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's what you will get 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 imbed 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's degree in secretarial studies at a smaller school and wouldn't recommend her for admission to Western. But Smith, who went on 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 taught English, communication, theatre, and physical education in Berrien Springs for four years after graduating from 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 her continued interest in business prompted her to place an application with an employment agency in St. Joseph. As a result Honeywell, Inc. in Detroit hired her as a sales representative in 1976. She was one of the first five women hired for industrial sales by the company, which wanted to add women to its sales force. Within her first year, she became one of the firm's top sales representatives.

Believing sales didn't fully utilize her creative talents, two years later Smith accepted the position of marketing manager at Tyson Foods, and soon after was promoted to director of advertising. While at Tyson she introduced the Chick-n-Quick line of frozen poultry, which is currently the company's top selling product.

Her career took off from there. An executive "head hunter" for the Miller Brewing Company in Milwaukee offered her a job as assistant brand manager for Miller Lite in 1980. Smith says she "jumped at the chance" to learn additional skills from one of the nation's largest advertisers. At Miller she was directly involved with the commercials starring Bob Ueker and Rodney Dangerfield in Miller's "tastes great/less filling" campaign.

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University getting new phone numbers

Western has changed its phone system as part of an $8.8 million telecommunications network. Work continues on rewiring the campus for voice, data, and video transmission, but the switch over to the new telephone system took place March 4.

At that time, all University numbers changed. To contact a campus office, persons may call the central University number, 387-1000. An operator will transfer callers to the person or office they wish to contact.

Increase in research is paying big dividends

Digging up artifacts along Michigan highways and studying the behavioral effects of antiepilepsy drugs have more in common than one might think.

Both involve Western faculty and students in conducting significant scholarly research and both reflect the University's renewed commitment to expanding its activities in this important area.

That renewed commitment is part of a campuswide effort President Dietrich H. Haenicke launched when he came to Western in August of 1985.

"We must never lose sight of the fact that a university is a place of learning and inquiry, and a university is not just for students," Haenicke said at the time. "Scholarly research and teaching on the university level are critically interdependent."

The pro-research atmosphere at Western has resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of research and special programs proposals faculty members submit for funding, according to Dr. Donald Thompson, chief research officer for the University. Consequently, Thompson noted, the success rate for funding these proposals has also increased.

Doubling of grant funds in sight

If the current trend continues, Western will soon double the amount of money it receives in external grants for research and sponsored programs. Projections call for yearly grant total to reach $8 million by July 1990—up from $3.9 million received during the 1984-85 fiscal year.

Last fiscal year's grant total reached a record high of $5.6 million, and the current year's fiscal total is already running about 58 percent above the amount received by this time last year. These funds come from an array of federal governmental bodies (24 percent); state and local governmental bodies (27 percent); private foundations and organizations (17 percent); businesses, industries, and other supporting institutions across the nation (42 percent).

RESEARCH

"The support Western Michigan University receives for conducting research and service projects is an affirmation of the proper balance the University strives to achieve in serving the community, state, and nation," Thompson said.

Unique partnerships have developed

That balance has led to numerous unique partnerships between the University and the public and private sectors, and more will evolve as the University expands its research capabilities. In fact, a major step in this expansion will be taken in April when a new computer network will link Western researchers with five National Science Foundation supercomputing centers and with fellow researchers at universities around the country. Already, however, scores of major research projects are currently being conducted on campus, including several at three special centers receiving financial and support from Michigan's Research Excellence and Economic Development Fund.

One of the three, the Horticultural Economic Development Center, provides timely and sophisticated soil and water quality analyses to growers, and is engaging in research that could lead to a new state crop—cranberries.

Meanwhile, the Applied Mechanics Institute, which features a computer-controlled testing machine that is...
California alumni meet with Haenicke

Alumni had a chance to meet and talk with President Diether H. Haenicke and his wife Carol when the two 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 4 dinner in Southern California. Visiting with each other before the dinner were, from left, Judi and Steve, B.S. ’72, Holton; Carol Haenicke; Phil Berg, B.B.A. ’69, Tim Bradford, B.B.A. ’83, and Dave Hampton, B.S. ’75.

New assistant alumni director announced

Tracy A. Connelly, B.A. ’86, has joined the alumni relations staff as assistant director. Connelly 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, Connelly was involved in a variety of activities as a student, including student 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

Among Alumni

Regional alumni activities being held throughout Michigan

Branch County
Alumni will gather for their eighth annual spring dinner Friday, Nov. 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.

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

MICHIGAN AREA

Current Western students will join alumni at the Western Student Alumni Association’s annual 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 reservations 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.

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New Alumni Association life members

Walter J. Leiby, B.B.A. ’58, of Saugatuck, is the newest member of the Michigan Alumni Association. He and his wife, Carolyn, are longtime Western supporters and have funded two scholarships at the university. Leiby is also the president of Grand Rapids-based Leiby/Steele Inc., a real estate development company. He is a member of the Western Fund Board and the Alumni Board of Directors.

Leiby and his wife, Carolyn, have two sons and a daughter. Their daughter, Christine, is a senior at Western and is majoring in business administration.

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Giving

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 gives significance to our existence.

Is it just statistics? Marion Isabelle Hall was born in Doster, March 4, 1897. She attended Flatland 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 Noney 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 Snautz. 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 reminiscences 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.

Wolpe uses pay raise to help students prepare for politics

U.S. Congressman Howard Wolpe (D-Lansing) has donated a portion of his 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 $10,000 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 similar to a colorful bazaar event's atmosphere is similar to a colorful bazaar featuring hundreds of foreign students wearing their national dress. Visitors can amble from booth to booth, learning a few words from a variety of languages, viewing cultural demonstrations and displays, and watching musical and dance performances. There's even an International Tea Party sponsored by the Bernard Student Center Board.

Rogers establishes scholarship

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

Evelyn Rogers

Rogers was a graduate of Western's occupational therapy program in 1965 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.

Visitors can walk away with armloads of travel and study brochures, in addition to a new understanding of other cultures. For additional information, those interested may contact the Foreign Study Office by calling or writing Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-5177. 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 Branca, Amy Matthews, and Mary Lafleur. All three are seniors majoring in international therapy for a number of years. 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).
The tales they could tell—and did

Dr. Lewis H. Carlson watched the 1988 winter Olympics with more than casual interest, and so did readers of a book he co-wrote.

Carlson, a professor of humanities, has spent the past two years immersed in the tales of athletic prowess and human emotion that unfolded whenever the international competition is held.


The book recounts the personal remembrances of fifty-nine Americans with one common bond—having won an Olympic gold medal. Carlson and Fagoty's search for gold medalists took them all over the country, tracking down addresses and arranging interviews with well-known and the unknown surviving winners before their stories were lost forever.

Their trips took them as far back in time as the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden, as seen through the eyes of ninety-six-year-old Abel Kevis, 1,000-meter relay of New York, right up to the 1984 games in Los Angeles with stories from track winner Carl Lewis and wrestling gold medalist Jeff Blatnick, who won a bout with cancer before winning the gold.

Among the athletes featured are Aileen Riggin, the first American woman gold medalist, (upright rowing, 1900); U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley (basketball, 1964); and pediatrician Dr. Benjamin Levin (row, 1928). Reviewers have applauded the book for many reasons, including the variety of sports it covers, the historical information it presents, and the behind-the-scenes descriptions of the triumphs, tragedies, political maneuverings, humor, and romance which aren't found in the official historical record.

When it comes to humor, many critics, and Carlson himself, revel in the account by Helen Stephens, a Missouri farm girl who won gold medals in the 180-meter dash and the 400-meter relay during the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Stephens was summoned to private audiences with Adolph Hitler (the only American to be so invited) and Hermann Goering. Both men made no secret of their admiration for the unbeatable eighteen-year-old called "the Fulton Flash."

As Stephens tells it, upon meeting Hitler she gave him "a good of Missouri handshakes" in response to his war salute. "Well, immediately Hitler goes for the jugular vein," she says, adding that he pinched her face and hugged her while saying, "You're a true Aryan type. You should be running for Germany."

Along with the humor and tales of individual triumph, however, Carlson sees another important theme in the book. "These stories provide a variety of perspectives on what is not right with the Olympics," he says, citing excessive nationalism, political intrigue, and commercialism as the negative trends that have emerged. "We found among older athletes a compelling interest in their Olympic experience that one seldom finds today.

Two trustees honored for their decades of service to the public

Western's longest-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 Grosse Pointe 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 Alumnus Award.

It was Gov. George Romney who appointed Adams to Western's first separate governing board in 1964. Adams was the first trustee elected to chair the group.

While busily engaged in his professional career as an American Motors Corp. executive and as a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development staff member, Adams frequently used most of his vacation days to attend University functions. A 1964 legislative resolution cited him as an "exemplary citizen and stalwart advocate of higher education (who) has played a significant role in making Western Michigan University the highly-regarded institution it is today."

Ludlow was praised in the Board of Trustees' resolution for giving "the time and talents to Western in the development of such key areas as financial analysis and data processing, while providing wise counsel and setting fiscal standards of the highest integrity."

Ludlow, who retired in 1984 after thirty-four years with The Upjohn Company of Kalamazoo, rose to the position of vice president. He served as the company's chief financial officer and director of the international pharmaceutical firm.

New board officers elected

In keeping with the precedent of Trustees' bylaws that seniority be a key criterion, Alfred L. Edwards of Ann Arbor was elected chair at the board's annual meeting January 15.

Edwards, who was appointed to the board in January 1981, is a professor of business administration at the University of Rochester where he is also director of the Division of Research in the Graduate School of Business Administration.

Carol A. Waskiewicz, B.A. '59, M.S.L. '75, of Kalamazoo was elected vice chair. Waskiewicz is an English teacher at Kalamazoo Central High School and a former Kalamazoo County commissioner.

The other board officers are Western administrators and were re-elected. They are: secretary, Chauncey J. Brin, vice president for development and administrative affairs; treasurer and assistant secretary, Robert M. Bean, vice president for business and finance; and assistant treasurer, Gerald C. Scherman, controller.

All officers were elected for one year, as prescribed by board bylaws.

Board shows its support for President Haenicke

The Board of Trustees in December showed its approval of President Diether H. Haenicke's performance by awarding him with a salary increase and a special deferred compensation package.

Crediting him for creating "a true renaissance on our campus," the board gave Haenicke a 5.75 percent across-the-board salary increase (the same amount all faculty received), plus a 2 percent merit increase. The two raises are based on Haenicke's $100,730 salary, resulting in a 1987-88 salary of $108,504, retroactive to July 1.

In addition, the board agreed to set aside $53,000 each year for five years with the understanding that the accumulated money can only be collected if Haenicke remains at Western's helm for 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 $125,300 a year until his resignation a few months ago, while Michigan State University President John DiBaggio currently earns $330,000 a year. Both institutions have already created significant compensation packages for their presidents.

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(continues on next page)

The Westerner

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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-nine 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 college ranks, had only two returning players from the 1984 Olympic team—centers Scott Fusco of Burlington, Massachusetts, and Corey Millen of Cloquet, Minnesota.

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

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.

"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/defensiveaman), Mt. Clemens.

"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, 1956, 1972) and third once (1930).

Two Bronco standouts gain 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 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 1960.

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 (534), 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 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.

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.

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 each bell was rung by a ropeone-by-one. The clapper makes one more sound as the bell revolves nearly a full 360 degrees. Part way through its revolution, the clapper catches up to the bell and sounds a note. But in certain symmetrical configurations the graph of twenty-four vertices suffices, as in the accompanying photograph.

When he finishes drawing the graph, he traces the path the rope will travel. “I’m always seeking the best way through its revolution, the violation of performance rules. I sometimes try to find a way that avoids the loss in change ringing.”

Without 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 saw that my ideas and perhaps my research had applications in the world of bell ringing.”

To demonstrate those applications, White uses graphs to figure out the order in which to ring the bells. 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.

“One 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 changing 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 set of numbers corresponding to the number and order of bells. From each vertex emanates a set of three lines—each representing 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 configurations a smaller graph suffices.

Pure mathematics is pure fun

A distinguished career as a mathematician doesn’t preclude excursions into whimsy and fantasy. 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 “Crossing 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 smile and go on 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 find myself engaged in a lively conversation after that.”

(Continued on page 8)
Western opens the floodgates 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 major research force in the state.

On the other front, Western is focusing specifically on studying and protecting Michigan's groundwater—water within the earth's subsurface soils 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. Demirsin 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."

Passero tells Western's last fifteen years of extensive water research as laying the groundwork for a field that holds great potential for the University. This groundwater 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 1976 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 research work.

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.

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 resource. Now, he said, understanding must be put into the hands of local decision-makers.

The first three years was 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 many 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-ball 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 Fraternity Village off West Michigan Avenue 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 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 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.
- Obtaining more information about subatomic reactions during nuclear fusion.
- Developing a lightweight data storage system for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
- Conducting theoretical graph research that the U.S. Navy's Office of Naval Research hopes could lead to practical applications, such as discovering new medicines which are closely related to existing ones but which have fewer side effects.
- Preparing a comprehensive educational program to enhance the education of handicapped students.
- Evaluating changes needed in tamper-proof packages to make them more accessible to elderly and handicapped individuals.
- Developing procedures and technical processes to assist the paper industry.

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 also taught me 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 1988 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."

---by M. Jane Jeremy
1902-59

Ruth M. Scherer, TY, '14, is now a resident of the Savannah River, GA.

Doris Batiste Bates, TC, '29, BS, ED, and her husband, Joseph, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in September in Kalamazoo.

Rex Shadelhofer, BS, '20, has received an honorary membership in the NYMA Family Christian Association. Morganer. He has been NYMA member there for sixty-five years.

Mary N. Olin, BS, '29, is the author of a book, Fan with Pampas, aimed at carving artists. She is now President.

Bob Dresser, BA, '45, has recently been inducted into the Port Huron Sports Hall of Fame. He was coach of the unbeaten 1947 high school team. He lives part of each year in St. Clare Shores.

John Burkhardt, BBA, '48, has received Corporate and Professional Insurance Agents. He is with the University of Michigan's Heritage Building, chapter, Tax Executive's Institute. He is an advisor professor of industrial engineering technology.

Flora Rea Bragg, BS, '55, has been promoted to director of tax accountancy, benefits, property and sales taxes for The Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo.

Robert L. Linn, BBA, '56, has been named to the president at Saginaw Valley State University, Saginaw, after having been an administrator at Ball State University for several years.

Matthew W. Quinn, BA, '81, this fall was elected mayor of South Bend, IN.

Gary Smith, BS, '89, has received the Air Force Commendation Medal at Washburn Air Base, MI, in September. He is a military engineer with the 279th Squadron.

John G. Tammel, BS, '89, has been named to director of tax accountancy for The Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo, and lives in Livonia.

Dr. John Falan, BS, '69, has been named associate professor of industrial engineering technology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and lives in Livonia.

Dr. Donald A. Anderson, MBA, '72, has been named director of marketing planning for The Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo.

Dr. David D. Jr., BS, '65, has joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as an associate professor in the College of Business Administration. He is director of the Illinois Business School.

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Distinguished Alumni and manager, sales and planning, for the General using the forms appearing on Creek.

Shay H. Weisbach, 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 Lijie, BS '74, has opened an office for the practice of osteopathic medicine in Kent City. He graduated in 1986 from Michigan State University.

Troy Van Duyk, BBA '74, MBA '90, has earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Thomas Cooley Law School, Lansing.

Dr. Marilyn Schlack, EdD '74, has been named to the Kalamazoo Board of Commissioners. She is president of the Kalamazoo City Community College.

Lance Schuh, BS '74, has been promoted to administrative packaging and new product development for the Kellogg Company, Battle Creek.

Gary A. Reimer, BBA '73, has been elected a director of the Detroit Area Sales Organization for the Bendix Specialties Division.

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

Kevin J. Needham, MBA '75, has been chief operating officer of First Interstate Corp., Holland.

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

Jeffrey Patton, BS '75, MA '76, has been named director of the Pleasant Ridge Center for Children and Adults at the Kalamazoo Regional Psychiatric Hospital.

1976-77

Deborah Barr, 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 in Atlanta, GA.

Richard A. Johnson, BBA '77, MBA '83, has been named an account supervisor at Ross, By, Inc., Detroit.

Thomas F. Fox, BS '77, MA '78, has been named an assistant professor of Marketing at Grand Rapids Community College.

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

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

Daniel Hars, BS '77, has become an associate professor of Business Administration at Eastern Michigan University.

Karen A. Johnson, BS '78, has been named a member of the administrative faculty at the University of Findlay, OH.

Gary Dembs, BS '78, has joined the Kalamazoo Public Safety Department.

Trudy Yaeger Luedecking, BBA '77, MBA '81, is the director of quality assurance for the Michigan Mutual Insurance Company, Livonia.

David S. Stuehler, BBA '77, MBA '81, has been named a member of the executive committee of the Michigan Mutual Insurance Company, Kalamazoo.

Douglas Bower, BS '78, has become a management consultant for the Warner Bros. Talent Agency, Los Angeles.

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

John S. Farnsworth, BS '79, has joined Bishop & Casper, CPA's, in Kalamazoo.

Robert C. Hoffman, BS '79, has become an installation loan officer for Commerce Bank, Detroit.

David M. Jagny, BBA '79, has been named an associate with Crowe, Chizek & Co., in their Oak Brook, IL, office. He lives in Naperville, IL.

Terry Schwettman, BS '79, has been promoted to city planner in Wyoming.

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

Dr. Marjorie Macandrew, MA '79, has been elected a member of the Executive Board of the American Psychological Association.

Kimberly Niesmeyer, BS '79, has joined the management team of the Family Fashion store, Allegan.

Steven Ockerman, BS '79, has become a financial consultant with R. J. Baker Advertising, Troy.

Jeffrey A. Schmitt, BS '80, has been named an assistant professor of Fine Arts at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.

Donald Walker, '77 Robert Hoffman, '78

Nominations for the 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 those graduates who have achieved a high level of success in their particular 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 committee for the awards will announce the August winner. Recipients of the Teaching Excellence Award will be announced in the November Westerner.

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. Nominations may be submitted along with this form or in writing. (When filling out this form, please print or type.)

Nominees Name: __________

Western Michigan University

Graduation Year: 

Address: 

City: 

State: 

Zip: 

Phone Number: 

Professional Responsibilities (both current and historical) 

Education: 

Majors: 

Other Information: 

Supporting Information* (use additional sheets if necessary)

NOMINATION FORM TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Teaching Excellence Award is presented annually to selected members of the faculty. As there are many characteristics of an effective teacher, the selection committee seeks candidates who: 

Are able to communicate effectively 

Are professional in their approach to their work 

Are recognized and respected by their students 

Are devoted to their work 

Demonstrate resourcefulness 

Demonstrate creativity in the classroom 

Standards for evaluation of candidates for the award:

A comprehensive knowledge of their field 

Innovative and interesting teaching methods 

The ability to motivate students 

The ability to communicate effectively with students 

The ability to think original and stimulating ideas 

The ability to foster student learning 

The ability to work with students in the classroom and in the laboratory 

The ability to inspire students to learn

*Nomination form must include supporting information to be considered by the selection committee.
Joseph Dick, BBA '84, is a mortgage loan officer for First of America Bank of Kalamazoo. Aljo Lepore, MBA '84, has become a research client for Midwest Marketing Research, Kalamazoo. BBA '84, has received an award for outstanding achievement in institutional construction. He is with Bronson Builders and Designers, Kalamazoo.

Karen A. Balko, BBA '81, is now assistant portfolio manager for Securities Counsel, Inc., Kalamazoo, an affiliate of First of America Bank. She was director of the Music Performance Institute for thirteen years, retiring in 1972. She has become an assistant principal of Berrien Springs High School.

Barbara Waldo McBride, seventy-six, the daughter of Western's first president, died December 20 in Funkhouser Hall. She was the daughter of Western's first president.

Barbara attended Western from 1933 to 1933, 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 1944, Westerner interview, she said the assistant professor of business administration at Kalamazoo College.

"To this day, I don't know what we were doing to change when we received my diploma," she said. "But whatever it was, we did it twice because I didn't get my diploma from my father."

"For the woman of the year in 1984 as a member of the President's Club because it was a question of wanting to be the best father but you didn't get the diploma back to you.

Surviving are one daughter, Barbara M. Briganti of Southfield; two grandchildren; brother; and one sister.

Walter "Bud" Waldo McBride of Schoolcraft; two stepdaughters; one stepson; two daughters, Dolphy Stiegler, B.A. '84, of Southfield, Michigan, and Betty Thun, B.A. of Rome, Georgia; one granddaughter; and one great-grandchild.


doctorate in law, and was also a coach, principal, and superintendent in Coldwater, Michigan, teaching social studies. After her retirement she traveled to Rome, attended the World Olympics, and was a member of the Italian Women's Club.

She added that she became a member of the President's Club "because it was a question of wanting to be the best father but you didn't get the diploma back to you.

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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 was remembered during the service as she had wished, by former students who came to celebrate life, and was remembered during the service as she had wished, by former students who came to celebrate life, and was remembered during the service as she had wished, by former students who came to celebrate life, and was remembered during the service as she had wished, by former students who came to celebrate life.

The former head of the Western's students who came to celebrate life, B.A. '37, her successor as head of the teacher and reading consultant, B.A. '32, who came from her home in teaching in 1968.

and Calhoun counties, before moving to daughter, three grandchildren, and his mother.

Matthew.

while playing basketball. He had served as special assistant to Gov. George Romney and national security adviser under Romney's 1968 presidential campaign. He also tried an executive assistant to Gov. William G. Milliken.

Most recently he was senior civil service in Michigan's adjunct general. He leaves his wife, two daughters, and one son, and grandchildren.

H. Marie Parrish Shaw, B.A. '40, died September 25 in Evansville. She was a retired teacher, and leaves one daughter, three grandchildren, two brothers, and one sister.

Jack L. Clark, M.A. '52, died November 18 in Kalamazoo where he had been an elementary education teacher since 1959. He leaves his wife, Physill Clark, B.A. '50, MS '72; two sons; one daughter; and one granddaughter.

Dwight Large, a Methodist minister and said, 'There must be some mistake.'

Naomia Conners Soderberg, B.A. '50, M.A. '74, died July 23 in Ottawa, ON. She was her mother.

Dwight Large, a Methodist minister

Eulah Glade, '49, died October 10 in Portland, OR, age 74. She was the only child of her parents, three brothers, and one sister.

Edna Uspanskya, the great Russian actress who was born at the end of the 1800s, was remembered with praise and poetry.

Shaw's former colleagues from the Western's Department of Speech, Theatre production was the provincial 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 Communication Arts was established in 1967. 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 gave the magnitude of theatre, and said, 'There's no mistake.'

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

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

"Somebody once defined education as the process of waking up to all the lies we've been told," Miss Shaw continued. "Laura Shaw woke us up. She stirred our souls. She came and went, not only by a theatre named in her honor at Western, but also by a living heritage of her stories, wherever they are, giving back some part of what working with her was to them.

The memorial service included musical selections from the play "Quilters." A benefit performance of the play was held in 1989 to support its entry in regional American College Theatre Festival competition as well as its performance at Save the States and the performance January 8 in South Bend, Indiana, were dedicated to Shaw.

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

Former faculty member reflects on 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, 1986, Laura Shaw had her ninety-fifth birthday. And 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, cards, and birthday recognitions ranked the little study in her home where she had her reception. Callers were greeted with the eerie voice known to so many throughout the years.

One cannot forget her voice. Maria Ouspanskaya, the great Russian actress who later appeared in American films, described Laura Shaw's voice as the best she had ever heard. 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 or one who was ever intimidated by the power of her words. 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 is one 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 friends will not forget.

Miss Shaw was known for her enthusiasm for anything new. At the same time, she received satisfaction from the old. Moreover, she also took an interest in the others' concern. A sturdy cover to protect a friend's upholstery from that friend's cat became a major project until solved, and she would attack it with a vengeance.

And, because only she could relate the saga of Western's earlier years, Laura Shaw never ceased to fascinate those of us who remember the scene after her retirement.

Miss Shaw has not only achieved, but she has evoked achievement.

Her own education was unique in that she is the only person to have studied with the two teachers who were instrumental in establishing speech as an academic entity—Robert Folsom of Ohio Western University and Thomas Clarkson Trueblood of the University of Michigan. Thus, she formed the bases for transmitting speech heritage, as no other could, to those generations of students fortunate enough to have enrolled in her classes.

As Dwight Large, a Methodist minister once said, she preached a much better sermon in her plays than he preached in his sermon.