

# HAVERFORD

N E W S L E T T E R

## Recent Graduate to Build Library, Study Center in Tanzania

**T**WENTY-FIVE CHILDREN, trying to study, huddled around a flickering kerosene lantern centered on a tiny kitchen table. "There needs to be a place for these kids," thought Carrie Oelberger, a 1999 Haverford graduate.

And there will be.

Oelberger has received the Samuel Huntington Public Service Award, which provides \$10,000 towards public service anywhere in the world. She will travel in the fall of 2000 to the Kibaya Village in Tanzania to build a dormitory, library, and study center for those underprivileged students.

This is not her first journey to Tanzania. In 1997 Oelberger taught in the Kibaya Village, a rural, impoverished farming community. "I wanted to travel abroad but didn't want to study abroad. I wanted to do something more related to teaching," she says.

During her stay in the village, she recognized the many needs of the underserved community and planned to return and supply the region with aid and educational opportunity.

However, she arrived back in the U.S. with a rare amoeba in her stomach, a product of living with a family that didn't boil their water completely. Her stomach condition has baffled American doctors. The parasite caused Oelberger significant pain and discomfort and has pre-



Carrie Oelberger '99



Carrie Oelberger '99 with two of her former students in Tanzania, Miraa (left) and Koinetti (right)

vented her from eating certain kinds of foods, especially sugar, fats and dairy products. "It's definitely inconvenient, but I'm learning to live with it. I can't let it paralyze me or else I couldn't do the things that I want to do," she says. She also contracted malaria while in the Kibaya Village.

Despite experiencing often debilitating

health conditions, Oelberger remained committed to her dream and received medical clearance by her doctor to return to Tanzania. The Samuel Huntington Public Service Award afforded Oelberger the opportunity to realize her dreams for the people of the Kibaya Village much sooner than expected.

Oelberger has dedicated her summer to raising funds for the public service project by creating a non-profit organization, a distinction that will improve fund raising by making donations tax-deductible. She is currently accepting donations and has collected used textbooks for grade six through college for the library and study center in Tanzania. She plans to start a business in Tanzania that will serve as a means of income with which to sustain her project.

To avoid offending the Tanzanians and

their tribal heritage, Oelberger checks all donated books for signs of inappropriate Western biases. "Looking through some old encyclopedias, I noticed that under 'savages' there are pictures of African people. I want to make sure that the books I receive as donations don't export a lot of our racism," she says.

That's a logical concern considering the topic of her senior thesis, the Carlisle Indian School. The Carlisle Indian School, started in 1879 by a well-intentioned general from the U.S. army, illustrated the difficulties of inter-cultural public service. Although a sincere attempt to educate Native American children, the school became a horrible symbol of oppression marred by beatings of those unwilling to part with their tribal heritage.

"I want to make sure that I don't misunderstand their culture. I don't want to hurt the people that I'm trying to help," she says.

Although it may take a few years, she will remain in Tanzania until the dormitory, library and study center are "fully functional and completely self-sufficient."

# Science Students Cited for Academic Excellence



Anna Farago '00 and Asa Hopkins '01

**H**AVERFORD COLLEGE undergraduates Anna Farago, Tracy Nguyen and Asa Hopkins received Goldwater Scholarships for their academic excellence in the sciences.

Established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, the \$7,500 scholarships are presented each year to outstanding U.S. students with strong academic records and potential for careers in mathematics, natural sciences and engineering.

Farago, a fourth-year student majoring in biology plans to apply to medical school next year. Besides receiving the Goldwater Scholarship, she was awarded a Lewis L. Engel Fellowship from the New England Division of the American Cancer Society and this summer conducted cancer research at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. She also

took part in a two-week internship working with Prevention Point Philadelphia, a needle exchange program in the city.

Hopkins, a third-year student this fall, worked at the University of Connecticut in a physics Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program this summer. Using laser cooling and magneto-optical trapping, he studied ultracold molecules, most likely comprised of potassium. Hopkins hopes to do graduate work in theoretical or computational physics and eventually pursue a career in quantum mechanics, astrophysics or relativity.

Nguyen, who is entering her final year of studies in biology at Haverford, spent the past year studying in London, England.

# Julio de Paula Attends International Assembly



**T**HE CHAIR OF HAVERFORD'S chemistry department, Julio de Paula, represented the United States at the 40th General Assembly of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry this summer in Berlin. Chemists attending the conference from around the world addressed a number of issues, particularly those environmental problems associated with the misuse of technology such as the proliferation of chemical weapons.

De Paula was selected to attend the meeting in Germany by the National Research Council because of his achievements in the classroom and lab-

oratory and for his commitment to international issues. In 1998 he received the prestigious Henry Dreyfus Teacher Scholar Award for his strong teaching skills as well as his research on plant photosynthesis and models of photodynamic therapy, a new type of treatment used to kill tumor cells. Born in Brazil and educated mostly in the United States, de Paula is a member of both the American and Brazilian Chemical Societies.

While at the international union meeting, he participated in a committee on the teaching of chemistry and

helped organize next year's conference for the organization, CHEMRAWN (Chemical Research Applied to World Needs). CHEMRAWN is a world-wide gathering of chemists who discuss educational, industrial, social and academic issues pertaining to chemistry.

Last spring de Paula also was elected Chemistry Councilor to the Council on Undergraduate Research, an organization which promotes research at undergraduate institutions. As Chemistry Councilor, he will deal closely with the federal government to procure funding for undergraduate research.

**This year's college graduates can expect a very good job market, according to most U.S. employers.**

**The bigger issue, says Haverford and Bryn Mawr College career counselor, Laura Praglin, is not how to secure a job but how to find one that "fits well."**

**In a new book entitled, Starting Your Career: The Best Resources to Help You Find the Right Job, Praglin reviewed 185 resources including web sites, books, CD-ROMS and software programs that are available to assist young people who are preparing to enter the job market.**

## BY THE NUMBERS

**T**he class of 2003 arrived at Haverford College on August 25. The 301 first-year students include 159 women (53%) and 142 men (47%); 200 athletes (66%), including 79 team captains; 143 student government or club leaders (48%); 171 actors and musicians (57%); 159 service program volunteers (53%); and 121 writers or editors of school publications (40%). Thirty-six different U.S. states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico and eight foreign nations are represented in the class of 2003. Close family ties are well-represented as 23 sons or daughters of alumni and 15 brothers or sisters of alumni or current students join the college.

The 301 matriculants represent 11% of the 2,698 total applicants and 32% of the 863 admitted students.

## BY THE NUMBERS 2

**A**ssociate director of career development Amy Feifer gathered statistics about the post-graduation plans of 1998 Haverford College graduates. Based on her research, 19% of the class of '98 went to graduate school while 67% immediately entered the work force. Of the 67% who started careers, 16% began jobs in education; 15% went into business; 10% found science-related jobs; 6% started careers in public policy; 6% became involved in human and community service; and 5% worked in communications. According to Feifer, these statistics remain relatively consistent from year to year, so she expects that a similar percentage of 1999 Haverford graduates will enter these fields.



# Haverford Creates Athletics Leadership Institute

**H**AVERFORD'S ATHLETIC Department will hold an "Athletics Leadership Institute" for about 30 team captains and other squad leaders over three days just before college begins this August. "This may become an annual event," says Haverford director of athletics Greg Kannerstein. "I'm very interested in learning what these student-athletes have to say and whether they feel this sort of conference is productive for them."

The conference grew out of comments from both student-athletes and coaches who wish to see Haverford become more competitive in several of the sports sponsored by the Centennial Conference.

"Most people involved in athletics here think that, while Haverford has

exactly the right approach to sports on the philosophical level – emphasizing the student-athlete – the college should think about how to improve our competitive position, which except for sports such as men's and women's track/cross-country and women's soccer and lacrosse, has not been as strong as we'd like to see it recently," said Kannerstein.

Haverford also traditionally gives a lot of responsibility to team captains, and a significant portion of the Institute will focus on expectations of captains and ways to assert effective leadership. Sessions at the Institute will include discussions of coach-captain and captain-player relationships; panels of visiting athletic directors and former top Haverford athletes; meetings with

college faculty and administrators to focus on how various branches of the college and athletic department can communicate better, and consideration of the best format and role for a student-athlete advisory group at Haverford.

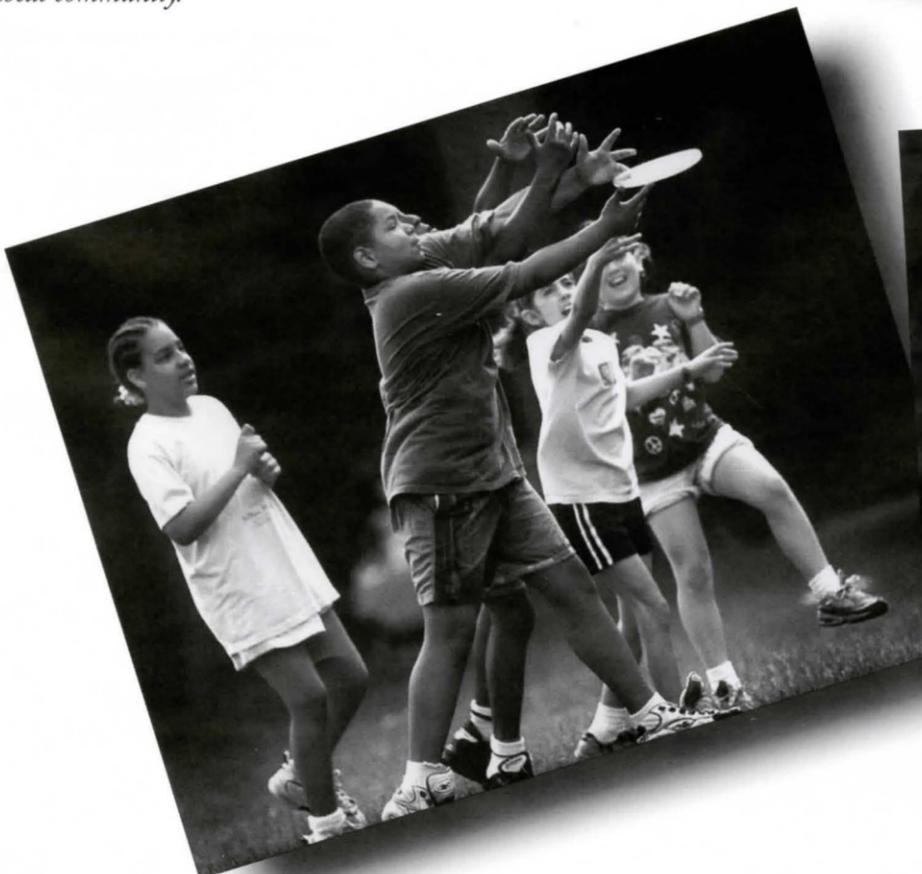
"By the end of the three days," says Kannerstein, "I think our students and staff will know each other better and we will have heard many excellent ideas about how Haverford sports, already such a meaningful experience for so many students here, can be even more rewarding. I hope too that all of us will have educated each other about how captains and team leaders can work with coaches to get the most out of their teams."

**Dave Hoy, Haverford's director of financial aid, edited a Resource Pathways Guidebook entitled, College Financial Aid: The Best Resources to Help You Find the Money. The 218-page guide is an in-depth review of books, web sites, software and other resources available to students and their families who have questions about any aspect of the financial aid process.**

*As temperatures rose, the Haverford College campus became a summer playground for local children. Children ages six to thirteen joined members of the Haverford College community for Serendipity Day Camp, a program established in 1963 by representatives of the college and the Ardmore community.*

*About 180 children played and laughed throughout the seven-week camp which included swimming, arts and crafts and sports as well as trips to the zoo, nature center, children's theater, Brandywine Picnic Park and Clementon Amusement Park.*

*Staffed mostly by Haverford students, including co-directors Matt Benedict'99 and Alex Wood'99, Serendipity provided an opportunity for the college to interact with area youths and enjoy the summer with the local community.*



# Maria Robinson Named Arthur Ashe, Jr. Sports Scholar

FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR, a star Haverford athlete has been selected as an Arthur Ashe, Jr., Sports Scholar by *Black Issues in Higher Education* magazine. Fords field hockey captain Maria R. Robinson '99 of Avondale, Pa., follows in the footsteps of All-American runner and fellow biology major Ntobeko Ntusi '98 as a top collegiate student-athlete of color.

One of six field hockey players honored nationally and one of only three from NCAA Division III institutions, medical school-bound Robinson was recognized for her 3.24 grade-point average in the classroom and outstanding play on the field. The national Ashe Award winners were Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, a Western Kentucky University basketball player and son/namesake of the former NBA star and Shannon Brown, All-American women's soccer player at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The daughter of Dana Robinson '68 and his Chilean wife Ema, Maria is also the granddaughter of the late Charles A. Robinson '28, who was the original representative of a large clan of Robinson relatives to attend Haverford.

Maria attended Tower Hill School in Wilmington and the University of Richmond before transferring to Haverford as a sophomore in 1996. She played a leading part in the Fords' field hockey renaissance under head coach Anne Livezey despite nagging injuries, especially in her senior year. A tri-captain and the team's "Most Valuable Player," Robinson was second team all-Centennial Conference and NFHCA all-region in 1998, starting all 20 games and making a team-high 12 defensive saves at sweeper. She also was a two-time Seven Sisters all-tournament selection.



Maria Robinson '99

"Maria led the team by example on and off the field. Her hard work and dedication made her the best on our team," says Livezey. "She had the ability to stick tackle, dribble and drive the ball around some of the best teams in the conference." Robinson scored one of her two goals at eventual Centennial champion Gettysburg and helped the Fords hold nationally-ranked Drew to a season-low one goal.

More important, according to Livezey, Robinson loved the game of field

hockey. "Maria's spirit and enthusiasm for the game was contagious among her teammates. Some days, she could barely walk but she fought through her pain to play the game she loved. She still is a true inspiration and role model for her fellow student-athletes."

Under co-captain Robinson, the Fords opened the season with three wins and one loss for their best start since 1993 and defeated Dickinson (for the first time ever) and Johns Hopkins (for the first time since 1988).

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