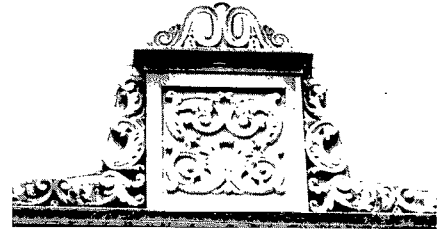


# NEWS



of the History Department at Boston University

October 1998

## David Mayers authors book on Americans and peace

St. Martin's Press has recently published Professor David Mayers's latest work, *Wars and Peace: The Future Americans Envisioned, 1861-1991*, an examination of how Americans have tried to conceptualize peace during five national security crises. We are pleased to reprint the Introduction to the book:

**M**y reason for writing this book is twofold. First, I want to advance the case for the power and autonomy of ideas that exist in opposition to the coercive sphere. They exert gravitational pull toward mitigation of suffering and amelioration of strife. Second, I want to analyze the course of evolving American identity and ambitions abroad. Wartime emergency provides the window through which to view these issues.

War exemplifies the realm of necessity in its purest form. Yet even here ideas matter. It is not enough that thinkers have sought to explain the recurrence of war as an intractable problem in history, tying its origins to varied phenomena: defects in human personality or the existence of odious regimes or the anarchical nature of international politics. Nor is it enough to con-

demn war as inevitable, as when one of its foremost practitioners, General Robert E. Lee, lamented: "I fear we are destined to kill and slaughter each other for ages to come."

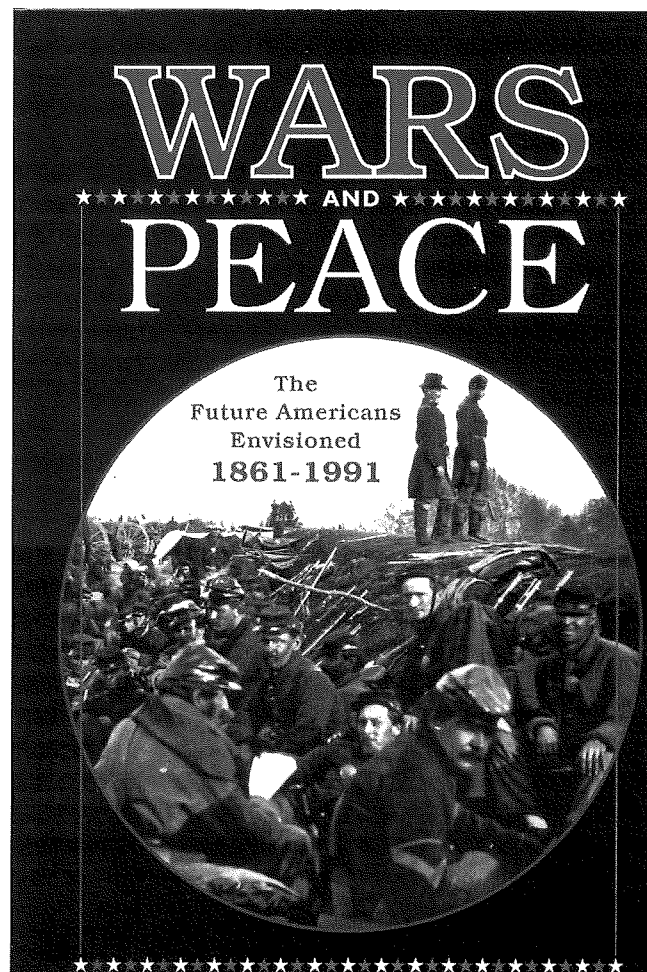
Warring peoples have also sought high justification—rationalization, if you prefer—for their strenuous and gory actions. Homer's heroes destroyed Troy not simply for the sake of pleasure or plunder. Their goal, as they insisted, was to enforce codes of civilized conduct, violated when Paris stole his host's wife. Napoleon's legions subdued Europe for more than the glory of conquest; they persuaded themselves that they were expanding the zone of liberty. Britain's land-grabbing in the nineteenth century was not aimed solely at preempting predatory rivals from laying claim to yet another part of Africa or Asia. By fighting native peoples, Britain was also bringing enlightenment to backward races—the "white man's burden." Hitler's soldiers in Eastern Europe justified their savagery with these needs: to redress the indignities perpetrated by Versailles, to enlarge the living space (*Lebensraum*) available to an excellent but crowded nation, to save Europe from Bolshevik barbarism.

The list of examples is endless. The point is that irre-

spective of motive, be it immediate (the felt need to correct an imbalance in the balance of power) or underlying (relentless affirmation of the collective self), people have required justification for the hazards and cruelty inherent in war. When General William Tecumseh Sherman said that war is hell, he was both making an empirical observation and invoking moral authority for his army's action: burning and sacking in

### NEXT MONTH

On Thursday, November 12, Paul Boyer, author of *Salem Possessed*, the department's Visiting Scholar for 1998-99, will deliver a lecture at 5:15 p.m. in CAS 202. See next month's newsletter for more details.



DAVID MAYERS

Georgia. When Stalin asked how many divisions the Pope commanded, he was not showing just the Machiavellian's contempt for weakness. He was also paying cynical tribute to the intellectual-moral power that a few decades after his death weakened (fatally in Poland) the Soviet grip on Eastern Europe. Though no more than a vulgar Marxist, Stalin understood himself as occupying a place in the apostolic succession that began with the socialist master and carried through Engels and Lenin. Against capitalist cant stood the radical ideas of proletarian rights and distributive justice, which would have been mobilized had open war erupted between the USSR and its Western antagonists.

This book is motivated by other concerns: the muddled quality of post-Cold War U.S. policy and the belief that earlier experience can be useful, both as a cautionary tale and an example of what is effective in avoiding mishap in a still threatening world. In the following pages, I try to recapture how Americans have envisioned their country's course in the periods that would follow the emergencies of

1861-1991: the Civil War, Spanish-American War, the two world wars, the Cold War. For a diplomatic historian, I have taken an unorthodox approach by including the voices of a broader range than is standard of people acting on the political scene: the powerful certainly but also the marginalized, the vanquished, and the dissenting. Political imagination is not the sole property of a policy-making elite in a representative democracy; Americans of all stripes and persuasions have always flavored national discourse. Thus I have included nonconformists from the ranks of radicals, pacifists, civil rights activists, feminists, and those scholars who have lived in the faith of John Maynard Keynes's conviction—the views of prac-

tical men of affairs are derived from academic scribblers of previous generations. I hope in effect to reacquaint readers with some of those thinkers whose eloquence, passion, and even wrongheadedness gave texture to the debates of their times.

Though none of the visions of these individuals has completely taken hold, many have taken root. The power of these concepts, however frustrated their application, is evidenced today as Americans contemplate their nation's diplomacy. At the same time, the inability of previous generations to give decisive shape to the politics of their day is useful reminder that exuberance alone cannot overcome complexity. As they mixed with other determinants of foreign policy (economic, bureaucratic, partisan, external) new-world-order ideas were sculpted in ways unintended by their progenitors.

In all the chapters, a specific crisis and U.S. response to it are introduced. An exegesis of the government's notion of future political life (domestic and international) follows. Then I examine the postwar career of that concept, with particular reference to its domestic supporters and opponents. In this connection the attitude of foreign allies and rivals is also reviewed, but my contention is that most U.S. foreign policy is domestically anchored. The crucial points of reference are U.S. institutions and habits of mind.

Appropriately, therefore, I begin with the severest test in U.S. history: the war of 1861-1865. The United States is a deliberate country. Its founding, or invention, was designed to satisfy a particular need: an alternative to monarchical rule and assertion of the republican idea. In a sense, the Civil War constituted a second founding of the United States. Issues left unresolved by the framers—the relationship of central authority to states' prerogatives and the free zone versus the slave—were settled, more or less, by the war. In this chapter, I examine Abraham Lincoln's vision for the nation and link it to problems faced by his successor, President Andrew Johnson. I also assess compatible visions, notably those of the freed (in the voice of Frederick Douglass) and

those of the cooperating defeated (General James Longstreet). Those people skeptical of the Lincoln idea are also scrutinized, including Northerners who urged a punitive peace upon the South (such as Congressman Thaddeus Stevens) and those from the losing side who still resisted (such as Nathan Bedford Forrest, wizard of the Ku Klux Klan). The moral and political ambiguity of Reconstruction resulted from this massive attempt to recast America.

The next chapter concerns the 1898 war against Spain. During that conflict, to cite a wag of the time, the United States aimed at Cuba but hit the Philippines. Americans had first to decide whether to wage an intervention on behalf of the oppressed (Cuban rebels fighting Spain), then whether to break from tradition and create an overseas empire (acquisition of the Philippines)....

The third chapter deals with Woodrow Wilson and his attempt to broker a moderate peace for the Great War. He hoped to dispense with punitive measures and create international machinery (the League of Nations) to preempt vast violence in the future. He faced the likes of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge at home, who warned against foreign snares that would trap the country in European imbroglios. At Versailles, Wilson confronted Clemenceau, whose determination was that Germany should not again harm France. The Wilsonian idea was also challenged by revolutionary socialism, embodied by Lenin and his Third International. The Kellogg-Briand pact and peace movements—in which former suffragettes like Jane Addams played a conspicuous role—were expressions of Wilsonianism that survived into the interwar period. They proved untenable by 1939. But their core ideals resurfaced in the emergency of 1941-1945.

The Second World War chapter focuses on FDR's attempt to redefine international politics, and the U.S. position therein, via the Atlantic Charter, United Nations, and the controversial Nuremberg trials. Roosevelt was

*See MAYERS, page 12*

**I hope in effect to reacquaint readers with some of those thinkers whose eloquence, passion, and even wrong-headedness gave texture to the debates of their times.**

# NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS JOIN DEPARTMENT

As is our custom, we have asked the department's new graduate students to introduce themselves, providing a bit about their background and academic plans:

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## Daniel Russo

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I am an M.A. candidate from New York. The eldest of five children from one of the many Irish-Italian families in Brooklyn, I graduated from Regis High School in New York and received a B.A. in Medieval Studies from Fordham University in the Bronx this past May. I am very interested in Spain from the time of the Suevi until the Catholic kingdom and the political/theological/linguistic evolution (or de-evolution) of the Iberian peninsula. I currently teach Spanish at Catholic Memorial High School in West Roxbury and am the bassist/singer/songwriter for Antonio's Crush.

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## Jocelyn Ullrich

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As an incoming student to Boston University, chosen for its excellent reputation and renowned faculty, I have

pursued a different path than that of my undergraduate studies. Having previously attended a small women's college, I anticipate the opportunity to continue researching the role of women in the civil rights movement, a project I began when I was doing my honors thesis, using the vast resources available at BU. Two historical periods have fascinated me for close to six years—the civil rights movement and the Holocaust. It is my belief that these two topics are integral subjects for both historians and students. Those interested in the oral histories of women in the civil rights movement are encouraged to read my senior thesis on the web at [www.sage.edu/html/RSC/programs/globcomm/division/students/rights.html](http://www.sage.edu/html/RSC/programs/globcomm/division/students/rights.html).

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## Carla Lovett

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Having grown up on a farm on the coast of Maine, coming to BU is a sort of homecoming for me. My formative years in New England had ended when I received my degree in archaeology from Yale University. At that point the whole world opened up and I em-

barked upon some amazing adventures in a whole host of wonderful spots around the globe. Among other things, I lived on Indian reservations and Pacific islands, in a leprosy colony and a Templar castle. I excavated Copper/Bronze Age huts and Hawaiian *heiaus*. I wrote a paper on Shaker technology and published a Micronesian adz typology.

My interest in history in general and religious history in particular was formed in my childhood days, and regardless of where I traveled, I was fascinated by the role of the Protestant church within the social and cultural framework at hand. Unfortunately, I couldn't fully ascertain its impact because my intellectual understanding of the church's historical influence was practically nonexistent. So now I'm here, to correct this imbalance by exploring the historical roots of the modern church and to analyze the impact of Martin Luther's little demonstration in Germany in 1517 on the rest of Europe since then. In essence, I want to finally learn "...the rest of the story."

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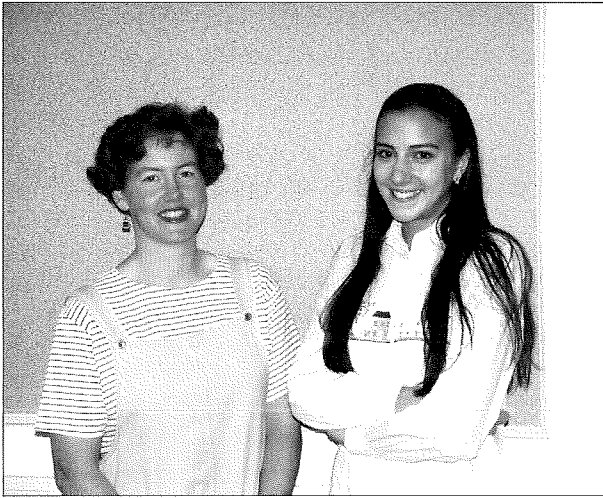
## Monica Haladyna

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I entered the M.A. in history program this fall semester. I was born in Toluca, Mexico, in 1975 and moved to the United States in 1985. My educational background is unusual since my mother tongue is Spanish and English is my second language. My last year in high school was spent on a study abroad program in Italy. Soon after I began my career at Ferris State University, where I remained for one year and subsequently transferred to Michigan State University, where I received my B.A. in Interdisciplinary Humanities (March 1996). The last semester of my B.A. was spent in Ireland studying literature. One of my principal interests is



*Daniel Russo and  
Jocelyn Ullrich*



*Carla Lovett and Monica Haladyna*

the study of foreign languages such as French, Italian, German, and Nahuatl.

My historical interests are primarily in two areas: medieval Europe and modern European history. I am fascinated by the High Medieval period (c. 1000 to 1300) in Spain, France, and England with Abelard, Aquinas, Scholasticism, and the seemingly absolute power of the church over quotidian life. In the study of modern European history, I am interested in World War I and World War II, the Holocaust, the Great Depression, and the establishment of Communism.

One of the main reasons that I have decided to study history is that in previous years I have had the honor of taking courses from extraordinary humanities professors who not only influenced me positively in the study of history, literature, and philosophy, but also changed my life. The other factor that has made me develop a profound interest in history has been the extensive travels that I've made through Europe, Mexico, Central America, and recently South America. It is curious how two neighboring countries can have similar languages or the like and yet differ in so many ways.

After two years of studying and traveling independently I decided that it was time to return to school. When I started to look at M.A. programs I was drawn to Boston University because of the wide selection of courses and the interesting programs that were offered. This was an important factor because

when programs are too small they tend to become too restrictive (few courses available) and fortunately BU has just what I was looking for.

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### **Christina McIntosh**

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I had never been to Boston before starting school at BU this fall but I already like the city very much. I grew up in Michigan and went to the University of Michigan for four years where I also studied history. While working at the Kelsey Museum at the U of M I discovered what I wanted to do with my history degree. I want to be a museum curator. I spent nine months last year in Washington, D.C., working at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

I chose to come to BU because of its academic reputation; because I can pursue a museum studies certificate here along with my history degree; and because I've always wanted to come to Boston. I plan to focus my studies on American history during the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century.

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### **Jeannette Sedgwick**

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I have been teaching English since 1989. My professional experience includes teaching at middle schools, high schools, and at the university level, as well as editing and researching for textbook publishers such as Houghton

Mifflin. I first became interested in the relationships between History and English when I integrated my curriculum with the History Department at Maumee Valley Country Day School and have since come to see writing, particularly primary source documents, as an important cornerstone in both English and History. I have received two National Endowment for the Humanities teacher fellowships and an Outward Bound Merit scholarship and have participated in the National Gallery's Summer Program in American Art. My most recent scholarly work, a paper entitled "Revolutionary Women: Abigail Adams, Mercy Otis Warren, Judith Sargent Murray, Hannah Adams, Philis Wheatley, and Ann Bradstreet," was the result of a summer of research about colonial and post-revolutionary women and their roles as writers and historians. Inspired by Laurel Ulrich's and Jill Lepore's research on early America, I hope to focus on early American history and the theoretical issues surrounding American identity and nationalism while pursuing an M.A. in history at Boston University. My educational background includes a B.A. in English from Bucknell University and an M.A. in English from the University of Rochester. [Editor's note: Also of interest is the fact that Jeannette and her advisor, Prof. Lepore, were classmates in high school.]

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### **Christine Chiang**

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Initially an art major at UCLA, specializing in painting and photography, I graduated this past spring with a B.A. in history. I decided to change my major from art to history primarily because I found history more challenging, and because it allowed me to explore several different disciplines, such as anthropology, linguistics, and art. African history especially interested me because it was an area rarely touched upon in my earlier education. Moreover, I became fascinated with the rich culture of Africa including its art, languages, and trade systems.

I chose to attend Boston University

in large part due to its faculty and the strong support they could provide. Another important factor was that I felt more comfortable with the faculty and students compared to other universities. I hope that during my studies with the history department I not only will expand my knowledge of the history of Africa but also build lasting friendships. Although I have only been in Boston for a short time, I already know I will enjoy this city. Having been raised in Los Angeles, where cars are a necessity, I appreciate the easy access to the T.

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### Robert Munson

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As a new student here I have the opportunity to write a little about myself. Right now as you read this I am recovering from a strange case of culture shock—I have returned to my home country after seven years in Germany. While the U.S. feels like home, I still have questions about what exactly I should and should not recognize here and I still have occasional small, but frightful, problems in English after two years of work in, as Mark Twain wrote, “the awful German language.”

In the space here, let me just give you a little of my personal history. I grew up in Nebraska, but then started my education just down the road; I spent my first semester as a freshman at MIT and lived on Bay State Road. My enthusiasm for engineering waned quickly, and after one semester I went back to the University of Nebraska—Lincoln, where I managed to graduate with a B.S. in history.

After Nebraska and a year in Washington D.C. (my first shot at grad school), I went on active duty with the Air Force, and they promptly sent me to Germany from where I didn't return until a few weeks ago. In Germany I had the opportunity to deepen my interest in Africa as an “African Analyst” at Ramstein AB. My job there is easiest to describe as such: when the generals had questions about Africa, I answered the questions. I also had the opportunity to make several trips to Africa, increasing my enthusiasm for the subject.

After several years I realized that I didn't want to continue this type of work indefinitely so I looked about for universities and subsequently landed at the Universität Leipzig (formerly Karl-Marx-Universität!) in the former East Germany. Leipzig impressed me with their long history of African Studies dating back to the German colonial era and their very international focus. During my two years in Leipzig, I deepened my interest in East Africa and expanded it to include German relations with Africa. I wrote my *M.A. Masterwork* (o.k., M.A. thesis, but *Masterwork* sounds much nicer while being a literal translation) on the East German educational assistance to Tanzania during the first 20 years of Tanzanian independence.

Now in Boston I look forward to pursuing my historical interests in East Africa under Professors McCann and Wylie. I came to BU not only because of a nice fellowship, but more importantly because of the fairly small department and the chance to continue working also *outside* of history. The African Studies Center encourages the cross-disciplinary work which I found so stimulating in the African Studies department at Leipzig—history with politics and language. Unfortunately, my other impressions of BU and Boston are being formed by my continuing culture shock, so let me just thank everyone for the friendly welcome I

have received at BU and I look forward to working and learning with many of you.

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### Oyëshiku Carr

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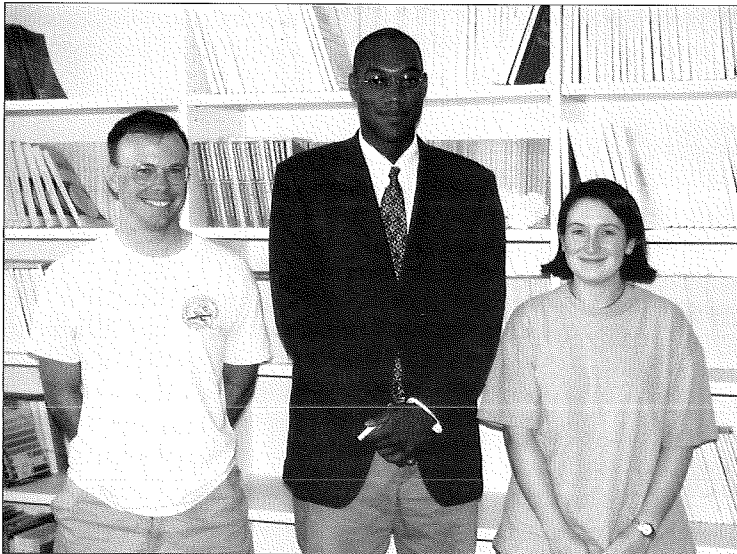
I received a B.A. in History from Wesleyan University in 1992. Upon graduating, I moved to Portland, Oregon, where I worked as the Co-Director of Summerbridge Portland—an educational program for middle school students. In the fall of 1994 I left Portland and traveled to Eritrea for six months where I began a cursory study on the role of the nation state in Africa. For the past three years I have taught history at City On A Hill, Public Charter School in Boston.

I plan to spend my time at Boston University continuing my investigation into the appropriate role of the nation state in Africa. My interest in Africa evolves from familial ties deeply rooted in the continent itself. I come from a family of native Liberians and my father has dedicated over 30 years of distinguished service in all four corners of Africa. He currently holds a UNDO post in Kinshasa, DRC, directing efforts on the restructuring of Congolese society. In addition, my older sister, with a degree in international law, currently works on the project to eradicate the use of land mines sponsored by the

Christina McIntosh, Jeannette Sedgwick, and Christine Chiang







*Robert Munson, Oyéshiku Carr, and Amy Bosworth*

United Nations. I hope to continue the type of work and scholarship that they both have begun.

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### Amy Bosworth

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My name is Amy Bosworth and I've just begun working toward my M.A. in history. Before arriving at BU, I attended the University of Maine at Farmington and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where I received my B.A. in 1997. For the past year I've worked at a local optical shop and taken several courses at the Harvard Ex-

tension School (an attempt to brush up on my Latin). I'm looking forward to reentering academic life after this short break.

Over the next several years I plan to study medieval European history. Although I've always enjoyed history, it wasn't until my sophomore year at UMass that I developed an interest in the medieval period. I took one great class (an introduction to the Middle Ages) and have been hooked ever since. Ultimately, once I'm through with school (whenever that is), my goal is to find work in a history-related field. For now, however, I look forward to taking

as many medieval courses as Boston University has to offer.

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### Andrew Donnelly

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I am enrolled in the Master's degree program at Boston University, and my primary area of interest is medieval Europe. I am not new to the History Department at BU—I received my B.A. in 1997. I took a year off and worked across the river at MIT, where among other things I learned how to build web pages. In fact, I co-founded a small web page construction company, A & K Innovations. Please feel free to take a look at our site at [www.akinnovations.com](http://www.akinnovations.com).

Even though MIT was a nice place to work, I quickly realized that history is my love, and thus I am back. I wanted to return to BU because I really looked forward to studying under the three medievalists in the department. I also happen to love the city of Boston. My primary interest, as stated, is in Medieval Europe, specifically the Crusades. The interactions between the Muslims, Byzantines, and Western Europeans in the Middle East fascinates me—I am currently doing research on the subject for Professor Clifford Backman.

With a lot of hard work and a bit of luck, I hope to have a stimulating and enjoyable stay at Boston University.

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### Sean Morris

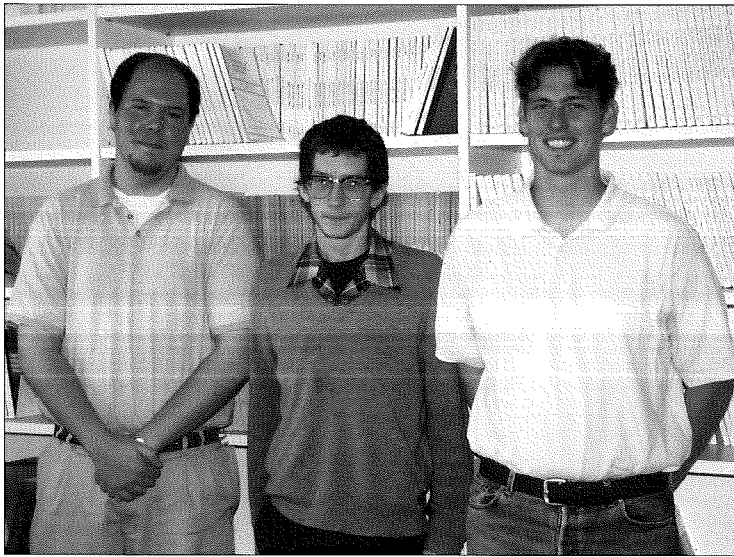
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I have attended Boston University for the past three years as an undergraduate studying history. This year I am entering the BA/MA program which I hope to complete by the end of next fall. My major interest is in U.S. foreign relations, but in the past I have studied the Holocaust and the other topics relating to the Second World War in Europe. Recently I have also become interested in the history of linguistic philosophy which has caused my library to rapidly expand with books written by and relating to Wittgenstein, Chomsky, and the Vienna Circle.

### NEW GRAD STUDENTS BY THE NUMBERS

Numbers were up this fall: from last year's total of 8 entering students, the department welcomed 14 in September 1998. Statistics are as follows:

- 4 are in the PhD program, 8 in the MA, and 2 in the BA/MA.
- 4 are studying African history, 4 American, and 6 European.
- 5 are entering with some financial aid, including two with University Fellowships, one with an African Studies language fellowship, one with a Martin Luther King Fellowship, and one with an assistantship.
- The average verbal GRE score of the new students is 563, which corresponds approximately to the 73rd percentile.
- 5 of the students came most recently from Massachusetts, 3 from California, 2 from New York, 1 each from Michigan, Maryland, and D.C., and 1 from Nebraska (via Germany).
- 11 are studying full-time, 3 are part-time.



Andrew  
Donnelly,  
Sean  
Morris, and  
Jeffrey  
Saunders

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### Jeffrey Saunders

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I was bitten with the history bug when I was five years old during a cross-country drive from my hometown San Diego to the East Coast. I remember my parents taking my brother, my sister, and me to the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas. I must have driven my family nuts (particularly my brother and sister) because I had to look at every single display case and exhibit in the place. I was absolutely fascinated not only with the artifacts but most importantly with the history and the legend surrounding the defense of the Alamo.

From this little anecdote from my past, you would assume that my historical interests would lie in the history of the American West. But they don't. As I grew up, I felt an inescapable desire to learn French and study French history. I begged my mother to enroll me in French courses at eight years of age! When I finished high school in 1994, I decided that going to college right away was not the best thing for me. So I packed my bags and left for France. There I lived twenty kilometers northwest of Paris in a little farming community and went back to high school. I studied in the Economic and Social Science Section in Pontoise, where the kings of France would flee insurrections in Paris. On my return, I came to BU, but I was eager to return to France. I did so the next year when I went to

Paris with Professors Diefendorf and Johnson on their History of Paris program, to Grenoble in the BU International Program (where I met my wife Dorthe), and back to Paris one more time on the Paris Internship Program. I am currently a BA/MA student, interested in early modern French history.

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### Heather Hoag

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After a brief stint in the international development field, I am returning to Boston University and the African Studies Center to pursue a Ph.D. in African history. Upon receiving my M.A. from BU in May 1997, I joined Oxfam America, an international funding agency that works to find lasting solutions to hunger, poverty, and social injustice, as the Program Coordinator for Oxfam's Horn of Africa Program.

Before coming to BU in 1996, I completed my undergraduate studies at the University of California, San Diego. I spent my junior year abroad studying at the University of Ghana, Legon, and traveling throughout West Africa.

After spending the past summer traveling through Greece with my new husband and monitoring the volatile situation in the Horn of Africa, I am looking forward to refocusing my studies on post-Independence socialist development policies in Tanzania and, of course, Kiswahili. ♦

## Phi Alpha Theta

Dear Junior and Senior History Majors,

Applications for membership in *Phi Alpha Theta*, the history honor society, are available beginning October 1 in the History Department in Room 308. The prerequisites for membership include an overall GPA of 3.3 or above and a GPA of 3.5 or above for history courses taken at BU. Membership is open only to those who have completed 12 credit hours in history courses. A list of the history courses you have taken at BU and the grades you received in each, along with a total GPA for only those history courses, is a mandatory part of the application. Please submit this information on a separate sheet of paper (with your name, phone number, and e-mail address) along with the application. The membership fee is \$30 (payable by check only to *Phi Alpha Theta*), which must be submitted along with the application. A complete application consists of the application card, GPA sheet of history courses, and check in the amount of \$30. Applications are due **by October 30, 1998**, in Room 308 of the History Department.

An induction ceremony will be held (a notice will be sent) to welcome all new members, who will receive a certificate and identification card. Membership is lifetime.

The faculty advisor for Phi Alpha Theta is Professor Thomas Glick. If you have any questions, please contact either Professor Glick at [tglick@bu.edu](mailto:tglick@bu.edu) or me at [dsimmons@bu.edu](mailto:dsimmons@bu.edu). We look forward to a great year for *Phi Alpha Theta*!

*Danielle Simmons, President*

### Middle Eastern search begins (again)

Last year's search for a historian of the Middle East and North Africa having ended unsuccessfully (the candidate recommended by the department was not approved by the administration), the department will begin the process again this fall. As was the case in the previous year, the search is for a tenure-track assistant professor to teach courses in the Middle East and North Africa, in addition to courses in world history (the department's offerings include a two-semester survey, HI 175-176, which was developed by Professor Emeritus Norman Bennett). Chair of the search committee is Professor Herbert Mason; other members are Professors Marilyn Halter, James Johnson, and Richard Norton (of the International Relations and Anthropology Departments). The deadline for applications is December 15, and finalists are expected to visit campus early in 1999.

# BOS 101

A selective (and highly opinionated)  
intro for newcomers to Boston

The newsletter offers the following ideas for exploring the Greater Boston area to our new graduate students and to any undergraduate concentrators who are new to the area:

*From Prof. Jill Lepore:* Check out the **Boston Harbor Islands** (yes, there are islands in the harbor!). A public ferry will take you to George's Island for \$8, where you can visit a prisoner of war camp from the Civil War. Okay, it's no Alcatraz, but it's interesting. And water taxis will take you (for free) to several other islands. You can even camp on Bumpkin Island, with a permit. Ferries leave from Long Wharf (Aquarium T stop). Call 227-4321 for the schedule.

*From graduate student Tim Walker and Prof. Merle Goldman:* Anyone studying colonial America, early modern Europe, or Asian history should visit the superb **Peabody-Essex Museum** in Salem, Mass. The collection focuses on maritime trade links between New England and the Far East. Salem is an easy trip by train from North Station; a roundtrip ticket costs about \$5....Tim adds: While in Salem, be sure to visit the restored historic shops, homes, and Customs House along the harbor waterfront. All of these are open for visitors and have well-presented historical displays of daily life in a port town during the Age of Sail....And don't forget **Old Ironsides** in Charlestown, well worth a trip.

*From department administrator James Dutton:* Since I am known for my interest in things gastronomic, I will point out a wonderful shop on Salem St. in Boston's North End called **Dairy Fresh**. The friendly staff sells chocolates of many varieties—some already formed into truffles and such—and, in addition, Callebaut Belgian chocolate in blocks. There are dried fruits, nuts of all kinds, olive oils, vinegars—everything at considerably lower prices than elsewhere. The North End is worth visiting for other reasons, but be prepared for tourists galore; the line for a restaurant is often daunting....And since it is fall, try to make it out to **Route 2** west; if you are from somewhere else, you will, when you see the amazing foliage display and the farmstands with their apples and pumpkins and cider and stacks of firewood, know you have arrived in New England....As winter wears on and on, newcomers to New England will look longingly for spring to arrive and will, almost certainly, be disappointed—our spring is either short or nonexistent. But barring a late killing freeze, be sure to take in the magnolias on **Commonwealth Ave.** in the Back Bay and the magnificence of **Mt. Auburn Cemetery** (see Jean Dunlavy's entry below for more info).

*From Prof. Nina Silber:* Given my interests, I have a special fascination for Civil War-related sites around Boston. In fact, visitors tend to be overwhelmed by the

American Revolution in Boston, and one can forget about that even more interesting and important war in American history! Anyway, there are the obvious, but rewarding, stops—like the **St. Gaudens' monument** to Robert Gould Shaw and the Mass. 54th Regiment (opposite the State House) and the **Old South Meeting House** (which was an important abolitionist meeting place). But a really worthwhile trip is a visit to **George's Island**. Not only does it entail a beautiful ferry ride to the harbor islands, but it also has historical interest. George's Island is home to Fort Warren, a nineteenth-century fort in which Confederate prisoners of war were kept, including two of the most famous Confederate prisoners—James Mason and John Slidell. These two were Confederate diplomats, headed for England and France to negotiate international recognition for the Confederacy, when they were stopped by the Union navy for violating the Union blockade. Mason and Slidell were then briefly imprisoned at Fort Warren before being released by Abraham Lincoln. It's also a great trip to take with little kids—who love to run through the long, dark tunnels in the Fort.

*From Prof. Clifford Backman:* Personally, I recommend the home of Prof. Bruce Schulman. The food is excellent, the wine plentiful, and the company always convivial—especially when the wine is plentiful enough....On the serious side: **Stellina** (in Watertown Sq. at the end of the #57 bus route—which originates in Kenmore Sq.) is a very fine, and not *too* expensive, Italian restaurant. **Violette Wine Cellar** (on Belmont St. in Cambridge, just past the Cambridge Star Market, along the #73 bus route) is the biggest overlooked gem in Boston's wine stores. **Formaggio Kitchen** in Cambridge has the best cheese selection in town, and excellent croissants. Just be sure to ask for *their own* croissants, not the heavy, overrated ones brought in from Iggy's Bakery.

*From Prof. Marilyn Halter:* This may be New England but you can still find southern specialties like mouth-



## A BOSTON GUIDE

watering ribs and the *best* macaroni and cheese around at **Bob the Chef's**, 604 Columbus Ave. (Mass. Ave. stop on the Orange line). They remodeled a couple of years ago to make room for live music and you can now hear some of the best local jazz performed there as well....If your palate leads you even further south, try the delicious, affordable, and generous portions offered on the menu at **Cafe Brazil**, 421 Cambridge St., just a couple of blocks west of the intersection of Harvard and Cambridge Streets in Brighton. Enticing selections include Salmon Sonia Braga, Pasta Lambada, Brazil 2001, and my personal favorite, Minas Especial, a tasty, much-more-than-chicken signature dish of northeastern Minas Gerais, the region from which almost all Brazilians in Boston hail. And here, too, most evenings you can enjoy musical accompaniment to your meal with at least a guitarist and sometimes a trio on hand....Finally, for more classic regional fare, a must is **Doyle's Pub**, a Boston-area institution, full of atmosphere, brew choices, boisterous conversation, and good, cheap food. The Irish lamb stew listed as an appetizer makes a great meal all by itself and is not to be missed. Doyle's is located at 3484 Washington St. in Jamaica Plain, just a short walk from the Stonybrook T stop on the Orange line. And if you want to talk local history, owner Gerry Burke is always willing and has much to tell.

*From graduate student Jean Dunlavy:* A couple of urban sites with historical significance and more nature than people, for those times when Boston gets too crowded and cranky: **Mt. Auburn Cemetery** in Cambridge: This first garden cemetery in America has miles of small roads and walkways that take you to quiet ponds, wooded dells, and a hilltop with a spectacular city vista. The grounds are heavily manicured but offer beautiful trees and plantings, lots of spring birds, and a pleasant place to walk even after a snowstorm. There are lots of people, but the dead are quiet and the living are civil. Take the 71 or 73 bus from Harvard Sq....**Belle Isle**

**Marsh** in East Boston: Behind a small park, trails wend through grassy upland and tidal salt marsh that once covered the whole Boston shoreline. With wide open spaces and unfettered sky views, this state-owned property is also close to local beaches in Revere and Winthrop. Take the Blue line to Suffolk Downs.

*From Prof. Barbara Diefendorf:* A Venetian palace in Boston? Isabella Stewart Gardner's Fenway mansion and art collection, which on her death became the **Gardner Museum**, should be on any list of things to do and see in Boston. Ranging from Giotto and the Italian Renaissance to late nineteenth-century European and American art, the collection itself is well worth the trip, but the museum's special charm lies in the idiosyncratic setting of Mrs. Gardner's Fenway home. Built around a courtyard lined with the facades of Venetian palaces dismantled and imported on Mrs. Gardner's instructions, the rooms that house the collection evoke the social ambitions, tastes, and ideas of connoisseurship of Boston's Gilded Age.

*From Prof. William Keylor:* The food in the popular restaurant **Uva** (1418 Comm. Ave., Brighton) is very good, but the real attraction is the wine list. Whereas most restaurants automatically add 40 or 50 percent to the cost of wine, Uva has an excellent selection of moderately priced vintages from France, California, and other lesser places (written by one born and raised near the Napa Valley and an avid taster in the vineyards of Burgundy and Beaujolais). Well worth a trip.

*And finally, a comprehensive guide to coffeehouses from Prof. Bruce Schulman:* I confess. I have spent a good part of my life in coffeehouses—reading, sipping, writing, munching, overhearing conversations, chatting with the proprietors, and (much to the consternation of their mother) hanging out with my equally cafe-obsessed children. So I feel confident in affirming that Greater Boston boasts a lively and varied

coffeehouse culture and a legion of committed commandoes in the battle against the green scourge of Seattle.

Boston's coffeehouses fall into three basic categories: **neighborhood cafes**, where commuters hastily down their espresso en route to work, parents stop with the children on the way home from school, ne'er-do-wells lounge with the papers, and graduate students pretend to read Carlo Ginzburg or Gordon Wood; **counterculture cafes**, with their recycling bins, community bulletin boards, organic coffee—the sort of place that served Yogi teas before anyone had dreamed up Oregon Chai, where graduate students pretend to read Foucault; and **Italian caffes**, where football fans watch European soccer matches over their weekend coffees, locals speak an odd hybrid of Italian, English, and regional Italian-American slang, and graduate students pretend they're not graduate students at all. Of course, not all Boston coffeehouses fit neatly into these categories. My own neighborhood cafe, **Caffe LaScala** in Brookline's Coolidge Corner Arcade, bills itself as an authentic Italian cafe. Certainly, the proprietor, John Cristaldi (who emigrated from Sicily in the sixties), finds the neighborhood's taste for decaf espresso, afternoon lattes, and skim milk sacrilegious. But the neighborhood very much shapes this comfortable place (alongside Russian, Chinese, and Israeli immigrant businesses in the arcade) as does the friendly service provided by son Dominic and daughter Josephine. Still, whatever you call it, Caffe LaScala has the best coffee and makes the best sandwiches around.

What follows, then, is a very select guide to Boston's neighborhood cafes, its countercultural coffeehouses (and some of their Gen X variants), arranged roughly by neighborhood.

**BOSTON:** If you're battling a Starbucks addiction or just starting to branch out, the best place to start is **Roasters**, on Newbury St. in the Back Bay (between Berkeley and Clarendon). The aroma of fresh roasted coffee wafts through this elegant, woodsy, comfortable downstairs coffee bar, and

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the richly appointed rest rooms (they evoke a luxury ocean liner) are almost worth the visit on their own....Perched atop Beacon Hill, directly across from the State House and the Shaw Memorial, sits **Curious Liquids Cafe**. From the street, you enter a small, well-lit, oddly shaped space, with the service area in the center and window seating ringing the counter. But don't be fooled—down a spiral staircase, you'll find two well-appointed rooms—great places for grading papers or making back-room deals....On Charles St. near the Esplanade, at the other end of Beacon Hill, stands **Panificio**, a faux Italian bakery cafe, with excellent food and drink. It serves the best order of toast (with estimable jam) in town, and you can opt for fancier versions, dribbled with honey and mascarpone, or fresh fruit, or goat cheese. My son Jeff loves the croissants and the multi-colored champagne cookies....One block in the South End, on Tremont St. between Waltham and Union Park, plays home to three establishments—**Francesca's**, **Garden of Eden**, and **Mildred's**. All have their virtues and their deficiencies; perhaps reflecting this neighborhood's current prosperity, none of them particularly welcomes long, relaxed visits....In the Fenway, near Northeastern University, resides the best local iteration of the Ann Arbor-based mini-chain, **Espresso Royale Caffè**. This coffeehouse serves fare no different from our own serviceable establishment, across Commonwealth Ave. from Marsh Chapel, but the space is far more appealing, odd, geometric shapes, high ceilings with exposed pipes and ducts, comfortable tables and chairs....Close to home in Kenmore Sq., **Fuel** resides right under the giant Citgo sign; in best Gen X fashion, it offers smoke, art student baristas, well dressed in black clothing, multiple piercings, and appropriately catatonic expressions. If you prefer ginseng or ginko to caffeine, Fuel also features a juice bar.

**BROOKLINE:** Brookline once boasted its fair share of appealing cafes, but Starbucks seized Beans in Washington Sq., the Coffee Bar in Brookline

Village closed, and the Ace of Cups, the shabby genteel tea house famous for its home-baked goods, gave way to **Nancy's Bakery and Cafe**, a rather uncomfortable and undistinguished place (best for Asian noodle soups at lunch time). Only the aforementioned Caffè LaScala tends the flame in this fair city.

**CHARLESTOWN:** For a dollar, one of Boston's best transportation/recreation bargains, you can ride the MBTA water taxi from Long Wharf to the Charlestown Navy Yard. After appreciating Charlestown's wonderful architecture and climbing the Bunker Hill monument, roll down Monument Ave. to **Sorelle's Bakery Cafe** (corner of Monument and Main), a well-lit place, wonderful in the mornings when the fresh-baked muffins roll out. You can return to Boston across the bridge and work off some of that breakfast.

**CAMBRIDGE/SOMERVILLE:** Seattle-pox has all but wiped out the coffeehouse scene in Harvard Sq., but coffeehouse culture still thrives across the Charles. Old and new merge at the two outposts of the **1369 Coffeehouse**, the original at 1369 Cambridge St. in Inman Sq. and another on Mass. Ave. in Central Sq. These coffeehouses preserve a counterculture feel and try to foster a sense of community. Tiny shaded desk lamps adorn each table, as do outlets for plugging in that laptop....**Someday Cafe** in Davis Sq. was Greater Boston's ur-Gen X coffeehouse: cramped, unkempt space, a three-piercing requirement to join the staff, and service deeply committed to what Steve Martin once lampooned as the new cruelty ("Sorry, we're open," boasts the oft-quoted sign on the door). The place also sells the largest, hardest, most tasteless biscotti in the free world. Still, you had to love this place for its attitude, the conversations you might overhear, the quite good coffee. And now that it has expanded and remodelled, Someday has lost some of its hard edge....Bakery cafes abound across the river. Just across the Cambridge line, on the corner of Beacon and Washington in Somerville, **Panini** serves up fine breads and baked goods. They specialize in exotic versions of the scone—so

exotic that they hardly deserve the name, even though the Pear-Ginger and Blueberry-Cornmeal versions are delicious no matter what you call them. **Hi-Rise** (which bakes some of Greater Boston's best bread) and **Carberry's** offer two locations each; Carberry's has outlets in Central Sq. (Cambridge) and Davis Sq. (Somerville). Hi-Rise operates its main facility on Concord Ave. at Huron in Cambridge and a satellite in Harvard Sq. on Brattle St. For my money, Hi-Rise bakes the better food, while Carberry's offers the more comfortable and appealing settings.

To be sure, this cursory list only hints at Boston's espresso-soaked resources, but it's a start....

**NEXT MONTH:** More contributors, including Stacy Stein on bookstores

## Major Choices

During the week of October 26-30 the College of Arts and Sciences and the University Resource Center will sponsor the third annual "Major Choices: Finding Your Future in CAS and Beyond Graduation." Each department in CAS will hold open house that week, during which prospective majors (undeclared freshmen and sophomores, CGS students, and potential intra-university transfer students) can find out more about the requirements of the various concentrations.

As the History Department formulates its plans for this event, it would welcome the assistance and participation of history majors. Anyone willing to help should contact department secretary Al Sargis at 353-2551. The College will distribute information on the various events scheduled by the departments.

## 1998-99 committees selected

At its September meeting, the department faculty elected Prof. Thomas Glick as Europeanist on the Executive Committee and Prof. Barbara Diefendorf as an "at-large" member; Profs. Bruce Schulman and Diana Wylie continue for the second year of their terms. This committee advises the chairman on important departmental matters, particularly on salary increases for faculty. Prof. Clifford Backman continues as Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Prof. Fred Leventhal as Director of Graduate Studies (other members of the Graduate Studies Committee are Profs. Nina Silber and Diana Wylie). Prof. Barbara Diefendorf chairs the Curriculum Committee; other members are Profs. Backman and Leventhal.

# EARLY REGISTRATION

Spring 1999

Telephone registration for spring 1999 classes begins on October 28 for graduate students and on November 1 for undergraduates. The department will have special advising appointments available beginning Monday, October 19, and continuing through Friday, November 6 (after that period students may see faculty members during their regular office hours). History concentrators and graduate students may call the office (353-2551) or stop in (226 Bay State Road, Room 308) to make an advising appointment. After an appointment, a student should go to the department office to obtain the TelReg code for telephone registration. The procedure for admission to restricted classes will be as follows: For HI 301 (limited to history concentrators), students go to the department office. For colloquia (400-level courses) students first see the instructor and then visit the department office, where the registration is handled by computer.

Below are some notes on new or changed courses for spring 1999:

- Konrad Tuchscherer has been appointed lecturer in history for the spring semester. He will teach two courses: HI 176 ("World History Since 1500") and HI 292 ("Colonialism in Africa").
- Two instructors will teach sections of the required course for history concentrators, HI 301: Professors Diana Wylie and Genzo Yamamoto.
- Cathal Nolan has been appointed lecturer in history for the second semester to teach HI 340 ("History of Modern Diplomacy"). The course surveys the evolution of the institutions, practices, and principles of diplomacy in European interstate relations from 1400 to approximately 1975. There will be special attention to the balance of power concept and its critics and to alternative theories and measures for managing international relations.
- Professor Igor Lukes, appointed to the department last year, will teach a new course entitled "Central Europe" (HI 341). This course is an intellectual, cultural, political, diplomatic, and military history of the region between Germany and Russia, from the end of the Middle Ages to the present.
- Professor Richard Fox will for the first time teach HI 373 ("History of American Thought, 1820-1890"). Topics include: the awakening of national identity, romanticism and reform, the impact of Darwin, realism and scientism, the social crisis and the rethinking of American liberalism.
- Professor Mariano Plotkin will offer a new course, HI 387 ("Nationalism, Nation Building and Race in Latin America, 1850-1930"). The course, an exploration of national identity and the construction of "otherness," will discuss the evolution of the ideas of nation and race and their impact in the process of nation building in Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico.
- Jean Hay, Publications Editor at the African Studies Center, will teach the reading colloquium "Life Histories of African Women" (HI 488). The course examines a series of narrative accounts about the lives of individual African women and focuses on what they tell us about African history from a woman's perspective and about questions of perspective and bias in field research.
- Professor David Fromkin will teach a new course, HI 540 ("Committing to Defend Europe"), a parallel history of US and UK departures from isolationism in the twentieth century. Once reluctant to commit their forces to the Continent, the countries now have committed repeatedly, and think of committing further. The course will consider the questions arising from this situation. Both undergraduates and graduate students may enroll in this course.
- Professor Richard Landes will lead the seminar required of all graduate students in European history, HI 719.
- Professor Richard Fox will teach the graduate seminar HI 756 ("American Civilization"). Details on the content of this course will be posted on the departmental Web site.

- Professor Jill Lepore will teach a new seminar for graduate students, HI 757 ("American Cultural History"). The class will consider approaches to cultural history, including the history of the book, ethnography, and narrative history. Topics include encounters between Europe and the Americas, language and communication, and communities of Americans through the nineteenth century.
- A seminar will be offered by Professor Margaret Jacob of the University of Pennsylvania on "The Culture of Politics in Early Modern Europe"; details will be announced later.

For a complete listing of history courses to be taught in spring 1999, consult the department's Web site, where under "Courses" there are various options for viewing this information. As the registration period continues, updates on any new courses or changes in time will also appear on the Web site. ♦



The following students passed foreign language examinations in September:

Darren Bouwmeester: *Dutch*  
Clifton Chunn: *German*  
Sean Morris: *German*  
Robert Munson: *German*  
Jeffrey Saunders: *French*  
Megan Sniffin-Marino: *Spanish*

John Dempsey was given credit for a German examination passed for the MA at Boston College.

The following students had research papers accepted:

Darren Bouwmeester, "Anglo-American Relations During the First Phase of the Korean War, June 1950-January 1951"  
John Dempsey, "Bonizo of Sutri and Church-Sponsored Warfare"

The following students received the MA in September:

Darren Bouwmeester  
Kenneth Mondschein

Department of History  
Boston University  
226 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215



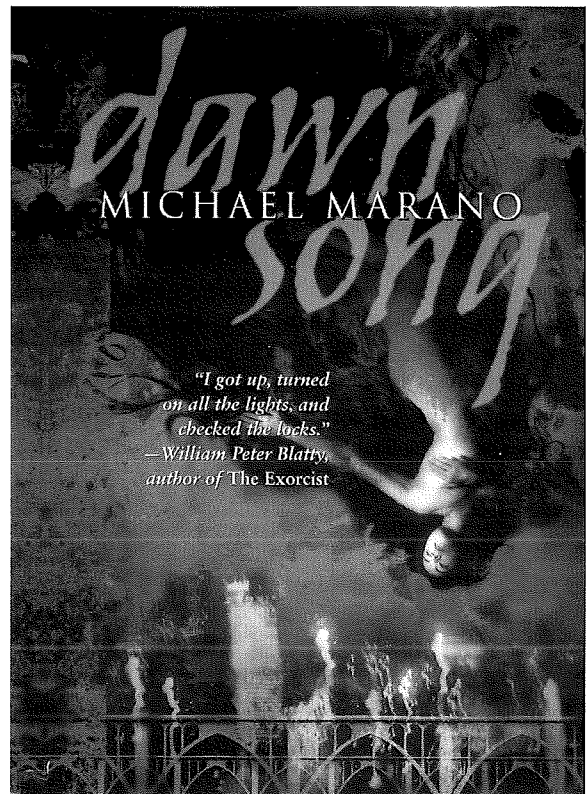
MAYERS (cont. from page 2)

buoyed in this task by his wife Eleanor, encouraged by the dreamer Henry Wallace, supported by the NAACP leadership. The advent of atomic weaponry and dissolution of the Grand Alliance demolished Roosevelt's version of liberal internationalism.

The fifth chapter looks at Harry Truman's conception of the Cold War (buttressed by Dean Acheson) and contrasts it with the anxieties of Walter Lippmann and George Kennan, and the outright dissent of Henry Wallace and Paul Robeson. Into this discussion, I weave the outlook of two prominent intellectuals of the era: Reinhold Niebuhr, Sidney Hook. Both of them sought in distinctive ways to refine further the definition of East-West contest and the interplay between power and conscience. At no time was this dilemma more starkly drawn than during the Vietnam era, when the Cold War consensus started to crack, or during the nuclear arms race, when objectors and security planners collided in debate.

The final chapter, essentially an epilogue, looks at the post-Cold War moment from several perspectives: the administrations of George Bush and Bill Clinton; governments in Europe, Russia, and developing nations; pundits and professors. To all of them, the same questions are posed. If the United States is bound to lead, what is the quality of its leadership? Where is this U.S.-led world headed? If, by contrast, U.S. power contracts, what are the implications for national security and global stability? Regardless of the answers to these questions, what is certain—I shall contend—is the resilience of America's moral promise.

Earnest attempts at innovation notwithstanding, U.S. purpose remains unchanged and like that of every nation: to survive, to prosper if possible. Yet the effort by generations of Americans (variously naive, self-serving, contradictory) to transcend this narrow understanding has produced high drama—plus glimmerings of a better political life. As applicable to this day and to this study as to his own, W. E. B. Du Bois published these lines in 1935: "Nations reel and stagger on their way; they make hideous mistakes; they commit frightful wrongs; they do great and beautiful things." ♦



Some faculty members will remember Michael Marano, who received his BA in history (with a minor in Medieval Studies) in 1986. St. Martin's Press has just published his first novel, *Dawn Song*, set in Boston and dealing with the supernatural. In recent phone calls, Michael has assured us that his training in medieval history was crucial in writing the book (a new reason for majoring in history perhaps?). The book has received very positive reviews.