In this issue

Turning the tide for the Tigers

A ‘corps’ belief in peace and service

Pushing the dramatic envelope

Michigan’s Black Eden
Dear Friends:

When you read the pages of this magazine, you'll be struck by the impact our University and its alumni have on the state, the nation and the world. As WMU grows in both size and stature, the mark it makes on the world around it seems to increase exponentially.

On our cover, we highlight the work of Professors Lewis Walker and Ben Wilson, who have labored long and hard to help document and resurrect the community of Idlewild as an important part of Michigan's heritage. This project, which has manifested itself in their recently published book, was indeed a labor of love for these two distinguished and longtime faculty members.

On another note, we can all take pride in the accomplishments of alumnus Dave Dombrowski. Failing to make the Bronco baseball team in 1975, he was inspired to hold on to his dream of a career in the major leagues by one of our faculty members. Today, he is recognized as one of the most successful front office executives in the game.

Finally, I encourage you to learn about the University's long association with the Peace Corps and how a number of our recent graduates are serving needy populations in 14 different stops around the globe. These are truly stories that show how, in varied ways, this wonderful University is making an impact on the world around us.

Even in the middle of what some characterize as the "lazy days of summer," I assure you WMU community members are in high gear, working in research labs, writing important scholarly works and sharing their knowledge and expertise with new constituents around the world.

I hope you enjoy reading about the ways our University and alumni are making a difference. Best wishes for a safe and relaxing summer season.

Warmest regards,

Elson S. Floyd,
President
On the cover

Paradise lost—and found
Once an African-American family playground and entertainment mecca, Michigan's Idlewild faces monumental challenges to its survival and ability to thrive again.

Cover digital illustration by Kim Nelson using historical photographs from Dr. Ben Wilson's personal collection

New Tigers president is covering all the bases
WMU alumnus Dave Dombrowski applies the persistence he learned in college to his drive to spark a Detroit Tigers turnaround.

Theatre program has long, rich history
The University's theatre department has never taken the easy route. Pushing the envelope is part of its legacy.

A world-class assignment
With America's president challenging the nation's youth to revisit the idea of global service, WMU's Peace Corps initiative is ahead of the curve.

What's happening on campus?
Planning a visit to Kalamazoo? Check the WMU News Web site for the latest information about campus events that you can attend. Calendar listings are currently available through April 2003 and are regularly updated at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events/calendar1.html>. 
WMU Board of Trustees elects officers, welcomes new member

Richard Y. St. John and Birgit M. Klohs, BBA '83, were elected during the WMU Board of Trustees' annual meeting March 22 to serve one-year terms as board chairperson and vice chairperson, respectively. Just prior to the meeting, James P. Holden, B.S. '73, was sworn in as the board's newest member, replacing Richard G. Haworth, BBA '64.

St. John of Kalamazoo, a trustee since 1987, is now in his second eight-year term on the board. He was vice president for public affairs for the Kalamazoo Foundation from 1992 until his retirement in 1998. Previously, he spent 35 years at Pharmacia Corp., formerly the Upjohn Co., before retiring in 1992 as manager of community and legislative affairs.

Klohs of Grand Rapids, Mich., is president of The Right Place Program in Grand Rapids, a countywide community economic development program. She has been a trustee since 1997.

Holden of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., is the former president and chief executive officer of DaimlerChrysler. He was appointed by Gov. John Engler to fill out Haworth's term, which will expire Dec. 31, 2006.

Haworth of Holland, Mich., stepped down at the end of last year after 11 years on the board. The chairman of Haworth Inc. in Holland, he and his family and company have been longtime supporters of the University. At the March 22 trustees meeting, Haworth's former colleagues awarded him emeritus status and approved a resolution honoring him for his distinguished service to WMU.

Centennial Web site expanded

WMU's centennial Web site has a new look and numerous new pages. Visitors to the <www.wmich.edu/centennial> site now can peruse WMU's rich history through a photo-oriented timeline of major events as well as a historical features section.

In addition, the site provides membership and volunteer information for the various committees and subcommittees that are planning events for the centennial celebration in 2003. A calendar of events also has been included and will be regularly updated.

Other sections of the expanded site provide descriptions of the University's six presidents; lists of historical facts covering such topics as Bronco icons, institutional seals and logos, and school songs; and links to additional WMU Web sites that may be of interest. A trivia game will go online at a later date along with additional sections called "WMU memorabilia," "This week in WMU history" and "Quotes and memories."

Seelye Athletic Center shaping up

Construction on the first phase of the 120,000-square-foot Donald "J" Seelye Athletic Center is nearing completion. The three-story facility sits against Waldo Stadium's east end zone bleachers and will provide indoor practice space for the football, baseball, softball, golf and men's and women's soccer programs.

When finished this coming fall, phase one will house a 70-yard indoor football field; coaches offices; meeting rooms; locker rooms; and academic, training and strength areas. Some offices will serve as corporate suites on game days. Phase two is expected to be completed in five to 10 years and will include building an indoor track that will rest on top of a parking structure.

The east facade of Oakland Gym, one of WMU's early athletic facilities, has been preserved as the Oakland Drive entrance to the Seelye Center. This part of the new facility will provide space for the "W" Club and possibly historical displays of Bronco athletics.

Researcher named to U.S. council

The U.S. Comptroller General has appointed Dr. Daniel L. Stufflebeam to the National Advisory Council on Government Auditing Standards. Stufflebeam, director of WMU's Evaluation Center,
is one of 10 new members appointed to three-year terms on the 22-member panel. The council is charged with ensuring that good auditing and accounting measures are used by those spending U.S. taxpayers' money. It works with the General Accounting Office, which is an independent, nonpartisan branch of Congress.

Stufflebeam, who has been at WMU since 1973, is widely recognized for his pioneering work in developing a major model for program evaluation and for providing national leadership in the development of standards for educational evaluations.

Volunteers 'mine' Prospect Hill

About 400 volunteers fanned out across the east slope of Prospect Hill this spring to finish a "mining" project begun last fall. The volunteers weren't after gold in the hill, but rather years of shrubbery, "volunteer" trees and overgrowth that had engulfed the historic 500-foot hillside.

Organized by a group called the Hilltoppers, the cleanup project began last October when about 200 volunteers removed brush and debris from the top 25 feet of Prospect Hill, allowing for an unencumbered view of WMU's first campus building—East Hall.

The Hilltoppers was founded to work with WMU's administration and Landscape Services to improve and maintain Prospect Hill. For more about the group, visit the Web site <www.wmich.edu/hilltoppers>.

It pays to be an engineer, and to participate in employment survey

Engineers continue to bring home the biggest paychecks among recent WMU graduates, according to an employment survey conducted by Career and Student Employment Services. The survey was sent to some 4,800 undergraduate and graduate students who received degrees between August 2000 and June 2001.

"WMU alumni with degrees from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences are still leading the pack at both the undergraduate and the graduate level in terms of starting salaries in their fields," says Linda Ickes, CSES associate director for external affairs. "They led in 1999-2000 and have maintained their ability to get jobs."

Ickes theorizes that WMU-trained engineers have remained marketable in large part because the engineering college turns out workers who hit the ground running. She says many graduates of the College of Health and Human Services and Haworth College of Business also are finding success in the job market for the same reason.

The survey is a valuable information tool that is used to help current students as well as alumni. Its value increases as the response rate increases, so CSES has been collaborating with WMU's colleges and the alumni association to increase awareness of the survey. The office also has updated the survey instrument and just this past April, made it conveniently available online at <www.broncojobs.wmich.edu>.

The collaboration already has resulted in enhanced services for alumni, all of whom receive a one-year complimentary membership in the WMU Alumni Association. Now, the Office of Alumni Relations also will pick up the tab so former students have access to CSES' BroncoJobs services for as long as they remain association members.
Corrections

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Sharp-eyed readers of the winter WMU Magazine spotted disparities between dates listed in the new Centennial Markers series and their own memories.)

Kate Randall Reeves of Mountain Center, Calif., is a 1952 graduate of State High. She wrote to correct an error she found on page 13 in the Centennial Marker about the trolley.

"The trolley did not stop running in 1947," Mrs. Reeves wrote in an e-mail message. "It was still running part of the time when I was in high school. My husband—also a State High grad—and I think it stopped in the winter of 1949-50 or perhaps the spring of 1950... I read once before that the trolley stopped in 1947. It didn't."

Mrs. Reeves is correct. We went back to the books and discovered that use of the trolley was discontinued for safety reasons several times, beginning in 1947. It was finally declared unsafe for even limited operation in early 1949.

Tracie Davis, B.S. '85, of South Bend, Ind., wrote in reference to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 speech at WMU, the tapes of which were rediscovered in 1998.

Dr. King spoke on campus four months after delivering his historic "I Have a Dream" speech in the nation's capital and included many of the themes from that event in his WMU address on "Social Injustice in America." The errant insertion of the word "later" in the Centenniel Marker text on page 19 gives the impression that the order of the speeches was reversed. Ms. Davis spotted the error and noted the false impression that resulted.

The editors of the WMU Magazine regret the errors, but are happy to learn that our readers care deeply and read carefully.

That access connects alumni with the University's career advisors as well as resources such as job postings and a resume referral service.

"Sometimes we work with professionals who have been employed for 15, 20 or 30 years and need to polish their resumes because of layoffs and downsizing or because they're ready for a career change," Ickes says. "It's nice because we have a lot of relationships with employers. Alumni many find a job posting, but it's the networking they're able to do once they get involved with us that often gets them into the door."

Bronco-themed bistro launched

A private restaurant group has signed an agreement with WMU to have student and faculty entertainers perform in a new downtown Kalamazoo eatery called the Union—UniverCity Cabaret & Grille.

The agreement calls for the Union to make its stage available 26 weeks of the year to WMU performers, mostly from the College of Fine Arts. During the remaining weeks, the stage will be available to local and touring performers.

The Union, located at 125 S. Burdick St., presents cabaret entertainment in a restaurant atmosphere, sports a WMU motif and offers University merchandise for sale. In addition to providing students with a new local performance venue, it provides opportunities for student employment and internships.

BTR Park bustling with activity, secures another high-tech tenant

Development of the Business Technology and Research Park on WMU's Parkview Campus is continuing at an impressive pace, with construction of the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center (above) now underway and another firm planning to move to the park.

A "Celebrating Innovation" event was held June 4 at the park to recognize the growth and early success of the innovation center, a business incubator and accelerator for life sciences firms. Highlighting the event was the public unveiling of an artist's rendering of the center's 60,000-square-foot building, which will be completed late this year.

Southwest Michigan First, a local economic development agency, organized and runs the Southwest Michigan Innovation Center. Launched in December 2000, the center is temporarily located in McCracken Hall on the WMU campus and already has six tenants, drawn from such areas as Ann Arbor, Mich., Chicago and Tacoma, Wash.

Also planning to take up residence in the park is information systems developer Granite Solutions of Portage, Mich. The 30-person firm designs high-tech business solutions as well as wide area networking systems for organizations in this country and Europe.

The 265-acre Parkview Campus, which is located just three miles south of the main
Kalamazoo campus, also will be the new home of WMU's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and its paper coating science research facility, both of which are under construction.

**Commemorative sculpture sought**

The competition is on to select an outdoor sculpture commemorating the University's 100th anniversary. WMU alumni who are professionally engaged in creating large-scale sculptures were invited to submit proposals for the project by May 1.

A panel of art professionals has screened the submissions of existing and proposed works and selected four finalists. A campus sculpture committee composed of members of the Department of Art and representatives of the Centennial Celebration Committee will make the final award.

The successful applicant will receive a commission of up to $20,000 to pay for fabrication of their work, artist fees and delivery costs. The winning sculpture, which will become part of the University's permanent art collection, will be announced this coming November and dedicated in October 2003 during Homecoming weekend.

**Race, ethnic relations institute marks new beginning, solicits donations of research materials**

The Lewis Walker Institute for Race and Ethnic Relations, established in 1990, marked a new beginning March 27 with a recognition ceremony and reception.

The event reaffirmed the institute's emphasis on research and its role in helping to synchronize WMU's international and multicultural activities. It also paid tribute to institute co-founder Dr. Lewis Walker, former chairperson and professor emeritus of the Department of Sociology. The institute was named in his honor in 2000.

One of the Walker institute's key ongoing activities is developing a library of research materials on race and ethnic relations within and outside of the United States. Donations of items such as textbooks, journals, ethnic newspapers, photographs, and audio and video tapes may be made by calling the institute at (269) 387-2141.

Part of what will go into the library is being written by the institute's nearly three dozen fellows and research associates. Drawn from across the WMU faculty, these scholars are engaged in conducting a variety of research projects and reporting their findings. Additionally, Dr. Arthur Helweg, professor of anthropology, is co-editing a 30-volume book series called "Discovering the Peoples of Michigan." Published by Michigan State University, it features works from several WMU faculty.

**Letters to the editor**

(Editor's Note: Writer Mark Schwerin's piece in the winter WMU Magazine on the University's campus school elicited a variety of comments from readers, as did the Centennial Markers noting events in WMU's past. The following are excerpts.)

I very much enjoyed the write-up about our wonderful school [State High] in the recent issue. Our class [1952] graduated 83, and I believe all of us went on to higher education.

We have been told that one reason the training school closed was that it was not a realistic milieu for student teachers. While our student body encompassed all economic strata, it was almost 100 percent composed of "over achievers." When the poor student teachers got into a "real" classroom, they were not usually faced with students clamoring for extra-credit work and expecting college-level instruction.

Kate Randall Reeves
Mountain Center, Calif.

I have just received the winter issue of WMU Magazine. What memories it has stirred.

I was a student in 1949 and in the first class of art ed majors to attend classes in the new art department on the third floor of McCracken Hall. Until that time, the department had been housed in "temporary" barracks on the East Campus since the first World War.

Lydia Siedschlag was head of the department for many years. It was her guidance that did the interior design of many of the "new" buildings on the West Campus, Kanley Chapel being one of those. Much of the furniture was designed by her and constructed by Michigan prison inmates. Besides Miss Paden's classes designing the chapel windows, Mr. Harry Hefner's Advanced Design classes carved the wood blocks inset in the ends of the pews.

N. E. Slack
WMU professor emeritus
Kalamazoo
“Idlewild is a microcosm of the larger U.S. society. It is emblematic of the collective history of a people who have faced insurmountable odds, yet survived; a people who have made enormous contributions to the growth and development of a nation, yet are despised by many because of the color of their skin.”
—Lewis Walker, “Black Eden” co-author

A place to call their own
Idlewild, a resort haven for African Americans, was a dream created by white entrepreneurs. In 1912, the Branch brothers, Adelbert and Erastus, purchased former logging land in Lake County with the intention of starting a resort specifically for blacks. They rightly believed that African Americans, who at the time had few other resort or vacation options, would be hungry for land and that the ownership of a piece of resort property would be evidence that they had achieved the American Dream. Enlisting the financial

Continued on page 8

The Hotel Casa Blanca is an icon of what Idlewild was and has become.

Years ago, the once-grand hotel was a jewel in this small community nestled among five lakes and the pinewoods of Lake County in Michigan’s central Lower Peninsula.

But now, an overgrowth of pine trees obscures the entrance to the two-story brick and stucco building. The balconies that wrapped around the upper level have collapsed and lie in heaps of timber and stone. Rotting furniture and debris block the front door.

Despite its derelict appearance, the Hotel Casa Blanca is symbolic of another side of Idlewild—its hope.

Like the town, the hotel still stands, despite the ravages of time and neglect. While some advocate razing the structure, those committed to Idlewild say the building, like the town, is inherently solid and too important to let slip away.

Two of these advocates are Western Michigan University professors Drs. Ben C. Wilson and Lewis Walker, who chronicle Idlewild’s rapid rise and decline in their book “Black Eden,” published in February by Michigan State University Press.

On a chilly day in May amid Idlewild’s nearly empty streets, it’s hard to see it as anything other than another rural community struggling for continued existence against
economic and social odds. But Wilson and Walker say Idlewild's rich history and significance in African American culture sets it apart and makes its survival critically important.

**Becoming the 'Black Eden'**

Nearly 90 years ago in a segregated America, Idlewild was created as a resort specifically for blacks. From 1912 to the mid-1960s, it was the most popular black resort in the Midwest, a mecca for African Americans who flocked to its cabins, cottages and clubs each summer to escape racism and urban life. In addition to canoeing, swimming, fishing, picnicking and horseback riding, the town boasted entertainment by the best black performers of the times, including Sammy Davis Jr., Della Reese and Louis Armstrong. Among its vacationers were such black luminaries as Charles Chestnutt, Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, Joe Louis and W.E.B. Du Bois.

"Idlewild was more than a place," says Wilson, director of WMU's Africana Studies Program. "It was the African Americans' salvation. It became known as the Black Eden. As many as 25,000 people would come up there during the height of the summer season and its clubs, juke joints and bars became a finishing school for those who became heavies in the black music culture, like Fats Waller, B.B. King, the Four Tops, Aretha Franklin and Stevie Wonder."

In the 1960s, however, Idlewild was changed by the same forces that reshaped American civil rights. The abolishment of Jim Crow laws, which had barred African Americans from such public places as restaurants and hotels, was debilitating to Idlewild. New vacation options opened to blacks, who could now frequent the same resorts, beaches and hotels as whites. The town's decline was further fueled by the deaths of pivotal civic leaders and a dearth of young men and women to take their places. Over the next three decades, Idlewild transformed from stardust boomtown into a rural community with a dwindling population and high rates of unemployment, welfare dependency and poverty.

"As the key players in Idlewild began to die, the young people who hadn't left weren't trained to pick up the baton," says Wilson. "The lack of dynamic black leadership to take over many of the family-run businesses had as crippling an effect on the community as integration did."

Idlewild is a quiet place now. Its streets are traveled by an occasional car headed to the post office or five miles down the road to Baldwin, where the nearest grocery store and gas stations are. Many of the establishments that housed and entertained tourists were long ago abandoned and torn
assistance of others, including Wilbur Lemon of Chicago, the Branches carved out plats and sold 25-by-100 lots for the sum of $35, targeting the "best class of colored." Soon, prosperous African Americans came by bus and train from urban areas, including Chicago and Detroit, to check out the "Black Eden" hawked by Idlewild's black salespersons in their communities. Among successful salesmen was Charlie Gass, who even sold the properties from his stand as a shoeshine man at the Grand Rapids Pantlind Hotel. One of the biggest draws to Idlewild was the presence of Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, the most influential black in the field of medicine and the first man to operate successfully on a human heart. Williams bought a large tract of land, selling most of it to friends, associates and fellow professionals. His highly visible presence in Idlewild and his promotion of its attributes to others had a tremendous impact on the resort's success.

Performers fueled Idlewild's popularity
By 1927, more than 17,000 lots had been sold. But the Branches and Lemon knew that a resort was much more than land. In 1926, Lemon created the first carnival and Chautauqua at Idlewild, a forbearer of the enormously popular entertainment scene that continued on page 34

down. The lakes' shores are dotted by cottages, many boarded up and awaiting the arrival of their summertime inhabitants.

Despite its bucolic appearance, however, Idlewild and its residents are engaged in a battle to keep the community from becoming irrelevant.

It's a battle that has been embraced by Wilson since he was first drawn to Idlewild as a Michigan State University graduate student studying the state's African American communities. The town's relevance to black American history and culture sparked an academic passion he has carried throughout his career. Years later, Walker caught Idlewild fever from his colleague, and the two began a four-year investigation into the geographic, social, political and historical aspects of the community.

"Idlewild represents an aspect of the Black Experience that has not been as well explained as other parts of black life," says Walker, who retired from WMU in 1999. "Its rise to prominence as a stage for renowned black entertainers, the environment for thousands of vacationers, its rapid decline and its struggle to survive all recommended Idlewild as a prime candidate for a socio-historical investigation."

That investigation included an examination of the social forces that brought Idlewild to its present-day status as well as a look at efforts taken and still needed to help Idlewild thrive once again.

Revitalizing a community
"I don't think Idlewild's survival is an essential issue at this juncture in its existence—it has survived for 90 years. However, it is the quality of survival," notes Walker. "Arguably it will not regain the highly popular status it once had because the social conditions that made that popularity possible no longer exist. Idlewild will have to embrace other opportunities that will move it closer to once again being a showcase community in Michigan."

Bill McClure, owner and operator of Idlewild's Red Rooster Lounge, agrees. McClure, who hails from Indianapolis, has been coming to Idlewild for 38 years and, after retiring eight years ago, made it his official second home. He is the initiator of Idlewild's Coalition of Concerned Citizens.

"Idlewild is not just a resort. It's a community with a resort component," says McClure. "The resort idea built the community, but the community is what exists now."

Part of that community, however, is absent. A number of Idlewild's properties are abandoned and on the delinquent tax rolls. Some owners of property may have inherited the land and not even know they possess it or see no value in keeping it.

As a result, the community is witnessing a shift in land ownership. Much of the forsaken property has gone to tax

Continued on page 34
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**2002**

**september**
- 22 Tony Bennett
- 24-29 Robert Goulet starring in Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific

**october**
- 1-2 Swing
- 4 Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago
- 20 Russian Red Army Chorus and Dance Ensemble
- 24 Randy Travis
- 25-27 Fosse

**november**
- 2 Franklin's Class Concert
- 3 Herbie Hancock Quartet
- 5-10 Miss Saigon
- 16 Doc Severinsen and His Big Band
- 22 The Four Tops & The O'Jays
- 23 Tim Conway & Don Knotts with special guest Louise DuArt

**december**
- 1 Vienna Choir Boys Christmas
- 4 Oak Ridge Boys Christmas
- 7 Boston Pops Christmas
- 17 Sing Along Santa

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**2003**

**january**
- 5 Tom Chapin
- 18 Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance
- 21-26 Disney's Beauty & The Beast

**february**
- 1 Gold Company
- 5-9 Jesus Christ Superstar
- 16 Doo Wop Dreams
- 21 Hal Holbrook in Mark Twain Tonight

**march**
- 9 Dublin's Irish Cabaret
- 23 London City Opera: Madame Butterfly
- 26 Twyla Tharp Dance Company: Cats
- 28-30

**april**
- 1 Sir James Galway
- 12 Mark Russell
- 15 Gallagher
- 25 & 27 Urban Bush Women Presents: Shadow's Child

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**may**
- 1-4 Cathy Rigby
- Seussical, The Musical

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With the city running hot with playoff fever, the May 2 *Detroit Free Press* front-page headline diagnosed sports fans' happy quandary…

"You make the call: Pistons or Wings?"

Neither, answered some 200 Metro Detroit movers and shakers. Instead of cheering on the Red Wings at Joe Louis Arena or the Pistons at the Palace, the crowd of WMU alumni spent that crisp spring evening in an empty Comerica Park with a *baseball* man.

Their host: distinguished WMU alum Dave Dombrowski, the new president of the Detroit Tigers, a guy who had anything but a distinguished spring.

His dismal Tigers had the night off as Dombrowski stood before his WMU peers at the WMU Alumni Association-sponsored event. The team needed rest, having climbed back to a 9-17 record after an 0-11 start. Commentators had plenty of hee-hees at the Old English "D," as the Tigers continually bumbled through the start of their third season.
in a gleaming, immense and mostly empty ballpark in downtown Motown.

"The good news is a Tiger pitcher tossed a no-hitter the other night," Jay Lerro cracked in mid-April. "The bad news is it was during batting practice."

*Detroit News* columnist Joe Falls piled on a couple days later. "Here is Wednesday night's crowd at Comerica Park: Dan, Peter, Ruthie, Sonny, Mary, Kevin and Mike. That's just the left-field seats."

So Dombrowski sounded like he was coming from left field when he guaranteed his WMU audience we would rebuild a winner in Comerica Park.

"We will turn this franchise around," Dombrowski promised. "I won't rest until we can fill this ballpark every single night."

He learned long ago—at WMU—how to make the impossible happen.

In the late 1970s, Dombrowski was just another college kid who found he couldn't live up to the American boyhood dream of playing in the big leagues. He transferred to WMU from Cornell in 1975. Legendary Bronco baseball coach Fred Decker promptly told him he wasn't good enough to play for the team.

"He gave me notice I better start my front office career very quickly," Dombrowski says.

Baseball was just turning into big business. The honors college student and accounting major wanted a career in the game but didn't have any idea how to get one. So Dombrowski turned puzzlement into opportunity and researched front office jobs for his senior honors thesis, a paper called "The General Manager, the Man in the Middle." He worked out deals with professors so he could end the semester early and hop on a plane for Major League Baseball's winter management meetings in Honolulu. He knocked on doors, did odd jobs like guarding New York Yankees manager Billy Martin's boom box, and eventually landed an administrative assistant position with the Chicago White Sox. He became an expert talent scout and steadily worked his way up the pecking order of professional sports management.

Now, almost a quarter-century after that WMU honors thesis, Dombrowski is one of the most valued executives in baseball. He was Major League Executive of the Year in 1990 as general manager of the Montreal Expos. In 1997, he led the Florida Marlins to a World Series championship in only the team's fifth season. He's a millionaire who had several great job prospects before taking the Tigers' helm and moving from sunny Florida to Detroit just in time for last winter. Three things drew him: the Tigers' great (if somewhat dusty) tradition, a great ballpark and the great challenge of turning around a team without a winning record since 1993.

"There's one person who really guided me through this. What he did for me gave me as much opportunity as anybody," Dombrowski told the alumni as he pointed to the back of the Tiger Club where a 64-year-old WMU accounting professor stood alone near a spread of munchies. "It was being lucky enough to pursue your dream and having someone guide you. Dave Rozelle, I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Rozelle's face turned red with pride. Moments like that one, when a mentor's impact shines through in former students at the top of their games in the business world, are "why you do it all your life," the professor acknowledges. He will begin his 33rd year of teaching at WMU in September.

"It wasn't hard to tell Dave to go after his dream because he held it so strongly," Rozelle remembers. "He was unflappable. He was going to do it."

So, Tigers fans, when trying to envision how Michigan's boys of summer will ever turn it around, the accounting professor suggests trusting in Dombrowski's past.

"He's not setting himself up to fail," Rozelle said. "This will be a competitive team."

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*Story by John Bebow—John Bebow is a reporter at the Detroit News and a 1990 alumnus of WMU.*
*Images courtesy of Darron R. Silva and the Detroit Tigers Inc.*
or call the WMU Alumni Association at (269) 387-8777 to obtain ticket and registration information for constituent society events. Be sure to regularly check the Web for additional Homecoming news as well as event updates.

**Major Events for Alumni!**

*See the insert in this WMU Magazine for ticket prices and a registration form.*

- **Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner**
  - Friday, Oct. 11, 6:30 p.m.
  - Bernhard Center, WMU
  - Sponsored by the WMU Alumni Association

- **Homecoming PepFest**
  - Saturday, Oct. 12, 11 a.m.
  - Hyames Field, WMU
  - Sponsored by the WMU Alumni Association

**Alumni Association Constituent Societies**

- **Golden Apple Awards Dinner**
  - Friday, Oct. 11, 6 p.m.
  - Fetzer Center, WMU
  - Sponsored by the College of Education Alumni Society

- **Annual Homecoming Dance**
  - Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 p.m.
  - Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo
  - Sponsored by the Onyx Society

- **WIDR-FM 50th Anniversary Celebration**
  - Saturday, Oct. 12, 6 p.m.
  - Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo
  - Sponsored by the WIDR Alumni Society
Distinguished Alumni Award winners announced for 2002

The 2002 recipients of the WMU Alumni Association's prestigious Distinguished Alumni Award are A. John Daniel, M.A. '70, of Durban, South Africa; Huey D. Johnson, B.A. '56, of Mill Valley, Calif.; and James Leisenring, MBA '64, of Ridgefield, Conn.

Daniel became research director last year for the Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa's national social sciences research facility. Previously, the noted scholar was chairperson and professor of political science at the University of Durban-Westville. A longtime activist opposing apartheid, he was prevented from returning to his homeland in South Africa until 1993 and subsequently served on that country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission as a senior researcher and key report writer.

Huey D. Johnson is the founder and president of the San Francisco-based Resource Renewal Institute, which helps advance sustainable worldwide development through the promotion of comprehensive "green" plans. He has worked in the corporate, governmental and nonprofit sectors and in 2001, received the United Nations Environment Programme Sasakawa Environment Prize, considered by many to be the world's highest environmental award.

Leisenring was a member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board from 1982 to 2001, serving 12 years as vice chairman and most recently focusing on international accounting issues. He left the FASB, the designated private-sector organization for establishing standards of financial accounting and reporting, to join the International Accounting Standards Board. Earlier in his career, he was a partner and director of accounting and auditing for Bristol, Leisenring, Herkner & Co. in Battle Creek, Mich., now part of Plante and Moran.

Rallies set for Big Ten games

The Office of Alumni Relations, Development Office and Division of Intercollegiate Athletics are designating rallying places where Bronco football fans may congregate prior to this fall's two road games against Big Ten opponents.

For the University of Michigan contest Saturday, Sept. 7, alumni and friends may start gathering two hours before kickoff at a tent on the U of M golf course in Ann Arbor, Mich. For the Purdue University contest the following Saturday, a site will be designated in West Lafayette, Ind.

Keep checking the WMU Alumni Association Web site at <www.wmich.edu/alumni> for information updates. To obtain game tickets, call the alumni relations office at (269) 387-8777 or visit the Alumni Association Web site.

Alumni Association elects leaders

Seventeen officers, executive committee members and directors have been elected to terms on the Western Michigan University Alumni Association Board of Directors. The new board members took office July 1.

"We're delighted with the leadership and commitment of these loyal alumni," says M. Jamie Jeremy, executive director of the WMU Alumni Association. "We're grateful for their service to the University, its alumni association and their fellow graduates."

Serving as officers for 2002-03 will be: president, Julie Harris, B.S. '86, a partner in Diamond Cluster International in Chicago, Ill; vice president, Kenneth Miller, BBA '69, MBA '70, executive vice president of Havirco in Kalamazoo; treasurer, Dale Tanis, BBA '74, MBA '84, chief financial officer/senior vice president of finance at the Irwin Seating Co. in Grand Rapids, Mich.; and past president, Nolan Fischer, BBA '69, senior consultant at Franklin Covey in Stamford, Conn.

Showing a school’s true colors

During the 1904-05 academic year, the school colors of brown and gold were first selected by a faculty committee and recommended to the administration. The colors were reportedly inspired by the brown-eyed Susans that grew in abundance on Prospect Hill. By April 1905, the Kalamazoo Telegraph was reporting that Western’s school colors were brown and gold.

College of Arts and Sciences

Anthropologist locates site of escaped slave settlement

A University anthropologist and his team have found evidence of a 19th-century settlement in Southwest Michigan known as Ramptown that was once home to escaped slaves. Armed with a $21,000 grant from the state and the Michigan Historical Center, Dr. Michael Nassaney, associate professor of anthropology, and students in WMU’s 2002 Archaeological Field School dug up evidence that not only verified Ramptown’s existence, but also indicated that, contrary to popular belief, Ramptown wasn’t located at a single site. Instead, Ramptown consisted of a number of cabins and residences spread out over a wide area of Cass County near Vandalia, Mich.

Ramptown disappeared more than a century ago. This spring, the WMU team surveyed a number of possible sites, looking for and finding traces of domestic households. Most of those sites were located in agricultural fields being plowed in preparation for planting, which made the search for artifacts a little easier.

The team found pottery shards and ceramics that are contemporaneous with Ramptown’s time period as well as nails and bricks. The artifacts were scattered over a number of sites, consistent with the patterns of sharecropper settlements found in the South.

Famed Prague creative writing program finds home at WMU

The University has taken the reins of a premier summer creative writing program conducted in the Czech Republic.

The Prague Summer Program, which is the new moniker for what writers and those in literary circles have known for the last decade as the Prague Summer Seminars, has officially become part of WMU, which is administering the 2002 Prague Summer Program.

The program is an annual, intensive creative writing study abroad experience that gives approximately 100 writers the opportunity to be closely mentored by some of the biggest literary names from the United States and Central and Eastern Europe. Participants travel to Prague for two- and four-week periods, during which they work with established writers.

The program moved to WMU from the University of the New Orleans, where it had been administered since its creation in 1992.

Ethics Bowl team again places in top 10 in national competition

A team of WMU students placed ninth out of 36 colleges and universities competing recently at the Eighth Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl in Cincinnati.

WMU has competed in the national Ethics Bowl competition every year since its inception in 1994, consistently placing in the top 10. The competition requires students to defend their positions on ethical questions related to a variety of areas, including medicine, law, government policy and communication.

This year, WMU competed in preliminary rounds against North Carolina State University, Texas Wesleyan University and the U.S. Air Force Academy. Only eight teams could advance to subsequent rounds, and WMU missed qualifying for the final round by just two points.

The team’s faculty sponsors are Dr. Sandra Borden, assistant professor of communication, and Dr. Insoo Hyun, assistant professor of philosophy.

www.wmich.edu/cas
Sky Broncos soar to first-place finish in national championship

The Sky Broncos captured first place in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association’s national championship May 14-18 at Ohio State University.

The 15-member team, won the national ride, its first since 1998, by beating 26 other teams from around the nation. Ken Rosengren, B.S. '02, took “top pilot” honors at the event.

The Sky Broncos earned a berth in the national competition after finishing first in regional competition held on the College of Aviation’s home turf at W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek, Mich.

Mesaba Airlines inks new deal with College of Aviation

Northwest Airlink’s Mesaba Airlines has expanded its relationship with the College of Aviation, signing a new agreement with the college that will put even more WMU graduates on the fast track to employment as Mesaba flight officers.

A Mesaba official traveled to the college’s flight facilities in April to sign a new agreement that will allow graduates to fulfill the airline’s multiengine flight time requirement for pilot candidates by completing the University’s Jet Orientation Course. That intense four-week course, which is conducted on the college’s Boeing 737-type flight-training device, has been offered at WMU for the past 18 months.

To have an inside track in hiring the highest caliber pilots available, Mesaba launched a “bridge training and hiring program” with the college three years ago and has hired more than 30 alumni since the first agreement was signed.

British scholarships bring flight training for handicapped to WMU

A British scholarship program, named for a legendary World War II pilot who was a double amputee, is bringing three students to the College of Aviation this summer for a six-week training regimen.

The three are recipients of the Royal International Air Tattoo Flying School Scholarships for the Disabled. The prestigious scholarships were established in 1983 in memory of Sir Douglas Bader, famed Royal Air Force flying ace and squadron commander who downed 23 enemy planes during the war, undeterred by the loss of both legs in a crash that occurred early in his flying career.

British guild sends aerospace engineer to WMU for pilot training

Medieval guild traditions gave a nod to 21st-century American technology last winter when a young British aerospace engineer arrived at the College of Aviation for pilot training.

Daniel Fonseca, a Munich-based design team member with British Aerospace, was selected as the recipient of the 2002 J.N. Somers Scholarship by Great Britain’s Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators. The prestigious scholarship covered the cost of Fonseca’s commercial flight training at WMU, which began in February.

The move marks the first time the guild, which is patterned on a medieval trade guild, has opted to send one of its scholarship recipients to the United States for training.

www.aviation.wmich.edu
Building for the future

In 1929, Walwood Hall and Dormitory for Women was completed and named for then-President Dwight Waldo and Leslie Wood, the school's first natural sciences teacher and an early proponent of faculty research. Wood Hall would later be named for the latter educator, who was one of WMU's original nine faculty members until his untimely death in 1933. Renovated in 1992, the building now is the site of administrative offices for University professionals in alumni affairs, development, research and public relations as well as home to the Graduate College, the Medieval Institute and the School of Public Affairs and Administration.

College News

Haworth College of Business

Students form company to stage spring Bronco Sports Experience

The ultimate hands-on learning experience culminated in April for 32 business students when they staged the 2002 Bronco Sports Experience.

The students, mostly seniors majoring in advertising and promotion or marketing, were picked from some 100 applicants to enroll in Event Planning, a course that consists of conceiving, planning and executing an event. In their first weeks they formed and named their company, Evention, creating letterhead and business cards, and dreaming up the Bronco Sports Experience, an introduction to WMU sports teams. Featuring food, entertainment, games and prizes, the event took place at Waldo Stadium before the Brown and Gold Spring Game, an annual intra-squad football scrimmage.

The course, the brainchild of Dr. Andrew Brogowicz, chairperson of the Department of Marketing, requires students to operate as if they were working in a real advertising and promotions agency.

State Farm bolsters financial planning services instruction

State Farm Insurance Co. has contributed $25,000 to support instruction in financial planning services at the University.

"State Farm's generosity is crucial in helping us develop our curriculum in the important area of financial planning," says Dr. James W. Schmotter, college dean. "The company is investing intellectually as well as financially in our efforts. Our students and business stakeholders will be the beneficiaries of this investment by State Farm."

One-half of the State Farm contribution is providing $12,500 in annual support for the State Farm Professor of Financial Services in the Department of Finance and Commercial Law. An additional $6,000 will support three scholarships for minority students pursuing studies in the area of financial planning services. The gift also will support a State Farm Executive-on-Loan, who will serve as an adjunct professor in the business college, and a State Farm Insurance and Financial Services Executive-in-Residence program. Executives-in-residence will spend two to four days each on campus engaged in workshops and round-table discussions with students.

Industry experts, leaders headline annual March food marketing event

Are grocery stores, distributors and food manufacturers really paying attention to what consumers want? That question was on the docket in March when the University played host to the 37th annual Food Marketing Conference.

The CEOs of 7-Eleven and the Kellogg Co., along with the author of "The Myth of Excellence" and an analyst known as the Supermarket Guru, headlined the gathering at the Bernhard Center. More than 500 food industry executives from around the nation attended the conference.

The annual Food Marketing Conference is sponsored by the Food Marketing Program and Sigma Phi Omega, a professional business fraternity.

www.hcob.wmich.edu
$2.2 million grant awarded to train tech-savvy teachers

The University is part of a statewide effort to better train teachers to use technology, an initiative that is being supported by a $2.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The partnership, known as COATT—the Consortium for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching with Technology—is aimed at making Michigan first in the nation when it comes to preparing teachers to use technology to enhance student learning. The University is among 17 Michigan colleges and universities and several K-12 organizations taking part in the project.

“COATT allows our students the opportunity to go further with their technology skills and demonstrate an even greater level of proficiency with their exceptional capabilities,” says Dr. Alonzo Hannaford, associate dean of the College of Education.

The three-year grant is being channeled through “Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology,” a federal initiative intended to improve the quality of preparation given to new teachers before they enter the profession. The COATT money is one of several “catalyst grants” given to projects designed to achieve large-scale institutional change.

The new COATT funding will be used to significantly improve the technology experience students receive during their practice teaching assignments, particularly those students whose assignments are in schools serving low-income children.

College curriculum gets green light from education agency

The National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education has given the college its seal of approval by continuing the University’s accreditation. Nationally, NCATE accredits 525 institutions, which, collectively, produce about two-thirds of all U.S. teacher graduates each year.

WMU annually sends upward of 800 new educators into classrooms throughout the country. Last winter, a record 500-plus WMU pre-service teachers were assigned to schools throughout southwest Michigan.

By completing their studies at an NCATE-accredited institution, these new teachers will emerge from WMU with an understanding of student diversity, in-depth knowledge of the subject matter they plan to teach and the skills necessary to convey content so that their students learn.

At the same time, the designation ensures that WMU is meeting rigorous performance-oriented standards embraced by the profession and the public. As part of the accreditation process, members of the NCATE site review team scrutinized student performance and competence and examined WMU’s partnerships with public school districts, the faculty’s ability to model effective teaching practices and ways it is helping new teachers meet high educational technology standards.

Sangren saves the day

In 1935, just a year before taking the reins as Western’s second president, Paul Sangren was credited with keeping the school alive in the face of gubernatorial and Legislative pressure to close because of the state’s Depression-era financial problems. State appropriations to Western were cut in half from 1928 to 1934, causing a 20 percent cut in the size of the faculty and dramatic pay reductions for everyone. A Jan. 30 vote by the Michigan Senate was set to determine the school’s future, but Sangren’s impressive marshaling of facts and opinions from the nation’s leading educators swayed the Senate committee sent to Kalamazoo to investigate the desirability of closing the school. The vote failed and Western survived to see Dean of Administration Sangren receive President Dwight Waldo’s endorsement as his successor.
During World War II, Western threw itself into the war effort and became a training center to prepare mechanics for the war industries, pilots and officers for military units. V-5 naval cadets prepared for aviation roles, while V-12 marine and naval officer candidates studied a range of academic subjects, including physics, chemistry, navigation, engineering and mathematics. In all, more than 900 men ... were stationed on campus, transforming the campus from fall 1942 through fall 1945.

Engineering lauds 50 years of support from local company
A scholarship award marking the 50th consecutive year of a Kalamazoo company's support for engineering students was celebrated in a special ceremony in April.
Clausing Industrial Inc. was recognized for its outstanding support of the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and WMU during the department's annual Student Recognition and Awards Luncheon. Special guests that appeared at the presentation included Clausing President Bill Nancarrow and WMU President Elson S. Floyd.
This year's award of the 2002 Clausing Scholarship marks the 50th consecutive year one or more students from the department has benefited from the generosity of Clausing Industrial. The scholarship was first awarded in 1953 when it was known as the Atlas Press Scholarship. Atlas Press became Clausing Industrial in the late 1960s and the scholarship has been known as the Clausing Scholarship ever since.
WMU's relationship with Clausing extends back to 1916 when the University purchased the Eames Mill from Atlas Press founders George Eames and Jason Penniman. The Eames Mill housed the Department of Manual Arts from 1916 until 1921. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences evolved from the Department of Manual Arts.

Eight student teams from the college were asked to think about how people behave in their vehicles and then envision and create the interior and cargo interior and cargo space for a sport utility vehicle for the 2006 model year. Throughout the project, Johnson Controls' industrial designers provided expert advice, direction and support to the design teams.
The top three design teams were invited to Johnson Controls' Holland Technical Center to present their projects. The teams were selected because of their high level of design creativity, value-added features, practicality and workmanship.

College launches new honors group for engineering standouts
The college launched a new engineering honorary last winter when the Delta Michigan chapter of Tau Alpha Pi, the national honor society for engineering technology, held its membership initiation ceremony on campus.

WMU industrial design students envision cars of the future
Johnson Controls Inc., a leading global manufacturer of automotive interior systems, challenged 26 WMU juniors majoring in industrial design to turn the results of their research into design ideas for a vehicle of the future.

From left, Dr. Mike Atkins, Dean Dan Litynski, initiate Peter Nelson, and Dr. Alamgir Choudhury

Tau Alpha Pi members consist of the top-performing students in the engineering technology programs. Twelve students comprised the society's first class of WMU members. Faculty advisors for Tau Alpha Pi are Drs. Alamgir Choudhury and Sam Ramrattan of the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering.
**Dutch artist uses chainsaws to sculpt latest work for campus tour**

A new, innovative piece of sculpture took shape in April, becoming the latest addition to the University's critically acclaimed Sculpture Tour.

Artist Mari Shields, who has lived in Amsterdam since 1972, but who was born in Maine and maintains dual citizenship in the United States and the Netherlands, visited the campus to sculpt the piece from several large trees by using chainsaws, a crane and other heavy equipment. The piece is now on display on the southwest side of Waldo Library near Kanley Chapal. Her work drew the attention of area television stations, which sent camera crews to shoot footage of Shields carrying out the project.

Shields' sculpture has been attracting attention the world over. Her pieces have been added to public collections in the Netherlands and are currently on semipermanent loan in the United States to Wendall Sculpture Park in Urbana, Ill., the Franconia Sculpture Park in Shafer, Minn., the Plattsburgh Museum of Art in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and Sycamore City Park in Sycamore, Ill. Her work also has been featured annually in Pier Walk exhibitions in Chicago at the Field Museum, Daly Center and Navy Pier since 1997 and at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C.

**Professor awarded commission, is praised by N.Y. Times critic**

Dr. Curtis Curtis-Smith once again is hitting high notes.

The Fromm Music Foundation of Harvard University has awarded a coveted commission to the School of Music professor to create new works. The foundation is presenting Curtis-Smith $10,000 to compose a set of 24 preludes for piano.

The news comes as Curtis-Smith's compositions are winning kudos in high places. New York pianist Bruce Levingston premiered several of Curtis-Smith's recently composed "Twelve Etudes for Piano" during an April 1 concert in Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. The etudes were warmly praised in a review of the concert in the New York Times.

**Violin student receives first $24,000 Rhea Fetzer Scholarship**

A violinist from Delaware, Ohio, is the first of four WMU students to receive a four-year $24,000 scholarship, thanks to a multiyear gift from the Fetzer Institute of Kalamazoo.

Freshman Kristen Tanner is the first recipient of the Rhea Yeager Fetzer Music Scholarship for students pursuing studies in string instruments—violin, viola, cello or double bass—in the School of Music. She will receive $6,000 toward each of four years of undergraduate study. Additional four-year scholarships will be awarded to incoming string music major in each of the next three years.

The institute established the scholarships as part of its 2001 celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of institute founder John E. Fetzer. Rhea was Fetzer's wife.

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**A mecca for medievalists materializes in May**

In 1962, 150 scholars gathered at WMU for the first Conference on Medieval Studies. That small gathering has grown into the annual International Congress on Medieval Studies that each May attracts nearly 3,000 scholars from two dozen countries around the globe. Scholars from the British Library and the Vatican join monks from France and museum curators from Tokyo to discuss every aspect of life in the middle ages. For scholars around the world, the names WMU and Kalamazoo have become synonymous with the term "medieval studies." This year marked the 37th time the congress was held at WMU.
In August 1970, the University honored the three Apollo 13 astronauts with honorary doctor of science degrees, just four months after their ill-fated lunar landing mission. John Swiggert Jr., James Lovell Jr. and Fred Haise Jr., whose brush with death was recounted in the 1995 movie "Apollo 13," came to campus for the ceremony. Then-President James Miller praised the trio for "proving to the world that man is master of the machine and not a slave to it, a concept which much of our blasé world elects to ignore."

Ted Kennedy Jr. helps college celebrate silver anniversary
A Kennedy family scion who has devoted his career to being an advocate for the civil rights of people with disabilities headlined an April 12 gala celebrating the college's 25th anniversary.

Ted Kennedy Jr., who currently practices law in New Haven, Conn., was the keynote speaker at a dinner celebration at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo. Some 250 community leaders, University administrators, and health and human service professionals, as well as WMU alumni, faculty and staff, attended.

Dr. Janet I. Pisaneschi, dean of the college, presided over the evening's activities. Other highlights of the celebration included recognition of 24 outstanding alumni from among the college's seven academic units. Those honored included professionals who enjoy national reputations.

Kennedy delivered the college's annual Burian lecture, named for the late William A. Burian, who became the first dean of the college when it was established in 1976.

Community health nursing professional to fill endowed chair
A health care professional with a wide-ranging, community health nursing background has been selected as the first person to fill the Bernardine M. Lacey Endowed Chair in the Bronson School of Nursing.

Dr. Joyce E. Beebe-Thompson, associate dean of graduate studies and professional development and a professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, will begin her duties in the fall. She holds the highest elected office worldwide for a midwife as director of the board of management of the International Confederation of Midwives.

Beebe-Thompson enjoys a reputation as a national leader on some of the pressing issues facing the nursing profession. In June, she was featured on the CBS news program "60 Minutes," in a lengthy one-on-one interview with newswoman Lesley Stahl about this nation's critical and growing shortage of nurses as well as U.S. attempts to recruit trained nursing professionals from other countries.

Alliance for Community Supports gets new state grant funding
The Alliance for Community Supports, an organization composed of the college's Center for Disability Services, MRC Industries Inc. and Residential Opportunities Inc., has received $240,000 in grants from the Michigan Department of Community Health as part of the department's Long Term Care Project.

The Alliance will use the grants to serve senior citizens with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and aging adults with life-long disabilities through its Alliance Senior Day Services program. Another $60,000 in matching grants will come from local sources.

The program is designed to help families care for a relative who may display behaviors that are disruptive while also helping people with life-long disabilities who are aging.
2002 Homecoming PepFest

Return to campus
Oct. 11-12

Blast from the Past!

Sponsored by:
WMU Alumni Association

WMU
Rekindle fond memories of your college days by returning to campus Friday and Saturday, Oct. 11 and 12, for Homecoming Weekend and making the WMU Alumni Association’s Homecoming PepFest the focal point of your activities on Oct. 12.

PepFest will take place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in a large tent village at Hyames Field—right next to Waldo Stadium. Attending this growing annual event will be a terrific way to experience the 2002 Homecoming theme of “A Blast from the Past: WMU Through the Decades.”

Filled with fun, food and Bronco spirit, PepFest is the perfect place to reunite with old friends and gear up for the Bronco’s first gridiron contest against the University of Central Florida Golden Knights, the newest football team to join the Mid-American Conference.

If the weather cooperates, you’ll also be treated to a special display of vintage cars from the Gilmore Classic Car Club Museum. And come with an appetite. The PepFest menu will include hamburgers, veggie burgers, bratwursts, potato salad, baked beans, fresh cut vegetables, fresh cut fruit and beverages.

The festivities

Look for the signs and gather together with alumni from your era at the “decade tables” under the big PepFest tent. While you’re reminiscing and reliving yesteryear, you’ll be able to:

- Visit with academic college deans and representatives
- Check out the alumni association’s constituent societies
- Revive cherished traditions
- Buy fantastic merchandise from the WMU Bookstore
- Enjoy fabulous food
- Listen to live music

Costs and parking

Making arrangements to join in the festivities couldn’t be simpler—just use the form in this insert. In addition to being able to roam the PepFest tent village for free, you have the option of purchasing meal tickets only or tickets for the meal and good seats for the football game.

Meal-only tickets cost $10 for members of the Alumni Association ($8 for children age 12 and under) and $12 for nonmembers ($10 for children age 12 and under). The adult PepFest meal/game package costs just $25 for members, a $9 savings compared to the $34 charge for nonmembers. For the child meal/game package, you pay just $23 compared to $32 for nonmembers.

Convenient parking will be available in the Lawson Ice Arena parking lot for a fee. As soon as the fee is set, it will be listed on the Homecoming Web site. Free shuttle service from Lawson to Hyames Field will start at 10 a.m. Saturday.
Related events for alumni

Among the other WMU Alumni Association-related events (see the ad on page 29 of this WMU Magazine) taking place in conjunction with Homecoming is the Oct. 11 Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner. The dinner recognizes the 2002 winners of the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award, the association's most prestigious honor. To attend, register using the handy form in this insert.

Counting this year's recipients, only 116 men and women out of more than 205,000 WMU graduates have received Distinguished Alumni awards. Honorees for 2002, all of whom have strong international connections, are: A. John Daniel, M.A. '70, of Durban, South Africa; Huey D. Johnson, B.A. '56, of Mill Valley, Calif.; and James Leisenring, MBA '64, of Ridgefield, Conn.

Daniel, an activist in the struggle against apartheid, is research director for South Africa's national social sciences research facility and served on that country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Johnson is the founder and president of a San Francisco-based organization that helps advance sustainable worldwide development and in 2001, received a United Nations prize that is one of the world's highest environmental awards. Leisenring is a full-time member of the London-based International Accounting Standards Board, a private-sector organization working to develop a single set of effective global accounting standards.

Additional Homecoming news

Be sure to regularly check the WMU Homecoming Web site at <www.wmich.edu/homecoming> for additional Homecoming news as well as event updates. You also may call the WMU Alumni Association at (269) 387-8777 for information.
I am not a current dues-paying member of the WMU Alumni Association, but wish to join the association now for $30 and take advantage of the reduced pricing on PepFest-related tickets.

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TOTAL ENCLOSED $_____

NOTE: Discounted football tickets are available only as part of the Alumni Association PepFest package. For athletic tickets only, call the Bronco Ticket Office at (800) 992-7841 or (269) 387-8092.

Mail, phone or fax your reservation by Sept. 20, 2002.
Mail to: Homecoming PepFest Reservations, WMU Alumni Association, 1903 West Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo MI 49008-5404
Fax to: (269) 387-8770, credit card only
Call: (269) 387-8777, credit card only

Local accommodations

Arrangements have been made for alumni to easily book rooms at several Kalamazoo-area hotels. When reserving rooms, don't forget to state that you would like to reserve a room under the "WMU Alumni Association" room block. The hotels and registration deadlines are:

- **Red Roof Inn**
  - 5425 W. Michigan Ave.
  - (269) 375-7400
  - Sept. 11 deadline

- **Baymont Inn**
  - 2203 11th St.
  - (269) 372-7999
  - Sept. 21 deadline

- **Hawthorne Suites**
  - 2575 S. 11th St.
  - (269) 353-2547
  - Sept. 20 deadline

- **Clarion Hotel**
  - 3600 E. Cork St.
  - (269) 385-3922
  - Sept. 21 deadline

- **Radisson Plaza Hotel**
  - 100 W. Michigan Ave.
  - (269) 343-3333
  - Sept. 20 deadline

- **Holiday Inn—West**
  - 2747 S. 11th St.
  - (269) 375-6000
  - Sept. 21 deadline

* The Radisson Plaza Hotel in Downtown Kalamazoo is offering an Oct. 11 and 12 room rate of $102 per night to members of the WMU Alumni Association who reserve rooms by Sept. 20. This special rate is subject to room availability, so make your reservations early by calling (269) 343-3333.
Lee Honors College

Honors student launches new undergraduate professional journal

Jill Winkler was disappointed as a freshman to learn that WMU didn’t have a journal where undergraduate students could publish their work. Now the Lee Honors College student has done something about it.

*The Laureate*, a professional journal featuring work from about 20 students, debuted at a March release party in the honors college lounge. Authors, editors, and campus and community supporters gathered to celebrate the journal’s 54-page inaugural issue.

“I’d been thinking about this project for awhile, but things really started to jell last spring,” says Winkler, a senior. She talked with Dr. Joseph Reish, dean of the honors college, about the project, “and he liked the idea and said he’d provide some funding,” she recalls. “We started by researching publications from other universities as well as WMU’s *Third Coast*, a literary magazine published by the English department. The honors college staff allowed the student board to devise and create the journal autonomously, but they were there with encouragement and support whenever we needed it.”

Senior is only Udall Scholar from Michigan public university

An honors college student has become WMU’s third consecutive recipient of a prestigious scholarship for environmental studies from the Morris K. Udall Foundation.

Benjamin Appleby is one of 80 Udall Scholars from around the nation who will receive $5,000 for tuition, fees, books and room and board for the 2002-03 academic year. He is one of just three winners from Michigan institutions, and the only one from a public university in the state.

Appleby, who recently became an honors college member, has volunteered with WMU’s Students for a Sustainable Earth, worked as an intern on an organic farm in Albuquerque, N.M., and volunteered at the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery near Mattawan, Mich.

Appleby follows in the footsteps of Jacquelyn Styrna and Heather Gott, who became the University’s first Udall Scholars in 2000 and 2001. All three students were nominated for the award by Dr. John E. Martell, assistant dean of the honors college.

YWCA event honors student as ‘Young Woman of Achievement’

Senior Shanna Deitz was recognized in May by the Kalamazoo YWCA as one of the organization’s “Young Women of Achievement.”

A political science and Spanish major, Deitz has studied abroad, participated in WMU’s Capital Internship Program and maintained a 3.85 grade point average. She recently led a seven-member WMU delegation at the national Model Arab League simulation in Washington, D.C., where the team earned the competition’s highest award.

The Complete Guide to Teaching Vocal Jazz (Including Pop and Other Show Styles)

*Heritage Music Press, 2002*

Dr. Stephen Zegree, professor of music

Drawing on more than two decades of experience as a vocal jazz instructor and director, Zegree has written an authoritative text that provides an abundance of information of use to a wide range of vocal jazz instructors, from novices just starting their own vocal jazz groups to more experienced professionals wanting to improve a choir program or expand its repertoire. The book explores a litany of topics, including jazz traditions, styles, theory, improvisation, rehearsal techniques, solo singing, sound reinforcement systems and staging.

Real Emotional Logic: Film and Television Docudrama as Persuasive Practice

*Southern Illinois University Press, 2002*

Dr. Steven N. Lipkin, associate professor of communication

Analyzing docudrama as a mode of argument, Lipkin highlights the ethical, historical and ideological functions of docudrama to analyze the appeal of more than a dozen feature films and television movies based on true stories. Such films include “Schindler’s List,” “Amistad,” “JFK,” “The Killing Fields,” “Quiz Show,” “A League of Their Own,” “In the Name of the Father,” “Call Northside 777” and “October Sky.” Their appeal, he says, is rooted in docudrama’s re-presentation of actual people and events by means of melodramatic narrative structures that play on the emotions of the viewer.

Reappraising Durkheim for the Study and Teaching of Religion Today

*Brill, 2002*

Dr. Brian C. Wilson, chairperson of comparative religion

Wilson co-edits this reappraisal of Emile Durkheim’s views on the study and teaching of religion today along with Dr. Thomas A. Indinopulos, professor of religious studies at Miami (Ohio) University. The book provides an occasion to critically analyze and reassess the work of this intellectual pioneer. It also is an effort to signal the continuing importance of his work for today’s graduate and advanced undergraduate classrooms.
Members for Life
We at the WMU Alumni Association would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest life members. We thank you and commend you for your continued interest in your University through life membership in our association.

Richard J. Annen
BBA '74, San Diego

Michael S. Dietz
BBA '83, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Christine Michaelsen
BA '67, La Jolla, CA

Edward J. Ponagai
BBA '95, Chicago

Classnotes

Alumni are listed under their preferred class years. Names printed in gold denote membership in the WMU Alumni Association.

Don't hesitate to contact us when you have news to share in our classnotes or obituaries sections. For classnotes, make sure to include your name (first, middle, last, maiden), address, degree(s), year(s) graduated and phone number. We will publish your photo as space permits.

Write: Classnotes/Obituaries
WMU Magazine
1903 West Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403
Fax: (616) 387-8770
E-mail: dev-alumnote@wmich.edu

1951 - 1970

William A. Decker
BS '48, was honored for 50 years of service in medicine by the Michigan State Medical Society. He practices psychiatry in Battle Creek, MI.

Virginia M. Kraft
BSN '51, was recently honored by her employer, Lakeland Medical Center in Niles, MI, where she has been a nurse for 40 years.

Janette D. Sherman
BS '52, was recently elected to the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., for meritorious original research in medicine and toxicology.

James M. Charlton
BBA '63, has been hired as the publications director for the Society for American Baseball Research. He is the head of James Charlton Associates, a book packager and literary agency.

Thomas E. Berghage
MA '64, is the author of a new book, “Beyond Human Comprehension: The Limits of Human Security Analysis.”

Robert K. Tucker
BBA '64, MBA '67, has been selected to serve on the management committee of the national law firm Hinshaw & Culbertson. He practices law in Miami.

Mary L. Avery
BA '65, is the director of the Clark Retirement Community Foundation in Grand Rapids, MI.

1971 - 1980

Paul E. Boyer
MBA '71, is president and chief operating officer of Meijer Inc., headquartered in Grand Rapids, MI.

Joanne C. Ferguson-Simoneaux
BS '71, won the Jane Candy Award, the highest award presented to an early-childhood special educator in Michigan, at the Michigan Collaborative Early Childhood Conference. She is an occupational therapist for Allegan (MI) County Intermediate School District.

Dianne Y. Lewis
BMUS '71, is co-owner of WQBH Radio in Detroit. She is co-host of "The Inspiration Time Request Line."

Mary Jane (Stewart) Riley
BS '71, has been selected by the Goethe Institut to go to Germany for a travel/study workshop. She is a secondary teacher in Oakland County, MI.

Ross Stephenson
MA '71, recently retired from his position as deputy superintendent of Dexter (MI) schools.
William P. Roschek Sr.
BBA '72, has been appointed president and chief operating officer of Alco Spring Industries Inc., a Chicago-based designer, manufacturer and distributor of coil springs and other steel products.

Jonathan R. White
BA '72, dean of social science at Grand Valley State University and a pastor at Trinity Congregational Church in Walker, MI, has given up both positions to join the U.S. Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Assistance in the state and local anti-terrorism program.

Judith A. (Medema) Archambault
BBA '73, has been named bursar for the University of Maryland in Baltimore.

Donald G. Southwell
BA '73, was recently promoted to president and chief operating officer of Unitrin Inc., a Chicago-based insurance company.

Gary H. Waters
BBA '73, is the plant manager at KS Automotive, a minority enterprise that produces plastic injection molded components in San Leandro, CA.

Michael F. O'Toole
BS '74, MA '76, was recently promoted to associate professor of engineering technology and supervision at Purdue University-Calumet in Westville, IN.

Frederick P. Woodhams
BBA '74, has joined Irwin Mortgage Co. in Kalamazoo as a loan officer.

James I. Standback
BS '75, was the winner of the professional award at the 31st annual Sojourner Truth Awards. He is a seventh-grade social studies teacher at W.K. Kellog Middle School in Battle Creek, MI.

Gary F. Wertz
BS '75, MS '77, was recently named president of Ossur North America, a worldwide manufacturer of medical devices.

Carolyn J. Beck
BBA '76, has joined the real estate firm S.J. Wisinski & Co. in Grand Rapids, MI, as a sales associate.

Gary N. Bourland
MA '76, has written his first book, "Las Colinas: The Inside Story of America's Premier Urban Development."

Michael J. Deines
MA '76, has been inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association's Hall of Fame. He teaches English and girls' basketball at Maine South High School in Park Ridge, IL.

James A. Greene
BBA '76, MBA '81, recently retired from his position as community relations director for Pharmacia Corp. in Kalamazoo.

Deborah J. White
BBA '76, MBA '81, recently named Oregon's 2002 Teacher of the Year. She teaches remedial reading and mathematics at Lyle Elementary School in Dallas, OR.

Robert E. Lee Wright
BA '76, has been elected president of the West Michigan chapter of the Michigan Council for Family and Divorce Mediation. He is an attorney in the Grand Rapids, MI office of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC.

Gayle (Bennett) McPhilamy
BS '77, a seventh grade teacher at Portage (MI) West Middle School led her students in the production of a short animated film entered at the first Kalamazoo Animation Festival International.

Michael D. Colvin
BS '78, has been named senior associate at Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber Inc. in Kalamazoo.

Shawn J. Pallagi
BBA '78, was recently promoted to vice president of human resources for General Motors in Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.
The tech behind the blockbusters

In the high-tech world of animation, Kate Swanborg says anything is possible. "Sure, anything is possible with enough time, money and people," says Swanborg, who is technology production manager at DreamWorks Feature Animation in Glendale, Calif. "We tell the production people, 'We can do anything, but we can't do everything—pick.'"

Swanborg is responsible for the software and systems used for films like this summer's "Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron," a groundbreaking production that blurs the line between 2-D and 3-D technology. She and her crew of 80 to 100 people build and support the studio's technological backbone. Her staffers are on-hand throughout the artistic process to tweak the animation tools as needed.

"It's an incredibly exciting, challenging job," she reflects. "Some days it's just a job, filled with meetings, e-mails, the in-box and everything else. But then you have a film opening and you realize, 'Wow, we're part of something really cool.'"

Swanborg's top post at DreamWorks may seem a long way from her hometown of Bangor, Mich., but it's really not such a leap, to hear her explain it. The daughter of two Bangor High School teachers, she learned to love the theatre at an early age. "Both my parents went to Western, and its theatre program is one of the best," she says. "The decision to go to WMU was a no-brainer."

During her time at the University, the Lee Honors College student discovered stage management. After graduating in 1993, Swanborg headed for California, not for the glitz and glamour of the movie business, but to earn her master's degree in stage management from the University of California, San Diego.

Just as she was finishing her studies, her mentor called. Would she be interested in a job in animation?

"I told him I didn't know anything about animation, but he said that didn't matter—I knew how to manage artists," Swanborg recalls. "Actually, a lot of executives in animation come from theatre backgrounds."

As it turned out, it was not just any job in animation. Swanborg became assistant production manager for the blockbuster "Space Jam." On an unusually tight nine-month production schedule, she coordinated artists at 18 studios worldwide.

The "Space Jam" stint was followed by contract work on DreamWorks' digital mega-hit "Shrek." Her current projects at DreamWorks include "Sharkslayer," the story of a small fish who allows his friends to believe he killed a shark, and the pirate adventure "Sinbad."

"The excitement never really goes away," Swanborg says. "It's an amazing job."
David A. Miller
BS '84, has been appointed vice president and national director of marketing for the global architectural firm Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum Inc.

Thomas S. Pietras
BBA '84, has received a national first place award from the American Advertising Federation for his work as the chairman of the board for the Madison (WI) Advertising Federation Diversity Committee.

Joseph J. Brocato
BBA '85, MPA '90, has been promoted to assistant dean of community education in the School of Medicine at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Jeanne M. LaMere
BA '85, MA '90, PhD '93, has been promoted to vice president of research and development for CompuTaught Inc., a developer of computer-based real estate education based in Marietta, GA.

Christopher J. Flum
BBA '86, has been promoted to vice president of supply management for the Budd Co., a leading supplier of automotive components with headquarters in Troy, MI.

Percy C. Bean Jr.
BBA '88, was the winner of the business award at the 31st annual Sojourner Truth Awards. He is the owner of Popeye's Chicken and Biscuits in Battle Creek, MI.

Ray C. Van De Walker
BS '89, recently received his doctorate from the Palmer College of Chiropractic. He is practicing at Antoniotti Chiropractic in Kalamazoo.

Steven J. Cobb
BBA '90, is the chief financial officer at Kellogg Community Federal Credit Union in Battle Creek, MI.

Vicki R. (Wilson) Juback
BS '90, has been selected for the Michigan Association of Middle School Educators team-teaching award. She teaches math and science at Mill Creek Middle School in Dexter, MI.

Mark A. Mushinski
MBA '90, was recently named senior vice president of Standard Federal Bank's commercial real estate group in West Michigan.

Patricia A. (Sharum) Waldknecht
BS '90, recently received a master of arts degree in school administration from Michigan State University. She is a teacher at Lamphere School District in Madison Heights, MI.

1991 - 1995

Jeffrey A. Rinvelt
BBA '91, is director of information technology at Ardesta LLC in Ann Arbor, MI. He has been recognized by Fortune, Forbes and Money magazines for Web site design and content.

Scott A. Bryant
BBA '92, has been named personal lines manager for the Saginaw, Bay and Midland (MI) counties operations of Mid-Valley Insurance & Financial Services.

Matthew E. Little
BA '92, has been appointed chief technology officer at the Working Values Group, a business ethics consulting firm in Boston.

Bonnie Jo (Campbell) Magson
BA '92, MA '95, MFA '98, has just completed a new novel titled “Q Road” which takes place in Kalamazoo County.

Catherine N. (Hoyle) Palin
BA '92, has joined the law firm Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC in Kalamazoo as an associate in the taxation and employee benefits group.

Patrick J. Peruchietti
BBA '84, MBA '92, has been named vice president and commercial loan officer at Southern Michigan Bank and Trust in Battle Creek, MI.

Mark A. Wilson
BBA '88, MBA '92, has been named team leader of Huntington National Bank's corporate banking groups in Holland (MI) and Kalamazoo.

Eyewitnesses to history
In April 1986, a small group of WMU students and their faculty advisors were suddenly thrust onto the international stage when their international study trip to the Soviet Union found them in Kiev, 80 miles away from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster just three days after the crisis began. Soviet secrecy had kept word of the danger from leaking out immediately, but the world press seized on the WMU band as the last American group in the city that was being exposed to radiation. CBS, ABC, UPI and the BBC peppered the group with questions about the city's mood. Upon their return to the United States, members of the study tour were checked for radiation exposure at Palisades Nuclear Plant in South Haven, Mich., and some of their belongings were disposed of as “low level nuclear waste.”
David D. Lee  
BS '87, MFA '93, has recently published his second book of poetry, "Arrow Pointing North." He also is the editor of *Shad*, an annual anthology/journal published by University Press of New England.

Sean A. McCann  
BA '93, has been named director of fund development for the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Jason C. Roe  
BS '93, is serving as chief of staff in the Office of the Undersecretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in Arlington, VA.

Darin R. Caranci  
BBA '94, has been promoted to vice president of Keystone Community Bank in Kalamazoo.

David S. Gregory  
BS '94, received a master of science degree from Florida State University in December 2001. He is employed by the state of Florida as a historic preservation planner.

Adam H. Wilson  
BS '94, has been promoted to vice president and account supervisor at Campbell-Ewald Advertising in Warren, MI.

Shirley A. Clemens  
BA '95, has joined the staff of *Big Idea Magazine*, a Detroit-based publication for the communication arts, as events and public relations manager.

Todd A. John  
MA '95, has been promoted to chairperson and program director for the Department of Athletic Training at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, MO.

Brian S. Loken  
BS '95, is the information technology manager at Greenleaf Asset Management Inc. in Kalamazoo.

Andrew H. McGaughey  
BA '93, has joined the Kalamazoo office of Miller, Johnson, Snell & Cummiskey PLC as a litigator.

Ellen K. Muehlberger  
BS '95, earned a master of arts degree from Indiana University in December 2001.

Howard A. White  
EdD '95, was recently elected treasurer of the National Association of Social Workers. He is president and chief executive officer of White and Associates in Holly, MI.

1996 - 2001

John B. Fountain  
BA '96, offered a workshop at the first Kalamazoo Animation Festival International. He has worked on Nickelodeon's "The Wild Thornberries."

Elizabeth Adrian  
BA '97, is a bankruptcy associate with Weltman, Weinberg, & Reis Co. LPA in Detroit.

Amy R. Betten  
BS '97, is general manager of Betten Toyota of Grand Rapids, MI.

Thomas W. Cronkright II  
BBA '97, has joined the law firm Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC in Kalamazoo as an associate in the business and finance group.

Michael J. Donhost  
BS '97, has been appointed associate principal of Elm Place Middle School in Highland Park, IL.

Matthew B. Eugster  
MA '97, has joined the law firm Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt and Howlett LLP in Grand Rapids, MI, as an associate in the environmental practice group.

G. Charles Goode IV  
BS '97, has joined the law firm Warner Norcross & Judd LLP in Grand Rapids, MI, as an associate.

Chris J. Robinson  
BBA '97, is an officer in the information delivery services division of Northern Trust, a financial services company in Schaumburg, IL.

Brennan L. Adams  
MA '98, is president of the St. Louis franchise It's Just Lunch, a national dating service with 35 offices.

Brooke K. Elliott  
BFA '98, has joined the national tour of "Beauty and the Beast." She is most often seen as the singing sugar bowl, but is also the understudy for Mrs. Potts and Madame de la Grande Bouche.

Michele L. McGowen  
MSW '98, recently had her article, "Tips for Improving Communication With and About People with Disabilities," published in *Information and Referral: The Journal of the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems*. She is project coordinator at the Disability Resource Center in Kalamazoo.

Shanae A. Hanoute  
BA '96, BSM '99, has joined Bronson Internal Medicine Associates in Kalamazoo as a physician assistant.

Kellie LaDuke  
MBA '99, is the new executive director of the Branch County Economic Growth Alliance in Coldwater, MI.

Shannon M. Miller  
BA '99, is a claims adjustor for Bear River Mutual Insurance Co., one of Utah's largest insurance companies.

Amy M. Pittelkow  
BBA '99, has joined Bell, Cerutti & Associates PC, a Kalamazoo-based certified public accounting firm, as a staff accountant.

Emily C. Gillary  
BBA '00, is administrator of the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation, a nonprofit group that purchases automated external defibrillators and provides training in their usage for Michigan high schools.

Mark E. Heagle  
MA '00, is the principal of Walker (MI) Station Elementary School. He is also the reading coordinator for the Kenowa Hills school district.

Amber Ackley  
BA '01, is a development coordinator and event planner for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Michigan Chapter in Southfield, MI.
Obituaries

1924 - 1940

Frances A. (Rogers) Carr
TC '24, Dec. 21, 2001, in Ann Arbor, MI.

Eva S. (Burns) Lewis
TC '26, Jan. 26, 2002, in Stevensville, MI.

Lucille M. Gruzenaga Bushouse

Ethelyn D. (Bradford) Fenwick
TC '28, April 11, 2002, in Three Rivers, MI.

Helen E. (Williams) Bush
BA '30, March 9, 2002, in Deland, FL.

Jessie (Usborne) Elwell
BA '30, March 20, 2002, in Portage, MI.

Pauline E. (Gerould) Maile
TC '30, BS '33, Jan. 5, 2002, in Lawton, MI.

Helen L. (Sisson) Wiegmink
TC '30, Feb. 25, 2002, in Sahuarita, AZ.

Iris A. (Drury) Hayes
TC '31, Feb. 20, 2002, in Holland, MI.

Joseph M. Mulready
BS '32, Feb. 13, 2002, in Muskegon, MI.

Bonita (Weed) Rowen
BA '32, April 8, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

Marjorie P. Wilkins
TC '32, March 18, 2002, in Boynton Beach, FL.

Alice C. (Alexander) Earle
TC '33, Jan. 4, 2002, in Plainwell, MI.

Albert C. Johnsen
BS '33, Jan. 16, 2002, in Salisbury, NC.

Myrth I. (Mosier) Huggins
BA '35, April 11, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

Jean A. (Warner) LaBelle
TC '38, BS '36, March 6, 2002, in Grand Rapids, MI.

Harry B. Miller

Andrew J. Patton Sr.

Alice (Sterenberg) Tazelaar
TC '26, BA '40, April 13, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

1941 - 1950

Marguerite M. (Aurand) Tiefenthal
BS '41, TC '48, Jan. 2, 2001, in Plainwell, MI.

Ruby M. (Haas) Zimmerman
BA '41, Jan. 3, 2002, in Parchment, MI.

Robert L. Berg
BS '42, Feb. 8, 2002, in Venice, FL.

Charlotte E. (Buckley) Harmon
TC '33, BS '42, Nov. 22, 2001, in Kalamazoo.

Dorothy V. King
BS '42, Aug. 15, 2001, in La Mesa, CA.

Louis G. Rizzardi
BS '48, Oct. 30, 2001, in Green Bay, WI.

Eske F. (Evans) Curtiss
BS '49, March 27, 2002, in Springfield, IL.

Donald L. Drolet
BA '50, March 16, 2002, in Mesa, AZ.

Robert L. Huyser
BA '50, jan. 27, 2002, in Portage, MI.

John H. Richardson
BS '50, MS '56, Feb. 18, 2002, in Ludington, MI.

1951 - 1960

Carol (Coughlin) McBride
MA '53, Feb. 2, 2002, in Richland, MI.

Harold E. Dunton
BBA '54, Dec. 25, 2001, in Oconomowoc, WI.

James F. Farrell
BBA '55, Jan. 29, 2002, in Portage, MI.

Zella B. (Avery) Fenwick
BS '55, Jan. 11, 2002, in Vicksburg, MI.

John W. Thurman
BS '55, Jan. 20, 2002, in Naples, FL.

Richard L. VandeVerde
BS '57, Feb. 15, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

George E. Lewis

Frederick H. Wood Jr.
BA '58, MA '62, Jan. 26, 2002, in Norman, OK.

James L. Newbold
BS '59, MA '63, Dec. 14, 2001, in Midland, TX.

Applications not accepted

In August 1993, WMU's much-honored jazz vocal group Gold Company became the only university choral group in the world invited to perform at the World Symposium on Choral Music held in Vancouver, British Columbia. Performance at the prestigious event is by invitation only, with those invitations based solely on reputation. Gold Company was one of 12 groups from five continents invited to perform and one of only two U.S. groups invited to perform in front of more than 1,000 conductors from 50 countries who attended the triennial event.
Obituaries

Jacqueline C. (Sulka) Romence
BA ‘59, Jan. 21, 2002, in Portage, MI.

Doris M. (Radoff) Whymont Sutherland
BS ‘59, Jan. 18, 2002, in Plainwell, MI.

Lura F. (Temhave) VandenBos

1961 - 1970

Joseph V. Kline
BBA ‘61, April 1, 2002, in Portage, MI.

David J. Whitehead
BA ‘61, Jan. 24, 2002, in Clearwater, FL.

Reverend James E. Cook

Ethel L. (Myers) Hart
BA ‘62, MA ’64, March 22, 2002, in South Haven, MI.

Earl R. Nieboer
MA ’62, Oct. 21, 2001 in Niles, MI.

James P. Nieboer
BMUS ’62, MM ’70, Jan. 8, 2002, in Hobe Sound, FL.

Doris L. (Holm) Hutchinson
BS ’63, Jan. 2, 2002, in Allegan, MI.

John M. Brewer
MA ’64, Jan. 15, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

Dora L. (Johnson) Forrester
BA ’64, Jan. 5, 2002, in Freehold, NJ.

William Zomer Jr.

John Van Ooien

Paula K. (Bedker) Ash
BS ’67, Jan. 7, 2002, in Ludington, MI.

Edith L. (Marsh) Choate
BS ’67, Jan. 10, 2002, in Battle Creek, MI.

Donald C. Simpson

Sandra M. (Willard) Videon
BA ’67, MA ’76, Dec. 22, 2001, in Lake Doster, MI.

Irene E. (Baker) Warfield
BS ’67, MA ’75, March 29, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

Kenneth E. Coates

Stephen M. Courtney
BS ’69, March 14, 2001, in Green Bay, WI.

Shirley (Oshana) Hall
MA ’69, Jan. 8, 2002, in Bradenton, FL.

Barbara (Clay) Hickok

Charles E. Holland
MA ’70, March 20, 2002, in Allegan, MI.

Celista B. (Newman) Murphy
BS ’70, MA ’75, Feb. 11, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

William G. Troutner
MA ’70, Feb. 26, 2002, in Grove City, PA.

1971 - 1980

Jacquelyn (Dornbush) Barrone
BS ’71, Feb. 19, 2002, in Portage, MI.

Everette E. Nance
EdD ’71, Dec. 23, 2001, in Bel-Nor, MO.

Louis R. Berner Jr.
BA ’73, Feb. 28, 2002, in Chicago.

Irving A. O’Leary
BS ’73, March 12, 2002, in Mattawan, MI.

Gary W. Preston
BSE ’75, Feb. 26, 2002, in Galesburg, MI.

Susan P. (Nacu) Rousos
BS ’75, MSA ’77, Jan. 20, 2002, in Kalamazoo.

Gary S. Comfort

Michael P. McCrorey
BBA ’76, March 28, 2002, in Richland, MI.

David W. Pearson
BSE ’77, Nov. 28, 2001, in Grosse Ile, MI.

1981 - 2000

Ruth E. (Steinmann) Bender
MLS ’81, Dec. 13, 2002, in Goshen, IN.

John R. McCallum
BBA ’81, March 29, 2002, in Portage, MI.

Diane S. (Mills) Burhans

Ruth C. (Deyoe) Barrett
MA ’84, MFA ’89, Dec. 23, 2001, in Livonia, MI.

Velma A. (Fitzgerald) Crump
MSW ’85, Dec. 22, 2001, in Morganton, NC.

Edward A. Gabel

Dorothy McCuskey
professor emerita in educational leadership, Dec. 2001, in Chapel Hill, NC.

Irene V. Storoshenko

Faculty

Mary L. Dawson
professor in health, physical education and recreation, April 2, 2002, in Defiance, OH.

Edward A. Gabel

Dorothy McCuskey
professor emerita in educational leadership, Dec. 2001, in Chapel Hill, NC.

Irene V. Storoshenko
There are easier ways to show your pride.

Become a Member!

apply online at www.wmich.edu/alumni
or call 269.387.8771 to sign up for your alumni membership today!
WMU is looking for former female student-athletes who participated in athletics before 1979-80. The women will be honored at a varsity letter recognition event to be held in 2003 in conjunction with the University's centennial celebration.

To submit names or obtain more information, contact Kim Thebo by calling (269) 387-2057 or visit the Web at <www.wmich.edu/centennial/women>.

WMU's outstanding female and male scholar-athletes for 2001-02 are senior Kylie Schultz, an art major from Clare, Mich., and junior Ryan Maarschalk, a biomedical science major from Harare, Zimbabwe. The award goes to the varsity letter winners with the highest cumulative grade-point averages.

Schultz has 10 letters in cross country and indoor and outdoor track and is the first two-time female recipient of the award. Maarschalk is a three-time letter winner and co-captain of the men's tennis team.

The agreement places a seventh bowl-eligible football team from the Big Ten in the Motor City Bowl versus the No. 1 or No. 2 MAC team. (A different MAC team from the one selected for the Motor City Bowl will be chosen to play in the GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala.)

Also new for 2002 season is the MAC's expansion to a 12-game schedule and a 14-member league. The University of Central Florida has joined the MAC (in football only) and will compete in the East Division. Bowling Green will move from the East and join WMU in the West Division.

Sophomore forward Kristin Koetsier has been named the winner of two national honors: the V Foundation Comeback of the Year Award and the Honda Inspiration Award. Koetsier has battled back from two life-threatening blood disorders as well as a knee injury to become one of the top players in Bronco women's basketball history.

She accepted the comeback award as part of ESPN The Magazine's 2002 College Basketball Awards show in Atlanta that aired March 28 and the inspiration award at the 26th Annual Collegiate Woman Athlete of the Year Banquet in Dallas June 17.

Mike Turk has been named head track and field coach. Turk came to WMU in 1998 and had been the program's top assistant coach. He replaces Jack Shaw, who retired after 32 highly successful years with the Broncos.

Previously, Turk was assistant men's and women's track coach at Marquette for nine years and an assistant coach for the men's and women's track teams at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for four years.

Head men's basketball coach Robert McCullum was one of five people selected as court coaches for the 2002 USA Basketball Men's Junior National Team Trials held May 31-June 2 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

WMU's athletics Web site, <www.wmubroncos.com>, is being completely redesigned this summer to add new and more fan-friendly features. Additionally, news about the Broncos also is now available on an independently owned and operated Web site at <www.broncosillustrated.com>.
Winter, spring season summaries

Basketball, men's—overall, 17-13; MAC, 10-8; West Division league finish, third/six teams; league tournament, lost in first round; All-MAC Second Team, Steve Reynolds; All-MAC Honorable Mention Team, Robby Collum; MAC Freshman of the Year and CollegeInsider.com All-Freshman Team, Ben Reed.

Basketball, women's—overall, 16-15; MAC, 11-5; West Division league finish, third/six teams; league tournament, lost in quarterfinals; All-MAC First Team, Kristin Koetsier; MAC Freshman of the Year, Casey Rost.

Baseball—overall, 22-25; MAC, 12-13; West Division league finish, fourth/six teams; All-MAC First Team, Sam Flament; All-MAC Second Team, Pat Misch and Chad Tarpley.

Hockey—overall, 19-15-4; CCHA, a 13-12-3; league finish, sixth/twelve teams; league tournament, lost in first round; All-CCHA Honorable Mention, Mike Bishai and Dave Cousineau; CCHA All-Rookie Team, Pat Dwyer; CCHA All-Academic Team, Cousineau; All-Academic Team Honorable Mention, Dana Lottery.

Golf—claimed BSU Cardinal Classic; league championship, fifth/eight teams; seven top-five finishers.

Gymnastics—overall, 7-10-1; MAC, 1-5; league championships, sixth/seven teams.

Softball—overall, 22-24; MAC, 11-10; West Division league finish, fourth/six teams; All-MAC First Team, Jenn Dilley; All-MAC Second Team, Angie Fiero.

Synchronized skating—Midwestern Championships, (senior team) second in short and long programs; Tri-States International Championships (senior and collegiate teams), first in short and long programs; U.S. Team National Championships, (senior) eighth in short and long programs and (collegiate) bronze medal.

Tennis, men's—overall, 13-13; MAC, 3-2; league tournament, lost in semifinals; MAC First Team, Ravishankar Pathanjali; MAC Second Team, Ryan Maersch; MAC Jack Vredevelt Sportsmanship award, Christian Brattstrom.

Tennis, women's—overall, 14-11; MAC, 7-2; league tournament, lost in semifinals; MAC First Team, Larissa Chinwah (fourth consecutive year); MAC Second Team, Frederika Girsang; Verizon Academic All-District At-Large Third Team, Chinwah.

Track, men's indoor—overall dual, 0-0; league championship, 2/11 teams; All-MAC First Team, Dale Cowper, Jason Evelyn; All-MAC Second Team, Dustin Anderson, Mike Hanson.

Track, women's indoor—overall dual, 0-0; league championship, ninth/twelve teams.

Track, men's outdoor—overall dual, 3-0; league championship, second/11 teams; All-American, Dale Cowper in hammer throw (13th overall, eighth among Americans, at NCAA championships with 200-8 throw); All-MAC First Team, Jason Evelyn, Kris Seats; All-MAC Second Team, Mike Armock, Cowper, Mike Hanson.

Track, women's outdoor—overall dual, 2-0; league championship, fifth/twelve teams; All-MAC First Team, Heather Johnson; All-MAC Second Team, Danella Byrwood.

2002 Bronco Football

Aug. 29 Indiana State (CommUniversity)
Sept. 7 at Michigan
Sept. 14 at Purdue
Sept. 28 Virginia Tech (Southwest Fest)
Oct. 5 at Buffalo*
Oct. 12 Central Florida* (Homecoming)
Oct. 19 at Bowling Green*
Oct. 26 Northern Illinois* (Family Fest)
Nov. 2 at Ball State*
Nov. 9 Eastern Michigan* (Salute to Veterans)
Nov. 16 Toledo* (Hall of Fame)
Nov. 23 at Central Michigan*

*Mid-American Conference game. All schedules subject to change.

Bronco Football Radio Network

WFAT 96.5 FM Kalamazoo/Portage (flagship)
WZUU 92.3 FM Allegan/Kalamazoo
WWKN 104.9 FM Battle Creek/Jackson/Marshall
WTVB AM 1590 Coldwater
WDOW 92.1 FM Dowagiac/Niles/South Bend
WTKG AM 1230 Grand Rapids
WBCH 100.1 FM Hastings
WBCH AM 1220 Hastings

2002 Bronco Volleyball

Colorado State Invitational, Fort Collins, Colo.
Aug. 30 vs. Connecticut
Aug. 31 vs. Colorado State
Aug. 31 vs. Kansas State
WMU Bronco Invitational, Kalamazoo
Sept. 6 Michigan State
Sept. 7 Wright State
Sept. 7 DePaul
Kentucky Invitational, Lexington, Ky.
Sept. 13 vs. Dayton
Sept. 14 vs. Wake Forest
Sept. 14 vs. Kentucky
WMU Radisson Invitational, Kalamazoo
Sept. 20 Syracuse
Sept. 20 Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Sept. 21 South Florida
Sept. 27 Central Michigan*
Sept. 28 Kent State*
Oct. 4 at Bowling Green*
Oct. 5 at Buffalo*
Oct. 11 Eastern Michigan*
Oct. 12 Akron*
Oct. 18 at Marshall*
Oct. 19 at Ohio*
Oct. 23 Indiana-Purdue Ft. Wayne
Oct. 25 Buffalo*
Oct. 26 at Toledo*
Nov. 1 Ball State*
Nov. 2 Toledo*
Nov. 8 at Central Michigan*
Nov. 9 at Eastern Michigan*
Nov. 15 at Miami*
Nov. 16 at Ball State*
Nov. 22 Bowling Green*
Nov. 23 Northern Illinois*

*Mid-American Conference match. All schedules subject to change.

For tickets and event information: Toll free 888 4-WMU-TIX
www.wmubroncos.com
It was 1947.

World War II had recently ended, and the nation was trying very hard to get back to normal.

Western Michigan University’s theatre program responded by doing something that wasn’t normal at all. Rather than present a simple, light-hearted farce or melodrama to let audiences forget the tumultuous war years, the Players, as WMU’s theatre troupe was then called, decided to present the controversial play “Deep Are the Roots.” The play, chosen as that year’s mid-winter production, dealt with the ever-present problem of racial prejudice that gripped the United States throughout much of the century.

It was the first non-professional production of the play in the country. Presented by a mixed cast, the play included a kiss between a white woman and a black soldier recently returned from the war. Needless to say, presenting the play raised more than a few eyebrows.

Zack York, who retired from positions as director of the University’s theatre program and chairperson of the speech department, designed sets for the play and remembers his conversation with a WMU vice president before staging the production.

“He said, ‘You better not do that one,’” York recalls. “We did it anyway. It was the only play we did that was sold out before it even opened.”

Such has been the legacy of the University’s long-lived theatre program, which dates back nearly to the beginning of WMU itself. Founded at Western State Normal School in 1906, the forerunner of the Department of Theatre wasn’t afraid to tackle controversial subjects along with the more typical menu of farces, melodramas and musicals.

That legacy lives on today, as the Department of Theatre continues to grapple with such thorny issues as race relations, homosexuality and AIDS.

“I if you can’t explore new and controversial scripts, then you’re doing your students a disservice, because the theatre reflects all aspects of the human condition and some of them aren’t very pleasant. But we need to explore them.”

—D. Terry Williams

Two plays presented this past academic year have done exactly that. “The Laramie Project,” staged in September 2001, dramatized the shocking murder of Matthew Shepherd, a gay college student in Wyoming, while “Spinning Into Butter” in March profiled the turmoil of a quiet college campus disrupted by a series of racist acts.

Dr. D. Terry Williams, who was named chairperson of the Department of Theatre in 1982, says it’s the mission of the University’s theatre program to present plays on subjects that some may find distasteful, along with Shakespeare and the other classics.

To be sure, the University’s theatre program was at the leading edge of similar programs, even before it became a department in its own right in 1976.
In the beginning, it was called the Department of Expression, and for much of its history, it was part of the Department of Speech. Hundreds of plays have been presented since the two one-act plays staged during the program's inaugural season, and the program has seen massive growth over the past 96 years. That growth has meant that the theatre program has had to move a number of times as new facilities were constructed.

In 1918, the old Eames Mill at Oakland Drive and Lovell Street became the program's first home of its own. Unfortunately, the old factory was condemned after just one show, and plays were presented at other locations, including Kalamazoo Central High School and the new Kalamazoo Civic after its construction.

A major turning point came in 1921, when Laura V. Shaw, a young speech teacher who had joined the University faculty three years earlier, became head of the speech department. Shaw, whose name became synonymous with WMU theatre for many years after that, ran the program almost single-handedly with minimal support from other faculty and massive support from the Players. Shaw is credited with building the program into a vital, important campus activity.

Another turning point came in 1941, when York, a 1937 WMU alumnus, joined the staff fresh out of Yale Drama School. In 1942, the University built its first theatre facility, the Little Theatre at Oakland Drive and Oliver Street. The 350-seat auditorium with a proscenium stage was home for the theatre program until 1968 when a new auditorium was built and named in Shaw's honor.

"It was a darling little theatre," recalls York, who still lives in Kalamazoo. "We did a lot of programs there. We did 'Peter Pan' with all the flying equipment.

"It was a wonderful time. We used to do one-act plays that we took out to assemblies at all the local schools. It was all part of the Players program."

Shaw retired in 1953 after 35 years of service to the University and its theatre program. York was named head of the speech department, and the theatre program experienced rapid growth in both the number of students and staff. York hired Robert L. Smith as director of theatre in 1964 just before stepping down as head of the department.

One of the program's biggest milestones came in 1976. From the Department of Expression to the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences, theatre had always been part of another area. In 1976, theatre became its own, separate entity, joining the four-year-old College of Fine Arts and leaving the College of Arts and Sciences. York retired two years later. Shaw Theatre's small black-box space was named the Zack L. York Arena Theatre to honor his many years of service.

Another major milestone came in 1994, when a $5.7 million education theatre wing was added to the existing Shaw Theatre. Named the Irving S. Gilmore Theatre Complex, the state-of-the-art facility, with the innovative Multiform Theatre, classrooms, and office and rehearsal space, brought all theatre activities under one roof.

Now boasting the best drama facilities in the Midwest, according to Williams, the Department of Theatre has seen monumental growth in the past 25 years. Just getting into WMU's theatre program has become a competitive process, with only 25 percent of those who audition being accepted.

"We had 65 majors in 1982," Williams says. "We have 185 now and could have many more. I always thought that we needed to grow with the University and we also needed to grow in quality, which I think has been our biggest success."
became Idlewild's hallmark. Lemon and his associates soon found businesspeople willing to build hotels, nightclubs and restaurants to accommodate the growing number of resorters. Such places as the Paradise Club, the Club El-Morocco and the Flamingo Club attracted established and up-and-coming black artists, creating a long list of famed African-American artists who performed at Idlewild. Audiences were treated to shows by Louis Armstrong, "Count" Basie, James Brown, Cab Calloway, Bill Cosby, Sammy Davis Jr., Aretha Franklin, Lionel Hampton, Etta James, B.B. King, The Temptations, Jackie Wilson, Stevie Wonder and many others. At the height of its popularity in the 1940s and 50s, Idlewild would draw crowds in excess of 20,000 and the Michigan National Guard was called upon to help control traffic as resorters traveled from club to club checking out the different entertainers.

Cultural changes transform community
In the 1960s, however, Idlewild's star began to dim. The civil rights movement and the Public Accommodations Act of 1964 opened up new options for African Americans who were once barred from resorts and establishments frequented by whites. In addition, pivotal Idlewild community

"Idlewild is not just a resort, it's a community with a resort component. The resort idea built the community, but the community is what exists now."
—Bill McClure, Red Rooster Lounge

Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids, Mich. The Mid-Michigan Idlewilders chapter was host to the meeting. "As part of the Mid-Michigan Idlewilders Conclave, the members took a trip up to the casinos, but did not even pass through Idlewild," McClure says. "They spent $60,000 to have their conclave in Grand Rapids. Just think about what we could do with that $60,000 here."

Admittedly, though, Idlewild couldn't accommodate the conclave. The community's largest motel has only 17 rooms. The Red Rooster, which offers a delectable fried catfish dinner and great company, simply could not serve that many guests, either.

"That $60,000 could still have made a significant contribution towards revitalization efforts, such as the completion of a children's recreational playground facility in the community," says Wilson, "or the purchase and renovation of the Hotel Casa Blanca."
The need for a vision
Walker and Wilson say that while laudable, the efforts thus far to reinvigorate Idlewild have been disjointed.

"A community cannot be revitalized in a piecemeal fashion," says Walker.

The authors say Idlewilders must first decide what kind of community they will be. "To become 'a good community,' Idlewild must accept the definitional challenge and decide what it wants to become," they write in "Black Eden." "Will it be primarily a retirement community? A black resort? A black historic community?"

"It'll probably be a combination of all of these," surmises Walker. "The most important thing is that they establish a vision and a comprehensive plan. They have to make better use of the resources at their disposal."

One such resource is FiveCAP, a multimillion-dollar private, nonprofit community action program that utilizes federal, state and private resources to help low-income families and individuals become self-sufficient. FiveCAP pushed to have the area recognized as a federal rural enterprise zone and was instrumental in the creation of Lake County's 10-year economic development plan.

On a recent trip to Idlewild, however, Wilson and Walker were dismayed to learn that two new homes built by FiveCAP for low-income families were priced at around $100,000 each and were still unoccupied at the time.

"There are not any low-income folks here that can afford $100,000 housing," says Wilson, noting that the area's median household income is just over $9,100. "This is not going to help any of these people but it could help provide housing for those in a higher income bracket. Such housing, of course, could be made available to low income families if heavily subsidized."

Choosing Idlewild
Walker says, though, there are many signs that point to a brighter future for Idlewild.

"I think one can easily be optimistic about the future prospects of Idlewild in light of the fact that the community is part of a federally designated enterprise zone, that FiveCAP has an attractive revolving loan program to stimulate economic growth, and that there is a coalition of concerned citizens keenly interested in revitalization," he says. "There also appears to be a genuine interest among people with substantial influence and resources as the socio-historical story of Idlewild becomes known to outsiders."

"There is still a need for a place like Idlewild," says Wilson. "When I'm there in the summer I find African-American professionals who still go there to get away from racism and the hustle and bustle of life. A lot of networking occurs."

leaders died, with few younger men and women willing and capable to take their place. As a result, Idlewild's popularity and population waned. Fewer resoters meant less money and the community began to decline. Located in one of Michigan's poorest counties, Idlewild now struggles with such economic and social woes as welfare dependency, unemployment and a lack of business enterprises.

There is no doubt that the Branches' and Lemon's Idlewild Resort Corp. established the black resort nearly 90 years ago to make a profit—a profit that could have been made just as easily selling the lots to whites. But because this group made a conscious effort to provide a place that blacks could call their own, the community thrived as a mecca for African Americans, carving a critical place for it in American and black culture. While the star power of Idlewild has faded over the past 40 years, a variety of revitalization efforts are under way by residents and others to restore some of the brilliance to this community in the woods of Lake County—thus ensuring its future and historical significance.

STORY BY MARIE LEE—MARIE.LEE@WMICH.EDU
IMAGES COURTESY OF BEN WILSON AND MICHAEL LANKA
New engineering building will be ready for classes in fall 2003.

**Engineering building on schedule thanks to campaign contributions**

Thanks to both generous community support and mild weather this past winter, the new building for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences on the Parkview Campus is slightly ahead of schedule.

"All of the structural steel work for the main engineering building is finished, and most of the concrete exterior walls are in place," says David Dakin, associate director of campus facilities.

"The building will be ready for the start of fall semester 2003, as originally scheduled," says Daniel Litynski, dean of the college.

"We plan to begin moving into the new building next May."

More than $12 million in support from the Kalamazoo community made possible the "go ahead" for construction of the new engineering campus and adjacent Business Technology and Research Park. Economic development agency Southwest Michigan First contributed $7 million. Other major donors include Borgess Health Alliance, the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, Kalamazoo Community Foundation and National City Corp. Southwest Michigan.

Recent gifts to the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences include $100,000 from Parker Hannifin Corp. for a motion control laboratory and $450,000 for program support from Armstrong International. An anonymous donor contributed $750,000 to create an endowment that will support growth in areas of research identified by the dean and other officers as University priorities. The college also received an anonymous $1 million gift to establish an endowment for the Center for Integrated Design and to purchase equipment for the new center.

In addition to the new building, major areas of funding for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences include programs, equipment and support for faculty and students in the form of endowed scholarships, fellowships and faculty chairs.

**SBC Foundation and Ameritech help WMU diversify teaching pool**

More minority students are completing their University educations and entering the teaching profession, thanks to WMU’s Teacher Education Assistance for Minorities program, known as TEAM.

WMU received a $50,000 renewal grant for TEAM this year from SBC Ameritech's charitable giving arm, the SBC Foundation, which also contributed the original $150,000 to begin the program in 1999.

TEAM helps WMU recruit and retain more minority students and ultimately, increase the ranks of African-American, Asian, Hispanic and Native-American educators.

"After witnessing the profound effect this program has had on the lives of many minority students who aspire to become teachers, SBC Ameritech is proud to once again partner with WMU to continue the TEAM program," says Gail Torreano, president, SBC Ameritech Michigan.

**Music and sociology will each receive $250,000 from Hortons**

Professor Emeritus Paul B. Horton and his wife, Rachel, of Sun City, Ariz., have established a Charitable Remainder Unitrust through the WMU Foundation, the proceeds from which will create endowments for the School of Music and the Department of Sociology. The value of each endowment will be at least $250,000.

The $500,000 Charitable Remainder Unitrust will provide the Hortons with an income for the remainder of their lives. Upon the deaths of the donors, the remaining principal will be used to fund the two endowments.

Paul Horton taught sociology at WMU for 33 years, retiring in 1978. He wrote several books that were standards in the teaching of sociology for decades, including "The Sociology of Social Problems." In 2001, Paul and Rachel Horton celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.
Gift of Hall family property benefits music education students

A wooded 40-acre parcel of land in Osceola County, Mich., has been converted into approximately $84,000 in support for music education majors, thanks to the generosity of Stuart R. Hall of Otsego, Mich.

Hall, whose son, Glenn, is a laboratory supervisor in industrial and manufacturing engineering at WMU, gave the real estate to the WMU Foundation, which recently concluded the sale of the property. Proceeds from the sale will be used to fund the Stuart and Norma Hall Endowed Scholarship Fund for music education majors. The first Hall Scholars will be named in fall 2003, according to Dr. Richard N. O’Hearn, director of the School of Music.

“Graduates of our music education program have gone on to highly successful careers,” says O’Hearn. “This gift acknowledges the quality of that program and lends valued support to our music education majors.”

Binda Foundation supports excellence by example

Student teachers and educators beginning their careers are the beneficiaries of a $259,000 commitment from the Guido and Elizabeth Binda Foundation of Battle Creek, Mich.

The Binda gift will be used to fund the Exemplars in Education program in the College of Education. The program identifies a small number of exceptional educators who are willing to have their classroom practices videotaped and serve as mentors to others just beginning their careers.

Elizabeth H. Binda has been involved in education all her adult life. She taught in the WMU College of Education and served as an elementary education consultant for Battle Creek Public Schools and as a trustee of Kellogg Community College. Her late husband, Guido, was a nationally regarded architect, specializing in school buildings. The Bindas established their foundation in 1977 to support their charitable and educational philanthropy.

Guido Binda was a director of the WMU Foundation from 1981 until his death in 1998. Following Guido’s death, Elizabeth completed his term on the foundation board, and in 2001, she was named a director emerita.

Lenon funds fifth Medallion

Alumnus Richard A. Lenon, a director emeritus of the WMU Foundation from Glenview, Ill., has given $96,000 to his alma mater to fund three additional Medallion Scholarships. He has previously funded two Medallions, the University’s most prestigious merit scholarships.

Lenon, retired chairman of the board of International Mineral & Chemicals Corp., earned a bachelor’s degree in social sciences from WMU in 1941. He served as a director of the WMU Foundation from 1979 to 1992 and received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1976.
In 1984, Dr. Paul Clements left Harvard University with a B.A. in social studies, ready to face the world. A few months and more than 3,800 miles later, he did.

In a tiny African nation not quite twice the size of Delaware, Clements landed a Peace Corps assignment teaching math to seventh- through 10th-graders who, on the first day of school, showed up en masse with machetes—to cut the grass.

It was in Gambia, where “catching a ride” sometimes meant squeezing into the back of a tattered pickup truck between temperamental goats and squawking chickens, that Clements learned lessons to last a lifetime.

“You get a vivid sense of our privilege, and you learn quickly how much you really need—or don’t need—to live,” says Clements, the village teacher-turned-WMU professor who is working to make the Peace Corps experience par for the course. Literally.
The classroom goes global
In February, WMU introduced a Peace Corps option in its longstanding Master of Development Administration program, making the new collaborative effort the first of its kind in Michigan and one of a select few nationwide.

And the timing couldn’t have been better. On Jan. 29, President George W. Bush announced plans to double the Peace Corps’ volunteer ranks by 2007. By late May, the agency had received more than 4,000 applications, up 18.3 percent from the same time last year. Inquiries alone jumped by 38 percent.

The new WMU program option is affiliated with the Peace Corps’ Master’s International Program, which helps meet the overseas demand for Peace Corps volunteers with high levels of education and technical expertise. It also offers students more international experiences.

Directed by Clements, an assistant professor of political science, WMU’s program prepares American students to work in the public or nonprofit sectors in developing countries, or in international development.

“Peace Corps often is the first experience that connects you on a human level in an international way,” said Dr. Jody Olsen, deputy director of the Corps, during her April visit to WMU.

She and others see the program as expanding WMU’s global reach while offering participants valuable know-how —the kind of real-world experience many students lack when they land their first development jobs.

“If all you have is a textbook education, then good luck,” says Clements. “So many students study the development of emerging countries, but have no experience of what it’s really like out there. Serving in the Peace Corps as part of their academic program will increase their understanding of these countries and the challenges they face.”

Cultivating American interest
Housed in WMU’s Department of Political Science, the new program demands 30 credit hours of course work in which students take on such issues as affordable health care, small business, agriculture and project management.

Following their classes, students get a 27-month assignment in a developing country where they must complete a major field paper.

“Back in the 1960s, WMU had an undergraduate degree program to prepare people to serve in the Peace Corps. Today, WMU’s commitment to the Peace Corps and international development is as strong as ever.”

Historically, WMU’s 28-year-old MDA program has drawn few American nationals. But Gus Breymann, director of WMU’s Lansing campus and a former Peace Corps volunteer, believes that is about to change.

“Until now, most of the students in the MDA program have been international students who come to study in the United States. The new option will allow those international students to interact with American students who will then serve as volunteers in development all over the world,” says Breymann, who volunteered in Sabah, Malaysia, from 1964 to 1966 and worked four additional years as a Peace Corps staffer in Southeast Asia and Washington.

From Belize in Central America to a group of small islands called Vanuatu in the southwest Pacific Ocean, WMU alumni are making Peace Corps contributions. The countries highlighted above represent the current locations of 14 alums who are serving in the Peace Corps: Armenia, Belize, Benin, Bulgaria, Cameroon, El Salvador, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Mali, Panama, Paraguay, Vanuatu.
Committed to service

The Peace Corps is nothing new to WMU. Since the Corps was launched in 1961 by then-President John F. Kennedy, upward of 88 alumni have volunteered. Currently, about 14 WMU graduates are serving in countries around the globe, from Benin to Bulgaria.

“WMU has a longstanding track record of training people for the Peace Corps and providing volunteers,” says Scot Roskelley, a public affairs specialist for the Corps.

Given last year’s terrorist attacks, that commitment is critical, says Clements.

“Prior to about 1991, international politics were carried out in a Cold War environment,” he says. “But now, for Americans to have a personal understanding of the way of life for people in developing countries is more important than ever. Sept. 11 brought it forcefully to the forefront of our consciousness.”

STORY BY GAIL TOWNS—GAIL.TOWNS@WMICH.EDU
IMAGES COURTESY OF DR. PAUL CLEMENTS, CHRISTY HONSBERGER, AND HETHER FRAYER

'Toughest job' includes Jamaica

On a typical morning, Alanna Randall, B.A. ’00, is perched on the porch of her little wooden house that sits on stilts, sipping Central American coffee while watching the traffic—toucans and parrots included—go by.

Then it’s off to work at the Chaa Natural History Centre, where she is creating an archeology and history curriculum, or over to the Eligio Panti National Park, where she’s developing visitor center exhibits. She also sets aside time for her village “jumpstart” program designed to teach English to 4- and 5-year-olds.

“The cheesy slogan, ‘It’s the toughest job you’ll ever learn’ is true,” says Randall who has worked in Belize as a Peace Corps volunteer for a year now. She joins a current class of WMU alumni who are stationed in countries from Armenia to Vanuatu.

“No one tells me what tasks I must perform each day, and only I know if I work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or from midnight to 5 a.m.,” she says. “This makes it tough, but I love it.”

A similar passion has been ignited in more than 165,000 volunteers over the 41-year history of the Peace Corps, an idea that was hatched around 1 a.m. on Oct. 14, 1960, on the steps of the student union at the University of Michigan.

That’s where John F. Kennedy found himself after a long day on the campaign trail, and while most members of the press had gone to bed, about 10,000 students were waiting to hear him speak.

It was then that they heard Kennedy’s challenge to serve their country and the cause of peace by living and working in the developing world.

It’s a charge that Christopher Carew, B.S. ’99, embraces as a Peace Corps volunteer in Jamaica.

Yes, Jamaica.

“When I tell people where I am, they immediately think I’m out on the beach, soaking up the sun, having fun and everything’s ‘cool mon’,” he says. “That’s not what I see at all.

“I live in a farming community where there isn’t much work, illiteracy is high and there’s no running water,” explains Carew who lives and works in a government-operated nature reserve.

“I drink rainwater. I see donkeys go by and people carrying loads on their heads.”

Carew works to promote the nature reserve, a 202-acre area filled with insect-eating plants and birds and plant life that is endemic to Jamaica. In his spare time, he teaches computer skills and reading, and tend to his own garden of basil, cilantro and medicinal plants.

“One of the biggest lessons I realized in coming here was how lucky we are to be in America,” says Carew, whose term expires this summer. “I developed more respect for my country as a result of being out of it.”
Register online with no additional charge!

WMU Homecoming

Campus Classic

Oct 12 '02

www.wmich.edu/race
Pitching Bronco Pride
An array of Western pennants representing the University's earlier eras are pictured here pointing to a photo of the first baseball pitched at WMU's Hyames Field in 1939. Shown from top left, are: the oldest known school pennant from Western State Normal School; a pennant using the Bronco logo and seal often seen in the 1960s and 1970s; another Western State Normal School pennant from the period prior to 1927; and one of the first uses of "WMU" on a pennant that was handmade before new signage reflecting the school's university status became available.