

African-American soldiers in the Union army.

## Prof. Majewski To Replay Civil War For Associates

BY TOM SIZGORICH

WHEN HE DELIVERS his History Associates address on Sunday, Nov. 22, UCSB Prof. John Majewski will challenge one of the most enduring popular notions about the American Civil War — namely that the Union victory was inevitable because of Northern economic power and manpower reserves.

Even before the opening volleys at the first battle of Bull Run, it was a truism among Union supporters that Northern industrial might would crush the South in an open war. After Appomattox, it became axiomatic that the North's irresistible wealth of human and material resources made its eventual victory inevitable.

Not true, says Prof. Majewski. Rather, he says, the South might very well have won the Civil War if not for the crucial individual contributions of millions of men and women during the course of the war.

"The North's victory depended upon a good deal of determination on the part of particular individuals mixed with a bit of good luck," Prof. Majewski will argue.

Prof. Majewski cites as an example the contribution made by Union officer

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# Media Chasing Cohen's *Jewett*

PROF. PATRICIA COHEN'S absorbing and insightful study of *The Murder of Helen Jewett*, a prostitute found hacked to death in her New York boudoir in 1836, has been named one of the top books of 1998 by *Publisher's Weekly*.

The book, which was published in August by Knopf, is already in its third printing. It has been reviewed in more than 35 papers and magazines, ranging from *Entertainment Weekly* to the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post* and *New York Times*. (It was recently reviewed in the *Los Angeles Times*.)

Since *Helen Jewett* was published, Prof. Cohen has been interviewed three times on radio and gave a lecture on the topic at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Mass., that was later aired on C-Span for Book TV.

At a book signing in Augusta, Maine, where Prof. Cohen eventually was able to

trace Jewett's origins, she was greeted by the mayor, who thanked her for helping to put their town on the map as the hometown "of the most famous courtesan of the early 19th century."

The current owners of the house where Jewett was raised even opened the premises for a tour.

It has all been a heady change of pace for one of the department's most popular teachers, who for the past year and a half has been nose-deep in budgets and personnel cases as acting dean of the Division of Humanities.

"The most gratifying thing about the publicity is that old friends and students who live in many parts of the country have gotten in touch after seeing a review or the C-Span show," Prof. Cohen reports.

In the book, Prof. Cohen digs into the background of a case that mesmerized

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## Stephen Hay Renews Fellowship

FOR THE SECOND year in a row, emeritus Prof. Stephen Hay has pledged a gift of \$15,000 to the UCSB History Associates to support graduate study of the intellectual and religious history of Islam.

Prof. Hay established the award last year out of a concern that educated Americans need to become better acquainted with the way the world looks from a non-Judaeo-Christian perspective. The History Associates Board named it the Stephen and Eloise Hay Fellowship in honor of Prof. Hay and his late wife, Eloise, who taught American literature in the English Department.

"Steve Hay's award has provided an important source of resources," said History Prof. R. Stephen Humphreys, who holds the King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud Chair of Islamic Studies.

"It is typical of his foresight as well as his generosity to want to promote understanding of what's going on in a very volatile part of the world."

Last year's grant was shared by two graduate students for conducting research in the Middle East this year. Heather Keaney is currently in Cairo, and Nancy Stockdale is in Israel.

Although both of last year's awardees are studying Islamic history, graduate students studying topics related to Islamic thought and culture anywhere in the world are eligible.

Prof. Hay came to UCSB in 1966 and taught courses on Gandhi and the history of India until his retirement in 1990. He is the author of prize-winning studies of Indian thought and tradition, and currently is working on a study of Gandhi's roots.

# EMERITI RECEIVE FESTSCHRIFT HONORS

THE NUMBER OF emeritus History professors who have been honored with a *festschrift*—a collection of papers dedicated by former students and colleagues—has now risen to three.

Last Spring, Jeffrey Burton Russell was presented with a *festschrift* entitled *The Devil, Heresy and Witchcraft in the Middle Ages* (Leiden, 1998).

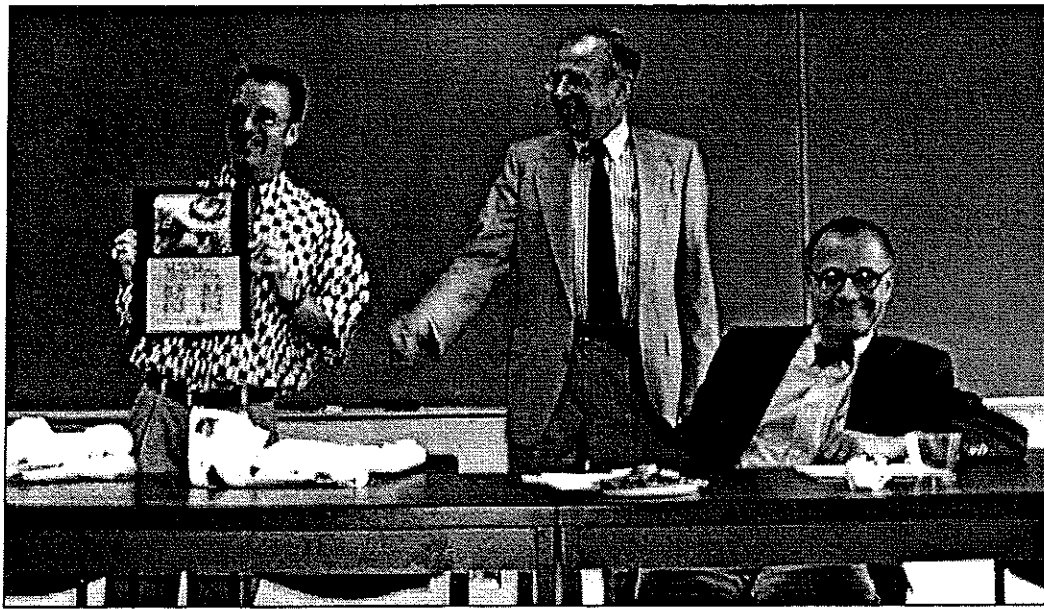
"No heaven for me," Prof. Russell sighed.

Edited by Alberto Ferreiro, the volume also contains articles by UCSB PhDs Karen Jolly and Cheryl Riggs, as well as a special piece by Prof. Abraham Friesen, who co-taught the department's History of Christianity series with Prof. Russell for many years.

Other contributors include such distinguished medieval historians as Alan Bernstein, Neil Forsyth, Edward Peters, Laura Smoller and John Tolan.

The *festschrift* appeared as volume 6 of the series *Cultures, Beliefs and Traditions*.

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Departing Undergraduate Secretary Christian Villaseñor (L) receives plaque from former Chair Hal Drake (c.) during a faculty meeting as an uncharacteristically benign-looking Jack Talbott (r.) beams approval.

## A Tough Act to Follow

THE DEPARTMENT bade reluctant farewell last month to its Undergraduate Secretary of four years, Christian Villaseñor, who has accepted a position as Articulation Officer in the Office of Relations With Schools.

In his new position, Christian will be involved in counseling and outreach activities with students who transfer to UCSB from community colleges and other four-year institutions.

"Christian is so much a part of the department that it's hard to believe he's only been here four years," said History Chair

Jack Talbott. "His title might have been 'undergraduate adviser,' but he was even more helpful to the faculty!"

Prof. Talbott's sentiments were echoed by the faculty, who took up a collection to buy Christian season tickets to the home games of his beloved Los Angeles Dodgers.

At a farewell meeting, former Chair Hal Drake presented Christian with other gifts, starting with a T-shirt that read, "I ran the UCSB History Department for four

years and all they gave me was a lousy T-shirt."

He then gave him a plaque showing a detail of the creation of Adam from the Sistine Chapel. Underneath it, a brass plate signed by all the faculty and graduate students reads, "On the second day, God created Christian Villaseñor and turned the rest over to him."

"This was a major opportunity for you and we just couldn't stand in your way," Drake said at the meeting. "But, boy, did we ever want to!"

## Cohen's New Book Draws Media Attention

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Manhattan at the time and concludes that the likely murderer was Richard P. Robinson, a baby-faced young clerk who had been having a stormy relationship with the victim. He was put on trial but acquitted, and subsequently moved to Texas.

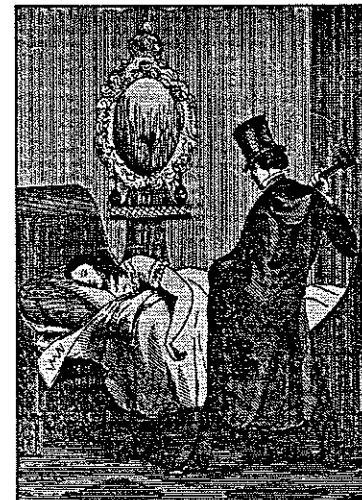
This has been a banner year for Prof. Cohen, whose co-authored textbook, *The American Promise*, was published earlier by St. Martin's Press.

Since coming to UCSB in 1976, she has been a major

force in developing UCSB's highly successful Women's Studies Program, which she chaired from 1991-94 and 1995-97.

In much demand as a speaker, Prof. Cohen won the Academic Senate's Harold J. Plous Award as the outstanding junior faculty member of 1980-81.

Her book on *A Calculating People: The Spread of Numeracy in Early America*, was a finalist for the Merle Curti Award of the Organization of American Historians for best book in intellectual history for 1982-83.



Courtesy of the American Antiquarian Society

Contemporary Rendition of the Murder

**H**istoria

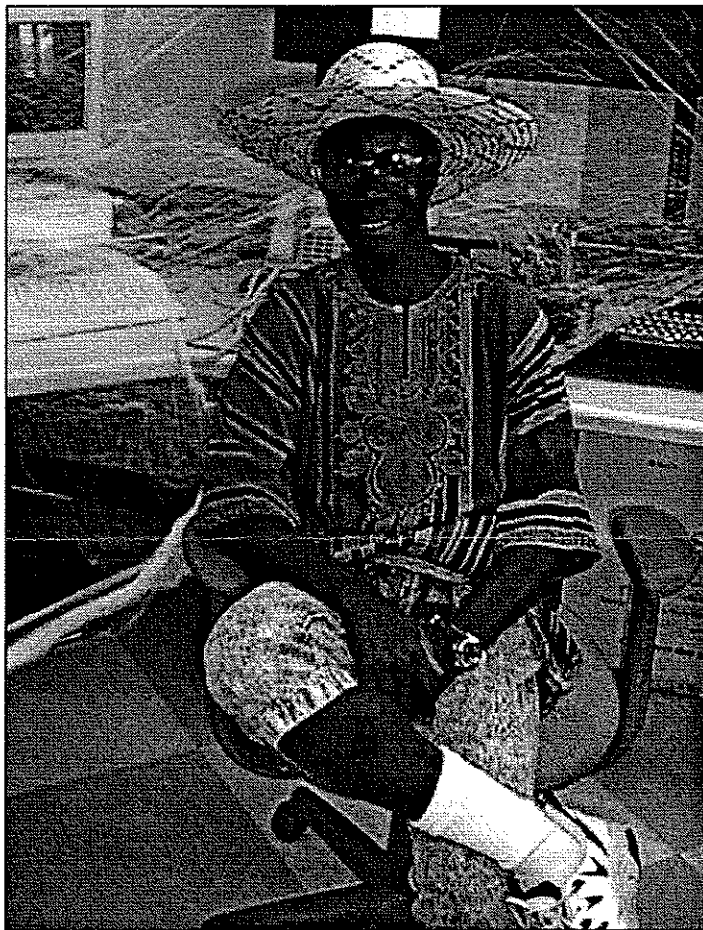
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Editor  
Hal Drake

Graduate Editor  
Tom Sizgorich

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## A Multi-Cultural Halloween



PhD candidate Scopas Sekwat Poggo (Collins) decided to celebrate Halloween by wearing something from all of his cultural experiences. The large hat is a chief's hat from the Kuku People of the Sudan (Scopas is descended from a chief on his mother's side); his African shirt was made in Uganda and his short pants are a style worn in the Philippines. America contributed the basketball shoes and socks. "Interesting combination, isn't it?" Scopas asks.

## Sometimes, History Writing Can Be A Real Snooze

IT WASN'T EXACTLY up there with John Glenn's return to space, but it did catch the notice of readers of the history of science journal *Isis*.

In addition to book reviews, *Isis* publishes notes on the reviewers, who usually use the occasion to trumpet their own accomplishments. But readers of the current number (v. 89:3) found the following description:

"Peter L. McDermott, M.D., is a doctoral candidate at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His general fields of study are early modern Europe and the history of science. After thirty years as an

anesthesiologist, he has decided that it is as easy to put people to sleep with history as it is with anesthetic agents."

McDermott is writing his dissertation for Sears McGee on Sir Henry Vane, Jr. (1613-1662), an English Puritan who was one of the leaders of Parliament during the Civil Wars of the 17th century.

McDermott, who has completed his doctoral exams and advanced to candidacy, reviewed *The Theater of Nature: Jean Bodin and Renaissance Science*, by Ann Blair. He found the book "clear, witty, and terrific."

## Grad Student Alchemy: Seminar Papers Turn to Gold

ERIK CHING (PhD Rock, 1998) has won the Hubert Herring Dissertation Prize of the Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies for his study of patronage networks in El Salvador, *From Clientelism to Militarism: The State, Politics and Authoritarianism in El Salvador, 1840-1940*.

"I described Erik's work as the finest empirical study of patronage networks I had seen on nineteenth century Latin America," Prof. Rock recalled. "It seems other specialists agree with me."

Erik, who took a tenure-track position at Furman University in South Carolina, is the second prize-winner in a row for Prof. Rock. In 1997, Fernando Rocchi won the campus Lancaster Prize competition for best dissertation.

In another plus for the Latin Americanists, Gaston Espinosa (Garcia) has had a paper he wrote for Prof. Cline on "El Azteca: Francisco Olazabal and Latino Pentecostal Charisma, Power, and Faith Healing in the Borderlands" accepted by the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* for their forthcoming edition on Latino religion.

Two DeHart students, Danielle Swiontek and David Hall, presented papers at the Western History Association annual conference Oct. 17 in Sacramento.

Hall's paper was entitled "Crossing the Public/Private Divide: Mormon Women and the Development of the Welfare State in 1920s Utah."

Swiontek spoke on "A Regional Matter: Women's Clubs, Organized Labor, and San Francisco Politics in the Campaign for Mothers' Pensions in Progressive Era California."

UCSB's Public History pro-

gram was the focus of an article by Douglas Dodd (Graham/Bergstrom) that appeared in the October, 1998 issue of *Perspectives*, the newsletter of the American Historical Association. Doug wrote on "A Quarter-Century of History in the Community: Team Research Seminars at UCSB."

It's been a busy year for Doug. Last August, he led a focus group panel on "Green vs. Gold in California's National Parks" at the Green and Gold Conference on California Environmental History at UC Santa Cruz.

Dennis Ventry (Browlee) has had two reviews published in *Tax Notes* this year. A review essay of Edward J. McCaffery's *Taxing Women* was published on May 18 and of Christopher Howard's, *The Hidden Welfare State: Tax Expenditures and Social Policy* appeared on July 20.

Andy Johns (Logevall) has received his second Moody Research grant from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation. The grant will allow him to conduct research at the LBJ Presidential Library for his dissertation on "Loyal Opposition?: The Republican Party and the 'Democrats' War' in Vietnam, 1960-1969."

Ken Osgood (Logevall) has had a paper that he wrote for Prof. Talbot on "Form before Substance: Eisenhower's Commitment to Psychological Warfare and Negotiations with the Enemy" accepted for publication in *Diplomatic History*.

Jason Kelly (Guerrini) had his paper on "Turner's Golden Vision: Alchemy in the Works of J. M. W. Turner," published in C. W. Spinks and John Deely (eds.), *Semiotics 1996*. Two other articles are forthcoming.

# Time to Re-Up

Another great year of UCSB History Associates' events is beginning. You'll want to keep posted about events in the History Department as well. To renew your membership or join for the first time, just fill out this form and mail it with your check or money order (payable to UCSB History Associates).

Enclosed are my annual membership dues of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Active \$30  
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(Available to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)

In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:

- \$25 to obtain a UCSB Library card  
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Gifts of \$1,000 or more qualify for membership in the Chancellor's Council.

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Membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts to the scholarship fund are considered a charitable donation.

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UCSB Office of Community Relations  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2100

## Majewski

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American history from UCLA.

His book, *A House Dividing: Economic Development in Pennsylvania and Virginia, 1800-1860*, will be published by Cambridge University Press.

The talk will begin at 3 p.m. in the McCune Conference Room, on the sixth floor of the Humanities and Social Sciences Building. Reservations (\$8 for members, \$9 for non-members) may be made with the Office of Community Relations at 805-893-4388.

## Obituaries

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*sessments and the Political Community under Henry II and his Sons* (Berkeley, 1983).

He is survived by his wife, Sue, and daughter, Megan.

## Festschriften

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Now Robert O. Collins has learned that he will be the recipient of a festschrift being edited for publication by the Red Sea Press. Entitled *White Nile, Black Blood: War, Leadership and Ethnicity from Khartoum to Kampala*, the book will focus on the topics (water) and region (Northeast Africa) on which Prof. Collins has focused his research interests.

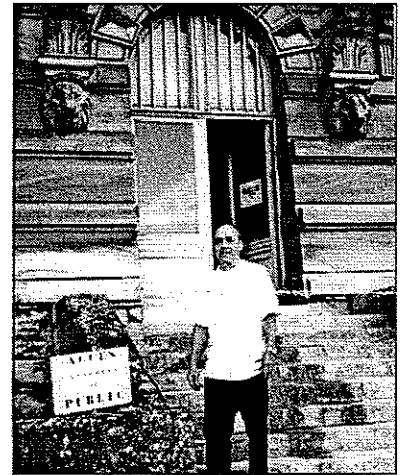
The first emeritus professor to be honored with a festschrift was Prof. Dimitrije Djordjevic, who was presented with *Scholar, Patriot, Mentor*, edited by Rick Spence, in 1992.



# istoria

NEWSLETTER OF THE UCSB HISTORY ASSOCIATES  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93106

# Where In the World Is He Now?



UCSB'S PERIPATETIC historian, Paul Sonnino, is at it again, using his annual gift from his colleagues (a one-way ticket to *anywhere*) to challenge readers to identify the site. The winner will be Prof. Sonnino's guest at a History Associates event. Here's a clue: the sign in the window at the top of the stairs reads, "Veuillez avoir l'extreme obligiance de bien vouloir essayer vos pieds avant d'entrer. Merci." Send entries to Editor, *Historia*, Department of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

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