Executive keeps on challenging herself

As brand director of Coors Light, M. June Smith is the highest ranking female marketing executive in the beer industry. The 1972 Western graduate was named to her current position in July of last year and has total responsibility for the financial performance and marketing strategy for Coors Light, which is produced by the Adolph Coors Company of Colorado.

That high-level position, however, is far removed from the teaching job Smith accepted after graduating with a major in English. But then, she's the first to explain that her career path "certainly couldn't have been charted. All my jobs were good training, and I learned a lot from each of them," she says. "I moved twice for family reasons, yet even those occasions provided opportunities for new experiences and a well roundedness."

In addition to taking advantage of every opportunity, Smith's secret to success also includes meeting every challenge with zeal and dedication, always remaining positive, and simply working hard.

"I believe by keeping a positive attitude, I can do anything. You owe it to yourself to be positive. If you emit positive energy, that will come back," she says, adding that she was raised believing a person is rewarded for a job well done.

As for being a woman in business, she says, "I guess I was naive enough to think being a woman didn't matter. I had no inbred fears."

Smith's career odyssey began when she was a junior at Coloma High School. She recalls meeting some Western professors who were in town for a career day program. "After that meeting I was convinced I wanted to go to college and I wanted to attend Western," she says.

Her high school counselor, however, thought she should pursue an associate degree in secretarial studies at a smaller school and wouldn't recommend her for admission. "So I went to Ferris (University) for a year, received good grades, and transferred to Western where I wanted to go all along," she recalls.

Forgoing her interest in a business career, Smith says her continued interest in business prompted her to attend college and she wanted to attend Western. "At that time, it was considered better for women to become teachers rather than have careers in business," she says. Although she has fond memories of teaching, Smith says she was made aware of the field's limited opportunities for advancement. "I wanted to do something that would challenge me and that I could do at a high level," she says.

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Among Alumni

California alumni meet with Haenicke

Alumni had a chance to meet and talk with President D. H. Haenicke and his wife Carol when they had recently attended several alumni gatherings in California.

Left: Gerald Frey, B.B.A. ’61, and his wife Sherry chat with President Haenicke, left, during the San Francisco Bay area’s November 12 dinner, which drew more than forty participants.

Below: More than sixty Western graduates attended the November 14 dinner at the Southern California Visiting with each other before the dinner, from left, Juji and Steve, B.S. ’72, Holton; Carol Haenicke; Phil Berg, B.S. ’90; Tim Bradford, B.B.A. ’93; and Dave Hampton, B.S. ’75.

Alpha Beta Epsilon plans fiftieth anniversary celebration

Alpha Beta Epsilon, Western’s women’s alumnae sorority, will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of its founding May 14, 1988, in the Bernhard Student Center. President Dieter H. Haenicke will be the guest speaker.

The sorority’s chapters have invited their charter members, scholarship recipients, and past members to attend and help celebrate.

As part of the celebration, the sorority’s originating chapter, Alpha of Benton Harbor-St. Joseph, will host the group’s annual Spring Convention. Alpha chapter president Ruth Johnson and Delta chapter (Kalamazoo) officer and ICC adviser Charlotte Ferraro will co-chair the event.

Alpha Beta Epsilon officially began on Nov. 14, 1938, at the Hotel Vincente in Benton Harbor when a group of alumnae residing in the area initiated it as an alumnae sorority of Western Michigan College of Education. This founding group, under the leadership of Harriet Merle, had wished to maintain ties with each other as well as with its alma mater. Originally named Pi Delta Phi, the organization adopted its current name in 1940.

When it was founded the sorority was the first such organization affiliated with a college at the time, according to then President Paul V. Staige, the purpose of the sorority as stated in its constitution is to promote the well being of its members, to cooperate with Western Michigan University in furthering an interest in higher education, and to form a permanent sisterhood of its members.

In the spring of 1944, Alpha, the mother chapter, took the lead in organizing an Inter-Chapter Council of elected officers and delegates from each chapter to enable sorority to be of greater value to Western. The council’s current president is Alberta Studer of Muskegon’s Mu chapter.

More than 1,160 alumnae have been sorority members, including the 415 current members. Most members are Western alumnae, but up to twenty-five percent can be other women interested in helping the group further its goals.

Sorority chapters are: Alpha, Benton Harbor-St. Joseph; Beta, South Bend-Niles; Delta and Xi, Kalamazoo; Epsilon, Jackson; Eta, Midland; Gamma and Nu-Pi, Grand Rapids; Iota, Battle Creek; Mu, Omicron, and Sigma, Muskegon; Theta, Albion-Marshal; and Zeta, Lansing. All are providing some form of financial aid to current Western students.

The sorority’s main thrust has always been to assist students. Over the years, it has helped 200 students by providing more than $110,000 in scholarships. In addition, it has made contributions to Kanley Chapel, for its organ, pews, and the Rose Window; Draper Hall for its refurbishing.

At the ICC Spring Conference in 1987 the Sorority was invited to write Charlotte Ferraro, 1218 S. Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-3854, for more information.

And we win!

Your Alumni Association will receive a portion of the annual fee and your charges. Arranges now to your application and begin enjoying the many benefits of the WMU Alumni Money Key® VISA Card. Write to the WMU Alumni Association, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-3854, or call (616) 387-6179.

New Alumni Association life members

For more information call the Office of Alumni Relations at (616) 387-6179 or the area event chairperson, Pat Chikolnas at (517) 369-8165.

Regional alumni activities being held throughout Michigan

Branch County

Alumni will gather for their annual spring dinner Friday, May 13, at the Quality Inn, Coldwater. Join them for a reception at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. Reserva
tion forms will be mailed in April.

Michiana Area

Current Western students will join alumni at the Mishiana Area Alumni Relations at (616) 387-6179 or the area event chairperson, Pat Michiana at (517) 369-8165.

Traverse City

The annual alumni spring dinner will be held Saturday, April 30, at the Embers on the Bay restaurant. The evening will begin with a reception at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:45 p.m. Invitations and directions will be sent to Traverse City area alumni in March, or you can call the Office of Alumni Relations at (616) 387-6179 for more information.

Residence Hall Association.

He was also a floor adviser and assistant director in the residence halls.

Western’s alumni relations staff is comprised of Jamie Joseph, alumni relations director; Tracy Connolly and Jean Pitts, assistant directors; Theresa Reiter, secretary, and Bea Clawson, membership supervisor.

New assistant alumni director announced

Tracy A. Connolly, B.A. ’86, has joined the alumni relations staff as assistant director.

Connolly will be responsible for directing regional programs in special areas, coordinating the fifty-year reunion and Homecoming activities, and developing programs for recent graduates.

He will also be the adviser to the Student Alumni Association.

A communication major, Connolly was involved in a variety of activities as a student, including student Homecoming, orientation, Mortar board, and the

Residence Hall Association.

He was also a floor adviser and assistant director in the residence halls.

Western’s alumni relations staff is comprised of Jamie

Tracy Connolly, right, the alumni relations office’s newest staff member, discusses the Student Alumni Association’s annual activity calendar with association president Brian Finkley, a junior from Livonia majoring in occupational therapy.

Don’t leave home without your Gold Pride card

The WMU Alumni Association, along with Independence One Bank, is pleased to offer a special VISA® Classic Card to alumni and friends.

The WMU Alumni VISA Money Key® VISA Card is another way for you to show your gold pride, while at the same time benefiting you and Western.

You win by receiving several great benefits.

• NO ANNUAL FEE for the first year, and just a $15 annual fee thereafter.

• FREE INTEREST for twenty-five days on all purchases—almost one month’s worth of buying power without interest when you pay your balance in full.

• TRAVEL ACCIDENT INSURANCE worth $100,000.

• AUTO RENTAL DISCOUNTS from nationally recognized companies.

• A TRAVEL RESERVATION SERVICE, accessed on a twenty-four hour basis, offering the lowest publicly available airfares, hotel/motel discounts, and much more.

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**Resolutions**

**Pondering what really gives significance to our lives**

**Russell Howes**  
Director, Planned Giving

At the end of the old year, I, like many other people, try to make New Year's resolutions. As 1988 was ushered in, I found myself wondering what it was that really gave significance to our lives.

Is it just statistics? Marion Isabelle Hall was born in Dexter, March 4, 1897. She attended Flatrock High School, and received a limited certificate from Western State Normal School in 1915 and a teaching certificate in 1922. She taught in the Allegan County schools, the Barry County schools, and the Portage schools for more than forty years. But, do those “statistics” tell us all there is to know about Marion Hall?

Is our value equated to the influence that we have on other individuals? As I write this article, I hold in my hand a letter from Mildred Doster, M.D., one of Marion’s former students. Dr. Doster is an eminent physician, twice honored by the American School Health Association.

“Marion used the magic ways that superior teachers have to make us feel our school and classes were the best and happiest places to be,” Doster says of Hall.

That is a stirring tribute to a great teacher, but, again, is that the sum total of a life?

Is a life made up of remembrances and amusing anecdotes, such as the one told by Dorothy Nooney about a third grader in one of Miss Hall’s classes writing this poem: “Here I sit in front of Miss Hall. I’d rather be out playing ball,” or, Marion’s own remembrance of one enthusiastic eighth-grader saying: “Don’t you think it is time we began staying after school and reviewing for that (statewide competency) exam?”

Is life’s significance tied to the great lifetime friendships, such as Marion’s with Elizabeth Smute. Or, is it the legacy we leave behind, such as Marion’s estate gift that established the Marion I. Hall Scholarship Fund at Western. Or, is it, in truth, all of these things and many, many more.

As I write this, I am saddened because I never had the opportunity to personally meet Miss Hall. My knowledge of her was gathered through her writings, statistics, and remembrances of friends. She was a person who gave of herself to others throughout her life and even in her death.

We are diminished by her loss, but hers was a lifetime of giving that touched us and has left this earth a little bit better place than it was before.

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**Wolpe uses pay raise to help students prepare for politics**

U.S. Congressman Howard Wolpe (D-Lansing) has donated a pay raise to help Western students prepare for political careers, and President Diether H. Haenicke has pledged $5,000 in institutional funds to the same cause.

Wolpe presented a check to Western for more than $10,000 on December 7, at which time Haenicke announced his pledge, “I always like to support strong programs whenever the opportunity occurs,” Haenicke said.

Wolpe’s donation is the first installment to establish the Howard Wolpe Fund for the Study of Politics. He announced his intention to reject his annual salary increase last April, shortly after House of Representatives members failed to vote on an automatic pay raise that went into effect April 1. The after-tax amount of the 1987 increase has been accruing in an escrow account since that date. Wolpe has promised to add another $1,000 to $12,000, his 1988 salary increase, to the scholarship fund at the end of next year.

The money will support an $800 undergraduate scholarship or assistantship in political science to be presented annually beginning with the 1988-89 academic year. Dr. Ernest E. Rossi, chairperson of the Department of Political Science, expects the fund to grow to a point where it also could support future special projects undertaken by the department.

“I am paying a debt of gratitude to the University,” Wolpe said about his donation, adding that Wolpe gave him his first job out of graduate school.

The fifth-term congressman, who taught political science at Western from 1969 to 1977, has retained close ties with Western and the Department of Political Science. He also has a long history of opposing pay raises. His pledge never to accept a raise during an elected term has resulted in his refusal of such raises. The first was returned to the federal government, while the second was divided equally among colleagues in his district.

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**Rogers establishes scholarship**

The Department of Occupational Therapy has announced the establishment of the Evalyn Underwood Rogers Scholarship in Occupational Therapy. This is the first major scholarship program established by an individual for the department.

Evelyn Rogers was a graduate of Western’s occupational therapy program in 1922 and has worked extensively in occupational therapy for a number of institutions, including the U.S. Navy. Through this program, she wishes to encourage students who have a serious interest in occupational therapy and demonstrate ability in their first three years of study.

Rogers is a great believer in education and living life to the hilt. Among her most recent adventures were a hot air balloon trip last summer and a trip to Hong Kong this fall (from which she returned and her luggage didn’t).

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**Different type of giving makes for successful annual event**

Taking a no-cost world tour during a single evening is impossible, you say, even in the space age. Taking a no-cost world tour during a single evening is impossible, you say, even in the space age. Is it? The event allowing such a whirlwind trip is International Night, started by history professor Brancas/Mme. Is a life made up of reminiscences and amusing anecdotes, such as the one told by Dorothy Nooney about a third grader in one of Miss Hall’s classes writing this poem: “Here I sit in front of Miss Hall. I’d rather be out playing ball,” or, Marion’s own remembrance of one enthusiastic eighth-grader saying: “Don’t you think it is time we began staying after school and reviewing for that (statewide competency) exam?”

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**Peg runs donates paintings to center**

Mildred Eng, B.A., 34, recently donated two of her watercolor paintings to the Printing Management and Research Center in the newly opened Robert A. Welborn Hall. Mrs. Eng’s husband, Leo, joined her in the lobby of Welborn Hall to view the artwork.

Different type of giving makes for successful annual event

Taking a no-cost world tour during a single evening is impossible, you say, even in the space age. Well, by giving of their time, talent, and energy, Western students and staff have been making that possible for Western and the Kalamazoo community for the past twenty-eight years.

The event allowing such a whirlwind trip is International Night, which is sponsored by the Foreign Study Office. This year’s evening will be held from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Friday, April 8, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Student Center. At least ninety different countries will be represented with elaborate, colorful booths and table displays. More than 300 volunteers will serve as consultants and entertainers, demonstrating once again that giving of oneself can be just as important as financial giving.

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**Students in the Foreign Study Office are just a few of the many people who contribute their time to Western’s annual International Night. Assisting in this year’s planning are, from left, Julie Brancas, Amy Matthew, and Mary LaFleur. All three are seniors majoring in tourism and travel. Brancas is also majoring in Spanish, while LaFleur is also majoring in French.**

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**the Westerner, February 1988**
Two trustees honored for their decades of service to the public

Western’s long-serving trustees were granted emeritus status in December in appreciation of their outstanding public service to the citizens of Michigan and to their alma mater.

The Board of Trustees passed resolutions honoring Fred W. Admas, B.A. ’52, of Grand Rapids, and Charles H. Ludlow, B.S. ’50, of Kalamazoo. Together they served a total of nearly forty-five years until their retirement earlier this year. Both men are recipients of Western’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

Fred Adams
Charles Ludlow

The Board of Trustees also thanked the late David M. Jones, who passed away in July, for his years of service on the board.

The Board of Trustees in December showed its approval for the following changes in the fiscal year 1987-88 salary of each professor of the full five years. The present five-year contract, which began in 1985, was extended to 1992 to coincide with the “golden handcuff” arrangement.

The salary increases and deferred compensation were designed in part to bring Haenicke’s salary more in line with those of other university presidents in Michigan.

For example, University of Michigan President Harold T. Shapiro was earning $135,300 a year until his resignation a few months ago, while Michigan State University President John DiBartolo currently earns $300,000 a year. Both institutions have already created significant compensation packages for their presidents.
Olympic hockey squad shows the Broncos plenty of razzle dazzle during special contest at Lawson Arena

Western's hockey team was one of a mere nineteen National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I college teams selected to compete against Team USA in its pre-Olympic schedule of fifty games.

The Broncos met the U.S. national team December 1 on home ice in Lawson Arena. Although the game went down in the books as a 13-2 loss for the squad, Western played well during the first two periods.

The team trailed only 4-1 at the end of the first period and 6-2 at the end of the second. It was in the third period, however, that the worn-down Broncos were given a hockey clinic by the Olympic-hopefuls.

After completing its pre-Olympic games, Team USA and head coach Dave Peterson of Minneapolis, Minnesota, traveled to Canada to prepare for the 1988 Winter Olympic Games, which began February 13.

The USA squad, a young team made up of the top players from the college ranks, had only two returning players from the 1984 Olympic team—center Scott Fusco of Burlington, Massachusetts, and Corey Millen of Cloquet, Minnesota.

“"We're looking forward to playing the U.S. Olympians. A lot of these guys will be in the pros someday. . . . We'll be able to say things like: 'Hey, I scored against that guy,' or more likely, 'I remember when he scored on me.' . . . For all of us, this game will be one that will leave great memories.""

—Western co-captain Dave Lobdell (senior right wing/defenceman), Mt. Clemens.

Fusco played college hockey at Harvard University and was the 1986 Hobey Baker Memorial Award recipient as the best college player in the United States that year.

Mullen played at the University of Minnesota, where he ranks as the school's third all-time leading scorer with 241 points.

""We set three goals for [the game vs. USA]. We wanted to score on them, do well on the power play, and kill penalties. And we did all three.""

—Western coach Bill Wilkinson

Western sophomore center Jeff Green was one of the eighty who made it to the festival. Green scored two goals and was credited with four assists during the tournament play.

Prior to this year, the United States had earned two Olympic gold medals in hockey, one in 1960 and one in 1980. The United States had finished second five times (1924, 1932, 1952, 1996, 1972) and third once (1930).

Team USA began selecting 1988 squad members last winter. More than 400 players challenged for roster positions during two-day tryouts in the Boston, Detroit, and Minneapolis areas. The top eighty players were then selected to participate at the Olympic Festival '87, with the pre-Olympic squad chosen from among these participants.

""I think that most of the so-called experts are probably picking us to finish fifth or sixth at the Olympics. As always, our goal is to first make the medal round. In that type of tournament, you approach each game as an individual entity—it's impossible to look past any opponent, or to get too emotionally high for anyone.""

—USA coach Dave Peterson

Two Bronco standouts gained national recognition for their athletic prowess

Jesse McGuire
From a school where the cross country program has earned two National Collegiate Athletic Association and fourteen Mid-American Conference titles comes a runner who is adding on to a tradition-rich foundation.

Sophomore sensation Jesse McGuire of Bronson capped his 1987 season by competing in the NCAA Cross Country Championship last fall after placing third in the district IV qualifying meet. For McGuire it was his third 10,000-meter race in as many weeks.

Western coach Jack Shaw noted he turned in a good performance for a first-time participant, coming in fifty-fifth out of a field of 150 of the nation's top collegiate runners.

McGuire placed first in several Bronco dual meets last season, including one in which he covered Western's five-mile Arcadia Course in 25:36, shattering the course record. In addition, he was runner-up in the Michigan Intercollegiate and Central Collegiate conferences championships, and captured the individual title at the MAC championship with a time of 30:16, becoming the first Bronco to win a MAC cross country crown since 1990.

Lise Martin
Lise Martin capped a brilliant volleyball career at Western this year by representing the University at the Yugo East-West Collegiate All-Star Classic held January 16 in Stockton, California.

The match featured twenty of the country's top players.

Martin, who hails from Trois Rivieres, Quebec, came to Western in 1985 after participating in the 1984 Olympic Games as a member of the Canadian national team. She set season individual records in 1987 for kills (524), digs (404), and kills per game (4.30), leading the team to a 28-6 mark and a sixth straight Mid-American Conference championship.

The outside hitter was honored as the MAC's "player of the year" for the the second consecutive season and received All-North Central Region recognition from the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

Western had an 88-19 record during Martin's three seasons in Kalamazoo.
Of mathematicians and bell ringers

Graph theory is music to the ears

When Dr. Arthur T. White’s compositions are played for the first time, they’re premiered not only for the audience but for the composer as well. White never knows what his compositions are going to sound like because he doesn’t play them ahead of time. He can’t; he doesn’t play a single musical instrument. That may sound like a strange admission, but White isn’t an ordinary composer. He’s a mathematician who uses his research in graph theory to write “music” for church bell ringers.

Dr. White says he became interested in bell ringing about a decade ago when one of his graduate students, a musician, was looking for a way to apply graph theory to music for a class presentation. White directed the student to a book that contained a chapter on campanology, or change ringing.

Change ringing started in England

The English developed the art of change ringing in the seventeenth century. By connecting bells to a wheel mechanism, ringers could have more control than when bells were hung on a spindle and chimed solely by ropes.

With the new method, ringers learned they could do more than simply ring a fixed pattern of notes, up or down a scale for example. They could change the order so that an almost infinite variety of note patterns could be obtained—hence the name change ringing.

When White saw his graduate student’s presentation, he realized the research he had been doing was closely related. “I started pursuing the idea and shortly thereafter went to England on sabbatical for a year and talked with a lot of English bell ringers,” White says. “It’s not like traditional composing at all. In fact, I really should put quotation marks around composing. It’s really a sort of mathematical composition.”

There are many different orderings of the bells, he explains, and each ordering is a different change, with each bell rung exactly once in one change. Moreover, in any piece of change ringing, the order is never repeated. “Ideally, one would like to ring all the possible changes,” White says.

“If there are eight bells in the tower, which is a very common number,” he says, “the number of possible changes is eight factorial—one times two times three times four times five times six times seven times eight. That works out to 40,320 changes, which would take almost a full day to perform and has rarely been accomplished.”

Math plus graphs equals “music”

Besides using mathematics to determine how long it would take eight tired bell ringers to finish a piece, White uses graphs to figure out the order in which to ring them. In doing this, however, he has to take into account mechanical as well as mathematical considerations.

For example, once a bell is rung, all the ringer can do is slightly advance or retard the bell’s motion, for its next ring.

“For that reason, it’s impossible to ring a melody because you can’t ring the same note in succession and you also can’t ring a particular bell for a long period of time,” he explains. “In just a matter of a second or two, it’s going to ring again.”

That occurs because the bell rope is wrapped around a circular wheel and tied to the bell. Pulling the rope starts the bell revolving nearly a full 360 degrees. Part way through its revolution, the clapper catches up to the bell and sounds a note. The bell then continues the turn but is stopped from going full circle by a thin piece of wood called a stay. Pulling the rope again reverses the rotation and the clapper makes one more sound as the bell is coming down.

White says mechanics such as that determine a rule central to change ringing: Between one change and the next, no bell can change its order of striking by more than one position. If bell number one played third in a change, for example, it could only ring third in the next change or second or fourth.

Combine that rule with the requirements that each bell be rung only once in a change and with all of the possible changes to be rung and you definitely have a mathematical problem. But it’s the kind of problem White loves to solve by applying graph theory.

Graphs depict what bells to ring and when

The first step is for him to decide which transition rules he will use in his piece. These rules determine in what order the bells will be rung from one change to the next.

“Ringers like to maximize movement of the bells so they don’t get bored,” he says. “They don’t like one bell to ring in the same position for more than four consecutive rows.”

White, who has been working on compositions for five bells, uses three transition rules in his pieces. He determines the sequence in which to use the rules by drawing a graph. Each vertex (the point where two lines intersect) is given a number, White says. Each vertex represents a transition rule.

To write a piece for five bells, White often ends up with 120 vertices—one times two times three times four times five times four. But in certain symmetrical cases, a simpler graph of twenty-four vertices suffices, as in the accompanying photograph.

When he finishes drawing the graph, he traces the path where he can travel to each vertex once and ends up where he started. Then he writes down the numbers that correspond to the vertices and the order in which they’re reached. This believe it or not, turns into a table that bell ringers read as music.

Pure mathematics is pure fun

A distinguished career as a mathematician doesn’t preclude excursions into whim and fancy. Dr. Arthur T. White, a professor of mathematics and statistics at Western since 1969, is a good example. Known as an international expert on topological graph theory, White has impeccable credentials as a researcher.

He has earned a number of scholarly awards, including Western’s Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award for 1987, Western’s highest honor to a faculty member; two awards from the National Science Foundation; and several of Western’s Faculty Research Fellowships. In addition, he has written or co-written four books and more than forty articles for professional journals, and has served as managing editor and associate editor of the Journal of Graph Theory, one of the top research publications in its field.

White doesn’t classify himself as an applied mathematician, whose goal is to solve specific problems. Rather, he classifies himself as a pure mathematician—one who “is free to follow his whim toward whatever discovery seems most pleasing.”

“It’s that spirit that has led him to apply his research to writing music for ringing church bells.”

“A pure mathematician does not seek applications for his work,” he says. “But if one comes along by chance, then so much the better.”

White, who occasionally teaches a class in the Department of English on “good books,” is committed to finding ways to reach out to people with other backgrounds. This past fall, he presented a paper at his Distinguished Faculty Colloquium titled “Classing Bridges.” In it, he discussed the importance of making connections between such areas as pure mathematics and applied mathematics, “hard” sciences and “soft” sciences, and science and the humanities.

White carries out that notion in his daily activities, and he’s found composing music is an asset.

“Now, when I’m asked at a party what sort of mathematics I do,” he says, “I stifle this impulse to say, ‘I’m a topological graph theorist researching the genus parameter for finite groups.’”

“I reply instead that I study the way the English ring church bells. Usually this engenders a lively conversation after that.”

(Continued on page 8)
Western opens the flood gates to water research

Water—Michigan's most visible resource—may also be the state's least understood and most vulnerable asset. Western researchers, though, are not only continuing their efforts to change this situation, but they are expanding those efforts as well.

Currently, the University is attacking the problem on two major fronts.

On one side, Western is coordinating the ongoing work of numerous departments by bringing activities together under one umbrella organization—the newly-created Institute for Water Sciences. The institute is providing the structure necessary for Western to become a leading water research facility for the state.

On the other front, Western is focusing specifically on studying and protecting Michigan's groundwater—water that lies beneath the earth's surface and is vital to the functioning of wells and streams. The Southwest Michigan Groundwater Survey and Monitoring Program is improving understanding about regional groundwater supplies by collecting and disseminating vital data.

Institute serves many functions

The Water Sciences Institute brings together faculty from several departments to conduct a variety of interdisciplinary research and service projects. It serves a number of functions, including promoting water research; developing advanced degrees in water resources management; and providing technical support to government, industry, and the general public.

"Western has developed a reputation for its expertise in this area, and this new entity on campus will assist us as we build from that strength," Provost George M. Dennison said.

The institute's interim director, geology professor Dr. Richard N. Passero, added that "the Water Sciences Institute is a commitment to excellence in water research. It announces our dedication to help resolve state and national water issues."

Past efforts show Western's last fifteen years of extensive water research as laying the groundwork for a field that holds great potential for the University. This groundwork has been laid in such areas as hydrogeology (a geologic study of surface and subsurface water), water use and management, wastewater treatment, and surface water-groundwater interaction, he said.

Several campus units have been involved in that research and are now part of the institute. They include the departments of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, Chemistry, Geology, Geography, and Mathematics and Statistics; and the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, which is affiliated with the the Department of Paper and Printing Science and Engineering.

Wealth of technical resources utilized

A major facet of the institute is the geology department's Water Research Center, which dates back to 1970 and has been a focal point of hydrogeologic research on campus.

Enhancing the University's water research capabilities is the Water Quality Laboratory, which was first funded in 1986 and is affiliated with the chemistry department. The laboratory contains state-of-the-art equipment for conducting water research and provides essential analytical capabilities for Western researchers.

The third major participant in the institute's work is the geography department's Earth Resources Data Analysis System. A computer-based data management system, it is designed to manipulate resource information.

Several kinds of research utilizing all three of those resources is now under way. In the geology department, for instance, Dr. W. Thomas Straw is studying and mapping wetlands and working with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to monitor sediment accumulation in the Kalamazoo River.

From a modified pontoon boat, he and graduate students are taking core samples from the river to be evaluated for the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

At the same time, the geology department's senior researcher Duane Hampton is investigating ways leaking underground storage tanks contaminate groundwater, in an effort to develop corrective strategies.

Another geology faculty member, Dr. Alan Kehew has been collecting chemical analyses of water samples obtained in the Southwest Michigan Groundwater Survey and Monitoring Program to determine groundwater flow patterns and recharge and discharge areas. Meanwhile, Passero is developing a method to evaluate aquifer vulnerability that will be used on the same survey.

Groundwater project is a boon to local officials

The groundwater survey, the University's second major water research effort, represents a major push to put new research into the hands of key decision-makers. Directed by chemistry professor Dr. Donald J. Brown, it has resulted in the most detailed description of underground water supplies amassed to date for its seventeen participating counties.

"There aren't many states in the country that can even approach what the Southwest Michigan water project is doing," Passero noted. "They're very much on the cutting edge of what's happening in groundwater protection."

Already lauded by the state of Michigan as a model for the region, the program is computerizing raw data about groundwater patterns and land use, and making it available to local officials who can help balance economic development concerns with water quality concerns.

Trained local officials with access to an IBM compatible computer can secure vital groundwater data and summon graphic displays of their county's subsurface in a matter of moments.

Data now being published

The survey program has been the water focus of the Science for Citizens Center for the last four years. It is currently winding up the first phase—data collection.

Now entering its second phase, the data collected is being compiled for publication, with the water quality information being summarized on a county, township, and aquifer basis.

Brown calls the survey's first phase simply an attempt to understand the reserve. Now, he said, this understanding must be put into the hands of local decision-makers.

The first three years were the beginning of a process that needs to be carried on statewide, Brown added, noting that the Science for Citizens Center is investigating ways to expand the survey. In fact, the project recently received support from Gov. James J. Blanchard, who has pledged continued state cooperation in the effort.

In a recent letter to Brown, Blanchard lauded the survey work and said it "promises to lead the way for the state in implementing comprehensive groundwater protection. This will save millions of public dollars in cleanup costs."

Interest in the survey is not limited to Michigan, however. Six states in the region sent representatives to a November conference at Western that detailed the project's results, and Brown has taken his work to national and international meetings.

Water quality is a local issue.

Brown said, but there is a central theme emerging in the field of groundwater protection. While the responsibility has been transferred down from the national and state levels, local authorities need help in meeting that responsibility.

"We're providing the support base for local authorities to do the things that many others are just talking about," Brown said.
White (continued from page 6)

He had a good chance to observe such exercises, though, when one of his pieces was performed last summer at Carfax Tower at Oxford University. A group of ringers decided to perform the piece at quarter-peal length, which is 1,320 changes. For the five-bell work of 130 changes, that meant they had to ring the piece eleven times (perform eleven "extents") to come up with 1,320 changes.

"There was a little bit of excitement there," White says with a glint in his eye. "It was really the first time I had been in the tower itself for an attempted performance of one of my own compositions."

The group had rented the tower for an hour and was due to ring for a Sunday service elsewhere immediately after the performance. White estimated it would take the ringers about forty minutes to finish his piece.

Midway through the third extent, one of the ringers had difficulty and the conductor stopped the performance, he says. After a brief conference and twelve minutes into the hour, they started again, but White was beginning to fear the piece might not be completed.

"They were going about quite smoothly," he remembers. "But at about the ninth extent, one of the other ringers started to go wrong." If they stopped there wouldn't have been enough time to start over and finish the work.

"The director shouted some oral instructions. Two or three people made really dramatic leaps on their ropes to slow down their bells to give the others a chance to catch up," White says. "They accomplished that and went on without further difficulty."

White spent the 1984-85 academic year as a senior visitor at the Mathematical Institute and as a visiting fellow at Wolfson College, both at Oxford University. During this time, he continued his research on change ringing and had two of his other pieces rung from bell towers in the city of Oxford.

White explains that the art of change ringing is much more popular in England, where there are some 5,000 towers, compared to the United States, where bells in only 18 towers are hung in the English manner. However, he now may have a place closer to home in which to try out his compositions. In 1984, eight such bells were installed in Stetson Chapel at Kalamazoo College. White's been working with T. Jefferson Smith, who heads the band of bell ringers there to get one of his pieces performed.

Latvian center tied to Western

The Board of Trustees has approved a recommendation for Kalamazoo's Latvian Study Center to use the title, "The Latvian Study Center in Association with Western Michigan University."

Since it was constructed in Praternity Village off West Michigan Avenue in the fall of 1984, the campus six years ago, the center has been privately maintained by the Latvian community. It now plans to incorporate and sought permission to use the name to acknowledge its connections with the University.

The association between Western and the West Michigan community of expatriate Latvians goes back more than fifteen years. Western will be designated as a charter member of the new corporation and will appoint a member to the corporation's board of directors. No contributions or obligations are expected from the University.

Increase in research is paying big dividends (continued from page 1)

unique in the state, allows Western to perform crucial product testing for a number of industries.

The third center receiving research and economic development money is the Water Resources and Contaminant Hydrology Center. It supplies state and local planners and industry with water quality research necessary to enhance industrial development in Michigan.

Ongoing research is varied

Western researchers are conducting a host of other projects, all of which serve the public and enhance the skills and reputation of faculty members. They also offer a critical link to the future by providing training in research techniques to students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

For an institution that is the state's third largest research university, this link could result in Western's most significant contribution to the nation's future—a guarantee that research and inquiry continue into the next generation.

Some of that ongoing research includes:

- Developing high-strength polymer coatings for small engine parts and developing an all-plastic engine.
- Setting up a research facility that will serve as a resource center for the U.S. Foundry Industry and applying a new casting technique that will help U.S. firms compete with foreign manufacturers.
- Developing technology that will apply to companies.
- Obtaining more information about subatomic reactions during nuclear fusion.
- Developing some new equipment that will help U.S. firms compete with foreign manufacturers.
- Developing some new equipment that will help U.S. firms compete with foreign manufacturers.
- Providing some new equipment that will help U.S. firms compete with foreign manufacturers.

Coors executive M. June Smith accepts challenges and opportunities (continued from page 1)

June Smith has never been one to turn down a challenge or an opportunity, and Coors offered both. She didn't refuse the job. They wanted her to be part of the team to develop a new promotional campaign, she says. "It was more than just a new campaign. The 'Coors is the One' campaign with Mark Harmon marked the first time the beer industry had used a spokesperson. It was an exciting opportunity and certainly a challenge." Moreover, the position represented a move from regional to national advertising, she says, and offered her the opportunity to work in television advertising again.

Smith launched a series of new television and print advertisements last fall specifically for blacks, Hispanics, and women. Each campaign carried its own theme and slogan. "One of our major competitors uses the same type of commercial for everyone," Smith says. "I think consumers respond better when you address them individually."

"Both my personal and professional goal is to achieve the No. 2 spot," she adds, noting that Coors is currently selling third in the light beer market. "And down the road, I want Coors Light to be Number One."

When asked what she considers her most important career achievement to date, Smith says this is "a tough question because I consider every job a challenge for different reasons. It is great to be where I am," she says with pride, "but I don't consider that as big as the hurdles I crossed to get here."

Remembering her days at Western, both as an undergraduate and while taking graduate classes in counseling and personnel, Smith says she believes her education has served her well in everything she has done. "I loved it, I absolutely loved it," she says. "My courses at Western broadened my thought process."

In addition, she says her education courses have added greatly to her management style. "In fact, I believe a course in teaching should be added to management curricula," she continues. "Teaching is an important part of managing. My graduate coursework at Western was a great difference in my ability to manage and work with people."

Since her promotion in 1987, articles about Smith have appeared in more than twenty publications, including Forbes, the Wall Street Journal, and Advertising Age. She was also named one of Colorado's "women of the year in 1987 and as one of Denver magazine's "Dynamite Denverites." Currently, she is featured on Western's Wall of Distinction, which recognizes alumni for significant professional achievements early in their careers.

"That is the best of all," Smith says. "To be recognized by your school; it's the best. Western was a great place to go to school."
1966-67

James J. Lentini, MBA '94, has been appointed a member of the Financial Accounting Standards Board. He has been director of research and technical activities for the Connecticut Board since 1992.

Lawrence D. Cain, MBA '65, has been elected president of the New Vic Theatre in Clawson Co., Middletown, OH. He is executive vice president of the Michigan Industrial Developers Association. He is district manager for Michigan Bell Telephone Co., and lives in Livonia.

Dr. Michael F. Tobin, EdD '70, has been promoted to assistant vice president for trust business for Beardsley & Son, Inc., Battle Creek.

Dr. David J. Pruis, MA '71, was promoted to assistant director of the Battle Creek Youth and Family Services, Inc., Battle Creek.

The class of 1938 will return to 'the Hilltop' June 17, while their future classmates of the Class of 1938 and the Class of 1946 will participate in their fiftieth and fortieth reunions. The association is asking for help in locating several members of both classes. If you have a current address for any of the alumni listed on this page, please forward the information to the association so we can invite them to these special reunions.

Alumni relations office seeks names of lost class members

This June the Alumni Association will welcome back the Class of 1938 and the Class of 1946 to participate in their fiftieth and fortieth reunions. The association is asking for help in locating several members of both classes.
Nominations sought for Association’s 1988 awards
The Alumni Association Board of Directors encourages interested alumni to submit nominations for the Distinguished Alumni and Teaching Excellence awards, using the forms appearing on this page.

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes graduates who have achieved a high level of success in their respective professional field. Teaching Excellence Award recipients are full-time faculty members who are considered exceptionally effective by their past and present students. The 1988 selection committees for the awards need your assistance in identifying deserving candidates. Please complete the nomination forms and send them by March 25 to: Western Michigan University, WMU Alumni Association, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-3854.

Recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award will be announced in the August Westerner. Recipients of the Teaching Excellence Award will be announced in the November Westerner.

David Denos, BS '73, has been appointed manager, sales and planning, for the General Motors Steering Systems business unit in Saginaw.

Ronald Heinze, BA '73, has become principal of the North Elementary School, Birch Run.

Gary A. Libbey, BS '81, has been elected a director of the Tax Executives Institute Board. He is director of taxes for the Kelley Co., Battle Creek.

Roland Reinheier, BA '73, was elected to the Kalamazoo City Commission last November. He is a Comestock teacher.

Edward J. Samovenie, BA '73, has become manager health care administrator in the Central region for The Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo.

Shay H. Weissbach, BA '73, MA '74, has been promoted to district sales manager for the Southwestern district, Kalamazoo sales area, The Upjohn Co.

1974-75

Eric Durham, BBA '74, has been promoted to senior vice president-loan administrator for First of America Bank, Marquette.

Dr. Todd Lilje, BS '74, has opened an office for the practice of osteopathic medicine in Kent City. He graduated in 1986 from Michigan State University.

Trudy Vander Laar, BBA '74, MBA '92, has earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Thomas Cooley Law School, Lansing.

Dr. Marilyn Schrack, EdD '74, has been named to the Kalamazoo City Commission by the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners. She is president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Laurelbird, BS '74, has been promoted to administrator of packaging and new product development for the Valentine Division, Ashland Oil, Inc., in Lexington, KY.

Jaye Segal, MA '74, is now director of communications for Davenport College, Kalamazoo.

Robert A. Straus, MA '74, was elected to the Kalamazoo City Commission last November. James Martin, BS '75, is now account manager for Richel Aid, Inc., in southeast Florida, and lives in Boca Raton, FL.

William Costant, BA '75, MA '78, has become Escambia County editor for the Cadillac News.

John Jance, BS '75, has been named Exchange Agent of the Year by the Coldwater Exchange Club. He is commander of the Coldwater post, Michigan State Police.

Nancy S. Lohman, BS '75, has been appointed an account executive, MarketReach for Upjohn HealthCare Services, Kalamazoo.

William A. Moore, BS '75, has become a partner in the Detroit law firm of Hills, Lewis, Adams, Goodrich, and Tate, and continues to work in the firm's Detroit office.

Kenneth J. Nockels, MBA '75, has become chief operating officer of First Interstate Corp., Holland.

Glenn Northrup, BS '75, has been promoted to director of corporate marketing for Stuckle Inc., Grand Rapids.

Jeffrey Patten, BS '75, MS '78, has become director of the Pleasant Ridge Center for Children and Adults at the Kalamazoo Regional Psychiatric Hospital.

Deborah Carr, BS '76, is a third-year law student at South Texas College of Law, Houston, and presented a paper at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association last October in New Orleans, LA.

Patricia Fagan Cogemberg, BS '76, was re-elected to the Kalamazoo City Commission last November.

Deborah Peszaty Dolaiowski, BA '76, has had three of her one-act plays selected for production by the New Playwright Festival of the Actor's Theater in Grand Rapids. She is now completing a Master of Fine Arts degree.

Timothy P. Csrey, BS '76, has been appointed federal magistrate for the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for his law practice in Marquette.

Sheila C. Day, BS '76, has become a member of the faculty of American Technological University, Redwood Center, Killeen, TX, teaching marketing.

Bertini Sarvis, MA '76, is the co-author of a new book, Teaching the Abortion Controversy. She is a free-lance writer and rehabilitation counselor, living in St. Petersburg, FL.

Tom Bostons, BBA '77, has become a part owner of The Joes Financial Cos., Grand Haven.

Jim Derraa, BS '77, has been named an account supervisor at Ross Boy, Inc., Detroit.

Thomas P. Fox, BS '77, MA '78, has been named assistant principal of Cooperville Junior High School.

Anthony A. Gauthan, BS '77, has been promoted to senior vice president for business services at SunBank/South Florida, Ft. Lauderdale.

Lewis Al Glaser, BA '77, has become a member of the graphic design faculty at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX.

Daniel Hars, BS '77, has become art director for Nordstrom/Co Marketing, Grand Rapids.

Richard A. Johnson, BBA '77, MBA '80, has become an installment loan officer for Old Kent Bank, Holland.

Gregory A. Kusterer, BSE '77, has become manager of quality engineering for the Bendix Basics and brake components division in St. Joseph.

Marcella Mills, MFT '77, has become director of occupational therapy at the Woodson Wilson Rehabilitation Center, Fishersville, VA.

Allie Dace Goodrich Numan, BS '77, MA '80, is among 50 women cited throughout Michigan as "Women of Achievement." She is dean of business at Kellogg Community College, Battle Creek.

Donald Walker, "77 Robert Hoffman, "78

Cindy Posthumous, BBA '77, MBA '81, is the new business manager for Gulf Lake Schools, Richland.

Carole Samuels Stazy, BS '77, MA '79, has been named "vocational teacher of the year" by the Michigan Occupational Education Association. She is a nursing educator at the Van Buren Skills Center, Lawrence.

Donald J. Walker, BS '77, MA '78, has been named an attorney in the finance and law center of The Tenkman Co., Canton, OH.

1976-77

Douglas Brewer, BS '78, has become principal of the Battle Lake Elementary School, Harper Creek school, Battle Creek.

cy Danso, BS '78, has formed a new consulting firm in Southfield called The Public Image.

John F. Barnsworth, BBA '78, has joined Bishop & Cooperin, CPAs, in Kalamazoo.

Robert C. Hoffman, BBA '78, has become an installment loan officer for Comerica Bank, Detroit.

David M. Sagley, BBA '78, have been named an associate with Crowe, Chizek & Co., in their Oak Brook, IL office. He lives in Naperville, IL.

Terry Schwettman, BS '78, has been promoted to city planner in Rentwood.

Edward Burnham, BBA '79, has been elected vice president of the Battle Creek Independent Insurance Agents Association.

Dr. Manzoe Maaddi, MA '79, has been appointed an assistant professor of sociology at Eastern Michigan University.

Danny M. Maone, BBA '79, has joined Lawrence Management and Investments, Kalamazoo, as an associate.

Kimberly Niescuk, BS '79, is now manager of Dancer's Fashion Store fashion. Algen.

Steven Oelkeunar, BS '79, has become a counterpart for J. Baker Advertising, Troy.

Jill Denman, BA '77, has been named an account executive, MarketReach for Upjohn HealthCare Services, Kalamazoo.

Edward Burnham, BBA '79, has been promoted to midwest sales manager for LyphoMed, Inc. He lives in Gross Pointe.

NOMINATION FORM

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The Distinguished Alumni Award is the most prestigious award presented to a Western Michigan University alumnus. Recipients must be outstanding in their particular professional field and must be present at the October 1 awards dinner. Nominees’ resumes may be included along with this form as additional information. When filling out this form, please print or type.

Nominee’s Name: ____________________________

WMI Graduation Year: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ______ Zip: ____________

Current Professional Title: ____________________________ Organization: ____________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ______

Other Academic Degrees: ____________________________

Professional Responsibilities (both current and historical): ____________________________

Other Pertinent Information: ____________________________

Nomination form must include supporting information to be considered.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Teaching Excellence Award candidates are full-time faculty. As there are many characteristics of an effective teacher, the selection committee seeks professors who:

• Possess knowledge, skill, and interest in their area of teaching

• Organize requirements clearly and manage the course effectively

• Demonstrate resourcefulness

• Arouse interest in the subject and foster intellectual curiosity

• Structure instruction so as to facilitate learning

• Have taken under Nominee (number of title)

• State Conditions

• Nominee's Name: ____________________________

Name of Ward: ____________________________

Department Name: ____________________________

Appropriate Date/Contact Information: ____________________________

Supporting Information (use additional sheets if necessary)

*(Nomination form must include supporting information to be considered by the selection committee.)

Donation for Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-3854.
Spring display of her paintings shown in the Walwood Union Gallery.

Joseph DICK, BBA, '86, is now a mortgage loan officer for First National Bank of Kalamazoo.

Barbara Walsh McBride Brown, seventy-six, the daughter of Western's first president, was born December 20, 1935, in Grand Rapids.

Brown attended Western from 1953 to 1955, receiving a bachelor of arts degree. She began her undergraduate education at the University of Wisconsin, but transferred to Western in her junior year. In 1984, Westerner interview, she said she made the assistant professor appointment "so I could get my diploma from my father."

To this day, I don't know what we said to another when I received my diploma," she said. "But whatever it was, it was very personal."

She married, Dwight B. Walsh, was president of Western from 1963, when the institution was founded as Western State Normal School, until 1936 when he retired. Brown, who lived most of her life in Kalamazoo, was a charter member of the American Hockey League. He is the daughter of Western's first president, and is survived by one daughter, two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Dwight "Bud" Walsh McBride of Schenectady, two stepdaughters; one stepson; two daughters, Dolly Stapel and Betty, B.M., of Hillsboro, South Carolina; and twelve grandchildren.

Surviving are one daughter, Barbara M. Bridges of San Carlos, and a granddaughter, April Price from the President's Club "because my father gave something back to the institution."
Laura V. Shaw

Remembered with praise and poetry, just as she had wished

The former head of the Western's theatre department, Laura V. Shaw, was remembered with praise and poetry in a memorial service January 10 held on the campus of the theatre that is named for her.

Shaw, ninety-six, died December 28 and was remembered during the service as she had wished, by former students who came to celebrate life, and her husband, B.A. '32, who came from her home in Hollywood, California; and Zack York, B.A. '32, who was the former head of the theatre department and who himself has a performance stage at Western named in his honor.

"We, students of Miss Shaw, hope that you will as fully appreciate our three generations of working together on this last assignment that give us," York said, recalling Shaw as having high expectations and little patience for the superficial. "We've had it for a long time."

York said Shaw wanted her memorial "to be a happy occasion. She wanted to celebrate life and living, and we're here today to do just that."

Shaw, who had degrees from Ohio Wesleyan University and the University of Michigan, came to Western in 1938 and three years later became head of what was then the Department of Speech. Theatre production was the province of the Players, a group Shaw headed throughout her career at Western.

Theatre later was a part of what is now the Department of Communication until the College of Arts and Letters was formed in 1976. At that time, it became a separate department within the college. The University's main theatre was completed and named for Shaw in 1968. A plaque there declares, "She held the magnificence of theatre at the speaking of the language."

Shaw retired in 1953 after thirty-five years of unstinting service to friends who would say, uncompromising service. In addition to Jackson, best known for her role on the long-running television series "The Waltons," and York, other former students include actor David Wayne, B.A. '32, and the late Jack Zaremba, "the Hills Brothers coffee spokesperson."

Jackson, Wayne, and Zaremba were reunited in Western's Diamond Jubilee benefit performance of Eudora Welty's "The Ponder Heart," which York directed, in 1977. It established a theatre scholarship honoring Shaw, who, in the audience, and helped perpetuate one in Wayne's name. Jackson most recently returned to Western in 1985 in "Ufoatre at Shaw Theatre.

Jackson, who read Robert Frost's "The Road Less Traveled" and from the Spoon River Anthology by Edgar Lee Masters, said that, too, had had a mission a long time.

"Like Jack, I've had this for almost sixty years," she said, recalling some praise Shaw had given her in class. "You may read poetry at my funeral," Miss Shaw told me. And here I am.

"I was, as you can imagine, quite taken with that," Jackson continued. "But at the end of the semester, I received a "C" rather than the 'A' I had expected." I went to Miss Shaw and said, "There must be some mistake."

"No," Miss Shaw said, "There's no mistake."

"But there sure is," I replied. "I am the best in the class."

"You were very good," Miss Shaw said. "But you were capable of so much more." She graded you by how well you fulfilled your capability, not by how you matched with someone else.

"Somebody once defined education as a long love affair," said Jackson. "It was a beautiful day."

"Laura Shaw wanted us up. She stirred our souls. She was a great example to all of us," York then read from a letter from Dr. Clara N. Bush, B.S. '44, of Sanford, Florida, the third of Shaw's former students she had wanted to read at her memorial service. Bush, a member of the Western faculty in the mid-1950s, could not attend.

"Laura V. Shaw was a remarkable teacher," Bush said in her letter. "She is remembered not only by a theatre named in her honor at Western, but also by a living heritage of her students wherever they are, giving back some part of what working with her was.

The memorial service included musical selections from the play "Quilters." A benefit performance of the play was scheduled to support its entry in regional American College Theatre Festival competition as well as its national performance January 8 in South Bend, Indiana, were dedicated to Shaw.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Laura Shaw Scholarship Fund in care of the Department of Theatre, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-3899.

Laura Shaw

Editor's Note: The following story is an edited version of comments written about Laura Shaw by Beatrice Harmon, a former assistant professor of communication arts and sciences.

On April 18, 1956, Laura Shaw had her ninety-fifth birthday. What a gift it was.

All day she had callers who came to pay tribute to this once great actress and university teacher. The flowers, plants, cards, and birthday remembrances blanketed the little study in her home where she had her reception. Callers were greeted with the cheery voice known to so many throughout the years.

One cannot forget her voice. Maria Ouspenskaya, the great Russian actress who later appeared in American films, described Laura Shaw's voice as the best she had ever coached. Miss Shaw has always used it most effectively and she has been a marvelous example to the hundreds of students fortunate enough to know her as one of Western's finest teachers.

No one could ever call Miss Shaw an easy teacher. She was not one who could be deceived by her own work. She never waivered from the demands and the discipline she imparted to her students. She insisted upon the best from herself, as well.

Consequently, she was the best of Western's most popular teachers.

As is true of most who love the theatre, Miss Shaw also had a sense of fun and a lightness in her interests which added to the pleasure of others. Jaunts such as a drive through the countryside to view colors or a trip to northern Michigan for a weekend of meandering through back roads and orchards are memories her friends will not forget.

Laura Shaw was known for her enthusiasm for anything new. At the same time, she received satisfaction from the old. Moreover, she always took an interest in others' concerns. A sturdy cover to protect a friend's upholstery from that friend's cat would become a major project until solved by her.

The memorial service included musical selections from the play "Quilters." A benefit performance of the play was scheduled to support its entry in regional American College Theatre Festival competition as well as its national performance January 8 in South Bend, Indiana, were dedicated to Shaw.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Laura Shaw Scholarship Fund in care of the Department of Theatre, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-3899.

—by Michael J. Matthews

Former faculty member reflects on Shaw

Among the many friends of Laura Shaw attending her memorial service were former student Mary Jackson, right, who took some time to chat with Shaw's niece, Dorothy Walton Schmitt, and former student Zack York.