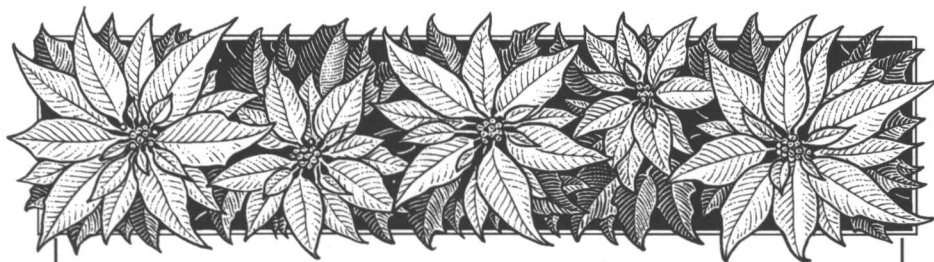


# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY WESTERN NEWS

Volume 22, Number 14

December 7, 1995



## Season's Greetings

*We wish all members of the WMU community  
and their families the happiest of holiday seasons,  
and we hope that the New Year is full of  
good health, promise and fulfillment for all.*

*We join with each of you in hoping for a  
good New Year for our University as well.*

*Diether and Carol Haenicke*

## Board chairperson ends 35-year quest for bachelor's degree

Some students get involved in campus governance activities to complement their college education. For Lana L. Boldi of Kentwood, it was the other way around.

Boldi, the chairperson of WMU's Board of Trustees, has spent the last two years finishing her bachelor's degree. She will graduate with a degree in general university studies from



**Boldi**

WMU in commencement exercises Saturday, Dec. 16, in Miller Auditorium.

"I had said when I was appointed as a trustee by Gov. Blanchard that one of my goals was to finish my college degree," she said. "So Geoffrey Smith, who was at that time dean of continuing education, came to me and said, 'Lana, when are you going to call our office and enroll in classes?' I finally did."

Boldi, who was named to the Board of Trustees in 1989, is an international representative and education/Community Action Program coordinator for Region I-D of the United Auto Workers based in Grand Rapids. She was elected to a one-year term as board chairperson in January.

Her quest for a bachelor's degree actually began in 1960, when she enrolled in WMU and attended for three years. Then she moved out West, working part time as a waitress, bartender and roulette dealer while taking classes at San Francisco State University and the University of Nevada at Reno.

By the time she moved back to Michigan and thought about finishing her degree, she was a single parent supporting two children and needed to work full time. She took an assembly line job at General Motors in Kalamazoo and put her college education plans on hold.

But Boldi was still interested in pursuing higher goals and, in 1972, she entered a journeyman apprenticeship program, becoming the first female apprentice in GM's Fisher Body Corp. Through her job, she became active in the UAW and took the position as a union representative in 1978.

Although she still wanted to finish her degree, Boldi hesitated to re-enroll in classes because of the time requirements of her job. Then she heard about self-instructional courses available through WMU's Division of Continuing Education.

"My schedule is so inconsistent," Boldi says. "I have many night meetings as well

## Schlack to be honored for community service, contributions to profession at commencement

In 1974, Marilyn J. Schlack earned her doctor of education degree from WMU. That same year, she went to work at Kalamazoo Valley Community College as assistant dean of instruction.

Now president of KVCC, Schlack will return to WMU Saturday, Dec. 16, to receive an honorary doctor of public service degree for her exemplary community service and for distinguished contributions to her profession. She will be honored during one of three commencement ceremonies at 11:30 a.m. in Miller Auditorium.

"She is an outstanding citizen who did tireless work in coalescing a community spirit for economic development and revitalization of the core city of our community," said President Haenicke when he recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the degree earlier this year. "In addition, she has been an outstanding leader in the field of education in our area and our region. I think it would be most appropriate if the institution honored these many contributions that Dr. Schlack has made to our



**Schlack**

community and to the lives of the citizens in it by bestowing this honor on her."

"My appreciation goes to Dr. Haenicke and the WMU Board of Trustees," Schlack said. "I am honored that WMU has chosen to give me an honorary doctorate in public service. This degree will have a very special place in my memories. Not only is it gratifying to me, but it is greatly appreciated. The esteem of a friend and colleague and my alma mater is truly a special honor."

"This serves as an indicator of the value of institutions of higher education becoming deeply involved in their home communities to benefit not only their students but the people who call this place home," she said.

Schlack was promoted to dean of instruction at KVCC in 1976, executive dean and dean of instruction in 1981 and president in 1982. She was the first woman president of a community college in Michigan.

Her community service is both diverse and extensive, including her current position as chairperson of the CEO Council, past chairperson of the board of the Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce and past campaign chairperson for the Greater Kalamazoo United Way.

Schlack also chaired the downtown partnership that is spearheading the \$100 million Arcadia Commons economic development initiative. She helped cultivate that cooperative venture, which now includes KVCC's \$6.5 million downtown campus. The National Council for Urban Economic Development has singled out Arcadia Commons for one of its five national awards as a model private-public partnership.

She also has held volunteer leadership positions with the Borgess Medical Center, the YWCA, the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Old Kent Bank of Kalamazoo, Junior Achievement, the Kalamazoo Enterprise

*(Continued on page four)*

*(Continued on page four)*

## University to award nearly 2,100 degrees

The University will award nearly 2,100 degrees in commencement exercises Saturday, Dec. 16, in Miller Auditorium.

There will be three ceremonies: one at 9 a.m. for graduates of the Haworth College of Business, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Division of Continuing Education's General University Studies Program; one at 11:30 a.m. for graduates of the College of Education and the College of Health and Human Services; and one at 2 p.m. for graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Fine Arts.

A total of 1,645 bachelor's, 434 master's and 18 doctoral degrees will be awarded. At the 9 a.m. ceremony, Lana L. Boldi of Kentwood, chairperson of the WMU Board of Trustees, will receive her bachelor's degree and at the 11:30 a.m. ceremony, Marilyn J. Schlack, president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, will receive an honorary doctor of public service degree (see related stories on this page).

Music for the ceremonies will be performed by the Western Brass Ensemble directed by Steve M. Wolfenbarger, music. The national anthem and the alma mater will be sung by

WMU's chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia professional music fraternity. The graduates will be welcomed as new alumni of the University by Robert Miller, vice president of the WMU Alumni Association. President Haenicke will preside over the ceremonies.

Giving the invocation and benediction during the ceremonies will be: Clarence Syrette of Niles, a Native American spiritual leader, at 9 a.m.; Father Kenneth Schmidt of St. Thomas More Student Parish of Kalamazoo at 11:30 a.m.; and Pastor Dale Krueger of the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Kalamazoo at 2 p.m.

Tickets are required for the ceremonies. Each participating graduate is eligible to receive up to six guest tickets. Inquiries regarding additional tickets should be directed to the Office of the Registrar after Dec. 11 at 7-4310.

Guests without tickets may view the exercises on television monitors in 3770 Knauss Hall. Each ceremony will air live on Channel 36 of EduCABLE, the University's cable television system.

University video services is providing an opportunity for persons to purchase videotapes of each of the three ceremonies. Orders may be placed by calling 7-5003. The tapes are \$20 each.

## Did you know?

■ Miller Auditorium, the University's 3,500-seat showplace, attracted 195,226 patrons in 1994-95. Of the total, 71,739 patrons attended the Miller Concert Series and another 23,690 patrons attended performances of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.

■ The Office of Admissions and Orientation entertained 7,848 prospective students, their parents and other family members and friends between September 1993 and December 1994. Of the total, 3,403 persons took tours, 3,170 persons joined in Western Fridays and Saturday Views and another 1,275 persons took special tours.

■ A total of 2,257 students and their parents participated in competition for Medallion and Higher Education Incentive scholarships in 1994. Of the total, 1,067 were students. The two programs have awarded more than \$50 million in scholarships in the past decade.





**PLANE PURCHASES TAKE AVIATION SCHOOL TO NEW HEIGHTS** — Sky Bronco Michele Kimmet, a senior aviation management major from Ypsilanti, was one of the first students to get a close-up look at the cockpit of the School of Aviation Sciences' new Mooney Ovation. The plane is the first of three such planes purchased with funds from a W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant. Joseph H. Dunlap, right, director of the school, flew the plane in from Texas in November and says all three planes will be in Kalamazoo by the end of December. He calls the planes "the most sophisticated single-engine advanced instrument trainers used in any school in the world" and says each comes equipped with an Electronic Flight Information System, a storm scope, auto pilot and a radar altimeter as well as a Global Positioning System, which works with feedback from satellites.

## Thurber works highlighted in radio program

The work of the late American writer and cartoonist James Thurber will come to life in a readers' theatre production by a group of faculty members.

"A Thurber Menagerie: Of Dogs and Other Species (Including Humans)" is a collection of Thurber stories that will be performed in a two-hour radio broadcast on WMUK-FM (102.1), the University's public radio station. The program will air at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31, and will be rebroadcast at 8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 1.

The program is devised and directed by Robert L. Smith, communication, who is also one of five cast members. It will mark the end of his distinguished career at the University, as he is retiring from the faculty Jan. 2. Smith hopes the project will spark new interest in one of America's greatest humorists.

"A couple of generations have really missed out by not being exposed to the wonderful writings of this man," Smith says. "This guy is worth knowing about and studying. After Mark Twain, he's got to be the second or third most outstanding American humorist."

Thurber is probably best known by the generation of the 1930s, '40s and '50s. Much of his work appeared in The New Yorker magazine, but he's also known for stories like "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." In recent years, Thurber's famous line drawings of animals and portly people have been popularized on T-shirts and notecards. Smith's production will center on 20 different Thurber stories that he has mixed together to form a script.

"I took pieces and interlaced them together in a way that would provide segues or connections without altering his writing," Smith says. "The stories are not always in sequence, but I tried to use the words based on my own sense of what tended to make sense and connect."

The broadcast will begin with a half-hour interview with the late author's daughter, Rosemary Thurber, a resident of South Haven. Smith says Thurber's daughter graciously gave him approval to use the included works. The 90-minute readers' theatre will follow.

Four other WMU faculty members make up the cast of "A Thurber Menagerie." Garrard Macleod, WMUK and media services, serves as actor and producer. Other cast members are: Thomas E. Small, English; Carol Payne Smith, education and professional development, who is Smith's wife; and Timothy J. Smith, communication, who is their son.

Since his appointment to the faculty in 1964, Smith has directed and/or performed in 135 productions. In his retirement, he plans to pursue acting, directing and playwriting.

## Readers respond positively to Western News survey

Faculty and staff members are faithful readers of the Western News, and they seem to like what they see.

Those were among the recently released findings of a readership survey of the faculty/staff newspaper conducted this past April.

"The goal was to find out who is reading the News and what they think about its content, design and distribution," said editor Ruth A. Stevens, news services. "The results were overwhelmingly positive."

Some 96 percent of those returning the survey either read almost every issue or read it once or twice a month. More than 70 percent of the respondents read either the entire issue or most of it. Nearly two-thirds of the respondents (63.8 percent) rated the content of Western News as "good." Another 13.8 percent rated the content as "excellent," for a total of 77.6 percent rating the paper as above average.

Only 1.1 percent said they don't get a copy of Western News either by campus mail, in a University office or at an on-campus distribution point. "For those who didn't receive a copy or enough copies and identified themselves on the survey, we were able to immediately correct the problem," Stevens said. "Others who have distribution questions should contact me."

A total of 90.3 percent of those surveyed either agreed somewhat or strongly agreed that Western News keeps them informed as an employee. Some 86.9 percent either agreed somewhat or strongly agreed that the presentation of the News is appealing, and 82.1 percent either agreed somewhat or strongly agreed that the information presented in the News is timely.

## Faculty member collaborates on comprehensive collection of the writings of poet Robert Frost

A WMU faculty member has co-edited the first authoritative and truly comprehensive collection of the writings of Robert Frost.

Eagerly awaited by fans and scholars of the 20th-century American poet, "Robert Frost: Collected Poems, Prose and Plays" has been produced by Mark Richardson, English, and Richard Poirier, the Marius Brewley Professor of English at Rutgers University.

The volume contains more than 1,000 pages of Frost poems, plays, short stories, essays, speeches, letters and interviews — many of them unpublished or uncollected. It also includes newly researched and extensive chronological information about Frost's life, an essay on the texts, an index of titles and first lines, and explanatory notes by the editors.

"It's far more complete than any other edition of Frost," Richardson says. "We were able to do this because the book is grounded in a lot of primary textual research."

Richardson says in keeping with Frost's appeal as a poet, the book is intended for a broad audience, but at the same time has

### Senate meeting is tonight

The Faculty Senate will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, in the Fetzer Center. Agenda items include remarks by President Haenicke and a first reading of proposed amendments to the senate's constitution and bylaws. A report and recommendations of the ad hoc Committee to Review the Recognition of Student Academic Accomplishment also will be presented.

### Receptions scheduled for three staff members

Retirement receptions honoring three staff members are scheduled for the coming weeks in the President's Dining Room of the Bernhard Center. The University community is invited to attend the events honoring:

■ Judyth K. Timmerman, public safety, from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14;

■ Eddie Corner, physical plant-maintenance services, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19; and

■ Albert A. LeRoy, physical plant-maintenance services, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21.

elements that will satisfy scholars. The prose section has three times as many pieces as any other available collection, and includes such unusual items as Frost's writings for the John F. Kennedy inauguration.

"Robert Frost's popularity has to do with a couple of things, such as the style in which he wrote," Richardson says. "He also had a conviction that poetry should be a way to fellowship with a very large community — to correspond with people. He was also good at popularizing his own work and poetry at large. By the 1940s, he became a public figure or celebrity. He could call a press conference and actually have journalists show up."

For many readers, the highlight of the book will be the 1949 "Complete Poems of Robert Frost," which Richardson calls the core of the new volume. He says this version of Frost's poetry is free of the unauthorized editorial changes made by editor Edward Connery Lathem 25 years ago.

"The only available collection of Frost has been the one Lathem prepared," Richardson says. "He amended the punctuation in a number of cases and many scholars have complained that in some cases he altered the meaning of the poems. We wanted to base our collection around the last collection of work Frost had supervised, rather than the Lathem edition. We restored the poems to the manner originally intended."

The restoration is winning the book some positive reviews. The Boston Globe calls it a "first-rate decision" and overall says the book is one "you can't afford spiritually not to own."

"Robert Frost: Collected Poems, Prose and Plays" is part of the Library of America Series published by Literary Classics of the United States in New York City. It is available at bookstores for \$35.

### Northouse elected to post

Peter G. Northouse, communication, is serving as vice chairperson of the Health Communication Division of the International Communication Association. He will be the division's program planner for the 1996 convention in Chicago and he will then chair the division through its subsequent two conferences in Montreal and Jerusalem. Northouse is the co-author of one of the leading textbooks on health communication.

The survey also asked readers about the "public service" columns initiated in recent years that are written by representatives from other departments and appear most often on page three of the paper. The most popular appears to be the "Human Resources" column. Many people also seem to enjoy the "Service" and "Zest for Life" columns, while readers seem more split on the "Libraries," "Media" and "Recycling" columns.

Other regular features readers enjoy are "Jobs" postings, the "On Campus" photo feature, the recently initiated "Did You Know?" column and the page-four calendar of events.

The survey also included an open-ended question asking readers for any additional comments or suggestions.

"In general, I would say the most noticeable thing about the comments from this survey is that they are much more positive than comments from the last survey we conducted in 1984," Stevens said. "This year, many of the respondents wrote supportive comments or made helpful suggestions. We hope to use these comments, along with the responses to the other questions, to help us shape the Western News into a publication that is even more appealing to its audience."

### Next News is Jan. 4

This is the last Western News for the fall semester. The first issue of the winter semester will be published Thursday, Jan. 4. The deadline is noon Tuesday, Jan. 2.

## WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY WESTERN NEWS

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## Four selected for service excellence awards

Four outstanding persons have been chosen by the Staff Service Excellence Selection Committee to receive awards for the second quarter of 1995-96.

Those who will receive the prestigious Staff Service Excellence Award for July, August and September are: Terry R. Bettiga, physical plant-maintenance services; Mary Lou Brooks, Academic Skills Center; Steven J. Sharp, physical plant-building custodial and support services; and Rodney Wade, physical plant-building custodial and support services. Among these four staff members, three employee groups are represented: Bettiga, professional/technical/administrative; Brooks, clerical/technical; and Sharp and Wade, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

The winners are among 23 employees nominated by their peers for recognition through this program, which was established in 1994 to honor excellence and performance above and beyond job requirements each quarter.

Each will receive a Service Excellence Certificate and a \$50 gift certificate for the designated University facility of their choice. This program is available for all regular full- and part-time WMU staff members. Its purpose is to recognize and reward persons, nominated by fellow em-

ployees, for caring, conscientious and innovative service beyond job expectations. A total of 49 staff employees have received awards in the four preceding quarters.

The Department of Human Resources and the selection committee, representing AFSCME, the Administrative Professional Association, the Clerical/Technical Organization, the Michigan State Employees Association and the Police Officers Association, the sponsors of the award, encourage all staff members to nominate colleagues deserving of recognition.

While nominations may be submitted at any time, the Department of Human Resources will specifically invite nominations in early January for the third quarter. Now is the time to be thinking of that special co-worker who deserves a public "thank you."

## Holiday reception planned

Faculty and staff members are invited to the annual holiday reception sponsored by President Haenicke and the Board of Trustees from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, in the South Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. Supervisors are encouraged to arrange work schedules so that staff members who wish to attend the reception sometime during the afternoon may do so.

## 58 complete quarter century of WMU service

Fifty-eight faculty and staff members who have completed 25 years of continuous service at the University were eligible for induction into WMU's 25 Year Club at the annual banquet Dec. 5 in the Bernhard Center.

The club, which now has 332 active and 242 retired members, was founded in 1982 with 98 charter members.

Those eligible for induction at this year's banquet were: Umar F. Abdul-Mutakallim, physical plant-building custodial and support services; Richard P. Atwell, Fetzer Center; Thomas C. Bailey, ombudsman; Sherry K. Bate, College of Fine Arts; Leonard J. Beuving, biological sciences; Doug O. Blowers, physical plant-maintenance services; Gregory W. Boothroyd, Counseling Center; Joseph T. Buckley, mathematics and statistics; Josephine J. Bullard, Henry/Hoeckje/Bigelow dining service; Kai M. Chapman, external affairs-development; Jack N. Culp, physical plant-utilities;

Jeffrey W. Decker, physical plant-landscape services; David K. Diget, health, physical education and recreation; Howard J. Dooley, international affairs; Dean Rollin G. Douma, Graduate College; David A. Ede, comparative religion; Mark J. Evert, Miller Auditorium; Sharon M. Flickinger, continuing education; Jerry F. Fuss, cashing; Jeffrey B. Gardiner, foreign languages and literatures; L. John Goes, physical plant; Thomas L. Gossman, finance and commercial law;

Bruce M. Haight, history; Robert E. Haner, physical plant-maintenance services; Alonzo E. Hannaford, chairperson of special education; Robert D. Havira, geology; Philip H. Herron, public safety; Edward L. Hixson, physical plant-maintenance services; Richard E. Joyce, communication; Robert A. Laing, mathematics and statistics; James D. Martin, public safety; F. William McCarty, finance and commercial law; Philip P. Micklin, geography; Gerald L. Morehouse, logistical

services-stores; J. Donald Nelson, chairperson of computer science; Gerard T. Nowak, testing and evaluation services;

Thomas F. Pagel, communication; Robert H. Poel, science studies; Kenneth J. Pollack, physical plant-landscape services; Dale H. Porter, history; Edward W. Randt Jr., physical plant-maintenance services; David L. Rozelle, accountancy; James T. Schaper, auxiliary enterprises; Frederick G. Schulz, facility development; Shirley Clay Scott, chairperson of English; Thomas Seiler, English; John F. (Jack) Shaw, intercollegiate athletics; Patricia L. Sonicksen, accounts receivable; Raymond C. Soule, physical plant-maintenance services; Stuart O. Strayer, public safety;

Suzanne M. Timmer, College of Education; Larry L. Tyler, sociology; Lambert R. Vander Kooi, electrical and computer engineering; Shirley A. Van Hoeven, communication; Earl M. Washington, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Archie E. Watson, emeritus in education and professional development; Marvin J. Weessies, blind rehabilitation; and Franklin K. Wolf, industrial and manufacturing engineering.

The 25 Year Club was established by the Board of Trustees as a way to recognize the valuable contributions made to the University by its employees who have committed their careers to WMU. New members receive a 25-year service pin and a framed certificate, and they may choose from a selection of commemorative gifts. New, active and retired members were guests of the University for the evening.

## Jobs

The following list of vacancies is currently being posted through the Job Opportunity Program by employment services in the Department of Human Resources. Interested benefits-eligible employees can apply for any of these positions (bargaining or non-bargaining) by submitting a job opportunity transfer application during the posting period, or may contact an employment services staff member for assistance in identifying themselves as candidates for these openings.

S-01 and S-02 clerical positions are not required to be posted. For persons interested in faculty positions, there are openings in selected fields. A letter of application should be submitted to the appropriate dean or chairperson.

(R) **Post-Doctoral Researcher**, P-04, Physics, 95/96-291, 12/5-12/11/95.

(R) **Custodian** (3 full-time, 1 half-time position), M-2, Physical Plant-Building Custodial and Support Services, 95/96-294, 12/5-12/11/95.

(N) **Senior Research Associate** (Term

## On campus



**ONE FOR THE BOOKS** — Robin A. Williams combines both vocation and avocation in her job as coordinator of monographic acquisitions in the technical services area of the University libraries. She oversees the acquisition of books, as well as compact disks, musical scores and videotapes, for the libraries. About half of those books — some 190 a week — come through a major distributor. WMU has an arrangement with this vendor to acquire many new books as soon as they're published without having to order each title individually. The vendor selects the books based on extensive guidelines the University libraries have established. Williams reviews the books when they come in to make sure they're appropriate for the WMU libraries. "My job is my hobby," she says. "It allows me to indulge my passion, which is exploring what the mystery of life is about. The reading I do is one way I choose to shed light on this most important of subjects. As

I help to acquire materials for the libraries, I am continually exposed to a wealth of information." The other half of the books acquired for the University libraries comes through order request forms submitted by faculty members. Williams follows up on the forms that need special attention, such as those listing recent books that might already be coming from the vendor. Williams has worked full time in the University libraries since 1973. Before that, she was a student assistant in the libraries while earning her bachelor's degree in social work here. When not at work, Williams enjoys reading books on psychology and mysticism and spending time with her husband and 13-year-old son.

## New edition of FACTS published

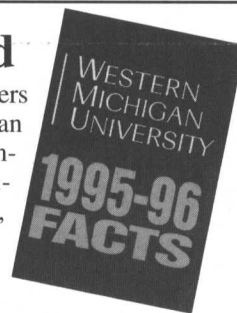
Two offices at the University have issued 1995-96 FACTS to departments and offices across the campus in quantities they requested earlier this year.

The handy, pocket-sized publication is in its second year. It also is being sent to departments and offices in quantities that will allow distribution to each faculty and staff member.

"We hope that this edition will be as successful as the first and that faculty and staff members will continue to share the information it contains with colleagues,

community members and others," said Jan W. Lyddon, planning and institutional research, and Martin R. (Joe) Gage, public relations and communications.

Their offices produced the publication, which also will be available on the University's World Wide Web site in a few weeks. A limited number of additional copies is available by calling 7-2373.



## Service

These faculty and staff members are recognized for five, 10, 15, 20 and 30 years of service to the University in December:

**30 years** — Subhash R. Sonnad, sociology.

**20 years** — John C. Hoppel, physical

plant-administrative services; and Marilyn J. Van Hare, Career English Language Center for International Students.

**15 years** — Eileen B. Evans, Office of the Vice President for Research; Bradley Hayden, English; Cynthia D. Jackson-Ekeledo, Sindecuse Health Center; Bernadine A. Kawka, Sindecuse Health Center; Arthur R. McGurn, physics; Rick A. Reist, physical plant-landscape services; and Peter J. Strazdas, physical plant-maintenance services.

**10 years** — John R. Hiltbrand, physics; Linda L. Jones, external affairs-development; Tracy A. Lukins, physical plant-administrative services; Pamela J. McMakin, physical plant-maintenance services; Ali M. Metwalli, finance and commercial law; Patricia A. Peterson, continuing education; Mary E. Pratt, physical plant-landscape services; and Ralph Tanner, industrial and manufacturing engineering.

**Five years** — Patrick A. Benton, aviation sciences; Connie Bouallam, University computing services; Kay D. Fischhoff, continuing education; Anne C. Hopkins, psychology; Kelly L. Keglovitz, University computing services; Molly L. Kinnison, international affairs; Patricia M. Negrevski, Evaluation Center; Heather E. Philbert-Aponte, University computing services; Christine M. Smith, music; Jane L. Tomlin, University computing services; Connie White, Burnham dining service; and John D. Winchell, education library.

## Media

Four faculty members will be guests in the coming weeks on "Focus," a five-minute interview produced by news services. "Focus" is scheduled to air on these Saturdays at 6:10 a.m. on WKPR-AM (1420) with the following speakers and topics: Margie J. Geasler, consumer resources and technology, on ways divorced couples are finding to keep families together for the holidays, Dec. 9; Matthew C. Steel, music, on the music of Christmas, Dec. 16; Paul E. Szarmach, Medieval Institute, on the popularity of angels, Dec. 23; and Dale H. Porter, history, on what makes events during the year historical, Dec. 30.



# Calendar

The master calendar maintained by news services for use in Western News is available through Gopher on the VMScluster. Currently, there are three calendars available: December events; January events; and future events, which run from February through December. To view the calendars, type Gopher at the system prompt. At the next menu, choose 2. Western Michigan University, then choose 4. Campus Calendar. You will find options for 1. This Month's Events, 2. Next Month's Events and 3. Future Events.

## Thursday, December 7

- (and 8) Exhibition, paintings by Ellen Armstrong, MFA candidate, Gallery II, Sangren Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- (and 8) Student Art Gallery exhibition, Max Newroth, MFA degree candidate, Rotunda and South galleries, East Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closing reception, Friday, Dec. 8, 5-7 p.m.
- Opera workshop, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 5 p.m.
- Master class, Cassatt String Quartet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 6 p.m.
- Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 7 p.m.
- \*Performance, Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella," Miller Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- \*(thru 9) University Theatre production, "The River Niger," Shaw Theatre: Dec. 7-8, 8 p.m.; and Dec. 9, 2 and 8 p.m.

## Friday, December 8

- Mathematics and statistics colloquium, "The Secret Santa Problem," Michael J. Reske, graduate student in statistics, Commons Room, sixth floor, Everett Tower, 4 p.m.; refreshments following.
- \*(and 9) Hockey club of WMU vs. Bowling Green State University, Lawson Arena: Dec. 8, 7 p.m.; and Dec. 9, 2 p.m.
- \*Concert, "Annual Tribute to the Great Swing Bands," University Jazz Orchestra and Jazz Lab Band, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

## Saturday, December 9

- \*Men's basketball, WMU vs. Murray State University, University Arena, 1 p.m.
- Student recital, Andrew MacPhail, tenor, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 3 p.m.
- \*Hockey, WMU vs. the University of Michigan, Lawson Arena, 7 p.m.

## Monday, December 11

- Public presentation by Thomas M. Brennan, athletic director at San Jose State University and WMU AD finalist, conference room, second floor, Read Fieldhouse, 2-3 p.m.

## Wednesday, December 13

- "A Gathering of Women," Soup and Sandwich Shoppe, Wesley Foundation building, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

## Thursday, December 14

- Retirement reception honoring Judyth K. Timmerman, public safety, President's Dining Room, Bernhard Center, 2-4 p.m.

## Friday, December 15

- Meeting, Board of Trustees, times and locations to be announced.
- Doctoral oral examination, "The Discriminative Stimulus Properties of Morphine and U-50, 488H in a Three-Key Assay: A kappa and mu Opioid Discrimination in the Pigeon," Malath Makhay, psychology, 208 North Hall, 1 p.m.
- Holiday reception sponsored by President Haenicke and the Board of Trustees, South Ballroom, Bernhard Center, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- \*Hockey, WMU vs. Bowling Green State University, Lawson Arena, 7 p.m.

## Boldi

(Continued from page one)

faculty members through writing, audio-tapes, telephone calls and e-mail on a regular basis.

Boldi took a writing course last year and is finishing a computer class this year.

"They send me a booklet which gives me the lessons laid out and there's always one or two textbooks that go with the course," she says. "I just do the lessons and send them in to the instructor through the Division of Continuing Education. The instructor looks at them, grades them and sends them back to me."

For the writing class, Boldi prepared a lengthy paper for her final exam. This semester, she will take an exam proctored by a University representative.

"I'm just pleased that Western has these courses available for people like me," Boldi says. "I just can't say enough for continuing education."

"I hope that this is a statement for what's available for nontraditional students," she continues. "If they ever had any thoughts or wishes about continuing their college education, they should do that. There are programs for everybody, no matter what their circumstances. I would hope that people who have been hesitating about going back to school because they thought they might be too busy or because they couldn't go to class would consider self-instructional courses. It's really a great program!"

Has her position as chairperson of the Board of Trustees influenced her experience as a student in any way?

"I've been just as nervous taking these courses as I would have been if I had had no association with the University," she says. "That didn't play any kind of role, except that it gave me incentive to go back and finish up. The people at the University have been very supportive with their encouragement."

On the other hand, Boldi says her experience as a student has had some bearing on her position with the board.

"I'm very supportive of the students at Western and how we can continually make things better for them," she says. "But I think that's something (WMU President) Dieter Haenicke has worked really hard at anyway. He's very pro-students. Clearly, you can't help when you're a student yourself to see things through the eyes of students. In some ways, that's given me a perspective that I might not have had otherwise."

Now that she's near the end of the road, Boldi says she is thoroughly looking forward to commencement activities. "I'm really excited about it," she says. "This is a dream come true."

Her excitement is eclipsed only by that of her sons, Tony and James. "My two sons have been so supportive," she says. "They're just thrilled to death. Both think it's great that I'm graduating. They're really pleased and happy for me."

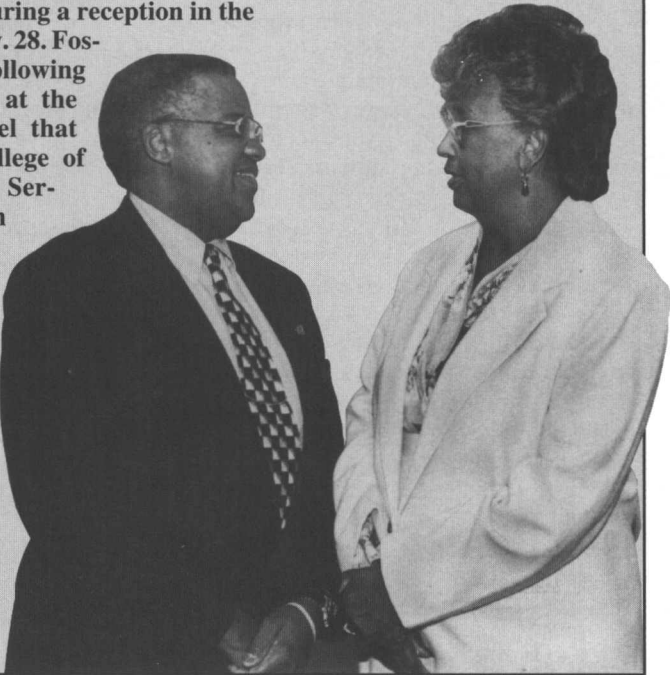
The tables were turned only three years ago, when Tony earned his bachelor's degree from WMU. In fact, Boldi will be joining a sort of "Bronco dynasty" when she completes her degree. Beginning with her grandfather who attended WMU soon after its doors opened in the early 1900s, a legion of family members have become WMU alumni.

"My father had nine brothers and sisters, and eight of them went to Western," she says. "They had a lot of children who attended WMU, so I have many cousins who are alumni. I figure there's at least three dozen or more."

During the commencement ceremony, Boldi expects that she will be performing her usual duties as chairperson of the board by helping Haenicke congratulate the graduates as they file across the stage.

"At some point, I'll look to President Haenicke to determine when I will receive my diploma," she says. "I'm not sure how we'll do that, although you can be sure when I leave there, I'll have one in my hand!"

**CATCHING UP**—Henry W. Foster, who was nominated earlier this year by President Clinton for U.S. surgeon general, met up with his longtime friend Bernardine M. Lacey, director of WMU's School of Nursing, during a reception in the Bernhard Center Nov. 28. Foster came to campus following a luncheon address at the Radisson Plaza Hotel that was part of the College of Health and Human Services' William Burian Lecture Series. Currently a special consultant in the academic health services division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Foster spoke about at-risk youth. He and Lacey have been friends for 30 years and have worked on several projects together.



## Saturday, December 16

- Commencement, Miller Auditorium, 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

## Tuesday, December 19

- Retirement reception honoring Eddie Corner, physical plant-maintenance services, President's Dining Room, Bernhard Center, 2:30-4 p.m.

## Thursday, December 21

- Retirement reception honoring Albert A. LeRoy, physical plant-maintenance services, President's Dining Room, Bernhard Center, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

## Friday, December 22

- \*Men's basketball, WMU vs. Colorado State University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

## Monday, December 25

- (thru Jan. 1) Holidays and winter closure period, most offices closed.

## Wednesday, January 3

- Winter semester classes begin.
- School of Music Convocation Series concert, Heritage Jazz Quartet, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 2 p.m.
- \*Men's basketball, WMU vs. Bowling Green State University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

## Thursday, January 4

- (thru 24) Exhibition, "Calligraphy, Carvings and Rubbings in Chinese Art," curated by Qianshen Bai, art, Gallery II, Sangren Hall, weekdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- (thru 31) Exhibition, "Holding Stones Series," sculpture by Palli Davene Davis, Oberlin, Ohio, Space Gallery, Knauss Hall, Mondays thru Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; opening reception, Thursday, Jan. 4, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- \*Admission charged

## Gagie announces plans to take early retirement

Martin R. (Joe) Gagie, executive director of public relations and communications, has announced his intentions to take early retirement.

Gagie, who has headed public relations efforts at the University since 1974, will end his current responsibilities Dec. 31, 1995. He will take on special assignments from President Haenicke during the next year. His retirement, effective Dec. 31, 1996, is subject to approval by the Board of Trustees at its next meeting Friday, Dec. 15.

According to Haenicke, the public re-



Gagie

lations functions will report to Keith A. Pretty, vice president for external affairs and general counsel, beginning Jan. 1, 1996.

Gagie came to WMU with President Emeritus John T. Bernhard from Western Illinois University, where he was director of news services. He previously was assistant director of information services and assistant professor of journalism at St. Cloud (Minn.) State University and assistant director of public information at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

## Trustees to meet Dec. 15

The Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet Friday, Dec. 15, in the Bernhard Center. Times and places of committee meetings and the full board meeting were not available at Western News press time. All meetings are open to the public.

## Schlack

(Continued from page one)

Center, the Kalamazoo County Economic Expansion Corp., the Hospital Council of Western Michigan, Binder Park Zoo, Downtown Tomorrow Inc., Arts Enhancement in Kalamazoo County, the Visiting Nurse Association of Southwest Michigan and the W.E. Upjohn Unemployment Trustee Corp.

Schlack has served on the board of directors of both the Michigan Community College Association and the American Association of Community Colleges. She also was secretary of the board of directors for the American Council on Education. Former Michigan Gov. James Blanchard named her to the President's Economic Expansion Board, the Michigan Job Training Coordinating Council and the Committee to Save Michigan.

In 1993, she was the recipient of Kalamazoo's E. Earl Wright Community

Achievement Award and the Benjamin Franklin Award of the West Michigan chapter of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives. She is a past president of the Park Club and a former member of the Kalamazoo Rotary Club.

Schlack, who has taught in WMU's College of Education, earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Michigan.

Under her stewardship, KVCC, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1993-94, has continued to attract record numbers of students, with the current enrollment exceeding 10,500. On the main Texas Township campus, KVCC recently completed a \$16 million renovation and expansion of its facilities, finished a \$1.2 million remodeling and improvement project to its auditorium and opened a \$6.5 million Technology Application Center.