President's Message  Right and Wrong at Pitzer College  In the recent national discussion over the possible impeachment of President Clinton, questions about morality—his and the nation's—have been addressed repeatedly. The debate centers on private morality versus public morality: what's right for a person versus what's good for society. The debate has raised important questions: In this late 20th-century secular society, whom do we look to for a moral compass as individuals and as a society? Can we at secular colleges address this question about morality meaningfully? Here at Pitzer, for example, can we speak of social responsibility without considering public or private morality? Can we say what is moral for society when it comes to poverty and war? On an individual level, can we say what is moral when it comes to sexual behavior, drug use or other private acts? I believe we must engage in a discourse about morality in our secular colleges and that such discourse is indeed meaningful. The media, however, have distorted how we engage in that discourse and have devalued it and allowed the debate to be co-opted by extremist arguments. Discussion of moral questions has become polarized and politicized, enough to alienate anyone who seriously strives for moral guidance. If we look at headlines, we find that moral discourse is many times dominated by the avowedly and often stridently religious. Some of these strident voices portray colleges and universities like ours as permissive, amoral places. Others attack what they perceive to be a cult of "political correctness" that has abandoned the great moral traditions of the West. They denounce the acceptance of gay faculty, staff and students, for example. Most frequently, they excoriate us for teaching what they consider "moral relativism." But I believe that it is the very teaching of moral relativism that comes closest to providing the sense of morality that we need if we are to tell right from wrong—and why it matters—in an increasingly interrelated world. I believe it is the teaching and experience of moral relativism that will enable our students to tie a personal value system to a public one. We can prepare Americans to be global citizens, to understand and engage with others who have different values, moral systems and religious beliefs, and to understand the role private morality plays in maintaining the public good. Such teaching is based in the liberal arts, which at their origins in Greece were the intellectual and spiritual arts needed to form free social and political systems. Today, as we teach these liberal arts, we know we must look beyond our own Western tradition and learn about values and beliefs in traditions around the world. Now, our students do more than learn cognitively about them; they learn to understand and respect them. This is why many colleges stress the importance of a pluralistic college community. It is critical that faculty and students from different races, classes, and ethnic, religious and national backgrounds learn to understand and respect each other. In such a context, students learn first-hand that creating a moral society does not mean adopting one set of religious or moral values; quite the opposite. It means being able to accept others whose values differ from our own while still maintaining our own integrity. There is an important lesson often lost in the strident debate over "moral relativism": Just because values are not absolute, it does not mean they are not true or that nothing matters. To bring that lesson home, many colleges—including our own—stress the concept of "social responsibility": the duty to create social systems that are just and inclusive. But the principal lesson that seems lost in the discussion over politics, legal issues and moral relativism is this one: Colleges like ours also foster the importance of personal integrity. There is no formula or single moral yardstick for personal integrity. It is merely that being true to oneself is the precondition of being true to others. The same moral engine that drives one to reach out to the poor, or to respect the beliefs of others—or to behave well for the benefit of all while in public office—is the one that grounds personal integrity. In colleges and universities, moral education should not be about sin and redemption, or about their secular counterparts, illness and healing. It should be about supporting unique individuals with all sorts of different "moralities" to behave for the betterment of all. In this, higher education can lead the way if it is not mired in arguments about absolute values or political correctness. To the degree it is, we will fail to discern the inexorable link between personal integrity and the creation of the public good.  Marilyn Chapin Massey, President
The Private Death of Public Discourse

Public discourse—genuine conversation, motivated by openness and goodwill—demands a rich private life. Without that inner life, we can do little more than take up predetermined positions, which we then defend, like enraged warriors, in shrill tones and nasty language. By Barry Sanders

Broadening Minds

As head of an influential policy research center on Latino issues, Professor Harry Pachon gets zinged from both the right and the left. But political neutrality is important to an institution serving a community with diverse nationalities and beliefs. By Peter Y. Hong

The Fixer

As chief of staff for Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, Robin Kramer '75 helped her boss revive the city and get connected. Now, she's finding new ways to bring her hometown together. By Dave Zahniser

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Can we at secular colleges talk meaningfully about morality? President Massey on the meaning of right and wrong at Pitzer.

LETTERS

Excerpts of recent news coverage of Pitzer College from local and national media.

CAMPUS NEWS

Pitzer wins Keck and Irvine grants for new California center; Martha Crunkleton named new dean of faculty; students rally for hurricane victims; Sagehens field winning fall season; Nichols Gallery exhibits global photography; more.

FACULTY NOTES

Betty Farrell publishes a book on the American family; Peter Nardi writes a book on gay friendships; Jim Hoste helps catalog more than 1.7 million knots; more.

ALUMNI NOTES

Nadine Goodman '79 creates a new "home" for Mexico's women; Mitchell Grobman '96 turns shirts into gold; more.

ALUMNI PROFILES

Nadine Goodman '79 creates a new "home" for Mexico's women; Mitchell Grobman '96 turns shirts into gold; more.

IN MY OWN WORDS

Char Miller '75 reflects on the building of Pitzer's geodesic dome 25 years later.

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based ink.
Letters

You’ve Got To Send Mail!

Love the Participant? Hate it? We welcome any comments, criticisms or suggestions! Send letters to: Participant Editor, Pitzer College, 1050 N. Mills Ave., Claremont, Calif. 91711-6101. Or you can e-mail us at letters@pitzer.edu. Letters may be edited for length.

NICE SURPRISE

Upon my return from New York this week, I found a Participant waiting in my inbox. What a nice treat to put my feet up and read the new version of this long-term Pitzer publication. It sets a standard for substance and aesthetics that might be difficult to maintain, but a level of quality we should not fall below. Please send my congratulations to all involved.

Deborah Deutsch Smith ’68
Trustee, Pitzer College
Nashville, Tenn.

POETRY

Thank you for using my poetry in the recent Participant. This issue’s cover was particularly beautiful; the articles were thought-provoking (Jose Millan and his “Labor of Love”) and uplifting (“It’s in Their Nature”). The layout on the poems was wonderful. I was honored to have my work in your magazine.

Deborah Bogen ’90
Claremont, Calif.

As an alumnus, I would like to compliment your staff on the Fall ’98 edition of the Participant. I found it to be an interesting, informative and beautifully constructed publication. I particularly enjoyed the inclusion of artwork, poetry and photography. The articles and announcements were diverse in scope and served to reinforce my sense of connection to Pitzer. The magazine evinces a professional quality, while at the same time capturing, both visually and textually, the essence of Pitzer and the Pitzer tradition.

Rob Fossum ’89
Upland, Calif.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORY

Having just seen the Fall ’98 issue of the Participant, I would like to thank all those responsible for the lovely tributes to me on the occasion of my retirement after 32 years of teaching at Pitzer.

Although I have left Claremont, I have not, in my heart and mind, left Pitzer College. I was very lucky to have been offered a job at what was then a two-year-old college. While I was pretty new at the whole academic game, I knew that I did not want a job at a wannabe school—a college trying to catch up to other schools. As I left the College after my job interview, I remember saying to myself that Pitzer could work out because it was not trying to be Smith. (Pitzer was then a women’s college and I was teaching at Smith on a two-year appointment.) While I was often critical of the College, I never doubted its integrity.

Throughout the years, my greatest delight was in working with the Pitzer students. They consistently brought liveliness, energy, good humor and kindness to our interactions. They made my teaching career an absolute joy. Then to watch them go on to wonderful achievements after graduation ... proof of the quality of their Pitzer experience.

To all alumni, I promise a good word, fond memories and a special tour of Chicago should you be passing through. My address and phone number: 4250 N. Marine Dr., No. 2726, Chicago, IL 60613. (773) 935-6734. To no surprise for those who know me, I have no e-mail or answering machine. I look forward to hearing from and seeing you!

Allen Greenberger
Chicago
**BEATING THE ODDS**

*By Michelle Ruiz*  
**KNBC-TV “Channel 4 News”**  
Oct. 8, 1998

Paul Moyer, anchor: “Maybe you could call this guy the comeback kid. He’s a young man who grew up in an abusive household, but somehow ... managed to find the strength to go on ... and go to college. Michelle Ruiz is here with more tonight on how Gabriel Garcia is beating the odds.”

Michelle Ruiz: “... Gabriel Garcia has overcome tremendous odds, and those who know him say he is destined for great things. ... No matter what, Gabriel got himself to school. Considering Gabriel’s unstable living situation, he says he never really considered college until a teacher challenged him. ... That teacher made an appointment with [Leeshawn Moore, associate dean of students] from Pitzer College.”

Leeshawn Moore: “He has every reason in the world to be drug and alcohol-addicted, every reason in the world because of all the hardships. And that’s one of the things I told the Pitzer College admissions committee, that look at this kid, he’s doing it.”

**PROPOSITION 227’S FLAWS MAKE IT HARD TO IMPLEMENT**

*By Harry P. Pachon*  
**Los Angeles Times, Op-Ed Page**  
Oct. 15, 1998

“School districts around the state are delaying the implementation of Proposition 227, the measure that mandates English-only instruction in California public schools, despite a provision that bilingual education be generally prohibited within 90 days of passage. While proponents of Proposition 227, notably author Ron Unz, see nefarious motives behind such delays, it is the poor conception and unrealistic expectations inherent in the measure that have given rise to the problems in its implementation, just as opponents predicted during the election campaign. ... “What we really need is more careful monitoring and accountability of what is happening in the hundreds of school districts across the state, no matter the timetable for implementation or the percentage of districts seeking waivers. Rabid attacks and partisan arguing won’t teach English to our children. Cooperation, clear information on what works and what doesn’t, and sound teaching methods will.

“Harry P. Pachon is a professor of political studies at Pitzer College and Claremont Graduate University and president of the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute.” [See page 20 for a feature story on Pachon and the institute’s work.]

**CLAREMONT ’98 GRADS RECEIVE A ROUSING SEND-OFF**

*By Kevin Smith*  
**Inland Valley Daily Bulletin**  
May 18, 1998

“The bullhorn and baseball bat may be back in New Jersey, but educator Joe Clark’s booming voice and evangelical style were enough to command attention when he addressed 177 Pitzer College graduates on Sunday.

‘His advice: To get the greatest compensation in life, you must give the world your best service.

‘Clark was the subject of the 1989 film ‘Lean on Me,’ and he really did use a bullhorn and baseball bat to turn a crime-ridden New Jersey high school into a model of cooperative learning.

‘Standing under a huge tent on the Brant Clock Tower lawn, Clark delivered his remarks much like a preacher at a Baptist revival meeting.

‘The message, he said, was one of self-reliance.

‘ ‘A diamond is nothing more than a piece of coal that stuck to its job,’ he said, drawing loud applause from the crowd of nearly 1,500. ‘What you do for yourself you will take to the graveyard. But what you do for others ... will live on.’ ”

**SCHOOLS FORCE STUDENTS TO LEARN VALUE OF SERVICE**

*By Kevin V. Johnson*  
**USA Today**  
May 4, 1998

“It’s one of education’s hottest trends: requiring students to work in the community as part of their education. An estimated 1 million students are in schools with service requirements, according to the Washington-based Center for the Community Interest.

“Why is it so popular? ‘For the last 150 years,’ says Carl Sandburg [High School] service coordinator John Flores, ‘we’ve put students in a room, lectured them for 45 minutes, then made them go to another room and repeat the process. Now we’re offering an experience where they go outside and do something else. It’s the next step in education theory. ...’

“... So many are jumping onto the community service bandwagon that ‘it’s almost a fad,’ says Sally Raskoff, a sociology professor at Pitzer College in California. She’s doing a study of California schools that offer service programs. ... Community service, Raskoff says, ‘is on a roll.’ ”

**COLLEGES GET GRANT TO TRAIN CLASS AIDES**

*By Diane Brown*  
**San Gabriel Valley Daily Tribune**  
Sept. 4, 1998

“Three East San Gabriel Valley area colleges and an Orange County school district have received a $1.2 million federal grant to help 120 bilingual classroom aides become (continued on page 30)
Pitzer Receives $1 Million in Keck, Irvine Grants to Support New Center

Pitzer received two major grants, totaling $1 million, from the W.M. Keck and The James Irvine foundations to fund the creation of an innovative Center for California Cultural and Social Issues.

The W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles will provide $500,000 over four years and The James Irvine Foundation will provide $500,000 over three years to launch the new Center. The Center—an outgrowth of the College’s ongoing comprehensive planning process—has as its core mission to promote faculty and student research on pressing community issues to assist policy making, problem solving and community action.

“We are extremely grateful that the Keck and Irvine foundations are endorsing Pitzer College’s new California center that will link teaching along with student and faculty research and community outreach. Our objective is both to study cultural and social issues critical to the state into the next century and to contribute to their constructive solution,” said President Marilyn Chapin Massey. “The Center will focus and intensify Pitzer’s mission to educate our students to make a difference in society.”

The Center expresses Pitzer College’s intent to serve the good of its students and its own geographical community in the 21st century by addressing regional, social and cultural issues in its innovative, interdisciplinary curriculum. In partnership with elementary and secondary schools, local community groups and other organizations, the Center will engage Pitzer’s professors and students in the hands-on study of the region’s challenges, with the goal of providing research, as well as innovative visions of constructive change, to its community partners. Pitzer students would make a real contribution to social change, and that contribution would become a key component of their Pitzer education.

The grants will support key faculty and student longitudinal research projects, curriculum development, community-based partnerships and fellowships, and a post-baccalaureate program for Pitzer graduates. Funds from The James Irvine Foundation will also support the Center’s faculty director. The W.M. Keck Foundation will provide key funds for project dissemination, including publications.

Plans are for the Center to be up and running by fall 1999. Staffing and faculty decisions are still to come.

The W.M. Keck Foundation is one of the nation’s largest philanthropic organizations. Established in 1954 by the late William Myron Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company, the foundation’s grant-making is focused primarily on the areas of medical research, science and engineering. The foundation also maintains a program for liberal arts colleges and a Southern California Grant Program that provides support in the areas of civic and community services, health care and hospitals, pre-collegiate education, and the arts.

The James Irvine Foundation was established in 1937 as trustee of the charitable trust of James Irvine, a California agricultural pioneer, to promote the general welfare of the people of California. The foundation is dedicated to enhancing the social, economic and physical quality of life throughout California, and to enriching the State’s intellectual and cultural environment. Within these broad purposes, the foundation supports programs in the arts; for children, youth and families; in civic culture, higher education and sustainable communities; and in workforce development.

Pitzer Students Rally for Victims of Hurricane Mitch

Pitzer students Joaquin Calderón ’98, Tim Jones ’99 and Celeste Lofton ’98 were studying in Nicaragua last fall when Hurricane Mitch struck, devastating the country and surrounding nations.

The students, taking Pitzer’s social responsibility objective to heart, were reluctant to leave their host families and friends in the storm-ravaged country. But once relocated to neighboring San José, Costa Rica, for their own safety, they quickly spearheaded relief efforts to get badly needed funds to Nicaraguan villages and grassroots organizations that were working to meet the most basic necessities of those left homeless by Mitch in the Estelí and Matagalpa regions.

Working with contacts in both countries, and with the help of professors Ann Stromberg and Nigel Boyle, with Tom Manley and the external studies office back at Pitzer, the students collected more than $10,000 for the relief effort, which they hand-carried to the Nicaraguan border.

“A student from Hampshire College and I were driven by an [Institute for Central American Development Studies] representative, on Thanksgiving Day, to the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border, where we handed over the check and a truck full of rice, beans, canned foods, milk and clothing,” Calderón wrote in an e-mail to the campus community.
In addition to collecting money, the group solicited donations of food, created a newsletter summarizing the group’s relief efforts, and sent dispatches to local newspapers back home. These efforts were part of a special internship designed by the students with the support of ICADS in Costa Rica. External studies provided a $300 project stipend to each student to support their aid effort.

“The socially responsible work of these students under the direst of circumstances highlights the best that Pitzer stands for,” said President Marilyn Chapin Massey.

Donations for the victims of Hurricane Mitch can be sent by check, payable to ICADS, to: ICADS, Dept. 826, P.O. Box 025216, Miami, Fla. 33102-5216. On the check, note that your donation is for the Nicaraguan Support Committee.

Sagehens Field Winning Athletic Teams

It was a winning season for student athletes on the Pomona-Pitzer athletic teams, which earned team, conference, regional and national recognition during the fall.

The men's football team finished 6-2 for the fourth winning season in a row. Jim Regan (Pomona '99) established a team career rushing record of 2,767 yards over four seasons. For the season, Jace Withy-Allen '99 led receivers with 23 catches for 361 yards and three touchdowns, while Creed Pettit '00 tallied 47 tackles defensively. The 1998 senior gridders were the first players to sweep games over Occidental College and cross-campus rival Claremont-Mudd-Scripps for the fourth straight year.

The men's soccer squad completed the season 9-9 overall and 5-5 in SCIAC play (third). Individual services were awarded to forward Erika Gamst (Pomona '01) earning Second Team All-SCIAC honors and middle fielder Andrea Bustamante (Pomona '99) earning First Team All-SCIAC honors and setter Erika Gamst (Pomona '01) earning Second Team All-SCIAC honors.

The men’s soccer squad completed the season 9-9 overall and 5-5 in SCIAC play (third). Individually, Eric Dugan '00 was named SCIAC Soccer Athlete of the Year on a vote from the conference coaches. The last Sagehen to win the award was Pitzer’s Chris Davis in 1990. Additionally, Jason Magee '01 and Greg Johnson (Pomona '00) were named First Team All-SCIAC, and Francisco Diaz '00 was named Second Team.

The women's soccer team earned a record of 7-8-2 overall and 6-6 in the SCIAC (fifth). Goalie Zelinda Welch '00 was named First Team All-SCIAC; Second Team honors went to Anna Wolbach '00, Torrey Shelton (Pomona '02), Larisa Meisenheimer (Pomona '99) and Sharon Silveira (Pomona '02). For the season, Wolbach scored a team-high seven goals, while Welch tallied 107 saves and was involved in 6½ shutout games. The women’s cross-country team took second in the SCIAC with a 6-1 record. Anastasia Finnegan (Pomona '00) won Runner of the Year honors for winning both conference races, while Leah Barnes (Pomona '00) earned a berth to the national championships, where she finished 53rd out of 183 runners.

On the men's side of distance running, the Sagehen harriers finished in a tie for fourth in the SCIAC with a 3-4 conference record. Adam Boardman (Pomona '01) took second in the SCIAC Championships and sixth in the West Regional meet to lead the squad.

In the pool, the men's water polo team finished 13-19 overall, 5-4 in the SCIAC (fourth). Ryan Williams (Pomona '01) was named First Team All-SCIAC and Marc Cavagnolo (Pomona '01) was named Second Team. The squad advanced to the Western Water Polo Association Tournament at season's end.

Senior Wins Scholarship for Service

Sonia Rodriguez '99 knew of the plight of immigrant farm workers long before she enrolled in Professor Jose Calderón’s “Rural and Urban Ethnic Movements” class.

Growing up in California's Coachella Valley, her father an immigrant farm worker, Rodriguez witnessed firsthand the hardships and inhumanity to which non-union labor is often subjected. “I had seen all the illness and death of my father’s friends due to the pesticide use and horrible working conditions in the fields,” says Rodriguez, a senior majoring in sociology and Chicano studies. “Women are being harassed by the owners, children are out laboring right alongside their parents and sometimes do not even have clean water to
The main thing that attracted me to Pitzer was the sense of community that exists here, the emphasis of the college on social responsibility, the focus on undergraduate education and its holistic approach to teaching," says Greg Saks, newly appointed director of alumni relations at the College. "Beyond teaching facts and figures, Pitzer is educating students on their responsibilities as citizens."

Prior to joining Pitzer's advancement team in late October, Saks worked as assistant director of alumni affairs at Cal Poly Pomona. His responsibilities there included designing and implementing a regional alumni program consisting of 23 chapters, organizing and staffing student and alumni events ranging from intimate dinners to major events, publishing a quarterly newsletter for alumni leaders and supervising hundreds of alumni and student volunteers.

Before Cal Poly, he worked in student affairs at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. Prior to that, he was director of alumni relations for the college student personnel graduate program at Miami University of Ohio, where he earned his M.S. degree in 1994. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from Cal State San Bernardino.

Saks sees three key opportunities as alumni director at Pitzer: assisting the Alumni Council in its board development, bolstering communication and helping with the expansion of regional alumni chapters and "helping the Pitzer community to further integrate alumni into the life of the College."

Expanding these three points will be the focus of his work at Pitzer, says Saks. "It is and will continue to be an exciting place to work," he notes. "My sense is that there will be many 'advances' in the advancement area."

Born and raised in Riverside, Calif., Saks lives with his wife, Ann Gunvalsen, in Pasadena, Calif.

Saks replaces Heather Nordell, who left Pitzer in July to take a position with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Los Angeles.

**New Trustees Possess Leadership Experience**

The appointment of two new members of Pitzer’s board of trustees was announced recently by President Marilyn Chapin Massey. New to the board are Andrea Rich, president and chief executive officer of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and Robin M. Kramer ’75, former chief of staff for Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan.
Family, faculty, trustees and friends gathered at a Hawaiian-themed "roast" and dinner to say thank you to outgoing board of trustees Chair Peter S. Gold at the faculty-trustee retreat in September in La Jolla, Calif. (above, from left) Gold’s wife, Gloria; his son-in-law, Russell Wiltsie; Peter and granddaughter Marisa; and daughter Melinda Wiltsie ’74.

“We are proud to have trustees who are so close to the pulse of Los Angeles and its vibrant pluralism,” said Massey. “In addition to being a leader in the Los Angeles art community, Dr. Rich brings a wealth of experience and expertise from her more than two decades of work as an educator and administrator at UCLA. Ms. Kramer, whom we are proud to call an alumna of Pitzer, brings with her two decades of commitment to serving the community through her tireless work in public, private and nonprofit sectors.”

Andrea Rich became the first president and chief executive officer of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in 1995 after a 34-year career at UCLA. She is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the museum and leads the strategic planning, physical development and fund-raising efforts for the institution. She is particularly focused on LACMA’s educational, technological, multicultural and inter-institutional programs as LACMA readies itself to meet the demands and challenges of the 21st century.

In her most recent position at UCLA, Rich served as executive vice chancellor and chief operating officer for the campus. As the second-highest ranking official at the university, she oversaw a vast academic enterprise that included the College of Letters and Science, 11 professional schools and the UCLA Medical Center. Rich was a leader in efforts to improve undergraduate education, renovate instructional facilities and restructure academic programs for greater financial efficiencies and academic quality. As a member of the UCLA faculty, she was awarded the Distinguished Teaching award. Rich earned her bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. degrees from UCLA, graduated summa cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Robin Kramer has been a creative leader in Los Angeles public affairs for more than two decades. Recently appointed the first Senior Fellow at the California Community Foundation, Kramer previously served the last five years in the administration of Mayor Riordan. (See feature on page 22 for more on Robin Kramer.)

Other Pitzer alumni moved into board leadership positions. Jonathan P. Graham ’82 was appointed co-chair for the board of trustees’ development committee, which is responsible for developing long-range fund-raising strategies and building leadership. The first alumnus to hold this position, Graham brings a strong background in finance and law. He is a partner in the law firm of Williams and Connolly in Washington, where he lives with his wife, Elizabeth Ulmer, and their two children.

Other alumni working in fund-raising leadership positions are trustee Deborah Bach Kallick ’78 and Sheri Huttnner Rapaport ’78, who chair the President’s Council, and Richard Chute ’84 and Ella Pennington ’81, who chair the Alumni Fund.

Nichols Gallery Exhibit Highlights External Studies

“Global Images of the Pitzer Experience,” a new exhibition featuring 53 black-and-white and color images by eight members of the Pitzer College community, is currently on display at Nichols Gallery.

Featured artists in the exhibition are professors Paul Faulstich, Hal Fairchild, Doug Anderson and David Moore; alumni Bruce Potteroff ’96 and Alleghany Meadows ’94; trustee Eugene Stein; and staff member Tom Manley.

Potteroff is a Claremont-based free-lance photographer. Meadows lives in Mendocino, Calif. Stein, a resident of La Cañada, Calif., and a member of Pitzer’s board of trustees since 1994, is executive vice president for Capital Guardian Trust Company in Los Angeles. Manley is associate vice president for international and special programs at Pitzer.

“Many of the photos are from people’s external studies experiences,” explained Yvonne Manipon, a Claremont painter who is curator for the exhibit. “We also wanted people to submit work that truly conveyed the ‘soul’ of Pitzer—it’s spirit of social responsibility, interculturalism and creativity.”

Manipon, who recently completed a master’s degree in arts administration at the
Curator Yvonne Manipon chats with photographer Bruce Pottorff '96 at the opening of "Global Images of the Pitzer Experience" at Nichols Gallery on Oct. 30. Photo by Nancy Newman-Bauer

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, is married to Gary Córdova, executive assistant to President Massey and Participant poetry editor. Her work, mostly figurative paintings rendered in acrylic, watercolor and oil pastels, has been included this year in two group shows at UC Riverside and another at the Da Center for the Arts in Pomona, Calif.

The exhibit will remain on display indefinitely. Most of the images will become part of the gallery's new permanent collection.

Nichols Gallery is located inside the Edythe and Eli Broad Center. The gallery is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (909) 621-6033.

Claremont Colleges Admit Fourth-Graders for a Day

"I'm Going to College" is a mind-set The Claremont Colleges tried to instill in 140 fourth-graders from Upland Elementary School when they spent a day on the five undergraduate campuses in November through an early outreach program aimed at disadvantaged youngsters.

The program, now in its eighth year, simulates an actual day at college. While on campus, the children receive student identification cards, buy books, visit dormitories and classrooms, eat in the cafeteria and attend lectures and scientific demonstrations.

Before they arrive in Claremont, the kids spend about six weeks preparing for the experience, through an activity book designed for the "I'm Going to College" program and classroom visits from student volunteers from Pitzer and other colleges in five colleges once the youngsters arrive.

"I'm Going to College" was first conducted in northern California by the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and has now spread to several sites throughout the state. The

Upland fourth-graders DeAndre Taylor (left) and Salina Montoya take part in a science experiment led by Andy Zanella, professor of chemistry, during "I'm Going to College." Photos by Nancy Newman-Bauer

Pitzer sophomores Cristal Torres (third from left, top), Francisco Diaz and Gabriel Garcia (center) pose with some of the Upland fourth-graders they ushered around The Claremont Colleges during the "I'm Going to College" project in November.
Claremont program rotates participation every three years among local elementary schools in areas deemed appropriate.

Pitzer Staff Study Language Instruction

Three Pitzer external studies administrators co-authored a paper on the role of community-based instruction in language education, which was accepted for two upcoming international education conferences. Tom Manley, associate vice president for international and special programs; Carol Brandt, associate vice president for international and special programs; and Mike Donahue, assistant director of external studies, drew from curriculum projects in Pitzer programs in Nepal, Zimbabwe and Ontario, Calif., for the paper. It examines models and techniques for developing more authentic content and community member involvement in intensive language training courses. The paper has been accepted for presentation at the annual conference of the Association of International Education Administrators in Merida, Mexico, in February and for the Association of International Educators, NAFSA, in Denver in May.

Coca-Cola Helps First-Generation Student Afford College

It might seem odd that parents would encourage their children from going to college, but that's exactly what happened in Thanh Hoang's family. Born and raised in a rural Hong Kong village, Thanhs parents speak very little English and have no formal education. The family immigrated to the United States when Thanh was 5. They didn't know anything about financial aid or think they could afford to send their son to college.

Despite these hardships, Hoang is a freshman at Pitzer this year—thanks in part to a $5,000 First-Generation Scholarship from the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of California.

“I have really enjoyed the friendly environment,” says Hoang of his Pitzer experience so far. “The faculty have been supportive.”

The scholarship program, the only one of its kind in California, is funded by a $500,000 grant from the Coca-Cola Foundation. The program will provide nearly 100 scholarships at 25 independent California colleges.

Hoang, who grew up in Pomona, Calif., and attended Pomona High School, also credits his participation in Upward Bound with making college possible. In the spring, he plans to give something back to the program by tutoring Upward Bound students at his former high school. “It will be cool,” he says, “because I was once a student [in the Upward Bound program].”

Pitzer Junior Helps Expose KKK Leaders

Pitzer junior Agaarn Johnson spent the past summer as an intern at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., doing specialized research on hate groups for the Intelligence Project, according to the center's September newsletter, SPLC Report.

Along with fellow intern Jocelyn Benson, a senior at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, Johnson developed and wrote profiles of leaders in the hate group movement. “Their pieces on Virgil Griffin and Horace King, leaders of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, were used by center lawyers in preparation for the Macedonia Baptist Church arson trial,” the newsletter reported. “The center has extensive files on hate groups and their activities, but the interns’ project was the first time detailed portraits of hate group leaders were compiled.”

The five-day trial resulted in the biggest punitive judgment ever awarded against a hate group. On July 24, a jury ordered the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, its state leader and four other Klansmen to pay $37.8 million for their roles in a conspiracy to burn a black church.

“It was a vitally important project,” said Mark Potok, director of publications for
the Intelligence Project, in SPLC Report. "We have a lot of information scattered around about these people. Jocelyn and Agaarn's collecting this and putting it into one document was extremely valuable to us."

Johnson grew up in California, where his mother is a lawyer and his father a state appeals court judge. In 1997, he was a White House intern, and in 1994, he worked on Kathleen Brown's campaign for California governor. Seeing the 1993 television documentary "Hate on Trial" prompted his interest in the center's work.

**Sophomores Claim Scholarships**

Two Pitzer sophomores, Gabriel Garcia and Cristal Torres, have been awarded $1,000 scholarships from the Hispanic Public Relations Association. The awards, given annually to college students interested in careers in communications, were presented at a scholarship awards luncheon on Oct. 23 at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Los Angeles.

In addition to the scholarship, this year's winners were presented with a certificate of commendation by Assemblyman Antonio R. Villaraigosa, D-Los Angeles, speaker of the California state Assembly.

This is the first year that students from The Claremont Colleges were eligible for the scholarship competition, according to Anthony Montoya, who chairs the scholarship committee. "Previously, students were required to major in communications or journalism to be eligible for the scholarships," Montoya added. Since no such "vocational" majors are offered at The Claremont Colleges and other liberal arts colleges, students from those institutions failed to qualify. This year, the committee opened the competition to students in Claremont, as well as those at Chapman University, the University of La Verne and Loyola Marymount University.

**Crunkleton Named New Dean of Faculty**

Distinguished scholar and administrator Martha A. Crunkleton was named Pitzer's new vice president and dean of faculty, effective July 1, 1999.

The appointment of Crunkleton—a professor of philosophy and religion, vice president for academic affairs, and dean of faculty at prestigious Bates College in Lewiston, Maine—caps a year-long search for a successor to Susan C. Seymour, who stepped down as dean of faculty at the end of the fall semester to resume her position as professor of anthropology.

The exhaustive dean search, overseen by a faculty committee headed by interim Dean John D. Sullivan, involved students, faculty, staff and other members of the Pitzer College community.

"We are overjoyed to welcome an educator of the stature of Dr. Crunkleton into Pitzer's family," said President Marilyn Chapin Massey. She praised Crunkleton's commitment to Pitzer's ideals of interdisciplinary, intercultural education with a focus on social responsibility. She added: "With her depth of experience, Dr. Crunkleton will be an invaluable asset to the College as it continues with its comprehensive planning effort aimed at moving Pitzer College into the next century."

Massey added: "We are grateful for the tireless service of outgoing Dean Susan Seymour, whose many accomplishments included the monumental task of overseeing the process that will lead to Pitzer's reaccreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges."

As vice president of academic affairs and dean of faculty, Crunkleton will be responsible for innovation and coordination of both the curriculum and educational processes of the College, facilitating the work of the faculty, facilitating communication among major College committees, overseeing faculty recruitment and development, providing staff assistance to governance committees, assisting the president in development, and serving as the College's representative in intercollegiate academic affairs.

Crunkleton holds a Ph.D. in religion from Vanderbilt University. Most recently, Crunkleton served as vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty at Bates for seven years. Before she came to Bates in 1991, Crunkleton directed the Center for Interdisciplinary and Special Studies at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. (1986-1991).

From the mid-1970s to the 1980s, she worked as acting assistant director and program officer with the National Endowment for the Humanities' division of education programs; was assistant director of the Council of Higher Education for Virginia; and was a legislative aide for Robert E. Washington, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates.

Among Crunkleton's numerous recent publications were the foreword to "Women on the Biblical Road: Ruth, Naomi and the Female Journey," published in 1996, and an article, "Strong Southern Women," that appeared in Southern Exposure in Fall 1994.

Her many honors include a fellowship in the W.K. Kellogg Foundation National Leadership Program, a Wye Fellowship at the Aspen Institute, and the faculty publications and research award from Holy Cross.
Parents Association Gears Up for '99

The Parents Association took a strong step toward becoming a more vibrant part of the College community. Under the leadership of Claremont parents Bill and Francine Baker, some 235 parents have become members of the association, which provides parents with special programs and College communications.

Committees are developing to work in various areas of College life, including admissions, fund raising and event planning. We encourage parents throughout the country to volunteer.

Melinda and new trustee Bill Brunger of Houston have been appointed to chair the Parents Fund Committee. With a 1999 goal of $200,000, this important fund-raising effort helps the College provide additional opportunities to enrich the Pitzer experience.

Joining the Brungers on the committee are Francine and Bill Baker of Claremont, Calif.; Nina and Peter Frei of Berikon, Switzerland; Robert and Patricia Johnson of Atlanta; Pamela Morse and Philip Kislak of Tucson, Ariz.; Lawrence and Toby Lambert of Sun Valley, Idaho; Diane and John Lesselyong of Dallas; Sharon and Patt Moore of Incline Village, Nev.; Sharon and Mitchell Sheinkop of Chicago; Gunila and Hiraoki Shigeta of Tokyo; and Gertrudes Pajaron and Michael Waterman of New York.

Please contact Susanne Faulstich, the parents association director, at (909) 621-8130 or by e-mail at susanne_faulstich@pitzer.edu for more information or to volunteer.

Dinner on the mounds was among the many activities held to welcome new and returning students during the first week of fall classes. Pictured here, from left, are Pitzer freshman Darra Adler-Kaplan, Kimberli Gant and Cole Thompson. Other Welcome Week activities included orientation and information meetings, a five-collega tour and stroll to President Massey's house for dinner, a job fair, computer orientation sessions, a trip to Laguna Beach and numerous concerts, parties and special meals.

Photo by Nancy Newman-Bauer
Poetry

Erosions

By Fiona Spring '99

Dad's shabby, balding crown is cocked up over the sofa's rest prominent, all of the seen man.

His head has a draw on me, I want a place with him, but he is sleeping like a feline, racked out, to either end of his sofa. I take the chair next to his face.

His face has taken the dust of life into millions of clefts, left there by so much sun.

Tomorrow this tired builder will be forty-eight. I got him a boat in a bottle. A warship, freshly painted and rigged, quarantined behind rounded glass, before any chance of water.

He is sailing long waters. He is laborer to foul strangers. In his stillness I see change he'd make rise up like dust and settle back into the unrefined, flannel shirt.

His boots are on the floor and they smell like all the work I'll ever do. They smell badly sweet.

Still I want to be near to his body, from which that awful sweat ran. There is no place to be with him. He is sleeping, and covering his sofa from end to end.

Spring has studied poetry at Pitzer with Doug Anderson.

ROBERT ALBERT (psychology emeritus) published “To Ur is Human” in the Roerig Review: A Journal on Gifted Education. He has also been invited to join the editorial board of the Journal of Creative Behavior.

EMILY CHAO (anthropology) organized two exhibits at Honnold Library. “Mao Fever” was a collection of relics from the first Mao cult during the Cultural Revolution in China and the second Mao cult of the late 1980s and early 1990s. The second exhibit, “Renamed Relics,” was a collection of once-banned religious relics and scrolls that have since been rehabilitated as emblems of ethnic identity in post-Mao China. Chao is also organizing a retrospective screening of the films of the late Akira Kurosawa. The exhibition will feature 10 of Kurosawa’s films to be shown in February and March.

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RONALD MACAULAY (linguistics) presented a paper, "Class and Gender Differences in Adolescent Discourse," at the NWAVE Conference at the University of Georgia in October. The paper was based on materials Macaulay collected in Glasgow, Scotland, and is part of a project he'll be working on during his sabbatical this spring. An article entitled "Is Sociolinguistics Lacking in Style?" will appear in a special volume of Cuadernos de Filologia Inglesa. Macaulay also contributed a chapter, "Dialect," to the Handbook of Pragmatics.

MICHELLE MccLELLAN (history) presented a paper, "But Are You a Real Doctor?: Gender and Professional Identity in Osteopathic Medicine," at the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association in San Diego in August. She said she is especially excited about this research, given Pitzer's new relationship with the Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona. McClellan also presented work drawn from her dissertation on alcoholism among women in 19th- and 20th-century America at the American Studies Association annual meeting in Seattle in November. In January, she was scheduled to give a paper on images of alcoholic mothers at the American Historical Association meeting in Washington.

Interviews of LEE MUNROE (anthropology) and the late RUTH H. MUNROE (psychology) from 1995, part of the Oral History Project of the Society for Research in Child Development, have been transcribed, and the tapes and transcriptions were recently deposited in the Archives of the National Library of Medicine in Washington.

PETER NARDI's (sociology) research on friendship and its role in contributing to social support and to the development of social movements has been published by the University of Chicago Press in a new book, "Gay Men's Friendships: Invincible Communities." He completed the book while a visiting scholar at the Rockefeller Foundation's Study & Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy.

DOUGLAS NORTHRoP (history) delivered a paper, "Crimes of Daily Life: Gender Relations and Soviet Law in Uzbekistan, 1927-1941," at the national convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Boca Raton, Fla., in late September—during the attack of Hurricane Georges. A second paper, "Nationalizing Backwardness: Gender and Uzbek Identity," was awarded the Associa-

Jim Hoste is Tied Up in Knots

A Scout's handbook might show dozens of different knots—overhand, reef, granny, bowline, and so on. But two new catalogs prepared by three mathematicians, including Pitzer's own Jim Hoste, list more than 1.7 million knots.

According to the Oct. 10 issue of Science News, Hoste; Jeffrey R. Weeks of Canton, N.Y.; and Morwen Thistlethwaite of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville recently created a table of all prime knots with 16 or fewer crossings. They jointly described their tabulation efforts in the fall issue of Mathematical Intelligencer.

"With more than 1.7 million knots now in the tables, we hope that the census will serve as a rich source of examples and counter-examples and as a general testing ground for our collective intuition," the researchers told Science News.

Mathematicians typically concern themselves with knots having their two ends connected to form a loop. One way to characterize such a knot is to lay it flat and determine its crossing number by counting the minimum number of times one part of the loop crosses over or under another part.

Efforts to tabulate knots began about 120 years ago, after British physicist Lord Kelvin hypothesized that atoms could be described as vortices in the ether, an intangible fluid then thought to fill all space. He proposed that different elements would correspond to vortices bent into different types of knotted tubes forming closed loops.

Inspired by this theory, fellow physicist Peter G. Tait began investigating knots and produced the first knot tables, organized according to crossing number. Tait enumerated all possible knot diagrams up to a given crossing number, then grouped those diagrams representing the same knot type. He stopped at knots with seven crossings—a total of 15 knot types.

Using a similar strategy and with the help of computers, Hoste, Weeks and Thistlethwaite produced two independent tabulations of knots with 16 or fewer crossings. Two tables were produced—one by Hoste and Weeks, the other by Thistlethwaite—in order to provide a check against errors. Kept secret until they were finished, the two lists were in complete agreement.
Poetry

Lungs
By Carmen Fought

smoke paints its picture
on the wet cave walls
with a long gray brush
stroke by stroke

smoke moves in me
like silk through bronchial tubes
opens its mouth to sing
what's it gonna be, baby?
what's it gonna be?

smoke makes up its house in my
lungs
room by glistening room
pulls down the window shades
turns each chamber into a dark eye

smoke descends
takes what it wants and leaves the rest
leaves me standing breathless
in the hallway of the dead

Fought joined Pitzer's faculty last fall as assistant professor of linguistics.

GREGG SEGAL and PAUL STEWART began teaching for the Program in American College English in the fall. Segal holds a BFA from Cal Arts in photography and film, a master's from New York University in dramatic writing and a master's from USC in teaching English as a second language. Stewart earned his B.A. in religious studies and M.A. in American studies from California State University, Fullerton. He also holds a certificate in the teaching of English as a second language.

LEAH HERMAN joined the PACE faculty full time this fall after spending the past five years working in a combined full-time administrative and part-time teaching role. Herman began working for PACE as international program coordinator, then was promoted to assistant director. She also taught part time for the program. Herman received both her B.A. and her M.A. from UC Riverside, where she majored in both English and education. Before joining Pitzer, she taught English at Miyazaki Girls' High School in Japan.

RUDI VOLTI (sociology) gave a talk at the Smithsonian Institution in November as part of the “Inventing the Environment” conference sponsored by the Lemelson Center for Invention and Innovation. The talk was about the technical and political components of emissions-control programs in Southern California.

ALBERT WACHTEL (English) worked this past summer on a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to study ancient Greek religion and history. An early draft of his paper, applying that study to Sophoclean tragedy, was read at the Cornell University NEH Seminar in Ancient Greece in July and will be incorporated into the scholar-in-residence seminar he's teaching at Pitzer College this spring.

PHIL ZUCKERMAN (sociology) has written a book, “Strife in the Sanctuary: Religious Schism in a Jewish Community,” published by AltaMira Press in January. It is an investigation of contemporary intra-Jewish conflict, as well as a theoretical look at religious schism in general.
Blues

By Doug Anderson

Love won't behave. I've tried
all my life to keep it chained up.
Especially after I gave up pleading.
I don't mean the woman,
but the love itself. Truth is,
I don't know where it comes from,
why it comes, or where it goes.
It either leaves me feeling the knife
of my first breath
or hang-dog and sick
at someone else's unstoppable
and as the blues song says,
can't sit down, stand up, lay down pain.
Right now I want it.
I'm like a country who can't remember the last war.
Well, that's not strictly true.
It's just been too long.
Too long and my heart is like
a house for sale in a lot full of high weeds.
I want to go down to New Orleans
and find the Santeria woman
who will light a whole table full of candles
and moan things, place a cigar
and a shot of whiskey in front of Chango's picture
and kiss the blue dead Jesus on the wall.
I want something.
Used to be I'd get a bottle
and drink until the lights went out
but now I carry my pain around wherever I go
because I'm afraid
I might put it down somewhere and lose it.
I've grown tender about my mileage.
My teeth are like stonehenge and my tongue
is like an old druid fallen in a ditch.
A soul is like a shrimper's net they never haul up
and it's full of everything:

Anderson has taught writing at Pitzer since 1994, the year he won the Kate Tufts Discovery Award for Poetry, one of the nation's most prestigious poetry prizes. Blues appears in his book of poems, “The Moon Reflected Fire,” and is reprinted here by permission.
The Private Death of Public Discourse

Public discourse—genuine conversation, motivated by openness and goodwill—demands a rich private life, Professor Barry Sanders argues in this excerpt from his recent book. Without that inner life, we can do little more than take up predetermined positions, which we then defend, like enraged warriors, in shrill tones and nasty language.

This book takes as its theme the death of private, interior space—what Proust called the moi profond, the “deep self” uncovered in reading. This book is always heading in its tiny odyssey toward regeneration and reinvigoration. In significant ways, then, the discussion leads to a climactic celebration of the human spirit and then traces a journey away from that celebratory moment. I have chosen as the key event July 4—not, however, July 4, 1776. Instead, I have settled on another, slightly more obscure but more personally demanding July 4: the publication of Walt Whitman’s “Leaves of Grass” on Independence Day 1855. ...

... The Declaration [of Independence] frees people; it breaks bands in the creation of “Free and Independent States.” The 57 signators bear witness to the birth of the body politic as an amalgam, as the 18th-century word has it, of Americans. Not a pen that day, though, for a single woman, or black, or Native American. The instrument has holes. ...

... Less than 80 years later, on July 4, 1855, Walt Whitman aimed to fill those holes by embracing all America’s people—every gender, color, class, sexual leaning—and bringing every last one into his poem. He relates himself—in the sense of kinship connections—to everyone around him. Whitman’s liberation, his independence, is the declaration of an individual—the birth of a powerful and unique self. ...

... In another, i.e. "Independence Day," the compelling novel by Richard Ford, for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1995, we hear the story of Frank Bascombe, who plans to commemorate July 4 by taking his son, who lives with Frank’s divorced wife, on a trip from Haddam, N.J., to Cooperstown, N.Y., to visit the Baseball Hall of Fame. Bascombe has a weird premonition about the undertaking:

There is, in fact, an odd feeling of lasts, to this excursion, as if some signal period in life—mine and his—is coming, if not to a full close, then at least toward some tightening, transforming twist in the kaleidoscope, a change I’d be foolish to take lightly and don’t. (The impulse to read "Self Reliance" is significant here, as if the holiday itself—my favorite secular one for being public and for its implicit goal of leaving us only as it found us: free.)

... In Ford’s novel, America has been parcelled out and exchanged in countless transactions, over countless years, for cash. ... For Frank Bascombe, everything has fallen apart—he has lost a child, endured a divorce, given up his career as a sportswriter, and been forced out of his own house. He has a hard time talking to anyone but himself.
And he doesn't know how to fix his broken life. Inside, Frank feels dried up; but he is trying, desperately trying, with the help of his new girlfriend, Sally Caldwell, to relearn how to love. ...

... Ford has done something remarkable. He has written a novel less about America than for America, a book that speaks for the country, for the desperation of its plight. With plain talk difficult to come by, "Independence Day" provides voice for all those people who have lost their own. ... It is a book full of talk, and attempts to talk. Ford makes his narrator, Frank Bascombe, intentionally wordy. He needs the companionship of language. For Bascombe knows, instinctively, that only words, only palaver, will carry him back to health. ...

Public discourse—genuine conversation, motivated by openness and goodwill—demands a rich private life. Without that inner life, we can do little more than take up predetermined positions, which we then defend, like enraged warriors, in shrill tones and nasty language. In a country founded on the freedom of citizens to speak their minds in town halls and on village commons—an attempt, at least, at participatory democracy—we have descended into a perversion of reasoned public discussion. Reflection and critical analysis have all but disappeared, replaced by the stridency of those whose own voices have been so stifled that in order to be heard they have had to borrow the arguments of others.

Without an inner life, without the ability to reflect and analyze—the ability, in effect, to process daily experience—public discourse remains at best a remote possibility. In true discourse, people give and take ideas, they trust each other and themselves to move through complexities toward conclusion or compromise. They learn from each other. The coursing of ideas shows the same fluency, rides the same stream of consciousness, as talk. And like old-fashioned talk, public discourse can forge friendships and alliances. In town meetings, for instance, the chances are slim that only two sides—for or against—will emerge. Factions form and split apart, and come back together again in new alliances. Hierarchies collapse and take along with them divisions of class and color.

Moreover, a community knows that to choose up sides beforehand effectively puts an end to all discussion. Everybody must keep an open mind; everybody must listen. These days, public debate about political issues has taken just the opposite turn: Having neither the time nor the inclination, nor sometimes the ability, to arrive at their own conclusions, most people adopt positions that have already been established and ratified by some expert or agency—some news anchor or talk-show host. Like guests on "Oprah," too many of us latch onto positions that offer the easy satisfactions of certainty, that give us a sense of individual substance and strength. This translates into self-righteousness. We frame tough-sounding, hard-nosed proposals whose message to others—to the homeless, poor, disabled, the marginal—betrays
the meanness of our understanding: Shift for yourselves. Find your own solutions or be damned.

Whatever the truth of where we find ourselves, it is less that the “center will not hold,” as Yeats declared, than that there is no center, no middle or mean, as many of us reach inside ourselves and find nothing but a blank screen. Having displaced the text, the computer screen serves as our internalized, controlling metaphor: We can boot up our internal machines with a program of family values if we listen to Dan Quayle; with a program in morality if we listen to Newt Gingrich; or with a program in virtues if we listen to William Bennett. And no matter where we are in this country, we can tune in Rush Limbaugh and turn on to vitriol and rage. Quayle and Gingrich, Bennett and Limbaugh all know that public debate is bankrupt and have rushed in to speak for the vast majority of those without public voices.

Because public discussions have little substance these days, they quickly become strident, entrenched, extreme and meean spirited—witness Gingrich’s orphanage solution for mothers on AFDC—and automatically bestow on professional toughs like Oliver North and Norman Schwarzkopf a two-fisted eloquence. Colin Powell, able to engineer a stunning victory in the Middle East, commands extraordinary respect and attention. (His autobiography, “My American Journey,” still stands as the fastest-selling book in the history of publishing in this country.) How odd, how utterly sad, that meanness, rather than meaningfulness, should chart the course of public debate today. But meanness hits opponents with power, force, and above all, with authority. We even say, in common speech, that meanness “carries an edge”: It doesn’t give a damn about politeness and manners and so makes itself heard no matter what, no matter where. It’s a substitute for substance. With the death of private life, public discourse has become confused with public power, or worse yet, is tangled up with public bullying. In a sense, then, meanness takes the spirit of the Persian Gulf War—the chilling authority of Colin Powell—and transfers it to the domain of politics. ...

America needs a new dimension—more space, the kind of space that can only be generated through free and spirited public discourse. And that in turn requires a reinvigoration of interior life. Whatever enables people to breathe again, whatever permits them to break out of their claustrophobia, can help change the direction of this country. In my view, the first step involves turning away from the screen to undertake a psychic journey that is now, for the most part, bypassed. In other words, people must return to the noisy and chaotic world of talking and listening, and from there, to reading and writing. I am of course talking about a change that must take place at the most fundamental and personal level, a chance to create a sense of greatness that only someone like Walt Whitman could imagine, that only a poet, not a politician or a social scientist, could ever hope to describe.

Frustrated by the lack of unbiased research on the Latino community, Professor Harry P. Pachon worked to build an institute that would become one of the most influential voices in the public discourse over the profound impact of Latinos on American life.

Many scholars accepted it as conventional wisdom, but the assertion stung Harry P. Pachon like an arrow shot from an ivory tower. It was the early 1970s, and some political scientists had declared that Latinos weren't likely to become voters because of an anti-democratic, Ibero-American heritage.

To Pachon, who had grown up in Florida's politically superheated Latino community, the theory seemed absurd and reflected the lack of Latino voices in the academic world.

Then a graduate student in public administration, Pachon decided to broaden the minds of academia by focusing his scholarship on Latino citizenship issues. For the next two decades, he researched Latino political involvement as a scholar and encouraged it as an activist, working for a congressman and heading an association of Latino government officials.

Latinos are now enough of a political force that earlier theories of their distaste for democracy seem as distant as the view of the Earth as flat. And Pachon, 53, a professor of political studies at Pitzer College, heads a facility dedicated to researching Latino issues—the Claremont-based Tomás Rivera Policy Institute.

The institute is one of the most influential voices in the public discourse over the profound impact of Latinos on American life. Its studies frequently make headlines, and Pachon often contributes to newspaper Op-Ed pages and is quoted in news stories. Under his leadership, the research center has ridden the rising tide of Latino influence, amassing a staff of 15 researchers and a $2-million annual budget. With those resources, Pachon hopes that the institute can provide unbiased information as Latinos find themselves at the center of rancorous public policy debates over issues such as bilingual education, welfare reform and notions of nationality and citizenship.

Latinos are expected to surpass African Americans as the nation's largest minority group by 2006, Pachon said. There are about 28.3 million Latinos in the United States, according to July 1996 census estimates, and within 50 years Latinos are projected to compose a quarter of the national population.

That rapid growth has heightened the need for original scholarship that defines the characteristics and policy needs of Latinos. "There's a tendency to take models from minority experiences we already know about and apply them to new populations," said Manuel Pastor Jr., an economist who is chairman of Latin American and Latino studies at UC Santa Cruz.

Pastor points out that although African Americans and Latinos both have high poverty rates, studies—including those commissioned by the Rivera Institute—have found that low-income urban Latinos more often have jobs. Raising wages or providing capital for small business start-ups might therefore be better tools for addressing Latino poverty than changes in welfare policy, Pastor said.

The institute began in 1985 as the Tomás Rivera Center, named for the late chancellor of UC Riverside. The center was founded with $1.3 million in grants from the Carnegie Corp. of New York and the Times Mirror Foundation, the philanthropic arm (continued on page 36)
Downtown Los Angeles
The Fixer

As chief of staff for Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, Robin Kramer '75 helped her boss revive the City of Angels and get connected. Now, she’s finding new ways to bring her hometown together.

By Dave Zahniser

The call came while Robin Kramer '75 was working in her garden, one of those blood-draining, pit-of-your-stomach telephone calls that can instantly bring a career to its lowest point.

Negotiations to build a $357-million sports arena in downtown Los Angeles had died, again. Each side refused to talk to the other, despite the efforts of a City Hall financial team to revive the deal.

That it was the second such call in six weeks made Kramer, chief of staff for Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, even more troubled.

"The first time I thought, ‘Oh, it’s just growing pains in this massive negotiation,’ " Kramer recalled. "But the second time, I was really worried. It felt like, ‘My gosh, we have all these people, all the right oars in the boat, pulling so hard.’ And it’s been so hard to get any kind of responsible development going here, and confidence back in the city.”

It was one of many high-wire moments during Kramer’s five-year tenure with Mayor Riordan, the lawyer and venture capitalist who helped L.A. shake off the self-doubt that shrouded it since the 1992 riots. If the arena deal unraveled, it would be an embarrassment for a city already battered by civil unrest, natural disasters and the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

If the deal succeeded, downtown L.A. would receive the first major infusion of investment capital in years. And vibrant activity could return to a financial center that becomes an empty husk each night when business hours end.

The dilemma typified Kramer’s work with the Riordan administration, and its struggle to make Los Angeles a more livable, inviting place. From 1993 to 1998, she was a key player in the effort to attract jobs, restore the community's shattered self-confidence and keep lines of communication open across the sprawling city.

As Riordan’s chief of staff, Kramer brought a reasoned voice—and some real-life questions—to the behind-the-scenes arena negotiations: Are the lawyers still talking to the lawyers? Do the true players know why talks collapsed? Have they sat down together, or as Kramer put it, “broken bread in a literal and figurative way?”

“Sometimes,” she adds, “you just need an innocent, friendly but disconnected person to ask some thoughtful questions.”

Construction is now underway on the hulking Staples Arena, the hockey and basketball stadium emerging on the city's Figueroa Street Corridor. But Kramer has pulled off the municipal fast lane, leaving City Hall to spend more time with her family.

“I was really sorry to see her go, because I think she was a pillar of strength in the mayor’s office,” said Joe Hicks, executive director of the city’s Human Relations Commission. “Frankly, it struggled a bit after she left. I think they’re finding their equilibrium again, but it was a struggle to find out what to do to replace a major resource like Robin.”

Kramer has left City Hall, but she hasn’t abandoned her commitment to the city. She is now a senior fellow with the California Community Foundation, one of the largest philanthropic organizations in California. She is looking to help nonprofit groups
Kramer make their way in the city, and is a passionate advocate for better schools and opportunities for children in the arts.

But she also has the luxury of time to spend with her husband, Neil, a high school history teacher, and her children: 11-year-old Gabriel, 17-year-old Daniel and 19-year-old Benjamin.

Though she does not miss the whirlwind schedule or the 3 a.m. phone calls, Kramer is happy to recount her years in the Riordan administration, a period she describes as chaotic and invigorating, joyful yet hard. She remains effusive in her praise of her boss, describing him as a "horizon thinker" who, like Pitzer College, knows the importance of experimentation, of upending tradition to solve problems.

"When you experiment, when you're pushing for reform and change, you make mistakes," Kramer said. "And one of the great lessons of the mayor is, gee, you can make a mistake. You don't die for it. If you don't learn from it, that's when you're in trouble. Pitzer, in my own experience, nurtured that too."

Rising from the Ashes

Everyone in Los Angeles remembers where he or she was when the 1992 riots broke out. Dozens of fires burned out of control. Looting took place in communities 35 miles apart.

Kramer was dining in Koreatown with the next generation of Jewish civic leaders, a group intent on learning more about the experiences of Korean-American immigrants. The cultural exchange ended abruptly after someone broke in to announce that riots had erupted a few blocks away.

The effort to understand one another had to stop, Kramer recalled, because the city was ripping itself apart.

Kramer retells the tale six years later, over breakfast at a Mexican restaurant near downtown. She recounts the days spent with her family in Hancock Park, just blocks from the fires, relying on the radio for information on the riots because tele-
vision service had been knocked out.

“We stayed home. We hugged each other a lot. It was a frightening time in many ways,” she recalled.

Riordan became mayor less than a year later. He was the first Republican elected to the post in two decades, and the first Republican Kramer had voted for in her life. Running on the slogan “Tough Enough to Turn L.A. Around,” he promised to make the city a safer place to do business by adding 3,000 police officers and fighting to attract new jobs. To Kramer, it was the right response for a city scarred by violence and a loss of faith.

Kramer had originally met Riordan through a group devoted to reforming L.A. schools. And they both knew Los Angeles Councilman Richard Alatorre, the established Eastside lawmaker who had employed Kramer as his chief of staff from 1985 to 1990.

Riordan tapped Kramer, then a private consultant, to be one of six deputy mayors orbiting the chief executive. With her experience in municipal matters, she would help the inexperienced Riordan team make the right political connections at City Hall. And when Riordan's chief of staff resigned in 1995, Kramer took over the job, keeping the administration focused on its long-term goals: public safety, job creation and schools.

“A city rests and falls on the quality of its education, the capacity of a community to create and nurture a middle class, and to be safe,” Kramer said. “So the mayor’s focus on a safe city as...a response to the despair and anarchy of the riots, was an appropriate one.”

Disasters Strike

First, however, there was an earthquake. Six months into Riordan’s first term, a 6.7-magnitude temblor ripped across the San Fernando Valley into Hollywood and Santa Monica. In the weeks that followed, Kramer was anchored to the city's emergency command center, working with legislators, lending institutions and President Bill Clinton to rebuild.

“Many people might say that was the worst experience. But in a way it wasn’t,” Kramer recalled. “There was a loss of life and a terrible loss of property, but you did have the feeling you could help do some-
thing about it. There was a way to help things get well, to help get the 12,000 people out of the parks and into temporary housing."

The quake was Riordan's first opportunity to inspire citywide hope and confidence. Similar moments of crisis and opportunity soon followed. The mayor waded into the contentious effort to overhaul L.A.'s schools, with Kramer serving as his representative in the search for a new superintendent. Later, Kramer helped assemble the data Riordan used to argue against secession, the effort by the San Fernando Valley to break away from L.A. and form a new city of 1.2 million.

Riordan called for the expansion of the region's largest airport and secured the funds for a 20-mile high-speed freight line along the so-called Alameda Corridor linking the city's rail yards with its ports. Kramer put together the team of people and made the decisions necessary to achieve Riordan's long-term strategy of economic uplift—good jobs centered on global trade.

Some of the biggest political landmines had a racial component, from the removal of an African American police chief to the media circus surrounding the O.J. Simpson trial. Throughout those events, Kramer helped the mayor keep strong ties with minority, ethnic and religious leaders, addressing problems before they arose.

"In a city like L.A., somebody like Robin Kramer is crucial because the city is so incredibly complex in terms of the numbers of different people and communities," said Hicks, of the Human Relations Commission. "So you need people with fluidity across communities of race, religion, ethnicity and sexual orientation."

Although she has left City Hall, Kramer is still engaged in the effort to improve Los Angeles, describing her current status as a "cheerful hiatus." And as she ponders her next move, Kramer takes some pleasure in the repaved streets, the upgraded libraries, the parks that simply look better than they did before.

"I did go by Staples Arena the other day, and my God, it's real," she said.

**Taking Heart**

Kramer also takes heart in the new activity, and advocacy, of the city's neighborhoods: an arts center transforming Little Tokyo; the rejuvenation of Leimert Park, a largely African American district off Crenshaw Boulevard; the rebirth of Ventura Boulevard, so recently torn apart by the earthquake. All three neighborhoods are a dozen miles from each other, yet part of the sprawling urban quilt that is Los Angeles.

In all of this, Kramer is mindful of helping bring people together. "I think L.A. is already one of the great cities of the world, and is poised to make this recognition itself," Kramer said. "There are islands of excellence in our schools, the arts, our communities, our public spaces, but they are not connected like in the other great cities of the world. So our job is to find those connections, which is no small task. Because it's so vast and so horizontal, the great challenge for us here...is to find linkages—both human and physical—between all the great stuff that's going on."

Zahniser, a 1989 graduate of Pomona College, is a staff writer for the Pasadena Star-News.
The Best and the Brightest

The seeds of social responsibility have taken root in several Pitzer alumni, maturing into vocations in government service. Besides building high-profile careers for themselves, each has earned an insider’s intimacy with the corridors of political power and the satisfaction of affecting people’s lives.

For Thomas L. Waldman ’78, who studied history and wrote free-lance, working as a press secretary and administrative assistant to Rep. Howard Berman, D-Los Angeles, “was a chance to see politics from the inside.”

The job also takes him to the front lines of the community, whether he’s hearing pleas for help from victims of the Northridge earthquake, or listening to activists trying to reopen the San Fernando Valley’s Hanson Dam to recreation.

“A lot of people wish they were paying more attention to politics and current events,” Waldman said. “I get to because of my job.”

The job is also providing him grist for his first love, writing. Waldman is at work on a new book with the working title, “Politics and Rock n’ Roll: Elvis to Clinton.” His first book was on Chicano rock bands, published by the University of New Mexico Press.

Waldman, 42, grew up in Claremont, where his father, a philosophy professor, taught at Harvey Mudd College. He now lives in West Hills, Calif., with his wife, Rebecca, and two young sons.

Teresa Sigler Henry ’79, an environmental studies concentrator, acquired her zeal for preserving nature on summer trips with her family, camping beneath the towering granite peaks encircling Yosemite Valley.

After graduating from Pitzer and earning a master’s degree in public administration from USC, Sigler married and moved to the Virgin Islands’ St. Thomas. Her job as a researcher for the island government’s coastal zone management office was a frustrating baptism in real-world politics and partisanship.

“In three years, we couldn’t get a general plan approved through the state government,” she said, recalling her aggravating half-hour commutes over the island’s 13-mile length, congested by tourists.

Henry divorced and returned to California in 1983, taking an entry-level job with the state’s Coastal Commission. Now a district supervisor, she oversees coastal building along Orange and most of Los Angeles counties. Most projects are controversial, contentious and environmentally sensitive. Instead of the petty infighting of island politicians, Henry now finds herself defending environmental policies against high-powered applicants, many of them celebrities.

Henry, 41, who was born in Charlotte, N.C., and graduated from Los Angeles’ Crenshaw High, attended Pitzer on a full scholarship. She has a 17-year-old son and still prefers the mountains to the beach.

Adi E. Liberman ’79, shown here with another well-known public servant, feels that his work with Los Angeles City Councilwoman Ruth Galanter gives him a chance to make a difference in people’s lives.

Adi E. Liberman’s education in hard-boiled politics began while serving as a student on a Pitzer committee trying to establish academic standards. “It was my first foray into politics,” said Liberman, a 1979 graduate of Pitzer. “It’s been much of the same ever since.” One hard-won lesson is that politics is shaped more by the personalities and preoccupations of the players than by their merit.

Liberman’s own interest in environmental issues provided the entree to his latest position as chief of staff to Ruth Galanter, a Los Angeles City Council member known as an environmental advocate. He had previously been a state lobbyist for Heal the Bay and electric vehicles.

“The real difference in local politics is the impact of policies on tangible issues that impact peoples’ lives,” Liberman said. As an example, he cited Los Angeles’ billboard ban on tobacco advertising.

“Within a month, you could see the change on the streets.”

He has seen the political landscape from several vantage points. After graduation, Liberman worked as an aide to several California assembly members. An East Coast stint followed, divided between economic analysis for the federal Energy Department, drafting public policy for drug maker Ciba Geigy and earning a master’s degree from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs in New Jersey.

New Jersey proved a culture shock. “I thought I was a pretty intense guy,” said Liberman, who grew up in Los Angeles. “Everyone assumed I was a mellow surfer.” He adapted, even wearing neckties to the movies.

Returning home nine years later, Liberman, 41, hasn’t abandoned neckties altogether. But he does have a deepened appreciation of local politics and the personal satisfaction it yields when seeing his efforts flourish. “There are many countries with smaller economies than the city of Los Angeles,” he said. “You rarely get to see your own imprint in it.”—Andrea Adelson

Adelson is a Laguna Beach, Calif.,-based writer and frequent contributor to The New York Times.
Alumni Notes

GOT NEWS? Please send updates to the alumni office at 1050 N. Mills Ave., Claremont, Calif. 91711; e-mail alumni@pitzer.edu; or visit our Web site, http://www.pitzer.edu/alumni/update.html.

1968
Mistie Erickson (Seattle)
In October 1998, Mistie had a showing of her artwork “Shadow Houses” at The Cunningham Gallery, University of Washington Women’s Center. The university’s paper, The Daily, reported that Mistie’s “works contain an elusive quality—an intangible mystery—behind the empty lit windows, where shadowy figures and homes writhe within the frame.” The Cunningham Gallery specializes in works of art created by women.

1969
Co-chairs: Nancy Rose Bushnell, dpblaguna@aol.com, (949) 497-2112; Jeri Erxleben Mitchell, JMitchell9496@aol.com, (626) 287-3861; Nancy Sanders Waite, (626)793-9408.

1971
Jean (Ellis) Hand (Coarsegold, Calif.)
In the last year, I started a nonprofit, hands-on children’s museum. The name is Children’s Museum of the Sierra. The museum’s emphasis is on science and dramatic play. Quite a learning experience taking on such a project in a rural area.

Kristin Gottschalk Olsen (Wheaton, Ill.)
Just completed my sixth year as a tour director. Switched from working British Columbia and Canadian Rockies tours to leading “Arizona Resorts” (winter), “Texas” (spring), “Scandinavia and Norway” (four months in the summer) and “Grand Autumn in New England.” Used the last three summers in Norway to find the rest of my birth family. Suddenly, two more half-siblings and a total of seven nieces and nephews. I’ve even been learning to speak Norwegian so I can communicate with the little ones—those under seven. Norwegians begin to learn English in the first grade now.

1974
Chair: Harriet Archibald-Woodward, HarrietAW@aol.com, (909) 593-8955.

Karen (Girard) Koreh (Mikood, Israel)
For the last six years we have been living in Israel on a kibbutz. It’s been a wonderful environment for our four children. I am teaching English to children with learning difficulties and working in a “children’s house” with babies 3 months to 1 year old. Koreh@internet-zahav.net

Bonnie (Optner) Lewis (San Pedro, Calif.)
I went back to work full time in August 1997—back to my clinical social work roots. I’m working at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center as a social worker and doing lots of training of unlicensed staff and graduate students. I recently saw JoAnn Copperud (Gils) ’73 and Karen (Girard) Koreh. I also ran into Monica Leff at work—she’s an obstetrician/gynecologist in Long Beach. “Hi” to my old friends who are reading this! I will be visiting Claremont this year, as my nephew is a sophomore at Pomona College.

1975
Char Miller (San Antonio)
I recently visited Pitzer while my son Ben checked out Pomona. We had a great time roaming the campus and Claremont. It struck me one morning that the geodesic dome that John Warfel ’74 designed, and for which I did some of the heavy lifting, was 25 years old in September. I couldn’t

The Big Apple became the Big Orange when the Pitzer College New York Alumni Chapter had its first major event in October in Manhattan. From left, New York alumni chapter co-chair Davy Rosenzweig ’75, event chair Marc Broidy ’95 and Pitzer President Marilyn Chapin Massey joined more than 50 Pitzer alumni and friends to reminisce and reconnect at the Harvard Club.
Seven Pitzer science graduates switched their “Lab Coats for Dinner Coats” in November, speaking to more than 60 current students about careers in science fields at a dinner event sponsored by the alumni association and the center for career and community services. Pritzker Family Foundation Professor of Biology David Sadava facilitated the evening, which was one of an ongoing series.

Jill Hawthorne ’87, chair of the Student Alumni Relations Committee, provided the welcome and closing. (from left) Sadava; Rebecca Sokol ’70, a researcher and faculty member at USC’s medical school; science entrepreneur Dario Grossberger ’74; veterinarian Brett Kantrowitz ’78; attorney Brian Simon ’80; Juan Carrillo ’87, associate deputy medical examiner for Los Angeles County. Not pictured: pharmacist Susan Cook ’74 and Joe Phan ’95, who is getting a master’s degree in physical therapy.

resist leaving a birthday balloon on the structure, which, like its builders, is showing its age. FMiller@trinity.edu [For more on the dome, see “In My Own Words” on the inside back cover of this Participant.]

1976

Sandra ([Eirls] Brands
(Maple Grove, Minn.)
What a thrill! The magazine I edit, Northern Spirit, was presented with the General Excellence Award by the United Methodist Association of Communications in November!

Susan Feniger (Santa Monica, Calif.)
Sue Feniger is among nine other celebrity chefs from California, Hawaii and Japan recently inducted into the new Santa Monica International Chef’s Walk. Fashioned after the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the International Chef’s Walk features decorative art tiles with the names of award-winning chefs, which will be placed within sidewalks on Main Street in Santa Monica. Sue is co-owner and chef (with Mary Sue Milliken) at the Border Grill in Santa Monica and Ciudad in Los Angeles and co-host of “Too Hot Tamales” on the Food Network.

1978

Candace (Barker) Bergmann
(La Cañada, Calif.)
We recently moved to a larger home in La Cañada. Our family, with two daughters, outgrew our last home. I’ve been working at KCAL-TV for 17 years now, so I have good work hours that allow me plenty of time with family.

John Douglass (Piedmont, Calif.)
We moved up from Santa Barbara to the Bay Area in September 1997. I am now working as a research fellow at UC Berkeley and as a policy consultant to the UC Office of the President in Oakland. Two kids, one wife, and we are all doing fine!
Old Shirts Plant the Seed for a New Company

It is said that inspiration comes in many forms. For three young fashion entrepreneurs, the muse was a collection of musty old golf shirts.

Their tale began in 1987, when Eli Casdin and Dean Monogenis, both 14, and their buddy, Mitchell Grobman '96, then 13, were invited to the Upper East Side home of a friend's recently deceased grandfather. There they found a closet full of Lily Pulitzer shirts decorated with loud, busy designs that had been out of style since the Eisenhower Administration. The boys loved them.

"It was all so outdated," said Grobman, now 24. "It was cool to us, but not to anybody else."

Those shirts planted the seed for a clothing company, EDMC, which the three friends started in 1996. EDMC—the letters stand for Eli, Dean and Mitch's Clothes—projects sales of $2 million this year, and its owners say it is in the black.

EDMC's designs, with their vibrant star-falls, butterflies and flowers, have become a staple in teen-age retail favorites like the Delia's catalogue and Urban Outfitters and are seen on performers on MTV and in rock magazines.

The three quickly agreed on a division of labor. Monogenis, who studied painting at the Art Institute of Chicago, would develop the designs and handle merchandising. Casdin and Grobman, who had long wanted to be entrepreneurs, would take care of marketing, sales and finances.

In early 1996, the company produced its first line—a set of sundresses and golf shirts that were carried in boutiques in several cities.

Grobman, meanwhile, took to the road in California, selling the company's wares out of his car in college towns while he finished up at Pitzer College in Claremont. "I was driving around in a beat-up Volvo with an 'I love Elvis' sticker on it," he said. "Everything was in cardboard boxes."

By the fall of 1996, the company had set up shop in a back room of Casdin's parents' apartment on the Upper West Side, a convenient, no-cost option but one with at least one pitfall. "My dad kept answering the door in his tighty-whities," Casdin said.

Their big breakthrough came by accident. Creating a logo for the company, which was at that point called Buzz, Monogenis designed an animated bee with wild eyes and a swirling set of wings. The bee became the centerpiece of a line of halter tops and dresses that caught the eye of several of the business partners' socially prominent friends.

The MTV correspondent Serena Altschul, a childhood chum of Casdin, appeared on the air wearing the clothes. Another friend, Shelby Meade, a public relations agent, talked up the company to acquaintances. Soon an EDMC dress showed up on a character on "Melrose Place." And the rock band Luscious Jackson wore EDMC outfits at a 1996 Free Tibet concert in San Francisco.

By the time the company's second line appeared in spring 1997, sales were up from about 1,000 garments in 1996 to some 40,000. Fashion gatekeepers Vogue and Mademoiselle both took note. The number of orders kept going up.

EDMC now occupies a fifth-floor office on West 35th Street that is decorated with Fisher Price children's toys and crammed with fabric. The office doubles as the company's showroom. The clothes, which generally retail for $20 to $60, are manufactured in midtown Manhattan.

"Our generation were raised on cartoons and television and advertising," Monogenis said. "I think the clothes speak to their artistic standards. And ours."


1979


JoAnn Schuch (McKinleyville, Calif.)
JoAnn is a professional, self-taught furniture maker who owns a shop in northern California. Her first piece of furniture was a Morris chair built in 1986. Using only a hammer, chisel and dovetail saw, she learned the basics of traditional furniture joinery, skills she still uses today. She works directly with individuals, interior designers, stores and galleries to design fine furniture. One of her Pitzer clients is Catherine Curtis, owner of Bella Cosa in Claremont, Calif. For a full story and photos of her work, visit JoAnn's Web site at http://www.woodguild.com/schuch

1980

Michael Moody (Woodland Hills, Calif.)
I recently moved from Claremont to Woodland Hills. Jennifer and I are enjoying the Westside, along with the boys (Neil, 6, and Chris, 3). Neil is attending Mirman School and—who knows?—maybe Pitzer someday. MMoody95@aol.com

Alane Shanks (Jamaica Plain, Mass.)
I have a wonderful husband, Jeremy Solomons, and two sons—Eli, 3, and Jared, 18 months. I'm an assistant dean of administration and inquiries at Harvard Medical School. I'm working on my dissertation and hope to receive my doctorate in higher education administration in December 1999. Alane_shanks@hms.harvard.edu

John Waldman (Culver City, Calif.)
Congratulations to John and Elizabeth on the birth of their son, Louis Cole.

James Weiner (Santa Monica, Calif.)
James Weiner and Lynn Boyden recently became the proud parents of a baby girl, Beatrice Rose.

1981

Nancy Molin (Nishinasuno, Japan)
I am now working at the Asian Rural Institute in Nishinasuno, Japan. ARI is a
program of the United Church of Christ in Japan with the motto "that we may live together." Rural community leaders from all over Asia, and some from Africa and Latin America, come to Japan for a nine-month training program in sustainable development, organic farming and community organizing. My role will be to produce English-language newsletters and annual reports, and to participate in the life of the institute in every dimension. I'm really excited about the opportunity to be a part of an international community like this and to get back into community development work. Come visit me! ARI has facilities to receive work camps, and short- and long-term volunteers. This is an interesting and affordable way to visit Japan!

1982

Thomas McDonald (Laguna Beach, Calif.)
Tom married Cheryl de la Cruz on Sept. 19 in Laguna Beach Neighborhood Congregational Church. The couple honeymooned in New York City and northern California. Tom owns a lighting manufacturers' representative agency in Newport Beach.

1984

Chair: Victor Rivera, victorrivera@worldnet.att.com, (718) 452-9621.

1986

Neil Norton (Decatur, Ga.)
I was diagnosed with leukemia and had a bone marrow transplant last year from an unrelated donor. Today I am leukemia free! Please consider registering your marrow. It works! Nilo@mindspring.com.

1987

Eliza Bonner (Rio de Janeiro)
I've been working in Rio for 2½ years now—the time has gone so fast. I don't know where my next step is, but there is a good chance I'll stay abroad. Elizabonner@openlink.com.br

Bernadette Coghlan-Walsh
(Ridgewood, N.J.)
Just had my sixth wedding anniversary. My son, Gavin, turned 1 in May. Enjoy working as a consultant to corporations in need of corporate real estate and relocation guidance. "Hello" to all my Pitzer friends. Bernadette CoghlanWalsh@compuserve.com

Silvia (Gray) King (Decatur, Ga.)
Moved to Atlanta area, working at Arthur Andersen in the Business Consulting Group; two children, ages 3 and 1. Kingusa@aol.com

Arica Weiss-Faustina and James Faustina '88 (Los Angeles)
We are living Happily Ever After. ... Ann Simun '86 and her husband, Ron Park, have two beautiful children—Alexander and Anastasia, twins! Ann has finished her doctorate in clinical psychology. Go Ann!

1988

David Blechinger (Jamaica Plain, Mass.)
My wife, Sasha, and I had a beautiful baby girl, Shay, on Feb. 16, 1998. I am currently taking classes to become a "Webmaster" and my wife is working on her Ph.D. in politics at Brandeis University.

Douglas Calvert (Scottsdale, Ariz.)
I completed my master's degree in educational psychology in May. I have moved back to Phoenix and opened a business with two friends. Unfortunately, my mother was killed in an automobile accident in May. I'm dating a wonderful woman—this could be the one. ...

Pamela Larsen (Padnia, Colo.)
Rob and I married last year on Mt. Hood in Oregon. In the Norwegian tradition, we made a procession through the woods led by a fiddler and me at the end on a horse! We moved to the west slope of the Rockies and are enjoying small-town life in the mountains of Colorado. I am teaching at an alternative school, working with teenagers. I also am painting. Talked to Elizabeth Mitchell, who now lives in New Zealand. She visited the U.S. with her baby girl, Zena.

Brendan Vieg (Chico, Calif.)
Recently married and living in Chico. I'm working in the natural resource management profession. Vieg@ecst.csuchico.edu

1989

Chair: Joe Chatham, JLChatham@Earthlink.net, (805) 379-4178.

Teresa (Avila) Barajas (Anaheim, Calif.)
I am teaching third-grade students at Dr. Jonas Salk Elementary in the Magnolia School District, Anaheim. My 2-year-old son, Adrian, is keeping me very busy, but I love being a mom. "Hi" to the class of '89, Sherry B. and Nancy I.—where are you?

Paul Barnett (Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.)
I am now in my 11th year of marriage to wife Tracy, and we have two sons—Bran—
The Many Voices of Clay

The following review, written by Carl Hertel, emeritus professor of art and environmental design, appeared in Albuquerque Arts. It is reprinted here with permission.

When Bill Gilbert graduated from Pitzer College in 1973, his senior exhibition was distinguished by many things, including the fact that it was held outside and not in a gallery. Over the 25 years since then, Gilbert’s work has attempted to remain “outside” the connotations and conventionalisms of galleries, and his exhibitions at Conlon Siegal and Plan B Evolving Arts in Santa Fe, N.M., this summer are no exception.

What marks Gilbert’s work—in addition to a life-long love affair with clay—is his fierce integrity with reference to materials, be they clay, earth, aspen and juniper branches, or video. His is a difficult trail in that the contradiction between “making art” and allowing media to be what they are places the artist in the position of affecting invisibility. Gilbert has become an expert in what we in the ‘60s called Zen, or “letting things be.” This current work manifests a deep maturity around issues of being present with the pieces and respecting the “natural” elegance of form induced by the hand of the artist in concert with the medium. I am reminded of a colleague who had a restaurant in Santa Monica. He once hired a cook in a hurry and was surprised when all the meals came out “uncooked”! The new employee carefully explained that she was a naturalist and only cooked “raw.” In some ways Gilbert puts us in the position of that restaurateur, although everything he puts before us is eminently palatable.

Reviewers are fond of assigning Gilbert easy labels like “earth artist,” which is appropriate enough. But it should also be noted that underlying the yang of Gilbert’s thoroughly American materialism and dynamic thrustings with earthy materials is the yin of a very Asian sensibility about the integration of the artist, the medium, art, and life that animates the forms emanating as quasi-liminal objects from Gilbert’s hands. At Conlon Siegal we see this quality nicely exemplified in his PACIFICOPUSHWAVEMANCHA, with the sea-like coloration and inferred aerial viewpoint vested in blue-black, matte, and iridescent clay candidly created by “pushing” with hands and embriicated with the effects of fire. As in viewing an ancient Japanese tea bowl, these works require careful attention and waiting, so that the voice of the material—skillfully orchestrated by the artist—can speak to you about important life matters on this earth.

“Lineage,” the installation at Plan B Evolving Arts, represents a kind of midlife summation of the artist’s oeuvre from his early work as a student at Pitzer College through a richly textured journey across the Americas until the present. As the artist says in his notes for the exhibition: “lineage represents a new level of acceptance ... it springs directly from my life as it is: being a father and a son, having a partner and children, living in Ecuador and Mexico, spending time in Spanish, being a ‘Westerner’. Living in a very dry place, seeing the rates of change in the flow of relationships, geologic motion, white water, evolution of plants and culture. ... It is about those days when clouds line up with space between them from horizon to horizon.”

As a professor of art at the University of New Mexico, Gilbert has established himself as an innovator and at the same time as a conservator of archaic traditions pertaining to clay that are exemplified by indigenous arts in the greater Southwest, Mexico and South America, where he has lived and taught. His own work resonates with those energies, but retains a strong stamp of the artist’s individuality and avoids being derivative at any level. Gilbert’s work is deeply personal and addresses issues of the spirit that engage us all through his ability to let his media sing to us.

don, 9, and Dominick, 5. I’m a peace officer for the California Youth Authority. The roads of life are interesting.

Sophie (Muller) Stewart (Ontario, Calif.) I’m working as a social worker for the County of Orange Social Services, Welfare to Work Program, on the cutting edge of welfare reform. SStewart @ssa.co.orange.ca.us

1990

Talya Alm (Wilmette, Ill.) I recently changed my first name [from Kristen-Linnea] to Talya. I would like to congratulate my sister, Britt-Marie Alm ’99, who was recently nominated as a Watson Fellowship finalist by Pitzer. Good luck!

Elizabeth Chases (Los Angeles) I am currently producing two syndicated radio shows that can be heard on 200 radio stations across the country. I’m also still doing the acting thing here in L.A. BCinHolly@aol.com

Michelle Dowd-Lukesh (Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.) Scott and I just had our fourth child (a third darling daughter), Zephyr Moon.

J. Patrick Henry (Los Angeles) Currently, I’m working as a Web site producer at the Walt Disney Company. I have nothing but the fondest memories of my time at Pitzer and would love to hear from ANYBODY! Patrick.henry @online.disney.com

1991

David Behrens (Denver) Erin and I have a new baby, Zoe Elise. She was born Jan. 22, 1998. Davidbehrens@sprynet.com

Laura Gattermeir (Bellevue, Wash.) Laura will be getting married in March in a small family ceremony in Seattle. Paulfortner@seatac.net

Joy Jamon (Ushita Higashi, Japan) I have been out of the United States since I graduated and haven’t been in touch with any other alumni—ran into Molly Martell in Japan by chance, but that was it. I’m looking forward to a reunion some-
day where we can all trade stories and experiences. I am now teaching at a women's university in Hiroshima. I have been teaching linguistic-based courses and, starting next term, issues in psychology to our advanced language students. Hiroshima is a beautiful place and the people here are very warm. It's a very safe and comfortable place to live. We just moved into a new house with a "car park" that I've transformed into a garden. Thanks to my mom's seeds, we grew giant pumpkins in time for Thanksgiving, to the surprise of our neighbors, who have never seen anything quite like it! The house is a beautiful wooden two-bedroom home, which is quite large by Japanese standards. If you're ever in the neighbor-

A Word From The President

What a resource! With more than 6,000 alumni living in every state and throughout the world, imagine the skills, talent and expertise Pitzer has at its fingertips.

Let's maximize Pitzer's alumni resources: join the Alumni Council as it creates an even more meaningful alumni association to further enhance the relevance of "being an alum." We're promoting networking and communication, career development, student mentoring, fund raising and the development of future Pitzer leaders.

As a committee member, your responsibilities are minimal: quarterly teleconferences to provide guidance on how we can best impact Pitzer. Your impact, though, is significant: shaping and guarding the treasure we know as Pitzer College.

There's no reason our free-thinking, spirited Pitzer experience must stop when we graduate!

Meg Perry '72
President, Alumni Association
Nadine Goodman ’79 went to Mexico in 1981 for a three-month language course to improve the Spanish she needed as a social worker in the Bronx. Seventeen years later, the Pitzer alumna still lives in the central Mexican state of Guanajuato, running a nonprofit organization she founded on her kitchen table that now has a $1-million budget and serves more than 50,000 people each year.

Goodman’s Centro Para Los Adolescentes de San Miguel de Allende, known by its acronym CASA—Spanish for “home”—includes a family health center, maternity hospital and educational outreach that uses peer counselors to teach women and youths about domestic violence, AIDS, substance abuse and reproductive rights.

In a poor, rural society imbued with conservative Catholicism, CASA is a lightning rod for both praise and controversy and has embroiled its 42-year-old American founder in ongoing battles with irate husbands, village priests and government officials. But the challenges have only whetted the spirit of Goodman, a dynamo who comes from a long line of social reformers.

“Women have the right to control their fertility, and that doesn’t just mean access to contraceptives; it means caring about ourselves, enjoying our sensuality, pregnancy and childbirth, not having to die from childbirth or abortion, and having the self-esteem to make decisions,” Goodman explains. “And this has nothing to do with me being in Mexico; it’s a basic right for all women, regardless of our shape, color and size.”

For Goodman, the rewards can be poignant, such as seeing uneducated, beaten-down wives and mothers blossom into articulate peer counselors who return to school, leave abusive spouses and improve parenting skills. But change happens incrementally and self-respect is the key.

“Many of our young peer counselors were taught to believe they are stupid and incompetent. As soon as they get into the CASA environment and see that they are respected and asked to show their smartness, well ... there is a magic explosion of energy that is exhilarating,” Goodman says.

But pitfalls abound. Sometimes, an abusive husband will show up, reeling drunk through the CASA hallways looking for his wife. Staff have been threatened and police aren’t always very helpful. Goodman and her peer counselors have had rocks thrown by angry villagers warned by village priests to keep their children away because CASA violates God’s rules.

Despite it all, CASA flourishes. This year Goodman received her first grant from an American Catholic church. Some angry husbands relent once they see their children gaining weight in CASA daycare programs and their wives finding work and self-esteem. Authorities may view CASA as an interloper, but it has also received grants from Mexican organizations, including Guanajuato’s governor as well as big U.S. donors such as the Audubon Society and the Ford Foundation.

It’s been a lifetime avocation for Goodman, who grew up liberal in 1960s New York and recalls marching in pro-choice rallies and resonating to the words of Betty Friedan. Goodman chose Pitzer because “it was the closest I could come to finding a school with a feminist perspective and social consciousness that had a small, intimate feeling but wasn’t as isolated as some 700-student school in the boonies.”

She studied psychology and enjoyed “the intimate relationship in seminar classes and the provocative thinking processes.” But even more important were internships that “formed me in terms of wanting to work on a grassroots level, in terms of health-care rights, consumer and women’s empowerment,” Goodman recalls of her Pitzer years.

After earning a master’s at Columbia University, Goodman began working with New York City’s Latino poor, which led to the language seminar in San Miguel de Allende, where she met Alejandro Gonzales, son of a prominent San Miguel family. She fell in love and decided to stay. Today they have three children, Jacinta, 13, Andres, 9, and Izzie, 6, and Gonzales is an integral part of CASA. He helped design the three-story maternity hospital.

Goodman worked for Mexican social service agencies when she first became an expatriate but felt they were “too focused on pushing pills, not women’s empowerment.” Soon, she started her own group, based on a sex education center for delinquent kids she had established while an intern at Columbia.

Tooling along the dirt roads of Mexico’s poorest state in a VW bug, Goodman, then pregnant with Jacinta, would visit rural villages to spread the word about family planning. Later, she brought her children along.

Slowly, CASA grew, implementing what Goodman calls “the humanistic NAFTA [North American Free Trade Agreement] agenda.” Today, she spends her days engaged in fund-raising, administration and prickly negotiation with officials, where she uses activist tactics, chutzpah and humor—as when officials refused a permit for CASA’s maternity hospital, which includes Mexico’s first professional midwifery program.

“We finally were granted our license after getting some feminist state congresswomen involved and depositing 10,000 signatures and 150 letters

(continued on page 36)
1994

REUNION: April 23 - 25, 1999. Co-chairs: Matt Karatz, karatzm@abc.com, (212) 627-3070; Singleton Cox, singleton.cox@bankerstrust.com, (212) 477-7563.

Michael Grammer (San Francisco) Michael has been cast in the role of Capulet in a production of "Romeo et Juliette" at the San Jose Opera.

John McGaha (Pomona, Calif.) Life is good. Bought a house in beautiful Pomona, Calif. Working on my master's degree in special education at Cal Poly Pomona. I'm also in love. Contact me at j-mcgaha@hotmail.com.

April Karene Henderson (Honolulu) A big congratulations to Julie Hendrixson and Hassan Abdul-Wahid on their wedding. I'm still having fun! Also, I'm back from the South Pacific (for now) so I'll be checkin' for my wedding photos (Julie!). Apelila1@hotmail.com

1995

Mark Bailey (Somerville, Mass.) Heather Black and I are thrilled to announce our engagement to be married on Sept. 25, 1999. She'll keep her name and I'll keep her heart in a safe place.

April Karene Henderson (Honolulu) A big congratulations to Julie Hendrixson and Hassan Abdul-Wahid on their wedding. I'm still having fun! Also, I'm back from the South Pacific (for now) so I'll be checkin' for my wedding photos (Julie!). Apelila1@hotmail.com

Mark Bailey (Somerville, Mass.) Heather Black and I are thrilled to announce our engagement to be married on Sept. 25, 1999. She'll keep her name and I'll keep her heart in a safe place.

1997

Suzanne Randick (Canterbury, England) I am presently working on getting my master's degree in religious studies at the University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom. Ser3@ukc.ac.uk

1998

Ben Ball (Turkey) Ben will be in Turkey this academic year and next on his Fulbright and Rotary fellowships. He will be home for the summer. His e-mail address in Turkey is lemur2k@hotmail.com.

Lila Damico (Glendora, Calif.) I am currently working with other Pitzer alums to create a venue for unknown artists and non-artists who want to share their art. We expect to be centered in the Pasadena, Calif., area. We would love to hear from interested Pitzer people. You can e-mail us at amfy@earthlink.net.

1999

Amy Whittemore (Brighton, Mass.) I received my master of social work degree from the University of Michigan and am employed as a school-based social worker in South Boston, Mass.

Lisa Zucker (Los Angeles) I'm still working in the hospitality (bed and breakfast) industry. I'm a third of the way through my 10-year plan to own and operate my own bed-and-breakfast business!
In the News
(continued from page 3)

credentialled teachers, officials said
Thursday.
"Mount San Antonio College in
Walnut, Pitzer College and Claremont
Graduate University and the Ontario-
Montclair School District will train the
aides under the Bilingual Educators
Career Advancement Program.
"Bilingual aides at the school district
will receive full tuition to pursue
bachelor's and master's degrees at the
three colleges."

HISPANIC, BLACKS LAG FAR
BEHIND WHITES IN OVERALL
HOUSEHOLD WEALTH

By Paul Barton, Gannett News Service
The Des Moines Register
May 3, 1998

"WASHINGTON—Midway through
the 21st century, a look at only one
statistic—household wealth—will speak
volumes about how far America will have
come in achieving ethnic and racial
equality, and there is a good chance the
results will be disappointing.
"Household wealth reflects everything
from the hardships of immigrant popula-
tions for Hispanics to the legacy of
slavery for blacks to unequal schooling
for both groups—as well as continuing
discriminatory lending and housing
policies. ..."

"Asian Americans, who face their own
discriminatory hurdles, do show higher
household incomes than other groups. ... But those figures are misleading because Asian-American households usually have more members in the work force than other groups, said Linus Yaman, economist at Pitzer College in California."

"The items above are excerpts of recent
news coverage of Pitzer College from local
and national press. If you see an item about
Pitzer in your hometown paper or hear a
story on local electronic media, please let us
know about it! Send items to: Participant
Editor, Pitzer College, 1050 N. Mills Ave.,
Claremont, Calif. 91711-6101.

Broadening Minds
(continued from page 21)
of the company that owns the Los Angeles
Times. Its focus was Latino educational is-
sues, such as the availability of college pre-
paratory courses or school breakfast pro-
grams to Latino students.

Though headquartered at Claremont
Graduate University, the Rivera institute is
also affiliated with the University of Texas
in Austin. Rodolfo O. de la Garza, a profes-
sor of government there, is the institute's
vice president of research.
The Texas connection is crucial,
Pachon said, because the Latino commu-
nities in Texas and California constitute
more than half the U.S. Latino population.
Pachon, who has been president of the
institute since 1993, is credited with broad-
ening its research interests and raising its
public profile. "The institute had different
trajectories until Harry took over. He
brought hard research skills and credentials
that molded the impact and quality of the
research," said David E. Hayes-Bautista,
director of UCLA's Center for the Study of
Latino Health.

When the institute proposed a series
of studies of Latino computer ownership,
the foundations of technology companies
such as Pacific Bell, GTE and Ameritech
agreed to help fund them. Identifying both
a social problem and a business opportu-
nity, studies over the past three years found
that Latinos were less likely to own com-
puters than others with comparable income
and education levels, which researchers
asserted would be a disadvantage as comput-
ers and Internet use become more wide-
spread.

But the institute also found that since
1994, Latino computer ownership, while
still lagging the overall population, has risen
dramatically, suggesting a potential growth
market for computer makers. "We looked
at the reasons for the [computer ownership]
gap, but also found an opportunity for a
$400-million computer market," Pachon
said.

Although corporate foundations con-
tribute heavily, the institute is a nonprofit
group and does not perform contract re-
search for companies. "The research is di-
rected by scholars who don't interact with
the funders at all," said Karen A. Escalante-
Dalton, the institute's vice president of
operations.
Pachon emphasizes that the institute
transcends ideology. "We get zinged by
both the right and the left, which is good.
It shows we're concerned with the data and
not just giving the politically correct an-
swer," he said.

One example Pachon cites is a 1996
study on Latino attitudes toward welfare.
"The advocates criticized us because our
survey found more than 75 percent of
Latinos favored a two-year cut-off for ben-
efits, but the right criticized us because 90
percent of those we surveyed said undocument-
ated immigrants should be entitled to
services if they pay taxes," he said.

Political neutrality is important to an
institution serving a community with di-
verse nationalities and beliefs. Pachon's life
has intersected the broad range of experi-
ences of Latinos in the United States.

Born in Florida to Colombian parents,
Pachon moved at age 16 to Montebello,
Calif., where he lived with an older brother
and finished high school. He enrolled at
Cal State L.A. while working full time at
odd jobs, earning bachelor's and master's
degrees before completing his doctorate at
Claremont. Pachon taught at Michigan
State University before moving to Wash-
ington, where he worked for five years on
California Rep. Edward Roybal's staff. In
1981 Pachon joined the faculty at the City
University of New York.

He moved to Claremont in 1987 to
begin a joint appointment at Pitzer and
Claremont Graduate University and con-
currently served as the National Assn.
of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials
Educational Fund's executive director un-
til 1993.

UC Santa Cruz's Pastor said that
Pachon's management of NALEO, which
is made up of Democrats and Republicans
from throughout the United States, reflects
"an ability to bridge a lot of audiences."
"Harry's really smooth," Pastor said.
"He can say things that shoot right down
the middle and strike a chord with both
conservatives and liberals."

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Goodman
(continued from page 34)
of international support on the governor's
desk," Goodman explains dryly.
"There have been 10 million obstacles,
but some things are stronger than fear: be-
liefs, anger at the injustice, the deliberate
classism, racism. You have to be persistent
and strong and probably a bit crazy. But I do love
what I'm involved with."

Denise Hamilton, a free-lance writer, covered
The Claremont Colleges for the Los Angeles
Times from 1989-95.
When in 1996 the Los Angeles Times published an article about The Claremont Colleges, the accompanying photograph of Pitzer was perfectly framed. Shot through the geodesic dome on the campus’ eastern edge, it captured the College’s sculpted sense of itself: open, free-standing and eccentric; a place apart; and self-consciously so. Nothing captures these values more than the construction of the dome itself. Take its genesis. Sometime in his junior year, John Warfel ’74 was struck by how unsuccessfully the Brant Clock Tower defined the then rock-strewn terrain that stretched east to Foothill Boulevard. Determined to give the landscape a more definitive marker, he decided that a geodesic dome, following the blueprint of inventor R. Buckminster Fuller, would best fill the space. Why? In part because he had already built one in Tuscarora, Nev., in part because of the dome’s cultural associations. When he first encountered Fuller’s unorthodox design—at once airy and strong—it was championed as a kind of countercultural architecture. Its appeal, Hugh Kenner wrote in his 1973 biography of “Bucky,” seemed “most magnetic to the commune-waterbed-neo-Thoreauvian lifestyle.” Nothing better matched Pitzer’s sensibilities. The fit was reinforced when the garrulous Fuller visited our “Walden West” but a few months before John put his plans into action. Holding court in McConnell (hardly a monument to sensitive, lightweight design), he transfixed his audience with his radical conception of architectural space. Certainly I was blown away, and when John asked if I would help him build a dome the coming summer, I leapt at the chance. It didn’t hurt that there was a little money involved. How much, neither of us can remember, yet enough apparently to pay John’s rent on a ramshackle abode in a Pomona orange grove. That there was any financial support is astounding. Through the intercession of John’s advisor, art Professor Carl Hertel, President Robert Atwell invested in the project; together they secured faculty support and ran interference with a skeptical facilities manager. Their commitment still puzzles John—“but that’s what made Pitzer such a remarkable environment.” Would that the initial round of our summer labor had been as noble; negotiating for city permits was as mind-numbing as digging the foundation’s post holes was back-breaking. The fun began when we slotted the heavy beams onto the concrete piers and then hammered down the exquisite herringbone floor. Its fine lines—now sadly clotted with thick brown paint—pulled your eye to and from the center, a geometric playfulness that was replicated in the arching vault of triangles we bolted together to form the dome proper. When we had adjusted the last frame, all that was left was to lace in six triangular pieces of blue canvas; a decorative touch, the panels gave the dome an added sense of lift, a sculpture that but for its anchoring foundation would have sailed away. Perhaps that’s why when I returned to Claremont in early October so that our son Ben could visit Pomona College, and suddenly recalled that that August had marked the dome’s 25th anniversary, I tied a helium-filled birthday balloon to the aging structure. More likely, the gesture says something about my limited imagination, but the moment had its magic: As the balloon floated in a soft breeze, I sat under the interlocking sets of two-by-fours and watched the sun rise over Mount Baldy. Ben later brought me back to earth: “How did you build this?” I caught his emphasis, and laughed. “Don’t worry, John did all the thinking.” Char Miller ’75
"Unomi, a potter’s work," was shot in Karatsu, Japan, in 1993 by Alleghany Meadows ’94. It is one of 53 black-and-white and color images by eight members of the Pitzer College community included in a Nichols Gallery exhibition titled “Global Images of the Pitzer Experience.” Featured artists in the exhibition are Meadows and Bruce Pottorff ’96; professors Paul Faulstich, Hal Fairchild, Doug Anderson and David Moore; trustee Eugene Stein; and staff member Thomas Manley. Read more about the exhibition in Campus News on page 7.