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Cover Photo: Members of the Filipino Student Club, 1922. See page 8.
This booklet is a tribute to all people of color who have attended Washington State University. Its purpose is to honor our University’s minority alumni and to spark an interest among minority youth in the idea of earning a college degree.

Tradition is an important part of WSU. In these pages you will read about minority alumni whose successes over the years have created a tradition against which today’s minority students can measure their own honors and accomplishments.

We are able to feature only a small number of WSU’s outstanding minority alumni in this publication. They stand as representatives of the men and women of all races who have attended our University since its founding more than 100 years ago.

WSU is noted for the quality of its teaching and for the care and concern shown for students by its faculty and staff. The University offers its students a secure rural environment on its 600-acre campus in Pullman. Branch campuses in Spokane, the Tri-Cities, and Vancouver provide educational opportunities for students living in those communities.

The University’s 18,000 students come from all 50 states and 93 foreign countries. The opportunity to develop friendships with students from a diversity of cultures is an important part of a WSU education.

My thanks to the WSU alumni featured in these pages for sharing their experiences as Cougars with us. And my compliments to WSU’s Division of Minority Affairs for undertaking the task of recognizing the accomplishments of our University’s minority alumni.

President, Washington State University
From the beginning through the 1940s
As the University’s first African American graduate on record, Jessie Senora Sims Walker paved the way for minority students at WSU. Walker graduated in 1913 from what was then called the School of Pharmacy at Washington State College. As a student she was an officer in both the State College Pharmaceutical Association and the Columbian Literary Society. Although she worked in a Pullman pharmacy during her student days, the racial climate of the time prevented her from practicing as a professional pharmacist after graduation.

By 1918 Walker had married and was living in Spokane. She eventually moved back to her home town, Tacoma, and became well known for a food catering business she operated out of her home. She also was a founding member of the first sorority created by African Americans, Alpha Kappa Alpha. In 1978 Walker died in Tacoma at the age of 87. WSU’s College of Pharmacy recently established a scholarship in her name for minority students aspiring to become pharmacists.

It is not uncommon to see a minority face among early photos of College of Veterinary Medicine graduates. Unfortunately, very little is known about what happened to these people after they graduated. Winfred A. Jordan is a case in point. All we know of him is that he was the college’s first African American graduate, that he had several classmates of Asian and Hispanic origin at WSU, that he earned his degree in 1920, and that he eventually moved to Philadelphia, where he enjoyed a long career in veterinary medicine.
THE LEGENDARY "LONE STAR"

Word has it that Native American students were seen quite frequently in Pullman in the early 1900s, when WSU was known as Washington State College. Though not a student, at least one Native American from that era has earned a permanent place in the annals of WSU history. William "Lone Star" Dietz, part Sioux Indian and head coach of the WSC football team from 1915 to 1917, led Washington State to victory in the nation's first Rose Bowl game. In 1916 the team, which fans nicknamed "the Indians" and cheered on by yelling an Indian war chant, was invited to play the Ivy League champions, Brown University, in the first proposed Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. On the day of the game, students back in Pullman waited anxiously to hear the Power Plant whistle give out the score. Late that afternoon, the whistle sounded 16 blasts for WSC. No whistle followed for Brown. Dietz became a hero and a Cougar legend.

In this 1916 photo, Dietz (with cane) is shown with his Rose Bowl team and with Hollywood actress Hazel Daley. The squad later appeared in the 1917 film, Brown of Harvard.

WESLEY L. FOSTER

Wes Foster was the first African American track athlete to sprint to stardom at Washington State. Even before enrolling, he had set world high school records in Wenatchee in the 50-yard dash and the 880-yard relay. And by the time he received his B.A. in economics in 1931, he had rewritten track history, setting meet, school, conference, national, and world records in several events. He was inducted into WSU's Hall of Fame soon after his death in 1981.
FILIPINO STUDENT CLUB

Filipinos were among the first minorities to form strong ties to WSU. Under the leadership of chemistry professor Carl M. Brewster (photo, center), Filipino students banded together to form a relatively large club sometime in the teens or early 1920s. Historic club photographs often show that Filipino students packed lunches and picnicked in various parks around Whitman County. By 1933 the club had 28 members.

GLADYS JENNINGS

Gladys Jennings' interest in food extends back to her childhood. "I used to experiment with food at home to see if I could create a new dish," she says. "I loved to see if I could copy pictures of dishes in magazines. My family used to tease me by asking what magazine their dinner was coming from." Little did she know that her fascination with food would lead to a long and rewarding career.

Jennings had never been West when she received a scholarship in 1946 to do graduate work in home economics at Washington State College. After receiving a master's degree in food science and human nutrition in 1948, she taught at Syracuse University and North Carolina College, chaired the Home Economics Department at Spelman College, and worked as a dietitian at two hospitals. She returned to WSU in 1966 and has been a food science professor here ever since. She retires in the summer of 1991. Having chaired WSU's Minority Scholarship Committee for three years, Jennings will remain with the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition as a part-time minority student recruiter. She is a WSU distinguished alumna and has been honored by the Washington State Dietetic Association for her work.
Richard Sakai

Richard Sakai of Toppenish, Washington, shown here as a WSC student in the late 1930s, narrowly missed out on the tension caused on the Palouse by the onset of World War II. When Japanese Americans were being relocated on the west coast in 1942—after Sakai had left WSC—college president E.O. Holland said deserving citizens of Japanese extraction would be given all possible encouragement to attend WSC. But as more Japanese began to settle in Pullman, citizens began to fear for the safety of the community. As a result, the Board of Regents set a quota of 30 Japanese students, which remained in effect from 1942 to 1945. Today Asian-Pacific Americans make up the largest minority student group at WSU.

Chinese Student Club

Their numbers may have been small, but Chinese students were quite active at WSC in the early '20s. In an effort to offer each other support, a small group came together to create the Chinese Student Club in 1923. The club remained active for 12 years, but by 1935 all its members had graduated, leaving no one to keep the club alive. Although Chinese student organizations have formed intermittently since then, today WSU students of Chinese descent are able to participate in several different Asian student clubs.
LAFAYETTE FREDERICK

By the time he received his Ph.D. in plant pathology from WSC in 1952, Lafayette Frederick was well-prepared to teach in the biological sciences. After teaching for a time at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, he went on to Atlanta University, where he served as chairman of the Biology Department for 13 years. Currently chairman of the Botany Department at Howard University, he has been twice recognized for exemplary teaching. His awards include Atlanta University’s Board of Trustees Excellence in Teaching Award and the Meritorious Teaching Award of the Association of Southeastern Biologists. Frederick met his wife, Antoinette Reed, while doing graduate work at Washington State.

SAMUEL K. KAMAKA

A fascination with insects brought Samuel K. Kamaka to WSC in 1947 to study entomology. A member of the Hawaii Student Club and an avid volleyball player, Kamaka graduated with a B.S. in entomology in 1950. Interestingly, what Kamaka is doing today has nothing to do with entomology. In 1954 he took over his father’s business, now called Kamaka Hawaii, Inc., which builds some of the world’s most renowned ukuleles. Kamaka hires deaf employees to help him manufacture his musical instruments, a practice which has earned him the Governor’s Award of the State of Hawaii.
**SHAO-ER-ONG**

Shao-er-Ong, a native of Foochow, China, spent most of his working life helping other countries improve farm productivity. In 1951, after receiving his Ph.D. at WSC in agricultural economics, he joined the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. He then went to work for the Agricultural Development Council, where he served as associate for Thailand and Nepal. He was recognized by the governments of South Korea, Thailand, and Nepal for his work in assisting these countries with farm management practices. Ong died in 1987. His wife Li-Hwa says he always valued the interaction between WSU students and their professors. Some of the relationships he developed at Washington State lasted long into his career.

**JUNE MIHARA NAKATA**

June Mihara Nakata attributes much of her success as a medical technologist to her parents, who gave her their moral and financial support while she studied bacteriology and public health at WSU. Nakata's performance as a student more than justified her parents' confidence in her, winning her invitations to join such honoraries as Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi and enabling her to receive her B.S. in 1959 with highest honors. Now, as assistant laboratory director for the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, Nakata fondly remembers everyday life in Stevens Hall and her professors in bacteriology and public health.
**Robert R. Gary**

While working toward a bachelor's degree in physical education, Robert R. Gary was breaking records as a sprinter on the Cougar track team. As early as his freshman year he became an all-American in both the 100- and 220-yard dashes. He was the first WSU freshman to win a Pacific Coast Conference championship title, and he still holds the school record for the 70-yard dash. Since graduating in 1956, he has enjoyed an equal measure of success as an educator. The principal of South Shore Middle School in Seattle, the former Cougar track star is an experienced teacher and administrator whose winning ways have won him such awards as Omega Man of the Year, Citizen of the Year, the YMCA Outstanding Service Award, and the Educational Contribution Award, to name just a few.

**Charles Ullman Smith**

Had Charles U. Smith taken the Harlem Globetrotters up on a contract to play basketball, he probably wouldn't be where he is today. Smith was an avid basketball player while working on his Ph.D. at WSC. As one of the college's best intramural players, he was asked by the Globetrotters to play against them two years in a row. Although Smith's team lost both games, the second one in double overtime, the Globetrotters liked the way he played. But Smith was busy becoming WSC's first African American doctoral graduate. In 1950 he received a Ph.D. in sociology with honors. Today he is a distinguished professor of sociology and dean of the Graduate School at Florida A&M University, Tallahassee. Among his numerous awards is the Distinguished Centennial Alumnus Award which he received from the College of Sciences and Arts in 1990.
The 1960s
AMMON McWASHINGTON

Ammon McWashington may have been best known for his football talents at WSU in 1968, but today he is known for his administrative capabilities as principal of Seattle's Ingraham High School. McWashington received a football scholarship to play for the Cougars in 1965 and became one of the Pac 8's premiere running backs. Graduating in 1968 with a B.S. in physical education, he went on to receive a master's degree in education administration at another university. Before assuming his present position, he taught in Tukwila, Washington, and served as vice-principal at a school in Seattle for a number of years. As a key organizer of WSU's original Black Student Union, McWashington says he often reflects back on the friendly, small campus atmosphere that helped him adjust to living so far away from his parents in Texas.

LA PRIMERA DECADA

The years from 1967 to 1977 are looked upon as the beginning of Chicano history at WSU. According to El Mensajero, the newsletter of M.E.Ch.A., the Chicano student club, the first large group of Chicanos arrived in Pullman in September 1967. Thirty-one Chicanos, mostly children of migrant farm workers from all over the nation, came to take part in the High School Equivalency Program. Two years later, five members of this group started their college education at WSU. As more Chicanos enrolled, instructor Roberto Segura (photo) became a leader in the quest for a Chicano studies program. That program became a reality in the spring of 1970.
REBECCA PEÑA HINES

Rebecca Peña Hines has devoted her life to helping children. Currently serving as assistant director of the Child Development Center for Health Sciences at the University of Texas, she is former vice-president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. She has also held a variety of other positions in this organization at both the state and local levels. Hines received a master's degree in child development in 1968 from WSU, where she was a member of Omicron Nu, the home economics honorary. She is married to Marvin Hines, also a WSU graduate.

WILLIAM T. GASKINS, JR.

William T. Gaskins, Jr. toyed with the idea of going to medical school and even began studying in WSU's pre-dentistry program, before winding up in the College of Pharmacy—an area he knew little about. "Sometimes life decisions end up being made on the least amount of information," he says. "It all worked out appropriately in the end."

Gaskins had his pick of universities after graduating from Spokane's Lewis and Clark High School, where he was student body vice-president. He was heavily recruited to play football by most colleges in the Northwest, and he enrolled at WSU in 1962. "WSU is a residential campus with a family atmosphere," he says. "And I've always been impressed with the interaction between faculty and students. It really helps to assimilate students into the community."

Before graduating in 1969 with a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree, he starred as a Cougar defensive back and turned professional, playing for the Calgary Stampeders for two years. Two years after receiving his degree, he was named director of pharmacy at Pullman Memorial Hospital, where he has worked ever since. A former Pullman City Council member and past president of the Rotary Club, Gaskins also teaches clinical pharmacy at WSU.
DANIEL V. IYALL

Well known in the Spokane, Washington, area for coaching football, basketball, and baseball, Daniel Iyall has also gained a reputation off the playing field. Iyall earned his school administration credentials in 1955 and a master's degree in physical education 10 years later from WSU. He has spent over 30 years teaching and coaching—the last 20 at University High School in Spokane. As an educator he has been active on numerous committees such as the Washington State Indian Education Association, Washington State Human Rights Commission, and the State Multicultural Education Association, to name just a few. A former Cougar football and baseball player, he has taken high school teams to the state playoffs in both baseball and basketball. He is currently director of the Spokane Valley Title IV Native American Program, which counsels 440 students.

STEVE K. NG

Anyone who has ever wondered what people do after receiving a college degree in mathematics should take note of Steve K. Ng. Having graduated from WSU with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1961, Ng is research and development manager for Hewlett Packard's Santa Clara, California, Information Systems Division. He assumed that position after traveling to Taiwan for Hewlett Packard to establish research, development, manufacturing, and marketing systems for personal computers in that country. Ng is a member of both the Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi honoraries.
**RICHARD E. FRENCH**

It took Richard E. French longer than most people to earn a college degree, but that's because he was busy putting out fires. A member of the Yakima Tribe, French began working on his reservation as an initial attack firefighter in 1957. After 10 years of studying between fire seasons and a stint with the U.S. Army, he earned his bachelor's degree in forest management from WSU in 1968. Following graduation, he went back to work for his tribe, but this time as a professional forester. Now he oversees firefighting operations for 37 reservations in the Portland area. He says his career has been very rewarding, because he has been able to help his people manage their resources while overcoming negative stereotypes about Indians and their capabilities.

**NORMAN T. WOO**

Most people respond to the study of mathematics with fear and trembling. But numbers don't scare Norman T. Woo. In fact, his life centers around numbers, and he wouldn't want it any other way. A professor at California State University, Woo teaches students the fine points of math, publishes the results of much of his mathematical research, and is active nationally in the Mathematical Association of America. Woo has always been a hard worker. While a graduate student at WSU, he was president of the Chinese Student Association and earned membership in Phi Kappa Phi and Pi Mu Epsilon. Receiving his Ph.D. in 1968, he went on to become president of the Chinese Faculty Association at California State University.
**MILTON HUNTER**

Milton Hunter began his military career in the Army ROTC program at WSU. While working toward an architectural engineering degree, he became a cadet battalion commander, president of the military honor society Scabbard & Blade, and a member of the architectural honor society, Scarab. After receiving his degree in 1967, Hunter traveled the world as a member of the Army Corps of Engineers. Later he served as a military social aide to the White House. Now a colonel, he is back in the Northwest as district engineer and commander of the Seattle engineer district. Hunter says, “The college town, student-oriented environment, and dedicated professors were some of the things I liked about WSU. It was, for me, a gateway to opportunities for success in the world at large and, in many respects, the door to the future.”

**WILLIAM JULIUS WILSON**

After earning his Ph.D. in sociology at WSU in 1966, William J. Wilson proceeded to become one of the world's most renowned sociologists. The distinguished professor of sociology and public policy at the University of Chicago has authored numerous books on racism and the underclass in our country. His latest, *The Truly Disadvantaged: The Inner City, the Underclass, and Public Policy*, was named by the *New York Times Book Review* as one of the best 16 books published in 1987. Currently he is directing a $2.7 million study on poverty, joblessness, and family structure in the inner city. He is one of the most sought after public figures in the United States and is frequently invited to share his expertise at national conferences. He has received eight honorary doctorates, a coveted MacArthur Foundation Prize, the WSU Regents Distinguished Alumnus Award, and other awards too numerous to mention. He has served as president of the American Sociological Association, is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the American Philosophical Society.
EUGENE K. SAKAI

As a WSU Alumni Association executive board member and former Minority Affairs Committee chair, Eugene K. Sakai has strong ties to WSU. Sakai graduated in 1966 with a bachelor's degree in zoology and has been practicing general dentistry in Vancouver, Washington, for many years now. Considered a sharp student at WSU, he earned good grades and was a member of the Intercollegiate Knights honorary and of the predental-premedical student honorary, Pi Tau Iota. He was also active in student government, in intramural sports, and on the Homecoming Committee. Reflecting on his days as a student, he said, “WSU is a medium sized school with large-institution capabilities and programs. The on-campus living, isolated from a large urban area, allowed me to focus on maturing and growing up.”

WILLIAM R. WILEY

“Bill is an outstanding scientist, leader, and WSU graduate. He has my greatest respect.” This is how Washington governor Booth Gardner described William R. Wiley when he appointed him to serve on the WSU Board of Regents in 1989. Wiley, who earned a Ph.D. in bacteriology at WSU in 1965, is senior vice-president of Battelle Memorial Institute, the world’s largest independent research organization, and director of Battelle’s Pacific Northwest Division in Richland, Washington. His responsibilities not only include directing the Pacific Northwest division for the U.S. Department of Energy, but also the Washington Technology Center and Marine Sciences Laboratory. Wiley has also remained close to education, serving on the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board before becoming a WSU Regent. In 1986 he received the WSU Alumni Achievement Award and in 1989 was named Tri-Citian of the Year by the Richland Rotary Club in recognition of his contributions to his community.
MATTHEW J. WANCHENA

Many people never reach their potential in the course of a single career, let alone two. Matthew J. Wanchena is a rare exception. This 1974 graduate in architectural studies became an Army Corp of Engineers officer following ROTC training at WSU. He subsequently received a letter of commendation from the President of the United States for assisting with the relocation of the Vietnamese after the fall of Saigon. After completing active duty, Wanchena began a second career in architectural engineering, working for several agencies and settling down in Seattle in 1988. As construction supervisor for the Highline School District, Wanchena has been in charge of over $18 million of school renovation work. As if that weren't enough, he has also earned two master's degrees. During his student days at WSU, Wanchena helped form the Native American Student Association, serving as the group's second president. "I enjoyed meeting other people from other backgrounds and countries. It was a very personal campus," he says.

HOWARD J. JONES

After graduating as co-valedictorian from his high school in Louisiana and earning degrees at Southern University, Baton Rouge, and Howard University, Washington, D.C., Howard J. Jones earned a Ph.D. in history at WSU in 1975. Now a professor at Prairie View A&M University in Texas, Jones has never lost touch with college student life. He spearheaded the founding of two chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha, a social fraternity; a chapter of the Alpha Kappa Mu honor society; and the Southern Conference of Afro-American Studies, Inc., an organization to help preserve and interpret Afro-American history and culture.
**ROBERT D. FUKAI**

It is unusual these days to hear of someone staying with a single company throughout one's career, but Robert D. Fukai is such a one—and he just keeps climbing up the corporate ladder. Since he joined Washington Water Power Company (WWP) after graduating in 1972 with bachelor's degrees in both accounting and business administration, Fukai has steadily been promoted, rising from general accountant to vice-president of operations at WWP's Spokane offices. He credits WWP for also enabling him to grow personally through participation in community activities. For example, Fukai is a commissioner for the Washington Commission on Asian American Affairs. Both his job and his work on the commission bring him frequently to Pullman, where he renews contacts with the University community.

"I started out as a typical high school graduate with a lot of energy, a lot of idealism, and ill-defined goals. I ended up with an appreciation of the liberal arts, a solid technical knowledge base, a career track, and a touch of wisdom to go along with my independence. WSU was great for me," Fukai says.

**BERNARD COTTON**

After earning a Ph.D. in political science from WSU in 1978, Bernard Cotton became an assistant professor at Alcorn State University, Lorman, Mississippi. He served as chairman of Alcorn's Political Science Department for five years, then began to focus more of his attention on research. In 1985 he became director of a USDA-funded study of race and the underclass in the labor force, winning national recognition for his research. Still at Alcorn State, Cotton is now an associate professor and continues to do research under a variety of grants.
Carlos Pinto

Carlos Pinto emigrated to the United States from Peru at age 18. He spent five years in the U.S. Air Force and another four years at an Arizona university, before deciding to attend graduate school at WSU in the late 1960s. Pinto was largely responsible for bringing an international flavor to WSU. Aside from doing assistant teaching and research near Kamiak Butte, he was very active in the University's Foreign Student Association, serving as president in his last year. Pinto received his M.S. in 1971 in zoology. Now a district ranger in Creede, Colorado, he is in charge of 500,000 acres in the headwaters of the Rio Grande and leads a work force of 25 employees. Over the past 20 years he has worked in six national forests in Washington, Oregon, California, Vermont, and now Colorado. His wife Carol Ann graduated from WSU in elementary education in 1970.

Kenneth T. Maehara

Kenneth T. Maehara makes sure people in the medical field learn the latest medical techniques. As director of the Clinical Laboratory Science Program at the University of Nevada-Reno, he devotes much of his time to running educational programs for practicing medical technologists. His training in this field stems back to his graduate studies at WSU. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Bacteriology and Public Health in 1972, then went to Western Carolina University, where he assisted in the creation of that school's program in medical technology.
**Raquel Perkins**

Most people agree that to do well in both school and athletic competition is a major challenge. Raquel Perkins made sure her love for sports didn't interfere with her schooling. In high school she realized that education would be the key to her involvement with sports for the rest of her life. After graduating fourth in her class from Tahoma High School, Tacoma, she came to WSU to study physical education, earning a B.S. in 1974. Following her college career, she became a physical education and health teacher for Baker Junior High in Tacoma. The school's intramural coordinator, she coached three city championship volleyball teams from 1975 to 1980. She also keeps busy serving on various educational committees, not to mention keeping abreast of her teaching load. But Perkins is up to the demands of her profession. WSU not only prepared her for her chosen field, she says, but also for the greatest challenge of all—life.

**Christopher N. Hunte**

Helping other countries develop good policies in higher education is just one of Christopher N. Hunte's major responsibilities. Since receiving his Ph.D. in education from WSU in 1976, he has traveled to such places as Honduras, Jamaica, Cameroon, Senegal, and Liberia to work with education and government officials. As professor of sociology at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, he serves as liaison officer for the National Association For Equal Opportunity. In addition, he coordinates SU's Graduate Social Science Program. A former graduate research scholar at WSU, Hunte routinely receives awards such as Phi Delta Kappa's Award for Outstanding Research and Phi Delta Kappan of the Year.
PEDRO L. ARAUSA

Pedro L. Arausa, a 1976 graduate in political science, often remembers the special relationships he developed in Pullman with fellow students and professors. While at WSU, he served as president of M.E.Ch.A., and upon graduating, worked six years as assistant to the director of Chicano studies at WSU. Currently a King County affirmative action specialist, he is responsible for monitoring more than 4,200 King County employees and is active in groups such as United Way, the Hispanic Professional Organization, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

FELICIA CORNWELL GASKINS

Unlike many other minority students, getting a four-year college degree was a matter of family tradition for Felicia Gaskins. The tradition began with two of her grandparents, who attended a university for nine straight summers to complete their degrees.

Gaskins came to WSU from Tacoma, Washington, in 1961 to learn how to teach music. Although there were only four undergraduate African American women on campus then, she felt welcome. “After my mom drove me to Pullman, my voice teacher offered to let her stay in his home for a weekend while he was out of town. He became a father figure to me,” she says. Before completing her degree, she married William T. Gaskins, Jr. and moved to Calgary with him, where he played professional football. It wasn’t long, though, before his help was sought at Pullman’s community hospital. This enabled Felicia to return to WSU and finish her bachelor’s degree in music education in 1973. With the teaching job market dry at that time, she began work in WSU’s Office of International Education. Today she is acting director of the office, which oversees nearly 1,000 foreign students representing about 90 countries.
ROOSEVELT D. BUTLER

Now retired after serving 22 years in the U.S. Army and attaining the rank of colonel, Roosevelt D. Butler is a faculty member in the School of Business at Trenton State College, New Jersey. Butler completed his M.A. in political science in 1972 at WSU, where he was active in the Black Students' Union and tutored undergraduate students. At Trenton State he is a member of the College Bound Program, Academic Progress Committee, and Minority Executive Council. He still maintains close contact with friends he met at WSU and says his experience in Pullman was very enjoyable. His son Andre recently graduated from WSU with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

NICHOLAS P. PROVOST

Not many people have ever been called a hero, but Nicholas P. Provost has—at least twice. Around 1984 he was scuba diving in Puget Sound, when his partner suddenly fell unconscious and began to sink. Provost swam down to get him, pulled him to the surface, performed CPR, and saved his partner's life. About a year later, he was among the first to arrive at the scene of a fiery two-car collision on Washington's Stevens Pass. Hearing screams for help, he pulled an injured woman away from the burning wreckage, then went back for a baby trapped inside a car. He got the baby out just moments before the flames engulfed the car. The 1974 College of Pharmacy graduate received numerous awards for his bravery, including the Washington State Patrol Award of Merit and the U.S. Public Health Service Outstanding Service Medal. Provost is director of administration and management for the Portland area Indian Health Service, overseeing programs in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.
Sang-Won Cho

Sang-Won Cho earned a B.A. in fine arts at WSU in 1976 and stayed on to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree two years later. He now runs his own graphic design firm, Sanch Design, in Seattle. At WSU he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity. His academic achievements put him on the President's Honor Roll and, in his sophomore year, won him a scholarship to study graphic design at Nihon University in Japan. His work has been honored by many organizations, including the Art Directors Club of New York, Art Directors Club of Los Angeles, Communication Arts, American Institute of Graphic Arts, and the Seattle Design Association.

Cordell W. J. Chang

Cordell W. J. Chang is fascinated by birds and other exotic animals. For a while he raised exhibition and racing pigeons; now he is interested in canaries and is a member of the Honolulu Canary Club. Oddly enough, however, Chang spends most of his time with cats and dogs. As director of Animal Clinic Mililani in Hawaii, he is in charge of diagnosis, treatment, and preventive health programs for small animals. He routinely performs soft tissue surgery and occasionally does orthopedic surgery. He received his training at WSU, where he earned a B.S. in veterinary science in 1977 and a D.V.M. in 1979. He is involved in numerous professional organizations and became president of the Hawaii Veterinary Medical Association in 1989. Reflecting his love for birds, he serves on the Special Advisory Committee for the Protection of Endangered Birds in Hawaii.
**Ki Tecumseh**

The thousands of people who attended WSU’s 1972 commencement ceremony couldn’t help but notice Ki Tecumseh. He was the only graduate wearing buckskins and a feather headdress. Although a member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, Tecumseh grew up in White Swan, Washington, on the Yakima Indian Reservation. He came to WSU to work on a communications degree and was one of the first students to complete the University’s Experimental Education Program. He founded and became president of WSU’s Native American Student Association. He also became good friends with WSU president Glenn Terrell and showed him around the Yakima Reservation. Today Tecumseh is an industrial relations specialist with the Department of Energy in Albuquerque, New Mexico. As such, he helps establish good relations between his own tribe and DOE. “I always wanted to help my tribe. It was a childhood dream,” he says.

**Carlton D. Lewis**

Carlton D. Lewis is a born leader. In 1970 he became WSU’s first African American student body president. Students liked him so much they reelected him the next year. The Tacoma, Washington, native remembers his college days as a time of excitement and unrest. College students all over the nation were protesting the Vietnam War and racism. A resident of both Orton and Streit-Perham Halls, Lewis was deeply involved in these activities. He received his degree in political science in 1972, followed by a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Washington. Today he is president and chairman of the board of his own company, SRA Technologies, Inc., in Alexandria, Virginia. The life sciences consulting firm employs 130 people and handles contracts worth more than $10 million a year, and his work takes him all over the world.
CHARLES M. WEATHERBY

When Charles M. Weatherby enrolled at WSU, his dream was to become a doctor. Like any other kid out of high school, sports consumed much of his time. In fact, he ran track for the Cougars for a while and was involved in student government at Stimson Hall and later at Stephenson South. But realizing he needed more time to study, he soon gave up college sports. The move paid off. Before long he joined WSU's Honors Program and achieved the highest grade-point average of any WSU African American student at the time, graduating with honors in zoology in 1974. Four years later, he graduated from medical school and married Shauna Simmons, whom he met at WSU. Now, his dream fulfilled, he has his own medical practice in his hometown of Tacoma, Washington. Says Weatherby, "What I liked best about WSU was the school's professionalism. My professors and advisers were top notch."

ELIZABETH A. B. HAYS

With her husband Michael, Elizabeth A. B. Hays owns and operates the first animal care facility in central Washington, the South First Street Veterinary Clinic in Yakima. Hays graduated in 1977 with a B.S. in veterinary science and earned a D.V.M. degree two years later. She is past president of the Yakima Valley Veterinary Medical Association and a member of the Washington State and American Veterinary Medical Associations. She regularly speaks to school children on the importance of pet care and works closely with the Boy Scouts of America. She says her fondest memory of WSU is the feeling of closeness within the University community.
JOAN ROBERTSON

Many have tried and failed to make a living at music, but violinist Joan Robertson excels at it. After free-lancing with several Los Angeles-area orchestras and Hollywood studios, Robertson, known by her maiden name of Yamauchi during her college days, now lives in England. There she performs with such famous ensembles as the London Sinfonietta and the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. Much of her talent was developed at WSU, where she earned a Bachelor of Music degree in 1978. While yet a student, her work with the Spokane Symphony Orchestra, WSU Symphony Orchestra, and the Washington-Idaho Symphony earned her numerous awards. Although she moved to California to study for a master's degree, she often thinks of her mentors at WSU. “They certainly are among the finest internationally in their respective fields,” she says.

PHILLIP DURAN

How do you take all kinds of departmental information, organize it, store it in a computer, then make it easily accessible so that it can be used for decision-making purposes? This is the task currently being undertaken by Phillip H. Duran, a systems analyst and programmer for WSU’s Computing Service Center (CSC).

Although Duran may be a computer wizard for WSU now, he came to Pullman in 1971 for quite another reason. A native of Texas, he turned down offers from Cornell University and the University of Oklahoma in favor of working toward a doctorate in computer science at WSU. “Pullman seemed like a nice, small town and a good place to raise children,” he says. After completing the requirements for a master’s degree in 1978—he also had a master’s degree in physics from the University of Texas at El Paso—he was offered a job in the CSC, where he has been ever since. The former WSU Graduate Student Association senator enjoyed doing research as a student and received a national award from the American Association of Bone and Joint Surgeons for his efforts.
EMMA J. THOMAS-SMITH

Although long, the journey from Texas to Pullman was well worth making to Emma J. Thomas-Smith. Thomas-Smith was assistant professor of English and director of the Honors Program at Prairie View A&M University before she decided to attend WSU. After earning her Doctor of Education degree in 1976, she returned to Prairie View, where she is now chair of the English and Foreign Languages Department. Although she has not been back to the Palouse—"God's country" in her words—she often thinks of renewing many of the friendships she made with faculty in the College of Education. "I commend WSU's faculty for recognizing talent, and the encouragement they give students is phenomenal," she says. Thomas-Smith is active in numerous organizations, including the National Council of Teachers of English and a support group for battered women and children. She is also involved in fund-raising for the United Negro College Fund.

FLOYD G. JACKSON

Floyd Jackson's career took off after he earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in psychology from WSU in 1976 and 1978 respectively. He lectured and conducted research at the Yale School of Medicine, worked in a U.S. Air Force hospital, taught at the University of Illinois, took a position at Harvard Medical School, then taught and became head track coach at Pepperdine University. Currently he is owner and president of a psychological consulting firm, where he has developed diagnostic and therapeutic programming for juvenile murderers. A man of many talents, he is an avid runner and musician and was a member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic Cycling Team.
ANN E. MCCORMACK

Some people may think painting houses is a man’s job, but for Ann McCormack it’s a way of life. McCormack owns and operates Llamr Painting, a commercial exterior and interior painting business. But her talents extend far beyond just painting. She is also an expert in Native American textiles, arts, and crafts, which she demonstrates through various projects in the Palouse area. McCormack combined her talents with education at WSU, graduating with a degree in home economics, clothing, and textiles in 1979. Minoring in business and Native American studies, she was very active in Ku-Ah-Mah, the University’s Native American student organization, and served a term as club president.

BERTHA V. LYNN

Thousands of television viewers in the Denver, Colorado, area watch Bertha Lynn anchor the news every day at noon and 5:00 p.m. Lynn, who is also a reporter, works for KMGH-TV, Channel 7, Denver, a relatively tough market for broadcasters to break into. She says she has a special place in her heart for WSU, where she graduated cum laude in communications in 1977. As a student she was active in the Kappa Sigma Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and the Black Student Union, and she traveled to Italy through the WSU exchange program. Still active in numerous community organizations, she was recently named Citizen of the Year by the Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, and won an Emmy award for best on-air personality from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Colorado chapter.
RON E. CHEATHAM

Ron Cheatham is living proof that majoring in general studies can lead to a successful career in many fields. Cheatham came to Pullman on a football scholarship in 1973. For the next two years he played for the Cougars, who were rated as high as 19th in the country. After graduating with a B.A. in 1976, he played professional football with the British Columbia Lions, then became executive director of the Jackie Robinson YMCA in San Diego. After a time he joined the FBI as a special agent, but found he loved working with kids too much to give it up for good. Now, after serving as director of YMCAs in both Puyallup and Yakima, Washington, he is director of recreation, wellness, and athletics at The Evergreen State College. An active member of the WSU Alumni Association executive board, Cheatham leads the association's Minority Affairs Committee. "WSU is my vision of what college is all about," he says. "You get to know your professors, and they really take an interest in you. I thoroughly enjoyed going to college there."

JOHN W. CAMPBELL

John Campbell didn't know what he wanted out of life when he graduated from high school in Tacoma, Washington. After a stint in the Army, he went to work as a janitor for the Auburn, Washington, Public Schools. "There were about four people in my crew that couldn't read or write. I knew that wasn't the kind of life I wanted," he says. Campbell enrolled in Green River Community College, receiving an A.A. degree in 1976. He then transferred to WSU and earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology in 1979. A member of the Tulalip Tribe, he worked five years after graduation excavating a Makah tribal village on the Olympic Peninsula. When funding for the project dried up, he decided to make a career change. Now an animal technician at WSU's animal research facility, he oversees four others in the care of monkeys, rabbits, mice, cats, dogs, and more. He is often reminded of his days as an active member of WSU's Native American student club. Campbell was instrumental in changing the club's name from "Its-tsa-ye-ye," the Nez Perce word for "coyote," to the current name, "Ku-Au-Mah," which means "Cougar."
The 1980s
EMOGENE K. YOSHIMURA

Emogene K. Yoshimura has a deep interest in enhancing the bond between people and animals. That interest extends back to her student days at WSU, when as a volunteer she used to take pets to the residents of Pullman Convalescent Center. A 1985 veterinary science graduate, she became a doctor of veterinary medicine at WSU in 1988. Today she is still doing what she can to promote the pet-people connection by taking pets to nursing homes and public housing projects. She is also extending her work in human-animal bonding to the academic sphere. A lecturer at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, she is developing family studies curricula exploring the role of companion animals in families at different ages and stages of life.

RICHARD B. COSTA

Richard Costa enrolled at WSU after working in the construction business for 14 years. As a student he served as president of the American Society of Civil Engineering student chapter and was an avid golfer and racquetball player. In 1981, at age 34, he received his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering. Having served as project engineer for Chevron Pipeline Company, he is now an environmental engineer for Atlantic Richfield in Long Beach, California, managing programs for hazardous waste and underground storage tanks.
Eva Pacheco

It's a long way from Richland, Washington, where Eva Pacheco was an honor student and star athlete in high school, to Louisville, Kentucky. But Pacheco ended up doing a medical internship there and recently became a medical doctor at Louisville's Frazier Rehabilitation Center. She began her endeavor when she transferred to WSU from Spokane Community College in 1980. Three years later she graduated with a bachelor's degree in zoology with an emphasis in premedicine. She was an active student at WSU, serving as president of both the Premedical Organization for Minorities and the Hispanic Women's Association known as Mujeres Unidas, secretary of the Ethnic Womens Council, treasurer of M.E.Ch.A, and a member of the Northwest Chicano Health Foundation. Her memories of WSU include Mom's Weekend, Cougar Gold cheese, basketball games against the University of Washington, and most of all, the bright orange sunsets she watched in front of Holland Library.

Stanton T. Falling

Stanton T. Falling lives a long way from the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona, where he grew up. Having earned a master's degree in music at WSU in 1980, he is a horn player with the Hessisches Staatstheater Wiesbaden Orchestra in Germany, a professional orchestra that performs a wide range of opera, ballet, and symphonic music. While studying at WSU, Falling played in the Washington-Idaho Symphony, the WSU Wind Ensemble, the Ethnic Arts Trio, and other ensembles. In 1979 he won the Young Artist award at the Greater Spokane Arts Festival. He began studying Native American music in Pullman and credits WSU as being one of the few universities that gives meaningful consideration to ethnic music.
Moxee, Washington, a small town just east of Yakima, may not be the hub of the universe, but it is the hub of one of the world's most agriculturally productive regions. It is also the home of Avel Segura. Segura witnesses the seasonal influx of migrant workers, predominantly Hispanic, to harvest everything from apples to asparagus. As a case manager for the Washington State Migrant Council, he is well aware of the high dropout rate among migrant students, and he works to keep Yakima Valley migrant children in school. He is also founder of the Nighthawk Education Foundation, an organization that educates the community about Hispanic issues and challenges. He knows the value of education well, having graduated from WSU in 1983 with a B.A. in foreign languages and literatures. Since moving to Moxee, he has completed study for his teaching credentials and is now working on an M.B.A. His wife Tanya Lynn is a 1982 WSU graduate in foreign languages.

Snakes! Most of us want nothing to do with them. Sherwood Smith, on the contrary, used to walk around the WSU campus with a snake draped around his shoulders. An expert on snakes, Smith gave many presentations about them before receiving his B.S. in 1981—in zoology, of course. But snakes aren’t the only things Smith is an expert on. His career now centers around college students. While he was learning about rattlers and such, he also worked as a program assistant for Residence Life and Housing in Gannon and Goldsworthy Halls for two years. After leaving WSU, he realized how much he enjoyed this work and later returned to Pullman to earn a Master of Adult and Continuing Education degree. Since then he has worked as a residence hall director at Cornell University and is now director of Residence Life Programs at Pennsylvania State University.
ALLAN F. CHINO

If anybody knows about pain, it is Allan F. Chino—not so much because he has experienced it, but because he treats it. Chino is director of the Center for Pain Management at Mt. Diablo Medical Center in Concord, California. His specialty is the application of psychological and behavioral methods to the treatment of such illnesses as hypertension, chronic pain, and stress-related diseases. Chino received his M.S. and Ph.D. from WSU in 1981 and 1984 respectively, both in psychology. Before joining Mt. Diablo, he worked at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Cleveland, where he received two awards for his outstanding service. Among his many memories of WSU, he recalls having to fill his gas tank only once a month, getting caught in the Mt. St. Helens fallout, and walking across campus to study, only to be swept along by a crowd heading into Martin Stadium for a Cougar homecoming football game.

TREVOR L. RODRIGUES

The seemingly endless, rolling wheat fields are what Trevor L. Rodrigues says he misses most about the Palouse. But he doesn't complain about his current home, Hilo, Hawaii, where he is an associate veterinarian at The Pet Hospital. Rodrigues earned his D.V.M. in 1987. During his last year at WSU, he received the American Association of Feline Practitioners Award. His reputation as a fine veterinarian continued to grow in California, where he became president of the southeast chapter of the Southern California Veterinary Medicine Association in 1989. Moving to Hawaii, he served as the 1990 president-elect for the Honolulu Veterinary Society and is a member of the Hawaii Veterinary Medicine Association's executive committee. He attributes his success to the education he received at WSU, saying it prepared him for just about everything in the outside world.
MICHAEL A. HUDSON

A Seattle-First National Bank scholarship helped make it possible for Michael A. Hudson to attend WSU. His leadership abilities began to take shape at the University, where he served as Black Student Union president and as a minority student recruiter. Since graduating in 1982 with a degree in business administration, he has been returning the favor Seafirst did by lending him a helping hand. Enrolling in the bank's Management Training Program with high aspirations, he emerged to become a bank vice-president and has opened a new office for Seafirst in Tacoma.

RANDAL Y. SAKAINO

Randal Y. Sakaino has not been out of college long, but his career is already going strong. After earning a bachelor's degree in bacteriology and public health in 1980 and a D.V.M. in 1985, both at WSU, he is now director of the Mililani Town Center Pet Clinic in Hawaii. As a senior at WSU, he received the American Animal Hospital Association Award for proficiency in small animal medicine and surgery. While active in the Hawaii Club, Bacteriology Club, Pre-Veterinary Club, and the Alpha Psi honorary, he maintained good grades, graduated cum laude, and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He attributes his present success to the favorable climate for academic achievement and excellence at WSU.
Kathryn S. Okawa

"I was so busy studying, there was little time to do anything else," Kathryn Okawa recalls of her days at WSU. Still, she managed to be active in the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Alpha Psi honorary. A native of Seattle, Okawa received her B.S. in veterinary science in 1977 and her D.V.M. four years later. After leaving Pullman, she worked at several veterinary hospitals in Washington. Then in 1985 she decided to open her own practice, the Puget Park Veterinary Clinic in Everett, Washington. She is working harder than ever now—from six in the morning to eight at night, six says a week. But she enjoys helping animals, especially cats. She gets her share of other animals too, such as rabbits, mice, ferrets and even turtles.

Rachel D. Pate

Rachel D. Pate is learning that the long hours she devoted to studying at WSU are really paying off. Upon graduating in 1986 with a degree in computer science, she joined US West Communications as a programmer analyst, then moved to IBM in Seattle, where she is now a systems engineer in the marketing area. A WSU honors student, her long list of accomplishments includes scholarships, awards, and special recognition by the University’s Black Awareness Committee. In addition, she was active on the Student Advisory Council of the Division of Sciences, the Catholic Women’s Altar Club, and the Associated Women Students, and she was sought out by key WSU administrators to serve on several committees.
Karen M. Yamamoto

No matter how busy she gets in her successful career as a veterinarian, Karen M. Yamamoto takes the time to lend a helping hand to others. For example, she is a regular speaker for the Association of University Women, which encourages young women students to include science classes in their studies. She is also an adviser for the Northshore School District's Health Occupations Program for high school students. Activities such as these give Yamamoto a break from the stress of owning her own business. She and her husband Mark Fosberg operate Canyon Park Veterinary Hospital in Bothell, Washington. A native of Spokane, she earned a B.S. in animal sciences at WSU in 1978, then received her D.V.M. degree in 1982. Even while busy earning cum laude honors, she contributed much of her time to advising students new to the program.

Charles E. Jones

Charles E. Jones, a 1985 Ph.D. graduate in political science, is putting what he learned at WSU to good use. A faculty member in political science at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, he is director of Old Dominion's Institute for the Study of Minority Issues. Jones became active in minority issues at WSU when he was selected as a Congressional Black Caucus Fellow in 1983. As such he worked for a time on the House of Representatives Education and Labor Committee. Since receiving his degree, he has been a Minority Summer Faculty Fellow at Indiana University and has traveled to Morocco on a Fulbright-Hayes grant.
JOE GUERRA

Joe Guerra received his bachelor's degree in political science in 1986. A U.S. Army communications specialist stationed in Germany, he travels throughout Europe and communicates frequently with fellow NATO soldiers. Guerra was extremely active at WSU, where he was president of M.E.Ch.A., founder and copresident of the Minority Student Coalition, an ASWSU student senator, and a state minority representative of the Washington Student Lobby. None of this involvement prevented him from winning several awards and scholarships for academic achievement. Guerra believes that WSU wants students to succeed, and that students in need of academic support are never alone.

MAURICE G. CARY

After earning a bachelor's degree in animal science and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, Maurice G. Cary knew there was still something missing in his life. He wanted to earn a Ph.D. That desire was what brought him to Pullman from Tuskegee University in Alabama. Over the years WSU has developed a link between Tuskegee and the College of Veterinary Medicine which has brought many fine students to Cougar country. Cary was no exception. Upon receiving his doctorate in 1985, he became a senior research pathologist for Schering-Plough, a New Jersey pharmaceuticals corporation. Three years later he moved to CIBA-Geigy Pharmaceuticals, also in New Jersey. Recently, CIBA-Geigy transferred Cary to the corporation's world headquarters in Switzerland.

Cary says he has fond memories of the place that helped get him where he is today. "While at WSU, the opportunity for exposure to persons of different races, nationalities, and religions presented itself daily. This was a wonderful experience, because I learned that people, no matter who they are, have far more similarities than differences," he says.
Les Wong

By now Les Wong has probably settled comfortably into his new job as academic dean at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. Wong says he moved into the deanship at an exciting time, because he will play a key role in creating multicultural awareness programs to be implemented in academic departments all over campus. After his three-year term is over, he will return to his duties as a psychology faculty member at Evergreen, where he has been involved with research in post-traumatic stress disorder. Specifically, he helped develop what is known as "huey therapy." This technique has gained national recognition for helping many Vietnam veterans get over the trauma they experience whenever they hear a helicopter. The veterans get over their fears by taking helicopter rides. His interest in this field stems back to his days at WSU, where he earned his Ph.D. in education in 1986. "WSU is a great place to study and explore ideas with other people," he says.

Myong-Hui Bradshaw

As a student majoring in business administration, Myong-Hui Bradshaw not only spent a lot of time studying at WSU, but also having fun. She performed at football and basketball games with the WSU Drill Team and Color Guard and was a member of the Crimson Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa. As a member of Delta Gamma sorority, she was included in International Who's Who in Fraternities and Sororities. The 1986 honors graduate is currently an assistant retail manager for Lakeshore Curriculum Materials, an educational resource company in Bellevue, Washington.
RICHARD M. FUJIE, JR.

Although Richard M. Fujie, Jr. is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in both Washington and Oregon, he chose to live in Hawaii. Fujie received a B.S. in veterinary science, acquired his D.V.M. the same year, then earned a Ph.D. in veterinary science a year later—all at WSU. After working in a couple of animal hospitals and for the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture Animal Quarantine Station, he now directs veterinary services at Kahala Pet Hospital in Honolulu, a small-animal practice that employs about 25 staff members. When not healing animals, he enjoys such Hawaiian sports as skindiving, fishing, and surfing.

L. LAURELLE DANTON

As a single parent, working on a degree in veterinary science wasn't easy for L. Laurelle Danton. She says if it wasn't for the constant support of WSU faculty and the financial aid office, she probably wouldn't have graduated. Now she works for two emergency animal hospitals and two clinics in the Santa Rosa, California, area. Considered to be a model student by her peers, she was a member of Alpha Phi sorority and received the Pfizer Veterinary Scholarship for outstanding achievement. At the same time she earned her B.S in veterinary science in 1983, she received her D.V.M. degree. She was featured in the first issue of *Who's Who in Veterinary Science and Medicine*. 
Jerome Caston’s work as a professional forester for the U.S. Forest Service has allowed him to tour Mt. Saint Helens and explore the famous Columbia River Gorge. Based in Portland, Oregon, Caston serves as membership chair for the Columbia River Chapter of Blacks in Government and is active in the Society of American Foresters. In 1984 the Timber Lake Civilian Conservation Center presented him with an outstanding forester award. Caston was a member of the Black Student Union and the Forestry Club at WSU, where he received his B.S. in agriculture in 1981 and a degree in forest management in 1982.

Debra J. Schenaker

It undoubtedly surprises many people to learn that Captain Debra J. Schenaker is in charge of training people in the maintenance and repair of aircraft for the U.S. Air Force. The Tacoma, Washington, native recently moved back to the Northwest from Florida, where she was responsible for teaching those skills to 1,700 people. Now based at Fairchild Air Force Base, Spokane, Schenaker is officer in charge of a 248-member team that maintains B-52 bomber planes. She began her Air Force career at WSU, where she earned a USAF-ROTC scholarship. An honors student, she graduated in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in psychology. During her stint in Florida, she and her coworkers were named the William Tell Team in 1988 for being overall top team shooters, best weapons loaders, and overall best weapons team. As she looks back on college, Schenaker says she enjoyed Pullman’s small town atmosphere, the rolling hills, and the encouragement she received from her professors.
CRAIG M. NISHIMOTO

Craig M. Nishimoto attributes much of what he knows about animals to the rural setting of WSU. He came from Hawaii to study in WSU's prestigious veterinary medicine program in 1981. After earning B.S. degrees in both veterinary science and bacteriology and public health, along with a D.V.M. in 1984, he went home to Hawaii to put his knowledge into practice. He now owns a mixed-animal veterinary clinic on the Island of Kauai and is president-elect of Hawaii's Veterinary Medical Association. A WSU Hawaii Club member, he also participated in many intramural sports in college and still remembers learning how to snow ski on the Palouse. Now, he says, he has to resort to surfing in his spare time.

CAROLYN N. SAWYER

If Carolyn N. Sawyer seems familiar to you, it's probably because she is a news anchor for Lifetime Cable in Boston and a former network television correspondent for ABC News. Her stories can be seen on Good Morning America and during ABC Nightly News and are heard throughout the day on ABC radio. And it all began at WSU. As a student Sawyer volunteered her time programming for radio stations KWSU and KZUU. At the latter station she gained experience in producing by putting together a regular Black urban contemporary jazz show, along with writing and anchoring the Black Weekly Updates. Even before graduating in 1984 with a degree in communications, she worked on weekends at KHQ-TV in Spokane, Washington. Meanwhile, she found the time to become a founding member of WSU's Black Women's Caucus. She says her biggest thrill as a student came when she escorted journalist Diane Sawyer around WSU during the annual Edward R. Murrow Symposium. She says that when Diane joined ABC, the two had a chance to reminisce about their experiences at WSU.
Richard Martinez

Born into an army family, Richard Martinez spent much of his childhood moving from place to place. As a high school student in Panama, he developed a strong interest in the business world, and his guidance counselor recommended WSU as a good place to study for a business degree. After attending Panama Canal College for a year, he decided to follow his counselor’s advice. He wasn’t disappointed. “WSU is a place where you can excel,” he says. “You get more attention and positive reinforcement here.” After graduating with honors in 1988, Martinez’ student job led to a professional position. As manager of information systems in WSU’s Advancement Services Office, he plays an important role in helping the University raise money from private donors. At the same time, he is working toward an M.B.A. at WSU. When he receives that degree, he says, he might be ready to make a dream come true—starting his own computer software company.
WSU would like to stay in touch with all of its alumni. If you’re uncertain whether we have your current address or phone number, please call or write the WSU Alumni Association, Lewis Alumni Centre, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99164-6150, 509-335-2586. Also, please share with us the addresses and phone numbers of other WSU minority grads you might know.