

and marines who executed Jefferson's policy than on Jefferson himself. The authors propose to enliven the memory of the first U.S. offshore fight to oppose intimidation and lawlessness. **VERDICT** This work will appeal to all history readers.—Margaret Kappanadze, Elmira Coll. Lib., NY

**Kwarteng, Kwasi. Thatcher's Trial: 180 Days That Created a Conservative Icon. PublicAffairs. Nov. 2015. 272p. photos. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781610395625. \$26.99; ebk. ISBN 9781610395632. HIST**

Margaret Thatcher (1925–2013) is the only woman to have been elected prime minister of the UK, a position she held from 1979 to 1990. Kwarteng (*War and Gold*), a Conservative member of Parliament since 2010, offers a succinct, intriguing glimpse of Thatcher's leadership between March and September 1981, when the UK was beset by economic and social crises—inflation, unemployment, business closings, terrorism, labor strikes, and race riots—that nearly drove Thatcher and her party from office. The author focuses on how the prime minister responded to these challenges, as well as the allies and enemies that resulted from her uncompromising actions. During these months, “Thatcherism” became a recognized doctrine that promoted business, opposed government expansion, and was committed to law and order. Especially captivating are depictions of the emergence of the Social Democratic Party as an alternative to Thatcher's brand of conservatism, and of race riots in London and Liverpool. Kwarteng's portrayal of his subject is sympathetic, yet he does discuss her flaws, notably her intractable stances. **VERDICT** This lively account of Thatcher's bleakest days, before the 1982 Falklands War boosted her popularity, will appeal to general readers, historians, and political scientists, especially those who don't want to tackle Charles Moore's massive *Margaret Thatcher*. Kwarteng recommends Thatcher's memoir *The Downing Street Years* for her personal insights into this turbulent time.—Karl Helicher, Upper Merion Twp. Lib., King of Prussia, PA

**McDonnell, Michael A. Masters of Empire: Great Lakes Indians and the Making of America. Hill & Wang; Farrar. Dec. 2015. 416p. maps. notes. index. ISBN 9780809029532. \$28; ebk. ISBN 9780374714185. HIST**

The Anishinaabeg economically, militarily, and politically controlled the trade routes on and around the Great Lakes from before European colonization until the early 19th century. Despite their import, says McDonnell (history, Univ. of Sydney; *The*

*Politics of War*), they did not collectively appear much in the historical record owing to their decentralized political system. Instead, the activities of their subgroups, which included the Ottawa, Potawatomi, Chipewewa, and Mississauga, were documented in isolation. Utilizing an impressive array of primary and ethnographic sources, the author documents from their perspective how the Anishinaabeg, from the central region of Michilimackinac in present-day Michigan, exerted their power locally. In order to advance their interests, they helped ignite the French and Indian War. When that conflict didn't end satisfactorily from their point of view, Anishinaabeg leaders led native warriors to assail British forts in what became known as Pontiac's Rebellion. **VERDICT** McDonnell makes a compelling case that the natives were not victims of European colonization but instead used their military and economic prowess to control and dictate how the world around them evolved. For another superb view of Michilimackinac, see Keith R. Widder's *Beyond Pontiac's Shadow*.—John R. Burch, Campbellsville Univ. Lib., KY

**MacQuarrie, Kim. Life and Death in the Andes: On the Trail of Bandits, Heroes, and Revolutionaries. S. & S. Dec. 2015. 448p. notes. index. ISBN 9781439168899. \$29.95; ebk. ISBN 9781439168929. HIST**

The Andes mountains chain, the longest in the world, is a treasure trove of history, culture, and people. MacQuarrie (*The Last Days of the Incas*) seeks to uncover some of the hidden stories of the people who lived in this distinct region. Focusing on various South American countries, the author combines history, folklore, and personal interviews to reveal what he considers “the most interesting stories.” MacQuarrie engages as well as educates as he travels throughout the mountain range, intertwining past and present and incorporating political and cultural conflict while taking the reader on a journey that goes beyond geography or geology. Although endnotes for each chapter are provided, it can be challenging to determine the connections between the references and the text. Regardless, MacQuarrie spectacularly describes the Andes. **VERDICT** This is a well-written, immersive work that history aficionados, particularly those with an affinity for Latin America, will relish.—Susan E. Montgomery, Rollins Coll., Olin Lib., Winter Park, FL

**Pfaff, Eugene E. Keep on Walkin', Keep on Talkin': An Oral History of the Greensboro Civil Rights Movement. Tudor. 2015. 401p. illus. bibliog. ISBN 9780977802623. pap. \$24.95. HIST**

Pfaff (coauthor, *Country Girl*) has sewn a rich tapestry of memory about the meaning of segregation, race relations, and the sit-in movement and its origins in Greensboro, NC. While sit-ins at lunch counters took place beginning in 1960, the collection of oral histories that Pfaff explicates span the latter half of the 20th century. The author presents more than 80 oral histories from college students, teachers, ministers and rabbis, business owners, and the press. As a result, the histories become a *Rashomon*-like presentation of impressions of life in a segregated city in the South. Greensboro at midcentury was still a city with segregated movie theaters, water fountains, and lunch counters. By sharing the experiences of those who lived in the city, readers learn of the effects of segregation and how it was brought to an end. The story of Greensboro, and its history, is woven throughout. **VERDICT** Highly recommended for readers who wish to understand the history of race relations and segregation in the United States. This book for all ages should be read aloud in classrooms and ably complements William Chafe's *Civilities and Civil Rights*.—Amy Lewontin, Northeastern Univ. Lib., Boston

**Plokhly, Serhii. The Gates of Europe: A History of Ukraine. Basic. Dec. 2015. 432p. maps. index. ISBN 9780465050918. \$29.99; ebk. ISBN 9780465073948. HIST**

At different points in its history the Swedes, Hapsburgs, Vikings, Huns, Mongols, Russians, Germans, Poles, and the Ottoman Empire ruled parts of Ukraine. Plokhly (history, Harvard Univ.; *The Last Empire*) expertly covers the complicated and dizzying history of Ukraine, starting when Neanderthals first arrived in the area, and discusses what it means to be Ukrainian. The early beginnings of Kyivian-Rus can be difficult to follow, featuring an ever-changing group of players and territory; an included historical time line provides perspective. Religious, linguistic, and cultural influences that impacted the development of Ukrainian identity are explored, as are the devastating famines, atrocious wars, and politics that influenced everything from independence to the Orange Revolution and the recent Revolution of Dignity. **VERDICT** The timeframe and subjects covered here are extraordinary; although this is more an overall survey than an in-depth resource, students, academics, and readers with a general knowledge of Ukraine will appreciate. Alternatively, chapters can be read independently, allowing those with a strong interest in the subject to focus on a specific era of Ukraine's history.—Zebulin Evelhoch, Central Washington Univ. Lib.