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# Michigan Today

The University of Michigan

December 1993 Vol. 25, No. 4



*In 1893, Columbia Took Center Stage  
— Will Asia Replace Her?*

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The University of Michigan

December 1993 Vol. 25 No.4

BY LINDA LIM

**A** major historic shift in global power relations is taking place as the 20th century draws to a close. Today, Asia is vigorously challenging 500 years of Western dominance of world political, economic, technological and cultural affairs.

Statistics tell much of the story. More than half the world's population lives in Asia, home to humanity's most long-lived civilizations. Rapid economic growth, especially in East Asia, has outpaced that of the West for decades. Early in the 21st century, on current projections, the collective size of Asia's economies will exceed those of Western Europe and North America respectively. China alone could surpass the United States as the world's largest single national economy.

"I was impressed by the visible dynamism of these economies, even at a time of slowing growth, and by the fast pace of social change," says Joe White, dean of the U-M Business School, who visited Korea and Japan in May 1993. Certainly, growth in the region has been accompanied by improvements in a whole range of social indicators. Population growth, infant mortality and adult illiteracy are down, while life expectancy, nutritional standards and female labor force participation are up.

## Asia and the US Economy

With Asia's growing weight in the world economy comes greater international attention and influence. US trade with Asia is now two-thirds greater than its trade with Europe, and two and a half *times* greater than its trade with all of Latin America (including Mexico). Not surprisingly, the Clinton Administration sees in Asia "a new primacy of economic opportunity," according to Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Speaking in Singapore in July, Christopher announced new US moves toward closer economic cooperation with the region. And in November President Clinton and US businesses met with politicians and businesses of the other 14 members of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation in Seattle to deepen at top levels both the economic ties and the all-important personal relationships that Asians value.

Multinational corporations are not waiting to seize the opportunity to expand ties with Asia. "There's a buoyant market for us here in Singapore," says Tom McDaniel '63, a Michigan alumnus who is president of General Motors Asia. GM moved its Asian headquarters in June from Detroit to Singapore, to better serve the rapidly growing Southeast Asian and Chinese auto markets.

But if there is economic opportunity for the US and its corporations in Asia,

*Continued on page 3*



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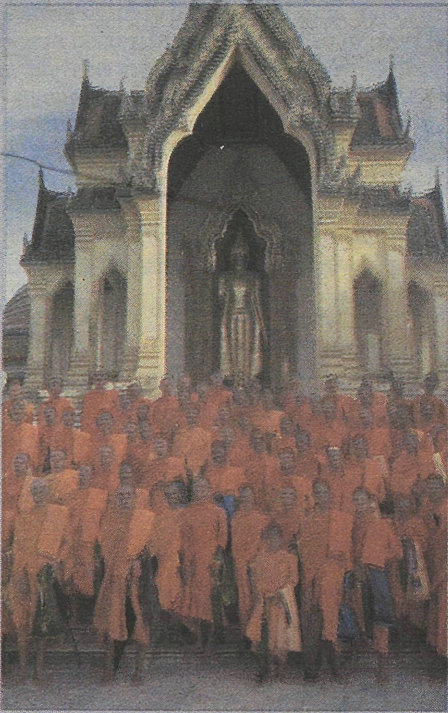


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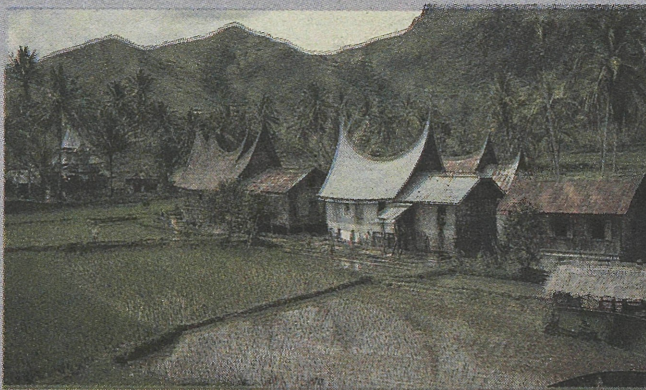
*Photos by Prof. Peter Gosling, S.E. Asian Studies*



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1. Lake Bratan in Bali.
2. Preparing tin for export at Phuket, Thailand.
3. Pocari Sweat is a popular Japanese rival of Coca-Cola in Jogjakarta, Java, and throughout Asia.
4. The booming city state of Singapore.
5. Batik-making in Indonesia.
6. Monks at a Buddhist temple in Thailand.
7. A rice field in Sumatra.
8. Tourists find a tour of the Temple of Borobudur in Java a profound experience.

Career advice to energetic young Americans of today might well be, 'Go farther west until you reach the East'

**T H E A S I A N  
F R O N T I E R**

## The Renewable Frontier

By John Woodford

Today is not the first time that the United States, excited by challenges in the worlds of ideas and commerce, involved itself simultaneously in national introspection and international conclaves to define its proper role in global affairs.

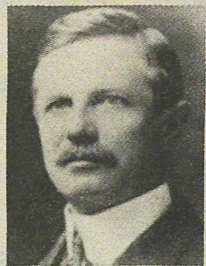
Exactly a century ago, and about 50 years after Horace Greeley had advised ambitious youngsters to "Go West," Frederick Jackson Turner, a 32-year-old professor at the University of Wisconsin, presented what remains among the most influential theses on American history.

Turner introduced what came to be known as the "frontier thesis" of American evolution at the ninth meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA). The AHA organized a World's Congress of Historians and met in conjunction with the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

It so happened that James B. Angell, then-president of the University of Michigan, was elected to preside over the meeting at which Turner delivered the famous paper, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History."

In summary, Turner argued that "the existence of an area of free land, its continuous recession and the advance of American settlement westward, explain American development." His theory caused barely a stir when he presented it, however, and attracted wide interest only after he popularized it for the September 1896 *Atlantic Monthly*.

The 1893 Chicago Exposition might be called the coming out party of Columbia, the goddess of America. Organizers intended the celebration for 1892, but missed that target. Despite this tardiness, the country had pulled itself up by its bootstraps and, to mix metaphors, was feeling its oats; Turner's thesis explained how the young nation had mounted, or galloped, to center stage in world affairs.



Turner

Turner's thesis has been hotly contested by modern scholars, many of whom think he played down the role of exploitation and oppression in the US push westward. But no one has disputed the fact that his thesis was the leading expression of the effort of American intellectuals of his day to put a made-in-USA stamp on the nation's burgeoning achievements.

The roots of American culture had previously been traced to Anglo-Germanic sources, but the individualism, egalitarianism and energy of the rising nation demanded an explanation that would recognize the country as one-of-a-kind. Turner supplied it.

There is a unique "American intellect," he said, characterized by *that coarseness and strength combined with acuteness and inquisitiveness; that practical inventive turn of mind, quick to find expedients; that masterful grasp of material things, lacking in the artistic, but powerful to effect great ends; that restless nervous energy, that dominant individualism, working for good and for evil, and withal that buoyancy and exuberance which come with freedom.*

What a country! Even though her citizen settlers had now dispersed themselves from sea to shining sea, the traits of a "composite nationality . . . a mixed race, English in neither nationality or characteristics," had been forged during centuries of expansion and become national endowments, Turner said. Chief among these traits were the experience of "perennial rebirth" and "the promotion of democracy here and in Europe."

In view of President Angell's participation in the grand unveiling of Turner's thesis at the Exposition, it is not surprising that both the University's Clements Library and its Museum of Art have mounted not merely visually stunning but also intellectually fascinating exhibits in honor of the World's Columbian Exhibition of 1893.

As both exhibits illustrate, the Columbian Exposition drew tourists from around the nation and throughout the world to Chicago's Midway. The peoples, products and arts from every corner of the globe were on display amid an unprecedented international assembly conducted in a spirit of peace, progress and prosperity. The



The Singer sewing machine company produced a lavish combination geography primer and advertising book, suggesting to seamstresses around the world the benefits of using a Singer to make their native costumes. (Courtesy of Clements Library)

Exposition itself seemed to confirm Turner's thesis that the United States was a symbol of the interconnectedness of democracy, trade and technological advancement.

The discussions in the 1890s about America's national character and international role foreshadowed those we hear today of the US role in Asia, Latin America, the European Economic Community and Africa. Optimism, ingenuity and drive are still qualities associated with America, cited by many politicians and thinkers in the debates over the stance this country should take on such issues as NAFTA, trade with Asia and Europe, and support of education, health care and pensions here at home.

At the turn of the century, the United States began to extend its notion of the frontier beyond its own shores. Figures like President Angell saw the lands beyond our borders not as sites of conquest and domination, but of engagement and cooperation. An active diplomat as well as a scholar, Angell showed how deeply the ideas and feelings Turner put into words lay in the country's consciousness of itself, in his address to Michigan graduates three years later, on June 21, 1896:

*Providentially we are so situated that it has been easy for us, with a genuine patriotism, to develop our resources and to attend to our own affairs without much complication with the Great Powers of the world, and without cherishing animosities toward them. . . . Their populations, sighing for our lives of peace and prosperity, have been hurrying by hundreds of thousands yearly to our shores to share in our comfort and happiness.*

Angell warned of political and economic rivalries, presaging the mass slaughter and waste of two world wars and numerous other bloody conflicts. "War, according to modern methods, is such a dreadful calamity," he told the children of Civil War veterans in the Class of 1896, "that recently attention has been called afresh to the inquiry whether we may not make provisions with some nations, for the establishment of an international court, to which difficulties that cannot be adjusted by the ordinary processes of diplomacy, may be referred for settlement."

Angell cited several instances of the settlement of geopolitical and commercial conflicts through international arbitration. (He remained directly involved in such issues during his University presidency, serving as the official representative of the United States in immigration and trade agreements with China, for example.)

America, Angell told the Class of 1896, "can afford to propose a system of arbitration to the world just because we are strong." He warned them, however, that the country's new pride in its prosperity and, after its massing of huge armies and stores of weapons during the Civil War, in its military might, raised new risks:

*Pride and confidence expose us to some dangers from the spirit they engender in persons of a certain aggressive and testy temperament. Instead of cherishing a calm and dignified sense of national power, which is sure that we can, without bluster or unnecessary sensitiveness at every idle word that is flung at us, make ourselves respected, it is disposed to be defiant, to indulge in challenges to all the world, to be needlessly boastful of our strength, to be too quick to interpret any unwelcome words from abroad as an insult, and so to generate friction between us and other nations. That in certain quarters there is somewhat too much of this spirit, I think must be obvious to all sober-minded men.*

Angell's words seem just as apt 100 years later.



Angell

The Clements Library 1893 Columbian exhibit will run through Jan. 30, 1994. The Museum of Art exhibit, mounted by guest curator Prof. Diane Kirkpatrick and students from the Department of the History of Art, will run through Dec. 31.



'Columbia's Triumph, the Earth's Great Nations Unite at the World's Fair to Pay Her Homage,' from 'America, a Grand Historical Spectacle,' a tremendously popular stage extravaganza at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The dramatist was Imre Kiralfy, the composer Angelo Venanzi. The image is on exhibit at the U-M's Clements Library.

# A S I A

continued

there is also potential for conflict—for example, over the United States' three largest bilateral trade deficits, which are with Japan, China and Taiwan. Asian nations have also generally not followed, in economics, the free-market policy prescriptions or, in politics, the liberal democratic principles favored by the West.

In Asia there is much more state intervention and control of economic activity and of people's lives. And there is both resentment of and increasingly assertive opposition to the aggressive promotion of Western interests—such as trade liberalization, human rights and environmental protection—in ways which are seen to conflict with Asia's single-minded quest for economic and technological advancement.

The perennial concern in US public policy over China's human rights record is a case in point. "There's an enormous explosion of entrepreneurial energy in China's economy," says U-M President James J. Duderstadt, who visited China and Hong Kong in June. "Economic forces are rapidly overwhelming political forces, so restraining them [through trade sanctions for human rights violations] could hurt, not help, political liberalization."

Duderstadt added that the "extraordinary density of people there also dictates a different sense of values than we are used to in the West. Without necessarily agreeing with them, you can see why China's leaders emphasize the need for stability—to feed, clothe and keep peace for a nation of 1.2 billion people—over the individual rights of a relative few." In this, China has strong support from many other Asian nations.

Another area of contention is the West's promotion of environmental preservation in developing countries. Many Asian nations see this as "environmental imperialism"—an attempt to control their resources and restrain their economic growth. As was true in the West itself, rapid industrialization in Asia will certainly exact a cost from the global environment.

"The high sulfur content of the coal China uses,

example, Boylan says he was "awestruck, overwhelmed, by the intricate craftsmanship, the artistry of sculptors and architects, of over a thousand years ago—it was a life-changing experience." Equally impressive were the music, dance, drama and visual arts that Boylan encountered, and above all, the "intense integration of art into everyday social, cultural and spiritual life."

## The East Is Blue

Fortunately, the University of Michigan has long been an internationally recognized bastion of scholarship and teaching in Asian studies. For the past 40 years it has served as headquarters for the Association for Asian Studies, the world's largest organization of Asia specialists. For over 30 years the University has had federally funded "National Resource Centers" of Chinese, Japanese and Southeast Asian Studies, and there is also a South Asian studies program. Michigan is one of only a handful of US universities offering a broad spread of Asian languages—ten modern and five ancient/classical languages—through the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.

Language is a critical component not only in traditional scholarly activity and cultural communication with Asia. It is also increasingly important as a necessary tool of professional interchange. As Kenneth DeWoskin, professor of Chinese Studies, notes, "US corporations, research organizations, foundations and government agencies are redefining key job descriptions to include language competence. Mandarin-speaking executives in China are literally hounded by job offers." (DeWoskin is a China adviser for several major US corporations, including Michigan-based automotive

and construction materials companies.)

Students and graduates of the University's dual degree MBA/MA program in Asian studies, a 10-year-old joint venture of the Asian studies centers and the Business School,

concur. Michael Dunne '85, '90 MBA of Detroit says his language skills in both Chinese and Thai are "a concrete plus" in operating his Bangkok-based, Asia-wide automotive industry consultancy business. "Language is a very key tool in forging personal relationships and becoming culturally aware, both of which are extremely important in Asian business, as well as personally rewarding."

Like Dunne, Paul Churchill, a current MBA/MA student and president of the International Business Club at the Business School, found his knowledge of Indonesian very useful in "facilitating communication and reducing frustration" when he worked as a summer intern for the Reebok shoe company in Jakarta. Unlike most other Western expatriates at Reebok, "I could talk directly with the workers on the factory floor," says Churchill. "With the cultural background gained from my courses, plus interactions with Southeast Asian students on campus, I also found it easier to relate to the office staff and quickly established a good rapport with them."

Asian business systems are distinctively different from Western business systems, and from each other. As an example, DeWoskin cites US companies' discovery that "China has a successful social and business system 3,000 years in the making, which they must study to understand. Only then can they craft an adaptation of their own State-side managerial business system to bridge two very different worlds."

Educating students and executives about Asian business systems is the key task of U-M's East Asia and Southeast Asia Business Programs. The Business School's federally funded Center for International



Knowledge of Indonesian stood MBA student Paul Churchill in good stead when he interned with Reebok shoe company in Jakarta last summer.

Business Education also includes Asia in its global programs, while its Davidson Institute and Global Leadership Program operate in China and India. The School also has the Mitsui Life Center for Asian Financial Research.

The Japan Technology Management Program involves the Business and Engineering schools and the Center for Japanese Studies. The College of Engineering plans to offer a Certificate in Japanese Studies to master's degree students who learn the language and do additional area course work and an internship in Japan. Engineering Dean Peter Banks visited Japan in October, as did Dean Robert Beckley of the College of Architecture and Urban Planning, in August. Provost Gilbert Whitaker visited Taiwan and the Republic of Korea in October, and Business Dean Joe White is to visit Bangkok and Singapore in February 1994.

## Remaining Challenges

Despite Michigan's unique combination of strengths in Asian languages, cultures, business and technology, faculty, students and administrators still face many challenges in preparing themselves for the Asian Age. One major problem has been the attrition in faculty positions and course offerings in Asian studies over the past 20 years, at a time when other universities, particularly on the West and East Coasts, have been aggressively expanding or building new programs in this area (including attempts to "raid" Michigan's Asia faculty).

A different problem is posed by the general public's low awareness of the importance of Asia. Because of this, relatively few students enter Michigan with a background or an interest in studying that region of the world. The number of Chinese-speaking people

**"Years of export surpluses, combined with high savings rates and prudent fiscal policies, have left East Asian governments with foreign reserves of \$250 billion, triple those of Japan. An additional \$600 billion in cash reserves is on the balance sheets of the region's corporations. And many of these companies are still growing exponentially." *Business Week*, Nov. 29, 1993.**

together with obsolete combustion technology, means great increases in air pollution as China industrializes," says Gayl Ness, U-M professor of sociology and population planning and one of the founders of the University's Global Change Project. "Deforestation, desertification and toxic emissions from agriculture and industry are also problems throughout Asia."

## Lessons for the World

There is much beyond its huge market that Asia can offer the rest of the world. Other emerging market economies in Latin America, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Africa are eager to learn from Asia's development experience, which differs in many respects from that of the West. Many are working to attract foreign investment from Asia, and to develop trade linkages with the region.

Asia is also rapidly developing a competitive edge in many key technologies. Many US and other multinational corporations are employing increasing numbers of Asia's vast and growing supply of capable and innovative scientists and engineers in high-tech research and development activities in the region. Even the Clinton administration "is looking to Japan for new ideas on how to make technology contribute to economic growth," says John Campbell, professor of political science and co-director of the University's federally funded Japan Technology Management Project.

There are cultural lessons too, says Paul Boylan, dean of the School of Music, who traveled on an alumni cruise to Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia last January. "Perhaps it was Eurocentric prejudice on my part, but I did not realize that these countries—some of which we inappropriately consider to be 'underdeveloped' but which have economic strengths—in fact also have a sophisticated cultural heritage in some respects surpassing aspects of Western culture."

At the Borobudur Buddhist monument in Java, for

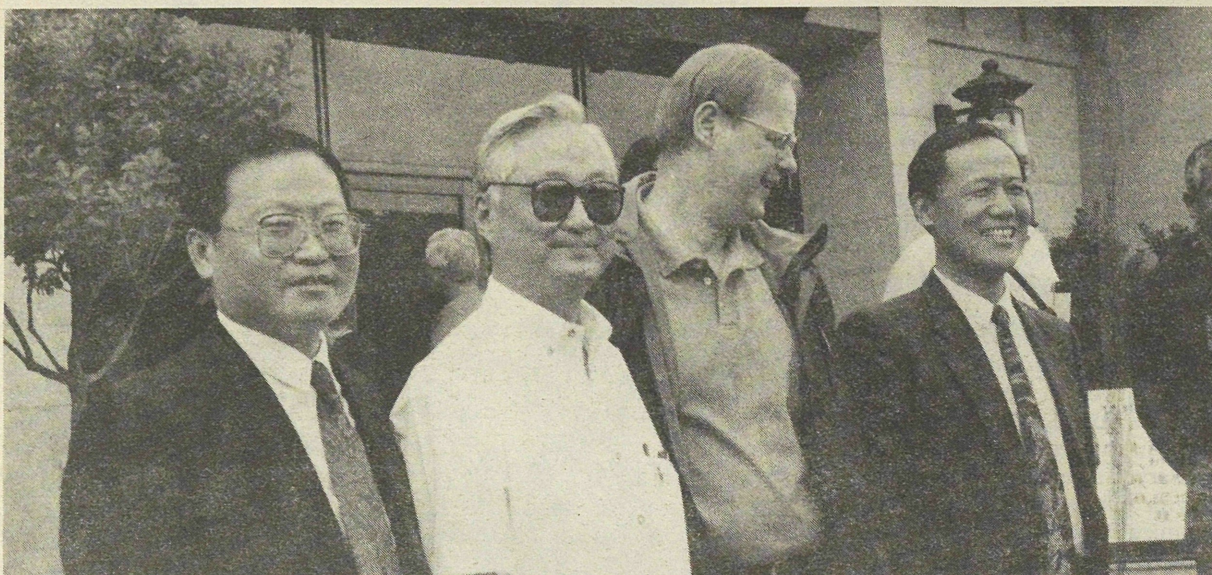
**Asia is "the most economically dynamic region of the world, with a combined economy of \$6.1 trillion, larger than the \$5.7 trillion of the US and dwarfing Mexico's \$200 billion gross domestic product." *Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 15, 1993.**

in the world is more than 20 times the number of French speakers, and US trade with Chinese-speaking areas is four times greater than US trade with French-speaking areas. Yet nearly six times more students at Michigan study French than study Chinese (though the latter numbers are rising).

More students are also choosing to study Japanese, but they are still greatly outnumbered by those who study French (by 4 to 1) or Spanish (5 to 1), even though Japan has more than twice the population of Italy, France or Spain, and its trade with the United

# A S I A

continued



President Duderstadt and Marshall Wu (white shirt), curator of Asian Art of the U-M Museum of Art, visited cultural, business and educational facilities with the U-M delegation touring China.

States exceeds that of US trade with all French-, Spanish- and Italian-speaking countries put together.

Widespread perceptions that Asian languages are especially difficult to learn and Asian cultures too "strange" and "distant" for Americans, may also explain why student interest in Asia is not as strong as this country's interests require it to be. Some Americans—though they habitually use Asian-made products—may also be uncomfortable with Asia's growing influence in world affairs, and thus of their own increased involvement with Asia in future, and may prefer to deny or ignore a change in the balance of power.

Understandably, also, given the American population's predominantly European ethnic heritage (though this, too, is changing), Eurocentric biases persist, even unconsciously, in the academy. Thus studying the European-dominated recent past (e.g. colonialism) may be more palatable than studying pre-colonial civilizations or post-colonial economic and political realities in a non-Western area such as Asia.

But the rise of Asian influence proves that Asians have successfully overcome European dominance; that they can match and may even surpass the economic achievements of the West; and that they can do so on the basis of cultures, societies, policies and political systems very different from those of the



Business School Dean B. Joseph White and his wife, Mary (far right), attend a dinner in Seoul for all U-M graduates in Korea who work for the Daewoo Corp. Dae Woo chairman Woo Choong Kim (standing) hosted the dinner.

West, and with very ancient roots. The West must learn to meet this new Asia as a peer, even as a competitor, and this may be difficult for nations and peoples used to centuries of world dominance.

It is in this complex but vitally important task that Michigan is uniquely positioned to lead, but for which it, too, must better prepare itself. One hopes that the recent and continuing stream of U-M administrators visiting Asia is an indicator of such a commitment.

Linda Lim, adjunct associate professor of international business, is director of the University's Southeast Asia Business Program. The US News & World Report and the Wall Street Journal have recently published her observations about Asian trade.

## AN MBA/MA GRADUATE CAREER

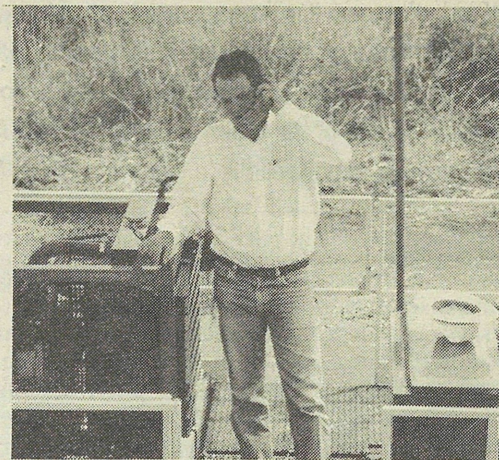
Combine business and Asian expertise, American technology, Asian environmental cleanup needs and a Michigan connection, and what do you get? The first-ever international joint venture to provide "environmental remediation services" to the local market in Thailand. Premier Innovative Material Systems (PIMS), a joint venture between Innovative Material Systems (IMS) of Kansas and the Premier Group of Companies of Thailand, was formed with the help of Richard Smith, who received an MBA/MA in Southeast Asian studies in 1987. Smith is now deputy managing director of PIMS.

Smith grew up in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and studied Thai as part of his joint degree program. Upon graduation, he headed for Bangkok and set up a consultancy business, the Siamerica Business Group, of which he remains managing director.

An article about Smith's business activities in the U-M Business School's alumni magazine, *Dividend*, brought him to the attention of IMS president and Michigan alumnus Jim Horton '65, '66 MBA. IMS is a privately owned Kansas company with patented helix force pump technology.

Horton tracked Smith down by contacting his former B-School professor, Linda Lim (see accompanying article). After three years of visits and negotiations, the joint venture was formed between the small US company (\$3 million annual sales) and the Premier Group, one of the biggest conglomerates in Thailand with 30 companies and annual sales of \$500 million.

The joint venture will use the IMS portable dredging pump system, the VersiDredge, in a range of "environmentally friendly" waste disposal and treatment services that Thailand desperately needs. PIMS has already been contracted by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration to clean up several Bangkok klongs (canals). —L.L.



US and Thai companies were looking for someone with Smith's special skills.

## Michigan Ranks High

In its September issue on Asians and education, the Hong Kong-based magazine *Asia*, Inc. published what it said was a partly objective partly subjective listing of the "top 50 US schools for Asians."

Michigan held the 11th position, and was the highest of any school not on the east or west coast except Cornell University (#5).

The capsule description of the University read: "If you don't mind the cold winters and sweltering summers, U of M offers an excellent education as well as good value for your money. Long known as an outstanding academic institution, U of M is particularly good for graduate students, especially those interested in the social sciences. Many Asian-Americans, who make up 9 percent of its student enrollment, find U of M particularly appealing."

The top-10 finishers were, in order, U. of California at Berkeley, Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, Cornell, MIT, UCLA, University of Hawaii/Manoa, Yale and Cal Tech.

## NEW TIE WITH CATHAY-PACIFIC

The Michigan Business School's master's degree program recently enrolled its first class of 40 Cathay Pacific Airways managers who will begin MBA studies in Hong Kong.

The School's partnership with Cathay Pacific represents a new development in information-age, boundary less education. After three years, the Cathay Pacific employees can receive the full Michigan MBA, not an abbreviated or company specific version.

In Hong Kong, the students will have weekly video conferencing sessions, using interactive television transmitted over telephone lines, to discuss homework, get instructions and ask questions. They will hand in their assignments through faxes or computer networks. There is also a seven-week study module in Ann Arbor.

"A full-fledged MBA is important to us because we are moving into a business environment where people will take responsibility for planning and executing jobs independent of direct supervision," said Rod Eddington, managing director of Cathay Pacific.

J. Wayne Brockbank, U-M faculty director of the project and assistant professor of organizational behavior and human resource management, said the overwhelming issue was maintaining the quality of the program at the nation's fifth-ranked business school.

"We have designed the program so that the quality will be sustained even though students are 9,000 miles away," Brockbank said. "With this program, we believe we can deliver the Michigan MBA anywhere in the world."

Faculty will spend four days on site in Hong Kong, teaching for 10 hours each day and drawing on their experience with the School's Executive Education Program, rated the world's top by *Business Week* magazine.

Cathay Pacific, with over 13,000 employees, is the flagship carrier in Hong Kong, and was the second most profitable airline in the world in 1992.

The Michigan Business School-Cathay Pacific MBA was officially inaugurated on Oct. 8, with ceremonies in Hong Kong. The first class will graduate in 1996.

## AROUND

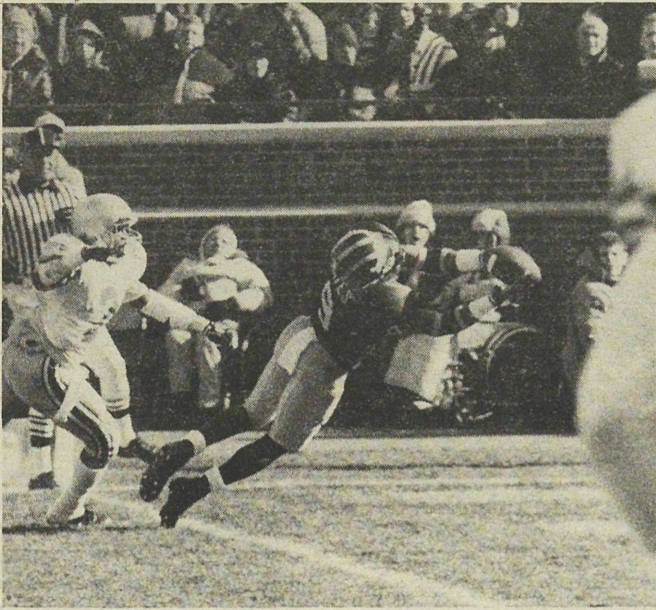


Photo by Bob Kalmbach

## CAMPUS

When Mercury Hayes '96 of Houston made this twisting over-the-shoulder catch for a touchdown against Ohio State, whatever starch, protein or other nutritious substances a Buckeye might contain drained from the opponents' bodies. As for Wolverine fans, they went nuts—and on to enjoy a 28-0 home victory that paved the way to Michigan's appearance in the Hall of Fame Bowl on Jan. 1.

## Maize &amp; Blue takes 11th in Australian solar race

Due to technical difficulties, the 1993 Solar Car Team was unable to put itself in the winner's circle at the World Solar Challenge.

The team of College of Engineering students—champions of the GM Sunrayce in June (see Oct. '93 *Michigan Today*)—couldn't fix a malfunction in its solar array panel, so the Maize & Blue generated only 70 percent of its normal power in the race from Darwin to Australia's bottom at Adelaide.

But the Michigan team still managed to finish the 1,864-mile course 11th in a field of 52 from 16 countries. It took 49 hours, 7 seconds at an average speed of 38 mph. That was more than nine hours ahead of the mark set by the U-M team in the 1990 World Solar Challenge, though in that race the slower speed was good for third place.

Several hundred spectators cheered and opened bottles of champagne as student driver Deanna Winton '93 of Centerville, Ohio—exhausted and ill from the gastrointestinal virus that affected 16 of the 20 U-M students

during the last two days of the race—drove across the finish line.

All 11 US entries were university teams. Honda's Dream from Japan took first place in 35 hours and 38 minutes with an average speed of 52.5 mph; the 1990 defending champ from the faculty of the Swiss Engineering School of Biel took second; and another Japanese entry, the Kyocera Corporation's Son of Sun, placed third.

The fastest US entry was California Polytechnic University at Pomona's Intrepid, which took eighth place, followed by George Washington University's Sunforce I.

"We experienced the best in June when we won Sunrayce 93 and were national champions," said Dan Ross '93, publicity manager for the team. "Now we've experienced the worst in expecting more from ourselves and not performing as well as we had hoped. But it was an amazing experience, and we wouldn't have missed it for anything."

## A discussion of 'PC' and academic values

By Jane Elgass

Provost Gilbert R. Whitaker Jr. called in September for campuswide articulation of shared values important to institutions that embrace academic freedom and the right to free speech, and prize civility as the condition that provides the most productive resolution of disputes over those values.

One of the first formal responses to Whitaker's call was "A Thoughtful Discussion of Political Correctness and Academic Values," led by Law School Dean Lee C. Bollinger at the Oct. 21 Regents' meeting. Other discussions are to be held during the academic year.

Bollinger said that the term "political correctness is a capstone" for three issues—regulation of expression through speech codes, curriculum and atmosphere. Atmosphere, he said, encompasses norms of civility, how free people feel they are to think and

say what they want, how much inhibition exists.

The wide-ranging discussion touched on curriculum reform, climate and the challenges facing faculty members teaching sensitive subjects.

History Prof. James Turner noted that "contention has an important role in universities and is a constant, especially in creative universities. You have contention when you are pushing the envelope, expanding, opening a new field."

Turner, who has studied the development of curriculum in the United States, said that today's

efforts to change curriculum are hardly the first, nor are they the first to be engulfed in controversy. In the 19th century, he noted, "we moved from a religiously based culture to one in which religion is an option. This eventually brought about a focus on Western civilization. This same thing is happening now."

"The crucial point in teaching in a research university," Turner said, "is to get students willing to talk, to challenge orthodoxy. We need to promote contention. The question is how. Faculty should serve as role models, creating an atmosphere in which people are willing to talk in a relaxed and comfortable manner."

"This is a standard problem in teaching we are talking about. It's not race, ethnicity or gender issues. It's an across-the-board issue we work with every day in the terrain of classrooms."

The underlying concept in teaching is intellectual excitement, Turner said. "We must work with students in a pedagogically responsible way. Multiculturalism and examinations of race and ethnicity are not intellectual spinach. We must draw students into discussion and help them work on an informed examination of the past. We must push them beyond initial knowledge."

History Prof. Rebecca J. Scott cited two aspects of curriculum innovation—the relationship between research and curriculum changes, and the ways in which courses are taught.

She said that an important recent change in her discipline has been the kind of evidence historians use. The change, she said, has offered an "opportunity to expand the range of historical discovery," and she added that "curriculum change is driven as much by demand as it is by research changes."

Scott said the term political correctness "originally was a joke among the left, an awareness that actual values

could be trivialized. In a classroom context, what we call P.C. is a lack of respect. Trust has to be re-established to make sure people can keep on learning. If students feel disregarded, their voices are silenced in the classroom."



Anderson

One has trust, Scott explained, "when a perceived offense is not in and of itself a bar to discussion. This comes down to respect. A good teacher thinks about and validates students' contributions to debate."

Terms such as political correctness and racism have a "terrific charge," noted Elizabeth Anderson, assistant professor of philosophy, making it difficult to get beyond them to reach a consensus on values.

"Old methods and understandings are being challenged," Anderson said.

"This puts professors in difficult positions. Every classroom has certain norms of discourse. For instance, professors are no longer free to make comments about women's breasts. Some speech has no cognitive value. It doesn't advance discussion. I would like to see a norm against speech that silences others. My freedom to articulate my point of view doesn't free me from others' criticism."

The term racism, for example, "raises alarm and is used in different ways," Anderson continued. "It could be based on hatred and used as personal invective. Research programs may be accused of being racist because attention is not paid to certain points of view."

Psychology Prof. James Jackson pointed out that U-M exists within a social milieu that is undergoing economic and political changes, and reflects the challenges inherent in those changes.

"We often pose our difficulties as a conflict between values," he said, "and this is wrong. We are all seeking values we can agree on as well as representation, the free participation of all."

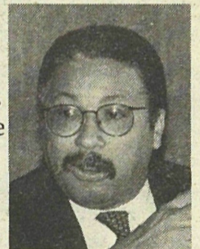
A key challenge to administrators, he added, is "instilling trust among different actors; we have a responsibility to guarantee an environment where people can comfortably seek an education."

A central value of our society, Bollinger noted, is equality. We are participating in a modern civil rights movement, and "it is not surprising to have disputes within the University."

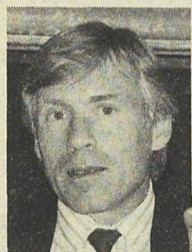
"In the 1960s," he continued, "we got rid of laws that discriminated, but the problems of discrimination and inequality have not disappeared. But we must be careful not to politicize the University. Universities have to make choices, such as who comes here and what they teach. We are constantly engaged in making content and viewpoint decisions, and we have to be careful not to be 'clubby.' Challengers must be given room to do so."

Bollinger suggested that when "significant issues come up," the University should appoint a committee to look at the problem and issue a public statement. "The controversy should be investigated and values related to it articulated," he recommended. "We will then gain experience over time."

Jane Elgass is executive editor of the University Record.



Jackson



Bollinger



Turner



Scott

# Dip in acceptance rate challenges LS&A

By Mary Jo Frank

Academic reputation, surroundings, value for the price, academic facilities, majors they are interested in studying, and the cost of attendance are reasons that Michigan residents who were admitted to LS&A this fall give for enrolling at the U-M.

Non-residents offer a similar list, but add to the U-M's "pluses": quality of social life, recreational facilities and extracurricular opportunities.

Despite this good news, the University is enrolling fewer top high school scholars, an issue of concern to LS&A Dean Edie N. Goldenberg and Undergraduate Admissions Director Theodore Spencer.

Sharing the 1993 Survey of Fall Admits results at the Nov. 1 LS&A faculty meeting, Spencer said that both the students who enrolled this fall and those who chose other schools ranked Michigan lower than its competition in "faculty commitment to teaching." Other reasons for not enrolling given by Michigan residents include lack of personal attention, good value for the cost of attendance and strength in the student's field of academic interest.

The perception that faculty are not as committed to teaching as students would like came up frequently, Goldenberg said, and even students who had worked directly with a professor tended to say they were exceptions from the norm.

Spencer and Goldenberg expressed concern that U-M might be losing too many top high school students to competitors. This loss is reflected in the declining yield rates for top scholars (the yield rate is the ratio of students who paid the \$200 enrollment deposit to the number who were offered admission). When yield rates decline, the University has to admit less-outstanding students to achieve its enrollment target.

Admissions defines "top scholars" as students with a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.8 or higher and an ACT score of 31 out of 36. For this fall's entering Class of 1997, 1,864 students in the top scholar category were offered admission and 381 paid the enrollment deposit, for a yield rate of 20.4 percent. In comparison, for the entering class of 1988, 1,408 top scholars were granted admission and 369 paid enrollment deposits, for a yield rate of 26.2 percent.

Goldenberg said the University cannot afford to ignore a significant drop in yield rates because the quality of students a university attracts contributes to the institution's academic reputation.

Noting that academic reputation is the strongest reason Michigan residents and out-of-state students cited for coming to the U-M, Prof. Alan V. Deardorff, chair of the Department of Economics, said, "They come here knowing that we're big."

Donald Lewis, professor and chair of the Department of Mathematics, said the increased competition among universities for top scholars was partially the result of a smaller than normal number of students in the age group entering college but that the college-age group would start to increase in the near future.

Spencer and faculty members discussed ways the U-M can sway more top scholars to choose the U-M. Among the suggestions:

- Create a brochure featuring 10 students who have taken mostly small classes during their U-M career.
- Assign two students to each faculty member, who would serve as an adviser.
- Have each faculty member teach one course primarily for freshmen and sophomores every two years.
- Ask faculty members to personally



Spencer



Goldenberg

ally contact top high school juniors and seniors before they apply to college.

Many private schools are negotiating with students on financial aid packages to provide enrollment incentives, Spencer said, which puts large public institutions like the U-M at a disadvantage because "we don't do those kinds of recruiting with financial aid."

Spencer said Admissions is working

to improve students' initial impressions of the campus by upgrading the quality of campus tours. Instead of relying on volunteers, students are now trained and paid to lead the tours. Some 17,000 prospective students visit campus each year.

Mary Jo Frank is an editor of the University Record.

## Breaking New Ground



President Duderstadt and Regents Shirley M. McFee and Paul W. Brown handle the shovels at the latest major groundbreaking ceremony in the Diag.

Armed with shiny shovels and a pile of ceremonial sand, University faculty, Regents and administrators ceremonially broke ground for three Central Campus building projects on a chilly and damp November afternoon.

More than 150 members of the University community attended the groundbreaking ceremonies held under a tent on the Diag for the East Engineering Building renovation, Harrison M. Randall Laboratory of Physics addition, and the Undergraduate Library addition and renovation.

Acknowledging that the area, festooned with chainlink fencing and temporary wooden sidewalks, looks a "bit like a battle zone," President James J. Duderstadt said the din of construction already under way was a good sign "that the University for the first time in many years is addressing the serious needs of academic units."

Because of a combination of state, institutional and private support for capital facilities, in addition to low interest rates and construction costs, Duderstadt said, "We have been able to embark on a series of much needed 'home improvement' projects that should put most of the Ann Arbor campus in top shape within the next few years."

The additions and renovations are the result of the efforts, dreams and dedication of a large number of people over a number of years, Duderstadt added, citing the persistent efforts of a series of LS&A deans and previous U-M presidents. He also expressed gratitude for the support and courage of the Board of Regents. Regents Paul

W. Brown and Shirley M. McFee attended the ceremonies.

LS&A Dean Edie N. Goldenberg noted that the Department of Mathematics has been waiting for more than 60 years for a building in which all math faculty members could be together.

The renovation of the south wing of the East Engineering Building, which will become the home of the Department of Mathematics, is expected to be completed by the end of 1995.

The other department that will be happy to be together in one building is psychology, which will occupy the north wing of East Engineering, Goldenberg said. That phase of the renovation is scheduled for completion in December 1994.

Noting that the Department of Psychology has been scattered in various sites for as long as almost anyone can remember, Goldenberg said, "The unification will provide unprecedented opportunities for interactions among faculty and students in that already eminent department."

Construction of the Randall Laboratory addition, which will connect the existing Randall Laboratory and the north wing of West Engineering, began in early July and is expected to be completed in the summer of 1995.

The expansion of the Undergraduate Library will include the creation of a new, integrated science library with a 300,000-volume combined collection from the chemistry, mathematics, natural science/geology, and physics/astronomy libraries.

### Who influenced your decision to enroll or not enroll at U-M?

Michigan Residents	Enrolling (N=1,436)	Nonenrolling (N=902)
Parents	51.6%	33.8%
Siblings	8.5%	1.8%
Other relatives	8.6%	2.5%
Teacher	8.1%	6.6%
Counselor	7.4%	3.9%
Coach	1.0%	0.7%
College rep	0.1%	0.2%
Friend/peer	28.7%	12.5%
Other adult	2.5%	3.4%
UM student or alum	22.0%	4.5%
UM faculty or staff	0.7%	0.7%
Alum teacher/coach	1.2%	0.0%
Self	21.6%	58.0%
Nonresidents	Enrolling (N=943)	Nonenrolling (N=2,091)
Parents	38.6%	39.7%
Siblings	6.2%	1.4%
Other relatives	5.0%	2.6%
Teacher	6.5%	2.8%
Counselor	9.5%	4.4%
Coach	0.5%	0.5%
College rep	0.5%	0.0%
Friend/peer	24.1%	9.2%
Other adult	0.2%	1.3%
UM student or alum	33.9%	1.6%
UM faculty or staff	1.7%	1.7%
Teacher/coach alum	1.0%	0.1%
Self	30.4%	56.7%

Percentages add to over 100 because respondents could give more than one answer. Information compiled in April 1993 and provided by the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

# Campus drinking survey may help prevent abuse

**D**uring the weekend of September 25, State Street's Diag Party Store sold 80 kegs and six quarter barrels, or the equivalent of 13,944 12 ounce beers.

"It was a pretty slow weekend for us," remembers one Blue Front employee. Blue Front sold 30 kegs and 10 quarter barrels, or 5,880 12-ounce beers on that "slow" weekend.

On the following Monday, the University reported the findings of its Survey Regarding Alcohol and Other Drugs, revealing among other things that alcohol use is common on campus.

According to the survey, designed by researchers and revised by students, 61% of undergraduates drink alcohol at least once a week. Undergraduates said that they were more likely to consume at fraternity parties, while graduate students preferred bars, and faculty and staff liked bars, restaurants and private residences.

Two incidents in 1989 prompted the survey: the violent disturbances after the men's basketball team's victory in the NCAA finals, and federal passage of the Drug Free Schools and Communities and the Drug Free Workplace Acts.

In April 1989, University President James J. Duderstadt sanctioned the creation of a Task Force on Alcohol and Other Drugs. The task force was charged with creating a streamlined University policy for dealing with problems stemming from substance abuse in the U-M community.

On the road to creating such a policy, task force activities broke down into two phases. Phase One was to focus on policy, prevention, identification and intervention. Phase Two would focus on institutionalizing a policy on alcohol and other drugs that would cover all three areas of University responsibility—education and curriculum, research and public service.

One of Phase One's major recommendations was that the University periodically conduct surveys to "identify problems and evaluate the effectiveness of policy and programmatic changes" in the University community.

Jackie Campbell, administrator of Initiative on Alcohol and Other Drugs, explained the reasoning behind the survey: "We felt we needed concrete information on which to base our future activities. We needed to investigate the uses, practices and attitudes of the entire University community."

The survey sampled at random 4,442 people—1,471 undergrads; 976 graduate, professional and post-doctoral students; 498 faculty, and 1,497 staff.

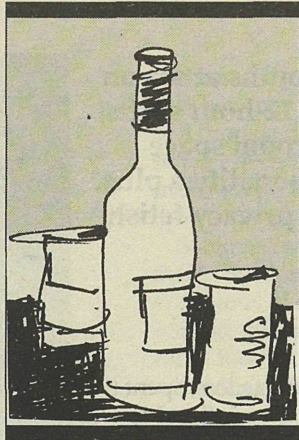
The survey questioned the frequency of each respondent's use of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana and other illicit drugs; their perceptions about others' consumption of alcohol; how each controls his or her consumption and the consequences of that consumption.

The survey found that students have a skewed perception of their peers' drinking habits. While about 95% of undergraduates believed that their peers drank once a week or more, only 58% of women and 64% of male undergrads said that they consumed alcohol that often. Faculty, grad students and staff also tended to overestimate their peers' consumption of alcohol, but not nearly so much as undergrads did.

The survey also indicated that

students, faculty and staff underestimate how many of their peers approve of controlling others' alcohol consumption. For example, while 60% of undergraduates approved of setting time limits on how long alcohol should be served at social functions, only 23% thought their peers would approve of the same action.

The researchers said they lacked the space to explore in detail why campus drinkers say they drink. However, other studies have indicated that many collegians drink to loosen up sexually. *USA Today* reported on two 1993 surveys, at the University of New Orleans (UNO) and Duke University. UNO found that about 1 in 5 female students and 1 in 3 males said they "drink more than normal to make it easier to have sex"; the Duke survey found 40% of students, male and female, "use drugs or alcohol to affect their sexual behavior, and say it changes their willingness to make love."



Alcoholism is not the only problem spawned by excessive drinking. Eight percent of undergraduate binge drinkers reported being sexually harassed or molested after drinking, 16% of undergraduate binge drinkers damaged property while under the influence and 13% of undergraduates have been in trouble with the police after drinking.

According to Capt. Jim Smiley of the U-M Department of Public Safety, "Alcohol is a major factor within disturbances at athletic events." However, he noted, other alcohol-related disturbances on campus are often caused by people not affiliated with the University. Nevertheless, "assault and public drunkenness is a concern on campus and goes up considerably Thursday through Sunday."

No survey was needed to discover that alcohol use is common on campus. But as a result of the survey, the University has a better idea of how much of that use is abuse, and thus can better plan to do

something about the latter.

Funded in part by the State of Michigan's Department of Public Health, the U-M survey also found that 6.5% of faculty and staff, 9% of graduate students and 18% of undergrads showed indications of serious alcohol problems.

What actions will follow the survey? "We are going to try to put together a comprehensive plan for programs to reduce harmful use and problems related to alcohol and other drugs," Campbell said. "The next step is to put together a council that will look at the survey and make recommendations accordingly. For example, people in the survey expressed that one way they keep control of their drinking is by eating, but very little food is served at student parties. So one thing the council could propose would be guidelines for safer parties."

This council of students, faculty, staff, alumni and professionals is to complete its work by fall 1994.

*Darcy Lockman '94 of Farmington Hills, Michigan, is an American culture major and a Michigan Daily editor.*

## ENTREE TO FOOD

**W**hen parents send their children off to the University, they pack them up with new clothes, textbooks and tons of (often unwanted) advice. On dorm move-in day, the halls seem to reverberate with clichés:

"Lock your doors."

"Don't walk alone at night."

"There's no such thing as a free lunch."

And while the first two paradigms ring true, more than 16,000 students are finding that they can have a free lunch. Or textbook. Or sweatshirt. Or load of laundry.

Entree Plus, the University's pre-paid student credit system for on-campus purchasing, makes paying for a burger and fries as easy as the swipe of a student ID card.

Students, or their parents, put money into Entree Plus accounts at the beginning of the semester and the students can draw from that fund all term. Any unused money is applied to students' other accounts at the end of the semester.

Students can use their Entree Plus cards in many locations throughout campus, including residence hall cafeterias and snack bars, residence hall laundry machines, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, North Campus Commons, the Michigan Union Bookstore - and the four fast food joints that occupy the basement of the Union.

And students looking for a free lunch pack the crowded basement each afternoon between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Many will wait for up to 45 minutes for bags of steaming food from Wendy's, Subway, Little Caesar's and Wok Express.

Most students attribute the explosive popularity of these four restaurants to one thing, and it's not their delectable vittles. Entree Plus has revolutionized eating on campus.

Annie Pezzetti '94 of Bloomfield

Hills, Michigan, has met her friends at the same table in the Union every day for the past three and a half years. And while she enjoys the salads and tuna subs, Pezzetti said the company—and the cost—is what keeps her coming back to the MUG.

"Entree Plus is really convenient," Pezzetti said. "It's much safer than carrying cash."

And despite the dwindling balance that shows up on the cash register computer screens after each Entree Plus purchase, it still seems like it's free.

Ronald Pitner, a first-year doctoral student in psychology and social work from Cleveland, Tennessee, said he switched his residence hall meal plan to give himself more money in his Entree Plus account.

"I think the tendency is to spend more on Entree Plus than you would without it," he said. "You overspend because you do not see the money going anywhere. It is like a credit card."

Subway employee Corey Frame said the Michigan Union restaurant is one of the three busiest franchises in the world. "Our business is really brisk," he said. "And I think it has a lot to do with Entree Plus."

Entree Plus is also big business for the University itself. The University receives 3% of every Entree Plus sale. Vendors using the service pay the University a \$3,000 initial hook-up fee and pay \$70 per month to remain on line with the mainframe computer. In addition, the University earns interest on the money sitting in students' accounts—and with 16,000 users, that's quite a sizable chunk of cash.

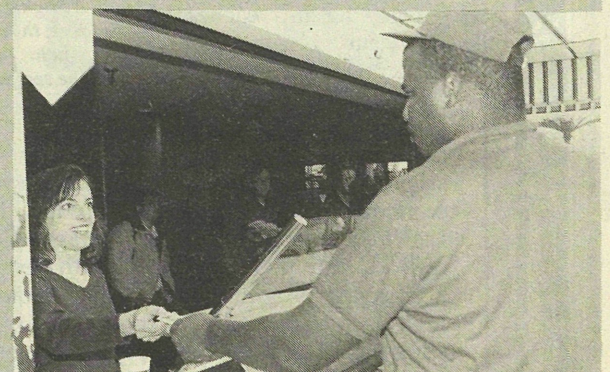
Larry Durst, business manager for the

University's Housing Division, said the service is advantageous to the University. "The Entree Plus service is wonderful, because in addition to making things more convenient for our students, we are able to benefit as well," he said.

And while some local merchants have asked the University about expanding Entree Plus to include off-campus vendors, Durst said this is not legally possible. "We are not permitted to go off campus," he said, adding that the University would then be subject to the restrictions placed on many banks and credit card companies. "It is not a matter of us not wanting to do this."

Some students think variety would be nice. Brad Trivax '95 is "getting sick of eating in these same places; I've eaten enough Subway subs to circle the Earth twice."

Others, however, have few complaints. "Having my money in my Entree Plus account prevents me from spending it on other things like CDs and beer," said Steve Rinke '96 of Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Handing a Student ID/charge card to Frame at Subway's is a lunchtime routine for Pezzetti and her friends.



Michigan's geologists plumb the ocean depths for clues to Earth's past

# A SEDIMENTAL JOURNEY

By Sally Pobjewski  
Photos by David Rea

**WANTED: Scientists willing to spend two months at sea on international research expedition. Must work 12-hour shifts, seven days per week, share sleeping and bathroom space with strangers. Flexibility and easy-going personality a plus. Those with weak stomachs, claustrophobia or privacy fetish need not apply.**

**S**teve Hovan, a U-M graduate student in geological sciences, spent the summer of 1991 captivated by an intimate, hands-on relationship with the primordial ooze on the ocean floor.

Working 12-hour shifts, seven days a week, Hovan analyzed sediment layered in slender cylindrical cores, eight inches in circumference, freshly drilled from the ocean floor. The cores contain clues to the mystery of how the Earth has evolved over millions of years of geologic history.

Hovan's job was to document and record these clues by entering every detail of the sediment's physical description—its color, texture, consistency, even its smell—into a computer. After two months of meticulous work, Hovan and his co-workers had produced a detailed log describing three miles of core sample sediments divided into one-centimeter (about one-half inch) increments.

It may not sound like your idea of a fun-filled summer vacation, but to a geologist like Hovan the opportunity to touch and see millions of years of the Earth's history recorded in layers of sediment on the ocean floor was an unforgettable experience.

Hovan is one of over 1,000 scientists and students from more than 30 countries who have participated in an international research effort called the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP). ODP's \$40-million annual budget is provided by the National Science Foundation and a consortium of 18 countries called the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling (JOIDES).

### THE VICTORS AT SEA

Even though Ann Arbor sits in the heart of the Midwest, Michigan faculty have an international reputation in oceanography research—a result in no small part of the long-standing relationship between U-M Department of Geological Sciences faculty and the Ocean Drilling Program.

"The University of Michigan is more closely involved with ODP than any other university without a major oceanographic school," says David K. Rea, U-M professor of geological sciences. Five faculty members, four current graduate students and seven former students have worked on ODP cruises. Several faculty members have served as co-chief scientists, with the responsibility of organizing and managing an entire expedition, and have acted as members of panels that plan the drilling.

ODP expeditions leave port about every two months to study a different area of the ocean floor. For 60 days, an international team of about 50 scientists and technicians and 50 drillers and crew members live and work side-by-side on ODP's 470-foot-long drilling research vessel, the JOIDES Resolution.

Once the ship reaches the study site, crew members work around the clock to drill and retrieve continuous core samples—sometimes drilling as deep as 1.2 miles into the ocean floor—for analysis by expedition scientists in computerized on-board laboratories. The scientists on board work just as hard as the crew: multiply the number of hours worked by each ODP scientist during an average 56-day cruise, and it totals 12 years of work crammed into a two-month period.

Since the program began in 1985, more than 48 miles of core samples have been recovered from about 300 different sites on the ocean floor. By studying ODP core samples, geologists have gained new insights into the structure and development of the ocean's crust, the evolution of the Antarctic ice sheet, the history of the Earth's climate, and how ocean currents and wind circulation patterns have changed over time.

The excitement of being part of a major scientific discovery is one of the biggest attractions of an Ocean Drilling Program expedition, according to

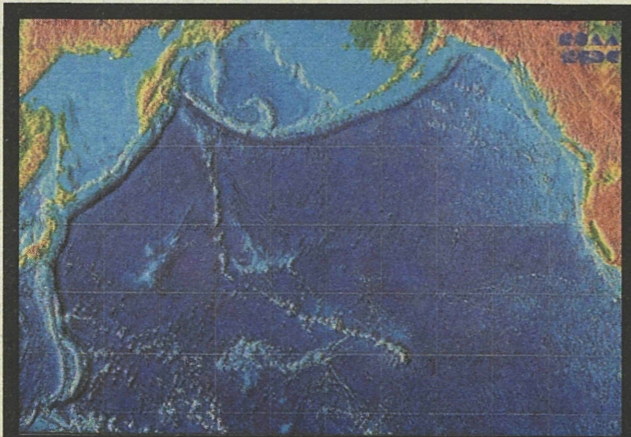


Margaret Leinen, dean of the oceanography school at the University of Rhode Island, stands in a re-entry core, a huge funnel used to relocate the drill hole after the pipes have been raised for repairs. Scientists say finding the hole on the ocean floor is like dangling a spaghetti noodle off the Empire State Building and trying to put it in a coffee cup on the ground.

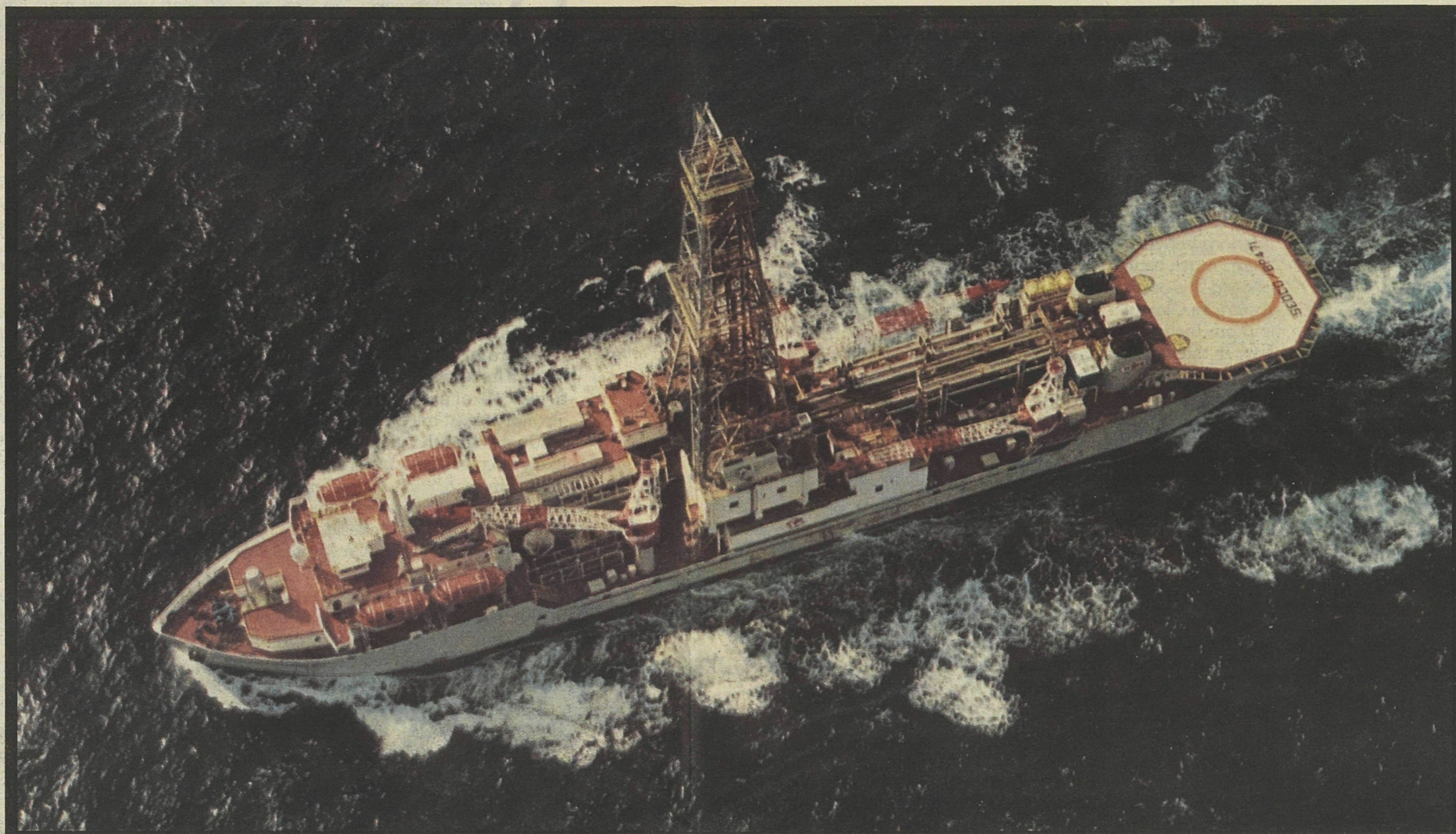


The four carbide-toothed cones of a roller core bit form a tool that looks like a sea anemone. Sediment rises up the hole in the middle of the bit's whirling cones into transparent tubes lining the core barrel.

At right, core samples of basalt, the igneous rock that underlies the whole sea floor. 'When you hit basalt, that signals you're at the end of the sediments,' Rea says.



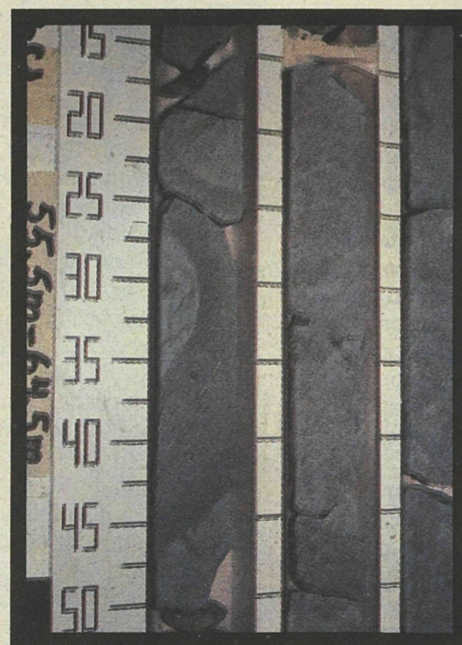
Professor Rea asked National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration satellite mappers to make a map of the seafloor with the 'M' shape formed in the northern Pacific, extending from Kamchatka, Russia, across the ocean to Alaska and the North American coast.



An ocean coring ship like the JOIDES Resolution carries 5 miles of drill pipe. Researchers learned the hard way that fishing off the ship was a no-no. 'The fish line would get twisted around the pipes and ruin the seals,' Rea explains.

Prof. Robert M. Owen, marine geologist. "It gets you back to what you started your career to do," he says. "Instead of sitting through meetings and coping with bureaucracy, you're working directly with ocean sediments that have never been seen by geologists before."

One of the most important jobs a chief scientist has on an ODP cruise is the delicate juggling act of selecting a compatible scientific crew from the many applications received. Crews must be balanced internationally, as well as by area of expertise, since every JOIDES member nation has the right to send its own scientists on expeditions. Avoiding personality conflicts whenever possible also is extremely important, according to Rea. "If you put people who don't like each other in a little metal box for two months, you're bound to have problems," says Rea, who's been co-chief scientist on two ODP expedi-



Geologist Larry Krissler of Ohio State tries a warm and buoyant survival suit. All hands have one in case of emergency.

tions. Part of the job is to anticipate and avoid conflicts by screening out anyone who's too abrasive, uncooperative or difficult to work with.

### DEADLY BAGPIPES

Not that little annoyances don't still crop up from time to time: U-M researchers recall scientists who monopolized the core samples, co-workers who were lazy and didn't work hard enough, a Scottish researcher who insisted on playing bagpipes in his cabin, dripping faucets, seasickness, constant noise from the ventilation system and an occasional hurricane or typhoon.

"Every cruise begins with optimism, joy and excitement," Rea says. "But after five or six weeks of forced togetherness, people start to show the strain. Trivial annoyances can trigger an overwhelming response." As an example, Rea remembers the time he intercepted a colleague actually rising out of her chair determined, she said, to murder an annoying co-worker. After a strategic cup of coffee and a long talk, Rea was able to resolve the situation short of homicide.

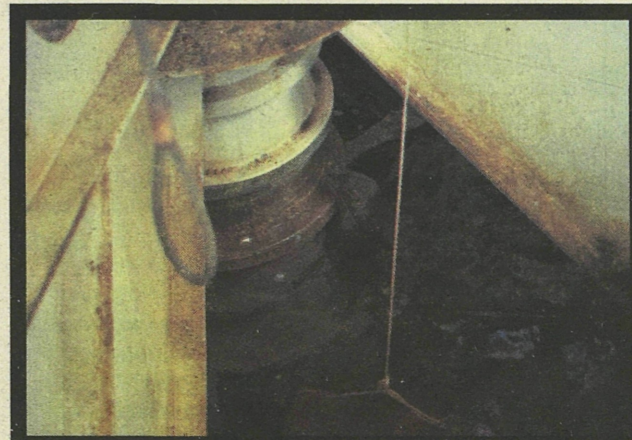
Rea explains that ODP "old-timers" know how to anticipate and avoid these problems, but newcomers who've never been to sea before are unprepared for the sense of intense irritation that can sweep through the ship five to six weeks into a cruise. "There's almost always at least one difficult personality on board," he says. "Occasionally, you end up with someone who can't or won't do the job. The solution is to isolate the person who's causing the problem."

The regimen of an ODP cruise is designed to break down barriers between countries, disciplines and levels of experience. Every scientist on board from the most prestigious senior researcher to the greenest grad student has a specific work assignment analyzing samples and recording data. Everyone has the same schedule—12 hours on duty and 12 hours off.

"Sometimes students act a little tentative at first, but they quickly gain confidence as they become resident experts in their area of expertise," Prof. Philip Meyers says. "It teaches the students to be more scientifically assertive



The drilling crew of 'roughnecks,' many of whom are Southwestern ranchers in their on-shore lives, carries the core sample removed from the tubes within the pipes.



Seals enjoy popping up through the hole (known as the 'moon pool') in the center of the ship to inspect the paraphernalia. Drillers like the company so they built a platform for seals to rest on.

Photo by John Beck, Texas A&M ODP



Top photo: The only way to avoid being on the receiving end of the crossing-the-Equator hazing, Rea says, is to show your official certificate.

Above left: Jesse, a 'big mean guy' on the drill crew, was enthusiastically pelted with mud, rotten eggs and other substances during the Equator-crossing ritual in which first-time crossers are tormented by equatorial veterans. Jesse bear-hugged Rea right after this photo was taken.

Above: U-M marine biologist Robert Owen records data collected from the tube-shaped samples of sediment cores.

Illustrations from a Texas A&M ODP poster show some of the corers, core barrels and samplers.

By John Woodford

As 1993 began, Phil Slomovitz of the Class of 1920 was enjoying one of the happiest days of his life. Known as the dean of Jewish-American journalists, he'd just been elected to the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame and was looking forward to the April 17 induction ceremony. The occasion would mark his 75th year in journalism, 42 of which he spent as founder-publisher-editor-columnist of *The Detroit Jewish News* in Southfield.

But two months to the very day before this latest of many honors, Slomovitz died in his sleep at age 96. "Sure he had old-timers' frailty problems plus total blindness," recalled Detroit advertising executive Leonard N. Simons, 89, Slomovitz's friend of more than 60 years. "But his mind was still sharp. He hoped God would let him reach 100. But it was not to be. He continued to work to his last breath; he believed journalists should keep on writing as long as they had something to say."

Slomovitz always had plenty to say. His column, "Purely Commentary," ran for more than 50 years while he was editor of the *Jewish News* and continued for 10 years after blindness forced him to sell the newspaper. His final column appeared nine days after his death.

Slomovitz founded the *Jewish News* in 1942 upon leaving the *Detroit Jewish Chronicle*. Freedom of the press is enjoyed most by the man who owns one, and Slomovitz wanted that freedom so he could better defend the Jewish people as fascists stepped up their genocidal assaults in Europe.

Slomovitz was not chauvinistic in his defense of Jews. "He was an advocate of human rights and human responsibility," Simons says. "He was a most unpretentious person, yet he fought injustice, bigotry and anti-Semitism and his courage never wavered. Some of us affectionately called him 'The Little Giant' because he reminded us of the biblical David."

#### From Composer to Student

Slomovitz was born in 1896 in Nowogrodek in what was then known as Polish Russia, now Belarus (Byelorussia). He graduated from a Russian-Jewish high school at 13. Soon afterward his parents and their seven children docked in Bayonne, New Jersey, on November 29, 1910. In 1915 young Phil commuted three nights a week to a New York City school to prepare for college, all the while holding a day job as a compositor in a printshop. By 1916 he was ready for college.

He chose the University of Michigan because a cousin had preceded him here. It's fitting that a man who later had a 10,000-tree forest in Israel named in his and his wife Anna Gandal's honor, entered the University to become a forester. Poor eyesight and a first-place prize in a journalism contest convinced him to switch majors, however, and he joined the *Michigan Daily* as night editor.

Slomovitz left college in 1918 after his sophomore year to become a reporter for the *Detroit News*; in 1922 he moved to the *Jewish Chronicle*, which he edited for 20 years before launching the *Jewish News*. His "Purely Commentary" column shows why both papers gained reputations under his leadership as this country's most successful English-language Jewish newspapers. (The *News* incorporated the *Chronicle* in 1951.)

#### An Archaeologist of Ethics

Slomovitz's columns reveal a mind steeped in Jewish history and religious doctrines, in world history and literature, and in politics. He applied his learning in remarkably clear and brief columns to unearth universal ethical principles beneath the



Phil Slomovitz (1896-1993) was survived by his wife, Anna; two sons, Carmi and Gabriel, and a grandson.

## The Little Giant

surface of both ancient and contemporary events.

Any reader of the two collections of his writings published by the Wayne State University Press, *Without Malice* (1978) and *Purely Commentary* (1981), will rank him among the outstanding columnists of the century. Many columns contain advice to Jews on how to respond to crises facing their communities, but any ethnic minority community could find his conclusions of value. Slomovitz believed that Jewish-Americans should act on principles that serve Jewish and Israeli self-interest, but which remain true at the same time to the ideals of US democracy and human rights. He called such ideals "the Hebraic mortar that binds us to tradition."

In an August 1969 column, "Our Treasured Ethical Codes," he marked the publication of the *Birthright of Man*, a UNESCO compendium of human wisdom through the ages as expressed in moral codes and in concepts of human rights. Slomovitz wrote:

*It was wise for the compiler of this vast treasury to commence with a quotation from Mariano Moreno,*

### P U R E L Y C O M M E N T A R Y

#### KKK Regains A Platform To Repeat Old Hatreds

By Phil Slomovitz

Every expression of hatred unfortunately results in the spread of poison among people.

Regrettably, a KKK spokesman was given a platform on the popular NBC "Today" show.

The hate-mongering was rebutted. The reply to the Ku Klux Klan's anti-Black and anti-Jewish as well as anti-Catholic venom was effective.

Regardless of the concerns that were created, these factors must be considered in all seriousness.

If KKK is gaining ground, it is well that its propaganda should not be viewed as secretive. Let it be aired. This is the democratic way of challenging the lunatic fringe and the bigoted.

Regrettably, it is not always certain that those who are subjected to the poisons of hatreds will hear the refutations. This is a gamble, also a factor in the democratic sphere of speculating with hopes that sensible people will be able to separate the untruthful from the factual.

The anger and the horror that arose from the KKK advocate's

uttered on December 8, 1810: "Any tyrant can compel his slaves to sing hymns in praise of liberty." It leads right into a text that makes the freedom of man emerge as a birthright not to be denied.

It is the universality that is vital. That is why, in dealing with mankind's common origin and tradition, there is the quotation from the Talmudic Babli: "Rabbi Meir said: 'The dust from which the first man was made was gathered in all the corners of the world.'"

Slomovitz went on to apply universal concepts to specifically Jewish concerns:

... So much bile has secreted out of human bigotry about Jews, who have been maligned about the Talmud and other teachings, that it is necessary to quote... this regulation from Sefer Hasidim, based on a 12th century tradition:

"If a Jew attempts to kill an innocent Gentile, every Jew must go out against the Jew in order to save the Gentile."

Slomovitz valued highly the support for Jews by non-Jews. Looking back on the 1930s, when open expressions of vicious hatred of Jews were common, he felt relations between Detroit-area Jews and non-Jews were "much better than they are today." He explained this opinion by noting that in the '30s the American Christian Palestine Committee was "active and productive" and that "there was less suspicion of Jews in the Black ranks." He regretted that with the establishment of Israel, some sections of the Black community became involved in anti-Israel activities. "That created prejudices," he said.

In February 1980 he took up the question of how Jews or other oppressed groups should deal with their persecutors. He recalled the centuries when the Jews of Eastern Europe and Russia, finding themselves helpless:

had to submit to the tyrannical humiliations of those who ruled over them economically, socially and politically.

They found refuge in the synagogue and in the home, where their dignity was restored. But the outside world created panic for them.

In that era, certain rich Polish landowners came to refer to some Jewish tenants as "Mah Yofis Jews." The landowners compelled subservient Jews to attend social functions at which they ordered the Jews "to dance on one foot while singing one of the most beautiful Jewish hymns, Mah Yofis," hence the derogatory term.

#### Mah Yofis and Refuseniks

"What about our own time?" Slomovitz then asked. He contrasted the behavior of the Mah Yofis with the admirable "refusal to panic" of Jewish "refuseniks" in the Soviet Union, who withstood intimidation to insist upon their right to emigrate. And he likened to the Mah Yofis a delegation of Iranian Jews who had just pledged allegiance to the Ayatollah Khomeini and condemned Israel.

"How are Jews to act when they are subjected to insults and are confronted with dangers?" Slomovitz continued. He drew his answer from the Old Testament "Book of Esther." Mordecai asks his cousin Esther, a queen of the Emperor Ahasuerus, to reveal her hidden heritage to the king. By doing so she can plea for the Jews and perhaps save them from the genocidal plot of Haman, one of the king's chieftains.

When Esther replies that she could be executed if she goes to the king's inner court without being summoned there, Mordecai says:

"Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then will relief and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place, but thou and thy father's house will perish."

"The charge of Mordecai to Esther carries with it an historic lesson," wrote Slomovitz, as did Esther's answer: "I will go in unto the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish."

anti-Jewish libels and exaggerations is understandable. When they were repeated by the elder Ford, by Father Coughlin, by the Winrods and the Deatherages, the falsehoods were a known quantity. Their repetition in an age without secrets is stupid, yet they require replies.

The major accusation by the KKK man was that Jews control the media. Do we? Have we done well in that capacity? Has America been enriched by good newspapers, splendid radio and TV programs, fine movies? And if there are shortcomings in the media, don't Jews suffer from them as much as non-Jews?

And is there any sense in expecting justice from a KKK man in passing judgment on such merits?

There is an old Yiddish saying, "Geht zukht yeisher by a kozack—go and seek justice from a barbarian." This being the case, let there be a lessening of panic about the KKK or anyone in the lunatic fringe. They reappear and the natural rejection of their hatreds by the American sense of fair play will take its course. *Detroit Jewish News*, Dec. 1975,

People watch what they say  
around Brian Sietsema '85

# WORDSMAN

By Laurie B. Fenlason

When linguist Brian Sietsema '85 introduces himself at a party, people tend to clam up. But like a psychiatrist or a gossip columnist, he's learned to accept their reticence as an occupational hazard: in his case, people would rather say nothing at all than risk mispronouncing something in front of a professional wordmaster. But it's precisely those "mis-pronunciations Sietsema cherishes—not for the opportunity to correct them, but to add them to his catalog of regional, "descriptive" variations.

"I find when I go around the country that people get really hot and bothered about what they consider to be mispronunciations," says Sietsema (see accompanying guide for correct pronunciation). "They're always willing to ascribe a certain mispronunciation to some other region of the country. They think they're right, and it's 'those Midwesterners' who say it wrong. Or 'those people down south.' But in fact, mispronunciation is spread throughout the country. It's not limited to any one region."

### Crazed by 'KYU-pon'

As pronunciation editor at Merriam-Webster, Inc., in Springfield, Massachusetts, the country's oldest dictionary publisher and owner of the largest share of the dictionary market, Sietsema spends a lot of time listening. Listening to the boom box on his office bookshelf. To radio call-in shows. To regional TV newscasts. To his co-workers' chit-chat. And of course to his wife, Katherine '90 (nee Chapekis), an assistant editor at Merriam-Webster. ("When we go grocery shopping, she says 'KYU-pon' and I say 'KOO-pon'," he says. "Both are acceptable, but 'KYU-pon' still drives me crazy.")

As an engineering-turned-religious studies major at Michigan, Sietsema realized in his senior year that the language study his major required excited him at least as much as his religion courses. After graduation, he



Photo by Geneva Britton

Sietsema

"In the preface, Noah [Sietsema speaks of the company's spiritual father by his first name] justifies the pronunciation of the word 'ask' as 'ax'. It turns out that this was a common pronunciation of the word at that time." In fact, Sietsema says, linguists have found manuscripts dating from the 11th and 12th centuries in which the predecessor of 'ask' is spelled with an 'x'.

Rhyming poetry is also a resource for linguists. Sietsema cites a poem by John Keats, "An Epistle to My Brother George," in which 'quarrel' is rhymed with 'apparel'. "By knowing from other sources the way that 'u-a-r' sequences were pronounced at that time, we learn that when Keats was writing, 'quarrel' was probably pronounced 'kwear-rel'."

### Johnson on 'Oats'

Sietsema likes reading older dictionaries because "you get the sense that the author is talking to you." Samuel Johnson, author of the 18th century's largest and most highly regarded dictionary, often slipped in bits of humor, defining, for example, 'lexicographer' as 'a harmless drudge'. Nor did Johnson hesitate to reveal his political prejudices in his citations. Known for his antipathy toward the Scottish, he defined 'oats' in the following way: "A grain which in England is generally given to horses but in Scotland supports the people."

While the fates of best-selling authors may rise and fall, lexicographers like Sietsema, particularly in the United States, can be assured of steady employment.

"With all the different ethnic groups here, you find, for example, aspects of the Hispanic community and their pronunciation of English coming into the more WASPish pronunciations," he explains. "Black English has an influence here, too, although I am not sure how it fits into the entire equation. And who knows what the recent wave of immigration from the Far East will do? I can't make any predictions, but I know that the things that cause a language to change are all very present in this country."

Information officer Laurie B. Fenlason has left U-M's Washington, D.C., office to take over public relations for Hobart and William Smith College in Albany, N.Y.

## The Little Giant continued



Esther before Ahasuerus (1639) by Il Guercino (Giovanni Francesco Barbieri); Italian, 1591-1666; oil on canvas; the University of Michigan Museum of Art, 1963.

### On Being an American

In his 1960 Thanksgiving column Slomovitz celebrated his "Fifty Years as an American." Being an American, he said, meant:

*fifty years of freedom—freedom to speak the mind and to express views without hindrance; fifty years of service to causes that fit into the American way of life and therefore in the uplifting of the less fortunate .*

*... We [American Jews] were charged with the task of saving lives and, at the same time, of repudiating bigots. In this country we were free to speak our minds against intolerance, to battle the anti-Semites, to demand justice wherever and whenever it was due.*

*In that battle we soon learned the greatness of America. We were not alone in the fight. We soon learned that there is such a genuine principle as fair play in this great land of our adoption. We are grateful for that idea. It has helped to sustain us in our Americanism, and it has given us pride in our loyalties to this great land and its deep-rooted principles.*

As the late William Haber, former dean of the U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, said of Slomovitz's writings on the newspaperman's 85th birthday: "[His] commentary is just what it is, in the Talmudic tradition of rabbinic commentaries on how to make sense of the words of the prophets in terms of here and now. In the cross-currents of our perplexing age, that often defy ready understanding, Phil Slomovitz has been a steady guide to the perplexed. There is much nobility in that accomplishment."

entered MIT's linguistics program and wrote his dissertation on African tone languages, later returning to the U-M to teach for a year.

Of his current occupation—"not really a corporate job, but not an academic position either"—he jokes, "How much can I complain? I've got a job where I'm paid to read the newspaper; listen to the radio and watch television."

### Impact of Radio

Until the 1930s, the job of a pronunciation editor was simply to take the spelling of a word and assign it a pronunciation. But in response to the growth of broadcast radio, Merriam-Webster opted for a more descriptive approach: recording the language as it is currently pronounced and notating it.

"In our view, that's the only objective way to make a dictionary," Sietsema explains. "The alternative is to go back to the old 'we hand it down to you' approach. Frankly, what you get in those situations are older white men from Yale and Harvard telling the rest of the world how to talk."

Moreover, Sietsema says, efforts to 'control' language rarely work. "For all the efforts of the French Academy [to limit foreign words], you still have the French going places on 'le weekend' and eating 'le hamburger'."

For the tenth edition of the Collegiate Dictionary, the company's once-a-decade bread-and-butter product, Sietsema checked all 180,000 entries, updating pronunciations, adding pronunciations for new words and checking to make sure word-divisions reflected current standards. The word for the substance used in toothpaste, for example, required attention: "No one says 'FLU-er-ide' anymore," Sietsema explained. "They say 'FLOOR-ide'." The same went for piña colada: after polling his fellow editors, many of whom, fortuitously, come from different regions of the country, Sietsema found that exactly half said 'PEEN-yuh' and half said 'PEE-nuh'. Both went into the book.

### 'Ax Me No Questions . . .'

While old books and manuscripts allow linguists to trace the evolution of a word's spelling or meaning, they don't offer much help with historic pronunciations—unless, of course, they're other dictionaries. A facsimile edition of Noah Webster's 1806 dictionary, for example, sheds interesting light on a word that has become a contemporary icon of the division between so-called standard English and the dialect known as Black English.

## SUBVERSIVE SOUNDS

Brian Sietsema takes "dutiful notes" about varying pronunciations of certain words because "who knows, someday they may be standard pronunciations." Here are a few of the words that may be on shaky phonetic foundations and Sietsema's descriptions of what's happening to them:

- Asterisk — Often comes out 'asterik'. Stan Lee, the comic book author, and Rush Limbaugh, the radio commentator, are both on record saying 'asterik'.
- Etcetera — People look at the abbreviated version, 'etc.', reverse the 't' and 'c', and come out with something like 'ex-cetera'.
- Familiar — For some reason, people like to add an 'r' to get 'fermiliar'.
- Nuclear — George Bush wasn't the first president to mangle it. Jimmy Carter, too, though he is a nuclear engineer, said, 'NU-kyuh-ler' instead of 'NU-klee-yer', as did Eisenhower before him. I think it's because we have more words that end in '-ular' or '-yuh-ler'—particular, avuncular, perpendicular—than words that end in '-clear' or 'klee-yer'.
- Pronunciation — People tend to say 'pro-NOUN-ciation' because of the 'noun' in 'pronounce', instead of 'pro-NUN-ciation'.
- Realtor — I hear it all the time: 'REE-luh-ter' instead of 'REE-uhl-ter'.
- Sietsema — In restaurants, when my table is ready, I get called by all sorts of names: 'Mr. SAYT-suh-muh', 'Mr. see-ETS-uh-muh', 'Mr. seet-SEE-muh'. The only place I'm safe in is my home town, Grand Rapids, Michigan, where the local Dutch population gets it right (SEET-suh-muh). My uncle was a state representative for many years, so the family name became pretty well known.
- Specific — Many people have started to pronounce it like the ocean, 'pacific', dropping the initial 's'.

# LETTERS

## SERVICE COSTS QUESTIONED

I HAVE one question for U of M grad Eli Segal who will be heading Clinton's National Service program. As a former businessman, how can you justify spending \$3.4 billion on a program that will benefit only 100,000 students?

Oh, I get it. When the taxpayers foot the bill, you don't have to worry about cost-effectiveness.

Lydia Rodriguez UMD '66  
Dearborn Heights, Michigan

## BYLAW REVISION OPPOSED

I AM WRITING in support of and in gratitude for Regent Deane Baker who voted against the revised Bylaw 14.06, arguing that "alleged discrimination is not the real issue, but rather the establishment in the bylaws of 'the concept of 'equivalecy' of homosexual/lesbian sexual practices and lifestyle as equal to and as acceptable as heterosexual sexual practices and lifestyle."

I heard on the radio of a young male U of M student who was discriminated against because he did not want to room with an avowed homosexual. He was required to take "sensitivity training" of some kind. How about requiring some counseling for the sexually addicted homosexual?

Calvin Rice '66  
Cambridge, Ohio

IN ABOUT 1982 we all became aware that people who then continued to engage in anal sex would eventually die (of AIDS). Amazingly, even in the face of death, many continue the practice of anal sex. Such that now the average age of death of male homosexuals is 40 years of age! Obviously we're talking *compulsion*, not *orientation*. (Like the compulsion of those who knowingly risk lung cancer by smoking).

I was, therefore, saddened to read that the U-M Regents have decided not to discriminate on the basis of "sexual orientation." How can the Regents say, in effect, that habitual indulgence in certain conduct, i.e., anal sex, universally known to be lethal, is an orientation and not a compulsion? Indeed, the Regents have turned a deaf ear to reason in the interest of being politically correct, blithely ignoring the welfare of myriads who need help with a deadly sexual compulsion.

When will I read that the Regents have removed all "No Smoking" signs about campus in the interest of not discriminating against those with a "smoker orientation"?

Dennis P. Kelly '68 JD  
Lake San Marcos, California

## PLEASED BY PEACE PROSPECTS

I WAS DELIGHTED to read the article "Human Bridges to Peace" in the October issue. In the midst of reading Mrs. Sadat's book, *A Woman of Egypt*, and having just attended an Elderhostel program featuring a dramatization of Golda Meir's impressions of the same period, it is good to read the story of Hillel Shuval and Khalil Hosney Mancy.

Thanks to *Michigan Today* and to Deborah Gilbert for a glimpse of a hopeful scene in the drama of the emerging global society.

Molly S. King  
Santa Paula, California

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INSPIRATION

THANK YOU very much for the latest issue; I particularly liked "Faces of Post Soviet Society." I was intrigued by the photograph of the Russian peasant. Somehow I was inspired to dash off a short poem. I enclose it.

*Strange strong man with crinkled eyes,  
Bushy eyebrows and crows feet deeply set,  
Hair disheveled and forehead great,  
What say those eyes, this life so strangely met?*

*Sweater torn, shirt sleeve ripped—  
unclean,  
Large leathery hand with giant thumb  
appealing,  
Asking for our love and understanding—  
We who know not pain fail to sense his  
feeling,  
Fail to know the peasant strength so  
obvious,  
Resultant from the centuries of slavish  
servitude  
Under Czar, or Lenin, Stalin—who next?  
Can he look to us with any change of  
attitude?*

William Standish Reed '43, '45 MD, 55UH  
Tampa, Florida

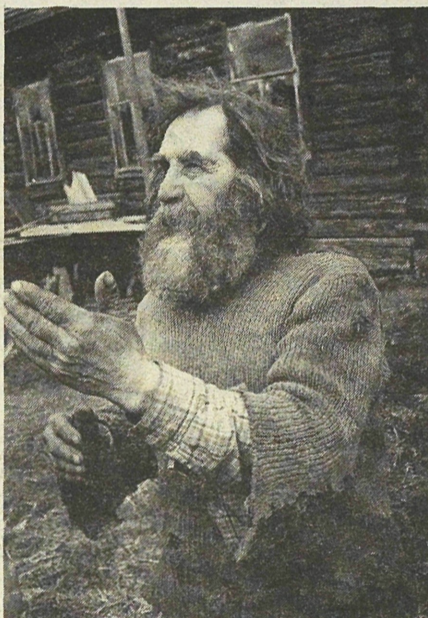


Photo by Mark Shteinbok, Ogaryok, Moscow

## ELDERHOSTEL INFORMATION

I ENJOY your publication. It covers many interesting and thought provoking subjects. Since many of your readers are in the class called "senior citizens," I thought that they would be interested in learning more about the Elderhostel program.

Albert Fialka '50  
Flint, Michigan

Mr. Fialka advises readers interested in Elderhostel's "many opportunities to learn and enjoy a stay at universities around the country," to write to Elderhostel, 75 Federal St., Boston MA 02110 for free information—Ed.

## Michigan Today

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## SOLD ON SOLAR POWER

I READ the article on the "Sun Team" in the October issue with extreme interest. I was happy that the U-M solar-powered car called the Maize & Blue won the General Motors Sunrayce '93 over 33 other university-designed cars. The article gave me an idea of the engineering of the solar-paneled car, although being an English major, engineering is not my forte. However, I am a peace movement member and a Socialist Party member, so this article is thrilling to me.

A few years ago when I was paying my own electric bills, Con Edison sent us a little brochure on how the house of the future could be solar-powered. Sunlight would come in mainly from a device on the roof of the house. I was thrilled by this also as a way of saving energy. As in the Maize & Blue car, all that gas and oil would be saved. Our natural resources would no longer be threatened. Our streets and homes and our air in general would be cleaner.

Our peace movement and the Socialist Party, USA and International, are both against nuclear power from the nuclear reactors around the world. I personally have marched to have the Indian Point reactor here in Peekskill, New York, shut down. Part of it has been shut down due to our efforts. Asked about an alternative to nuclear power, many of us,

including myself, are saying solar power is the alternative. So, I think it is wonderful that the U-M College of Engineering does research and experiments with solar power. I hope that the USA becomes interested in and uses solar power.

I can see from the bus I take that many big homes in Cortlandt, New York, are now using solar power. There are devices on their roofs, and the homes are made of a certain kind of grey-brown wood. I have not seen the Maize & Blue solar-powered cars on the street yet, but I shall look for them.

Marie Louise Caspe '57  
Mohegan Lake, New York

## Alumni nominations sought for Volunteer Spirit Award

The University of Michigan has been participating since 1989 in the Volunteer Spirit Award sponsored by the Buick Motor Division of General Motors.

Since then, 12 Wolverine students have received the award for volunteering their time to help others on campus or in the community in such areas as education, environmental issues, homelessness, the disabled and other worthy causes.

This year Buick is expanding the award to involve not only students, but one faculty member and alumnus or alumna as well. On April 7, 1994, recipients will receive a plaque and five shares of GM common stock.

If you would like to nominate an alumnus or alumna—or a student or faculty member—you may pick up an application at the Student Organization Development Center in the Michigan Union or call 313-763-5900 to obtain one by mail. You may also mail your request to the Center at 2202 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109.

Applications are due by March 7, 1994.

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# An Ovation: Let's Hear It For Hill

By Rick Krupinski

**"To this place will come in time statesmen and scholars and artists from every part of the world."**

Sen. Charles Elroy Townsend,  
Dedication of Hill Auditorium,  
June 25, 1913

When people speak about Hill Auditorium—whether it's the perfect acoustics, the beauty of the concert hall or the brilliant musical performers and lecturers it hosts—words like "magnificent," "exquisite" and "sublime" become common adjectives.

For 80 years, Hill Auditorium has resounded with the glorious strains of symphonies, tenors and sopranos, with the wit and wisdom of speakers such as Robert Frost, Winston Churchill and Eleanor Roosevelt. One of those University landmarks that comes to mean something special to every student, faculty and staff member, and to the local community as well as the musicians worldwide, Hill stands at the core of University life and history.

In addition to performances by renowned artists and lectures by relevant contemporaries, Hill Auditorium has been the site of graduation ceremonies, honors convocations, memorial services and six presidential inaugurations. A major component of the School of Music, Hill Auditorium has welcomed not only the famous but the aspiring as well: many student ensembles perform on its stage, providing the community with a venue of mostly free concerts while affording students the opportunity to experience a high-caliber concert hall.

Yet for all the grandeur of its architecture and acoustics, Hill awaits a badly needed renovation, preservation and expansion effort which is a priority of the five-year, \$1 billion Campaign for Michigan fundraising drive.

Known as "Ovation," Hill's portion of the Campaign for Michigan will in a sense complete this great auditorium which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

## A Matter of Priorities

Hill was constructed with a \$200,000 bequest by Arthur Hill, a graduate of the Class of 1865 and later a Regent of the University. Priority was placed on the concert house itself so that acoustics, concertgoer comfort and the beauty of the hall would not be compromised. This priority, combined with budget limitations, resulted in ancillary areas all around the magnificent hall which don't compare in quality to the concert chamber.

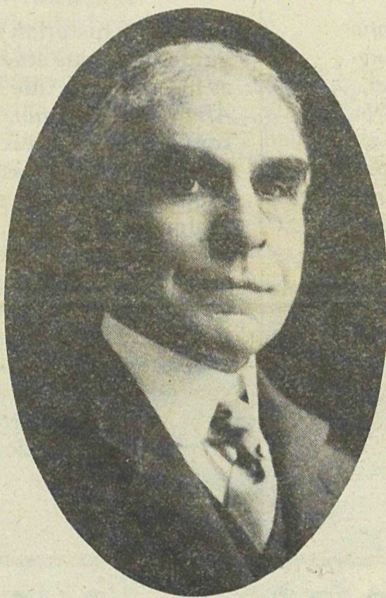
As Regent William Clements, member of the building committee and primary force in making the project happen, wrote to U-M President Harry Hutchins, "If we build a building as we expect for \$200,000...simplicity must...follow throughout in the design."

Increasing the budgetary challenge was the plan to build a large auditorium. At a capacity of 4,500, Hill would be one of the largest concert halls in North America, a controversial goal for those who thought it couldn't be done acoustically. Size, in fact, has been critical to Hill's success. When Charles Sink of the University Musical Society wanted to book the tenor Enrico Caruso, whose fees were so high that he performed only in the music capitals of the world, the capacity of Hill provided sufficient revenue to bring the star to the small town of Ann Arbor.

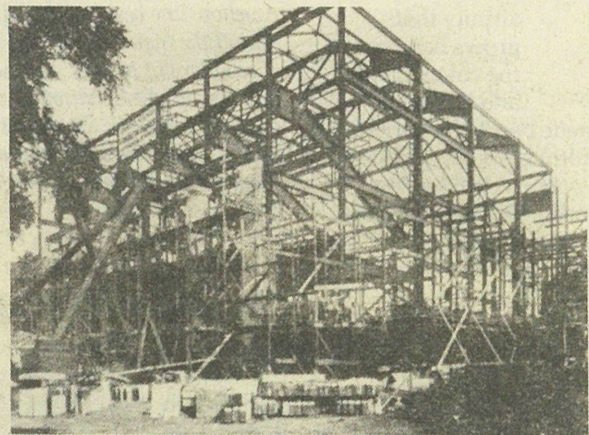
A typical response to Hill occurred during baritone Thomas Hampson's recent Ann Arbor debut performance. Upon being urged into his third encore, Hampson confessed to his audience that when he was told he'd been booked in a hall as large as Hill, his reply was, "Cancel it!" He performed the concert, however, and it proved a great success, and Hampson admitted that after experiencing Hill, he "wouldn't have traded the experience for anything."

But the sacrifices during Hill's construction—some obvious, some hidden—had a big impact on the surrounding areas that support performances. Dressing rooms for most of the performers translate into the cramped, low-ceilinged basement area, often with a makeshift curtain dividing the space for men and women.

With 100 or more members in a symphony orchestra, or the 250 in a typical choral group, conditions go far beyond insufficient. Hill has no air conditioning system; lobby space quickly becomes uncomfortably crowded during intermissions and before and after performances; and, as particularly the women know, restroom space is absurdly inadequate. Hill's



Arthur Hill



Construction of Hill Auditorium in 1912.

## M CAMPAIGN

balconies and much of the steeply graded first floor of the house remain inaccessible to the disabled.

## Renovation and Expansion

Alfred Kahn and Associates of Detroit, the firm founded by Hill's original architect, is undertaking the renovation and expansion project. Based on a comprehensive survey and analysis of the building and aided by original construction documents from the Kahn archives and historic interior and exterior photographs, renovation will be accomplished in such a way as to preserve the building's outstanding architectural characteristics and acoustical qualities.

To make sure that performance schedules will not be disrupted, work will take place only during summers over a three-year period. In addition to installing an air conditioning system and an elevator to allow disabled persons access to upper floors, Kahn and Associates will expand the basement to include a lower lobby; renovate existing restrooms and construct new ones; and build an addition complete with dressing rooms, a Green Room and performers' lounge, kitchen and shower areas onto the back of Hill. The front plaza will be rebuilt according to original design specifications. The concert chamber itself will get fresh paint and new seats.

The work to extend Hill's usefulness into the next century will cost 100 times the amount Arthur Hill left to build the auditorium. The project is regarded by all who know Hill Auditorium as an investment in preserving not only history, but also a space that fulfills its function with uncommon precision and grace.

"Hill Auditorium is legend in the performance world," says Judy Dow Alexander, chair of the Ovation Campaign Committee. "It has moved the souls of audiences and artists alike for decades, and now we have the chance to give something back to Hill and take an active part in making sure so wonderful a place is here for decades yet to come."

## Arthur Hill's Bequest

Arthur Hill (1847-1909) grew up in the lumber industry, working in his father's mill as a boy. After earning a civil engineering degree in 1865, followed by a stint surveying for the railroad and studies of law back at U-M, Hill devoted himself to the lumber business.

For seven years he worked as a "land looker," covering virtually every Michigan county on foot carrying a 70-pound backpack, locating and estimating timber quantities for the federal and state governments.

After joining his brother, Wilbur Hill, as a junior partner in Wilbur's lumber firm, Arthur went on to become very successful in timber, shipping and other business ventures, as well as being influential in setting up state reforestry efforts.

A mayor of Saginaw, Michigan, and a U-M regent, Hill understood the value of education and culture. After the old University Hall proved inadequate during the first, wildly successful May Festivals, Hill became interested in the project to build a new, large, world-class concert hall. Just a few months before his death in 1909, Hill asked then-President James Angell if he felt any other structure might have priority at that time over an auditorium. Angell assured Hill that the auditorium was still of highest priority.

When Arthur Hill died, his bequest of \$200,000 to the University provided most of the funding for construction of the auditorium that bears his name.

## Ovation: The Campaign for Hill Auditorium

Many wonderful opportunities for donor recognition exist within the Ovation Campaign, including the Green Room, performers' lounge, the front plaza and the new lower lobby.

The naming of the Concert Chamber offers the most visible and prestigious recognition in the entire Campaign for Michigan.

For information on making a gift of any size to the restoration of Hill Auditorium, please contact Anneke Overseth, director of development for the arts, 128 Michigan League, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1285. You may also call (313) 764-5123 or the Campaign for Michigan at (313) 998-6000.

# U-M BOOKS

**MINOR CASUALTIES: *New and Selected Poems*, by Robert Chrisman. Lotus Press, c/o Michigan State University Press, East Lansing, Michigan; \$10.**

Chrisman, a lecturer in the Department of English and the Center for Afro-American and African Studies, is also editor of the journal *The Black Scholar*. The 29 works in this 1993 collection range from political to satirical to love poems.

The poem "Joseph" typifies Chrisman's skill at casting familiar subjects in a new moral light. With powerful brevity he compresses a portion of the biblical story of Joseph into a mini-parable about the peculiar, language-and luxury-based affinity that grows between the colonial elite and the colonizer. This aesthetic bond, the germ of a kind of multiculturalism, provides the basis for the poem's climax—the scene in which Joseph is startled by his awareness of his estrangement from his "bent brothers" and "natal tongue."



Chrisman

## JOSEPH

*His innocence could not help but chant  
The dreams, the splendor of prophecy  
Who knew that stars would bow to him,  
Who swaggered father's favor in his coat.*

*The purpose of his brothers took him  
unaware:  
"We would kill him now." "No, let us  
starve  
him in a pit." He lay bare  
Before kindness redeemed him as a slave.*

*Whom could he serve but Pharaoh,  
Who loved his gifts? Their language,  
Spices, perfumes, marble baths and myrrh  
Elegant as the gold that braced his limbs.*

*He was startled to see his bent brothers  
Crude as cactus in their need,  
And almost spoke his natal tongue.  
But he was vicar of Pharaoh.*

*Vision bound him to gentler lessons,  
Heard their genealogy of lies,  
Paid them, but brothers they were not,  
Nor ever again would that father  
Have his lost, beloved Joseph  
Who found the work of empire for his  
dreams.*

**BEFORE OUR EYES**, by Lawrence Joseph '70, '75 JD. Farrar Straus Giroux, New York; \$18.



Joseph

Joseph, professor of law at St. John's University law school, is a mosaicist of color, imagery, word play and intellection. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* says he "may be the only legal academic who

publishes poetry, writes literary criticism and gets glowing reviews as well." This is his third volume of poetry. In "Admissions Against Interest," one of the poems in this collection, he displays his characteristic skill of fusing legal and poetic discourse:

*"Now, what type of animal asks after facts?  
—so I'm a lawyer, maybe charming,  
direct yet as circumspect as any other*

*lawyer  
going on about concrete forces of civil  
society substantially beyond anyone's  
grasp*

*and about money."*

An excerpt from his title poem conveys Joseph's abstract-expressionist mode of composition. His art often becomes the subject of itself, an aesthetic feat he accomplishes "before our eyes" in the opening lines:

## BEFORE OUR EYES

*The sky almost transparent, saturated  
manganese blue. Windy and cold.  
A yellow line beside a black line  
behind the mountain ash on Horatio.  
A circular cut of pink flesh hanging  
in the shop. Fish, flattened, copper,  
heads chopped off. The point is to bring  
depths to the surface, to elevate  
sensuous experience into speech  
and the social contract. Ribbons of smoke  
silhouette the pier, a navy of yachts  
pounded by the river's green waves.  
By written I mean made, by made I mean*

*felt;  
concealed things, sweet sleep of colors.  
So you will be, perhaps appropriately,  
dismissed for it, a morality of seeing,  
laying it on. ...*



Photo by Bob Kalmbach

## RECONSTRUCTING NIJINSKY'S 'FAUN'

The dance historian Ann Hutchinson Guest guides graduate student dancer Tom Morris as he learns the title role in the ballet *Afternoon of a Faun*. Guest visited campus from England to teach students the original choreography of Vaslav Nijinsky's 1912 production of *Faun*, set to Debussy's prelude.

Nijinsky (see inset) recorded the performance in his own notation system in 1915, but no one could crack the code, which became known as dance's Rosetta stone, until Guest and colleague Claudia Jeschke succeeded in 1987.

The reconstruction of the original ballet, acclaimed as more subtle than later versions, will be presented in February. Meanwhile, from Dec. 18 to Feb. 27, the U-M Museum of Art will exhibit "Nijinsky Dancing," a selection of photographs by Adolfe de Meyer.



Dance Collection, New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

## STRATFORD COMES TO ANN ARBOR



Photo by Bob Kalmbach

The actor Colm Fiore of Canada's Stratford Theatre Festival Company hams it up with students in Prof. Philip Kerr's acting class.

The Stratford company spent a week on campus thanks to a luncheon conversation Kenneth C. Fischer had two and one-half years ago with Anne Charles, the Canadian general counsel in Detroit. Charles and Fischer, who is executive director of the U-M Musical Society, scribbled an agreement on a napkin.

The company performed *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and each of the 60-person cast and crew spent five hours visiting a number of classes and rehearsals, and six local schools as well.

# Terminal Events

By Melissa Peerless

## 2:18 am, Terminal #36

Beth Davidson '94 of Port Huron rubs her bleary eyes and looks up at the ceiling. She checks her watch. It is certainly past her bedtime, and only three pages to go on her Poli Sci term paper. Her head aches from staring at the computer all night. Frustrated, exhausted and cold, she decides to print a draft of her masterpiece-in-progress.

## 3:34 pm, Terminal #107

Michael Rosenberg '96 of Great Neck, New York, laughs as he reads the electronic mail message from his friend at the University of Pennsylvania. Rosenberg prefers this method of communication to the telephone. It's cheaper, and the chatters don't have to be home at the same time. "And I don't have to hear his annoying voice," Rosenberg adds.

10:55 am, Terminals # 7, 12, 19, 23, 26, 39, 44, 48, 57, 73, 78, 100, 104, 111, 123, 138, 139, 141, 150, 165, 170, 173, 184, 198, 200, 209, 243, 258, 274

Quacks, bells, buzzes, bings, drips and dings fill the Fishbowl with a cacophony of synthesized sounds. The printer is out of paper, and each computer is letting its user know with its own gentle reminder—repeated every two seconds at 60 decibels. Students clasp their hands over their ears as a computer expert hurries from behind the Problems Desk and refills the cassette with a fresh stack of paper. After he replaces the tray, the silence that ensues seems almost as eerie as the glow emanating from the fluorescent lights. Soon the only sound that can be heard is the steady tapping of students typing away on their term papers.

## 11:44 p.m., Terminal #294

He saves frequently when writing papers these days. In fact, he's saved after almost every sentence he's written since that fateful night. When he was a first-year student, David Shepardson '95 of Essexville, Michigan, lost a 10-page term paper just hours before it was due. And while he typed into the wee hours of the

morning, he was unable to regain what was lost. He went to class empty-handed and low-spirited. Fortunately, he had an understanding professor and

his little lesson didn't cost him his grade—just a few hours of sleep.

Students like Shepardson can find rows upon rows of their IBM and Macintosh pals at the Angell Hall Computing Center. Located in the expanded hallway/lobby that connects Angell, Mason and Haven Halls, the computer cluster is home to 360 computers, 5 printers and more than 400 chairs. The center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week—and employees say they have never seen a minute when the cluster was completely devoid of student life.

"I've been working here for seven semesters about 25 hours a week, and I've never seen a time when there was no one here," says an Angell Hall employee, adding that she remembers a student who sat before a computer for three days straight.

Angell Hall computers are equipped with several word processing, graphics and spreadsheet programs and Michigan Terminal System electronic mail. Their file server also contains lab programs, self-examinations and tutorials for many University courses.

Students leave their ID cards at the desk while computing to help employees keep track of who is using what computer when. Once students get on a computer, they can stay there as long as they need it. Computer availability is supported in part by a Universitywide student computing fee; students pay no additional charges. The number of computers in the site is usually adequate to accommodate all students. During exam times, however, the wait can last up to four hours.

Melissa Peerless '94 of Cincinnati is an English major and managing editor of the Michigan Daily.



The Angell Hall Computing Center, the largest of many such facilities for students throughout the University, is open around the clock and never empty.

Photo by Bob Kalmbach



Photo by Bob Kalmbach

## Actor in Action

Cadet Maj. Rick Ramsey '94 of Huron, Ohio, receives the trophy for the Wolverine Battalion's second-place finish in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps Ranger Challenge from the actor James Earl Jones '55.

The Challenge is a competition among seven regional ROTC units in the rope bridge, marksmanship, assembly/disassembly of an M-16 rifle and a machine gun, and hand-grenade throw. Ramsey took first in the grenade throw.

Jones returned to campus as the first inductee of the ROTC Wolverine Battalion's newly formed Hall of Fame. He participated in the Scabbard and Blade Honor Society and the Pershing Rifles as an undergraduate.

Jones was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the infantry in 1953. After deciding upon an acting career, he resigned his commission as a first lieutenant, and used his GI Bill funds to complete college.

Jones also met with student actors on campus and read from his recently published autobiography, *James Earl Jones: Voices and Silences*.

In the inset photo by David Smith, Jones is joined by members of Prof. Philip Kerr's acting class, with whom he discussed dramatic technique and the acting profession. As a recipient of a Regent's Alumnae Scholarship at Michigan, Jones is keenly interested in supporting theater students, and he has taken an active role as a co-chair of the William and Claribel Halstead Scholarship Endowment. He met with the first recipient of the endowment, Ceclia Grinwald.

Grinwald is at the far left in the inset photo. The other students are (l-r) Stephanie Fybel, Anthony Giangrande and Clinton Bond.



Photo by David Smith

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2

# Michigan Today



'LIFE STRATEGY' by Ted Ramsay, professor of art, is among the faculty works exhibited this academic year at the Institute for the Humanities in the Rackham Building. The 4'-square work is of cast paper, wood and enamel.

'Like landscape which has been layered with parking lots and structures, my classical paper images have undergone a surface transformation and sport a veneer of manmade materials, such as tar, porch paint, glitter and plastic,' Ramsay says.

Ramsay uses paper as 'the carrier of meaning it has been since ancient times.' His plant and animal images are metaphors for the tension between our degradation of the environment and the 'vague sensory indicators of our consciousness' warning us that we must change our ways to avoid ruin.

The hyena-like dog, which can be seen as wild and/or tame, is 'driven by unseen energies and impulses' as it races across a landscape of forms that are at once naturalistic (mountains) and toxic (pyramids of trash).

U-M Regents: Deane Baker, Ann Arbor; Paul W. Brown, Mackinac Island; Laurence B. Deitch, Southfield; Shirley M. McFee, Battle Creek; Rebecca McGowan, Ann Arbor; Philip H. Power, Ann Arbor; Nellie M. Varner, Detroit; James L. Waters, Muskegon; James J. Duderstadt, President, *Ex-officio*.

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