough looking, and their hair like thick mops flopping around or blowing in the wind. Some of them wear leather helmets, with great round plates down over their ears, and fierce beaks coming down the middle of the helmet to protect their noses. Some of the helmets have slits up and down through which their hair stands out in tufts. Some are bareheaded—it depends on what part they have in the game.

When the two sides stand opposite each other waiting for the man to kick [the ball], they are perfectly motionless, each in his appointed place, some standing, some stooping, some on one knee, ready to spring, [and] they look like a collection of bronzes in an art gallery; then in

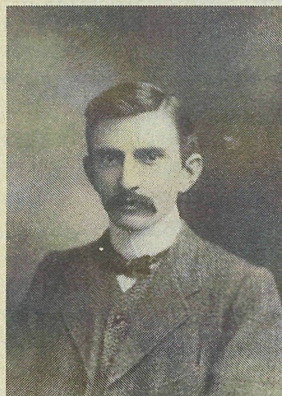
another instant they are galloping like a herd of buffalo...When [they first fell in] heaps, I was quite alarmed to see one of "our" men lying flat on his back, his great chunky legs stiff and straight, his arms sprawling out heavily on the ground, and the Michigan doctor running across the field to him, with his surgical case in his hand and long blue and yellow ribbons streaming from his button hole.

I expressed my concern, but the girl next to me said, "Oh he's only got wind on his stomach or else he's out of breath. They'll pump him up all right, likely as not he's doing it just to get time."

In a scrimmage that happened right in front of me, one boy—the bottom one—made up a horrible face as he went down. When they all had got off from him, he was carried off, and we were sure his leg was broken; but presently (his place having been taken by a substitute and the game going on just as ever), we saw them walking him up and down, the doctor on one side, and the little mascot—a 6-year-old boy dressed just like the players—walking lovingly on the other and looking up into his face. One man was put out of the game for slugging... being "unnecessarily rough"—they have very strict rules about that. The score was 83 to 0 in favor of Michigan.

Emily had come to agree with the student view that German instructor Warren Florer was scornful and quick-tempered. He had usually rebuked her with a, "Good gracious!", but one November day he told her to "use your brains." "That was childish of him," she thought, for she was "one of the best in the class, and he knows it!"

Students met the eloquent historian Earle W. Dow face to face in the oral quiz that alternated every other week with a written examination given by teaching assistants:



Professor Florer

He is a youngish man, very clear and inclined to be heartless; he loves to repeat your answer so as to show its absurdity, or assume that the innocent words which you threw in to fill up a sentence or break an embarrassing pause were intended for well-thought-out statements which you are ready to prove by examples drawn from anywhere between the 4th and 9th century. Some of the girls faint outright; the boys are braver,

and talk all around Robin Hood's barn for a few mistaken seconds, when Mr. Dow bows his head, squints his little bright slanting eyes and murmurs, "In so far as what you have said bears upon the question, I should say it would be hardly possible for you to support [your] position."

Emily Wolcott did well in her German, Chaucer and history courses. Wenley's philosophy course gave her problems, however. He assigned a long term paper upon the thesis: "every leader of men exists, not for what he



Women students form a tableau during a modern dance for a physical education class.

can accomplish, but for what can be accomplished in him." Students were to draw upon the "principles essential in the development of society" that he suggested in his lec-

tures, read Carlyle, Emerson and more recent philosophy for insight, or even "look up the nonsense in the periodicals."

"I really don't know at all what he means," Emily said early in November, but she was somewhat reassured when Wenley invited his students to consult him at his office or at his home.

Too busy in December to write her journal-like letters, Emily said nothing more about how the essay turned out. She was home in time for Christmas and spent over three weeks there, for her sister Kate was seriously ill in an Akron hospital. She was a week late in getting back to Ann Arbor but soon made up her work in history and German, and was busy with a second "thesis" for Professor Wenley "about the social individual in politics, history, science, literature or art." MT

Edgar L. McCormick '50 PhD of Kent, Ohio, wrote the warmly received reminiscence "Apprentice in English—1939" in our February 1992 issue. A professor emeritus of English at Kent State University, he states that he is "indebted to Elizabeth A. Yeargin of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, for calling my attention to Emily Wolcott's letters; to Georgia Haugh of the U-M Clements Library, and to Karen L. Jania of the U-M Bentley Historical Library for their valuable assistance." We will return to Emily Wolcott's freshman year of almost a century ago in our spring issue.]

The Michiganensis, 1911



Circling around the maypole was a rite of the 'Lantern Night' held on Girl's Field Day in the early days of co-education at Michigan.

The Michiganensis, 1911

'Film is the art form of the 20th century,' Bert Cardullo writes in his 1994 collection of essays *Film Chronicle*, because it 'embodies all the technological impulses, cravings and interests of our age in the employ, not of machinery, but of the human spirit.'

By Davi Napoleon

When Hollywood's John Turturro (*Do the Right Thing*, *Barton Fink*) was studying acting at the Yale School of Drama, he asked a schoolmate in the criticism program to help him shed his thick New York accent so he could speak in rounded stage tones. The schoolmate advised Turturro to keep his accent. "I told John his asset was his ethnicity," recalls Bert Cardullo, now associate professor of theater and drama at Michigan. "He was certain I had shaken my New York accent through training," he adds. Not so.

Cardullo was born in an Italian neighborhood in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, but when he was 7 his family moved to Miami where his father, a printer/engraver, sought better jobs. Cardullo's feelings about the move remain ambivalent. It took him far from the maternal grandmother he loved but exposed him to a world more complex than the ghetto of his childhood. Besides, the ethnicity that has served Turturro well would not have done for Cardullo, whose career is marked by a resistance to being defined. In addition to teaching, he serves as the U-M theater department's first dramaturge (see accompanying article) and is the film critic for *The Hudson Review*. And he has four books in progress to add to the nine others he has written, edited or translated. His *Film Chronicle: Critical Dispatches From a Forward Observer* (1987-1992), published by Peter Lang in 1994, was praised for the passion, audacity, clarity and accuracy with which he discusses recent films from 14 countries.

Early on, Cardullo knew he wanted a life in the arts rather than the science and math urged by his father. He majored in German at the University of Florida because he loved the literature. He longed to enter a broader field, however, something that might catapult him out of himself in an immediate, visceral way. "I tend to be reclusive," he explains, "and I knew that was not a good thing."

Upon graduation, he tried assorted jobs, including high school teaching. An editing post followed at Cornell University Press. In Ithaca, he audited theater history classes with Marvin Carlson and did some research for the school's theater. Without consciously looking for it, he discovered a place to combine the theoretical and the

Making Plays Work

In his recently published *What is Dramaturgy?*, Bert Cardullo and other critics explore the little-known field of dramaturgy (a word derived from the Greek for the workings of a play). Dramaturges are usually in-house critics who help directors and other members of the creative team see and solve problems before a show opens. The dramaturge researches everything that may be of use: When and where does the drama unravel? What was going on in the world then and there? Who is the playwright, and what light do his life, times, and other writings shed on the work at hand? How has the play been staged in the past?

In Cardullo's view, a dramaturge is "an intellectual go-fer" whose responsibilities include preparing a casebook for the director, attending rehearsals to answer questions for everyone in the company, and writing program notes and study guides for audiences. But this is no ordinary go-fer. He is the theater's "artistic conscience," ensuring faithfulness to articulated aesthetics and protecting the text against those who would misinterpret it or stage it dryly.—DN.



Trip (Denzel Washington) restrains Rawlins (Morgan Freeman) as fellow Union soldiers jeer the Black troops of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry in *Glory* (1989), directed by Edward Zwick, screenplay by Kevin Jarre. 'The battle sequences alone are enough to remind us that ... war makes equal, suffering, humbled beasts of us all, no matter how glorious or ignoble the cause. ... [P]aradoxically, the battlefield was both the first and the last level playing field on which they [the 54th] would play.'

Photo by Bob Kalmbach

The play's the thing and so is the film, to the insightful Bert Cardullo



Marion the trapeze artist (Solweig Dommartin) with whom the angel Damiel falls in love in *Wings of Desire*, a 1988 German film directed by Wim Wenders, co-written with Peter Handke. Inspired by the poetic imagery of Rilke, *Wings of Desire* 'is an allegory of the artist as angel who forsakes immortality for the sensual pleasures of loving, living and dying; who gives up his narcissistic, internal, knowing art for an art that captures the surface of the world, and in capturing that surface, suggests its depths, its interiorities, its secrets, without actually revealing them.'

Quotations in captions are from *Film Chronicle* by Bert Cardullo (Peter Lang, NY, 1994, \$59.95).

Forward Observer

practical, the personal and the social. He knew his life would be in theater, but for a time he was certain that it would not be in the academy. Later, he reviewed theater for a paper in Stamford, Connecticut, until a fellowship lured him into the MA theater program at Tulane University, where a professor encouraged him to apply to his own alma mater, the Yale School of Drama.

Cardullo flourished at Yale. He earned a doctorate in fine arts and studied critical writing with his favorite film critic, Stanley Kauffmann of *The New Republic*. Kauffmann invited Cardullo to private screenings when *The Hudson Review* was looking for a new film critic in 1986. The *Review's* editor, Frederick Morgan, appreciated Cardullo's "broad knowledge of movies, national and international" and gave him the job. Cardullo's background in literature and theater serves him well when he reviews film, and he advises students who want to be critics to take a roundabout route, doing undergraduate work in something other than theater or film.

Theater departments can be narrow. Cardullo turned down an appointment at one school that told him to stop writing on film—he would receive no credit toward promotions or tenure for it. At Michigan, however, he's able to teach film in the theater department and wear his

many other hats as well. When department chair Erik Fredricksen directed Michigan students in *The Broken Pitcher*, a play by Heinrich von Kleist that appears in Cardullo's collection *German Language Comedy*, he feared translator Cardullo might protect the script from dramaturge Cardullo, or that scholar Cardullo would want to do an erudite production. That didn't happen. "He was absolutely into making it visual, physical, kinetic," Fredricksen learned. Cardullo also provided reams of historical information.

Students find Cardullo energetic and committed. Doctoral candidate Robert Knopf, who has been Cardullo's student and teaching assistant, noticed that "he prepares every single course from scratch no matter how many times he's taught it, so he never goes stale." That may be because Cardullo tried his hand at acting first. "Teaching for me is a kind of performance," he says. "Just as an actor playing Hamlet for a second time should not interpret the role as he did for a different production, a teacher must reconceive a play each time he teaches it."

Actors don't have to be scholars, he says, but he fears too many schools "train the instrument but not what makes the instrument go, the mind." He sees the classroom as a place to provoke students to think—and to disagree; "People are so afraid of offending somebody else that they don't say anything."

Cardullo is hard on students, a passionate perfectionist. When a student balked at his suggestion that she see a writing tutor, he explained that a medical doctor who made light of a serious condition might find himself on the wrong end of a lawsuit if he didn't send a patient to the proper specialist. "I take the doctor in my title seriously," he says.

MT

Davi Napoleon '66, '68 MA, is an Ann Arbor freelancer and a columnist for Theater Week magazine.

U M

B O O K S

Suggested Reading: *Michigan Today* takes notice of or reviews books by U-M faculty, graduates and students, and works published by the University of Michigan Press. We regret that we do not have space to publicize all of the unsolicited books we receive, nor to answer all inquiries and correspondence.

The Legacy of Tiananmen: China in Disarray

By James Miles, University of Michigan Press, 1996, \$29.95.

Not only long-time China watchers but especially those who are merely fascinated and curious about the world's largest country but know little about it, will treasure this book. Miles, the BBC's Beijing correspondent from 1988-94 and now the BBC World Service correspondent in Hong Kong, wrote the book in Ann Arbor last year, when he was on campus as a 1995 Journalism Fellow.

Interweaving all of the resources at a journalist's disposal—official and secret documents, clandestine and public interviews, authorized and surreptitious journeys, deep historical and economic knowledge, intuition and a mastery of story-telling technique—Miles presents a sobering, if not disturbing picture, of the China of today and tomorrow.

"There are signs in China today that the country is being gripped by a kind of nationalist sentiment that potentially could veer toward a more closed-door policy than we have seen in the last few years," Miles told *Michigan Today* during a recent visit to Ann Arbor.

Fueling this nationalism is a volatile set of problems that have arisen both because and in spite of the 1990s economic boom resulting from the policies of China's 91-year-old leader, Deng Xiaoping. "Despite the rapid economic growth of the last few years and China's seeming confidence on the world stage," Miles said, "and despite the fact that you can go to coastal boom towns and go inland and see plenty of Chinese with mobile phones and beepers, there are a great many ordinary Chinese who look at all of this with two views: one, we're getting richer and richer, and that's fine, but an underclass has grown very rapidly, too."

The impoverishment of tens of millions,

coupled with population growth of more than 15,000,000 persons a year, has prompted Deng to warn China's neighbors that if they do not do all in their power to support the central government, rootless Chinese could flood their borders.

But ruined peasants and jobless workers and ex-bureaucrats are first and foremost a threat to China's internal order. Miles quotes the "grim warning" of a book that stirred China, *Looking at China With a Third Eye*, by Wang Shen: "If we look back over Chinese history, we will discover an obvious truth, that every dynasty without exception was destroyed by drifters."

Not only is unemployment up in China, Miles points out in his book, the central government is losing wealth to the private sector, corruption is rampant in the public and private sectors, petty criminals and powerful gangs have mushroomed in city and countryside, and the Communist party is losing its intimidatory clout over citizens as market forces increasingly affect jobs, education, health care and housing—all areas the party used to control. And disparity in regional wealth could spark conflict that the Chinese Academy of Sciences, itself, described in a 1993 "worst-case-scenario" as "like post-Tito-Yugoslavia."

Even though China is "a Communist country that appears to have survived a domino-effect collapse, it is undergoing revolutionary change nonetheless," Miles said. "China is now more unstable than it was when the Tiananmen protest occurred seven years ago."

With no strong politician in sight ready to succeed the frail Deng, both the pro-communist and pro-capitalist forces can argue that they have the answers that could prevent the looming crisis. "Maybe the private sector could absorb people from the state sector if the government plays its cards right," Miles said, "but the crucial thing is government today lacks the mechanisms of control. Even so, it might muddle through.

"Things that happen in China can be interpreted in many different ways. It's a country that's endlessly fascinating." So fascinating to him that his mother was obliged to arrange Chinese lessons for him from a family friend when he was only 10 "but positive that I wanted to be a foreign correspondent in China."

Although he doesn't presume to predict what will happen, Miles did say what he thinks won't happen. "Some observers say that a collective leadership or some other new form of government could emerge, but China is not ready for that. It needs someone with enormous power. Never in 5,000 years has there been a successful collective leadership."—JW.

Studies in the Economic History of Late Imperial China and The Chinese Economy, 1870-1949

By Albert Feuerwerker, the U-M Center for Chinese Studies, 1996, two volumes, \$50 and \$45, respectively.

Readers knowledgeable about Chinese history and about historical and economic issues relating to the waxing and waning of dynasties, the relationship between China's center and its periphery, and the formation of China's modern economy compared with Western Europe's and Japan's, will find Professor Feuerwerker's deep and meticulous examination of China's economic history just their inexhaustible cup of tea.

Many issues examined by Feuerwerker, the A.M. and H. P. Bentley Professor of History, resonate with James Miles's book reviewed above. The conclusion of his chapter, "Questions About China's Early



Migrant workers at the Beijing Railway Station in 1994. The authorities blames these 'blind drifters' for the soaring crime rates. A Chinese writer recently warned, however, that 'every [Chinese] dynasty without exception was destroyed by drifters.'

Modern Economic History That I Wish I Could Answer," in the first volume, concedes, for example, "It is now enormously difficult to assess where either economic reform or economic history are heading in China in the last decade of the twentieth century."

The Wild Goose

By Mori Ogai, U-M Center for Japanese Studies, 204 S. State St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109, 1996, \$28.95 cloth, \$14.95 paper.

A quiet, delicate, ambivalent tale reminiscent of an Ozu film, *The Wild Goose* interweaves the experiences of a university student, a moneylender and the moneylender's wife and mistress in Tokyo of the 1880s, when Japan hovered between ancient tradition and modern development. Ogai (1862-1922), an early giant of modern Japanese literature, received both a classical Chinese-oriented education in literature and medicine and a Western medical education in Germany. The beauty of the jacket, design and typeface

of the novella adds an extra aesthetic dimension to the bittersweet nostalgia that imbues this miniature masterpiece.—JW.

The Sixteen Pleasures

By Robert Hellenga '63 LSc&A, Dell, New York, 1995, \$11.95, softcover.

In 1966, Margot Harrington, an American book conservator, sets out for Florence to help save the city's treasured art from water damage after the Arno has flooded. She arrives alone and without direction, yet through a series of often humorous and at times touching events, her life path unfolds before her. She finds a position restoring the library at Santa Caterina, a Carmelite convent, and discovers the only remaining and most famous copy of Renaissance erotica, *The Sixteen Pleasures*, double-bound with a prayer book. Margot rebinds the book with the intention of selling it to raise money for the convent. The challenge is to do so without the bishop becoming aware of her doings, as he will claim the book as his own.

Thick with art history, restoration technique, Italian cuisine and exquisite Florentine vistas, the novel takes you on a trip with a young woman in search of herself and a home.—Jane Ratcliffe.

A Flyfisher's World

By Nick Lyons '58 MA, '63 PhD, Atlantic Monthly Press, 1996, \$23.

This stream of fly fishing consciousness flows from the perceptive Nick Lyons, carrying a collection of 50 tightly wrapped essays that bounce and wriggle irresistibly in the current of his gentle humor and self-deprecating wisdom. Many writers have tried to capture the essence of this peculiar sport and explain why some of us become addicted to it, but few have succeeded as well or as eloquently as Lyons. In his world, fly fishing is neither a religion as preached by some writers, nor a way of life as proclaimed by others.

"It is merely a lovely, useless activity that, somehow, has become an axial line in my life, an anchor," Lyons explains in the introduction to his 14th book. His wife, Mari, did the illustrations.

As long as you savor good writing, you don't have to know anything about fly fishing to appreciate this marvelous book. It won't teach you to fool a trout with a fly, but after you read it, you are probably going to want to go out and try.—John Barton.

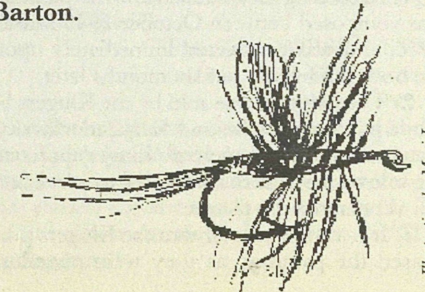


Illustration by Mari Lyons

LETTERS

Praise for Fleming

IT IS OBVIOUS reading the ultra-right-wing conservatives' comments on President Fleming's book [*Tempests Into Rainbows*, U-M Press, 1996] that if they had their way, there would be no dissent in this country. We can be thankful that then-President Fleming had the guts to choose negotiation as opposed to confrontation.

William R. Dieckman '47 MA
Bella Vista, Arkansas

Amens to Rorabacher

I PARTICULARLY enjoyed the March '96 issue and want to add my endorsement of Dianna Wister Rorabacher's letter. I too received a phone call regarding the U-M Visa card. I asked that the information be sent by mail because I am somewhat deaf; the man continued talking, after asking for my SS number and other personal information—which I did not give him. I finally hung up on him (after about a 1/2 hour). The next day I received another call. I told the young woman I would not talk to her and hung up. Solicitors who won't take no for an answer are unbecoming to the U of M.

Ann Coe Christiansen
Bayfield, Colorado

MAY I say a loud, if belated, amen to the letter from Ms. Rorabacher. Students on the phone trying to extract further contributions from alums who've already contributed can be counterproductive. My brother has instructed me not to tell anyone from the U of M where he is! I just blew my stack. Nuff said?

Mary Lee Cooke '44, '50 MA
Bethany Beach, Delaware

"What a Story!"

SHALOM! WOW what a story. (*The Case of the Artful Painter*, June 1996). Talk about reality taking a 180-degree turn. First, I would like to congratulate Bara Zetter-Sapir for what would be to others the crowning achievement of a lifetime's work. If this is Ms. Zetter-Sapir's opening hand, the world stands to gain greatly from her future career. And kudos to your publication for bringing this to light.

In the interest of accuracy I would like to make a few corrections:

1) According to the interview the painting was composed between October 1945-March 1946, and was discovered immediately upon the body's removal, not six months later.

2) The painting was sold by the Klugers to estate purchasers John and Sally Smuclovsky, who in turn sold it to me. Salo Kluger approved the sale to the Smuclovskys, not to me. I had not yet entered the picture.

3) It is absurd to infer that the Klugers purchased the painting, as they were penniless

survivors in 1946, not likely to lay out a fortune for art.

4) The painting is not expected to hang in Yad Vashem [an Israeli Holocaust museum—Ed.]—they have been consistent ostriches regarding this work. There is no official story to be debunked.

5) Lastly, concerning the copyright information accompanying the photograph of the painting, that photo was copyrighted in 1984 by professional photographer Michael Goldberg.

I look forward to the third installment of this story. The unaltruistically presented and accepted version. Imagine what it was for me to open that letter containing your article and to sit on my balcony in Jerusalem, hands shaking, reading how a man who died 50 years and three months ago, bent, bleeding over a canvas, was alive and living in Toronto. And that he came not from the side of the victims, but from the side of the perpetrators. It boggles the mind.

Reuven Prager
Jerusalem, Israel

I READ with interest Ms. Zetter-Sapir's quest for the author of a painting representing the spirit of Nazism, which is currently located in Israel. The article ended with a request for donations to continue her research. Within the past month I received a request for donations from a Palestinian charity, which included the statement that the Israelis had shut off the water supply to the Arab residents of Hebron. Perhaps Ms. Z. will understand if my support went to an oppressed group of Semitic people instead.

David Mendenhall
Hancock, Michigan

Stability Amidst Mobility

I WAS surprised to read that there have been problems with mailing labels, changes, etc. My June issue arrived today at my new address, right on time after my recent move. Of course that was to be expected for I had sent in an address change.

However, that is the very first time in 61 years that I have notified U-M of my many moves, and still the University has kept correspondence coming after every change, including a five-year gap caused by active duty during WWII.

How different two universities can be in this respect. I spent one year of graduate work at U-M, in 1934-35. I haven't heard from my four-year undergraduate university in nearly 50 years.

Of course, in one way I have simplified your problem. Instead of adding to the label mixes you have encountered due to spousal changes, I have kept the same wife for over 59 years.

Harold A. Schaill, '41 MS (CE)
Asheville, North Carolina

I THOROUGHLY enjoy your publication, and read the letters with particular interest. I especially appreciated [June 1995's issue] because it notified me that my mentor for student teaching had passed away (Winifred Favreau). Still a French teacher, I brag openly about the U of M, and my students find the picture of [professional basketball player] Juwan Howard receiving his degree gracing the bulletin board. I am thrilled at his accomplishment. By the way, my sons attend the same high school that produced [1995 and '96 football co-captain] Jarrett Irons.

Sheila Ann Parsons
The Woodlands, Texas

I DO appreciate the information about the labels on *Michigan Today*. I have been unhappy with the mailings from the yearly request for funds as they all of a sudden took the names off the check I sent rather than using my name as they always did. My husband did not go to Michigan and is not interested in any mailings. I do wish the other alum groups would do what you have done.

Doris J. Boynton
Garden Ridge, Texas

YOU DO a terrific job reminding alumni both of past eras in the U of M's history and of what continues to make the University special. The cover stories are exceptional; in addition to their value in and of themselves, they serve—for me at least—to recall a time when I lived, at least for a while, a life of the mind before becoming a corporate drone.

The "Destination Xanadu" story in the June '96 issue prompts this note. I spent six years at the U of M working part-time for the *Early Modern English Dictionary*, codifying words from old OED slips. Recently, I know, all that information from the project was put on line, as well as so much more chronicled in the Xanadu article. But I can't get to it. Is there any way that alumni can tap into the on-line library and reference sources at the U of M, the way a student can? I'd be particularly interested in access to stuff like the *EMED* and the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

Vic DePalo
Bayside, New York

Christina Powell of the Humanities Initiative Project replies: The licenses with the various publishers state that we will restrict access to faculty, staff, and students of the University of Michigan only. This would preclude our providing access to alumni. Negotiations are under way to see what it would take to rewrite the contracts, adding alumni to the mix. As this is potentially a very large group, the publishers want to increase the amount we pay for their products. The resources we create ourselves are available free to anyone with World Wide Web access. These can be found at <http://www.hti.umich.edu/all/unrestrict.html>.

The Library's homepage is <http://www.lib.umich.edu>. It has links to many other Library resources.

Battle of the Bands, cont.

I READ with amusement the letter from Bob Patterson in your 1996 issue concerning whether the University of Southern California Trojan Marching Band deserves to be in the same class as the Michigan Band. As a graduate of both institutions, I find Mr. Patterson's criticisms of the USC band as resentful and jealous as they are unfounded.

Without resorting to make-weight comparisons as to which school's theme song has

greater originality (just ask any Notre Dame grad), each band is, undoubtedly, a class act and boasts a venerable track record. The Trojan Band has played for such presidents as FDR, Kennedy and Reagan, and once was directed by the famed John Philip Sousa. That a Michigan alumnus—Arthur C. Bartner—has directed the USC band for over 25 years attests not only to its national prominence, but to William D. Revelli's and the Michigan Band's enduring legacy. Get over it, Bob.

Paul E. Escobar '89 Law
Philadelphia

News From the Weed-War Front

I SENT copies of your "Lawn Mania" by Joanne Nesbit (June issue) to several local publications. Having been involved myself in a township ordinance versus wild plant landscape "weed war," I can clearly see the strong need for disseminating the knowledge and attitudes in the article. Thank you.

Daniel M. Less '61
Ortonville, Michigan

IT WAS down and dirty at this year's Spring Commencement. I doubt that even the Lawn Mania article explains why every blade of grass was gone from Michigan Stadium. Every blade. All we saw was dirt. Acres of dirt. The band, the speakers, the honorary degree recipients, the regents, the president, they all sat on platforms set in and surrounded by dirt.

If commencement signaled such a great gettin' up morning, as speaker Johnnetta B. Cole put it, then why get up the Stadium to look like a vast sandbox? A huge dirt pile did not honor this year's May graduates. And it's not as if the University didn't know that thousands of new graduates and their families were coming to celebrate? It's not as if this event took the administration by surprise. It happens every year. It's been on the calendar for a long time. It's supposed to be important. After all, the Commencement exercises recognize intellectual effort and academic achievement, the very reason for the University's existence. Even so, Commencement is apparently not as important as getting ready for Big Ten football. If it were more important than football, the University would have waited until Commencement was over to tear up all the sod. If only it were.

Janet Graveline Messenger '65
Evanston, Illinois

Racial Bearings

IF LAWRENCE Hirschfeld uses the pictures on the front of the June issue to test "seeing race" there is a major flaw in his study. Of the bear couple, one is very white, one dark. In the human couple, however, the woman is quite clearly black and the man, with medium-toned skin and curly dark hair, could easily be a light-skinned black. Who would imagine that these two people would have a child with very fair skin and straight blond hair? Surely, as much contrast should be presented in the appearance of the humans as in the bears to make a valid comparison in expectations of offspring.

Joyce Baker Leppard '68
Plainwell, Michigan

Editor's reply: The combination of physical features of the couple on the cover was only one of several Professor Hirschfeld used. Some couples exhibited the sharper contrasts that you describe, yet this did not affect American children's tendency to predict the darker tones and features to dominate. Researchers also pretested the pictures to be sure that children saw them as examples of "blacks" and "whites," Hirschfeld adds.

THANKS FOR the interview with Lawrence Hirschfeld. It motivated me to go looking for his book, *Race in the Making*. It didn't surprise me that our public library in San Jose, California, the 14th largest city in the country, did not have the book in stock or on order, for the City of San Jose is far more generous in giving subsidies to billion-dollar corporations than to libraries or for education. What did surprise me is that it isn't available at major bookstores or at San Jose State University or Santa Clara University. An employee of one of the largest book retailers said that he couldn't even order the book.

I am anxious to read it, for Hirschfeld seems to be breaking new ground. One new-to-me concept that Hirschfeld put forth was that we shouldn't expect students to be able to "abandon common sense intuitions" in learning about race any more than they would in taking a course in physics. Why then was Hirschfeld startled to learn that "the great majority of my colleagues also have great faith in the one-drop rule (a person is Black if they have any traceable Black ancestry)." Apparently his colleagues were students who couldn't be expected to abandon their "common sense intuitions," and who as adults were unable to transfer scholarly teaching methods to examining their own beliefs about human differences. The answer to why the latter is true seems to be at the root of understanding why false information and false attitudes persist.

Al Traugott
San Jose, California

Editor's reply: *Race in the Making* is available from MIT Press, 55 Hayward St., Cambridge, MA 02142-1399. You may also phone (800) 356-6343, or email mitpress-orders@mit.edu

ANTHROPOLOGIST Lawrence Hirschfeld's conclusions about race are the subjective opinions of one man. Hirschfeld divides race into "black" and "white" and ignores millions of children in the United States who classify themselves as more than one race: biracial or multiracial. I agree with the premise that race does not have a biological basis, however, race is not only a social construct but a legal one as well. As such, it is something we and our children must deal with. In other words, if black and white exist, then the combination of black and white exists, and that is what we should be telling our children.

Our children are not best served by telling them Hirschfeld's solution, "In contemporary America there are good reasons for individuals with black and white parents to declare themselves black." This only perpetuates the racist "one-drop-of-blood rule." If race is not biological, then how can one-drop of biological blood determine race? It matters little if it is rooted in a biological, social or legal sense, if we continue to perpetuate the myth that multiracial children must be forced to choose the race of one parent over the other.

Susan R. Graham
President, Project RACE
Roswell, Georgia

Professor Hirschfeld replies: *Ms. Graham's letter raises some important issues, but does so at the expense of accuracy. She is correct in observing that for many Americans the racial and ethnic categories that American society and the Census Bureau make available often violate their personal experience. However, she attributes to me claims that I did not make and that indeed contradict the very point I was making in the interview.*

First, it is absurd to contend as she does that I

divide race into "black" and "white," or that I advocate the one-drop rule as a means of resolving ambiguous racial identity. The only rationale for attributing these proposals to me is an apparent inability to distinguish between researching an idea and holding it. It is simply the case that American society partitions a large portion of the population into a few racial categories, despite the fact that these categories neither reflect many people's experience nor are they motivated by biology. A reasonable, and I would argue important, research question is how do children come to do this.

It is also the case that much of American society uses the one-drop rule to deal with people who do not easily fit into one or another category. When I said that there is good reason for some mixed-race individuals to declare themselves black, I wasn't proposing that every mixed-black/white individual should use this option. I was simply noting that many blacks feel that using it is an important way to maintain black heritage. The one-drop rule may be rooted in racism, but is nonetheless used by minorities in ways that have nothing to do with racism. Again, discovering how children come to hold this view is a valid and timely topic of research.

Debating Points

REFERENCE IS made to your December 1995 and March 1996 issues: Three perhaps disparate items caught my attention in the December issue—President Duderstadt's obvious preoccupation with the feminist agenda; a reference to a student code overturned by the courts (a continuing black eye for the University); and announcement that two women are co-chairs of the presidential search committee. What a hue and cry there would have been if two men had been selected as co-chairmen, especially were they white males!

Gerard M. Freeman '50 Rackham
Candler, North Carolina

"Unfinished Business"

I WAS pleased to read the interview with Dean Edie Goldenberg, "Unfinished Business" in the June issue. The Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program sounds exciting and promises to help turn out truly educated graduates in all fields. I hope it continues to expand rapidly and that you publicize it more.

I have long been interested in the need for cross-pollination of ideas among the disciplines. I like to recall efforts back in 1943-44 when we in the Engineering Council tried to get the engineering dean to support a program of electives aimed at supposedly illiterate engineers. Although he was strongly opposed to "stealing time" from the prescribed curriculum, we succeeded in having LS&A sponsor several lecture classes. I often wondered if the program continued. This might be a future article for *Michigan Today*.

In the same vein I am enclosing a copy of an item from the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, "Medicine in the Humanities: Recovering a Tradition" (Dec 6, 1995), which touches on the same idea for physicians. Why not add U of M to the list [of 23 North American programs offering a degree in medical humanities—Ed.] mentioned here?

L. R. Burnett '44 Chem E
Kensington, California

Dean Edie N. Goldenberg replies: *I am pleased to say that many students from the College of Engineering take courses in LS&A beyond those they need in math and science to complete their degree requirements, including courses in the humanities and social sciences, and I expect they'll continue to do so. The new Dean of the College of Engineering, Steve Director, is very*

interested in undergraduate education. He and I will be having a series of meetings to discuss how we might best work together to serve the interests of students in both our colleges, as well as to maintain and improve generally the quality of undergraduate education here at Michigan.

I have looked over the article from the JAMA with interest. We don't get much of a say, of course, when it comes to defining what and how medical schools should teach, but the need for premed students to gain a broad liberal arts education remains a continuing concern of ours and we work hard at making sure they get it.

THANKS FOR the wonderful "first edition" I have received. Please keep me permanently on your mailing list. I went to the University School from seventh grade to graduation, 1942. Then I went to U-M's School of Lit, Sciences, and the Arts, graduating in 1946. My daughter, Mrs. Jill Miller, went to University Elementary and graduated U-M High (from 7th through the last graduating class for University High). She got her second degree (after four years at Michigan State) at U-M. I have made four copies of "Unfinished Business" to send to two daughters and two friends.

Marilyn Oppenheim
Pompano Beach, Florida

Three Brothers in a Row

I BELIEVE that I and two brothers may share the distinction and honor of three brothers graduating in three consecutive years from the University of Michigan, all from Raynham, Mass. The brothers are: Kilborn Lothrop Hall, born 1/2/09, graduated 1935, BS, Ed., settled in Battle Creek, Michigan, deceased Sept. 15, 1992; Winthrop Dorman Hall, born 6/24/12, graduated June 1937, degree in pharmacy, settled in Dearborn, Michigan, deceased 12/25/88; and Leland Wilbur Hall, born 7/22/14, graduated 1936, BS Ed, married in Dallas in 1938, settled in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, in 1946.

Based upon the three consecutive years of graduation, I believe we are record holders. A fourth brother, Clarence S. Hall Jr., class of 1943, left in May 1941 and enlisted in the US Coast Guard as an apprentice seaman; 28 years later, he retired as a captain. He was on active duty in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Grenada. At 70 years of age he enlisted in the Merchant Marine and served on cargo ships to the Gulf War.

Leland Wilbur Hall, '36 BS Ed
South Dartmouth, Massachusetts

Editor's note: *Researcher Heather Cummings of the Bentley Historical Library informed Alumnus Hall that although she had "never come across any family that has done what you and your two brothers did," it was "next to impossible to confirm" that their sequence is unique in U-M history.*

Our Web Site

GREAT WEB SITE—nice to have contact with Michigan again from down here. Thought I'd update you on my address so I could continue to receive various alumni stuff. (*Michigan Today* included?)

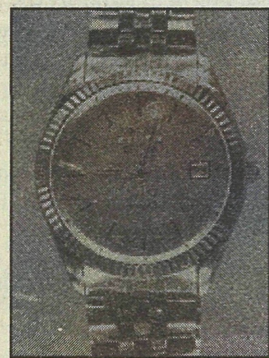
Tom Short '82BSE, '86MSE
Balmain, NSW, Australia
tshort@zip.com.au

Editor's reply: *Due to costs, we cannot mail Michigan Today beyond North America. But perhaps readers who know U-M graduates or other interested persons overseas can alert them to our edition on the Web at <http://www.umich.edu/~newsinfo/MT/mtfpg.html>*



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READERSHIP SURVEY REPORT

As promised, *Michigan Today* wishes to report to readers the results of the survey conducted this spring by the U-M Survey Research Center. But first we want to thank all who participated so generously and cooperatively. Your criticisms, comments and opinions will help us improve the publication and increase our percentage of regular and supportive readers. A representative sample of our approximately 300,000 readers was polled in two groups—516 alumni and a second, non-alumni sample of 147 local, state and national elected and non-elected officials, certain individuals in the media, non-alumni donors to the University and individuals who have asked to receive our publication.

The survey's key results were as follows:

OVERALL READERSHIP

How Often Do You Read

Michigan Today?

Alumni

48% of alumni respondents reported

that they read "some of the issues,"

26% read "most of the issues,"

14% "read all of the issues."

TOTAL: 88% of recipients read

Michigan Today.

Non-Alumni

27% reported that they read "some of the issues,"

34% read "most of the issues,"

33% "read all of the issues."

TOTAL: 94% reported that they read *MT*.

How Much of Each Issue Do You Read?

Alumni

62% read "some of each issue" and

23% read "most of each issue."

TOTAL: 85% read some or most of each issue.

Non-Alumni

46% read "some of each issue" and

43% read "most of each issue."

TOTAL: 89% read some or most of each issue.

Most alumni respondents (67%) were the only individuals in the household who read *Michigan Today* while 30% reported one other person who also read the publication. Almost one-half of non-alumni respondents (49%) were the only individuals in the household that read *Michigan Today* while 39% reported that one other person also read the publication.

SATISFACTION WITH CONTENT AND FORMAT

More than three-fourths of alumni respondents reported being very or somewhat interested in regular feature articles focusing on the arts, music, and humanities; health and medicine; and information science and technology. More than three-fourths of non-alumni respondents likewise reported being "very interested" or "somewhat interested" in these topics as well as social and behavioral sciences.

Alumni and non-alumni respondents were satisfied with graphic design. Most alumni respondents were very or somewhat satisfied with design and appearance (88%),

quality of photography (86%), ease of finding stories (85%), and writing style (87%). Likewise, most non-alumni were very or somewhat satisfied with design and appearance (93%), quality of photography (92%), ease of finding stories (91%), and writing style (93%).

Most alumni respondents (82%) and non-alumni respondents (85%) found the length of feature stories "just about right." Most alumni respondents (89%) and non-alumni respondents (88%) found the type size "just about right."

Most alumni (74%) and non-alumni (77%) reported that "20 pages is about right" for publication length. Most alumni (74%) and most non-alumni (69%) reported that "four times [a year] is about right" for publication distribution. More than one-fourth (27%) of non-alumni felt that *Michigan Today* should be distributed more than four times per year.

Respondents were asked about their feelings concerning the format change of reduced page size but added pages. Sixteen percent of alumni and 24% of non-alumni found the change more appealing. Over one-half (53%) of alumni and 32% of non-alumni had not noticed the change.

READER'S INTERESTS

Readers were very or somewhat interested in the following types of stories:

Arts/music/humanities: Alumni 79%,

Non-alumni 86%

Business/economics: Alumni 71%,

Non-alumni 85%

Health/medicine: Alumni 81%,

Non-alumni 90%

Information science/technology:

Alumni 77%, Non-alumni 79%

Law and public policy: Alumni 59%,

Non-alumni 72%

Science and engineering: Alumni 64%, Non-alumni 66%

Social and behavioral sciences: Alumni 66%,

Non-alumni 81%

Interest in Online Availability

We asked respondents which type of distribution—printed copy, Internet copy, or both—they would be most interested in if *Michigan Today* were available on-line (*Michigan Today* was put online after the survey was begun). Fifty-nine percent of alumni preferred hard copy only, 21.5% preferred availability online only, and 19% were interested in access to both versions. The respective figures for non-alumni were 73% print only, 8% online only, 19% both versions.

GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE PUBLICATION

Most alumni (60%) and non-alumni (86%) reported a generally favorable overall impression of *Michigan Today*; 38% of alumni respondents and 14% of non-alumni reported feeling neutral about the publication.

Respondents were queried about their willingness to become annual voluntary subscriber/donors to help support the rising costs of distributing *Michigan Today*. More than one-fourth (27%) of alumni reported that they would be very likely to give \$5; in turn, 34% of non-alumni respondents reported that they would be very likely to give \$5. Fourteen percent of alumni and 20% of non-alumni said they would be somewhat likely to donate \$5. More than a third of those willing to donate \$5 also were willing to make higher donations.

Our readership survey was directed by the Survey Research Center's Lesli Scott and managed by Tina Maimieri. Sara Freeland served as senior research technician. Michigan Today will report other results of the survey in future issues, including reader comments.

LETTERS

I AM very pleased to see the wonderful material available on the Web. It reminds me of the challenging years I spent in lovely Ann Arbor. Congratulations!!

Moise Haor '92 E

I WOULD be interested in knowing if you have established a data base for eligible Michigan Alumni that are single and interested in meeting other singles? Thanks!

Rochelle Martinez-Mouilleseaux
Chelsea, Michigan

Editor's reply: There seems to be no such service. Alumni can, however, join U-M OnLine and meet

other alumni there. For information, call (313) 764-8000 or e-mail m.alumni@umich.edu/

Keep Your Reference Letter File Active

The Career Planning and Placement office is conducting its regular review of reference letter files that are no longer active. As part of an ongoing process, files that have been inactive since December 1985 will be destroyed by the Reference Letter Center (RLC).

To maintain an active file, a student or alumna/us must have conducted one or more of the following transactions since December 1985: transmitted (mailed) reference letters as part of an admission or employment process; added new letters to the file; submitted updated personal data (e.g. current address, telephone or newly acquired degree).

To reactivate a file unused since 1985, contact the RLC by Nov. 15, 1996. You will be asked to supply updated information for inclu-

sion in your file. There is no charge to reactivate a file.

File deactivation affects only reference letters. Transcripts and other academic material will not be affected by deactivation of reference letter files.

To start a new file, any U-M graduate, or current student with at least 12 credits, may contact the RLC and request the necessary information. Each year 3,000 new files are incorporated into the system. Last year, reports RLC Manager Lisa Chambers, the Center assisted fileholders with active files by accepting 12,000 new letters into their files, and mailing over 30,000 reference letter packages to graduate and professional schools and employment settings across the country.

For more information, contact: Reference Letter Center, 3200 Student Activities Building, 515 E. Jefferson St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1316. Phone (313) 764-7459; fax (313) 763-4917; e-mail cp&p@umich.edu.

Electrical engineer Ken Wise
scores big for the hearing-disabled

A Dizzying Day at Disney World

By Sally Pobojewski
(U-M News and Information
Services)

Like thousands of other tourists, Ken Wise spent a pleasant weekend last spring at Walt Disney World's Epcot Center near Orlando, Florida. Unlike his fellow vacationers, however, Professor Wise came home with a big check and some national recognition for an important research program in the U-M College of Engineering.

Wise went to Florida at the invitation of *Discover Magazine* to participate in the June awards ceremony for the 1996 Discover Awards for Technological Innovation. Nominated by the U-M's Office of News and Information Services for his development of micro-electronic neural probes so tiny they can record or stimulate signals from a single nerve cell in the brain, Wise was one of 35 finalists selected by *Discover's* editorial panel from thousands of nominations.

Wise, the U-M's J. Reid and Polly Anderson Professor of Manufacturing Technology and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, had no idea what to expect when he and his wife, JoAnne, arrived in Orlando for their all-expenses-paid weekend at Disney World. After dinner and a fireworks display that evening, it was



Ken Wise and his neural probes joined the exhibits at Disney World's Epcot Center after he won \$100,000 prize for his research.

time for the gala ceremony that featured dancers, music, video clips of each finalist, a "mad scientist" skit and a string of celebrity presenters—including astronaut Buzz Aldrin, film critic Gene Siskel, Miss America and robots that rolled onstage with envelopes

containing the names of winners in each of seven technology categories.

In the computer hardware and electronics category, Wise's neural probes were competing against robotic ants developed by an MIT research scientist, a "chemistry lab on a chip" from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, a discovery screening technique for new materials developed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and a battery-powered radar detection device from Lawrence Livermore National Labs.

When the envelope was opened in the computer hardware/electronics category, the Discover Award went to Lawrence Berkeley Lab researchers.

"I was disappointed when we didn't win in our category, because I thought we had a good shot," Wise said. By the time a model walked onstage with the grand prize of the evening—a \$100,000 check for the winner of a fellowship established by the Christopher Columbus Foundation, an independent federal agency, Wise confesses, "I wasn't paying very close attention."

The model was carrying a huge check made out to "Kensall D. Wise." But Wise was practically the last person in the audience to notice. "I'd taken my glasses off and couldn't read the name. A colleague sitting in front of me finally turned around and told me to look at the name on the check. I did, then I stumbled up on stage, made a few semicoherent remarks and that was the end of the program."

"These probes show a great deal of promise to make auditory prostheses—miniature hearing aids surgically implanted in the inner ear—that could be cheaper and significantly more effective than what is currently available," Wise said. "After 30 years of hard work by many dedicated researchers, faculty and students, we are nearly at the point where we can improve the quality of life for people with some of these auditory disorders. If we can do that, we will have really accomplished something." **MT**

SAULT BUSINESS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

employee's creations are considered. For example, one of the tube benders designed a neon medicine wheel, a Native American emblem symbolic of the four directions of life.

Despite her business background, Wellman felt overwhelmed when she had to take over the company after a consulting firm that was training her skipped out early. She turned to the Business School for help and attended the executive education seminar for new managers. For the past two years, she has worked closely first with MBA Corps intern Clark McCain and now with Berens.

New business development is so important to the tribe that the tribal EDC eventually hired Marta Diaz to work



Marta Diaz interned with the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewas while getting her MBA at the Business School. After she graduated, the tribe hired her as one of the few outsiders to work in its business operations.

Photos by Kate Kellogg

full-time as a consultant to the commission. She is one of few outsiders to earn such trust from tribal members. "I'm not a bleeding heart liberal," says Diaz, who

grew up in New York City. "I'm here to assist and get paid for my service. But I value the depth and range of opportunity here. I could never do the big corporate scenario where they expect you to specialize and box you in."

The tribe's latest and most ambitious venture is a \$10 million community recreation center which opened in the Sault in September. The 150,000 square-foot center includes two ice rinks, fitness center, basketball courts, and saunas, and will house the Soo Indians, a Junior A hockey club.

"The recreation center is largely the inspiration of our chairman, Bernard Bouschor," says Sally McKechnie, the tribe's administrative director of government services. "Bernard is a strong advocate of fitness and recreation for all members, especially children, and coaches youth hockey. He also envisions it as a gathering place for the entire Sault Ste. Marie community."

Relations between the community and the tribe were not always so harmonious. In the 1970s, the tribe had to sue the city just to obtain navigable roads through one of its reservations, but now tribal members and city officials sit on the same economic development boards. Perhaps the cooperation reflects the fact that with 3,000 employees, the tribe is now the biggest employer in the Upper Peninsula.

No one in the Upper Peninsula has felt the impact of casino prosperity as dramatically as the Sault Chippewas

themselves. Over the past 10 years, the tribe's unemployment rate has dropped more than 80 percent. Although the federal government still subsidizes some tribal housing, government aid alone could not transform whole neighborhoods from dingy pockets of poverty to bright, well-kept suburbs in less than a decade. Even the tribe's hard-earned status as a sovereign nation in 1975 did not guarantee financial independence as surely as the sound of coins dropping in slot machines.

Chairman Bouschor's letter of introduction to the tribe's annual report folds a note of caution into an otherwise proud message of growth and progress:

"I remember fathers who could not find work, mothers who found it hard to feed their families and children who had little reason to believe their futures would be better. The poverty and hardships of the recent past push some of us to want more now, but we must take the time to build a community that can stand on its own, which requires long-term investment." **MT**



Glass-tube welder Marty Nolan shows some of his designs to plant general manager Michele Wellman.

SAULT BUSINESS

By Kate Kellogg

Although Richard Berens had been looking forward to his Business School internship with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the MBA candidate from St. Louis was not prepared to drive up there through snow—in May.

Berens soon adapted to the brisk climate but not to the remoteness of his job location near the US-Canadian border where the St. Mary's River connects Lakes Superior and Huron. After all, a 20-something sports fan can watch only so many 1,000-foot freighters crawl through the locks. "You have to enjoy solitude to live up here," he says, "or just focus on your work." His summer clients, however, are quite accustomed to being alone, at least with each other. In fact, they were physically and politically isolated for more than 150 years until they won federal status as a tribal government in 1975.

The tribal members are descendants of the original Chippewa who congregated at the St. Mary's rapids to net and spear whitefish before any European explorers had seen their territory. They called this water crossroads Baweting (Place by the Rushing Water). Eventually their resources fell into the hands of French and British fur traders, and later the US Government.

Since then, the Chippewa community has won many legal battles giving it the rights to reclaim land, build tribal housing, practice its culture, fish in treaty waters, educate its children and run its own businesses, the most profitable of which so far have been gambling casinos. The 20,000-members are now very much a part of the majority Euro-American culture around them, even as they retain their traditions.

Berens and other Business School students have been working closely with the Sault Chippewas to help them manage their businesses' growth and diversification efforts. The students are part of the School's Domestic MBA Corps, which addresses the needs of domestic service organizations and non-profit agencies in the United States.

"The tribe is extremely business-oriented and progressive," says Marian Krzyzowski, director of the U-M Business School's MBA Corps. "They've taken on the challenge of operating their own government and businesses within the context of their native culture."

The tribe's ultimate goal, says its chairman, Bernard Bouschor, "is to phase out our dependence on the federal government by building a secure economic base."

Krzyzowski first approached Bouschor in 1992 about the program. "Since I was sending students to the Navajo Nation in Arizona and New Mexico, I felt that we should also provide an opportunity for Native communities in Michigan," he says. He met with the tribal chairman, who was willing to launch the cooperation. Since then, U-M students have spent four summers working as consult-

From Kitchigamic Anishinabeg: The People of the Great Lakes, by Bucko Teepie, Sault Ste. Marie, Tribe of Chippewa Indians, 1994



Photo by Alan Kamuda

Michele Wellman, general manager of NorthStar Neon, in the costume she wears as a professional traditional dancer. Like other tribal leaders, she has attended executive education seminars at the Michigan Business School.

ants to the tribe's business managers, helping the tribal members develop basic management skills such as cost accounting, marketing, employee relations.

Three years ago, Marta Diaz '94 MBA, one of the first interns with the tribe, found managers focusing only on bottom-line accounting figures without developing a strategic plan. She tried to convince her clients to do cost-benefit analyses and to "step back and look at the big picture within each enterprise."

At that time, the tribe was still reeling from the windfall of phenomenal income growth that began in 1984 with the opening of the Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. In 1993, the state passed the Michigan Gaming Compact, which gave Native American tribes exclusive rights to license and run casinos on tribal territory. In 1994, the Sault Chippewa Tribe's casinos generated more than \$201 million in revenues.

But tribal leaders are aware that the Michigan Gaming Compact assures them of continuous casino operation and expansion only as long as political winds continue to blow in their favor. "Given the Native Americans' background of poverty and social problems such as substance abuse," Diaz says, "political leaders could find reasons to oppose gaming operations in

their communities. I think the tribe is doing well to invest in new businesses and community projects, rather than reinvesting everything in more casinos."

Diversifying Investments

Over the past decade, the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewas have invested casino profits in 15 new nongaming businesses, ranging from motel properties to drive shaft manufacturing. The interns had their jobs cut out for them: to help the tribe's Economic Development Commission (EDC) develop a strategic plan for diversification in areas that could never promise the returns of gaming.

"It's hard for the EDC to get used to a business that doesn't generate huge profits the minute you open the door," says Michele Wellman, tribal member and general manager of NorthStar Neon Mfg., a three-year-old firm that makes customized neon signs. Nevertheless, the EDC continues to support the NorthStar in the interest of diversification.

Wellman, who is also a professional performer of traditional dances, says NorthStar is "under the gun" to start showing higher sales. While sales figures could be higher, no one is worried about the quality of NorthStar's products. Examples of the company's work glow prominently around the shop. Flowers and other objects are brilliantly rendered as well as lettering. Most signs are custom-designed on the shop's computers by NorthStar's designers, but any

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