

# Jeff Russell Earns Research Lecturer Nod



Prof. JEFFREY RUSSELL  
...Research lecturer

History's Jeffrey Burton Russell has been chosen to receive the UCSB Academic Senate's most distinguished prize, the Faculty Research Lectureship, for 1991.

The first historian to win the the coveted award in 20 years, Prof. Russell was selected by a committee composed of former recipients of the award who cited his pioneering studies in the field of medieval history.

In announcing the decision at a meeting of the Faculty Legislature, Prof. Bert States, Faculty Research Lecturer for 1989 and chair of the selection committee, said Prof. Russell was the "unanimous and enthusiastic

choice" because he "has held true to the great humanistic vision of integrated knowledge."

Calling attention to his quarter-century of distinguished publications, the committee singled out for particular notice Prof. Russell's five-volume study of the history of evil, published between 1977 and 1988, in which he analyzes the way different cultures have personified evil during more than 5,000 years of recorded history.

Prof. States described the series as a "masterwork."

"Simply consider that Prof. Russell was the 'unanimous and enthusiastic

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## Historía

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### PAT COHEN'S LUNCHEON TOPIC

## The Story of a 155-Year-Old Murder

By JOSEPH FINNIGAN

World history is filled with mysteries, and some of the most dramatic and attention-getting are crimes of murder. It's especially true with murders that remain unsolved and are thought to represent miscarriages of justice for political reasons. Such a murder is the topic of Prof. Patricia Cline Cohen's lecture at the History Associates Luncheon Tuesday, Feb 5.

"My subject is a murder case that happened in 1836 in New York City. The victim was Helen Jewett, a young girl raised in a upper class family who chose to become a prostitute," Dr. Cohen said. "There was a young man indicted, tried, and acquitted. His name was Richard Robinson. I'm sure he was the killer."

The killing of the 23-year-old



Prof. PATRICIA COHEN  
...historic murder

woman allegedly by the 19-year-old man from a politically prominent family was, Dr. Cohen said,

headline news all over the country. "My question about the case is why did it become so famous?" she said. "Why did it resonate with American culture in 1836? I think the answer lies in the way this case illuminated questions about sexuality, especially female sexuality, and youth on the loose during a period of time historians call 'the commercial revolution' when lots of young people were leaving their homes to find work in the mercantile establishment in places like New York, Philadelphia, and Boston."

Why was the alleged killer acquitted? "A couple of different reasons," Dr. Cohen answered. "One is that the judge practically gave the jury a directed verdict when he said you can't

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## A VIEW FROM THE PERSIAN GULF

# Scorpions, Heat and Routine—But No Snakes!

(Ed. note: Readers of Historia will remember Brian Rozcicha (Public Policy '88), whose graphic description of the invasion of Panama—which he witnessed as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division—ran in these pages just one year ago. Brian is now serving in the Persian Gulf. The following extracts are taken from letters received in December in January.)

By BRIAN ROZCICHA

(November 1990)

I have never gotten used to Army hours—my watch is still set on Santa Barbara time—and so I continually find myself bobbing up and down as I wait for my guard shift to end.

That's the situation now. We walk all day over the desert, perform a deliberate attack or attempt to breach defenses, and then walk some more until it is time to stop. A perimeter is established, we dig a hole in the sand, and attempt to get five hours of sleep.

We do not live in the desert on a continuous basis. usually we only stay in the field four or five days a week. The other two or three days we live in a warehouse on a multi-million dollar military complex. It is not hard to see where all of the Saudi's oil revenue has gone: highway systems, military bases, airports, and industrial plants. The bedouins live in the shell of an old school bus or in the teetering sheet metal sheds which surround the oases. Their lives are still devoted to herding their sheep and goats. I wonder if they understand what is happening here.

The weather is not nearly so bad as when we arrived in August. The nights are very cool and the days moderately warm. The papers keep saying that we are battling scorpions and snakes and oppressive heat. This is not true. I have been tramping all over the desert and I have not seen one snake. My goal is to find an Egyptian cobra, capture it, and use it to cow my C.O. into sending me to Officer Candidate School. We step on a lot of scorpions and crush them, so they do not pose a significant threat.

I am rather happy to be here. I love the desert. The only hard thing about it is that you sink in the sand while walking. the dunes are magnificently tall! It must have taken hundreds of years of constant blowing for them to have formed so sleek and smooth.

Many reporters have asked us what we think about going to war with Iraq. The carnage will be unbelievable in the first days, I tell them, and then friendly casualties will begin to level-off once we break through

their defenses. The threat of biological and chemical warfare is terrifying, but we do not brood upon the prospects of it too much. The media has been pummeling us with Iraq's military capability for so long that we no longer feel the blows. War is like a bad smell in a room; after a while, you get so used to it that you no longer even notice it.

One thing I have learned is that nothing is as it seems—everything seems to have a reality all of its own. I look at Time magazine, then I look at myself and think, "Am I really like that?"

\* \* \*

(December, 1990)

You must understand that we have been wearing the same clothes for almost 120 days now. We have two desert uniforms, one p.t. uniform, green socks and white socks. That's all! This is our wardrobe, our spring and fall apparel, our stock of refinery and elegance! I do not consider myself to be a very vain person. However, the joes are going to do whatever lies within their power to alter their appearance.

It started harmlessly enough, defrocking our desert overcoats for a sturdy t-shirt look. Then when the air grew cooler, they donned a desert parka over it. Pretty soon it was desert parkas as a makeshift shower robe, since we shower outdoors and the air is frigid.

I begin to recall that the first words I heard upon joining the Army were "You will not," followed by "do not," and concluded by "No." And now I wonder

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## Historia

Newsletter of the UCSB History Associates

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## From the Chair

The latest issue of UCSB's new faculty/staff newspaper announces that the University of California is "instituting a freeze on some hiring and equipment purchases" as we go about complying with former Governor Deukmejian's executive order requiring cuts in state spending.

First California's farmers suffer a freeze; now it's our turn. Fortunately, the freeze does not—at present, anyway—apply to teaching positions. I say "fortunately," because we spent the Fall quarter working very hard on searches for three positions: ancient Greece, modern Japan, and the history of biological sciences.

Especially for search committee members, the Fall quarter is extremely busy. They narrow down the long lists of applicants to a short list of less than a dozen, and then, after lengthy interviewing sessions at professional meetings, the list is cut down to three to invite for on-campus interviews. At that point, the whole Department gets involved.

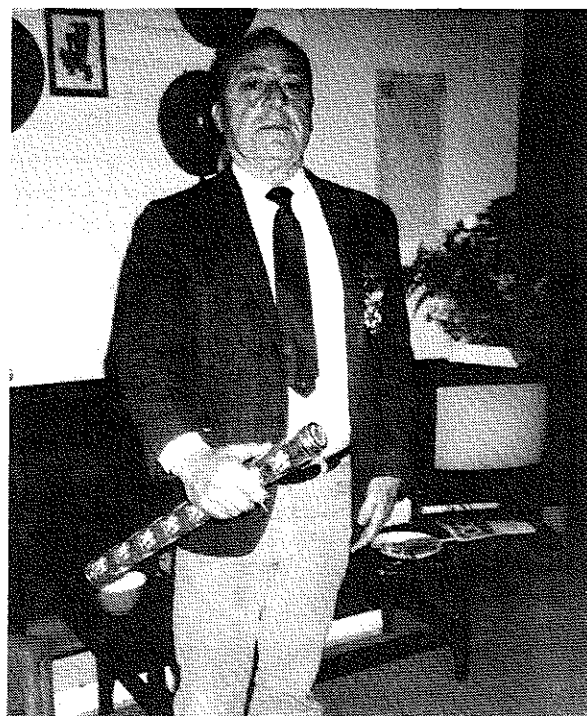
I have just returned from the American Historical Association convention in New York City. Given American Airlines' troubles, getting there was not half the fun. A faulty fuel pump warning light and frozen, broken asphalt on the runway at Long Beach, freezing rain on the runway in Dallas, "sick pilots" everywhere, and snow at LaGuardia lengthened the eastward journey, and dense fog at Newark delayed our departure and forced me to spend an unplanned night near LAX on the return. When the pilot announces, "Folks, this is a new one on me, the runway is too short," you know you're in for a long day.

But meeting our interviewees was an interesting process indeed. In the coming weeks we will have candidates for these positions on campus for two days of meetings, seminars and lectures. At the end, the candidates will be pretty worn out, and so will the faculty and students who have been listening to them, grilling them, and, in general, sizing them up.

The search committee will, in each case, recommend which candidate to hire, and the Department will vote on the committee's recommendation. It's arduous, but it's exciting. And I hope, but sometime in the Spring quarter, to be able to announce the results in this space.

If we can do as well this year as last (when we appointed Profs. Pai, Juster and Humphreys), all the work will have been worth it.

J. Sears McGee  
Chair



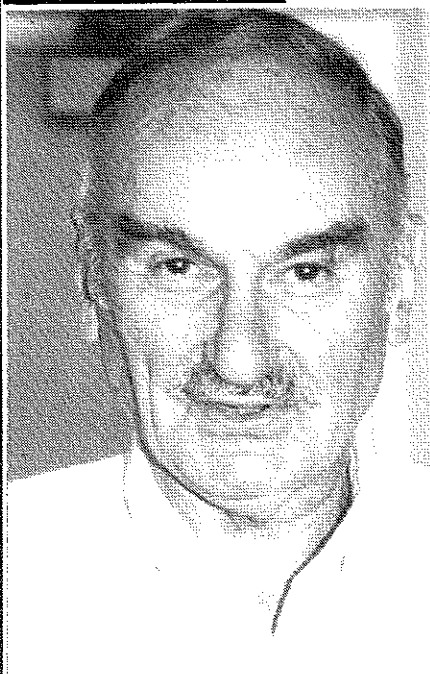
**BUT WHERE'S THE BAND?** Prof. Paul Sonnino poses with the baton of a marshal of the French Empire during festivities surrounding his inauguration as President of the Western Society for French History. On his coat he wears the cross of the Legion of Honor, the cross of a commander of the Legion of Honor, and the Order of the Iron Crown of Lombardy. Around his neck, an even rarer emblem (for him)—a necktie!

## GULF (Continued from p. 2)

why? We're all miserable, it's Christmas for the second time in a foreign country, we're on the brink of war, [with] our daily propaganda brief explaining to us how great we are and telling us about the valuable service we are performing for our country.

When we go to combat all of this is going to change. We all either want to go home or go to war. But we know that we're not going home anytime soon, we we're braced for the latter and sardonically looking forward to it. Now isn't that the craziest thing you have ever heard?

(P.S.: Letters to Brian should be addressed Spec. 4 Brian Rozcicha, 560-69-3385, Bravo Co. 1/504 P.I.R., 82nd Airborne Div., APO New York 09656)



**WITNESS TO HISTORY.** Prof. Joachim Remak (left) with a sample of the electioneering material used in Germany's recent elections on the right. The cartoon figure of Karl Marx, one of a series of caricatures produced in East Germany, is saying, "Sorry, fellows; it was just an idea of mine..."

## Prof. Remak Travels to Germany To Witness Historic Election

Prof. Joachim Remak, who has written about modern German history for more than 40 years, had an opportunity to witness it in the making last December.

The UCSB historian was one of some dozen scholars from the United States invited by the German government to be observers of that country's first free national election in 58 years.

The group spent two weeks touring the country and meeting with politicians, journalists and academics from across the political spectrum, including Chancellor

Helmut Kohl, who Prof. Remak first met during a similar visit for the 1987 West German election.

"Kohl knew all about us and was very gregarious and informative," Prof. Remak reports. "But we seem to have puzzled the opposition candidate, Oskar Lafontaine, when we joined him briefly on his campaign train.

"He must not have been briefed about us, because he seemed to be wondering who these aging, accented folk were whose first request was for a beer."

But all the meetings, Prof. Remak says, were insightful.

A spokesman for the Greens, for instance, responded to a question with the comment, "What do you mean—how can we afford to have two factions in a party as small as ours? We have 11."

"Yes," Prof. Remak adds, "they lost."

## President's Report

In the midst of our fourth year, the History Associates can look back with pride on a number of achievements. Chief among these, I believe, is the fellowship program, which is a result of the generosity of our members.

Last year, the Associates, in conjunction with the Graduate Division, provided a substantial amount of graduate funding. In addition to the Jacobs and Powell awards, which were funded by individual grants, the Associates gave over \$4,000 in graduate fellowships.

This is a significant amount of money for a relatively new organization to contribute to the furtherance of higher education.

It is that time of year when we are again seeking funds for the awards which we will make in June. As before, the Graduate Division will match any funds raised by the Associates. I would ask you all to be as generous as possible with your contributions so that we may match, and hopefully better, last year's awards.

J. Greg DeRoulhac  
President

## PHI ALPHA THETA ELECTS OFFICERS, MAKES PLANS

We now have a full slate of officers for Phi Alpha Theta, following elections at the end of last term. Joining me on the board are Brian Kavanaugh as vice president; Adrienne Earl, secretary; and Carolyn Edwards, treasurer.

One particular activity discussed at our meeting was a possible talk (or debate) on the reunification of Germany and its effect on the Jewish community. Is anti-Semitism dead? Could we ever see another Nazi Germany arise?

This term we will also begin the initiation process for new members. The requirements are a 3.4 GPA in at least five history classes (with a sliding scale for students who have taken fewer than five but with a higher GPA).

Please come by the Phi Alpha Theta office on the 4th floor of Ellison Hall if you are interested in knowing more about these events.

Merrick P. Dresnin  
President

### LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your news and comments to:  
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## For this Grad Student, Life's a Breeze!



**LAND HO!** History grad student Ted Dickson (in hat), sails to third victory in Marblehead contest with partner Jonathan Foot.

UCSB's History Department boasts among its pantheon an Islamic Chair, six Faculty Research Lecturers, ten Guggenheim Fellows, and more NEH Fellows than you can shake a stick at.

Now it has a sailing champion, too.

Grad student Ted Dickson is, in fact, a three-time champion, having picked up his third Day Sailer Class North American Championship last August in Marblehead, Mass.

The victory qualified Dickson to compete in the Champion of Champions Regatta last September on Lake Tahoe, where he finished ninth.

Sailing with his wife, Melissa, Dickson encountered 25-40 mph winds and "spent more time flying through the air and swimming in

Lake Tahoe's frigid water" than he did sailing.

The Princeton graduate, who has been sailing "since my cousin needed ballast when I was 11 years old," won previous championships in 1983 and 1985.

At Princeton, he captained the sailing team and taught sailing from 1977-1989, when he came to UCSB.

Dickson is completing an MA in American and modern European history, and plans to pursue a PhD in military history.

But, he confesses, the call of the sea is strong.

"Now that my TA office has been moved to the 5th floor of South Hall, it has become very hard to work on windy days," he reports. "My windsurfer is sitting at home ready to go."

## RUSSELL (Continued from p. 1)

sell's study of evil also required a command of the disciplines of literature, religion and folklore, of psychology, philosophy, and theology," he said.

Prof. Russell, who came to UCSB in 1979, said he was particularly honored to receive the award because of his family's long association with the University.

"My parents entered U.C. in 1922, and at least one member of my family has been affiliated with the University in one way or another ever since," he said. "That's more than half of the University's history."

Prof. Russell will devote his Faculty Research Lecture, scheduled for early March, to the topic "Glory in Time."

"The title has two meanings," he explained. "It refers to the idea of some Christians that the cosmos will return to God at the end of time, but also to the fact that we historians 'glory' in time by rescuing people and events from oblivion through our research—bringing them back to life, so to speak."

Prof. Russell is the sixth member of the Department to receive the Faculty Research Lectureship since it was instituted in 1955. The others are Wilbur Jacobs (1956), William Ellison (1958), Warren Hollister (1965), Alexander DeConde (1967), and Immanuel Hsu (1971).

## COHEN (Continued from p. 1)

rely on the testimony of prostitutes, even when they put their hand on the Bible and swear to tell the truth. And the defendant had one of the best attorneys in the country. Also, there were rumors that someone on the jury was bribed."

Dr. Cohen, who is writing a book on the case, said her three-year investigation shows the historian as detective. "I want to talk about how historians, in a way, can become detectives because part of my work has been, in a sense, unearthing the case and looking for information that wasn't widely known at the time," she explained.

"It's not easy to pick up such a cold trail. I started with the published trial transcript and the dozen pamphlets about the crime. But the trouble with those journalistic pamphlets is that they were very contradictory. They give different accounts about who the victim was; she had five different names. Her constituency consisted of working-class young men and women of New York. They protested the acquittal of Robinson. But there were many people who supported it. Feelings about the trial divided along class lines."

And whatever became of suspect Robinson?

"I tracked him down," Dr. Cohen said. "He became

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## 155-YEAR-OLD MURDER (Continued from p. 5)

a semi-respectable person in Texas. He was a county clerk in the town he lived in and also ran a tavern."

Dr. Cohen graduated from the University of Chicago in 1968 and received her PhD in history from Berkeley in 1977. She joined the UCSB faculty in 1976, and has taught courses in women in American history, American social history, and colonial and revolutionary America. She was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow, earned a Phi Beta Kappa, and received a University of Chicago Prize in American history.

She has written numerous articles and books including "A Calculating People: The Spread of Numeracy in early America," "Statistics and the State: Changing Social Thought and the Emergence of a Quantitative Men-

talinity in America, 1790-1820," and "Women and Numeracy: Teaching Math to Females, 1790-1940."

Tickets for the February 5 lecture, which will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, 1111 E. Cabrillo Blvd., are \$13 for members, \$15 for non-members. Reservations and further information are available from the UCSB Alumni Association (805) 893-2288.

The upcoming History Associates schedule of luncheons includes talks by Prof. Abraham Friesen, discussing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation; Prof. R. Stephen Humphreys, newly appointed holder of the King Ibn Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud Chair in Islamic Studies; and Dr. Jarrell Jackman, director of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

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