Salute to Haenickes will include dance, music and theatre

A British Airways Concorde rolled up to the University's School of Aviation Sciences facilities March 7 to deliver the firm's first class of cadets to the new International Pilot Training Centre. The 16 cadets, who will spend 13 months preparing to become commercial pilots, were accompanied on the last leg of their London to Battle Creek journey by a delegation of federal, state, local and University officials, who boarded the plane in New York to officially welcome the students and finish the trip with them to Battle Creek's W.K. Kellogg Airport. Among the more than 40,000 people on hand for festivities at the airport were, from left, Kalamaizo Mayor Robert B. Jones, Michigan Gov. John M. Engler, President Haenicke and Capt. Mike Jeffery, director of flight crew and chief pilot for British Airways. Jones, Haenicke and Jeffery were aboard the Concorde when it landed and the governor traveled to Battle Creek to meet the plane and extend his greetings and congratulations on the start of the firm's relationship with the University. (Photos by Neil Rankin)

Ponchillia, Schma honored for distinguished service

Two WMU employees who together have dedicated some 40 years to the University have been selected as the recipients of this year's Distinguished Service Award. Paul E. Ponchillia, blind rehabilitation, and Geraldine A. Schma, distance education, will be presented with a plaque and a $1,500 honorarium at the 10th annual Academic Convocation at 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, in the Dalton Center Recital Hall.

The two were chosen from campuswide nominations based on such criteria as: service through innovative and effective programs; service in areas that contribute to the growth and stature of the University; and service that extends the impact and presence of the University into the larger community. Ponchillia, a faculty member since 1978, is being recognized for his contributions to his department as well as for his dedication to the field of blind rehabilitation. Trained as a plant pathologist, Ponchillia lost his eyesight in a hunting accident in 1973. He embarked upon a second career in blind rehabilitation after earning a master's degree from WMU's world-renowned program.

"He has distinguished not only himself but also his department and the University through the various activities in which he has engaged," wrote one colleague in nominating him for the award. "His untiring efforts on behalf of many individuals and organizations have clearly projected the presence of the University into the larger community. He has also had a major impact upon the lives of many students and has changed the lives of many blind people."

Ponchillia has a long-time interest in sports and has combined that with his expertise in blind rehabilitation to create many opportunities for visually impaired athletes. In the early 1980s, he initiated a goalball program and sports education activities at WMU for visually impaired young people and their teachers. Those now attract participants from across the country and serve as teaching and learning devices for students in many disciplines. His efforts in the sports arena were recognized in 1996 when he was selected as an official carrier of the Olympic torch as it made its way across the country from Los Angeles to Atlanta.

Ponchillia also travels around the United States as a consultant and educator on blindness, visiting with school children, community groups, academic, professional and service institutions, and government agencies. He regularly presents sessions on local, state, national and international levels. His professional activities include serving on the boards of the Michigan Commission for the Blind, Michigan Foundation for the Blind, Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Michigan Blind Athletic Association and U.S. Association for Blind Athletes.

Letters in support of Ponchillia's nomination for the Distinguished Service Award came from around the country from students, colleagues, blind athletes and leaders in the profession. "Dr. Ponchillia has been a major figure in moving rehabilitation teaching from random untested efforts to a coherent discipline which produces teachers whose impact enables innumerable blind visually impaired persons to live to their potential," wrote one person.

Ponchillia's recent activities include writing a textbook for rehabilitation teachers with his wife, Susan Ponchillia, also a WMU faculty member. "Foundations of Rehabilitation Teaching" has earned accolades from blind rehabilitationists worldwide as one of the few comprehensive works of its kind. He also has served as a peer reviewer for the Library of Congress

(Continued on page four)
A KEY EVENT — The University officially received its charter for the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa honor society during formal chapter installation ceremonies Feb. 23 in Shaw Theatre. Seventy current and retired faculty and staff members were recognized as charter members of WMU’s chapter of Michigan chapter. The first officers elected during the event were: (seated from left) John W. Petrow, chairperson of mathematics and statistics, president; and Emily I. Hauptmann, political science, vice president; (standing from left) Annette N. Brown, economics, treasurer; Joseph G. Reisch, dean of the Lee Honors College, secretary; and Catherine J. Julien, history, historian. "It is truly a genuine pleasure for me that this important moment in which we bring Phi Beta Kappa to our campus still occurs during our tenure," said President Haenicke, who spoke during the event. "I had hoped for this moment when I arrived here. Now it is accomplished and nothing could make me more proud." (Photo by Neil Raekin

2,000-3,000 expected here for ‘Gold Pride Preview’

An open house where high school and community college students can do everything from tour the Student Recreation Center to visit a residence hall is scheduled for Saturday, March 21. "Gold Pride Preview," WMU’s largest on-campus recruitment event, is expected to draw between 2,000 and 3,000 students and their parents to Schneider Hall.

High school juniors and seniors and community college transfer students admitted to WMU have been invited. 

Registration for the event will run from 9 to 3:30 p.m. Beginning at 9:30 a.m., participants will be able to acquaint themselves with WMU’s academic programs and student services by attending four 30-minute workshops. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., students and parents will be able to tour WMU facilities.

For more information, persons may contact the Office of Admission and Orientation at 7-2900.

Top seniors to be honored as Presidential Scholars

The University’s top seniors will be recognized at the 18th annual Presidential Scholars Convocation Thursday, March 26, at the Fetzer Center.

A total of 46 students will be presented as Presidential Scholars, WMU’s highest honor to a senior. The convocation will begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and a program.

Seniors are nominated for the Presidential Scholar award by faculty members. They are selected on the basis of their general academic excellence, academic and/or artistic excellence in their major and intellectual and/or artistic promise.

The speaker for the event will be President Haenicke, who will discuss "Reflections on the Life of the Mind." In addition, four Presidential Scholars will be selected to present their work on their learning activities beyond the classroom.

Carol Payne Smith, president of the Faculty Senate, will preside at the convocation and Haenicke will present certificates to the scholars. The event, intended to celebrate the excellence of WMU students, is sponsored by the Faculty Senate and the Office of the President. The Presidential Scholars may invite a faculty member from the area in which they have a major as a guest speaker.

Emergency research is topic of lecture

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently lifted its ban and defined certain conditions under which such research can be conducted. The panelists will discuss the need for research without concern in emergency situations, the regulations on such research, and the ethical issues in these situations.

Participating will be: Gail Pirro, a food and drug attorney who specializes in pharmaceutical matters; Tim Hilary, a field consultant for the Kalamazoo Post for the FDA; and Richard Lammers, a board-certified emergency room physician and research director in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the Michigan State University-Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies.

Ethics scholar to address the issue of human cloning

The ethical issues surrounding human cloning will be explored in a lecture to be presented in a lecture Thursday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Kirsch Auditorium of the Fetzer Center. The lecture is being sponsored by WMU’s Center for the Study of Ethics in Society and the Connable Board Room of the Bernhard Center. Because of expected interest in the announcement, the meeting will be carried live via ELECTABLE on campus and on Community Access Television Channel 30. WMU-BLUE may be viewed in many classrooms and offices. Designated viewing locations include 2302 Friedemann Hall, 2307 Engineering Hall, 2308 Engineering Hall, and the 10th floor lounge of Spraw Tower and the faculty lounge in Schneider Hall.

A political scientist who specializes in Eastern Europe will describe the civic challenges facing the war-torn Balkan peninsula in a talk Tuesday, March 24, at 7-2000. Robin Renming, professor of political science at the University of Mississippi, will speak as part of a campus speaker series addressing "Citizen Politics: Changing Sources of Power." Renming’s presentation is also the first George Kline Lecture, named for a long-time political science professor who was an internationally known expert on Balkan political science.

Renming’s talk will focus on civic associations and the ties that bind a community or nation. She will describe the challenges faced in Balkan nations such as Bosnia, which are now trying to build trust between groups in a post-war society.

Remington’s presentation is sponsored by the Institute of Government and Politics and the Russian and Eastern European Studies Program.

First Graduate Program Open House scheduled

WMU will present its first Graduate Program Open House on Thursday, March 17, for persons contemplating pursuing a graduate degree.

The event will run from 1 to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. It is being co-sponsored by the Graduate College and the Office of Admissions and Orientation.

Representatives from all of the University’s departments that offer graduate programs will be on hand to be in attendance, provide individual materials and answering questions. Staff members from the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships, Counseling and Testing Services, Career Services and the Graduate College also will be on hand.

For more details on these events, check out the News page on the WMU Web site at www.wmich.edu/wmu/news.
Open meetings set for associate dean candidates

The dates of the meetings and the candida
dates are:

• Thursday, March 12 — Richard D'Ama
dato, director of the School Psychology Program at the University of Northern Colorado.
• Tuesday, March 19 — Fred Aku, gradu
cate coordinator for the College of Engi
neering and Science at Louisiana Tech University.
• Thursday, March 21 — Carole Sefrit, a
tologist and associate dean for re
search and education in the College
of Arts and Letters at Old Dominion University.
• Monday, March 23 — Steven Rebach,
a marine biologist and estuarial scientist
at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore who is director of the Graduate Pro
gram in Marine, Estuarial and Environ
ment Sciences there and assistant director of the interinstitutional doctoral program
in that same field operated by the Univer
sity of Maryland and involving the 13 cam
puses in the system.
• Tuesday, March 24 — Ronald Davis,
chairman of the Department of History
at WMU.

Senate hearing canceled

The hearing scheduled for Friday, March
13, of the state Senate Appropriations Sub
committee on Higher Education has been
canceled. The hearing was to have taken
place at WMU's School of Aviation Sci
ences in Battle Creek.

As it stands, WMU will be one of the sev
eral candidate universities that have been
named as a possibility for the position
of vice president for research and graduate
education. The university is one of the six
finalists.

The Senate Appropriations Subcommit
tee was to consider the first public opportu
nity to make its case for the position and
an increase in the state's funding to the uni
versity. The Senate Appropriations Subcom
mittee was to consider the first public oppor
tunity to make its case for the position and
an increase in the state's funding to the uni
versity.

The Senate Appropriations Subcommit
tee was to consider the first public opportu
nity to make its case for the position and
an increase in the state's funding to the uni
versity.

The Senate Appropriations Subcommit
nee. The Senate Appropriations Subcom
mittee was to consider the first public oppor

on campus

GIVING BACK TO THE BRON
COS — When Daniel Jankowski was growing up in his home town of Am
bad — a WMU graduate — would often take him to his alma mater to watch sports events. Now, he's watching those games from the Bronco press box.

Jankowski is the management and development di
rector in the Division of Intercol
legiate Athletics. He worked for many years in the athletic department in that office while earning his bachelor's degree in public rela

tions and advertising at WMU.

His job is to help publicize athletic teams and stu
dent-athletes as well as to create a greater awareness of the Universi


ty through its athletics program, he notes.

We write copy for news releases, yearbooks, programs and articles for pub
lishing and promotions, as well as to create a greater awareness of the Universi

y through its athletics program, he notes.

We write copy for news releases, yearbooks, programs and articles for pub
lishing and promotions, as well as to create a greater awareness of the Universi

y through its athletics program, he notes.

We write copy for news releases, yearbooks, programs and articles for pub
lishing and promotions, as well as to create a greater awareness of the Universi

y through its athletics program, he notes.

We write copy for news releases, yearbooks, programs and articles for pub
lishing and promotions, as well as to create a greater awareness of the Universi

y through its athletics program, he notes.

We write copy for news releases, yearbooks, programs and articles for pub
lishing and promotions, as well as to create a greater awareness of the Universi

y through its athletics program, he notes.
Thursday, March 12

*Open meeting with candidate for associate dean of the Graduate College, Richard D’Amato, director, School Programs, University of Northern Colorado, 204 Bernhard Center, 7:30 p.m.*

(Lectures by Marquetta L. Goodwine, director of Vibes of Afrika and the Afrikan Kultural Whitman Young Ir. Scholars Award Program, “How Welfare Became a Dirty Word,” Student recital, Kevin Fagen, viola, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 5 p.m.)

*Four March 12, 1998 Western News*

World Wide Web. Select WMU News and then look for Calendar of Events. You can also Calendar _

Sunday, March 15

*Closing concert, Western Invitational Jazz Festival, the Bob Berg Quartet and University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, 204 Bernhard Center, 10:30 a.m.*

*(through March 15) Kalamazoo Film Society showing, “Washington Square,” directed by Reynolds Trower, director of the emergency department and medical director of the emergency department at Bronson Methodist Hospital, West Ballroom, Bernhard Center, 6 p.m.*

Tuesday, March 24

Open meeting with candidate for associate dean of the Graduate College, Ronald Davis, chairperson, WMU Department of History, 204 Bernhard Center, 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.*

*Master class, Linda Chessis, flute, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 1 p.m.*

*Student recital, Barbara Liebermann, oboe, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 5 p.m.*

Salvation

*Saturday, March 25

*Visiting Scholars and Artists Program master class, David Howard, international ballet teacher, Studio A, Dalton Center, 2:34-5 p.m., to register call 7-5841.*

*Student recital, Michelle LaGruth, mezzo-soprano, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 6 p.m.*

*Concert, University Symphony Orchestra with trumpet soloist Stephen Jones, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.*

*International Festival, East Ballroom, Bernhard Center, 4-8 p.m.*

*Student recital, Michelle LaGruth, mezzo-soprano, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 6 p.m.*

*Student recital, Renee Carriere, soprano, Dalton Center Lecture Hall, 8 p.m.*

Thursday, March 26

*Master class, Muir String Quartet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 10 a.m.*

*Open meeting with candidate for associate dean of the Graduate College, Fred Aki, graduate coordinator, College of Engineering and Science, Louisiana Tech University, 204 Bernhard Center, 10:30 a.m.*

*Celebration, “WMU Salutes the Haenicke’s,” Miller Auditorium, 8 p.m.*

*Administration charged

*Thursday, March 26*

*Braille Development Section*

*"I truly believe the one thing that makes Paul make such a difference for all those whose lives he has touched other than to this is that he is nothing but a true gentleman. In all his work, he is always on the lookout for ways to improve things. And he always leads by example. I have never seen anyone work as hard as he does...”*

*“Gerry always brings to (our) discussions a profound belief in the rightness of what we are doing. And in his sense that his goal is to provide high quality, convenient education to students who cannot or choose not to participate in regular on-campus classes,” wrote one colleague in her nomination for the award.*

*“I truly believe the one thing that makes Paul make such a difference for all those whose lives he has touched other than to this is that he is nothing but a true gentleman. In all his work, he is always on the lookout for ways to improve things. And he always leads by example. I have never seen anyone work as hard as he does...”*

*“Gerry always brings to (our) discussions a profound belief in the rightness of what we are doing. And in his sense that his goal is to provide high quality, convenient education to students who cannot or choose not to participate in regular on-campus classes,” wrote one colleague in her nomination for the award.*

*“I truly believe the one thing that makes Paul make such a difference for all those whose lives he has touched other than to this is that he is nothing but a true gentleman. In all his work, he is always on the lookout for ways to improve things. And he always leads by example. I have never seen anyone work as hard as he does...”*

*“Gerry always brings to (our) discussions a profound belief in the rightness of what we are doing. And in his sense that his goal is to provide high quality, convenient education to students who cannot or choose not to participate in regular on-campus classes,” wrote one colleague in her nomination for the award.*