

Walking on Ice

By Susan Hubbard '74, G'84

115 pp. Columbia: University of Missouri Press. \$14.95.

The nine stories in this collection won the Associated Writing Program's Award in Short Fiction and feature an edgy sense of menace intruding on the everyday lives of average people—"minimalism O. Henri-fied," according to the *New York Times Review of Books*. Hubbard is a graduate of SU's creative writing program and winner of the Norris B. Taylor prize. Since publication, the book has been nominated for other major fiction prizes, including the Pen/Faulkner.

A Whisper of Espionage: Wolfgang Kohler and the Apes of Tenerife

By Ronald Ley G'63

264 pp. Garden City Park, New York: Avery Publishing Group. \$19.95.

Ley, a SUNY Albany psychology professor, recounts his three-year investigation into the World War I activities of German psychologist Wolfgang Kohler, founder of Gestalt theory, on the island of Tenerife off the Moroccan coast. Ley presents evidence that Kohler—who was ostensibly conducting pioneering research on apes—may actually have been a spy for the Germans.

On a Clear Day They Could See Seventh Place: Baseball's Worst Teams

By George Robinson and Charles Salzberg '67

288 pp. New York: Dell Publishing. Paper, \$8.95.

This trivia book pays homage to the worst baseball teams in each of the past 10 decades. Among those receiving this dubious honor: the 1935 Boston Braves, who set the national league standard for losing percentages even with three Hall of Fame players—including Babe Ruth—on the team; and the 1952 Pittsburgh Pirates, a team so bad, said Joe Garagiola, "They wouldn't put our pictures on bubble gum cards." Salzberg is the author of *From Set Shot to Slam Dunk* and coauthor of *The Art of Hitting .300*.

Ghosts of the Holocaust: An Anthology of Poetry by the Second Generation

Edited by Steward J. Florsheim '74

192 pp. Detroit: Wayne State University Press. \$17.95.

In 89 poems written by children and grandchildren of Holocaust survivors from around the world, the authors grapple with the shadows cast by Hitler's final solution and attempt to reconcile first-hand testimony of Nazi atrocities with their own comfortable surroundings.

March Fallout

I am struck by the racism in the March 1991 issue. Of the almost-dozen businesses profiled ["Dad, Let's Diversify"], only one is identified by race. Guess what race?

LOUIS BATALEN G'76
ASHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Among the alumni interviewed for our study of family businesses, only Leon Woods, a black man whose enterprise is based in the Watts section of Los Angeles, described race as relevant to his work.

The issue was absolutely outstanding—each article had its own appeal and variety, especially those dealing with social issues of concern. But the series on family business was truly amazing.

MARY ANN HARDENBERGH '56
BOSTON

I just threw your most recent issue in the trash, where it rightfully belongs. David Ross's disgusting and extremely biased article on the Mapplethorpe exhibition deeply offended me, as I'm sure it did many others of sincere Christian faith and traditional morals. I was especially outraged that such an article would appear in the official magazine of my alma mater. . . .

STANLEY A. MAUGHAN '79
BLAIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Your inclusion of such a slanted article cannot help but lend the credibility of your magazine to the exhibit's degradation of Christ. Such degradation is intensely painful to committed Christians. . . .

I do not question Mapplethorpe's right to visualize his own opinions. God, not the United States government, gave him the right to choose what he would do with his life. He chose to mercilessly degrade the most beloved and sacred parts of our own hearts. You and a number of respected museums have chosen to present his ideas as valuable and lend your reputations to his cause. This I very much regret.

THERESA KAY BUSKEY G'85
SEGUN, TEXAS

I object to your profile of Ian Schrager. In the profile, writer George Lowery failed to mention that in 1980 Schrager was sentenced to three and a half years in federal prison and fined \$20,000 in his capacity as co-owner of the popular night spot, Studio 54. . . .

Writing a profile of Schrager as simply a savvy entrepreneur is naïve and misleading.

THOMAS R. STANTON '78
ROSELLE, NEW JERSEY

In reading the article about me ["Side Effects," March 1991], I noticed that between the interview and publication a phrase that stated that "I live with my spouse, George," as well as my children, got lost.

Having worked with persons affected by HIV for eight years I no longer care what conclusions people draw about my sexuality. However, in this instance, the lack of mention of my spouse tends to reinforce a common misconception that professionals who work in the AIDS community are necessarily gay, lesbian, or have a history of drug use.

We know that AIDS crosses all sexual and cultural boundaries and I feel that it is important to recognize that professional care-givers do, as well.

SUSAN DUMMITT '76
NEW YORK CITY**Undergraduate Teaching**

I have just finished reading with great interest the article "Hang the Faculty" [about teaching initiatives at so-called "research universities"] in the December 1990 issue. As far as I'm concerned, it is one of the best articles I have seen in this magazine. I made copies of the article and sent them to the presidents of two local colleges here . . . with hopes that these two gentlemen might find the article as interesting as I did.

I am not involved in higher education directly, but I do hope to have some place worthwhile to send my children after high school, so my interest is as a consumer and a parent.

KARL H. RECH G'79
ONEONTA, NEW YORK

Unlike many other, similar writings that appear in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and like-minded periodicals, stressing the need for greater emphasis on undergraduate teaching at the expense of research, you have reported both sides of the issue and conclude that both are necessary in the larger universities. You also point out, quite accurately, that Syracuse is a leader through its efforts to provide higher quality undergraduate teaching.

FLETCHER M. CARBERRY G'86
DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Correction: A production error in the March issue resulted in the truncation of an article, "The Taxman Cometh," about Professor David Burnham's study of the IRS. The final line, uttered by Burnham in reaction to the hypothetical prospect of an IRS audit directed at him, should have read "God forbid, God forbid." The name of the article's author, also omitted, was Tina Press.