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## Western Michigan University Newsletter, January 1969

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### FEATURE OF DECEMBER COMMENCEMENT

## WMU Awards First Earned Doctor's Degrees

WMU's December 21, 1968, commencement was an especially significant one in that an historic academic milestone was passed by the University. The first two earned doctorates ever presented by WMU were awarded simultaneously to BuenaFlor H. Mendoza of Cavite, Philippine Islands, and Robert Vermeulen, assistant superintendent of schools at Portage, Mich. Both received Doctor of Education degrees. Dr. Mendoza also holds a Specialist in Education (6th year) degree from WMU.

In addition, the commencement speaker, Dr. Robben W. Fleming, president of the University of Michigan, also received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

A total of 26 students were graduated with honors, including 11 Cum Laude (3.5 to 3.69 grade point average on a 4.0 scale), 13 Magna Cum Laude (3.7 to 3.89), and two Summa Cum Laude (3.9 to 4.0) graduates: Linda Jo Todd of Clarklake and Kathryn E. Spitler of Hart. A total of 1,304 students were graduated.

Dr. Fleming said the generation gap is really a difference in perspective and it will continue to exist because of the difference in experiences of youth and adults. In discussing war, poverty, and racial injustice, he said, "None of these ills now plaguing society is new. Neither are they unique to America. They have been known to every generation of mankind."

Dr. Fleming said, "Each genera-

Dr. Robben Fleming



L to R: Dr. Robert Betz, chairman of the doctoral committee for BuenaFlor H. Mendoza, standing next to him; Robert Vermeulen; and Dr. Harold Boles, chairman of the doctoral committee for Ver-

meulen, posed prior to the commencement and placement of their doctoral hoods on the robes of Miss Mendoza and Vermeulen.

tion measures the problems of the present against its own experience, and we come up with different answers." He said, "Young and old together will determine the fate of our country. We must accommodate to one another if we are to succeed both in accomplishing needed changes and in preserving a democratic society."

Dr. Mendoza came to WMU three years ago to begin graduate studies which led to her two advanced degrees from Western. She received undergraduate training in secondary education at Manuel L. Quezon University, Manila, as well as an M.A. in guidance and counseling there. While serving as assistant director of the Guidance Department at Quezon University as well as a teaching faculty member, she met Dr. Gerald Osborn, who served as Dean of WMU's School of Applied Arts and Sciences for 12 years until last year, while he was a Fulbright lecturer in the Philippines. She came to WMU in 1965 under a fellowship grant, impressed by Dr. Osborn's descriptions of Western's academic

programs. Dr. Osborn will retire from WMU next summer.

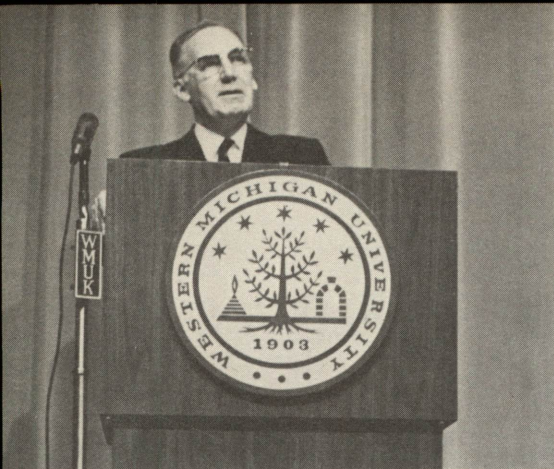
Dr. Vermeulen, a Kalamazoo native, actually dropped out of 10th grade at Kalamazoo Central High School but after World War II completed his high school education at Ferris State College. He began his training to become a teacher at Western and then received advanced degrees at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University.

He began teaching in the Portage school system in 1949 and in 1954 became assistant principal of Por-

Summa Cum Laude grads Linda Jo Todd and Mrs. Spitler were feted by the University at a luncheon. Linda was WMU's 1967 Homecoming Queen. She had the top grade average of all December grads.







## WMU Pres. Miller Presents First State Of Univ. Address

In his first "State of the University" address, WMU President James W. Miller on Nov. 12 told a Shaw Theater audience of faculty, staff and students that Western has had "a highly significant year," making breakthroughs which he considers "only the prelude to greater progress in the immediate future."

Some of the major points noted by Dr. Miller included:

- The beginning of courses in black culture, development of which has "not been done solely that black students may know of the contributions of members of their race, but because it is equally important that non-blacks have a better understanding of contributions made by black persons, and to understand what it means to be black in America."

- Western's present enrollment (18,679) is double that of 1960 (when he became president), with the University offering 62 master's degree programs, 16 specialist (6th year) programs, and five doctoral degrees, with Western's first two doctoral degrees conferred at the December 21 commencement. Dr.

### FIRST DOCTORATES *cont'd.*

tage Central High School, administrative assistant in 1957 and assistant superintendent in 1960.

Dr. Mendoza's dissertation subject was: "Predicting Counselor Effectiveness: A Multiple Regression Approach;" Dr. Vermeulen's subject was: "A Study of a Selected Manpower Development Training Act Program for Training Adults." Most of his information was obtained from data collected in such adult training programs in Kalamazoo.

Miller said, "It is not our intention to get into a numbers game (with other colleges) as regards doctoral programs." He said Western will restrict its doctoral offerings to areas of unique strengths and fields where additional doctoral programs are needed.

- Western is one of only two Michigan universities (University of Michigan is the other) with a larger number of juniors and seniors than freshmen and sophomores.

- WMU's year-round schedule (two long semesters, two shorter sessions), said Dr. Miller, "is the most productive method for the continual use of our human and physical resources. This productivity and the accommodation of an increasing number of students at the upper levels warrants increased financial support from the state of Michigan."

- A university is a place, he said where the faculty, students and administration have to share their ideals, strengths and experience to form a stable, progressive educational system. He said Western encourages participation by faculty members and students in the making of decisions, that the avenues for communication and the sharing of responsibility are wide open. However, the rights of the majority cannot be disregarded by a vocal few.

- While it is essential that a university have an atmosphere of free in-

quiry and free expression of opinion, there can be no tolerance for anarchy, Dr. Miller said. "There must be safeguards of the rights of the individual but there must be respect for the rights of the University community." He noted that two fundamental ingredients for any university are freedom and order. "Order you can have without freedom. But freedom you cannot have without order," he said.

## WM Hosts Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs

Western hosted the 17th annual three day Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs Oct. 31-Nov. 2 which developed the theme: "The Meiji Centenary: 100 Years of Modernization in Asia." The conference featured numerous section meetings and panel discussions, a film presentation made in Cambodia and produced by Prince Sihanouk, an exhibit of Asian art and one of a series of photographs of Japanese leaders during the Meiji restoration.

Dr. Andrew C. Nahm, associate professor of history at WMU, chaired the arrangements committee. Professor Marius B. Jansen of Princeton University was the featured speaker at the opening session.

WMU's Martin Luther King, Jr. Fund this fall received the gift of \$100 from a neighborhood non-profit community service organization composed of women, called the Friendship Club of Kalamazoo. WMU President Dr. James W. Miller accepted the gift from Mrs. Helen Jackson, club president, as Mrs. Mather L. Norman and Mrs. Annie M. Lee, club officers, watched. The funds were raised at a dance held by the club.

Dr. Miller told the ladies that there are 77 students attending WMU with financial assistance from the fund, which was established earlier last year to perpe-

tuat Dr. King's principles which exemplify "the conscience of America."

When the Martin Luther King Fund was begun at Western, Dr. Miller said it would "form the base of a financial 'package' designed to meet the needs of black students who would not be able to continue their education beyond high school without encouragement and financial assistance. The Martin Luther King Fund is one of many programs which WMU is pursuing as its responsibility to give meaning to the promise of equality of education for all Michigan youth who desire it."





## CALENDAR-PANORAMA

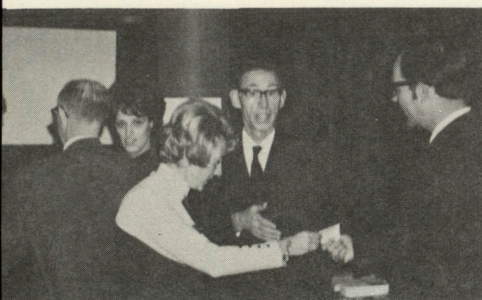
### of alumni events



Included among the WMU students named to the Alumni Student Services Board at its organizational meeting Nov. 26 were, L to R: its first chairman, Bill Griffin, Chicago senior; Kim Richards, Kalamazoo junior; Pam Schaffer, Grand Rapids sophomore; and Janis Coe, Saline senior. The Alumni Student Services Board was first proposed by WMU Alumni Relation Director John S. Lore in his "ALUMNI NEWS" column in the Fall, 1968, issue of the *Western Michigan University Magazine*, Vol. 26, No. 4, page 19.

The Alumni Student Services Board was proposed by Lore to overcome communication problems between WMU's student body and its alumni body. Lore said he felt necessary positive steps must be taken from which both alumni and students could benefit, based upon mutual coordination.

In his *WMU Magazine* column, Lore opined that such a board would help to bridge the "generation gap" between students and many alumni. The Alumni Student Service Board will be composed of five students from each class, with the senior class president serving as board chairman.



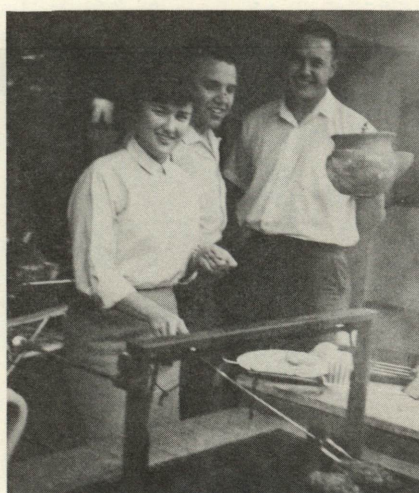
Dr. Frank Robinson, head of WMU's famed Speech Pathology and Audiology Department, facing camera in center of photo, and members of his staff were on hand to greet WMU alumni during an open house in conjunction with the mid-November convention of the American Speech and Hearing Association held at Denver, Colo. Dr. Paul Griffith, WMU vice president for student services, was host and welcomed about 100 former students and friends of WMU's speech pathology and audiology program.



L to R: Mrs. Mary Ann Forsman and Dr. Peter Ellis, secretary of the WMU Board of Trustees, listen as Dave Forsman, president of the San Francisco Alumni Club, introduces Dr. Ellis at the club's Nov. 22 dinner meeting in Mt. View, Calif. Dr. Ellis reported on current and some planned activities at Western. It was the first stop of a whirlwind speaking tour before WMU alums in California and Arizona.



This photo shows, L to R: treasurer Peter Van Dyken; past president Mrs. Edyth VerWest, both of the Los Angeles Alumni Club; Dr. Peter Ellis and Los Angeles Alumni Club president Dr. Ralph R. Stocker, as he introduced Dr. Ellis, at the annual fall meeting Nov. 23 at Buena Park, Calif.



L to R: Phoenix, Arizona Alumni Club president, Mrs. Nancy Edwards, treasurer James Clark and Dr. Peter Ellis check over steaks at the Nov. 24 barbeque-meeting of the Phoenix club, Dr. Ellis' final stop.



L to R: Evelyn Vannatter, Lynn Sues, Sandra Larson, Joan Bennet and Alpha Beta Epsilon Intra-Chapter Council president, Harriet Oliver, are shown at the A. B. E. joint meeting Nov. 13 in Grand Rapids. The host chapter was Gamma, while Nu and Pi were guest chapters.



WMU football coach Bill Doolittle, far left, shown being introduced at the 3rd annual "Touchdown Dance" and meeting of the WMU Club of Genesee County Nov. 22 in Flint by club president Paul R. Williams, standing. Bill showed filmed highlights of WMU's 1968 football season, aided by assistant coach Ed Ferkany and Alumni Director John S. Lore.



Cindy Demarest, a junior from Quincy, Mich., who was WMU 1968 Homecoming Queen and then went on to become the NCAA Mid-American Conference football queen, in center wearing a mum corsage, and her mother were guests of the Los Angeles Alumni Club at this Nov. 30 gathering. Cindy was in Los Angeles to appear on national TV at the Notre Dame-USC game with other nationwide contestants seeking to become Miss Football Centennial.





From the left, WMU associate athletic director John Gill '24, Tom Briscoe '38 of Detroit and Frank Secory '36 of Port Huron received Distinguished Achievement awards from the WMU Alumni Club at halftime of the Bowling Green football game. All are former Bronco letter winners.

Gill earned 13 letters in football, basketball, baseball and track and has served WMU for 50 years as athlete, coach and administrator, the last 15 in his present post. He'll retire next June. In 11 seasons as Bronco grid coach his teams had a record of 50-34-1.

Briscoe lettered in football 1935-36 and has been active in WMU alumni activities for many years and his guidance has helped many youths.

Secory lettered in football and baseball 1933-36 before becoming a big league baseball player for five years and a National League umpire since 1952.

## Rev. Coffin Speaks at WM

The Rev. William Sloane Coffin, Jr., controversial Yale University chaplain told a WMU audience in early December that "change is just as insistent as breathing" and "there must be movement if there is to be any kind of life."

Rev. Coffin spoke in the WMU Auditorium as one of several stops in the Kalamazoo area. He said love can unite a world split into national-



WMU football players honored at the fall sports banquet were, left to right, Tim Majerle and Jerry Collins, co-captains, who shared the M. J. Gary Sportsmanship award; Dave Hudson, shown receiving his Most Valuable Player trophy

from head coach Bill Doolittle; Paul Minnis with his Most Improved Player award; Ken Woodside, Best Offensive Player; and Pete Wysocki, Best Defensive Player award.

(Kalamazoo Gazette photo)

## SPORTS REFLECTIONS

### FOOTBALL

Despite its first losing record in the last four seasons, WMU set or equalled eight Mid-American Conference records and 18 school marks. Soph QB Mark Bordeaux set eight of those in the 53-36 loss at West Texas State to end the season, including three touchdown passes, 18 pass completions, 264 yards gained passing, 288 yards total offense and 14 first downs passing. These enabled him to set a host of individual season marks, including 1,153 yards total offense, 1,143 yards passing and 83 passes completed.

Al Bellile, his favorite target, also set

istic camps. "Unified mankind is now an evolutionary fact," he said, but that the world now is torn by "probably the most nationalistic period in human history."

He suggested that the United Nations could become a great force in such a unified world, but that it now lacks the money and might to ensure this unity. He said that unless world population is brought under control, by 1980 the earth will have "pockets of famine gradually expanding into seas of hunger."

WMU marks of nine pass receptions in the loss to Ohio U. (34-27) and also against West Texas, and another by scoring three TD's against West Texas on passes. WMU's 26 first downs against Ohio and West Texas tied WMU marks.

WMU's 20 pass interceptions all season and seven against Marshall were WMU marks and the 14 in MAC games tied a record. Sam Antonazzo set a new MAC mark with his four pass interceptions against Marshall. And Sam's 711 yards with kickoff returns is a new WMU career record.

### CROSS COUNTRY

Western won its 9th MAC title on Nov. 9 by edging Miami 50-52. Soph John Bennett (6th) was the top WMU runner as team strength decided it. Bennett again led WMU runners to the tape as WMU took 4th place in the Central Collegiate Conference run in Chicago Nov. 16 as Miami won team honors. WMU's Paul Olmstead sprained an ankle near the finish line and dropped back from 20th place to finally finish 35th.

### ALUMNI ATHLETES

During WMU's fall sports banquet, Elf Pedler '42, track and cross country coach for 20 years at Kalamazoo Central High School, received a W-Club citation, as did two other high school coaches (Jack Finn of Battle Creek Central and Bill Maskill of Galesburg-Augusta).

# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

and alumni events

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