HUMOR—from high-brow wit to screw-ball shtick, through good times and bad, it lifts our spirits and lightens our stress load. In literature, film, television, clubs, classrooms, and conversations, humor helps provide perspective on ourselves and others. “Human beings are the only species who laugh, yet there is no physiological reason why,” says Ray Caskey, a 1988 graduate of Western Michigan University’s specialty certificate program in holistic health. But Caskey and Laurie Morris Young, M.A. ’70, another graduate of the specialty certificate program, believe so strongly in the therapeutic importance of laughter that they’ve based a business on it. Through their company, Laughter Works, Caskey and Young present workshops on stress management that emphasize the use of humor as a coping device. The two also teach Health and Humor, a graduate-level class in WMU’s Division of Continuing Education.

“In a society where stress is so prevalent, it’s hard for people to get along,” says Caskey, who with Young presented a paper at the Tenth International Humor Conference held this July in Paris. “That’s where laughter comes in; when you’re laughing, it’s impossible to fight or flee. Laughter forges a bond between people: it’s how we survive with ourselves and others.”

Humor has long been a sub-art form, spawning respected genres of literary writing such as hyperbole, satire, irony, and parody. In recent years, though, many academicians, health professionals, and others have taken a closer look at the role humor plays in maintaining an healthy spirit and lightens our stress load. In literature, film, clubs, classroom, and conversations, humor helps provide perspective on ourselves and others.

Tim Allen’s gags, gadgets, and grunts build a solid hit

Who’s this character on prime time TV, swaggering around in a tool belt, grunting like a pig, and sending his show’s Nielsen ratings through the roof? And isn’t that a boyish father of three sons. The ABC situation comedy finished No. 5 in the Nielsen’s last year and ranked as the biggest new hit of the 1991-92 season.

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Three receive honorary degrees

Congressman Howard Wolpe, balletmaster Jürgen Schneider, and medieval specialist Dr. Hans-Erich Keller are all recent recipients of honorary degrees from Western Michigan University.

Congressman Howard Wolpe received an honorary doctor of public service degree June 27 at WMU's commencement exercises. A member of WMU's Department of Political Science from 1967 to 1972, Wolpe has represented Michigan's 3rd Congressional District since 1978. He has announced plans to retire after his current seat was eliminated by redistricting.

His congressional activities have included opposing apartheid; supporting environmental protection, energy, and research and development issues; and advocating policies to improve business competitiveness and encourage regional investments in infrastructure, education, and worker training and retraining programs. Wolpe has also been instrumental in helping WMU secure several federal grants and has donated three congressional pay raises to the University, creating the Howard Wolpe Fund for the Study of Politics and supporting the University's Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations.

Schneider, the founder of WMU's annual ballet teacher seminar and student conference in the Russian method, received an honorary doctor of fine arts degree August 8. Schneider was presented with the degree at the concluding event of this year's seminar and student conference, which was celebrating its tenth anniversary. A native of what is now Germany, Schneider was a principal dancer with two East German ballet companies before studying in the Soviet Union, where he later trained with the Bolshoi Ballet and the Vaganova Choreographic School.

He joined the American Ballet Theatre in New York in 1974 as a coach and teacher. He became balletmaster two years later and held this position until 1991. Schneider was the private coach to Natalia Makarova and Mikhail Baryshnikov, among others. He also performed with the American Ballet Theatre and served as balletmaster in the popular movie, Turning Point. He currently conducts teacher training programs and master classes in ballet throughout the United States as well as abroad.

At a special convention May 7, WMU presented an honorary doctor of humane letters degree to Keller, professor of Romance literatures and linguistics at Ohio State University. The convention was conducted during WMU's International Congress on Medieval Studies, which is sponsored by the Medieval Institute.

Keller has provided strong support for the institute's efforts to encourage research and to advance knowledge of medieval culture. For the last four decades, in both Europe and the United States, he has made essential contributions to the understanding of medieval and modern Romance languages and literatures. He is one of the world's foremost authorities on the medieval epic, The Song of Roland, and has taught at the University of Michigan in addition to universities in Switzerland, Austria, and the Netherlands.

Below: The term "book learning" has a special meaning for medieval scholars visiting Kalamazoo. Each year, thousands of medieval scholars from around the globe gather on Western Michigan University's campus to compare notes on the Middle Ages at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, the world's largest and best known gathering of medieval studies specialists. "My colleagues around the world refer to Kalamazoo as 'Mecca for annual pilgrimages by medievalists,'" says Dr. Otto Gründler, director of WMU's Medieval Institute, the congress sponsor. This year's event marked the thirteenth anniversary of the congress, which was first convened in 1962 with 150 participants. The congress will return every other year until 1970 when it became an annual event. In 1979 the word "international" was added to the congress title to reflect its standing in the world community. This year participants came about from twenty-three countries.

Right: On April 29 WMU celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its master of business administration degree in Grand Rapids with a reception at the Grand Rapids Regional Center. Participants included, from left, President Dethier H. Haenicke; Susan Sherman, M.B.A. '87, executive director of the Grand Rapids YWCA; Grand Rapids Mayor John Loger; and Dr. Darrell G. Jones, retired dean of the WMU's College of Business. Jones, who returned to the faculty this year, was honored for twenty-five years of service to WMU as a faculty member, department chairperson, and dean. The University established its M.B.A. program in Grand Rapids in 1964, one year before opening its regional center in the city. The first M.B.A. recipients graduated in 1967. WMU started offering courses in Grand Rapids in 1916.
**University News in Brief**

**New deans take the helm in four areas**

Dr. Lowell F. Crow has been named interim dean of the Haworth College of Business. Crow has been associated dean of the college since 1979. An associate professor of English, he replaces Dr. Harrell G. Jones, who returned to the faculty after a long and distinguished career at the college’s helm.

Dr. Rollin G. Douma has been named interim dean of the Graduate College. Douma had been associate dean of the Graduate College since 1979. An associate professor of English, he replaces Dr. Laurele A. Grotzinger, who retired from the college after fourteen years as dean.

Dr. Joseph G. Reish, a professor of French, has been named interim dean of the Lee Honors College. Reish had been associate dean of the Lee Honors College since 1988 and was its assistant dean from 1987 to 1988. He replaces Dr. Faith Gabelnick, who has accepted the position of provost and dean of the faculty at Mills College in Oakland, California.

Danny E. Sledge, B.M. ’74, M.A. ’76, has been appointed acting dean of students. Sledge, director of minority affairs since 1988, replaces Dr. Theresa A. Powell, who has been promoted to vice president for student affairs. Sledge is a former director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Program and a former associate director of the Office of Admissions and Orientation.

**University sets eighth straight grant record**

Grants awarded to WMU reached a record of nearly $13.4 million at the close of the 1991-92 fiscal year. The total reflects a $1 million or 9 percent increase over the previous fiscal year. This marks the eighth consecutive year of record growth in external support for University projects. The 1991-92 figure is nearly $10 million more than the grant total for 1984-85, the year WMU began its move toward becoming a more research intensive institution.

Using the 1984-85 total of $3.9 million as a benchmark figure, President Dieter H. Huisken challenged the faculty in 1986 to double research awards within five years. This feat was accomplished with the close of the 1987-88 fiscal year, and the amount was more than tripled by the end of 1990-91. According to Dr. Donald E. Thompson, WMU vice president for research, the record total reflects a broad base of research activities now firmly established at the University, continued growth in several key areas for which WMU has achieved national and international recognition, and the contribution of both veteran campus researchers and productive new members of the faculty.

**Program aids financially strapped students**

WMU’s newly created Job Opportunity Bank program, similar to the national work-study program, will assist new students this fall who are feeling the pinch from recession-induced financial aid problems. Three vice presidents have set aside 250 student jobs that on the average will provide $4.35 an hour for ten hours a week for thirty weeks during the regular 1992-93 academic year. This amounts to $1,305 per student, or about $312,000 of the University’s $4.3 million in student wages.

“As our dependency on tuition for revenue increases, we need to focus much more attention on the structure of our financial aid packages,” said Dr. Nancy S. Bates, WMU provost and vice president for academic affairs. “Because this new demand comes on the heels of a flat state appropriation and serious economic belt tightening, we need to be more creative, and I believe the JOB program is a modest effort to provide more employment opportunities, rather than have these new students mortgage their futures by taking out more loans.”

**Hood, Wolfe join race, ethnic relations board**

State Rep. Morris Hood (D-Detroit) and U.S. Rep. Howard Wolpe (D-Lansing), two persons who have been named to the advisory board of the Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations in the College of Arts and Sciences. The board, one of the first of its kind in the nation and the first to be announced in Michigan, was established to promote academic inquiry into the causes of and solutions for ethnic tension. It oversees programs that contribute to public understanding of racial and ethnic issues. In 1989 Hood was instrumental in funding state support to establish the institute and in 1990 Wolpe donated his congressional pay raise to the institute.

The other advisory board members are: Joyce A. Brown, president of the Battle Creek Urban League; Dr. Douglas P. Ferraro, dean of WMU’s College of Arts and Sciences; Linda Gilard, executive director of the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan in Grand Rapids; the Rev. Dr. Otta Gilyard, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Kalamazoo; Beverly A. Moore, M.S.W. ’82, mayor of Kalamazoo; Linda Mah, staff writer at the Kalamazoo Gazette; James R. Moby, Jr., editor of the Kalamazoo Gazette; Jorge J. Ruano, director of the American Council of Kalamazoo; Dr. James Ruddy, superintendent of the Benton Harbor Public Schools; Dr. Luis H. Toledo, transplantation surgeon at Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo; Dr. Valora Washington, vice-president program at the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek; and Debby Vincent, director of the Institute at the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek; and Carolyn H. Williams, director of the Kalamazoo Juvenile Education Center. The institute director is Dr. Earl M. Washington.

**Belleville wins prestigious MASEA Award**

Gary L. Belleville, director of the WMU Student Employment Referral Service, has been named the prestigious Cherie Lenz Award from the Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators for his contributions to student employment and long-time service to the organization. Belleville is the only second recipient of the award in the organization’s thirty-one-year history. He has served on the MASEA’s executive board and currently chairs its long-range planning committee. He was recognized in part for being instrumental in developing a state network for student employment administrators that is now being used as a national model.

**College creates physician assistant department**

The College of Health and Human Services now has a Department of Physician Assistant to better integrate graduate and professional education to meet the projected need for new social science faculty at WMU. It is intended to serve the needs of public history and political science are being offered in addition to the thirteen doctoral programs WMU already offers. The PhD. in history emphasizes cultural and social history theories and methods within multiple interdisciplinary research techniques on many forms of material evidence. It is intended to serve the needs of public history and applied career fields as well as to train college and university faculty. The PhD. in political science emphasizes the comparative study of political systems, political institutions and processes. It is designed to meet the projected need for new social science faculty at colleges and universities in the next decade.

Two graduate specialty certificate programs have also been added to the numerous programs the University offers through itsMuskegon Regional Center. The holistic health care and the alcohol and drug abuse program are being offered in Muskegon for the first time. Both eighteen-hour programs designed for persons who already hold a graduate degree or who plan to pursue one of the two specialties in conjunction with a graduate degree. The health program seeks to improve the effectiveness of human services professionals through advanced training in select areas, while the alcohol and drug program seeks to train substance abuse professionals in a variety of important areas.

**Foundation honors two outstanding volunteers**

The Foundation recognized Willard G. "Bill" Brown, Jr., B.S. ’53, of Chicago and Patrick A. Waring, B.S. ’65, of Grand Rapids for their outstanding contributions as fund-raising volunteers. The two were honored at the sixth annual University of Volunteers Recognition Dinner and Dance. Waring was inducted as a member of the University and Brown was named Volunteer of the Year. The academy was established in 1985 to recognize the contributions of volunteers to fund raising at WMU. This year’s program included a celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the WMU Foundation.

Brown, a foundation director since 1983 and a member of the President’s Club of major donors, is chairman and chief executive officer of Rubloff, Incorporated, a national corporate and institutional real estate company headquartered in Chicago. He was a 1983 recipient of the WMU Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award and, from 1986 to 1989, served three consecutive terms as the foundation’s chairperson. Waring is an attorney at Davenport College in Grand Rapids. She was cited for her leadership as chairperson of the 1991-92 Annual Fund for Western and for her role as co-chairperson of the Grand Rapids area campaign for WMU’s new business building. She and her husband, William, B.B.A. ’63, are members of the President’s Club of major donors.

**Southwest Regional Center moves to new offices**

WMU has relocated its regional center from Michigan College to St. Joseph High School under a five-year lease agreement for use of a wing at the high school. The college’s student health center will complete its Mendel Center for Arts and Technology, combined with growth in other areas, has resulted in insufficiency of space. WMU will add to its current complex by offering nine degree programs, the center has satellite receiving, video and cable television capability, and provides access to the MichNet computer network, a statewide resource for worldwide information.

**Library group launches charter membership drive**

Individuals willing to strengthen and support the activities of WMU’s libraries are being offered the chance to do so. The Friends of the University Libraries has launched a charter membership drive directed at individuals and organizations outside the University and WMU faculty, staff, and students. The group’s goals are to offer an opportunity for interested individuals to come together with a common interest in the literary and cultural activities of the University libraries, to encourage gifts and bequests for the libraries, to take part in special projects, and to aid in the development of special collections. Individuals interested in joining the Friends, or for more information, University Libraries may obtain membership information by calling (616) 387-5152.

**Sky Broncos take second place in safety contest**

WMU’s precision flying team, Sky Broncos, took second place overall in a national collegiate safety competition at the National Intercollegiate Safety Conference April 29 through May 2 in Louisiana. The Sky Broncos finished two points behind the No. 1 team in the national standings. The Broncos placed first in flight events. They were still nine points ahead of the third-place team, the U.S. Air Force Academy. WMU has also hosted Ohio State University, the University of Illinois, the North Dakota, and twenty-two other programs that had qualified for the national competition.
Six athletic standouts named to hall of fame

Six outstanding athletes who competed from the 1950s through the 1970s were the newest inductees into WMU’s Athletic Hall of Fame during ceremonies September 18.

Pat Asbury

John Cook

Gary Harris

Research Summit

Department builds popular teaching tool
Everyday citizens in classroom, nature centers, libraries, and museums from Oregon to New York are getting a peek at the principles of groundwater flow and contamination by viewing working models developed and produced at WMU. The acrylic models, which look like small aquariums, are designed to teach both elementary and sophisticated groundwater concepts. Originally produced a dozen at a time for groundwater workshops, they have proven so popular that the graduate students who assemble them are having a hard time keeping up with demand.

The WMU Groundwater Simulator II models provide a side or “slice of earth” view of terrain typical of Michigan and similar to that seen in other parts of the country. They show the increasing interdependence between geography and groundwater and how to protect Michigan’s leading source of drinking water. Passengers began looking at groundwater models in 1984. “It was trying to prove that public officially and found all of them bad problems and were too expensive for most teachers and others,” said Dr. Richard N. Passero, professor of geology and coordinator of WMU’s Groundwater Education in Michigan Regional Center.

Engineer uses math to project AIDS spread
By reducing the number of AIDS cases to mathematicians, Dr. David A. Cooley, professor of mathematics and computer science, has co-written a book that presents the first full account of the story of the angelfish. The nine- to seventeen-year-olds that he befriended in the last five years of his life. Known to the world as Mark Twain, Clemens was searching for a way to overcome his intense loneliness in the last days before and after the Civil War. He was a Kalamaqua Public School teacher.

Sixth Nobel laureate named to hall of fame

Mark Twain’s Aquarium—Dr. John Cook, professor of music therapy, has written this book tracing the intriguing connections between geography and responsible citizenship in this book aimed at education students and practicing teachers.

Mark Twain's Aquarium—Dr. Joseph P. Stoltman, professor of geography and internationally recognized authority in Appalachian literature, explores the increasing interdependence between geography and responsible citizenship in this book aimed at education students and practicing teachers.

Reinventing Religion: Connecting Cognition and Culture—Dr. Thomas Lawson, professor of religion, and a former student of his, Dr. Robert McCaulay, B.A. 74, associate professor of the philosophy of science at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, have co-written this book challenging previous approaches to the study of religion.

The State of Economic Science: Views of Six Nobel Laureates—Dr. Werner Sichel, professor of economics, has edited this collection of essays. The essays present the views of the economics department’s twenty-fifth annual lecture-seminar series.

Economics—Dr. Werner Sichel, professor of economics, and Dr. Weiland D. Gardner, professor of economics, have revised and expanded the third edition of their best-selling economics textbook, which was co-written with the holder of the Senior International Trade Professorship at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo, Japan.

Music Therapy in the Treatment of Adults with Mental Disorders: Theoretical Basis and Interventions—Mary A. Savel, associate professor of music therapy, and Brian L. Wilson, professor of music therapy, are among the co-authors of a new book on music therapy. The text is designed to help therapists and nurses who have mental disorders work through negative or repressed feelings. The authors are former students of State University, Michigan State University, the University of Iowa, and the Clinton County Day Treatment Center in St. Johns.

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Beulah I. Kendall, a prominent Battle Creek business leader and philanthropist, has provided direct and indirect support to Western Michigan University valued in excess of $2 million. She has contributed approximately $1.6 million to the University to support a series of endowed scholarships and more than $400,000 to the Cereal City Development Corporation to be used for the relocated WMU regional office in downtown Battle Creek.

“Beulah Kendall is a dear personal friend and one of the most generous supporters of WMU in the University’s history,” President Diether H. Haenicke said. “Her gifts enable untold numbers of students in their pursuit of a good education. She will forever be thanked by all those who benefit from her unusual generosity.”

Kendall’s gift is the eighth contribution of $1 million or more received during the $55-million Campaign for Excellence, begun in 1988. Her $1.6-million direct contribution is the fourth largest overall and the largest from an individual in WMU’s eighty-year history. Other larger contributions have been made by the Haworth family and Haworth, Incorporated, of Holland, Michigan; the Irving S. Gill Foundation of Kalamazoo; and The Upjohn Company of Kalamazoo.

The $1.6-million direct contribution will support four separate projects and programs, each named for Kendall and her late husband. They include the Roy and Beulah Kendall Medallion Endowed Scholarship Fund. Medallion scholarships are the most competitive and most prestigious merit-based scholarships at WMU. The Kendall Medallion Scholarship Fund is designated for qualifying high school graduates from Calhoun County, which encompasses Battle Creek.

Another of the scholarship endowments will be used to support professional development programs at the WMU regional center in Battle Creek. The two remaining endowments, each named the Roy and Beulah Kendall Kellogg Community College Scholarship, will support students who obtain a degree at Kellogg Community College.

Beulah Kendall is a longtime benefactor of WMU. Her past gifts include funding for two Medallion Scholarships; a $130,000 contribution in 1986 to the University’s printing management center; and a $100,000 unrestricted gift in 1989 to the President’s Fund.

Kendall is a member of the WMU President’s Club and a member of the WMU Foundation. Born Beulah I. Potter, she married Roy F. Kendall of Battle Creek in January 1933. Roy died in 1978 at age eighty-three.

In 1990 Roy’s father, John Kendall, opened a hardware and mill supply store in Battle Creek. This grew into a chain of stores and eventually into Kendall Industries, which produces material supplies and clothing. Following Roy’s death, Beulah operated the business.

In 1955 the Kendall Foundation was created, and more than $2 million was raised for nearly all of its thirty-three-year history. She served as president of the foundation from 1978 to 1988, when the foundation was dissolved. Kendall is a life-long supporter of the Battle Creek community, with the principal beneficiaries of her generosity being Binder Park Zoo and Kellogg Community College.

University embarks on ambitious project to upgrade athletic, recreational facilities

Western Michigan University’s student recreational and intercollegiate athletic facilities are undergoing a $50 million renovation and expansion.

President Diether H. Haenicke recommended the project after it was recommended to him by a design committee made up of students and faculty staff members. The proposal, which has been in the planning stages for the past seven years, will complement new academic buildings and “provide the missing link for quality of life amenities at this institution,” Haenicke said.

The work is expected to be completed by December 1994 and is being financed by tax-free bonds supported by student fees. Resembling a “sports village” in concept, the improvements are taking place in four phases. An emphasis is being placed on developing high visibility areas and inviting spaces, creating a festive image, providing handicap access, meeting the exercise and recreational needs of males and females equally, and limiting the disruption to on-going programs.

Parts of the project’s first phase already have been completed. For instance, students are now on campus for Homecoming, will find a refurbished Oliver Street entrance to campus, and will even enjoy seeing a remodeled olive-colored street entrance off of Stadium drive, as well as ten new tennis courts in Goldsworth Valley and major improvements, such as lighting, to the valley’s intramural fields.

In addition, the Homecoming game will be played on a newly installed natural grass surface. Waldo Stadium’s artificial turf had been used for the past fifteen years and was worn out and matted down, while the cushion underneath had deteriorated to the point where the hard surface was dangerous for players. Compared to artificial turf, the new Prescription Athletic Turf is expected to be more “player-friendly,” absorb less heat, last longer, and be more economical in the long run. To help save on tear and wear, the WMU-owned property along Davis Street in front of East Hall has been upgraded to serve as a football practice field.

Track and field enthusiasts will no doubt notice the improvements at Kanley Track, which feature a new, lighted 400-meter Olympic model synthetic track. As part of a separate $170,000 capital campaign effort, the track is also getting a new building. The fifty-by-fifty-square-foot, two-story structure will provide storage and work areas for media, coaches, officials and trainers. George Dales, fund drive chairperson and a former men’s track coach and cross country coach, said the drive’s organizers also want to establish a “support group of our former athletes to provide help for our men’s and women’s programs in other future endeavors.”

Honorary chairpersons for the fund drive are Ira Murchison, ’58, an Olympic gold medal winner sprinter, and former WMU track coach James Towner Smith and Clayton Maas.

On-going and planned work includes renovating classrooms, remodeling the thirty-year-old Gary Center and repairing and renovating Read Fieldhouse and Oakland Gymnasium. "The work will truly be the most impressive and most important since opening the new <a href="https://www.wmu.edu/" target="_blank">University</a> in 1947," said Roy Pettit, director of Recreation for Life; and <a href="https://www.wmu.edu/" target="_blank">University</a> President.”

Student phone callers hope to boost Annual Fund

Beginning this month and continuing throughout the fall semester, Western Michigan University students will be making approximately 50,000 telephone calls to support the Annual Fund for Western. Alumni and friends of the University will be asked to make a contribution.

According to Linda L. Jones, director of the Annual Fund for Western, the “Phonathon” is an important part of the University’s overall fund-raising efforts. “We hope to raise $300,000 through this year’s Phonathon,” she said.

“This phonathon effort will be coupled with direct mail appeals and personal solicitations,” said Jones, who became director of the Annual Fund in June. “We plan to emphasize the tradition of annual support and to increase the number of alumni contributing to WMU.”

“Western’s reputation for quality has improved dramatically during the past decade, and this progress will continue with the support of our alumni. The Annual Fund is the gateway for alumni who want to contribute to their alma mater and who want to see Western’s reputation continue to grow.”

Perrigo provides $30,000 for molecular biology core facility

The Perrigo Company of Allegan has donated $25,000 toward the purchase of equipment and $5,000 toward general program support for a new molecular biology core facility. The new facility will serve the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Chemistry and the College of Health, Education, and Recreation; and the Department of Biological Sciences, the new facility will permit Western Michigan University to significantly extend its reach in the growing field of molecular biology.

Research in this field is contributing to the development of pharmaceutical products to fight cancer, AIDS, and other diseases. Parallel research has produced organisms used to clean up oil spills. According to Ginsberg, the new facility will also permit WMU to expand curricula at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and to significantly increase service to area industries and health care organizations as well as science students and teachers in the region’s secondary schools.

The Westerner, September 1992
Three receive Western Michigan University’s 1992 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Thursday, October 15
Art and cultural exhibit
- 1-5 p.m.
- Founders Library, Bernhard Center
- Wednesday, October 15: Kalamazoo College artalleries
- A public lecture: "Euro-American"
- 12-1 p.m.
- Cawley Center, Room 216, Bernhard Center
- A public lecture: "European culture"
- 12-1 p.m.
- Stocker Center, Bernhard Center
- "The Wonderful World of Western"
- 7-9 p.m.
- Kalamazoo Civic Theatre
- Dr. Karla M. Gray, Justice Karla M. Gray, and Dr. Bassett Brown, from the basketball staff, had the best in education and professional sports.
- "The wonderful World of Western"
- 7-9 p.m.
- Kalamazoo Civic Theatre
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Wall of Distinction

University alumni who are currently involved in the Youth Projects Committee of the National Federation of Press Women, Women's Bar Association of Michigan, Lansing, MI.

• Dwight Forsberg, '79, was recently inducted into the St. Joseph Athletic Hall of Fame, St. Joseph, MI.

• Robert Boeldt, B.S. '69, in April was promoted to vice chairman, Reynolds Metals Co., Richmond, VA.

• Thomas R. Cole, B.S. '72, recently retired as director of parks and recreation, Battle Creek, MI.

• Dr. John H. Koenig, B.S. '69, in April joined the Northrup-Kingdon firm, Scottville, MI.

• Diane Rogos Behrens, B.A. '69, in April was promoted to group leader of vehicle builds, General Electric, Lynchburg, VA.

• Thomas R. Beyer Dock, B.A. '73, in January was promoted to regional marketing director, Ford Motor Co., Dearborn, MI.

• Thomas M. Oehler, B.A. '72, in March was named president of the West Michigan Planned Giving Association. Oehler is director of the aviation division, Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, MI.

• Dale L. Chadderdon, B.A. '77, in January was appointed to executive vice president, chief financial officer and to secretary to the board of directors for United Bank & Trust, Tecumseh, MI.

• Richard Zimmerman, B.S. '79, received a grant from the Maris culture, University of Michigan, Lansing, MI. Zimmerman is an assistant professor of law at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

• Daniel E. Kibbe, B.A. '74, in January was named as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Energy for Energy Policy and Planning. Kibbe is a partner in Morgan & Squire, Westchester, NY.

• E. Jay Adkins, B.A. '70, in January was appointed as executive assistant to the president of the University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

• David M. Roush, B.A. '71, in January was appointed as assistant director of the Miami University Libraries, Oxford, OH.

• Nancy A. Zawacki, M.S. '79, in January was named the director of the Master's of Business Administration program at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN.

• Robert J. Seidman, B.A. '70, in January was appointed as senior vice president and chief economist of the American Bankers Association, Washington, DC.

• John J. Winter, B.S. '71, in March was named executive director of the Wayne State University Alumni Association. Winter is director of the alumni advancement division, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

• Dr. David Roush, B.A. '71, in April was named as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Energy for Energy Policy and Planning. Roush is an associate professor of law at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL.

• David B. Brown, B.S. '71, in March was named as an associate professor of economics at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

• John E. Ruff, B.A. '71, in March was named executive director of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Ruff is a professor of economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

• Michael A. Lane, B.A. '71, in March was named as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Energy for Energy Policy and Planning. Lane is a professor of economics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

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Three notable graduates receive Distinguished Alumni Awards

Continued from page 7

Brown has been an active member of numerous professional organizations, has been a frequent guest lecturer at both national and international conferences, and has written more than fifty articles for various professional publications.

A lifetime member of the NAACP, she has also been an active member of the student body, having served as chairman of the Benton Harbor Federal Housing Commission and as a member of the Governor's Comprehensive State Health Planning Advisory Council. In addition, she has served on the WMU board of trustees. Brown has remained strong. She is an active member of her fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi, was a member of the Kent County Council of Directors, and served for eight years on the WMU Foundation Board of Directors, and has been a member of the University's President's Club since 1980.

In 1965, Karla M. Gray choose to attend WMU because she wanted to be a librarian or a teacher and, in her words, "Western was the library science school at that time."

Having grown up in Escanaba, Karla also enrolled at the University because she was "a small town girl and perhaps too introverted for one of the bigger schools." Gray, who majored in English and history, received her bachelor's degree in 1969. She remained at the university to pursue graduate studies and received a master's degree in African history in 1972.

"My educational experiences at Western gave me the self-confidence, a sense of intellectual curiosity, and balanced perspective which later enabled me to achieve success beyond my wildest dreams," Gray states, reflecting on her school days in Kalamazoo. "In short, they not only allowed me to grow, they forced me-sometimes painfully, I admit-to admit my wildest dreams," she adds.

On February 11, 1991, one of those "wildest dreams" came true, when Gov. Stan Stephens appointed Gray to the Montana Supreme Court. "My background in private law practice, her experience in the business world, and her active involvement in the legislative process are valuable assets for the state's supreme court and the people of Montana," Governor Stephens said upon appointing her to the state's highest court.

"She is an extremely capable nominee to the court and I am pleased to have the opportunity to appoint her to the bench."

Montana's Senate concurred with the governor's evaluation of her qualifications, unanimously confirming her appointment to the Supreme Court.

Gray has been a member of the board of directors for several professional organizations. She served as a member of the board of directors for the Corporate Legal Council of America, and has been a member of the National Association of Women Judges and has been a member of the Western Women's Foundation. Gray has been actively involved in numerous professional organizations. She has served the State Bar of Montana in various capacities, including holding positions as a member of the Board of Governors for the publication, Montana Lawyer, and as a member of the corporate law revision committee. She is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a member of the National Association of Women Judges and has been a member of the Montana Defense Trial Lawyers and the Montana Trial Lawyers Association.

When time permits, Gray enjoys studying family genealogy, playing piano, reading, and travelling.

David C. Smith has been associated with the Peat Marwick accounting, auditing, and consulting firm for nearly three decades. Currently he is vice chairman for KPMG Peat Marwick and serves as a member of its board of directors.

Smith was named to his current position six months after his retirement as the Peat Marwick tax practice. All policy matters and decisions relating to tax practice are handled by Smith, who is responsible for monitoring the quality of the firm's tax practice through tax professional practice reviews that institute policies and recommendations.

In addition, Smith serves as chairperson of the tax practice committee, which makes policy recommendations about the firm's tax practice to the board of directors. The committee is composed of over forty tax partners and principals worldwide and a total staff of 76,200 people.

In 1964 WMU graduate with a bachelor of business administration degree, Smith joined the firm immediately after graduation, taking a position with the Chicago, Illinois, office of Peat Marwick International. He was elected to the firm's partnership just seven years later.

Smith served as international managing partner of the Midwest region from 1974 to 1978, when he was transferred to the New York office of the firm. He has been associated with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the American Accounting Association, and the Tax Foundation, to mention a few.

When living in Chicago, he was named Palatine Man of the Year, a 1974 honor, and Board Chairman of the Year for the YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago in 1977. His community service continued in Houston where he was a member of the Houston Symphony Board of Directors and a member of the editorial Board for the Houston Business Journal.

Thomson Stone, BBA '77, was elected to the board of directors for The Westerner, the student newspaper. Stone is an active member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Beta Theta Pi, and Phi Kappa Psi.

James Bennett, BS '78, in January became executive director of the Natchez Trace Commission. Bennett is an active member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Beta Theta Pi, and Phi Kappa Psi.

Richard W. Studebaker, Jr., 78, 78, in March was named vice president of operations at Kennedy Research, Inc., Grand Rapids, MI.

David B. Galinis, BS '78, in April was elected as president-elect, Southeastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Galinis is director of Financial Aid at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

Nancy Reaugh, BBA '78, in May was appointed materials manager, Ronningen-Petter, Portage, MI.

Karen Messinger Pribonic, BBA '78, in May was named assistant general manager, Type House, Inc., Oshtemo, MI.

Nancy Reaugh, BBA '78, in May was named associate director for administration, The Wolverines Opportunity for the Blind, North College Hill, Cincinnati, OH.

1980-1981

Craig Baughman, BS '80, in January was named senior managing director, CompHealth, Salt Lake City, UT.

Steve Chapman, BS '79, in January was named senior director, business development, Peat Marwick's tax practice.

Gary B. Kuehn, BS '80, in January was appointed as assistant director of the Business Management and Industrial Relations Department at the University of the South, Sewanee, TN.

Mary Jo Nye, BS '80, in January was named president of the Board of Directors of the Literacy Council of Cheboygan County, MI.

Michael Popovich, BS '80, in January was named marketing manager, Eaton Corp., Kalamazoo, MI.

Steve Raschke, BBA '80, in February was promoted to distribution manager, Palatine, IL.

Phil Pishl, BBA '80, in April was appointed as assistant manager, Palatine, IL.

Karen Messinger Pribonic, BBA '78, in May was named assistant general manager, Ronningen-Petter, Portage, MI.

Karen Messinger Pribonic, BBA '78, in May was named assistant general manager, Type House, Inc., Oshtemo, MI.

Dr. B. Owen, BFA '78, BS '81, in April was named first place winner in the International Film Festival for a movie about Michigan. Owen is also a member of the International Film Festival.

Peter C. Woven, BS '79, in January was named vice president of marketing, Ronningen-Petter, Portage, MI.

Donald Spencer, ED '79, in January was named director of the American Foundation for the Blind, Grand Rapids, MI.

Michael J. Mercenar, BBA '79, in June was appointed assistant director of the National Hospice Organization, Spokane, WA.

R. Richard Myers, BS '78, in November was appointed as assistant vice president, National General Corporation, Kansas City, MO.

Myers is a member of the Houston Symphony Board of Directors and a member of the editorial Board for the Houston Business Journal.
April was made a partner and officer for the Lenawee District of Western Development Group, Inc., in January 1992. In February, Barbara Bicknell Ryan, BA ’36, April 11, 1992, in Traverse City, MI.

Brian M. Elsner, 8A, was recently named director of the Army High Performance Computing Center. Elsner is currently a graduate student at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

Joseph Cook, BBA ’91, in February was promoted to chief financial officer at Michigan Disposal Services, in Portage, MI.

Debra Krell, 8A, was recently hired as a financial analyst at First of America Bank, in Detroit, MI.

Jane Shock Potter, BA ’91, in March was named reporter for the Berrien County Record.

Rick Buechel, 8A, in March was named personal loan officer for the Lenawee District.

Kristy Shults, BBA ’91, in May was named personal loan officer for the Lenawee District of Michigan.

Anita Freimanis, BBA ’91, in March was named staff accountant at Plante & Moran, Battle Creek, MI.

Frank Herrmann, BBA ’85, in January was named senior accountant at William, M affirmation Group, Inc., in San Bruno, CA.

Nitin B. Khatri, 8A, was recently named partner of Andersen World Wide, in Deloitte, Netherland.

Brian M. Elsner, 8A, was recently named director of the Army High Performance Computing Center. Elsner is currently a graduate student at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

Jenifer V. Buechel, BA ’91, in January was named personal loan officer for the Lenawee District of Society Bank, Adrian, MI.

Deaths

1984–1985

• Steve Chalson, BBA ’84, in April was made a partner and named chief financial officer of sales and marketing, Design Solutions, Inc., in Westland, MI.

• Mark Cory, BBA ’84, was recently promoted to assistant vice president for First of America Bank of Lenawee, Adrian, MI.

• Timothy Murphy, BS ’86, in January was appointed as regional vice president for$img>.png

• Kelly Knob Music Theatre, in St. Clair, MI.

• L. Doane Shugars, MA ’57, in June was appointed director of human resources, St. Joseph Mercy Health System, in Ann Arbor, MI.

• Anthony J. Roberts, BS ’31, in May received a medical degree from the University of Illinois, Chicago, IL.

• Bicknell Ryan, BA ’36, April 11, 1992, in Traverse City, MI.

• Andrew J. Loscalzo, PhD, in June was appointed assistant professor, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL.

• Ruth R. Hamilton, BA ’28, in April was appointed director of human resources, Comerica, Inc., in Detroit, MI.

• Margaret M. Franklin, 8A, was recently named a staff accountant for the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, MI.

• Adelia Gaylor M. Speaker, BA ’31, in February was appointed to officer, corporate plans, Comerica, Inc., in Detroit, MI.

• Evelyn E. Burke, 8A, in April was appointed to officer, corporate plans, Comerica, Inc., in Detroit, MI.

• Paul G. Ellett, BBA ’86, in June was promoted to partner, Price Waterhouse, Detroit, MI.

• Donald C. Wood, BS ’87, in March was appointed to officer, computer plans, Comerica, Inc., in Detroit, MI.

• Ruth R. Hamilton, BA ’28, in April was appointed director of human resources, Comerica, Inc., in Detroit, MI.

• Rachel Bollinger, B ’68, in May was elected accounting officer, Michigan Disposal Services, in Portage, MI.

• James B. Hock, BA ’83, in March was named financial analyst for Andersen Consulting, Minneapolis, MN.

• Cheryl Pulley, 8A, in May was named assistant administrative assistant, American Psychiatric Association, Washington, DC.

• John J. Savinut, 8A, in January was appointed financial analyst, Michigan Disposal Services, in Portage, MI.

• Karl E. Scott, BBA ’91, in March was named marketing administrative assistant, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, in Lansing, MI.

• Michael J. Swoger, BA ’86, in March was named associate in the law firm of Head & Sharp, Traverse City, MI.

• Scott McRae, BBA ’91, in May was appointed director of financial services, Comerica, Inc., in Detroit, MI.

• Margaret S. Anderson, BBA ’88, in March was appointed manager, First of America Bank of Lenawee, Adrian, MI.

• Rick Buechel, 8A, in March was named personal loan officer for the Lenawee District of Society Bank, Adrian, MI.

• Anita Freimanis, BBA ’91, in March was named staff accountant at Plante & Moran, Battle Creek, MI.

• Frank Herrmann, BBA ’85, in January was named senior accountant at William, M affirmation Group, Inc., in San Bruno, CA.

• Michelle Benno Barry, 8A, in February was awarded a CMA designation by the Institute of Certified Management Accountants. Barry is an attorney with the Benno Barry Group, Inc., in San Bruno, CA.

• Larry A. Baskin, 8A, in January was named personal loan officer for the Lenawee District of Society Bank, Adrian, MI.

• Michael C. Stahl, BBA ’83, in January was named personal loan officer for the Lenawee District of Society Bank, Adrian, MI.
**A funny thing happened on the way to the *Westerner* meeting...**

We were gathering for our morning *Westerner* committee meeting, ambling down the hall to the conference room, coffee and muffins in tow. "Is this gonna be a short one?" the graphic designer asked loudly, smirking as he pointed downward toward the "vertically challenged" editor leading discussion. "Maybe," the editor replied without turning around, "it all depends on whether you can still stand the short jokes long enough for us to come up with theme ideas for the next few issues." "Outstanding!" I thought, visions of hot national issues dancing on my head. "What are we these days on the state of education in America, the political ramifications of coffee and muffin in tow." 

"We, education in America, the political ramifications of coffee and muffin in tow. Enough for us to come up with theme ideas for the next few issues." 

I slipped on the ice outside the arena and the Ferris State Department of Sociology laughed when I repeated some of our worst moments can help us occasionally go awry. "Di guided a name or two to protect the guilty." 

"Instance, one should already have the sandwich before one hands it absentmindedly back to Tom. Suddenly, Tom hands it to me and I hand it to Hap who hands it to Tom. Suddenly, they get quiet and both men look at me.

"What the heck are you doing?" Hap shouts. "Why don't you pass them back to the guys?" And just where should they put their turkey slice and lettuce leaf until they get their sandwich," I respectfully ask, "slap it on their palms?"

The musical containers story has such deep sociological significance that I use it when teaching University 101, a class that helps freshmen get acclimated to the mysteries of college life. The moral is: Once in a while, there's a logical order for at least a few things in this world. For instance, one should already have the sandwich before dealing with the condiments. One should also have a sense of humor. Learning to chuckle about some of our worst moments can help us survive all those inevitable brushes with the unexpected and the embarrassing. After all, none of us is perfect. Whether we're presidents or plumbers, our best laid plans occasionally go awry. Dr. Lewis Walker, professor and chairman of the Department of Sociology, laughed when I repeated some of the stories people were telling me. "The thing about rough times is they don't last forever. Neither do the good times, I guess," he said. "History repeats itself in a cyclical fashion, but people are resilient. They find ways to get through until the good times come back around." We hope our stories of campus life give you a break from some of your trials and tribulations, even if we've disguised a name or two to protect the guilty.

Where do you go for a quiet drive? "Where do you go for a quiet drive?"

"I was working on a research project with a professor from the College of Education," Dr. Stan Robin, professor of sociology, says. "We were working late at night in Sangren—our cars were the only two in the parking lot. We'd parked side by side and when we'd finished for the night, he jumped into his car, grinned up at me, put his car in reverse, and zoomed backwards to beat me out of the parking lot.

"He backed right into the cement sconce that holds the flood light—it was the only thing in the parking lot he could hit. He got out and rolled the car onto its back. As he was jumping off the car, the car was twirled like a Christmas tree. The car was never right again after that. He had to sell it." "Wow, when did *Westerner* do that all?"

One staff member says he's finally able to talk about the hazards of not previewing video tapes in their entirety before showing them at events. He'd only been on the job a short while when he found himself conducting an event in South Bend, Indiana. Wanting everything to go smoothly and look good, he'd planned every detail and arrived early to get organized.
Allen and his aren't very much alike. I'm not physically her kind of guy; around the makes men tick and emancipating those things that have been "strange cow, Dr. Science." It was really very inventive," he says, "probably overly so for the late '70s and the state of mind we were in."

Yet even back then, his friends knew his potential. "There were seven of us, and we got together a couple nights a week to write and record the show," recalls Richard "Boots" McPadiet. B.S. '80, now a reporter for WIBC Radio in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"We'll record about eighteen miles of tape for a half-hour program. We were all an amazing bunch of guys, but Tim was that much quicker, always one step ahead of us. We never wasted time on off ideas and concepts. He had an incredible charisma. He was remarkable-he's a real great look and a good comedy voice and sense of timing. Tim is actually much funnier than his material."

"Alumni may recall Allen's budding talents when he and his creative cohorts banded together to write and perform "Five Finger Salute," a half-hour comedy on the student radio station WWMU. Allen describes the show "long on concept, short on humor-strange cow, Dr. Science." Dull stuff. It was really very inventive," he says, "probably overly so for the late '70s and the state of mind we were in."

But then, he had plenty of talent to begin with, says Dr. Thomas Pagel, the associate professor of communication who gave Allen an "A" in television production and production.

"As teachers, we recognize, focus, and enhance a student's abilities, but we can't give them the talent," Pagel says. "No question about it. Tim had a unique, special gift. For the show to get ratings like this in its early days in comedy, Tim had a very big market for comedy today, much more so than in the past," says Kimberly Sykes, assistant director of Western Michigan University's student life office.

"To fill that need on campus, student life created the comedy club Bernie's After Hours. 'We bring national talent to campus," Sykes says. "People you've seen on TV. It's a great release for students. Bernie's gives them a chance to take a break from everything and get out for an hour or two. And it's cheap-admission is only $1."

"Last year students packed the North Ballroom of the Bernhard Center with 600 people, a 10% increase over 1990. "Tom DeLuca. This year's schedule includes Janane Garolilo and Carrot Top."

"The tape is the most consistent hit we've ever had. We know, because of Western. I learned the production side of it," says Ludwig. "We owe a lot of my success to Western. My liberal arts education was a huge part of my life, basically the '60s and '70s."

"If you're a comic who's interested in acting, he is. To me, Tom is the ultimate," says Ludwig. "If Allen were to ever jump on TV, I think he'd be a huge hit."

"Don't make me laugh, comedy study breaks?"

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"Tim Allen and co-star Patricia Richardson mesh well as the family-oriented couple on "Home Improvement.""

"I love the success of the show," says Ludwig. "But I love the fact that people are watching it and enjoying it. That's all that matters to me."

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"Tim Allen builds a solid hit"

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"First I set up the television and video tape in the room where we were having the social hour," he says. "We had a company put together a program about WMU. The tape resound itself continuously, so I didn't have to tend and people could watch it while they were socializing. I went off to greet people and take care of last-minute details, you know, arrange the name tags, set up the display table, verify the menu count."

"All through the social hour, scene participants kept saying things like, "You know, that tape of campus, things sure have changed."

"I knew, our industrious staff member kept repeating, 'you really should come back for a visit and see."

"When the social hour was over and we were ready for dinner, I went to the end of the room. 'I'm about to hit the button, I heard the commentator say, 'and here at Penn State, we also offer..."

"Moments later, at the dinner, everyone in the company had tackled on a program they'd done for Penn State University. No wonder people couldn't believe how different the country looks. What do you do when something like that happens? When we started dinner, I just said, 'Oh, on behalf of Penn State, welcome.'"