

Outlook

The University of Maryland at College Park Faculty and Staff Weekly Newspaper • Volume 8 Number 30 • June 20, 1994

Robert Hampton Appointed to New Associate Provost Position

Robert Hampton has been appointed associate provost for academic affairs and dean for undergraduate studies. Hampton, currently dean of the college at Connecticut College, begins his new post July 1.

In this newly-created position, Hampton will report to Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Dan Fallon and assume responsibility for academic and academic support programs important to the growth and strength of undergraduate education.

According to Fallon, Hampton was selected from a pool of more than 200 candidates and was the top choice of all who met him and reviewed his credentials. "Dr. Hampton is a person of exceptional character and academic accomplishment whose strong leadership at a premier liberal arts college makes him ideally suited to this position," said Fallon. "His scholarship in the sociology of African American families is highly regarded by the faculty. We are fortunate to have secured the services of this unusually talented academic leader."



Robert Hampton

Family violence is of particular interest to Hampton. He has edited three books on the topic and held relevant fellowships and research associate positions, including a current position of research associate in medicine at Harvard Medical School. Professional

affiliations include the Association of Black Sociologists, American Sociological Association, National Council for Family Relations, and the National Black Child Development Institute. Currently, he is a Gimbel Mentoring Scholar, guiding 10 researchers and activists across the country who are working to reduce violent behavior in families.

Working in cooperation with the university's academic affairs equity officer, Hampton will support continuing efforts to recruit and retain a highly diverse student body.

He also noted that while he will be a strong leader, he believes that the university's goals can be achieved only through a team approach.

Hampton joined Connecticut College in 1974 as an instructor of sociology. As dean of the college for the past seven years, he has administered more than 15 offices and programs. During his tenure he helped shape the college's strategic plan; developed and guided plans for a \$14.3 million renovation of the student center, field house and alumni center; guided the relocation, renovation and funding of United House, the college's multicultural center; initiated living and learning seminars for first-year students, including specialized programs for minority and international students; planned two minority scholars conferences; and developed sexual and racial harassment policies as well as an AIDS policy.

He received his A.B. (cum laude) in sociology from Princeton University, and his M.A. in sociology from the University of Michigan.

University's Board of Visitors Named

With a solid foundation comprised of some of the nation's preeminent business, civic and educational leaders, the Board of Visitors of the University of Maryland at College Park has been named. The board is charged with both furthering the interests and welfare of the institution, and providing guidance and advice to the president.

The board's specific responsibilities include: guiding the university's strategic plan and other strategic issues; providing guidance and leadership in developing new sources of income for the university; and assisting in advancing the university's interests in the academic community and elsewhere, representing the university as requested by the president, and advising on public relations and marketing initiatives.

Board members will be asked to perform other duties as requested by the president including advice and counsel on the institution's mission, public and private support, university administration, facilities, research productivity, academic programs, student services and other matters.

Chairing the board is John Lauer, president and chief operating officer of The BFGoodrich Company. Other members include local leaders such as John Hechinger, Floretta Dukes McKenzie, and Ted Peck. Maryland alumni including A. James Clark, Len Elmore, Allen Krowe and Mark McEwen, also serve.

On October 1, the board will present its annual report to the governor, General Assembly, Board of Regents and the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

For a listing of Board of Visitors members, see page 2.

Maryland Earns High Marks for Degrees to Minority Students

The university awarded more baccalaureate degrees to African American students in the 1990-1991 academic year than any other historically white institution except one, according to *Black Issues in Higher Education's* third annual report on the "Top 100 Degree Producers." And among all colleges and universities, including historically black institutions, Maryland ranked 15th in the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded to African American students.

These rankings are up from last year, which were fourth and 19th, respectively.

Improvement at the University of Maryland also was documented in the total number of minority baccalaureate degrees awarded, which rose to 11th from 14th.

The report found Maryland impressive in the area of doctoral degrees, ranking ninth in the number of doctoral degrees awarded to African American students and 19th in the total number

of doctoral degrees awarded to minority students.

President William E. Kirwan said that, based on other data and the university's ongoing efforts, he expects equally impressive or better rankings next year. Enrollment figures for the 1993-1994 academic year show that the percentage of African American undergraduate students is at an all-time high (12 percent), as is the percentage of full-time African American graduate students (7 percent). The freshman class was 15 percent African American, a 38 percent increase over last year. And, retention statistics show that the percentage of African American students who either graduated or are still enrolled five years after entering as freshmen grew from 35 percent in 1986 to 48 percent in 1992.

In addition, Asian student population at Maryland increased 64 percent in the last decade, and the Hispanic student population increased 41 percent.

Pardon Our Progress and Expect Delays

Construction is underway to widen the North Gate entrance to campus and redevelop the surrounding area. When completed, the number of traffic lanes will increase from two to four; sidewalks, walls, landscaping, lighting, and signage will be improved; and the existing brick gatehouse will be restored. All new traffic lanes and sidewalks are scheduled to be completed by Oct. 31, 1994.

During the course of construction, two lanes of traffic (one inbound and one outbound) will be maintained on Campus Drive from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. The right turn ramp from southbound Route 1 to Campus Drive will not be available, but right turns will be permitted at the traffic light. On Paint Branch Drive (in the vicinity of Campus Drive) at least one lane will remain open with appropriate traffic control to maintain existing patterns. Allow for additional time as traffic slowdowns are likely. Use of alternative campus entrances is encouraged.

Engineering: Not for Men Only

\$350,000 Grant Boosts Opportunities for Women



Marilyn Berman

A \$350,000 grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation will help the university bridge the gender gap in the traditionally male-dominated world of engineering.

The grant will help the A. James Clark School of Engineering establish a comprehensive Women in Engineering Program designed to encourage and assist women students to become successful professional engineers. It will include programs to enhance the experience of women while in the college, and mechanisms to provide support and networking opportunities for women pursuing graduate degrees who have previously had no formal programs or activities.

"The Sloan Foundation is very interested in looking at not just getting women into the School of Engineering, but how to make the climate, the environment and the faculty more responsive to women in engineering, and how to make that environment produce more women pursuing and contributing to the professions," said Marilyn Berman, associate dean of the school.

Berman said that between 1976 and 1988 the percentage of bachelor's degrees awarded to women in the College of Engineering rose from six to 20 percent. Since 1988, however, the numbers have leveled off and now stand at 17 percent, which is close to the national average.

Studies show that only schools making consistent interventions in this area are able to rise above that number, said Berman. Those interventions include everything from enhancing the classroom climate to changing the curriculum.

"Is the curriculum in engineering so male-dominated that women see no relevance in their lives and move on to medicine or law?" Berman asked. In the past, many engineers worked in the defense industry. But women weren't as interested in designing weapons as men.

"We are going to look at what kind of curriculum changes are needed and what kinds of changes are needed for the faculty to be more sensitive to the needs of this more diverse pool," Berman added. "We want to know if women problem-solve differently than men, and if they bring new ways of looking at engineering issues in areas such as the environment or health care. They may not be better approaches, just different," she said.

In addition to a Women in Engineering Office, with a director and several staff members, Berman said the grant would fund outcomes research to investigate how their interventions are working. A Women's Student Advisory Board will be formed; visits to industrial and government labs will be organized; a monthly newsletter will be developed; and students will be encouraged

End quote

**Do you consider yourself patriotic?
And, if so, how do you show your patriotism?**



"I consider myself patriotic and I try to show that by being pleasant and polite to all the people I encounter in this country. The U.S. has so much to offer. We should be grateful for that and show that."

—Sarah McFadden, business manager, Motor Transportation

"Yes, I do think of myself as patriotic. And the way that I try to show it is that I try to teach my students the work skills, the ethics and the attention to detail that made this country what it is."

—David Kriebs, instructor/technical director, Theatre Department



"While I was growing up in Elkton, Maryland, holidays like Memorial Day, Labor Day and July 4 were special days for remembering our national history. There was a sense of pride in being an American and a privilege and welcome obligation to recognize sacrifices made by others to make this possible. During the past 35+ years, situations have changed and much of the magic of patriotism has dimmed. Except for some community observances and official ceremonies in the Washington area, commemorative dates are excuses for sales at shopping centers and extended weekends at the beach. Am I patriotic and how do I show it? I remember reasons for these holidays, will participate in family gatherings, and plan to watch fireworks on Independence Day."

—Betty Krusberg, secretarial associate, Physics Department

"Yes I am patriotic. But I don't show my patriotism through any heroic deeds. I suppose the most visible thing is being a good citizen, taking responsibility for myself. Certainly I am proud to be an American. Every day we hear about conflict and atrocities around the world—for all of our shortcomings, this is a great country."

—Blair Blankinship, buyer, Procurement and Supply



to attend professional meetings and career fairs.

Other goals include the training of academic advisors and mentors to meet

the needs of women students; the encouragement of women graduates to pursue academic careers; a strengthening of the relationship with women students at community colleges; the offering of graduate fellowships and a women's graduate student society; and various high school intervention programs beginning in grade 10.

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UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the College Park campus community.

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Recognizing the Chair: Chris Davis Leads College Park Senate

If you expected the new College Park Senate chairman to take office this fall, the bylaws have changed, making the transition of power occur sooner.

Christopher Davis, professor and associate chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering, recently became the first to take advantage of this new policy and began his administration May 9.

Davis received his bachelor's and master's degrees in physics from the University of Cambridge and his doctorate in physics from the University of Manchester, both in England. He also served two years as a research associate at Cornell University before coming to Maryland.

Although he served a term as a Senator when he first arrived at UMCP in 1975, Davis feels that his service on the Executive Committee the past three years has had more impact. The university's current administration, says Davis, takes the Senate more seriously.

Davis—who has spent the last year as chair-elect, chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee and a member of the Executive Committee—won election over Associate Professor of Speech Communication Robert Gaines on Sept. 13, 1993.

While chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee, Davis corresponded frequently with members of the General Assembly in Annapolis. He hopes to build on this relationship in the coming year because certain issues, such as faculty workload and faculty representation on the Board of Regents, still require their understanding. He feels there is a lot of work yet to be done.

"It will be a slow process," he says. "The bottom line is that if College Park does a good job teaching and researching, then we can work to get that message out. We can show College Park's value. Studies show that higher education returns much more than is invested in it."

Davis says that the General Assembly's mistrust of the university can be traced back to small problems

their constituents have complained about, such as a son or a daughter not being able to graduate on time because of a class not being offered, so the lawmakers want the University of Maryland System to account for its ways.

Private institutions in Maryland, like Johns Hopkins, aren't being held accountable for the state funds they receive, Davis says.

"I would like to see College Park regarded as the best university in the state of Maryland, even though I believe it already is," Davis says. "We can't do that if we're held to unrealistic goals, like trying to be what other institutions are."

Davis gives Harvard University as an example. Regarded as probably the best in the country, their faculty practically ignore undergraduate students.

To its credit, Davis says, the College Park Senate passed a faculty workload policy last year, while the University of Maryland System, which is still in the process of developing a set of guidelines for all of its member institutions, hasn't. He believes that both policies will be compatible.

Davis would like to develop a post-tenure review for faculty, a kind of advising program that would tie the tenure process into the merit system used for pay increases.

"The legislators think there is deadwood on campus," Davis says. "I think we should reward the faculty who contribute and not reward the ones who don't." This would demonstrate self-accountability to the legislature, Davis says.

This rapport is needed because Davis would like to expand the university's support in the House of Delegates and the Senate from just the 21st delegation, which represents the College Park area, to other districts that don't really understand higher education issues.

And the College Park Senate will be pushing the issue of faculty representation on the Board of Regents once again next year. In the last legislative session, a bill that called for one non-voting member was brought to the floor of the

Maryland Senate and killed because those who supported the Faculty Guild still called for two voting members.

"It didn't do anybody any good," Davis says. "By insisting on two, they're stopping us from getting anything at all. We could've gotten our foot in the door."

Davis knows that faculty have strongly divided opinions on these issues and says: "Make sure your concerns are known to [your] campus Senate members, volunteer to serve on committees."

Other matters on the fall agenda include more minor bylaw changes, the reapportionment of seats and the possible creation of a Council on Capital Improvements, which, among other things, will deal with such issues as parking fees.

"Because I took office in May, things are already in place for the fall. I can't predict what's going to happen over the summer, though."

—STEPHEN SOBEK



Christopher Davis

New Officers of the 1994-95 College Park Senate

The 1994-95 Chair-Elect and Executive Committee were elected at the College Park Senate's transition meeting on May 9. The Chair-Elect is Charles Wellford, professor and director of the Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology. The Executive Committee is as follows:

FACULTY

James Alexander, professor of mathematics
John Anderson, professor of aerospace engineering
Marvin Breslow, associate professor of history
Patricia Campbell, associate professor of curriculum and instruction
Robert Jackson, associate professor of human nutrition and food science
Rose-Marie Oster, professor of Germanic and Slavic languages and literature
Peter Wolfe, professor of mathematics

STAFF

A. Lawrence Lauer, academic administrator in the Office of Graduate Studies and Research and Office of Undergraduate Studies
Martha Best, administrative aide in the Department of Economics

GRADUATE STUDENT

Andrew Fellows, Department of American Studies

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

Todd Willis, Division of Letters and Sciences

The following representatives to the University of Maryland System Faculty Council were also elected:

Marvin Breslow, associate professor of history
Joel Cohen, professor of mathematics

Nan Robertson Named Eugene Roberts Visiting Professor; William Eaton Becomes Humphrey Program Curator

Nan Robertson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter and feature writer for *The New York Times* for more than three decades in New York, Washington and Paris, will teach journalism at the university next academic year as the first Eugene L. Roberts Visiting Professor.

Robertson will teach classes in advanced writing and reporting during the first portion of a three-year leave by Roberts, who will become managing editor of *The New York Times* later this summer. Roberts plans to return to the classroom at Maryland in the fall of 1997.

Robertson won a Pulitzer for feature writing in 1983 for a *New York Times* Sunday magazine cover story based on her nearly fatal struggle with toxic shock syndrome. From 1972-75, she

was based in Paris covering France, neighboring countries and the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. She later served as a *Times* Washington correspondent and as a reporter for the Living and Style sections, finishing her *Times* career covering the performing arts from 1983-88.

She is a native of Chicago and a graduate of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, and holds an honorary doctorate degree from Northwestern. She is the author of two books: *The Girls in the Balcony: Women, Men and The New York Times* (1992) and *Getting Better: Inside Alcoholics Anonymous* (1988). In 1993 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Women's

Media Foundation.

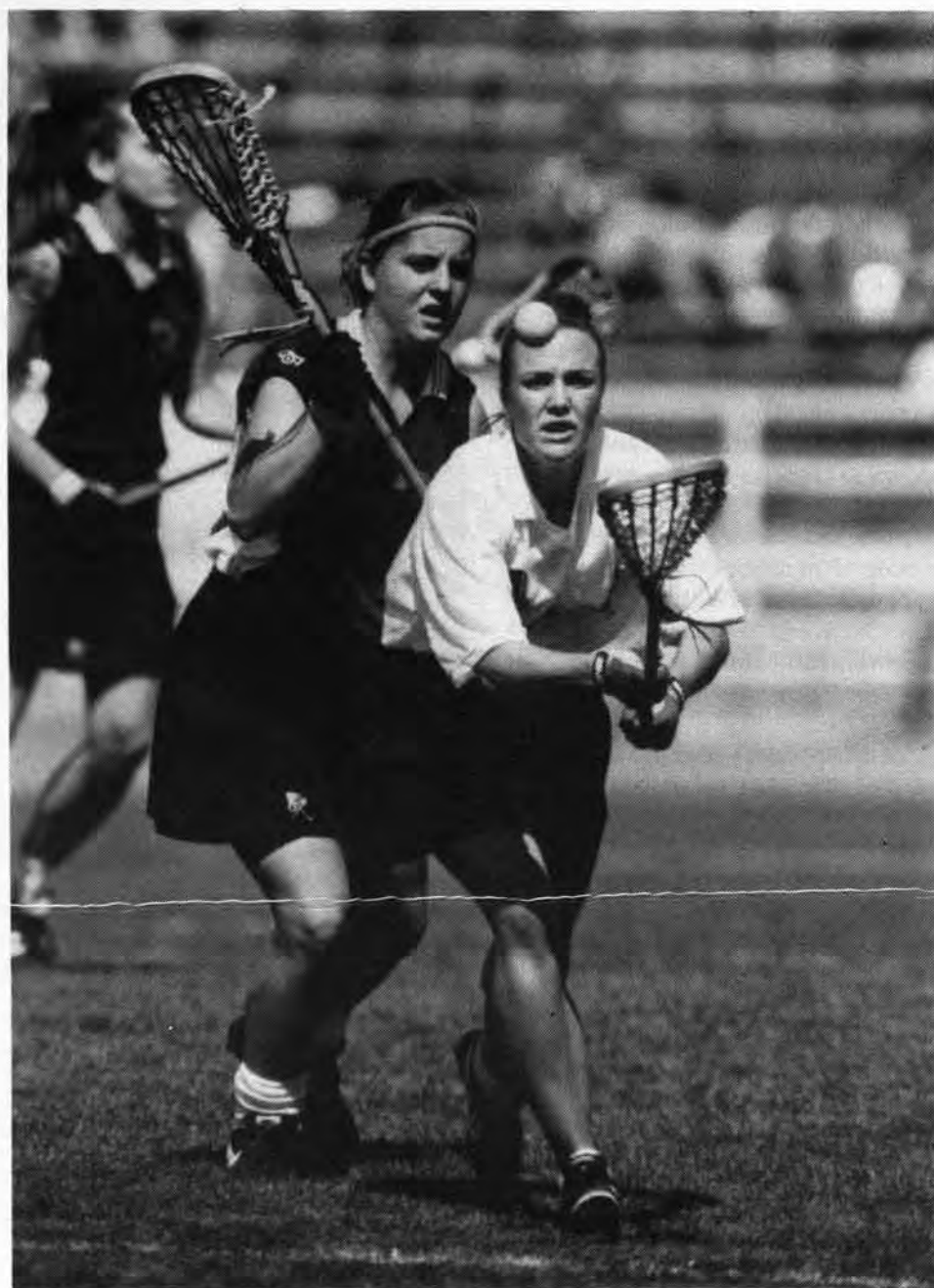
William J. Eaton, Pulitzer Prize-winning congressional reporter for the *Los Angeles Times* Washington bureau, will become curator of the university's Hubert H. Humphrey Journalism Fellowship Program during the next academic year. He succeeds Ray Hiebert, coordinator of the 1993-94 Humphrey Program.

Eaton, who won the Pulitzer for national reporting in 1970, has been *Los Angeles Times* bureau chief in New Delhi and Moscow. He spent 11 years with the *Chicago Daily News* Washington bureau before joining the *Times* Washington bureau in 1978. He holds a master's in journalism from Northwestern University and was a

Nieman Fellow at Harvard University. He was president of the National Press Club in 1977-78.

For the past year the College of Journalism has administered a graduate-level study program and professional training experience for 17 leading journalists from 17 countries. The journalism program is part of a broader Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowships exchange activity, funded by the U.S. Information Agency and administered by the Institute of International Education.

Day-to-day manager of the Humphrey Journalism Program will be Meg McCully, a graduate student at the college. Assisting McCully will be Ivan Nikolchev, a Bulgarian journalist who is a doctoral candidate in journalism.



Lacrosse Madness Hits Byrd Stadium

May was the month for lacrosse at College Park as the university hosted both the men's and women's NCAA Division I and III lacrosse tournaments at Byrd Stadium. Maryland women's team was defeated in the finals, but Betsy Elder, pictured above, was named to the All-Tournament Team. The men's team did not compete.

Summer Heat and Sounds So Sweet The Rossborough Festival—Summer Session II

Tickets to Rossborough Festival events are available from the box office at 405-6538. Complimentary tickets will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis to registered summer session students and to summer activity card holders. Summer activity cards, which also entitle holders to participate in summer sports activities, are available from the Campus Recreation Services window in Reckord Armory for \$10. Each card is valid only for the session in which it is bought.

Monday, July 18, through Wednesday, July 20 at 3 p.m.

Semi-Final Round of Competition
International William Kapell Piano



Angela Cheng



Barry Douglas

Competition and Festival
Tawes Theatre

Festival Recital Series
(All events at 8:30 p.m. in Tawes Theatre)

Sunday, July 17
Garrick Ohlsson

Monday, July 18
Cecile Ousset

Tuesday, July 19
Barry Douglas

Wednesday, July 20
Angela Cheng with the Colorado String Quartet

Thursday, July 21
Nelson Freire

Friday, July 22
Horacio Gutierrez

Calendar June 20 - July 18

Arts

Chamber Music Series: Fri., June 24, Tawes Recital Hall. 5-6548.

National Orchestral Institute Philharmonic: Sat., June 25, Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, Baltimore. 5-6548.

University of Maryland International William Kapell Piano Festival and Competition: Thu., July 14, through Sat., July 23. Tawes Theatre; final round at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Part of the Rossborough Festival. 5-6548.

Piano Recital: Sun., July 17, Garrick Ohlsson, 8:30 p.m., Tawes Theatre. Part of the University of Maryland International William Kapell Piano Festival and Competition. 5-6548.

Piano Recital: Mon., July 18, Cecile Ousset, 8:30 p.m., Tawes Theatre. Part of the University of Maryland International Piano Festival and Competition. 5-6548.

Concert: Fri., June 24, Cello, cello quartet, 8:15 p.m., Tawes Theatre. 5-6538.*

Noi Philharmonic Orchestra: Sat., June 25, conducted by Marin Alsop, 8:15 p.m., Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, Baltimore. 5-6538.

New Xavier Cugat Orchestra Show: Fri., July 1, Latin big-band sound and dancing, 8:15 p.m., Tawes Theatre. 5-6538.

Classical Guitar Recital: Fri., July 8, William Kanengiser, 8:15 p.m., Tawes Recital Hall. 5-6538.

Lecture

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Keynote Address: Wed., June 29, "Nationalism and Democracy in Eastern Europe," Martin Palous, Charles University in Prague, 5-7:30 p.m., Maryland Room, Marie Mount. Part of the NEH Summer Seminar entitled "Democracy and Ethnic Conflict in Eastern Europe Today." 5-4133.

Meeting

University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute Conference: Wed., June 22, through Sat., June 25, "Risk Assessment Methodology," University of Maryland University College Center for Adult Education. 5-5461.

Miscellaneous

Faculty/Staff Health Fair: Tue., June 21, University Health Center, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Hearing tests, cholesterol screening, stress reduction techniques and more. 4-8128.

Independence Day: Mon., July 4, Campus will be closed.

First Day of Classes—Summer Session II: Mon., July 18.

Calendar Guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405- respectively. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). For more information, call 405-4628.

A Fun, Fabulous Fourth

A proliferation of pyrotechnics will light up College Park's night sky on Independence Day and the university will play a part in bringing these spectacular fireworks to campus. Lively music and good eats add to the festivities.

For the fourteenth year in a row, the university and City of College Park are working together to host the Fourth of July concert and fireworks here on campus. The fun begins at 8 p.m. with a concert featuring the rock and roll show band White Walls who will perform on a stage outside of Tawes, in Lot 1.

But the moment everyone awaits, the fireworks display, begins at 9:30 p.m. This year's show, says Don Byrd, the city's director of public services, is the largest ever, featuring more than 1,600 shells, nearly 1,000 of which will be set off for the finale. Once again, the \$10,000 fireworks display will be pro-

vided by Firework Production Inc. of Glen Rock, Pa.

According to Byrd, this is one of the few events on which the city and the university work together. "It's an enjoyable evening," says Byrd. "And the turnout is about equal to a football game."

Byrd says he anticipates some 45,000 people will attend the Independence Day festivities. [While that may sound like a crowd, it's minute compared to the 120,000 people who turned out one year when a popular band called The Hubcaps was performing.]

So grab a blanket and park yourself on the grass. Come for the concert or catch the fireworks. Those who attend are welcome to bring food, but Dining Services will have two food stands set up at each end of the stage. In addition, there will be beverage and ice cream carts on site.

An International Twist on Life at Maryland



**DIVERSITY
AT UMCP
MOVING
TOWARD
COMMUNITY**

American students have been bad-mouthed at home and abroad as lacking the necessary skills to compete in a global economy. But Anatoly Borissov, a visiting Fulbright scholar from Novosibirsk, Siberia, isn't buying it.

"I don't know about other departments, but in my department here, in aerospace engineering," he says, "that is not the case."

In general, he has found his students to be professional and well-prepared, he says. "They know what they have to obtain to undertake future work. They are very similar to the students I teach back home."

And then, laughing: "Students are students."

Borissov is one of eight Fulbright scholars who came to the university this academic year, according to Valerie Williams, who is the campus representative for the Fulbright Program. Eight others will be arriving next year, six of whom should be on campus by mid-summer. And five UMCP Fulbright scholars, who spent 1993-1994 overseas, are set to return home this month.

In addition to finding housing and obtaining identification cards for the scholars, Williams pairs each scholar with a faculty member with similar research interests to serve as a buddy.

In Siberia, Borissov heads the laboratory of the Institute of Thermophysics of the Russian Academy of Science in Novosibirsk, a city with a population of roughly 1.5 million. The institute is one of 25 basic scientific institutes that make up the Akademgorodok, or academic town. He also teaches part-time at Novosibirsk State University, where he is a professor of physics.

There, as here, a troubled economy has forced dramatic cuts in both the laboratory and university. Borissov says that the institute has reduced its staff by almost half. At the Siberian university, things are nearly as bad. In past years, there were as many as 10 graduate students with whom he worked; last year, there were only two.

"They are working in markets," he says. "They need to obtain money."

Owing to such circumstances, Borissov, who arrived with his family in January, is hoping to extend his stay in the United States. His children—an 8-year-old daughter and 9-year-old son—finish school at the end of June, and he and his wife are hoping to continue to stay.

If not Maryland, there are several other schools he's considering. There have been "discussions," he says, with Chicago University, the University of Michigan, and the University of Pennsylvania about accepting a similar teaching post.

"I have such possibilities," he marvels.

Adjustments, he assures, have been minimal. Having traveled widely, he is quick to adapt to other cultures. This is not his first time in this country. In 1990, he taught for two weeks at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Besides, he says, "there is a big Russian community in this area, and I have made many friends," including, he says, a number of professors whom he'd first met through reading their articles in journals.

"It has been a good time," Borissov says, perhaps thinking of the economic troubles that await him at home. "A very, very good time."

But Borissov's ease of adjustment is perhaps the exception, not the rule, for visiting students and scholars.

Sieck Martin, a graduate student in ecology who spent the past year at the university and is preparing to return to the University of Bremen in the fall, sums up her stay: "I was stressed out and pissed off."

Both conditions she attributes to the massive bureaucracy that is the university. No matter how good its intentions with regard to diversity, the university is simply too big to consistently take care of those small matters that have nothing at all to do with pie charts and statistics but that speak volumes about an institution's care for its people, Martin says.

Because she and other exchange students were given no advisor they "could go to," she says, she didn't choose the right classes her first semester. In addition, she felt hemmed in by a "kind of system that is very structured,"

that demands students fulfill certain requirements. She would have preferred the freedom of ranging among course options.

While Martin may not have enjoyed her time, she says she learned a great deal. "A lot of English, I hope," she says in flawless, subtly accented English. And she will allow that, were she to continue on another year, things would undoubtedly go much more smoothly for her. "I know now what not to do," she says, laughing.

So enthused with the university (and America generally) is post-doctoral student Lalitha Ramaswamy that she has already applied for an extension. If a planned collaboration between the Navy and Ron Armstrong, a professor in engineering, comes through, she will be on campus through the end of the year.

It's the energy, the mix of people, says Ramaswamy, that makes being here so vital. But those two qualities might also describe Ramaswamy herself.

Ramaswamy is diversity personified. Born in Milan to an Italian mother and

an Indian father, she attended a British school for international students in Milan at an early age. She never left the British educational system, which accounts for her marvelously measured, lilting King's English.

Not only is she busy with her research (using lasers to study the behavior of energetic materials used in rockets) but Ramaswamy, who earned her master's and doctoral degrees from Cambridge, is also working with a professor at the University of Bologna on a novel about Cambridge's famed Cavendish laboratory.

Writing from "the perspective of the so-called ordinary people, the technicians," Ramaswamy hopes to tell the history of this laboratory where she got her start, and where many hundreds of other scientists (including a good number of Nobel Prize winners) made their important discoveries.

The book is more than half-way completed, and a publisher, TransWorld Publishers, is already interested.

—TODD KLIMAN



Engineering a Retirement

George Dieter, who served as dean of the College of Engineering for 17 years, was recently honored at a retirement dinner held at the Stamp Student Union. The dinner celebrated his outstanding service to the university and the important legacies he leaves behind. During Dieter's tenure the college celebrated its Centennial and was given a \$15 million endowment in support of undergraduate engineering education by one of the college's most distinguished alumni, A. James Clark.

Hitching a Ride on the Information Superhighway

Network Helps End Feelings of Isolation among Black Physics Majors

A communications network that uses Internet or Bitnet is now helping African American physics majors create an "electronic bond" with each other. Called NSBP-Net (National Society of Black Physicists Network), the system was developed in 1989 by S. James Gates, professor of physics and president of the National Society of Black Physicists. According to Gates, NSBP-Net was designed to give African American students a convenient but powerful tool for communicating and sharing ideas with one another throughout the United States and the rest of the world.

As many as 150 African American physics students are now using NSBP-Net on a regular basis, according to Gates. He emphasizes, however, that

the system is available to any student, regardless of race, who might benefit from its use. "Just this past year, we had our first Hispanic student, from MIT, join the network," Gates says. "The only criteria we have for joining the network is that the person be a student and that they feel like they need it."

In addition to using NSBP-Net to communicate with other students, users can obtain mentoring from successful physicists like Gates. "It's a much more powerful tool than telephones or faxes," Gates says. "With NSBP-Net, it's like projecting yourself somewhere else where you can really help a student."

While the university currently has no student users of NSBP-Net, that will change this fall when Arletta Saafir

transfers to campus from Prairie View A & M University. Saafir, who plans to major in astrophysics, is already a dedicated NSBP-Net user, thanks to Gates. "Last year, I became aware of Arletta Saafir and another young woman at Dartmouth College who were both planning careers in astrophysics," he says. "It was obvious to me that both of these students needed to be talking to each other. So I introduced them to each other in cyberspace via NSBP-Net. They have since become the best of friends."

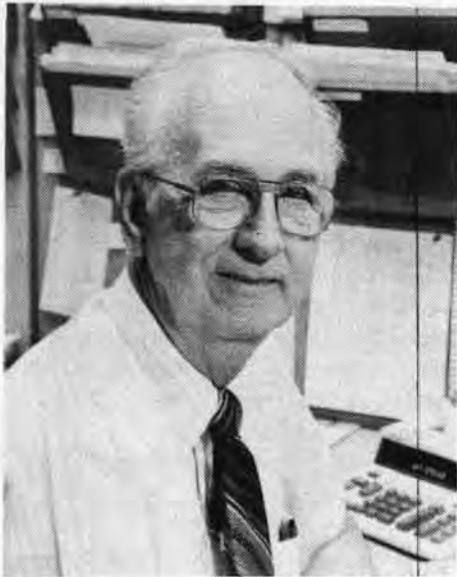
Saafir says that NSBP-Net has become an indispensable part of her academic life. "NSBP-Net enables me to communicate in an easy and consistent way with people I have a lot in common with," she says. "With the network I have

been able to make friends with more Black physicists and students than I ever could on any one campus. I couldn't live without NSBP-Net now."

The idea for a computer-linked system to unite minorities studying physics came to Gates while he was a professor at MIT. He had been supervising two African American students working toward their Ph.D.s. in physics. When Gates left MIT to accept a position at the University of Maryland, he continued to assist the two doctoral candidates with their theses using the Bitnet communications system, which later evolved into the Internet system. "It was the experience of working with those two students that lead to the creation of NSBP-Net," says Gates.

Honoring Those Who Support Us

University of Maryland's Super Secretaries Take the Prize



Frank Briggs

Once a year the President's Commission on Women's Affairs sets aside the heavier issues of women on campus to honor three members of the university's hardworking support staff. This year, a special fourth award was given to Mary Shipley, the commission's secretary, in celebration of the commission's 20th anniversary.

Clerical/Secretarial Recognition Award recipients were nominated for their dedication to the clerical/secretarial profession and outstanding service to their communities.

All four credit their "people skills" as the primary reason they were selected.

Frank Briggs, an account clerk in the Institute for Systems Research, is the first man to be recognized by the commission in the seven years that it has presented the award. Briggs, who works on payroll for the institute's 270 employees, began as a temporary clerk six-and-a-half years ago and became a member of classified staff one year later. Before coming to the university, Briggs retired from the Department of Agriculture in Washington.



Paulette Frazier

"There, you're in the building all day. You go in the morning and you don't come out until night," says the soft spoken clerk. "Here, you have the whole beautiful campus. Errands take me out of the office often."

In his former job, Briggs worked 70 to 80 hours a week. He brought work home on the weekends, went in early and stayed late. He attributes the triple coronary bypass he had after 30 years to the stress of his position.

"After being where I was before," Briggs says, "this is heaven."

Paulette Frazier, a secretary in the dean's office of the College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences, was "dumbfounded" when she learned she had been chosen by the women's commission. Frazier has been at College Park since 1973 when her husband was a graduate student in government and politics. She's worked at her current position of word processing supervisor since 1982.

"The fact that everyone's been here for a pretty long time says something about this office. People retire from



Deborah Stefany

here. They don't leave because they are unhappy," Frazier says.

Frazier also enjoys the campus environment.

"Working in a corporate atmosphere is not nearly as interesting," Frazier says. "There is so much going on here. So much to keep you from sitting at your desk and saying, 'Oh, another day at work.'"

Frazier took advantage of tuition remission, earning a B.A. in business administration. She has two children; her oldest, Colette will be a freshman at Maryland next fall. The best part of her job, Frazier says, is her office mates.

Deborah Stefany has worked as a library aide in McKeldin for 11 years. Two days after she began, her son went into the hospital for emergency surgery. "I didn't think I'd have a job after that," she recalls.

Stefany enjoys the diversity of her work. She has manned the front desk as well as the reference desk. She echoes Briggs' and Frazier's sentiment about the difference between a typical office job and administrative duties at an insti-



Mary Shipley

tution of higher education. "There are a lot of different people and activities here. There's a lot going on," she says.

As secretary of the women's commission, **Mary Shipley** began with a couple of cartons and a typewriter 16 years ago.

"I moved to wherever there was a chair in the student union, then to undergraduate studies where I think I was in a stock room. Finally, finally, they found us this room [in Hornbake Library]," she says.

Shipley works part time to save time for the music she plays for weddings, theaters and choral groups. She says her work with the commission consists of taking the minutes at meetings, keeping track of the membership and nagging Ph.Ds. "And since I have a husband and five children, I have a lot of experience nagging."

When asked why she thought she was chosen for the special recognition award for outstanding service, Shipley replied, "Beats me. They reward quality and quantity. After 16 years I'm sure that quantity is the reason."

Here's To:

James Anderson, professor of physics, for being selected to spend a 10-month sabbatical leave, starting in August, as a visiting professor at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan and at the University of Tsukuba near Tokyo.

Carmen Coustaut, assistant professor of theatre, for receiving a Fulbright Scholars Award under the African Regional Research Program. She will spend the 1994-95 academic year in Mali and Senegal continuing research for her screenplay, "Listen to the Wind."

Alan DeSilva, professor in the Lab for Plasma Research, for being invited to occupy the TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) chair at the University of Tokyo between January and March next year. He will work with the spheromak research group there and teach a short course in plasma diagnostics.

Bonnie Dorr, assistant professor of computer science; Janice Reutt-Robey,

assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry; and Victor Yakovenko, assistant professor of physics; for being selected as Sloan Research Fellows by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. One hundred winners were selected from over 400 nominations for the fellowship, which is for faculty who have demonstrated special creative ability in the physical sciences, mathematics, neuroscience and economics.

S. James Gates, professor of physics, for becoming president of the National Society of Black Physicists. Also, the American Physical Society has named him the 1994 winner of the Visiting Minority Lectureship Program. Gates will receive a stipend of \$3,000 and will travel to academic institutions where the impact on minority students would be significant to deliver lectures about his specialty. The APS has also named him a member of the Public Outreach and Education Team (POET) of the Division of Particles and Fields of the American Physical Society.

Jerrold Greenberg, professor of health education, for being chosen the 1994 Association for the Advancement of Health Education Scholar Award win-

ner. Greenberg received the AAHE Professional Service Award last year, as well as the Distinguished Service Award of the American School Health Association and an AAHE Presidential Citation. The Department of Health Education now has four faculty recipients and is the only one in the nation to have more than one.

Roger Lewis, professor in the School of Architecture, for being named a recipient of the United Way "In My Back Yard Award." The IMBY Award recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the community by removing barriers to the achievement of human services goals. This year's awards included a focus on initiatives supporting affordable housing, about which Lewis has written extensively in his *Washington Post* column, "Shaping the City."

Traci Martin, assistant director of the Career Center, for being elected president of the National Capital Association for Cooperative Education (NCACE). NCACE is a professional association of individuals and organizations, representing both educational institutions and employers involved with post-sec-

ondary cooperative education in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Glenn Mason, professor of physics, for testifying before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Space as part of a three-member panel of space scientists. The testimony he gave was based on the Space Science Working Group analysis of the 1995 budget for NASA.

Michael Nacht, dean and professor in the School of Public Affairs, for being nominated as Assistant Director for the Strategic and Eurasian Affairs Bureau of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA). Pending confirmation by the U.S. Senate, Nacht will take the position on leave from the university, and an interim dean will be appointed.

Cyril Ponnampereuma, professor of chemistry and director of the Laboratory of Chemical Evolution, for being the guest of honor at the centennial celebration of the birth of the Russian biochemist Alexander Ivanovich Oparin. Ponnampereuma gave the opening lecture. He was also elected Vice President of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Take note

Smog Gets In Your Eyes

There may be an ozone hole above Antarctica but there is more than enough of the gas in the air over the Baltimore-Washington area. The Baltimore area has the nation's sixth worst air quality. According to air survey results presented by Russell Dickerson, a meteorologist at the university, at the May meeting of the American Geophysical Union, regional ozone levels exceeded national air quality standards for ozone several times last summer. Ozone is the main component in photochemical or Los Angeles-type smog. It can worsen heart and respiratory problems and damage lung tissue.

Water Found in Far-away Galaxy

Astronomers announced the detection of water in a galaxy 200 million light years away, making it the most distant water known in the universe. Also discovered were three similar extragalactic water sources, the first such discoveries in the past 10 years. The discovery was reported by the College Park research team of James Braatz and Andrew Wilson, and Christian Henkel of the Max Planck Institute für Radioastronomie in Bonn, Germany. The discovery could help scientists learn more about the mysterious environment in the center of galaxies known as "active galaxies"—galaxies with powerful nonstellar sources of energy in their nuclei.

The distant water was found in the galaxy "Markarian 1" in the constellation Pisces. Markarian 1 is a type of active galaxy known as a Seyfert galaxy. In some Seyfert galaxies, the energy emitted by the relatively tiny nucleus can exceed that of the whole galaxy of stars. Many astronomers believe that Seyfert galaxies have a massive "black hole" in their nuclei which releases the tremendous energy by drawing in matter from the rest of the galaxy. Clouds of molecules can gather dangerously close to the center, and it is here where the detected water molecules are believed to be concentrated.

Sailing Science Students

Twelve students, from colleges as close as Frederick and as far away as Hawaii, arrived at College Park on June 1 to begin a summer of research on the Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River.

The dozen are participants in the Maryland Sea Grant College Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) fellowship program. They're spending the summer working one-on-one with scientists on estuarine and environmental research projects at either the university's CEES Horn Point Environmental Lab, its Chesapeake Biological Lab or at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Science's Benedict Estuarine Lab on the Patuxent River.

The fellowships, which are funded by the National Science Foundation, are intended to encourage undergraduate students to pursue advanced degrees and careers in marine and environmental science. Merrill Leffler, who co-directs the Sea Grant program with Gail Mackier-nan, says that many former program participants have gone on to graduate school at College Park.

"It's exciting for the students," says



Coca-Cola Foundation representatives present a \$100,000 check for sponsorship of Coke's Access to Higher Education Program, part of the company's decade-long, \$50 million commitment to advance education in the 1990s. From left to right: Tony Minus, executive assistant to the vice superintendent of D.C. public schools; Jerry Lewis, director of academic achievement programs; Willis Hawley, dean of the College of Education; Carmen Pickens, Coca Cola; and Carlos Miller, Coca Cola.

Leffler. "They enjoy a summer of research on the water." A \$3,000 stipend plus free room and transportation are added benefits of the program.

In addition to 10 students from other campuses, two University of Maryland students, Christine Fellows and Eric Luft, were admitted to the program. All 12 were selected from 185 applicants nationwide.

Now in its sixth year, the 12-week program begins with an introductory meeting here on campus. The students meet their fellow REU participants. From campus, they travel to Solomon's Island and then on to Horn Point for orientation.

Operatic College Park

Amy Van Roekel, who received her master of music degree last May, is one of 20 students selected from a pool of 1,000 applicants to be a summer artist apprentice at Central City Opera in Central City, Colorado. A testimony to College Park's strong voice/opera program, the university is well-represented in the program with two other voice students among the small group. Gregory Carpenter of Laurel, and Charles Reid of Houston, Tex. are the other university voice students attending.

Central City Opera is a nationally known opera company that gives young performers valuable professional experience in small roles in the company's mainstage operas as well as in leading roles with youth performances.

A View From Above

Using more than 22 million individual data points, scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey and the university have created one of the most accurate topographic views of the United States currently available. The map displays all the landforms of the continental United States and environs as well as the continental shelf. Data from the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency were used to create the map's 805 meter spatial resolution. The university research team, led by Robert Ridkey, associate professor of geology, is now working on a similar map of the state of Maryland.

The U.S. map, part of a new Portrait North America CD-ROM, is the latest addition to the Joint Education Initiative (JEI), an educational program run by the university. The JEI, started by

the U.S. Geological Survey and turned over to the university in 1991, is novel in its approach and scope. The project gives students a taste of real science by providing them with much of the actual data used by earth scientists and environmental researchers. In many cases, there are the same data sets scientist use daily to study such critical global issues as the greenhouse effect, ozone depletion and coastal erosion.

The four currently available JEI CD-ROMs incorporate such scientific data as SPOT images of the Washington, D.C. region, NASA planetary images, seismic, geophysical and ozone data, among others. Through its training program on Internet and CD-ROM technology and summer teacher training institutes, the project gives students and educators an understanding of the concepts and techniques used in analyzing these data sets.

"Much of what has taken place in the science classroom or even the classroom laboratory is predetermined, rather routine experience that all too often has little scientific merit," Ridkey said. "But the Joint Education Initiative helps make scientific instruction more consistent with the spirit and character of scientific inquiry and values."

Classroom Controversy

As texts containing emotionally and politically challenging material begin to circulate in high school classrooms, what happens when those classrooms become sites of controversy?

Focusing on three African American novels and two films that raise potentially volatile issues of racial and sexual politics, the Center Alliance for Secondary School Teachers and Texts (CAST) and Anne Arundel County Public Schools present a week-long institute for Maryland secondary school teachers entitled "Controversy, Culture and Context."

From June 26 through July 1, the summer institute will attempt to understand the sources of controversy and what makes a particular piece of writing or film controversial. Strategies and models for dealing with such controversy will be developed.

The summer institute features Mary Helen Washington, professor of English at the University of Maryland and Kevin Meehan, a Ph.D. student in comparative literature here. Washington is the

Inbrief

Eating Right—Club Maryland is sponsoring a free lunchtime workshop series on nutrition. A licensed nutritionist will conduct the lectures at noon in room 1302 of the Health and Human Performance Building on June 21 and 23. The scheduled topics are: Changing Eating Habits to Lose Weight; Preparing Quick and Easy Low Fat Meals; Brown Bagging It—Secrets to a Healthy Lunch; and Eating to Prevent Cancer.

Democracy for the Summer—The Department of Government and Politics is sponsoring a six-week seminar, "Democracy and Ethnic Conflict in Eastern Europe Today," June 28-Aug. 5, for 12 college professors from around the country. An opening reception for the summer seminar will be held on Wednesday, June 29, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in Marie Mount Hall. Martin Palous, visiting professor at Northwestern University and professor at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, will deliver the keynote address on "Democracy and Nationalism in Eastern Europe." For more information, please call 405-4133.

Scholarships for Women—A scholarship fund for adult women is now available through the Returning Students Program of the Counseling Center, Learning Assistance Service. The scholarship funds are to be used during the fall semester to cover partial tuition expenses and the cost of any off-campus supervised internship, books and fees, child care costs, or career-related expenses. For information, call 314-7693. Deadline is July 8, 1994.

author of *Memory of Kin: Stories about Family by Black Writers and Invented Lives: Narratives of Black Women, 1860-1960*. Meehan's dissertation compares the development of three shared genres—protest novel, autobiography, and historical novel—in contemporary African American and Caribbean writing.

According to Washington, African American literature has its own long history of internal controversies, many of which revolve around the question of representativeness: the kinds of characters, plots and voices which could, or should be allowed to bear the burden of representing the race before a larger, outside audience. The institute will trace the ways in which standards of representativeness have changed during the past 150 years, making it clear that contemporary African American writers enjoy new possibilities for representing a broad range of experiences and sensibilities.

Michael Roemer's film "Nothing But a Man" and Billy Woodberry's "Bless Their Little Hearts," will be viewed by participants to learn more about how strategies of representation shape the images projected in a given text.

CAST is sponsored by the Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies, with the aid of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

For more information, please call 405-6834.

Mighty, Concerned Black Men

Lafayette Barnes Fights Gang Warfare With Workshops

The ex-drug dealer stood in front of a group of children coming of age in D.C. neighborhoods just like the one he'd grown up in.

At 14, he told them, he bought his first BMW with a backpack full of cash. But the thrill of quick money paled as friends died in drug shootings. The drug dealer himself shot a man. He served time. And he was here to tell the rapt audience at the Concerned Black Men's "You and Drugs" workshop that the consequences of selling dope far outweighed the glamour of driving a slick car.

"Here was a guy who had real life experiences, who could now share those experiences with young people and tell them about the evils of the drug culture and why it is so important then to avoid the lifestyle," says Lafayette Barnes, president of Concerned Black Men's Washington, D.C. chapter.

Concerned Black Men was founded 20 years ago in Philadelphia by black police officers and firemen. Barnes, the director for external affairs in the School of Public Affairs, says that the group's objective was to destroy the myth that "all black men are crazy on dope, doing negative things, and to provide positive role models which could facilitate communication with young people and help in their positive development." CBM's motto is "Caring for our Youth."

For similar reasons, the D.C. chapter was founded about 10 years ago by a group of Washington area professionals.

Barnes was working on Capitol Hill. "Someone told me that they were looking for real men who were willing to roll up their sleeves and get dirty to lend a helping hand to our young people. I said, 'That sounds like something I'd like to do.'"

He understands the plight of the kids that he works with because he came from the same background. That could be the driving force behind his concern for their future. He was born in D.C., but was raised in a blue-collar neighborhood in Philadelphia.

"I lived in a community with gang warfare and a high dropout rate," he says. "My Mom and Dad separated when I was very young, so my mother basically raised me. If you look at those statistics, I certainly did fit into the category of an at-risk youth. If I were to look at 15 of my best friends from high school, two of us went to college."

College was the furthest thing from his mind until he went into the army during the Vietnam War. Thanks to discipline gained in the service, Barnes came back and earned his bachelor's in political science at LaSalle University in Philadelphia and then his master of science in foreign service at Georgetown University.

CBM now has eight chapters in four different states and the District of Columbia. While the local group is primarily based in D.C., Barnes says that 45 percent of their members actually live in Maryland and they are trying to extend their services to Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

They use youth conferences and workshops to bolster the confidence of youngsters as they mature. The youth

conferences are called "Helping Each Other" conferences and have workshops like "Mo' Money," "You and Drugs," and "Why I Like Myself," that help youngsters to learn, feel good about themselves and stay on track.

"Mo' Money" is an entrepreneurial workshop that is designed to help kids learn how to come up with their own ways of making money, legally.

"There are a lot of illegal entrepreneurs out there," Barnes says. "When I was a kid, I used to sell newspapers, shine shoes and all of that kind of stuff."

The "You and Drugs" workshop brings ex-drug users and dealers in to tell their stories.

Their big annual event, the Youth Recognition Awards Banquet, was held this year on June 11 at the Grand Hyatt in Washington. The keynote speaker at the Banquet was Shermaine Mitchell, a ninth grade student from Shaw Junior High School who won first place in this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Oratory Contest.

A kind of oratorical tournament, the contest includes both high school and junior high school students. This year's topic was "A Challenge to Our Community Leaders: A Fresh Perspective on Stopping the Violence." Mitchell received a \$1,000 prize and spoke at the banquet, which was moderated by *The Washington Post's* William Raspberry.

"It's our flagship event," Barnes says. "We really get a big charge out of it. We recognize our young people for their academic as well as community service accomplishments."

CBM is out to expand youngsters' horizons, as well as foster their accomplishments. Kids often think that the only world that exists is the small section of the city in which they live.

"There are a lot of young people, particularly in the Southeast community where I live, who not only haven't seen anyplace else, but don't travel downtown very often," Barnes says.

Their International Awareness Committee sponsors trips to various embassies in Washington to expose them to Washington's rich cultural diversity. Barnes, dressed for photos in an olive green African tunic and matching hat, says he often combines African print ties and vests with his regular western suits to portray the diversity of our country.

The committee sponsors speakers from the Peace Corps and the Foreign Service, and tries to pique kids' interest in the outside world.

Barnes believes that old-fashioned values will help the young people of today overcome their obstacles.

"Self-discipline, respect for elders, love of learning and hard work," he says. "That's what helped me to get through, and that's the message I want to get to the young people of today."

But he also admits the problems of today's inner-city kids are different than the ones that he faced. Drugs weren't as big a problem, and AIDS didn't even exist.

"Violence was always there," he says. "You'd probably get beat up real bad with sticks, or be stabbed, or even shot, but not with the kind of firepower that



Scott Suchman

"Self-discipline, respect for elders, love of learning and hard work. That's what helped me to get through, and that's the message I want to get to the young people of today."

—Lafayette Barnes

these young people have today."

And those who have beaten the odds and raised themselves from the streets don't take the time to volunteer to help the kids, Barnes says.

"I think our challenge today is to convince adults that they must make time for young people," Barnes says. "They need our help, they didn't get here by themselves."

Barnes says that myths about pregnancy are prevalent among kids and contribute to teen pregnancy. Some teens at one of CBM's workshops said that pregnancy could be prevented by having sex standing up, or wearing saran wrap in place of a condom.

Recently, at a workshop called "The African American Gentleman," which teaches etiquette skills, domestic violence came up. The leader of the workshop was explaining how it was wrong to hit a woman when one boy raised his hand and said that he had seen his uncle shoot his aunt in the stomach and then turn around and shoot himself.

"They don't have the family or the community structure," Barnes says. "If we don't get a handle on that, our

future looks really bleak. And it's not just a black thing, it's a United States thing. We have to remain strong and competitive so that we won't lose our position in the world."

When he thinks of the future, his two sons worry him and his wife the most. "The streets are a lot meaner than our home, so we're hoping that we've given them a solid foundation. Between our support and God's support, maybe they can beat the odds, too."

Attending general body meetings and committee meetings, both sons have always been close to CBM. The group marches every year in Ward 8's Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade and his sons march along with them chanting: "Black men! Mighty, mighty, Black men! Concerned Black Men!"

If you would like to become a member of Concerned Black Men, call (202) 783-5414. There is a \$75 membership fee and you must be involved in at least one youth committee, as well as attend general body meetings.

—STEPHEN SOBEK