

# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY WESTERN NEWS

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January 4, 1996



## Two honored at commencement

Two prominent members of the University and local community were honored during commencement exercises at Miller Auditorium Dec. 16. AT LEFT: Lana L. Boldi of Kentwood, chairperson of the WMU Board of Trustees, was congratulated on receiving her bachelor's degree in general university studies by President Haenicke. She began working on her degree here in 1960, but took time out to rear a family and pursue a career before recently resuming her studies through self-instructional courses. BELOW: Marilyn J. Schlack, president of Kalamazoo Valley Community College, was awarded an honorary doctor of public service degree for her exemplary community service and for distinguished contributions to her profession. She was presented with a doctoral hood by President Haenicke, left, and Trustee Richard Y. St. John of Kalamazoo.



community College, was awarded an honorary doctor of public service degree for her exemplary community service and for distinguished contributions to her profession. She was presented with a doctoral hood by President Haenicke, left, and Trustee Richard Y. St. John of Kalamazoo.

## Weaver named athletic director

James C. Weaver has been named WMU's new director of intercollegiate athletics. The former director of athletics at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas will start here Jan. 5.



Weaver

"The Board of Trustees and I are very grateful to the search committee for having identified two outstanding candidates," said President Haenicke. "The choice was exceedingly difficult, and I listened very carefully to the voices of those who met with both candidates here on campus and then provided me with good advice. I look forward to many good and fruitful years with Jim Weaver at the helm of our Division of Intercollegiate Athletics."

"I am delighted to be here," Weaver said at a Dec. 21 news conference announcing his appointment. "My wife and I are looking forward to being part of the University community and the community-at-large."

The search committee was chaired by Adrian C. (Ed) Edwards, finance and commercial law, who is chairperson of the WMU Athletic Board. It identified two finalists from a national field of more than 80 candidates to replace Daniel L. Meinert, who resigned in July. Charles W. Elliott, retired executive vice president for administration and chief financial officer at the Kellogg Co., has been serving as interim athletic director.

The other finalist brought to campus

was Thomas M. Brennan, director of athletics at San Jose State University. At its Dec. 15 meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized Haenicke to hire either one of the candidates before the end of the year.

Weaver had been at UNLV for three and a half years when he resigned this past June over the issue of hiring a former Jerry Tarkanian assistant as head basketball coach. He was responsible for raising more than \$10 million for new athletic facilities at UNLV, as well as \$4.7 million for the academic community. He also coordinated the effort for UNLV to join the Western Athletic Conference in July 1996.

Previously, Weaver was director of recruiting and high school relations, assistant athletic director and associate athletic director at the University of Florida between 1983 and 1991. He served as the athletic department's primary compliance officer and coordinated its recruiting process.

The Harrisburg, Pa., native also has served as: director of franchise sales and leasing in the national headquarters of the Athletic Attic in Gainesville, Fla., from 1980 to 1982; administrator and assistant professor at Clarion State (Pa.) College from 1975 to 1979; head football coach at Villanova (Pa.) University in 1974; assistant football coach-offensive coordinator

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## University in line for extra half million from state

The University is in line for an extra "present" of nearly a half million dollars from the state this year, officials learned just before the holidays.

When legislators were hammering out the 1995-96 budget bill this past June, they approved an amendment calling for the first \$22.7 million of any 1994-95 fiscal year budget surplus to be available for appropriation to state universities and community colleges for special maintenance projects on campus buildings. The Engler administration announced in December that the state budget surplus is expected to amount to \$184 million.

A total of \$18.8 million of the funds set aside for higher education will be allocated for the 15 four-year state universities. WMU is slated to receive \$475,000.

The one-time funds are expected to be used for improvements on East Campus, according to Keith A. Pretty, vice president for external affairs and general counsel.

The funds are in addition to WMU's 1995-96 state appropriation of \$97.6 million — a 7.8 percent increase over last year. WMU's was the largest percentage base appropriation increase among the state's public universities.

## All classes to be canceled

## WMU to observe King birthday with special events

WMU will observe the birthday of the late Martin Luther King Jr. Monday, Jan. 15, with a number of special events, beginning with an all-University convocation at 11 a.m. in Shaw Theatre.

WMU will cancel all classes for the day, both on and off campus. Officials emphasized that the University itself will remain open. Supervisors are being encouraged to accommodate the requests of staff members to attend MLK Day events.

"Our observance has the theme of 'Transforming the Dream into Action,'" said Carol Payne Smith, education and professional development, who is chairperson of the Faculty Senate's MLK Day Committee. "We are encouraging the

broadest possible participation from the University community and the greater Kalamazoo community as well."

The all-University convocation will feature "Cross Colors," a multi-ethnic student troupe that addresses diversity issues in a theatrical setting. The group, directed by Von H. Washington, theatre, is sponsored by the Department of Theatre.

In addition, the 90-minute convocation will include a performance by the Voices of WMU gospel choir, dances by international students and remarks by Provost Nancy S. Barrett.

A complete schedule of events associated with MLK Day will be released next week, Smith said, and fliers and posters

listing events will be distributed across the campus. Meanwhile, persons still may schedule events by contacting her at 7-3508 by noon Friday, Jan. 5.

University officials previously announced that classes would be canceled between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Classes were canceled last year for a similar period.

"Whether to cancel classes for just half a day or the full day has been debated on campus each year for some time now," President Haenicke said. "Again this year, I heard many voices for and against a full day without classes."

Haenicke said he recognized that class time is needed for instruction, especially when classes meet only once a week as is the case with many graduate courses. At the same time, he noted, many persons advocated that WMU follow the example of other large universities in the state that cancel all classes for MLK Day.

"After discussing the matter with students, faculty members and several members of the Board of Trustees, I have decided that the University will cancel classes on MLK Day this year," Haenicke said. "This will give all of us the opportunity to attend events on campus in honor of Dr. King, regardless of the hour of the day."

Haenicke emphasized that WMU is taking this action on an experimental basis. "If the results are disappointing, we may want to consider other solutions again next year," he said.

"It is my hope, and that of the Board of Trustees, that the 1996 MLK Day will attract much participation on campus and that its observance will reinvigorate in all of us the principles espoused by the great civil rights leader," Haenicke said.

## WMU acquires rare manuscript in innovative arrangement with the Newberry Library

The University has purchased a rare 14th century manuscript in an innovative arrangement with the Newberry Library of Chicago that could be a model for others interested in keeping such documents in the public domain.

The WMU libraries and the Newberry Library have jointly acquired a Spanish liturgical manuscript that was created by a member of the Dominican order in approximately 1300.

"I regard this joint acquisition as a progressive, innovative and fiscally effective manner for ensuring scholarly access to rare materials which otherwise would certainly fall into the hands of private collectors," says Dean Lance Query, University libraries.

"One of the real challenges for scholars is to ensure that primary material remains

available to them for research," he explains. "The best way is if it is held in responsible hands in university or non-profit research libraries. But when these items come to the market, the pockets of private collectors are often deeper."

Query says WMU does not have the budget necessary to acquire such rare manuscripts. But by pooling resources with an institution like the Newberry Library, it can afford to acquire such documents that fit well with its collection.

WMU houses a collection of manuscripts dating from the 12th century of the Cistercian order, which was founded in France in 1098. The new manuscript will provide a useful contrast with the existing collection, Query says. The Cistercian

(Continued on page four)

## Did you know?

■ In 1994-95, WMU's College of Fine Arts presented almost 1,100 events to audiences totaling more than 200,000 people.

■ During the last 10 years, WMU has experienced the biggest construction boom in its history, investing nearly \$280 million in new and renovated campus structures.

■ Nearly 250,000 fans last year attended events for Bronco men's and women's basketball, football, ice hockey and volleyball.





**HONORING A QUARTER CENTURY OF SERVICE** — Kitty M. Scheffers, human resources, pointed out some vintage photographs of 25 Year Club members during a reception preceding the annual banquet Dec. 5 in the Bernhard Center. This year's group of 58 inductees included, from second from left, Gerald L. Morehouse, logistical services-stores; Thomas C. Bailey, ombudsman; and Kai M. Chapman, external affairs-development. The club, which now has 332 active and 242 retired members, is made up of faculty and staff members who have completed 25 years of continuous service at the University.

## Cash gift total up by 7 percent

The University received nearly \$600,000 in current and deferred cash gifts during October and November, the Board of Trustees learned at its Dec. 15 meeting.

Gifts of \$310,954 in October and \$288,156 in November brought the fiscal year-to-date total to \$1,794,840. That figure is higher than the total for the same period for the previous fiscal year by \$122,661, or 7 percent.

Among major gifts received during the period was \$15,000 from Wal-Mart Stores Inc. of Bentonville, Ark. The donation will be used to support the University's Food Marketing Program and for scholarships for students in that program.

The University also received two anonymous gifts. One for \$11,923 will support the Center for the Study of Ethics in Society as well as provide funding for a Distinguished Visiting Lectureship. Another for

\$10,000 will be used for the Van Riper Speech and Hearing Scholarship, which was established as a result of gifts made during a two-day memorial celebration in May of the life of Charles G. Van Riper, the founder of the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. Van Riper died in September 1994.

The Chrysler Corp. made two \$10,000 gifts during October. One will be used to support the University's Integrated Supply Management Program. The second gift will help fund a new engineering initiative in Muskegon that is a joint venture between WMU and Muskegon Community College.

Also received was \$17,375 from the Kalamazoo Living Endowment, a division of the Kalamazoo chapter of AMBUCS. The gift will be used for scholarships in the departments of occupational therapy and speech pathology and audiology.

## Trustees table technology fee recommendation, approve Lansing lease and MCC measure

The Board of Trustees Dec. 15 tabled a recommendation to establish a \$25 off-campus technology fee until its next meeting Jan. 19 to allow time for public comment.

Tabling such a recommendation is a standard practice of the board where student fees are involved, University officials said. The recommendation, if approved, would take effect with the 1996 summer session.

The fee would be paid each semester or session by students who enroll in off-campus courses through the Division of Continuing Education. The division could waive the fee for students whose circumstances don't permit them access to off-campus computer facilities or services or whose full-time enrollment status in on-campus courses already requires them to pay a computer fee.

WMU began providing access to the University's VAX computing system as well as computer laboratories for off-campus students in 1990 to provide them the same access to services as on-campus students. As a result, off-campus students have access to computer facilities at

WMU's five regional centers and by modem from their home.

"However, several factors have allowed off-campus computer laboratories to fall behind those available on campus, especially in business, education and engineering," said Provost Nancy S. Barrett. "Those factors include the rapid obsolescence of computer hardware and software, the absence of technical assistance on site

(Continued on page four)

## University receives \$2.4 million in grants, bringing year-to-date figure to \$14 million

More than \$2.4 million in new grants to WMU pushed the current year's tally past \$14.8 million, according to a report presented Dec. 15 to the Board of Trustees.

The University received grants valued at \$1,801,857 in October and \$677,902 in November for a combined total of \$2,479,759. That figure brings the year-to-date amount of grants received by WMU to \$14,833,454.

The largest awards received during the period reported were a series of contracts totaling more than \$1 million from the Michigan Department of Corrections to the University's Specialty Program in Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Contracts totaling \$710,000 will enable WMU to provide substance abuse treatment services for two years to inmates of the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek corrections centers; parolees and probationers in Kalamazoo County; parolees in Calhoun and Van Buren counties; and inmates of correctional facilities in Carson City, Coldwater, Muskegon and Lake County. A separate \$320,000 contract will provide two years of case-managed treatment services for inmates of the Florence Crane and Camp Branch women's correctional facilities in Coldwater.

Also awarded during the period was a \$300,000 contract from the John E. Fetzer Institute Inc. of Kalamazoo to WMU's new School of Nursing. The funding will be used over a three-year period to develop and incorporate holistic health, mind-body

health and relationship-centered care concepts into the nursing curriculum.

A \$223,063 award from the Michigan Department of Education was made to Zoe A. Barley, educational leadership, and Mark Jenness. Both are part of the Science and Mathematics Program Improvement project in the Center for Research on At-Risk Students. The grant will fund their fourth year of work as evaluators of the Michigan Statewide Systemic Initiative in Science and Mathematics. They will assess the success of the strategies and outcomes of the MSSSI, which is designed to revamp mathematics and science programs in the state's grades K-12.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration awarded \$100,000 worth of time on a NASA supercomputer to Daniel J. Dorney, mechanical and aeronautical engineering. The award will fund Dorney's continued work with NASA research centers in Cleveland and Mountain View, Calif., as well as with Pratt & Whitney and the United Technology Center. The researchers are working to improve the performance of jet engines by conducting flow simulations on the computer to study the effects of unsteady flow on advanced turbine and compressor designs.

Also noted on the report to the board were two awards totaling \$157,544 from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to support WMUK, the University's public radio station.

## Faculty members granted sabbatical leaves

A total of 26 faculty members were granted sabbatical leaves Dec. 15 by the Board of Trustees.

Granted leaves for the entire 1996-97 academic year were: Christine M. Bahr, special education; John W. Benson, chairperson of foreign languages and literatures; Ellen H. Brinkley, English; Kenneth A. Dahlberg, political science; Elise deDoncker, computer science; David A. Ede, comparative religion; Jaimy Gordon, English; Ajay K. Gupta, computer science; Dean W. Halderson, chairperson of physics; Emily P. Hoffman, economics; Bradley E. Huitema, psychology; Lynn Nations Johnson, education and professional development; Rand H. Johnson, foreign languages and literatures; Donald E. King, art; David E. Little, music; Gale E. Newell, accountancy; Peter G. Northouse, communication; Linda Reeser, social work; Herbert S. Scott, English; Frederick Z. Sitkins, industrial and manufacturing engineering; C. Richard Spates, psychology; Joseph P. Stoltman, geography; Benjamin Torres, foreign languages and literatures; and Jung-Chao Wang, mathematics and

statistics.

Sabbatical leaves for these faculty members also were approved: Maryellen Hains, English, for winter 1997 and winter 1998; and Peter Kobrak, public affairs and administration, for fall 1996 and spring and summer 1997.

Faculty members receive 75 percent of their base salary for the period of the sabbatical. Sabbaticals are granted only to tenured faculty members and may be taken not more than once every seven years.

In other action, the board approved changing the name of the Department of Consumer Resources and Technology to the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, effective immediately. The new name more accurately describes the mission of the department which emphasizes a family focus. It also reflects identification with professional organizations associated with the program. In related action, the trustees approved a change in affiliation for the department's faculty.

In addition, the trustees approved the resignation of Christine Carlton, music, effective Aug. 11, 1996.

## Board approves retirements of nine faculty and four staff members



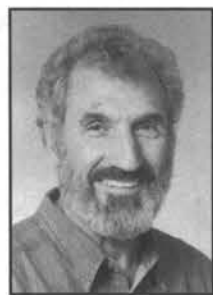
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**Gagie**



**Gardner**



**Hoikka**



**Miller**



**Oas**

The retirements of nine faculty members and four staff members were approved Dec. 15 by the Board of Trustees.

The faculty members granted retirement with emeriti status, along with their years of service and effective dates, are: Donald C. Berndt, chemistry, 34 years, effective Dec. 31, 1996; Ernst A. Breisach, history, 39 years, effective April 21, 1996; Billye A. Cheatum, health, physical education and recreation, 29 years, effective Dec. 31, 1996; Joseph V. DeLuca, art, 30 years, effective Dec. 31, 1996; David S. DeShon, public affairs and administration, 32 years, effective April 21, 1996; Wayland D. Gardner, economics, 32 years, effective Jan. 1, 1997; Lawrence J. Israel, anthropology, 23 years, effective Dec. 31, 1996; John T. Miller, health, physical education

and recreation, 33 years, effective Dec. 31, 1996; and Donna B. Oas, speech pathology and audiology, 32 years, effective Jan. 1, 1997.

The staff members retiring are: Martin R. (Joe) Gagie, public relations and communications, 22 years, effective Dec. 31,

1996; Barbara C. Garland, international student services, 27 years, effective Dec. 31, 1995; Larry C. Hoikka, aviation sciences, 30 years, effective Dec. 31, 1995; and Annie L. Mahone, building custodial and support services, 16 years, effective Dec. 29, 1995.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

WESTERN NEWS

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## Faculty member earns awards for work on book

A WMU faculty member has won two prestigious national awards totaling \$24,000 to continue his work on a book that will challenge the prevailing ways of viewing time.

Quentin Smith, philosophy, has been awarded a \$4,000 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend and a \$20,000 American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship. The funds are supporting his work on "Time and the Universe," a book he is writing about the philosophy of time.

The NEH stipend funded his work on the book this past summer. The ACLS fellowship will cover his work during the 1996 calendar year.

Smith, a WMU faculty member since 1993, has published four books since arriving at WMU, including three on the topic of time. "Language and Time" was published by Oxford University Press in 1993. In that work, Smith challenged Albert Einstein's theory of relativity and said it is based on false philosophical assumptions about time.

More recently, Smith's "The New Theory of Time" was published by Yale University Press and his "Time, Change and Freedom" was published by Routledge Publishing Co. of London.

In his new book, Smith will challenge the prevailing view of philosophers and physicists that the universe consists of a temporal dimension in addition to its spatial dimensions. The work, he says, was triggered by recent theories put forth by British cosmologist Stephen W. Hawking and others about the origin and structure of the universe.

Smith says that those new theories,

called quantum cosmologies, require that time be viewed in a new way that has yet to be fully developed. In his new book, he says, his goal is to develop a philosophical theory of time that is consistent with quantum cosmology.

Smith's examination of the implications of Hawking's work also has provided material for a series of recent journal articles, which include "Stephen Hawking's Cosmology and Theism" in the journal Analysis and "Did the Big Bang Have a Cause?" in the British Journal for the Philosophy of Science.

In addition to the projected book, Smith has published five other books and has three books due for publication in 1996. He also has published more than 80 articles in the world's leading journals of philosophy.

## New Gold Company CD out

Gold Company, WMU's internationally acclaimed vocal jazz ensemble, has produced a third compact disc, "Higher Ground."

Stephen L. Zegree, Gold Company director, has compiled a variety of music, from the a cappella Ivan Lins tune, "Lua Soberana," to the instrumental, "Thank You, Drive Thru," composed by bassist Shawn Sommer. The title track, "Higher Ground," is a composition by popular recording artist Stevie Wonder. Zegree and several of the Gold Company members arranged the pieces on the CD.

The recording is available locally at Flipside Records, KCD and the WMU Bookstore. For more information, call 7-4689.

## Media

James M. Butterfield, political science, discusses the leadership in former communist countries on "Focus," a five-minute interview produced by news services. "Focus" is scheduled to air at 6:10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, on WKPR-AM (1420). "Focus" is also used on a regular basis by WKZO-AM (590), WKMI-AM (1360) and several other radio stations around Michigan.

## Exchange

**WANTED** — Administrative assistant for WMU-AAUP. Send resume to: WMU-AAUP, 814 Oakland Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008, ATTN: Gail. For more information, call the AAUP office at 345-0151. The AAUP is an EO/AA employer.

**FOR RENT** — WMU-owned house. Faculty or staff preferred. Immediate occupancy. For details, call Tim Kellogg at 7-4827.

## Zest for Life

There are many Zest for Life programs being offered this winter to help you achieve your fitness goals and to promote good health and well-being.

**Total Fitness-Aerobics, Aqua Fitness-Water Exercise and Stretch and Strengthen for Fitness** classes are scheduled for various times throughout the week starting Jan. 8 (see the Zest for Life brochure for days, times and locations).

The **Zest for Life Fitness Room** in 15 Oakland Gym will continue to offer individualized orientations for Zesters who are just getting started or for those who would like some personal instruction. Stop in and speak to an exercise science specialist between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

**Yoga, Stretch and Tone and Intermediate Yoga** will both be offered in order to help people of all skill levels relieve stress and achieve peace of mind. Yoga, Stretch and Tone is a relaxing class, set to music, that will meet from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mondays in 16 Oakland Gym. Intermediate Yoga will incorporate more advanced, traditional Yoga exercises. It meets from 5:20 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays in 16 Oakland Gym.

**Tai Chi** will be available again from 5:20 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in 16 Oak-

## On campus



Center public cafeteria, catering and off-site operations like the Oliver Street Cafe, the Plaza Cafe and the Schneider Cafe. "I move stock and make sure the trucks get in with new stock," Chase says. He also helps out with ordering between \$20,000 and \$100,000 worth of food each week. When not at work, Chase enjoys spending time at his house on a lake and bowling.

## Nominations sought for staff service awards

The Selection Committee of the Staff Service Excellence Awards Program invites your nomination of a peer, supervisor or support person for the third quarter Staff Service Excellence Awards that will be presented for outstanding service during the months of October, November and December.

Nominations may be submitted to Anne E. Thompson, human resources, until Friday, Jan. 19.

The Staff Service Excellence Program awards are presented to staff members whose service can be considered excellent

and exceeds the requirements of just a "good job." Those selected to receive a quarterly award will be presented with a commemorative certificate and a \$50 gift certificate to a designated University facility. All regular and part-time, non-academic staff are eligible for nomination. Up to 12 persons will be selected from those nominated for the quarter and winners will be announced in February.

You may obtain a nominating form by calling the Department of Human Resources at 7-3620. Or, simply write a memo and send one copy to Thompson and one copy to your nominee.

## 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) **Library Assistant II**, S-05, Waldo Library, 95/96-253, 1/2-1/8/96.

(R) **Accountant**, P-04, WMU Bookstore, 95/96-279, 1/2-1/8/96.

(R) **Building Service Person** (First Shift), M-4, Physical Plant-Maintenance Services, 95/96-305, 1/2-1/8/96.

(R) **Secretary Administrative I**, S-08, Haworth College of Business, 95/96-317, 1/2-1/8/96.

(R) **Medical Assistant**, P-01 (Hourly), Sindecuse Health Center, 95/96-323, 1/2-1/8/96.

(R) **Broadcast Engineer II**, X-03 (Hourly), Telecommunications, 95/96-324, 1/2-1/8/96.

(R) **Administrative Secretary III**, P-01 (Hourly), Business Information Systems, 95/96-329, 1/2-1/8/96.

Please call the Applicant Information Service at 7-3669 for up-to-date information on the Job Opportunity Program and vacancies available to external applicants.

(R) Replacement  
WMU is an EO/AA employer

## Theatre production chosen for regional competition

WMU's production of "The Scarlett Letter" is one of six plays that has been selected for regional competition in the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival Jan. 10-13 in Columbus, Ohio.

A benefit performance to help defray travel costs is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7, in Shaw Theatre. For ticket information, call 7-6222.

The six plays were chosen from a field of 40 to represent the Midwest region at the festival. "The Scarlett Letter" is the seventh University Theatre production to compete at regionals.

One play from each region of the country will be selected for performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. In 1988, WMU's production of "Quilters" earned this honor.

## Libraries

Search — don't surf — with the new NetFirst database of Internet resources.

NetFirst, a new database available on FirstSearch, is designed to help you discover and access information on the Internet with unparalleled ease and efficiency. An authoritative Internet directory, NetFirst is produced using a combination of automated collection and verification techniques and proven abstracting and indexing practices.

Professional editors are involved every step of the way, from guiding the collection process to ensuring that each resource is properly described and classified. And once a record is added to NetFirst, it is regularly checked to verify that it is still active and available.

NetFirst indexes all major Internet resource types, including World Wide Web pages, discussion lists, Usenet newsgroups, FTP sites, electronic journals, newsletters, gophersites, library catalogs and Internet-accessible services. Detailed information in each record allows users to evaluate Internet resources without leaving the database.

Initially, NetFirst will contain approximately 50,000 records, providing extensive coverage of WWW sites, Usenet newsgroups, listserv mailing lists and anonymous FTP sites. New records will be added regularly, expanding the database by several thousand records each month.

land Gym. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese exercise that uses slow and controlled movements while emphasizing relaxation. It involves physical exercises, will power, visualization and study in concentration.

**Introduction to Meditation** and the **Meditation Support Group** are also back! Meditation has wide personal potential to calm the mind and body. It is an important ingredient in nurturing the inner life and can encourage spiritual growth. Introduction to Meditation meets for seven Tuesdays beginning Jan. 23. The Support Group has been created for individuals who have completed the Introduction to Meditation and for others experienced in meditation who wish to continue their meditation practice. It meets from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Jan. 9 in 3210 Sindecuse Health Center.

The first **Expert Express** is set for noon to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23, in 3014 Student Recreation Center. Teresa Brady, exercise science graduate assistant, will be the presenter for this interactive and informational seminar on "Lowfat Lunches." Bring a friend and lunch, and enjoy the fun.

A new, **interactive health resource center** is in the planning stages. This resource center is being designed to help University students, faculty, staff, retirees

and their families enhance their health through a network of easily accessible information, skill-building and supportive resources designed to promote health and prevent disease from an intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, social, environmental and community perspective. We would like to know what kinds of information and skill-building assistance you would find most helpful. The names of people providing suggestions will be placed in a drawing. Send your suggestions to Christine G. Zimmer, Office of Health Promotion and Education, Sindecuse Health Center.

WMU employees may enroll their children in the **Learn to Swim** program at the Student Recreation Center pool. Children 4 to 10 years of age are eligible for participation in the American Red Cross pre-beginner and beginner swimming classes. Each class is taught by a certified instructor and meets eight times for 40 minutes each.

Classes meet Saturdays, Jan. 13-Feb. 17 or March 9-April 13, and cost \$30 per session. Pre-beginner classes will run from 10:30 to 11:10 a.m. and beginner classes will run from 11:20 a.m. to noon. For more information about Learn to Swim, call 7-3543.



# Book published by Department of History chronicles life of Alexander

C. Allen Alexander, Kalamazoo's first black surgeon, lived just long enough to see his second career bear fruit when the first part of his oral history project was published by WMU a week before his death Dec. 4 at age 95.

"C. Allen Alexander, M.D., An Autobiography," the first book of a planned three-volume set, was published by the Department of History. Historians in the department have been working since 1993, with funding from Kalamazoo's Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, to transcribe and edit a series of tapes Alexander compiled detailing the medical, social and cultural changes in West Michigan that he had witnessed during his more than 60 years in the area.

Paul L. Maier, history, is director of the project and edited the autobiography. He says Alexander used retirement as a chance to retool and embark on an ambitious oral history project.

Alexander aimed to trace the vast changes he had witnessed during his lifetime, which exactly spanned the 20th century. During the 1980s, he taped more than 150 hours of interviews with representatives from various ethnic groups he had encountered in his practice as well as with colleagues in the medical profession. To the taped interviews, he added his own memoirs which, Maier says, were published first to introduce readers to the interviewer in the next two volumes.

The result is a first-person narrative that recounts Alexander's personal and professional journey through the century, from a boyhood in which he heard Booker T. Washington speak to his days as a practicing surgeon who took his family to Michigan's famed black vacation spa, Idlewild, to his retirement and second career as a historian.

"That he was a surgeon by profession adds authority to his account of the progress in medicine during the past century," Maier says. "That he was the grandson of a slave and that his skin was black also gave him a vested interest in the social changes that transformed this century."

Alexander, who was born into poverty in Indianapolis, grew up in Chattanooga, Tenn. Working as a telegraph delivery person and a railroad dining car waiter to pay for his education, he graduated from Fisk University in 1923 and from Rush Medical College of the University of Chi-

cago in 1929. He came to Kalamazoo in 1931 after completing an internship and residency. For the next 50 years, he practiced general medicine and surgery and pursued many other interests, becoming a part of the civic and cultural life of southwestern Michigan.

"Dr. Alexander tells it all with color, candor and honesty," Maier says of the memoir in the book's foreword. "He refuses to deliver an antiseptic version that would hide trouble in his own family, the failings of relatives or the case histories of patients he was unable to cure. Privations, hardships and early intolerance in this community are not disguised."

Throughout the book, however, Maier says it was Alexander's positive attitude that came through — his happiness at watching walls of racial and cultural separation collapse as well as his appreciation for the advances in his profession that were occurring at the same time.

Besides the account of Alexander's professional and family life, the reader gets glimpses of his accomplishments in a wide variety of interests that included music, sculpting, travel and movie making.

His interest in the latter led to a rare opportunity in 1937 to meet and film George Washington Carver. He spent two weeks in Alabama shooting film to document the Tuskegee Institute's famed researcher who was then in the final years of his life. Alexander kept the footage until 1981 when, at the urging of the Carver Museum, he produced a 15-minute color film, "A Day in the Life of George Washington Carver." The work is the only film footage of the famed botanist-inventor in existence. The original was acquired by the National Park Service for the nation's archives.

The oral history project was suggested to Alexander by Mark L. Crum, the now retired director of the Kalamazoo Public Library. He convinced Alexander that because he had been a witness to so much history, recording those experiences could offer insights that no professional historian could match. Many of Alexander's tapes were transcribed at the library before being turned over to WMU's history department for completion, editing and publication.

The second and third volumes of the set are scheduled for publication in the next year. "Social Changes in Western Michigan, 1930 to 1990" is the second in the

series and is being edited by Henry V. Davis, history. "Progress in the Practice of Medicine, 1930 to 1990" is the final volume and is being edited by Robert J. Hahn, emeritus in history.

"The books will be superb source material for a variety of purposes," Maier says. "They will be widely disseminated to public and academic libraries in the state of Michigan and beyond."

Alexander's contributions and importance to the social and professional life of the area was acknowledged by the University in June 1994 when he was awarded an honorary doctor of public service degree during commencement ceremonies. The degree citation noted his importance as a role model for young people, his pio-

neering medical service to underserved populations in the community and his positive contributions to race relations as well as his work on the oral history project that "will be of great value to future students of our region."

Maier says that although Alexander was in failing health for several weeks before his death, he was able to see and enjoy two advance copies of the book secured from the publisher a week before the books arrived in quantity at the end of November.

"He reacted to seeing the book with such joy," Maier says. "I like to think that it was by sheer will power that he lived long enough to see it published."

Alexander's autobiography is available in Kalamazoo area bookstores for \$24.95.



**HOLIDAY RECEPTION** — Faculty and staff members were treated to a holiday reception sponsored by the Board of Trustees and President Haenicke Dec. 15 in the Bernhard Center. Lana L. Boldi, chairperson of the Board of Trustees, standing, spread some holiday cheer to, from left: Brenda C. Mansfield, minority affairs; W. Bryan Stauffer, Sindecuse Health Center; and John Disbro, physical plant-landscape services.

## Board action

(Continued from page two)

and a lack of adequate funding."

Since the existing off-campus instruction budget is not adequate to fund the necessary improvements, she said, the Division of Continuing Education needs a new source of revenue to make improvements. Revenues will be restricted to expenses related to student and faculty use of the University's off-campus computer services and facilities.

"The technology fee will keep the cost of three-credit-hour courses competitive with that of other institutions," Barrett told trustees. "In addition, the total cost to the part-time student for a three-credit-hour course off campus will be more in line with the cost of the same course on campus."

The fee will enable WMU to repair and replace equipment, upgrade software, conduct routine maintenance, expand training materials for the use of on-line library services, enhance on-line full-text research capabilities and provide student laboratory staff assistance.

In other action, the board approved the renewal of a five-year lease with the Capital Area United Way in Lansing to house the University's Lansing Study Center. The center occupies three suites and a room in the United Way's downtown office building at 300 N. Washington Square. The new lease, for \$2,363.90 per month for the life of

## Manuscript

(Continued from page one)

manuscripts of that era are generally quite austere; the Dominican document will be a little more ornate.

The Newberry Library will house the manuscript for eight months and WMU for four. Query says an exhibit and other activities are being planned both in Chicago and in Kalamazoo in connection with the manuscript's arrival this winter.

"We're really in the forefront of collecting rare materials by leveraging the resources of multiple institutions," Query says. "This, in my opinion, is the future of acquisitions of important unique material. It maximizes our purchasing power and it ensures scholarly access and preservation."

the lease, represents a 10 percent increase.

The board also authorized the administration to cease levying a fee from on-campus undergraduate students for the Michigan Collegiate Coalition (MCC), effective immediately, and to cease forwarding proceeds of the fee to the MCC, effective with the fall 1995 semester. The MCC is a Lansing-based student lobbying group that apparently has ceased operations.

The fee, which was first approved by students in a 1991 referendum, has been 50 cents per semester and 25 cents per session. It has generated about \$20,000 a year.

The Western Student Association Student Senate voted in October that the MCC had breached its contract with WMU and the WSA, the University's student government, and asked the administration to stop collecting the fee. The administration will distribute \$9,000 collected during the fall semester according to a voting majority of the Student Senate.

## Weaver

(Continued from page one)

at Iowa State University in 1973; and assistant football coach-offensive line coach at Pennsylvania State University from 1967 to 1972.

Weaver is credited with cleaning up two athletic programs that had been penalized by the National Collegiate Athletic Association for rules infractions. At UNLV, he processed and concluded one of the longest infractions cases in NCAA history and implemented a sophisticated compliance and monitoring program. At Florida, he was hired to restore integrity and credibility to the football recruiting process.

Weaver earned his bachelor's degree in psychology and rehabilitation education and his master's degree in college counselor education from Penn State. He was a starting linebacker on the Nittany Lions' football team.

Weaver is married to the former Ernestine Russell, originally of Windsor, Ont., who twice represented Canada in Olympic gymnastics competition. She is a graduate of Michigan State University.

## 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: January events; February events; and future events, which run from March 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, 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.

Mathematics and statistics lecture, "Finite Presentation of Subgroups of Graph Groups — an REU Experience," Leonard VanWyk, Hope College, Commons Room, sixth floor, Everett Tower, 4 p.m.

### Friday, January 5

\*Hockey, WMU vs. the University of Illinois at Chicago, Lawson Arena, 7 p.m.

\*International Association of Jazz Educators preview concert, Gold Company and the University Jazz Orchestra, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

### Saturday, January 6

\*Men's basketball, WMU vs. Central Michigan University, University Arena, 1 p.m.

\*Hockey club of WMU vs. Northwood Institute, Lawson Arena, 7 p.m.

### Sunday, January 7

\*University Theatre benefit performance, "The Scarlet Letter," to help defray travel costs to the Regional Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival, Shaw Theatre, 2 p.m.

Faculty recital, Phyllis Rappeport and friends, Dalton Center Recital Hall, 3 p.m.

### Tuesday, January 9

Enhancing Instruction with Technology program, "Using Computerized Grade Book," Ralph Tanner, industrial and manufacturing engineering, 2033 University Computing Center, 2:30-4:30 p.m.; to register call 7-5305.

### Wednesday, January 10

\*Women's basketball, WMU vs. Eastern Michigan University, University Arena, 7 p.m.

### Thursday, January 11

Slide lecture, "A Narration of Chinese Pictorial Slides," Qianshen Bai, art, 2302 Sangren Hall, 7 p.m.; reception following in Gallery II.

Meeting, Faculty Senate, Fetzer Center, 7 p.m.

\*Admission charged