Author, activist to discuss restoring state's environment

WMU alumus Dave Dempsey, a former environmental advisor to Michigan Gov. James Blanchard and the author of "Rise as a Conservation Leader," will return to his alma mater tonight, Thursday, March 28, to discuss the state's environmental future.

Dempsey, a 1997 WMU graduate, will address "Restoring Michigan's Environmental Graces" at 7 p.m. in 1301 Wood. His presentation, sponsored by the Environmental Studies Program and the Environmental Institute, is free and open to the public.

Currently the policy advisor for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Dempsey has been involved in Michigan environmental issues since 1982. He is a former vice president, director of the FEC and served as Blanchard's environmental advisor from 1983 to 1989. He was then appointed to head the Council on Environmental Quality, which he oversaw until the end of 1990.

Dempsey's presentation will be based on some of the findings in his 2001 book, "Rain and Recovery," which provides a comprehensive look at Michigan's environmental history and presents state leaders in conservation efforts. Dempsey says the environmental threats facing Michigan today include its eroding land base, as developer claims more and more forests and farmlands each year.

For more information, call 7-2716.

Trustees address disturbance

Acting in response to an off-campus disturbance in Kalamazoo March 16, University trustees unanimously passed a resolution March 22 calling for swift action and urging students and student organizations to promote appropriate behavior and personal responsibility.

Noting that the events and "demonstrated inability or unwillingness of some students to conduct themselves in prudent fashion respectful of others' rights are contrary to the values of Western Michigan University and will not be tolerated," trustees urged President Ethel S. Floyd to "continue to take swift, decisive and appropriate action in cooperation with and support of Kalamazoo" to curtail events of this type in the future.

In the midst of the resolution noted, "danger the safety and welfare of the University, its students, faculty, staff and the public.

State Farm chief to speak here

Leadership and integrity will be the focus of an upcoming talk by Vincent Treviso, president, chief operating officer and vice chairman of State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co., who will speak on campus next week. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 4, in the Brown Auditorium of Schneider, Treviso will discuss "Leadership and Integrity in Business, Government and Societal Institutions" as part of the Haworth College of Business Distinguished Speaker Series. His address will be followed by a question-and-answer session and a reception.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling 7-5050.

IT firm commits to BTR Park, Kalamazoo

Another growing high-tech company has committed to making Kalamazoo its permanent home by becoming a resident partner in WMU's Business Technology and Research Park.

(Vince S. 4.4, a software firm with information systems developer Granite Solutions to become part of the BTR Park, which is located on WMU's Parkview Campus. The company will purchase a three- and-a-half-acre parcel on Campus Drive along Parkview Avenue. Acting at its March 22 meeting, the University's Board of Trustees approved execution of a purchase option agreement with the company that will make the transaction possible. The construction timetable and building details have not been finalized, but Granite Solutions plans to relocate to the park in 2003.

Bob Miller, WMU associate vice president for community outreach, praised the 3-person firm for its commitment to the region. "Here's a growing company that's been leasing office space in Portage," he noted. "They could have taken their business anywhere in the world, but they decided to buy land in the city of Kalamazoo and assume a permanent spot on the tax rolls. Granite Solutions is an excellent fit for the BTR Park in terms of academic collaboration and this project's economic development mission. And as a leader in the software development industry, they dovetail nicely with our focus areas of advanced engineering, information technology and the life sciences."

Granite Solutions designs high-tech business solutions and wide area networking systems for organizations nationwide, with projects domestically and in Europe. Its clients include Dura Automotive Systems, Landscape Forms, Rockwell International and BDO Seidman. According to Granite Solutions Chief Executive Officer Dan Blackledge, leaders of the company toyed with the possibility of moving their headquarters to Ann Arbor or Chicago.

"We have made a firm, deliberate decision to stay in Kalamazoo. We're moving forward with world-class and worldwide partners like AT&T, Microsoft and WMU," says Blackledge, who expects his company to maintain its current 60- to 100-percent growth rate in coming years. "We intend to stay on the cutting edge of information technology, and access to the University's high-caliber faculty and students will help us do that. We will help them stay on the cutting edge, too, by providing real-world examples and access to our projects."

The 6-year-old company's ties to the University run deep. Its president, Matthew Mace, was still a Lee Honors College student at WMU when he co-founded the company, and a third of Granite Solutions' other employees are also alumni. Blackledge says his firm intends to continue and expand a host of current collaborations with WMU faculty members. The company recently donated a Computer Certification Library to the Haworth College of Business, and it offers scholarships to computer information systems majors who want to get certified in a program or language.

WMU surpasses previous record for gifts, still four months to go

With receipts still to be counted through June 30, the University already has received more than $21.7 million in gifts during the 2001-02 fiscal year, surpassing the previous one-year record total by more than $3 million.

According to a report presented to the WMU Board of Trustees at its March 22 meeting, gifts received by the WMU Foundation during the current fiscal year totaled $21,245,656. Through Feb. 28, the Paper Technology Foundation, which supports the internationally known paper programs at WMU, received an additional $354,617 in gifts. All gifts to the University are received through these two foundations.

In the midst of a $125 million capital campaign, WMU has set new records for total gifts received during each of the past three years. The previous record was in 2000-01, surpassing $18.4 million, second in 1999-2000, the $17.5 million raised in 1999-2000. The $17.5 million record of three years ago was a 40 percent increase over the then-record total of $12.5 million set in 1995-96.

In December 2001, WMU received the first distribution of $8 million from the estate of alumna Gwen Frostic. This gift, announced in January, is the largest in University history and is expected to total approximately $13 million when the final distribution has been made.

Among the larger gifts received since the December 2001 report to the Board of Trustees were several given anonymously. An anonymous gift of $50,000 was given to support the Science Education Department in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Russell Brown Honors Quintet Scholarship in the School of Music was supported with an anonymous gift of $25,000, and $32,000 was given to fund a Medallion Scholarship at the College of Fine Arts. The University also received a $50,000 gift from a donor to support the Southwest Michigan Children's Trauma Assessment Center in the College of Health and Human Services.

WMU 102.1 FM, the University's public radio station, received a gift of $12,500 from Ann V. and Donald R. Parfet of Richland, Mich., to support the station's equipment fund. WMU alumni Phyllis and W. Bruce Thomas of Pittsburgh contributed more than $14,000 to the W. Bruce Thomas Library Endowment. Bruce Thomas was an original member of the WMU Foundation board of directors, serving from 1976 to 1993. A distribution of $37,500 from the estate of Frances E. Lehr was used to fund the Frances E. Lehr Speech Pathology and Audiology Endowment in the College of Health and Human Services. Lehr was a WMU professor of speech pathology and audiology, serving on the faculty from 1968 until her retirement in 1992. She died in Kalamazoo Dec. 25, 2001.

Gifts of $10,000 each were made by Target Corp. and Marshall Field's to support Career and Student Employment Services; by Paperworks Inc. for the Paper Technology Foundation; and by Sandra B. Schmid of Bay Shore, N.Y., to establish the Lillian and Elizabeth Schmidt Memorial Scholarship in intercollegiate athletics.

A PLEDGE OF ALECANCE—Alumni James P. Holden, right, was sworn in as a WMU trustee March 22 by Kalamazoo County Circuit Court Judge William G. Schma. Holden, who took part in his first Board of Trustees meeting a few hours after the swearing-in ceremony, is former president and chief executive officer of DaimlerChrysler AG. Gov. John Engler appointed Holden to the board in January. Photo by Neil Rankin.
Famous' Chinese trumpet visitor visits campus

Famous' Chinese trumpet visitor visits campus

WMU's Battle Creek aviation facilities.


Brylinsky also contributed two chapters to "Music Therapy in the Treatment of Addictions," a book which she also is being widely used in music therapy training programs. She wrote two chapters for the book's second edition, and extensively revised those chapters for the book's upcoming second edition. Published by MMB Music of St. Louis, it is to be released this spring.

A $1 million award from the U.S. Department of Energy to Clement Barns, physics, will support his efforts to build a dedicated realistic X-ray scattering beamline at the Argonne National Laboratory

A $720,124 from the U.S. Department of Education's Challenge, Research, and Development grant program.

A grant for $325,473 from Seismic Micro-Tech

A previously announced $2.1 million award from Varatech Inc. of Holland, ergonomic and computer engineering, to the Sendiero Group LLC, to identify blind rehabilita

Other grants received during the report period include:

Several campus locations. Many of the articles also are available online at www.wmich.edu/wmnews.

- The previously announced renewal of a grant from the National Science Foundation for work focusing on the improvement of mathematics education. Chris- ples, to continue her work studying and the negotiation of complex intersections.

As a past president of NASPE and a national leader in the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NASWGS) and Director for the Accreditation for Coaching Education (NCACE), "Brylinsky has been a consistent and persistent voice for the importance of sport and its educational values," NASPE officials said.

Grant total nears $29 million, several awards in excess of $1 million

Richard O'Hearn, director of the school, and work with WMU professors.

Chen wrote to Richard O'Hearn, director of the school, and work with WMU professors.

Chen went on to become a full professor and vice dean at the school. Though he has steadily moved up the ranks of his profession, he is the only trumpet professor in China. Chen went on to become a full professor and vice dean at the school.

Unlike teaching and performing very much," Chen says enthusiastically. "I just love it."

Chen's parents prompted him to take up the instrument. His uncle was an accomplished trumpet player and the former principal trumpet for the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

"My parents thought I should do something," Chen says. "They thought I should have something to do.

Chen studied trumpet throughout his five years of preparatory school and in Beijing. He then studied for four years at the Tianjin Conservatory of Music, which he attended with no assistant, then was promoted to assistant professor in 1988. The same year, he began work on a master's degree in trumpet performance at the conservatory, obtaining his degree in 1991. In 1994, he was promoted to associate professor, becoming the youngest associate professor of trumpet in China. Chen went on to become a full professor and vice dean at the school.

Brylinsky nabs spot in national association's Hall of Fame

Judy Brylinsky, health, physical education and recreation, will be inducted into the National Association for Sport and Physical Education's (NASPE) Hall of Fame next month in San Diego. The NASPE Hall of Fame honors outstanding individuals who have achieved new levels of excellence in sport and physical education, and who have inspired others by example.

"I hope I have made a difference, but I certainly wasn't ready for this type of recognition," says Brylinsky.

Working with Judy Sheppard Mossert, founder and chief executive officer of Jazzercise, Inc. With the four-month induction on April 12, two women join the ranks of past honorees like Olympic greats Wilma Rudolph, Easter Johnson and Nancy Hoghade. Other past standouts include University of Western States coaches Pat Head Summitt, swimmer Tony DeCicco, head coach of the 1999 women's World Cup champion soccer team.

"I have made a difference, but I certainly wasn't ready for this type of recognition," says Brylinsky.
Grad students to be recognized April 1-5

The invaluable contributions graduate students make to WMU will be recognized during Graduate Student Appreciation Week, April 1 through Friday, April 5.

The Graduate College and Graduate Student Affairs have teamed up to sponsor a variety of events for the week, which is designated National Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week by the National Association of Graduate and Professional Student Affairs.

Several events are scheduled, including:
• Monday, April 1—Graduate College open house, 3120 Bagley, 4 to 6 p.m., refreshments provided
• Tuesday, April 2—Graduate College open house, 260 W. Walwood, 4 to 6 p.m., refreshments provided
• Wednesday, April 3—Graduate student appreciation reception; sponsored by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee; Bernard Center South Ballroom, 4 to 6 p.m.; refreshments, live entertainment and free T-shirts provided
• Thursday, April 4—Presentation of Graduate Student Teaching Effectiveness Awards and Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Awards, 2 to 5 p.m., 209 and 309 Bernard Center, reception immediately follows
• Friday, April 5—Graduate College open house, 2113 Francis, 2 to 4 p.m., refreshments provided

For more information or to add an event to the Graduate Student Appreciation Week online calendar, call 716-28. To view the calendar listing, visit the Graduate College Web site at <www.wmich.edu/grad/apprec-week.html>

Volunteers sought for winter Finals Finish

Members of the faculty, staff and administration are being asked to help students ease into finals week by volunteering at the sixth Finals Finish from 7 to 11 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, April 22 and 23, at the Student Recreation Center.

The event allows students to use the student recreation facility as a late night study and recreation area for the first two days of winter finals exams. This year’s program, “Soar into Finals Finish,” has a tangling theme and is being sponsored by the Presidential Spirit Committee along with various University units and employee organizations.

“Finals week can be very stressful for students,” says Andrea Johnson, University Recreation. “This event gives them a chance to relax and revive as they prepare for their exams.”

The Student Recreation Center will be offering student study rooms, a computer lab and open recreation facilities as well as snacks and massages. New for 2002 will be entertainment by hypnotist Jim Hoke, whose 9 p.m. presentation April 22 will emphasize preparation for finals. Wilde Library also is partnering with Finals Finish for another year, with extended hours until 3 a.m. on both April 22 and 23.

Faculty, staff and administrators volunteer to shift duties during the recreation facility’s extended operating hours. Those volunteers distribute water, help with registration, gather evaluations, and lead games and activities. Volunteers are asked to sign up on either Monday or Tuesday for a two-hour block of time from 7 to 9 p.m. or 9 to 11 p.m.

Those volunteering will receive a free Finals Finish T-shirt and will get passes to the recreation center, as will members of the University and Kalamosco communities who support the program with a financial donation of $25 or more.

To volunteer, register online at <www finalsfinish wmich ed u> or contact Johnson by phone at 7-7363 or e-mail at <andrea johnson@wmich.edu>.

Expert to discuss impact of stressed workers

Stressed-out employees can affect a company’s bottom line. At a Haworth College of Business presentation Friday, April 5, a WMU expert will tell managers how stress manifests itself in employee behavior and how to efforts ease frazzled nerves can boost productivity and help curb absenteeism, turnover and sabotage.

Christina Stamper, management, will present “Coping with Stress: Reducing the Impact of Employee Stress on Business Effectiveness” as part of the Keystone Community Bank Breakfast Series. The free program, which includes a continental breakfast, will begin at 7:30 a.m. in 2150 Schneider. Registrations are required and can be made by calling the Haworth dean’s office at 7-5055.

"There are two distinct philosophies about what kinds of relationships employers should build with their workers—one says to keep them at arm’s length, the other says to keep them close,” says Stamper. “The former advocates a softer, more family-like atmosphere, says Stamper. “Studies show that, in the long run, the better the relationship, the better the employee behavior. There’s a competitive advantage for companies that can reduce employee stress by helping workers manage work life and family life. Managers with a problem-solving style are more likely to get the words out of his head and onto paper as quickly or efficiently as he wanted. One mistake changed everything.

"I’d decided to go back to school, and in we were moving, my father-in-law dropped our typewriter down four flights of stairs,” he explains. “That was it for the typewriter. So I went out to Sears and bought a little word processor and changed my life."

“As soon as I used it, I realized, at that moment, I could use it to write,” says South.

Inspired, South worked at Michigan Public Radio during his days at MDU and after graduation he shifted to WMUK Radio, 15, WMUK-FM radio, 01/02-2887, 3/25-4/1/02. During the fifth annual Graduate Student Advisory Committee have teamed up students make to WMU will be recognized for the week, which is designated National Graduate and Professional Scholar Awards, 2 to 5 p.m., 208 and 3/25-4/1/02.

Granite Solutions is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

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Porter to be feted April 10

Members of the University community are invited to attend a Wednesday, April 10, reception honoring Tami Porter, budget officer in the Office of University Budgets, who is retiring.

The event is set for 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center.
WMU Board of Trustees elects St. John, Klohs to lead board for 2002

Richard Y. St. John of Kalamazoo and Bert G. Klohs of Grand Rapids have been elected to serve as chairperson and vice chairperson, respectively, of the WMU Board of Trustees.

The election took place at the board's annual meeting March 22, 2002, in its bylaws. Each will serve a one-year term in office. This is St. John's second consecutive term as chairperson, a move made possible by an amendment to the bylaws for 2002. St. John has been a WMU trustee since 1987. He is now in his second eight-year term on the board, and he previously served a one-year term for business and finance. He served as vice chairperson in both 1993 and 2000.

St. John was an employee of the Upjohn Co., now Pharmacia Corp., for 35 years, before he retired in 1992 from his position as manager of community and economic affairs. Later that year, he was named vice president for public affairs for the Kalamazoo Foundation, a position he held until his retirement in 1998. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Michigan in 1956 and 1972, respectively.

Klohs is director of The Right Place Program in Grand Rapids, a countywide community economic development program for the retention, expansion and attraction of businesses to the Greater Grand Rapids area. She has been a member of the WMU Board of Trustees since 1997. Previously, she served as assistant director of the Office for Economic Expansion at Grand Valley State University. She also has worked for the Prince Corp. in Holland, Mich. (now Johnson Controls), the Michigan Department of Commerce and the Economic Development Corp. of Berrien County.

A native of Germany, Klohs earned a degree in finance from WMU in 1983. She is also a graduate of the Economic Development Institute of the University of Oklahoma and is a Certified Economic Development Finance Professional, a designation awarded by the National Development Council.

Other board officers elected to one-year terms were Betty A. Reoch, secretary to the board; Robert M. Beam, treasurer and assistant secretary; and Lowell P. Rinker, assistant treasurer. Beouns is the University's interim provost. Previously, she served as dean of the College of Business and is associate vice president for business.

Pow wow to draw thousands to campus

Thousands of spectators will once again be on campus this spring for the annual Native American Pow Wow from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 6, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 7, University Arena.

Now in its 13th year, the gathering features Native American dance, spectacular regalia, drumming, singing, food and art. Admission to the event is $5 for adults and $3 for senior citizens and children ages 5 and younger. There is no admission charge for children under age 5 and WMU students, staff and faculty. Parking is available around University Arena for $3 per vehicle.

For more information, call the NASO office at 7-2279 or Jodi Palmer at 7-4106.

Israeli films explore women's peace efforts

Israeli filmmaker Sheli Edel will introduce, screen and lead a discussion about her film, "Women and Peace," at the women's peace movement in the Middle East.