The Western Michigan University Magazine is back. After a year's hiatus, we've developed a fresh new format designed to pique your interest. Because your support is so important to us, we want you to be well informed of campus news.

If you'd like additional details on any of the items included, just go to the Web address found at the end of each story. Enjoy your reading!

Judith I. Bailey, president

Dybek book is toast of Chicago
WMU's Stuart Dybek can claim a string of the nation's top literary awards for his writing, but he calls the one announced last March in Chicago "the best" accolade he could receive.

Dybek's book, "The Coast of Chicago," was selected as the featured book of "One Book, One Chicago," a citywide reading initiative that has spawned similar reading programs in communities around the nation. The book then became the focus of book club discussions, readings and lectures across Chicago during National Library Week April 18-24.

Dybek, a Chicago native who teaches creative writing at WMU, first published the acclaimed book in 1990. The work, which Dybek has called a "love letter" to Chicago, is a collection of 14 short stories inspired by the author's childhood in the Little Village and Pilsen areas of Chicago.

During a March news conference, Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Library Commissioner Mary Dempsey announced that Dybek's book was the choice for Round Six of "One Book, One Chicago." Earlier books selected for the initiative include Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun," Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird" and Elie Wiesel's "Night."

"Anybody who would have a book chosen for this knows they've just gotten so lucky," says Dybek of the honor.

Intel ranks WMU eighth in the nation for wireless computing on a college campus

WMU ranks eighth in the nation in the use of wireless computing technology on a university campus according to a study conducted by Intel and released earlier this year.

Intel ranked the 100 “Most Unwired College Campuses” based on several factors, including number of hotspots, which are places where wireless computers will work; percentage of the campus covered by wireless technology; number of undergraduate students; number of computers; and the computer-to-student ratio.

WMU is the only Michigan University in the list’s top 50, and only one other Michigan school made the top 100.

WMU NEWS

No detours—MDOT, WMU pool resources for research, teaching

A laboratory that was dedicated this fall signals the launch of a new collaboration between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the University that will focus on teaching and professional practice as well as research on the materials used to build Michigan roadways.

MDOT Director Gloria Jeff and WMU President Judith Bailey joined forces Sept. 1 to snip the wires across the entry to the new lab, which will serve the needs of both organizations. WMU students will have the opportunity to become better-qualified road engineers, and MDOT researchers will perfect solutions for pavement design issues.

The Construction Materials Laboratory is in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences building on the University’s Parkview Campus. The laboratory is the result of a partnership between WMU and MDOT formed to establish a state-of-the-art construction materials laboratory, which will be used to expose undergraduate and graduate students to construction and pavement design material and will serve as the material certification laboratory for MDOT.

Materials testing and research that can be conducted in the laboratory includes work on structural reinforced concrete, reinforced concrete pavements, bituminous pavements and foundation materials.


Teacher preparation program earns national association’s top honor

The School/University Partnership Team, known as SUPT, won the Association of Teacher Educators’ 2004 Distinguished Program in Teacher Education award.

The honor, announced earlier this year in Dallas, underscores ATE’s efforts to highlight effective models of teacher preparation and recognizes programs that are innovative models of collaboration between local educational agencies and institutions of higher education.

Among the factors that set SUPT apart are the program’s broad reach and the high level of communication and support it provides to its educational partners as well as student interns.

Now in its 10th year, SUPT is based on “cluster sites,” a system that offers emerging educators a chance to complete their field experiences in diverse and supportive settings. Each cluster is comprised of five to 12 interns per semester, plus their mentor teachers, mentor coaches and a University coordinator.


Siena Heights University in Adrian was ranked 58th.

After more than a year of concentrated effort, “Wireless Western” officially became a reality in 2002. The Wireless Western initiative involved placing more than 600 wireless access ports in campus buildings and some 30 outdoor units to carpet the campus with wireless capability that allows faculty, staff and students to access University networks and the Internet from virtually every corner of the campus.

Keeping Score
Classical enthusiasts tune in to celebrated WMU professor and composer C. Curtis-Smith

When students take a seat at the imposing and weathered Steinway in Curtis Curtis-Smith's studio, the most memorable classics aren't always on the music stand. Instead, a simple conversation with the internationally respected composer may offer a lesson that will be remembered for life.

The composer, who came to WMU in 1968 as an assistant professor of music at age 26, recalls one such moment.

"In the 1970s, a student and I got into a discussion about the parallels between good cooking and good music making. His idea of good cooking was frying a steak," says Curtis-Smith. "His perspective was 'Well, how much can you do with beef? You just heat it up.' My response was if that's all you do, then yes, steak is indeed just heated meat. But you should go further and do something special with it—add a creative sauce or use an interesting technique to prepare it.

"Just as in interpreting a piece of music, you don't just play the notes on the page or imitate the playing of another pianist. You must be inventive and create your own interpretation; you have to go above and beyond the literal."

The music man

Going "above and beyond" in the 39 years since he graduated from Northwestern University has landed him at the forefront of America's contemporary composers.

Over the years, Curtis-Smith has pushed the limits of instrumentation and pushed listeners to think creatively about classical music. With more than 100 compositions to his credit, Curtis-Smith has heard his work performed throughout the world. His career path is strewn with countless honors. Playbills, programs from sold-out performances, and stacks of newspaper and magazine articles praising his talents attest to his renown.

While at WMU, Curtis-Smith has landed more than 100 grants, awards and commissions, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Koussevitzky Prize at Tanglewood, and honors from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Among the many organizations that have awarded him grants are the Fromm Foundation at Harvard, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Arts Foundation of Michigan. He also has received 26 consecutive awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

A gift for music

"The work is fulfilling, but it doesn't come easily," he says. "As a composer, the general challenge is to not write the same piece over and over...the
irony is that the more successful the last piece is, the harder it is to write the composition after that.”

Over the years, his music has garnered praise from musicians, composers, reviewers and everyday listeners. In 1980, Curtis-Smith learned that a prominent local businessman was among them.

“At the time, I’d discovered a 9-foot rebuilt, antique Steinway that was available for purchase,” he says, “but interest rates at that time were very high. I was looking for a low-interest loan of $10,000 to help with the purchase.”

He mentioned it to a friend who knew Irving S. Gilmore, a successful department store owner and local arts patron who had heard Curtis-Smith perform. At best, the WMU professor hoped the mutual friend might approach Gilmore for help.

“During a phone conversation of theirs, the possibility of a loan came up,” says Curtis-Smith, “but Mr. Gilmore’s response was, ‘Is he too proud to take a gift? I’ll just give him the money. How much does he want?’

“My friend was taken aback and asked, ‘Well, don’t you want to at least hear him play? Mr. Gilmore said, ‘No, I’ve heard him play. He’s a fine pianist. Just let me write out the check.’”

Two days later, a check for $10,000 arrived in a perfectly ordinary envelope.

Within a few weeks, Gilmore had lunch at Curtis-Smith’s house and played a little Gershwin and Cole Porter on “his” piano. Gilmore died in 1986, but his legacy lives on in Kalamazoo’s biennial Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, which is named for him and at which Curtis-Smith’s work is often featured. The 108-year-old piano remains in Curtis-Smith’s home—a more personal legacy from the man who loved piano music.

**Fine tunes**

Gilmore was but one of the classical music enthusiasts counted as fans of Curtis-Smith’s work. New York Times reviewer Bernard Holland has twice lauded Curtis-Smith’s widely acclaimed “12 Etudes for Piano.”

WMU piano professor Lori Sims, an accomplished and internationally known musician, premiered seven of the well-received etudes during her debut performance at the Lincoln Center in September 2000.

“Several people have played them, but she’s definitely the best,” Curtis-Smith says of Sims. “The music is the music, but the performance makes the difference.”

The newspaper offered a glowing review of Sims’ program and poured on the praise for the etudes.

“Mr. Curtis-Smith is a careful student of past innovators of the piano,” Holland wrote, “The textures and movement recall Chopin and Debussy and yet the language is at a distance from their diatonic moorings. This contemporary composer likes dense, brittle chords, chiming ornamentation and is happy to use popular music and jazz as undercurrents. These are interesting pieces.”

Sims, who joined Curtis-Smith on the WMU College of Fine Arts faculty in 1996, agrees.

“What I find interesting and attractive about his compositions is that he writes so well for the piano, with interesting uses of the piano and the colors of the piano,” she says. “His music can be rhythmically tricky and texturally dense but always, there is something similar in that his compositions are very approachable and rewarding.”

The same goes for their composer-performer relationship.

“Curtis is so encouraging, and one great thing about working with him is that he isn’t an autocrat,” she says. “If you’re playing, you may come up with some aspect of the music that he hadn’t even thought of. He sometimes enjoys having his music at the hands of other people, and that is great.”
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Robotic arm helps children develop handwriting skills

An interdisciplinary team of WMU professors and students has designed a robotic device to help children develop crucial handwriting skills.

The design team is comprised of professors and students from the College of Health and Human Services and College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Members have been studying the uses of a robotic arm joined with a computer, known as a robotic haptic interface, to improve eye-hand coordination and handwriting skills in children.

The arm of the robotic device is held and then moved to follow trajectories on a screen. The device offers resistance and simulates the effort required to, for example, write with a pencil. Team members are Dr. Sandra Edwards, professor of occupational therapy; Dr. Norali Pernalete, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering; Erin McCann, occupational therapy graduate student; and Ramakrishna Gottipati, an electrical and computer engineering doctoral student.

WMU/Kimberly-Clark research to result in new consumer products

Patented technology that could turn paper-mill sludge into viable consumer products and boost the usefulness of recycled paper will be developed by WMU, thanks to technology transferred to WMU’s Paper Technology Foundation by consumer giant Kimberly-Clark.

The firm presented a series of four technologies related to fiber and by-product processing to WMU’s Paper Technology Foundation over the past spring and summer. The technology, which includes several patents, will spark four separate research initiatives on campus, as faculty researchers develop and commercialize the technology.

Kimberly-Clark’s gift also includes funds and equipment to support the research projects.

Grand entrance

The spot where generations of students once stopped to quaff a beer at the Knollwood Tavern is now part of a spectacular new entrance to the west side of the main WMU campus. It has put an attractive end to vehicle gridlock and the problem of pedestrians risking life and limb to cross busy streets.

In a span of less than six months, the entrance to main campus at West Michigan Avenue and Howard Street was completely transformed with new roads, the first “roundabout” on a Michigan university campus and new walkways, including a pedestrian underpass at Knollwood Avenue. Completed over the spring and summer of 2004, the entrance is the most striking change to the appearance of West Campus since the early 1990s, when seven major buildings were completely renovated or added.
WMU-led statewide water trail system makes a splash

A grand opening in August let loose the floodgates of a University-led effort that could ultimately create a statewide system of water trails linking the Great Lakes shoreline and navigable rivers throughout Michigan.

The Michigan Heritage Water Trails Program is being spearheaded by WMU’s Great Lakes Center for Maritime Studies in cooperation with state and local agencies. During grand opening ceremonies Aug. 21-22, canoeists and kayakers paddled away on the first phase of the River Country Heritage Water Trails in St. Joseph County.

WMU has partnered with the Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council and the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries to get the project flowing, says Dr. Dave Lemberg, a WMU associate professor of geography and water trails program director.

St. Joseph County emerged as a logical place to start because it is close to Kalamazoo and has many miles of navigable waterways. Plans call for the River Country Heritage Water Trails to be expanded in the next three years to cover all navigable streams in the county and for water trails to be established elsewhere in the state. Other pilot projects include the South Fork of the Black River from Bangor to South Haven in Van Buren County and on the coast of Lake Huron in Huron and Tuscola Counties.

www.wmich.edu/glcms/watertrails

There has been interest from local water trail enthusiasts around the state to develop new Heritage Water Trails from Wayne County to the Upper Peninsula. Local communities would create their own water trail plans with WMU’s assistance, using a self-funding planning model.

Establishing water trails is seen as much more than offering aquatic recreation. Water trail travelers will learn about the area’s historical events, cultural heritage and natural history along the way. Markers at bridge crossings refer to the paddlers’ interpretive guidebooks where the travelers read about each point of interest. The water trails also are designed to be an economic development tool by promoting heritage tourism.

www.wmich.edu/glcms/watertrails

Multicultural Center opens on main campus

A Sept. 8 grand opening ceremony for WMU’s new Multicultural Center drew dozens of students, faculty and staff to the facility’s suite of four rooms in the Adrian Trimpe Building.

The center, or MCC as it’s called, was established primarily to meet the needs of ethnic minority and international students but will be available to all other WMU students and various faculty as well.

Dr. Martha Warfield, assistant vice president of the Division of Multicultural Affairs and director of the Presidential Initiative on Diversity and Multiculturalism, says the facility evolved with input from students, and students will help determine how it will be used and managed.

“Over the years, multicultural students saw a need to have a comfortable and versatile space where they can gather for meetings, films, social events and other activities or just hang out together,” Warfield says. “It’s also envisioned that faculty will use the space when they would like an informal setting in which to hold seminars, discussions and talks on topics relative to diversity and multiculturalism.”

The MCC was financed through the use of unrestricted donor funds. It features two enclosed rooms that can accommodate small group meetings, another small room with computer carrels and a large area that can simultaneously accommodate multiple activities.

Alumni are listed under their preferred class years. Names preceded by a circle denote membership in the WMU Alumni Association.

Don’t hesitate to contact us when you have news to share in our classnotes or obituaries sections. For classnotes, make sure to include your name (first, middle, last, maiden), address, degree(s), year(s) graduated and phone number. We will publish your photo as space permits.

Write: Classnotes/Obituaries
WMU Magazine
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Kalamazoo MI 49008-5403
Fax: (269) 387-8770
E-mail: dev-alumnote@wmich.edu

—1940 to 1973—

• Jack Steindl, BS ’42, was inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He is a retired teacher, coach and athletic director from Plainwell (MI) High School.
• Deila M. DeMaso, BA ’54, TC ’60, MA ’61, received the 2002 Senior Citizen of the Year Award for Leadership at the Michigan State Fair in Detroit.
• Margaret McComish Shaw, BS ’59, was recently elected to the Board of Trustees of Union Seminary, Presbyterian School of Christian Education, in Richmond, VA.
• Shirley Gary Dunkin, BS ’61, MA ’65, recently retired as principal of the American School in Brasilia, Brazil. She previously retired as principal of Woods Lake School in Kalamazoo.

Frances F. Fishe, MA ’62, received a Women of Accomplishment Award from Muskegon (MI) Community College. She is a retired guidance counselor who worked for 25 years at Muskegon High School.
• Mary Magdalene (Przybylski) Roberts, BS ’63, is teaching special education in the Bronx and recently completed a two-year New York City Teaching Fellows program.

Louis G. Hanacek, BBA ’64, is vice president of commercial lending at Great Lakes Bank in Matteson, IL.

David M. Hayes, BA ’64, was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers in Montreal, Canada. He is an attorney specializing in commercial and construction litigation with Clark Hill PLC in Detroit.

Carl Latora, BS ’64, MA ’68, was named athletic director of the year by the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association. He is the athletic director at Portage Northern High School.

James J. Leisenring, MBA ’64, is a 2003 Accounting Hall of Fame inductee at Ohio State University’s Fisher College of Business. He is a member of the International Accounting Standards Board.

Bob Walker, BA ’64, MA ’70, recently retired from Portage (MI) Central High School after 40 years of teaching.

Kathleen P. (Morrison) Corstange, BA ’65, MA ’75, received the Excellence in Education Award from the Van Buren (MI) Intermediate School District in 2003. She has retired from her position as a speech pathologist and administrator of special education.

Robert MacEachran, BA ’65, MA ’70, EdS ’76, recently retired from his position as superintendent of Suttons Bay (MI) schools.

Gordon D. Nederveld, BS ’65, recently retired as president of Nederveld Associates Inc., the engineering firm he founded. He is chairman of the board, providing strategic planning and vision.

Michael R. Suter, BA ’65, is the administrator/controller for Wexford (MI) County. He is also president and chief executive officer of Michiana Laminated Products in Howe, IN.

Mary L. (Sheehan) Avery, BA ’65, won the 2003 Benjamin Franklin Award from the West Michigan Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Terry A. Dykstra, BS ’66, MA ’67, received the first Making an International Difference Award from the International Student Exchange Program. He is a counselor at Jenison (MI) High School.

Ko Miyataki, MA ’66, is the president of the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific Foundation in Hawaii.

David M. Randall, BA ’67, MA ’71, EdS ’96, is the superintendent for the Metropolitan School District of Warren Township in Indianapolis.

Richard L. Allington, BA ’68, MA ’69, was elected vice president of the International Reading Association and will serve as president during 2005.

Patricia A. (Whisman) Clees, BA ’68, was recently named Student of the Decade by WMU.

Norman P. Gottlieb, BBA ’68, was inducted into WMU’s Army Reserve Officer Training Corps Hall of Fame. He recently retired from the United States Army.

Gary A. Horstmannshof, BS ’69, MA ’73, recently retired from Battle Creek (MI) Public Schools after 35 years of teaching.

Vernon Saper, BBA ’68, is president of the Board of Trustees of Goodwill Industries of Grand Rapids, MI. He is a partner at the law firm Warner Norcross & Judd LLP.

Richard T. Cole, BA ’69, is executive vice president and chief administrative officer of the Detroit Medical Center.

Richard F. Corona Jr., MA ’69, is a project manager at Skanska USA Building’s Michigan division in Farmington Hills, MI.

Mike Lilly, BA ’69, recently exhibited a mixed media collection of art titled “Rumba Is My Life” at the University of Michigan-Flint Fine Arts Gallery.

James C. Orris, BBA ’69, is the superintendent for the Bay County (MI) Road Commission.

Earl J. Seaver III, BS ’69, MA ’70, is vice provost at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL.


Sally J. (Mullet) Drake, BS ’70, TC ’70, recently joined Crowing Touch Institute in Kalamazoo as a skin analysis instructor. She provides training to groups all over North America.

Robert C. Forburger, BS ’70, MA ’71, is the assistant principal at Fowlerville (MI) High School.

David D. Pendergast, BA ’70, is executive vice president and chief operating officer of Transkaryotic Therapies (in city, state???). He is responsible for TKT’s research, product development, manufacturing and quality functions.

Terry Pruitt, BBA ’70, is assistant superintendent of business services for the Pontiac (MI) School District.

Vindol Thomas, BA ’70, MA ’71, is the World Bank Brazil country director in Washington, D.C.

Donna R. (Brindall) Crosby, BS ’71, recently retired from her position as life management teacher at Cadillac (MI) Public Schools.

Ronald J. Fabian, BA ’71, was elected president of the Jackson County MI Bar Association for 2003-04.

Tom S. Johnson, MBA ’71, is president of Fleming & Company Pharmaceuticals.

John A. Kriekard, MA ’71, is superintendent of the Paradise Valley Unified School District in Scottsdale, AZ.

Michael W. Lewis, BBA ’71, was promoted to president of Harris Bank’s city region. He is responsible for the community development and consumer loans and service sectors throughout the city of Chicago.

Michael E. McCloughan, MA ’71, recently retired from Portage (MI) Central High School, where he was a teacher and spent more than 30 years as the head wrestling coach.

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Pamela J. Olheiser, BS ‘72, MBA ‘82, a sculptor, recently had “The Benefactress” selected for the 2003 National Juried Art Show at the Farmington Museum in New Mexico.

Carol L. Stark, BS ‘72, MA ‘79, is the assistant superintendent of academic services for Grand Ledge (MI) Public Schools.

• Nancy L. (Winchester) Roabi, BS ‘73, was named leader in long-term care sales for the Stein Group of Northwestern Mutual Financial Network located in Troy, MI.

William J. Clark BBA ‘73, has been appointed vice president, DaimlerChrysler and affiliates, sales and marketing in Troy, MI.

Christine K. Ervin, BA ‘73, is Comcast Cable’s director of communications and public affairs for the western Michigan district.

Bruce R. Grubb, BS ‘73, has joined Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett LLP in Kalamazoo as a corporate attorney. He is focusing on commercial law and bankruptcy.

• David L. Kliber, BA ‘73, recently acquired S-F Analytical Laboratories Inc., providing analytical chemistry and microbiology services for environmental and food industries in Milwaukee.

—1974 to 1977—

• David Ansel, BS ‘74, is the technical marketing manager at Wacker Chemical Corp. in Adrian, MI.

Diane Makas-Webber, BS ‘74, MA ‘80, has been inducted by the WMU dance department into the Outstanding Alumni Academy. She is the dance department chairperson at the Academy for the Performing Arts in Huntington Beach, CA.

Luis A. Garza BSW ‘74, has been appointed director for human resources at Lewis University in Romeoville, IL.

Marc A. Gauthier, BA ‘74, is sales director for PHNS, a provider of information technology, medical records, transcription, coding and accounts receivable outsourcing services to the health care industry.

Gregory S. Gay, BBA ‘74, has been named a fellow of the American Society for Quality. He is an engineer at Welch & Associates in Kalamazoo.

Jose A. Infante, BA ‘74, was nominated for the 2003 West Michigan Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award. He is chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Community Shores Bank of the Year award. He is chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Community Shores Bank.

James L. Lawrence, BM ‘74, recently retired from Muskegon (MI) Public Schools, where he had received many awards as a music teacher and band director.


Jen R. Robinson, BA ‘74, has been appointed vice president of utility law and regulation in the legal department of Consumers Energy. He is in charge of all legal issues related to public-utility law and regulation before the Michigan Public Service Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the appellate courts.

Kirk W.M. Tyson, BBA ‘74, received the 2003 Alpha Kappa Psi Alumnus of the Year Award.

VanSlambrouck 77  Zaporozhetz 74

Don Ver Heul, MBA ‘74, has joined H & S Companies in Muskegon, MI, as a certified public accountant.

Lauren E. Zaporozhetz, MLS ‘74, is the dean of libraries at Murray State University in Murray, KY.

Rebecca M. Dodd, MA ‘75, has joined Norman & Paulsen PC in Three Rivers, MI, as a certified public accountant. She specializes in auditing and tax services.

Frank A. Geib, BSE ‘75, received a Superior Airmanship Award from the Air Line Pilots Association for helping to prevent a potentially catastrophic aircraft accident and saving hundreds of lives.

• Dennis Martin, BS ‘75, is vice president of sales for Fairfield Broadcasting Co. in Kalamazoo.

Patrick M. Dutkiewicz, BS ‘76, is the owner of Pack N Ship in Muskegon, MI.

• Kathryn Geib, BS ‘76, has been inducted by the WMU dance department into the Outstanding Alumni Academy. She is an attorney and vice president of Cendant Corp. in New Jersey, where she handles intellectual property.

Anne Marcus, BA ‘76, was honored by WMU’s College of Arts and Sciences with its 2003 Alumni Achievement Award in American Studies. She is the principal and senior consultant for Stony Point Communications in Hasket, MI.

Bruce C. Jackson, BA ‘76, MA ‘79, MSA ‘84, has earned the designation enrolled agent, which allows him to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. He provides accounting and business services in Fort Myers, FL.

Robert W. Janson, BBA ‘76, has joined Smith-Peabody-Stiles Insurance Agency in Benton, MI, specializing in commercial sales.

• Lynn C. (Biasell) Kellogg, BA ‘76, MPA ‘81, presided over the WMU Alumni Association during the University’s official 2003 centennial celebration. She is chief executive officer of the Area Agency on Aging in St. Joseph, MI.

• Jeffrey L. Brittan, BS ‘77, was nominated for the 2003 West Michigan Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award. He is president and chief executive officer of StructureTec Corp. in Kalamazoo.

• Susan (Steffens) Hollar, BA ‘77, MA ‘80, participated in the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year College’s Summer Institute for teacher preparation.

• Alice Mumaw Jacobs, BS ‘77, MA ‘80, was recognized by the Green Meadows Girl Scout Council as an honoree for the 12th annual Women of Distinction Celebration. She is president of Danville (IL) Community College.

• Pamela S. (Vodry) Powers, BS ‘77, MA ‘74, received the 2003 Multi-Age Teacher of the Year Award from the Kent County Education Association. She is a school counselor at North Rockford (MI) Middle School.

• Richard M. Sharpe, BBA ‘77, is senior vice president of global aerospace customers and marketing for Alcoa Fastening Systems.

Glen A. Tracy, BS ‘77, BSE ‘80, is the executive director of WMU’s Paper Technology Foundation.

• Jack G. VanSlambrouck, BA ‘77, an attorney in the Kalamazoo office of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC, is deputy group leader of the firm’s personal services group.

Craig G. Wassenaar, BBA ‘77, is chief financial officer of Musicland Group Inc.

Richard H. Arnold, BBA ‘78, MBA ‘85, recently joined American Seating, a Grand Rapids-based manufacturer of stadium, arena, and auditorium seating, as education-market manager.

—1978 to 1988—

• Gail B. Brot, MA ‘78, is a support specialist in the audit department of Siegfried Crandall PC of Kalamazoo.

• Douglas G. Charnley, BBA ‘78, has been promoted to senior life regional director in the northeast Ohio district for the Cincinnati Life Insurance Co.

Lori L. Grove, BS ‘78, is the co-author of “Chicago’s Maxwell Street,” published by Arcadia Press in its Images of America series. She is a scientific illustrator at the Field Museum in Chicago.

• Cheryl (McIntosh) Kern, BBA ‘78, is director of diversity solutions for xpedx, an international paper company. She is responsible for developing MBE suppliers for the company and will be located in Livonia, MI.

• Gregory J. Mansour, BA ‘78, is the bishop of the Eparchy of St. Maron in Brooklyn, NY.

Jack A. Petrojevic, BS ‘78, MA ‘84, is the student success coordinator at Boyne City (MI) High School.

• Terri Angelo, MA ‘79, has been named to the Ohio Athletic Trainers’ Association Hall of Fame. She is an athletic trainer with the Summa Health System.

Janet D. (Caliguri) Brainard, BS ‘79, is a financial services professional for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. in Battle Creek, MI.

Morris C. Davenport, BS ‘79, was ranked 95th in the list of the “101 Most Influential Minorities in Sports” in the May 5 issue of Sports Illustrated. He is a senior coordinating producer at ESPN.

J. Kevin Dodge, BSE ‘79, is the commanding officer for the Headquarters and Service Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Base in Quantico, VA.

• Karen S. Galloway, BS ‘79, is an occupational therapist at Kalamazoo Area Rehabilitation Services. She specializes in oral motor treatment, sensory integration and preemie development.

Nancy Haas, BA ‘79, MA ‘86, is principal at Moorsbridge Elementary School in Portage, MI.

• Patricia L. Reeves, BA ‘79, received the Crystal Apple Award presented by Michigan State University for excellence and commitment to education.

Willie O. Smith, BS ‘79, is prison warden at the Ionia (MI) Maximum Correctional Facility.
Taking academic training to regal heights

As the newly crowned Miss Michigan, Kelli Talicska, who earned both undergraduate and master’s degrees in speech pathology at WMU, is taking the cause of communication disorders across the state. She completed her master’s in fall 2003 and was crowned Miss Michigan on June 19.

“My main job as Miss Michigan is to advocate for the rights of people who have communication or related disorders,” Talicska says, “and also to advocate for linguistic human rights, ensuring that everyone has the right to communicate.”

Such disorders are widespread, she says. One in every six people has a communication disorder. Though they may not be restored to normal, with the right help they still can maintain a high quality of life that greatly reduces the loss they have suffered.

Talicska, who graduated with highest honors, says treating speech, language and hearing disorders is of the utmost importance.

“It’s about quality of life,” says the outgoing 25-year-old. “When people experience a communication disorder, whether from birth or from a stroke, that’s extremely devastating.”

Talicska plans to use the $12,000 Miss Michigan scholarship money to someday earn a doctorate in communication disorders. For now, she’ll work in her field for a few years before tackling a Ph.D.

The Auburn, Mich.-raised Talicska looks back fondly at her time at WMU, where she was involved in a litany of extra-curricular activities and was even elected Homecoming Queen. She stays in close contact with about 20 friends from college and several former instructors.

“I loved every minute of my time in Kalamazoo and my college experience,” she says. “This is my second home. I have so many wonderful memories of my time here.”
Frederick P. Mainka, BBA ’84, is an attorney with Miller, Shipek & Tischler PC in Southfield, MI.

Melody L. Moore, MA ’84, was named to “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers” for 2004. She is the dean of extended learning and distance education at John Tyler Community College in Chester, VA.

Patricia L. Opel, BA ’84, MA ’98, was selected by WMU as one of its top-100 art alumni of the last century. She is an adjunct art instructor/counselor at Muskegon (MI) Community College.

Lamont C. Ridgell, BS ’84, has released his debut CD titled “Intimacy,” which is available from Amazon.com and CD Baby. He was an original member of WMU’s Gold Company.

Ann M. Sanders, MLS ’84, MA ’91, recently received the Jennie Award from the Government Documents Roundtable of Michigan. She is the Library of Michigan’s depository librarian.

Randy S. Gebolyes, BSE ’85, is teaching industrial arts at Lawton (MI) High School.

Lisa K. Kaiser, BBA ’85, has been promoted to community president for National City’s downriver market.

Honore C. Lee, BS ’85, MA ’99, recently exhibited “Passage: Recent Paintings and Drawings” at the Krasl Art Center in St. Joseph, MI.

Tim L. McDaniel, MA ’85, was named Michigan Coach of the Year by the Michigan Special Olympics and the Michigan Civitans Club. He is a coach and physical education teacher at Bert Goens Learning Center in Paw Paw.

David M. Phillipson, BS ’85, is on the board of directors for the San Diego National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame chapter. He is the vice president of BioDynamics Institute, a sports performance company.

James A. Shinsey, BBA ’85, has joined Kerby, Bailey and Associates in Niles, MI, as a senior fire investigator specializing in commercial, residential and vehicle fires.

Michael R. Warner, BS ’85, is president of Avizen Lending Solutions, a mortgage broker and lender in Minneapolis.

Andrew W. Bowne, BS ’86, MA ’89, EdD ’99, is the executive director of work force training and economic development at Grand Rapids (MI) Community College.

William Ceci, BS ’86, was named Michigan Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Department of Education. He is a fifth grade teacher, focusing on language arts and social studies in the Waverly Community School District.

A.G. Mark Lucas, BA ’86, is a systems administrator associate at Electronic Data Systems in Auburn Hills, MI.

Paul R. Pioszak, BA ’86, recently received the Milken National Educator Award. He is an advanced placement government teacher at Sault Sainte Marie (MI) High School.

Mitch A. Pouliot, BSE ’86, is assistant general manager of quality engineering at DENSO Manufacturing Michigan Inc.

Daniel J. De kok, MM ’87, had an article titled “Journal for Teaching Guitar Workshop” published in the March 2003 issue of the New Jersey Music Educators Association’s TEMPO Magazine. He is a music teacher at Kensington High School in Philadelphia.

David A. Grimmer, BSE ’87, is assistant general manager of production engineering at DENSO Manufacturing Michigan Inc.

Scott A. Keeler, BS ’87, MSW ’93, received the 2004 Adult STAR Volunteer Award for his work with Mothers Against Drunk Driving in Kalamazoo County.

Tracy L. Lukanic, BBA ’87, has been promoted to senior vice president of BB&T Corp. in Spartanburg, SC.

Jane (Rooks) Ross, MM ’87, is a recipient of this year’s Community Medal of Arts awards given by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo. She is the director of education for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.

Karen Cooper-Boyer, BBA ’86, MA ’88, is general manager of human resources, corporate services and human resource systems planning at DENSO Manufacturing Michigan Inc.

Laura J. Dean-Bonnell, MSW ’88, is a social worker for the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District in Big Rapids, MI.

Robert R. DeGroot Jr., BBA ’88, has been elected partner in Crowe Group LLP, the holding company for more than 20 business entities engaged in public accounting, consulting, and financial planning.

Jerome B. Espy, BS ’88, is regional director of communications for Comcast Cable Communications in Southfield, MI.

Bonnie J. (Huizenga) Marshall, BS ’88, MA ’93, recently received the Student’s Award for Faculty Excellence at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI.

Robert M. Parks, BBA ’88, is a director at Doeren Mayhew, an accounting and consulting firm in Troy, MI.

—1989 to 1991—

John A. Abramson, MPA ’89, is interim manager for the Alger Delta Cooperative Board of Directors in Gladstone, MI.

Brad B. Banks, BA ’89, has been promoted to commander of the investigation unit of the Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division.

Brenda Dredge, BSE ’89, MBA ’97, is manager of assembly engineering at DENSO Manufacturing Michigan Inc.

Jeffrey G. Genyk, MBA ’89, is head football coach at Eastern Michigan University.

Peter J. Haines, BS ’89, is assistant superintendent of Greenville (MI) Public Schools.

Michelle L. Benedict, BS ’89, is the literacy coach for the Saginaw (MI) Township Community School District.

Stephen M. Jacob, BS ’89, is a music teacher at Kensington High School in Philadelphia.

He specializes in using biofeedback for pain management.

Peter R. Najwicz, BBA ’89, is chief financial officer at the Roy Lester Schneider Hospital in St. Thomas, VI.

Morella P. Petrozzi Woll, BFA ’89, has been inducted by the WMU dance department into the Outstanding Alumni Academy. She is co-director of the Danza Viva Contemporary Dance Company in Lima, Peru.

Christine (Walker) Malaski, BS ’89, MS ’93, has been named professor of the year by St. Ambrose University in Davenport, IA, where she is an assistant professor of occupational therapy.

Gayle Ring-Andrus, BS ’84, MA ’90, is a psychotherapist at Behavioral Health and Wellness Network, a clinic in Reed City, MI. She works closely with adolescents.

Craig S. Binder, BBA ’90, has joined Plante & Moran of Kalamazoo as an audit associate.

Donald R. Dismuke, BBA ’90, is a partner with Grant Thornton LLP, in Southfield, MI.

Kevin A. Forystek, BBA ’90, is a real estate professional with Remax Right Choice in Clio, MI.

Steven W. Gleason, BSE ’90, is manager of die design at DENSO Manufacturing Michigan Inc.

Lisa M. Hansen, BS ’90, has been named professor of the year at Western New England College in Springfield, MA. She is an associate professor of math and computer science.

Judy M. Johncox, MA ’90, is an associate director of Venture Development in Detroit. She will be responsible for facilitating the creation of start-up companies based on Wayne State technologies.

Michael S. Johnston, BBA ’90, is a director at Doeren Mayhew, an accounting and consulting firm in Troy, MI.

Doug Lockhart, MBA ’90, has been promoted to senior vice president of marketing with Zondervan, a publisher of Bibles, books and gift products in Grand Rapids, MI.

Robert E. Maki, DPA ’90, is the city engineer in Surprise, AZ.

Miguel A. Martinez, BSE ’90, is an associate programmer for Auto Owner’s Insurance in Lansing, MI.

Mr. Gregory D. Miller, BBA ’90, is a tax accountant with Rumsey & Watkins PC in Coldwater, MI.

Kathy A. Schuch, MA ’90, has joined the Personal Care Center in Richland, MI, as a psychotherapist.

Wes Stripling, MBA ’90, is vice president of Wells Fargo Bank in Menominee, MI.

Emily Aleman, BBA ’92, is the executive director for the Grand Rapids-based Hispanic Center of Western Michigan.

Patti Criswell, MSW ’91, has written a book titled “A Smart Girl’s Guide to Friendship Troubles,” published by American Girl Library. She is a child therapist at Child and Family Psychological Services in Kalamazoo.

Eric A. Mahler, BBA ’91, has joined Dykema Gossett PLLC as an associate in the employment practice group in Detroit.
Deborah (McMullen) Perryman, BS ’91, is teacher of the year for 2004 in Illinois. She teaches biology, chemistry and environmental science at Elgin High School.

Melody G. Meachum, BA ’91, is an agent at Farm Bureau Insurance in Paw Paw, MI.

• Richard D. Rice, BBA ’83, MBA ’91, is the controller for Firstbank Corp. in Alma, MI.

Patrick J. Schoof, BA ’91, is the director of Youth Advocate Program International in Washington.

—1992 to 1995—

• Catherine A. (Yared) Brady, MSW ’92, has joined Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services as a clinician at its campus clinic in Cutlerville, MI. She will specialize in working with older adults.

Michael R. Carter, BA ’92, is a visual effects artist/illustrator who recently worked on “The Cat in the Hat.”

Michael M. Claussen, BS ’87, BA ’92, is a physical assistant in the office of Dr. Mark Kalius in Bronson, MI.

Christopher A. Garrett, MM ’92, is a humanities/music instructor at Kalamazoo Valley Community College where he also conducts the KVCC Concert Band.

Scott Garrow, BS ’92, is the new men’s assistant hockey coach at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY.

John S. Hendricks, BBA ’92, is a physician at Bergeson Chiropractic Clinic in Ludington, MI.

Thomas J. Rueff, MA ’92, has been promoted to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Village of Kalamazoo, Michigan. He is an attorney with the Detroit office of Warner Norcross & Judd LLP.

• Scott A. Kilgren, BBA ’93, has been promoted to director of the Sarbanes Oxley Project at Cardinal Health in Chicago, where he works in the medical products and services division.

Gerard LaFemina, MFA ’93, is the author of new collection of poetry titled “Graffiti Heart,” published by Mammoth Books.

Pete L. Lazaroff Jr., MA ’93, is superintendent of Van Buren (MI) Public Schools.

Mark A. McCummy, BS ’93, is a national account manager in the consumer products division of the American Safety Razor Co. in Kalamazoo.

• Debra K. Strickland, BA ’93, MPA ’01, is the executive director of Wellspring/Cory Terry & Dancers in Kalamazoo. She works primarily in the areas of program and fund development and budget management.

• John E. VanFossen, BA ’93, is the director of external affairs at the Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids, MI.

Christopher A. Walker, BSE ’93, is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. He is currently serving in the Marine Wing Support Group 47 at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mt. Clemens.

Steve Zucker, BA ’93, is a reporter for the Potsky News. He reports on criminal- or police-related issues.

Marshja J. Carter, BA ’94, is a senior account executive at Weber Shandwick in Detroit. She handles media relations for the agency’s clients.

Eric Feucht, BS ’94, has joined Bronson Adult Critical Care Service in Kalamazoo as a physician.

Karyn R. King, BS ’94, MA ’95, is a principal at Calumet (MI) Elementary School.

Dennis P. Major, MSW ’94, is the director of the dual Mecosta/Osceola (MI) Family Independence Agency office.

Brian L. Wells, BBA ’94, is executive vice president at Lake Michigan Title Co. in Chicago.

Jeanne (Emlaw) Williams, BA ’98, was voted teacher of the year for 2004 by the faculty at Wiley Elementary School in Greensboro, NC. She is a speech and language pathologist.

David D. Wingard, MSW ’94, has joined the Crossroads Program staff of Catholic Social Services in Muskegon, MI. He is responsible for the adolescent substance abuse treatment program.

Kelly Argyle, BA ’95, is the director of public relations at A & D Home Health Care in Saginaw, MI.

Douglas F. Brewer, BS ’95, recently joined Kalamazoo Foot Surgery as an associate.

Anthony Butts, MFA ’95, received the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America for his book “Little Low Heaven,” published by WMU’s New Issues Press.

Peter H. Freigang, BS ’95, has joined the staff of Wright & Pilipis in Saginaw Township as a certified prosthetist.

• Scottie Jo Griffin, EdD ’95, is the superintendent of Charlotteville (VA) City School.

• Melissa A. Kent, BA ’95, received the certified trust and financial advisor (CTFA) designation from the Institute of Certified Bankers. She is a trust officer at Comerica Bank in Detroit.

David R. Kistler, MBA ’95, has joined Comerica Bank as vice president of commercial real estate. He will focus on real estate financing in Comerica’s west Michigan markets.

Evan Lipp, MA ’95, is the associate vice president of enrollment management at St. Francis University in Loretto, PA.

Krystal N. Lyons, BBA ’95, has joined the Detroit-based law firm Williams Acosta PLLC as an associate specializing in commercial litigation, real estate law and employment law.

Marcy L. Patterson, BS ’95, is the principal at North Elementary School in Parchment, MI.

Scott G. Smith, BS ’95, is a pharmacy manager for Alliance Pharmaceutical Corp. of Greeley, CO.

Michael J. Steinberg, MBA ’95, is the author of a new book titled “Still Pitching; A Memoir,” published by Michigan State University Press.

Morrison Stevens Jr., BBA ’95, is the western regional vice president of the executive field force for Stevens Worldwide Van Lines.

Michael K. Van Ryn, BS ’95, MA ’98, is the principal at Brown Elementary School in Byron Center, MI.

Leslie R. Visser, MA ’95, has joined Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Clinic in Grandville, MI, as a clinician. She will provide both individual and group psychological evaluations, assessments and psychotherapy.

Jonathon Wessenstrom, BS ’96, is chief academic officer at Baker College in Cadillac, MI.

—1996 to 1999—

Torriea M. Bradford, BS ’96, is the associate coach of the women’s basketball team at WMU.

• Sara Beth Budnick, BBA ’96, is supervisor of internal audit at the Lincoln Electric Co. in Cleveland, OH.

Suzanne M. (Powell) Callahan, MBA ’96, is president of Everyone Read, a children’s book club committed to increasing literacy by funding the distribution of books to at-risk children with proceeds from every order.

Christopher P. Lajo, BBA ’96, was named president of the American Marketing Association’s Detroit chapter. He is a co-founder of Lajo Group Inc., a staffing firm in Plymouth, MI.

Michelle M. Mailhot-Valines, BM ’96, is part of the a cappella group Toxik Audio, which took home a 2004 Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience in New York.

Adam Marek, BS ’96, is a technical sales and service representative for Pittsburgh Paint and Glass Co. in Shefield, MI.

Chad A. West, BA ’96, has joined the Japanese Services group of the Grand Rapids, MI, office of Barnes & Thornburg LLP as an associate.

Angela M. Bully, BBA ’97, has joined Republic Bank as a mortgage loan officer in Flint Township, MI.

Bryan Chadima, BS ’97, is a member of the Vantastics, an a cappella vocal quartet featuring actor Dick Van Dyke.

Amy M. Doxtater, BA ’97, is a pharmaceutical representative for Ventiv US Sales in Kalamazoo.
Craig M. Farkas, BS ’97, is project leader and logistic manager of Graceland Fruit in Frankfort, MI.

Gary A. Gensch Jr., BA ’97, is an associate attorney with Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis, and Getting PC in Lansing, MI.

Mari Anne Jayme, BS ’97, was selected to participate in Betty Carter’s Jazz Ahead at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. She is the director for the vocal jazz ensemble at Roosevelt University in Chicago.

Martin T. Lougen, BS ’97, is a physician at Otsego Memorial Hospital in Grayling, MI. He works in the emergency department.

Jason E. Maxa, MA ’97, MS ’03, has joined the staff of the Orthopedic Center of Mid-Michigan in Saginaw.

Carrie L. Schroock, BSW ’97, is president of the executive committee of the Holland (MI) Civic Theatre.

Scott Schwarz, BA ’97, is an English teacher at Baraga (MI) High School.

Brooke K. Elliott, BFA ’98, is on tour with “Taboo,” a Broadway musical depicting Boy George’s rise to fame. She is an ensemble member and an understudy for the part of big Sue.


Jeffrey Hrabovsky, BBA ’98, is an account executive with Campbell-Ewald in Detroit. He was recognized as a 2003 Employee of the Year for his exemplary leadership.

Thomas R. Lenard, BA ’98, is a senior account executive for The Rossmann Group, a public relations firm in Lansing, MI.

Ryan J. Lindman, BSE ’98, has received his professional engineering license from the state of Michigan. He is a municipal engineer for Orchard, Hiltz & McClintock Inc. in Livonia, MI.

Jennifer T. Lossia, BA ’98, has joined Miller Canfield Paddock and Stone PLC as an associate in the litigation and dispute resolution practice group.

Melissa M. Mazat, BS ’98, is an associate in the litigation and defense department at Weilman, Weinberg & Reis Co. LPA, a creditors’ rights law firm in Detroit.

Denise L. Neal, BS ’98, is an occupational therapist at Kalamazoo Area Rehabilitation Services. She specializes in sensory integration and visual and oral motor treatment.

Carolyn Walton, MBA ’98, is vice president and treasurer of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Dari L. (Craven) Bargsy, BA ’99, is an associate with Miller Canfield Paddock and Stone PLC. She practices in the litigation and dispute resolution group.

Kristin M. Casale, MFA ’99, was promoted to the rank of associate professor of art and was granted tenure at Augusta (GA) State University.

Nico M. Clinton, BA ’99, is an associate with Dickinson Wright PLLC in Detroit. She specializes in commercial litigation, product liability, and medical malpractice defense.

Sara E. Hays, BS ’99, is assistant director of residence life at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA.

Sarah E. Heineman, BA ’99, is an associate in the litigation practice group in the Grand Rapids (MI) office of Dykema Gossett PLLC.

Casey Kondel, BS ’99, is retail district manager for Bank One’s branches in Roscommon, Saginaw and Tuscola counties in Michigan.


Antonio B. Neves, BBA ’99, is the associate producer of Nickelodeon’s U-Pick Live in New York.

Merryweather Roberts

• Jessica Pohloniski, BA ’99, is the executive vice president and co-founder of the Institute for Women International, which is dedicated to providing leadership intelligence to female executives around the world.

• Kimberly S. Roberts, BBA ’99, is a senior accountant at Yeo & Yeo PC in Kalamazoo. She specializes in auditing.

Kevin W. Schmaeman, BSE ’99, is an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He is a research engineer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

Dawn M. Southard, MBA ’99, has joined Glazen Creative Group, which creates films, video and interactive multimedia for marketing, training and fundraising, as director of business development in Cleveland.

Kevin P. Burns, BA ’00, is an account executive at Edelman Public Relations Worldwide in Dallas.

John J. Frost, BA ’00, is an associate with Baker & Hostetler LLP in Columbus, OH.

• Amanda J. Gruden, BS ’00, represented WMU in this year’s 2,200-mile Air Race Classic. She is the lead flight instructor for the College of Aviation at WMU.

Dana R. Harville, BA ’00, has been promoted to senior account executive at Franco Public Relations Group in Detroit.

Amy A. Hebert, BBA ’00, is a senior accountant in the tax department of Yeo & Yeo PC in Saginaw, MI.

Timothy F. Lester, BA ’00, is head football coach at St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, IN.

Traci Mondrella, MSW ’00 is a therapist at RiverView Counseling and Wellness Center in Big Rapids, MI.

• Olga Munguia, BSN ’00, is a registered nurse at Covenant HealthCare System in Saginaw, MI.

Jeremy Podany, BA ’00, is assistant director of the arts and sciences placement office at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.

Jaime M. (Pype) Merryweather, BBA ’00, is an accountant with Campbell-Ewald in Detroit. She was recognized as a 2003 Employee of the Year for her exemplary leadership.

Dena Lee Smith, MPA ’00, is a paramedic for Glen Arbor and Empire (MI) townships.

Wendy Williamson, MA ’00, has written a book titled “Study Abroad 101” that answers common questions about studying overseas. She is a coordinator in the office of study abroad at WMU.

Marianne T. Agnew, BS ’01, is the CAD systems operator for PHI Agnew Builders Inc. in Chesaning, MI.

• Megan Pest, BBA ’01, has joined Tower Pinkster Titus Associates Inc. as a marketing coordinator in the Kalamazoo office.

Paul R. Block, BA ’01, is the youth director at the First United Methodist Church in Gaylord, MI.

• Erin M. Czelada, BA ’01, was named WMU’s Golden Bronco Advisor of the Year for her role in advising the Student Alumni Association.

Denise Farnham, BBA ’01, has joined the West Michigan team of Skanska USA Building Inc. as marketing coordinator. She is responsible for supporting business development efforts throughout the Midwest.

Justin Johnson, BBA ’01, has joined the personal lines sales staff at Smith-Peabody-Stiles Insurance Agency in Brighton, MI.

Darrell N. Kingsbury, MA ’01, is the principal of Caledonia (MI) Middle School.

Kelly J. Kuharski, BA ’01, MA ’02, recently placed second on “The Bachelor,” an ABC reality show in which 25 female contestants compete for a marriage proposal from one man.

Jennifer J. Parker, BBA ’01, has joined the staff of Jessup Group PC, a Battle Creek (MI) public accounting and consulting group.

Shelley Ann Peets, MA ’01, is the principal of Oakridge (MI) Lower Elementary School.

Theresa Porolniczak, BBA ’01, is an assistant media planner for the Jeep brand at Daimler Chrysler in Detroit.

• Scott R. Rolando, BS ’01, is the fall sports athletic coordinator at Lakeland High School in White Lake, MI.

Kelli Talicska, BS ’01, MA ’04, is the current Miss Michigan. As a speech pathologist, she plans to advocate for the rights of people who have communication or related disorders.

Marnie S. Thomas, BA ’01, has joined Prudential West Michigan Realtors of Portage, serving clients in greater Kalamazoo and outlying areas.

Dirk Weelreyer, MA ’01, is the principal of Martin (MI) Middle/High School.

• Julie C. (Vawter) Winans, BA ’01, is a buyer/planner at Stryker Liebinger Corp. in Portage, MI.

William T. Zaagman, MPA ’01, is a lobbyist for Governmental Consultant Services Inc. in Lansing, MI.
Principal is at the top of her class in Michigan

Award-winning principal Suzanne Antonazzo got the most from her WMU education: a start on her career and a partner for life.

Antonazzo, who graduated in 1969 with a degree in elementary education, recently was named the 2004 Outstanding Practicing Principal of the Year by the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association. She is principal of Haviland Elementary School in Waterford, Mich., part of the Waterford School District.

The honor, presented in October at a banquet in Lansing, Mich., is just the latest bestowed on the WMU alum. She was presented the Celebrate Literacy Award from both the Oakland County Reading Council and the Michigan Reading Association and the Oakland Press/Oakland University Medallion Award for Excellence in Education.

Her most-recent accolade came as a bit of a shock. Antonazzo was told she hadn’t won, then was presented the award at the banquet. She goes on to national competition next fall in Washington, D.C.

On hand for the presentation were her husband, Sam, Waterford Schools Superintendent Tom Tattan and her school’s staff. All had kept her winning a secret.

Antonazzo credits her education at WMU with helping to shape her philosophy as an educator.

“I think a lot of the beliefs that I have about how all children can be successful came from my undergraduate degree,” she says.

“I’m thrilled,” she says, “and I think the best part is, it was such a surprise.”

Antonazzo’s family has strong ties to WMU. She and her husband, a physical education and business teacher, met at WMU, where he was a member of the 1966 MAC championship football team. Their son, Torre is a WMU senior majoring in business. They also have a daughter, Sarah, who works as a packaging engineer for Nokia in Dallas.

Antonazzo with Waterford Superintendent Tattan

Joseph A. Ayoub, BA ’02, is a bass player for the Chicago-based indie rocker Liz Phair.

Sarah A. Clevenger, BA ’02, is director of new business development at PM Environmental in Lansing, MI.

• Brett Farkas, BM ’02, is a guitarist for the soul and blues singer, Solomon Burke.

David Fosdick, BBA ’02, is responsible for the retail market growth of Northwoods Soda and Syrup, a family-owned and operated business based in Williamsville, MI.

Kristi L. Krafft, BBA ’02, is an accountant in the audit department. Yeo & Yeo PC in the Saginaw (MI) office as a staff accountant.

Kristi L. Krafft, BBA ’02, MSA ’03, has joined Yeo & Yeo PC in the Saginaw (MI) office as a staff accountant in the audit department.

• Stephanie Liberacki, BS ’02, is a fourth grade teacher at Frey Elementary School in Atlanta.

Jonathan M. Modiano, BBA ’02, is a financial advisor for UBS Financial Services Inc. in Farmington Hills, MI.

Kristi J. Petrucci, BBA ’02, has been promoted to category management specialist at Hormel Foods Corporation in Cincinnati.

Bruce Rasher, MBA ’02, is director of economic development for Consumers Energy.

Robert W. Ritz, BBA ’02, is store manager of the Sears Retail Dealer Store in Big Rapids, MI.

Lisa M. Robinson, BBA ’02, has joined Seber, Dillenbeck & Craft PC of Kalamazoo as a staff accountant.

Kristi L. Krafft, BBA ’02, has joined Simons, Magennis & Lang in Grand Rapids, MI, as an insurance agent.

Kelly Brennan, BBA ’02, MA ’03, is the catering manager at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo.

Thomas M. Clouse, BBA ’03, has joined Van Tol, Magennis & Lang in Grand Rapids, MI, as an insurance agent. He specializes in casualty and property insurance.

• Daryl Crall, BBA ’03, is a print traffic coordinator at J. Walter Thompson in Detroit.

Dennis Keck, BS ’03, was named teacher of the year by the Marco Island (FL) Chamber of Commerce. He teaches math at Manatee Middle School.

Courtney E. Pace, BA ’03, is a staff writer for the Charlevoix (MI) Courier.

Kurtis J. Pake, BS ’03, teaches sixth grade language arts and social studies at East Garner (NC) Magnet Middle School. He also coaches baseball and football.

Lara M. Polce, BA ’00, MA ’03, is an adolescent therapist at the Jim Gilmore Jr. Treatment Center in Kalamazoo.

Danielle M. Triglia, BS ’03, is a special education teacher at Warren (MI) Woods Middle School. She teaches eighth grade language arts and math.

Sarah Marie VanLoo, BSW ’03, is a counselor for the YMCA of Northern Michigan’s after-school program at Central Elementary School in Petoskey.

• Krysten Veenhuis, BS ’98, MA ’03, is an outpatient therapist at the Jim Gilmore Jr. Treatment Center in Kalamazoo.

Lesley S. Watts, BA ’03, is the legislative communications assistant for the village of Schoolcraft, MI.
OBITUARIES

1924 to 1939

Virginia K. (Jones) Coffey, TC ’24, Aug. 26, 2003, in Cincinnati, OH
Frieda E. (Sheldon) Doty, TC ’24, Dec. 28, 2003, in Paw Paw, MI
William G. Bradford, BA ’25, April 21, 2003, in Sun City, AZ
Grace (Boyce) Ward, TC ’26, May 10, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Edna (Corey) Crawford Pharo, TC ’27, Oct. 3, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Virginia (Crandall) Stoops, TC ’27, Nov. 9, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Jean K. (Meninga) Dekema Clabaugh, May 31, 2003, in Waukegan, IL
Robert L. Snook, April 4, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Vera J. (Smith) Russell, May 28, 2003, in Allegan, MI

1940 to 1952

Rachel J. Boer, BS ’40, Feb. 7, 2004, in Zeeland, MI
Gale C. Jurgensen, BS ’40, TC ’48, Jan. 16, 2004, in Dowagiac, MI
Virginia L. (Kooyers) Pollins, TC ’40, July 22, 2003, in Battle Creek, MI
Herbert S. Snow, BS ’40, March 18, 2004, in Schoolcraft, MI
Rhea M. (Lahti) Tracy, BA ’40, July 8, 2003, in Three Rivers, MI
Virginia M. (Luikens) DeWitte, BS ’41, Sept. 2, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Paul J. Miller, BS ’41, April 7, 2004, in Fort Wayne, IN
Joyce P. (Kabbe) Schuring, BS ’41, July 27, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Rachel L. (Gray) Hays, BS ’42, May 28, 2003, in Allegan, MI
Jack B. Olson, BS ’42, July 3, 2003, in Milwaukee, WI
Vera J. (Smith) Russell, TC ’42, BA ’42, MA ’63, April 4, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Robert L. Snook, BA ’42, May 31, 2003, in Waukegan, IL
Jean K. (Meninga) Dekema Clabaugh, BS ’43, Dec. 17, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Dorothy M. (Mason) Pixler, BS ’43, July 7, 2003, in Hopkins, MI
Dorothy S. (Miliard) Pounder, BS ’43, June 9, 2003, in Lansing, MI
Gladys Marie (Schemahorn) Girton, TC ’28, BA ’46, MA ’59, July 3, 2003, in LaGrange, IN
Helene (Kaczanowski) Koney, BS ’46, Aug. 26, 2003, in Mount Clemens, MI
Jack Lyle, BA ’46, Sept. 26, 2003, in Paw Paw, MI
Wayne E. Shirley, BA ’46, Jan. 5, 2004, in Allegan, MI
Kenneth J. Stilwell, BA ’46, Feb. 2, 2004, in Haines City, FL
Nathan H. Wilson, BA ’46, Oct. 29, 2003, in Battle Creek, MI
Amlin R. (Peter) DetNoyer, BS ’47, Aug. 17, 2003, in Holland, MI
Marvin F. Flower, BS ’47, July 17, 2003, in Charlotte, MI
Lewis S. Lang, BS ’47, MA ’54, May 26, 2004, in Hastings, MI
Lois M. (McQueeney) Liggett, BA ’47, June 22, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Donley M. Devendorf, BS ’48, Dec. 15, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Robert J. Hagelshaw, BS ’48, Jan. 9, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Lloyd I. Meadows, BS ’48, TC ’50, Feb. 11, 2004, in Plant City, FL
Martha J. Pierce, BS ’48, June 23, 2004, in Douglas, MI
Eugene E. Arnold, BS ’49, Nov. 25, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Norma (Schipper) Brink, BA ’49, MA ’71, June 12, 2004, in Ann Arbor, MI
Beatrice D. (Hamman) Lasher, BA ’49, LC ’51, Sept. 1, 2003, in Akron, OH
Ezelle Arnett Miller, BA ’49, MA ’55, Oct. 16, 2003, in Franklin, NC
Samuel J. Simmons, BA ’49, Jan. 12, 2004, in Washington, DC
Edith M. Wisler, BA ’49, March 23, 2004, in Mattawan, MI
Adele J. (Swenson) Wood, TC ’45, BS ’49, Nov. 17, 2003, in Rochester Hills, MI
Robert L. Burns, BA ’50, March 11, 2004, in La Habra, CA
Dale Hartgerink, BS ’50, July 2, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Marian (Allen) Hill, BS ’50, May 13, 2004, in Cupertino, CA
Bryant E. Kistler, BA ’50, June 25, 2003, in Perryburg, OH
Ben Olson, BS ’50, Oct. 27, 2003, in Wisconsin Dells
Clarence H. Schoolmaster, BA ’50, Dec. 23, 2003, in Plymouth, MI
OBITUARIES

George V. Van Tyne, BS ’50, MA ’62, Jan. 3, 2004, in Rancho Bernardo, CA
Richard L. Bruni, BS ’51, July 22, 2003, in Redford, MI
Bette E. (Madden) Fitzpatrick, BS ’51, Aug. 12, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Jack D. Holm, BS ’51, MA ’58, March 21, 2004, in Westminster, CA
Glen K. Jackson, TC ’51, July 28, 2004, in Schoolcraft, MI
Martin S. Kolodziejczyk, BS ’51, May 27, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Jack Douglas Buist Sr., BS ’52, MA ’57, Sept. 20, 2003, in Allegan, MI
Thomas D. Carey, BA ’52, Nov. 15, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Velma L. (Ebbert) Proud, TC 29, BA ’52, Feb. 29, 2004, in Berrien Springs, MI
Richard W. Yarger, BA ’52, July 8, 2003, in Kalamazoo

—1953 to 1961—

Thomas J. Bachelder, BA ’53, July 16, 2004, in Kalamazoo
James G. Dunlap Jr., BS ’53, Feb. 28, 2004, in Sarasota, FL
Donald W. Reed, BA ’53, MA ’59, July 16, 2003, in St. Joseph, MI
Patricia M. (Fausnaugh) Schafer, BA ’53, July 5, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Charles P. Wheeler, MA ’53, Feb. 7, 2004, in Columbus, IN
L. Marjorie (Johnson) Carpp, BS ’54, March 26, 2004, in Lawton, MI
Suzanne (Sawyer) Carter, BS ’56, MA ’64, June 27, 2004, in Portage, MI
Kathryn (SchAAF) Pitt, BS ’54, MA ’58, March 13, 2004, in Middleville, MI
Lois Danneberg Rowley, BS ’54, June 8, 2003, in Paulsbo, WA
Minda Sherzer Sing, BA ’54, BS ’56, Nov. 4, 2003, in western Asia
Ronald G. Weirick, BS ’54, May 25, 2004, in South Euclid, OH
Virginia Phillips, MA ’55, Nov. 28, 2003, in Augusta, MI
Jacqueline L. (Young) Pursel, TC ’55, Dec. 29, 2003, in Galesburg, MI
Marvin Edison Terry, BS ’55, Feb. 24, 2004, in Bakersville, NC
Lorraine C. (Kracko) Girard, BS ’56, MA ’59, March 25, 2004, in Galesburg, MI
Jane Carol (Tenney) Ingraham, BS ’56, Feb. 7, 2004, in Portage, MI
James A. Lewis, BS ’56, March 26, 2004, in Dayton, OH
Sally A. (Cushman) Moss, SC ’56, July 1, 2003, in Carrollton, TX
Howard J. Rutgers, MA ’56, June 5, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Duane C. Smith, BS ’56, Sept. 25, 2003, in Lake Ann, MI
Earl J. Swartz, BS ’56, May 28, 2004, in Singer Island, FL
Ray E. Bedford, BS ’57, March 14, 2004, in Burton, MI
Wilsona (Hutchison) Christlieb, BA ’57, MA ’65, Sept. 28, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Ronald H. Denison, BA ’57, Dec. 6, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Shirley A. (Smith) Dorstewitz, BA ’57, Dec. 3, 2003, in Delton, MI
Edward M. Dunning, BA ’57, July 7, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Anthony C. Frenette, BS ’57, Aug. 24, 2003, in Hilton Head Island, SC
J. Arthur Jever, MA ’57, June 5, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Robert Lee Johnson, BA ’57, March 1, 2004, in Lakeland, FL
Ida (Turner) Siemers, BA ’57, June 18, 2003, in Land O’ Lakes, FL
Dale C. Whittington, BS ’57, July 4, 2003, in Paw Paw, MI
Louise H. (Kubian) Bell, BA ’58, Dec. 14, 2003, in DeKalb, IL
Oral R. Hall, BS ’58, April 13, 2004, in Port Charlotte, FL
William Harter, BA ’58, March 9, 2004, in Plainwell, MI
William O. Haynes, BS ’58, MA ’60, Aug. 12, 2003, in Grand Rapids, MI
Virginia D. (Larson) Knapp, TC ’58, July 5, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Dorothy H. (Nicholson) Parker, TC ’23, BA ’58, June 16, 2004, in Lawton, MI
Dorothy A. (Correll) Sears, BS ’58, Oct. 30, 2003, in Otsego, MI
Haig Torbian, BM ’58, MA ’61, June 16, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Laurence H. Berman, BBA ’59, MA ’64, May 26, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Philip H. Germann, BS ’59, Nov. 28 in Laconia, NH
Eva M. (Benson) Gowell, BS ’59, Aug. 26, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Georgia Hastings, BS ’59, Oct. 25, 2003, in Boston, MA
Bethel J. (Taylor) Schmidt, MA ’59, Oct. 3, 2003, in Mendon, MI
Douglas E. Stitere, BS ’59, Oct. 20, 2003, in Stillwater, MN
William L. Strone, BBA ’59, Aug. 23, 2003, in Muskegon, MI
Dorothy (Wolters) Benedict, BS ’60, July 1, 2003, in Otsego, MI
James C. Carlson, BS ’60, MA ’65, March 5, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Grace (VanKleeck) Fidler, BA ’60, MA ’64, Sept. 13, 2003, in Salem, OR
Patricia R. Keyes, BA ’60, Nov. 8, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Velma R. (Johnson) Steeby, TC ’32, BS ’60, June 10, 2004, in Grand Rapids, MI
Daniel C. Davidson, BA ’61, MA ’66, Oct. 30, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Florence L. (baughman) Fiala, BS ’61, Jan. 10, 2004, in Hastings, MI
Mary (Davis) Greiner, MA ’61, Jan. 25, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Harold M. Heath, BBA ’61, May 24, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Cecil A. Klages, MA ’61, Aug. 18, 2003, in Grand Haven, MI
Joseph M. McCluskey, BBA ’61, June 1, 2004, in Boynton Beach, FL
Larry Paul Morren, BA ’61, April 25, 2004, in Fort Smith, AR
Thebma B. (Scott) Resh, BS ’61, Dec. 14, 2003, in Troy, MI

—1962 to 1966—

Paul M. Harris, MA ’62, March 17, 2004, in Kalamazoo
Susan K. (Havens) Huff, BS ’62, June 2, 2003, in Zephyrhills, FL
Veronica B. (McCabe) Jakeway, BS ’62, July 15, 2003, in Parrett, MI
Oliver Esther (Christenson) Robey, TC ’24, BS ’62, May 14, 2003, in Newaygo, MI
Mary G. (Gleason) Sherry, BA ’62, Jan. 19, 2004, in Melbourne, FL
Dorothy L. (Carlson) Craker, BS ’63, Sept. 28, 2003, in Northport, MI
Ralph F. Rothman, MA ’63, Oct. 6, 2003, in Kalamazoo
Eleanor I. (Brush) Wiessner, BS ’63, April 15, 2004, in Richmond, MI
Marvin L. Balch, BS ’64, MA ’70, July 10, 2003, in Birmingham, AL
Loretta (Zerull) Proud, BS ’64, BA ’68, March 30, 2004, in Dearborn, MI
Jacqueline A. (Quick) Crawshaw, BS ’64, Nov. 1, 2003, in Portage, MI
Cynthia L. (Slocum) Greschaw, BS ’64, Oct. 20, 2003, in Ann Arbor, MI
Irene L. (Ray) Hamilton, BA ’64, Aug. 5, 2003, in Owego, NY

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OBITUARIES

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Shirley J. (Tinder) Smiddy
July 29, 2003, in Holland, MI

Judith L. (Quist) Reest
July 17, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Thomas R. Oberlink
May 26, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Kay M. (Maat) McKinney
Eleanor R. McKinney
July 18, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Danny K. Kaiser
July 25, 2004, in Lansing, MI

Karen L. (Buys) Dodge
Aug. 6, 2004, in Portage, MI

Kathleen (Dvorsky) Cosby
Aug. 6, 2003, in Tucson, AZ

Helen M. (Enevold) Brunner
June 21, 2004, in West Bloomfield, MI

Roger K. Albertie
Dec. 7, 2003, in Newport News, VA

Bernadine R. (Christner) Wallace
April 5, 2002, in Grosse Pointe Shores, MI

Jonathan E. Martin
June 19, 2003, in Naperville, IL

Ada Frances (DeYoung) Wilkinson
Pentecost
GA 66, Jan. 27, 2004, in Hastings, MI

Joan E. (Schaub) Siwik
BA 66, MA 69, Dec. 29, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Karen L. (Million) Squiers
BS ’66, March 25, 2004, in Ann Arbor, MI

Bernadine R. (Christner) Wallace

—1967 to 1973—

Roger K. Albertie, BBA ’67,
June 21, 2004, in West Bloomfield, MI

Helen M. (Enevold) Brunner, MA ’67,
Aug. 6, 2003, in Tucson, AZ

Kathleen (Dvorsky) Cosby, BS ’67,
Aug. 6, 2004, in Portage, MI

Karen L. (Buys) Dodge, BS ’67,
July 25, 2004, in Lansing, MI

Danny K. Kaiser, BSE ’67,
July 18, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Eleanor R. McKinney, EdS ’67,
April 27, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Kay M. (Maat) McKinney, MLS ’67,
May 26, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Thomas R. Oberlink, MA ’67,
July 17, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Judith L. (Quist) Reest, MA ’67,
July 29, 2003, in Holland, MI

Shirley J. (Tinder) Smiddy, BA ’67,
June 10, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Mary A. (Tompert) Christmas, BA ’68,
March 1, 2004, in Portage, MI

Regina L. Haebig Boehme, BS ’68,
July 3, 2004, in Milwaukee

Rickman J. Morrison, BBA ’68,
June 3, 2004, in Kalamazoo

John R. Schouw, BS ’68,
Jan. 3, 2004, in Reno, NV

Jessie L. (Saunders) Veenkant, MA ’68,
July 23, 2003, in Saginaw, MI

Dean F. Affield, BS ’69, MBA ’79,
Aug. 10, 2004, in North Port, FL

Thomas W. Boyden, MBA ’69,
Sept. 29, 2003, in San Francisco

Thomas R. Coffield, BBA ’69,
July 29, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Richard A. Kribs III, BA ’69, MA ’70,
Nov. 21, 2003, in Nashville, TN

Suzanne S. (Barnes) Lang, BS ’69,
April 22, 2004, in Hastings, MI

Jacqueline E. Methaney, BS ’69,
Dec. 5, 2003, in Portage, MI

Patrick J. Schutheis, BS ’69, MA ’71,
July 1, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Robert J. Smith, BS ’63,
Aug. 5, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Harry L. Jepkema, BS ’70,
Sept. 21, 2003, in Hudsonville, MI

Belinda L. (Ackerman) Lozier, BS ’70,
Aug. 5, 2003, in Arlington, TX

 Mildred (Lyons) Allen Riedell Guimond, BS ’69,
May 25, 2003, in Detroit, MI

Catherine A. (Reinoehl) Wilson, BA ’70, MA ’77,
Oct. 30, 2003, in Custer Township, MI

Peter J. Wysocki, BS ’70,
June 14, 2003, in Falls Church, VA

Herbert W. Grandt Jr., BBA ’71,
April 17, 2004, in Prospect Heights, IL

C. David Heinecke, BS ’71,
Dec. 29, 2003, in Concord, NH

Judith S. (Graves) Hester, BS ’71,
April 5, 2004, in Galesburg, MI

Barry S. Kenreich, BSE ’71, MA ’80,
Aug. 22, 2003, in Lakeside, MI

Raymond E. Marriott, MA ’71,
June 3, 2004, in Lake Worth, FL

Ronald R. Union, BS ’71, MA ’76,
March 9, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Gerald John Westrick, MBA ’71,
Oct. 4, 2003, in Holland, MI

Doris A. Wiest, MA ’71,
Sept. 10, 2003, in Palm Beach, FL

John A. Getz, BSE ’72,
Oct. 4, 2003, in Denver

Timothy L. Lott, BBA ’72,
May 17, 2004, in South Bend, IN

Susan C. Kloss, BA ’72,
Dec. 15, 2002, in Whitehall, MI

—1974 to 1980—

D. Scott Argue, BFA ’74,
Oct. 6, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Dorothy J. (Brown) Chase, BS ’74,
June 4, 2004, in Paw Paw, MI

Cynthia R. (LeDuc) Nimz, BBA ’74,
Aug. 8, 2004, in Vicksburg, MI

Frederick R. Russell, MBA ’74,
Aug. 9, 2003, in Augusta, MI

Lindsey A. (Canfield) Thomas, BS ’74, MA ’77,
Oct. 1, 2003, in Kalamazoo

William A. Wenban, BBA ’74,
April 17, 2004, in Naperville, IL

Alan B. Costello, BBA ’75,
Feb. 23, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Tom Grayling Lanning, BS ’75, MA ’81, EdD ’95,
Aug. 1, 2004, in Bangor, MI

James E. Moore, BS 75,
Jan. 19, 2004, in Portage, MI

Spencer B. Smith Jr., BS ’75, MA ’77,
Jan. 1, 2004, in Jackson, MI

Victor P. Tuchman, BS ’75,
Dec. 12, 2003, in Gilroy, CA

David L. Cretsinger, BBA ’76,
Nov. 10, 2003, in Hillsdale, MI

Sandra L. (Gilde) Norvell, BBA ’76,
Aug. 3, 2004, in Pikesville, CA

Thomas Aquinas Sullivan, BS 76,
July 25, 2003, in Columbus, OH

Randy A. Van Dyke, BSE ’76,
Jan. 31, 2004, in Logansport, IN

Brian George Vint, BA ’76, May 5, 2004, in Edwardsburg, MI

Barry S. Deal, BS 77,
April 18, 2004, in Vicksburg, MI

Elizabeth R. Lancaster, BS 77,
June 16, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Mark H. Miersma, BBA ’77,
May 23, 2004, in Portage, MI

Daniel H. Barr, BBA ’78,
July 6, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Jeanne A. (Vogt) Barrett, BSW ’78,
Sept. 7, 2003, in Kalamazoo
David C. Czuk, BBA ’78, Nov. 11, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Eugene B. Farnum, MPA ’78, Oct. 15, 2003, in Okemos, MI

Robert E. Foreman, BBA ’78, MBA ’79, Nov. 10, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Donald R. Hageman, BS ’78, Aug. 3, 2004, in Paw Paw, MI

Michael G. Hubbard, BBA ’78, Nov. 22, 2003, in Washington

Anna (Gudmundsson) Severson, BA ’78, April 24, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Michael D. Zimmerman, BS ’79, June 23, 2004, in Marshall, MI

Gloria E. (Amprim) Brady, MA ’80, Dec. 19, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Roger D. Vedmore, BS ’80, MA ’85, July 1, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Susan V. (Buelow) Williams, BS ’80, MBA ’84, Jan. 23, 2004, in Kalamazoo

—1981 to 2003—

Russell V. Kohr, MA ’81, Aug. 16, 2003, in Lake Forest, IL

Mark A. Reisch, BS ’80, July 26, 2004, in Zermatt, Switzerland

Gary R. Tomkins, BSE ’81, Feb. 2, 2004, in Chapel Hill, NC

Marcia C. (Wiley) Hinson, BBA ’84, Jan. 9, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Robert B. Woodrick, BS ’84, Nov. 8, 2003, in Ada, MI

Jennifer L. (Bartlett) Perini, BS ’85, MA ’86, Aug. 2, 2004, in Dublin, OH

Kelly (Coe) Forth, BS ’85, May 1, 2004, in Portage, MI

Mark E. Schumaker, BBA ’85, Oct. 27, 2003, in Rochester, MI

William C. Hess, BS ’86, Oct. 6, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Marlan L. (Jenkins) Rossmann, BS ’87, June 1, 2003, in Battle Creek, MI

Jennifer A. (Hatfield) Zelmer, BBA ’87, April 20, 2004, in St. Joseph, MI

Lucy (Ziolo) Jaroch, BS ’88, MPA ’95, July 14, 2004, in Holt, MI

David M. Stade, BS ’89, Feb. 6, 2004, in Sherwood, OR

David S. Weaver, MBA ’89, Sept. 8, 2003, in Benton Township, MI

Judith A. (Hall) Phipps, MA ’90, March 3, 2004, in Battle Creek, MI

Lawrence J. Farke, MA ’91, Nov. 20, 2003, in Sioux Falls, SD


Zaiga (Ilens) Kirby, BA ’63, MA ’91, May 3, 2004, in Glenn, MI

Thomas W. Keitel, BS ’92, Sept. 22, 2003, in St. Louis, MO

Ruth M. Mausert-Mooney, PhD ’92, Oct. 3, 2003, in Annandale, VA

Linda A. (Troxell) Resh, BA ’92, Jan. 19, 2004, in Mattawan, MI

Michelle M. (Cutler) Bartkowiak, BS ’93, Oct. 22, 2003, in Holt, MI

Edward Anderson Mabin, BBA ’93, June 13, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Philip E. Witters, BS ’93, July 21, 2004, in Vicksburg, MI

Suzanne K. Beimfohr, BS ’94, Dec. 17, 2003, in Downers Grove, IL

Sandra F. Earley, EdD ’95, Aug. 12, 2003, in Lansing, MI

David F. Harrington, BBA ’96, June 10, 2003, in Orlando, FL

Ty C. Mitchell, BS ’96, April 14, 2004, in Plainwell, MI

Teri M. Ruge, BS ’96, MA ’98, Feb. 4, 2003, in Parchment, MI

Michael C. Welch, BA ’96, MA ’98, Feb. 27, 2004, in Escanaba, MI

Isha Eefa Williams, BA ’97, July 17, 2004, in Grand Rapids, MI

Nickolas G. Andros, BS ’98, Sept. 28, 2003, in Saginaw, MI

Joel T. De Boer, BA ’98, MSA ’02, Sept. 4, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Jody F. Kingery-Page, BA ’98, March 31, 2003, in Ypsilanti, MI

Susanne Koenig, BS ’99, July 29, 2003, in Rockford, MI

Thomas H. Rasmussen, MA ’00, Sept. 7, 2003, in Marquette, MI

Angela N. Booy, BS ’01, Aug. 3, 2003, in Battle Creek, MI

Judith A. Jaske, MA ’02, Aug. 12, 2003, in Chicago

Anthony D. Martia, MS ’03, June 24, 2003, in Kalamazoo

—Faculty and Staff—

Ethis G. Adams, professor emerita of music, Aug. 6, 2004, in Batesville, IN

Hugh G. Archer, associate professor emeritus of education, Aug. 4, 2003, in Fort Pierce, FL

Roy A. Beck, associate professor emeritus of communication, May 1, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Laurence H. Berman, retired director of the University Counseling and Testing Center, May 26, 2003, in Kalamazoo

John T. Bernhard, fourth president of Western Michigan University, Jan. 12, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Charles Thomas Brown, distinguished professor emeritus of communication arts and sciences, July 29, 2003, in Newburyport, MA

Russell W. Brown, associate professor emeritus of music, May 24, 2004, in Harlingen, TX

Arthur L. Christensen, assistant professor emeritus of education and professional development, Aug. 17, 2004, in Kalamazoo


G.G. Dadlani, associate professor emeritus of social work, Aug. 16, 2004, in Parker, Co

Richard E. Emberton, assistant professor emeritus of marketing, May 28, 2004, in Gig Harbor, WA

Faith Gabelnick, former dean of the Lee Honors College, June 13, 2004, in Forest Grove, OR

Joseph Gill, associate professor emeritus of mechanical engineering, Aug. 29, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Otto Gründler, director emeritus of the Medieval Institute, Sept. 12, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Robert E. Harmon, professor emeritus of chemistry, Apr. 23, 2004, in Cheyaway, LA

William D. Haynes, associate professor emeritus of consumer resources and technology, Aug. 12, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Paul B. Horton, professor emeritus of sociology, Oct. 11, 2004, in Sun City, AZ

Joseph “Art” Jevert, associate professor emeritus of health, physical education and recreation, June 5, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Edgar A. Kelley, professor emeritus of educational leadership, July 8, 2004, in Fennville, MI


Haym Kruglak, professor emeritus of physics, June 14, 2003, in Kalamazoo

J. Michael Kemp, trustee emeritus and director emeritus of the WMU Foundation, May 23, 2003, in Bayfield, Ontario

Hung Peng Lee, assistant professor emeritus of social studies, July 4, 2003, in Honolulu


Richard Neschich, MBA ’65, associate professor emeritus of marketing, March 18, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Robert D. Neubig, professor emeritus of accountancy, Sept. 1, 2004, in Portage, MI

Myron H. Ross, professor emeritus of economics, Oct. 11, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Vera Jean Russell, assistant professor emerita of education and professional development, April 4, 2004, in Kalamazoo

Richard H. Schmidt, professor emeritus of psychology, Feb. 7, 2004, in Sun City West, AZ


Lindsey A. Thomas, professor of dance, Oct. 1, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Robert B. Trader, professor emeritus of marketing, Oct. 12, 2002, in Florida

Edward L. Trembley, professor emeritus of counselor education and counseling psychology, Oct. 12, 2003, in Kalamazoo

Robert B. Wetnight, vice president emeritus for finance, June 1, 2004, in Florida
### Centennial Merchandise Order Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCTS</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>SUB TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Brown Silk Square Scarf</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown Centennial Seal Woven Silk Necktie</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold-on-Yellow WMU Printed Silk Necktie</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold-on-Gold WMU Printed Silk Necktie</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown and Golden Memories</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Grand Total**

(All prices include tax, shipping and handling)

### Method of Payment

- [ ] Check
- [ ] Money Order
- [ ] Credit Card

### Credit Card Information

- [ ] Visa
- [ ] Discover
- [ ] Mastercard

**Account Number**

**Exp. Date**

**Signature**

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WMU  
C/o University Relations  
300 E. Walwood Hall  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5433

### Fax Your Order to:

(269) 387-8422

Questions may be directed to Sue Beougher at (269) 387-8402 or by e-mail to <sue.beougher@wmich.edu>.

### Shipping Information

(If different from info to the left)

**Name**

**Address**

**City**

**State**

**Zip**

**Phone**

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**Show a sense of pride**

[www.ur.wmich.edu/centennial/merchandise](http://www.ur.wmich.edu/centennial/merchandise)

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**WOMEN’S BROWN SILK SQUARE SCARF**

Women’s brown and gold silk scarf, 36 inch square, imported silk, brown and gold centennial seals, trim in gold.

was $46 each  now $18 each

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**CENTENNIAL SEAL WOVEN SILK NECKTIE**

Brown club-pattern silk necktie, gold centennial seals, black and gold stripes.

was $32 each  now $18 each

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**WMU PRINTED SILK NECKTIE**

Gold-on-yellow printed silk necktie, WMU 1903-2003 logo, gold with black outline, yellow field.

Gold-on-gold printed silk necktie, WMU 1903-2003 logo, gold with black outline, gold field.

was $25 each  now $18 each

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**BROWN AND GOLDEN MEMORIES**

BY LARRY B. MASSIE

A publication commemorating WMU’s first 100 years

In celebration of WMU’s centennial anniversary, author Larry B. Massie shares an engaging collection of stories, memories, traditions and historical facts. “Brown and Golden Memories” chronicles, decade by decade, the 100-year journey of what started as Western State Normal School—the teachers’ college on the hill—and became an internationally recognized student-centered research institution. More than 250 historical photos are included to help illustrate the highlights of that journey.

was $35 each  now $18 each
Nanotech work attracts prestigious funding

California’s W.M. Keck Foundation has awarded $500,000 to a $1 million research project at WMU aimed at unlocking the secrets of the mechanism that allows the penetration of cells by everything from harmful agents like viruses and pollutants to beneficial new drug discoveries.

The Keck Foundation has notified the University that one of its prestigious medical research awards will go to WMU’s Nanotechnology Research and Computation Center for a two-year basic research effort that is expected to make a fundamental contribution to a wide range of scientific disciplines. The research team is led by Dr. Subra Muralidharan, associate professor of chemistry and director of the center.

WMU’s research team, which will include four students, will delve into the mechanisms that allow the transport of materials across a cell membrane. Such transport is poorly understood but critical for carefully targeting drug delivery as well as understanding how viruses, pollutants and toxins disrupt cell functions, says Muralidharan.


Distinguished Alumni Award winners honored during Homecoming

Three prominent leaders in education, government and business were selected by the WMU Alumni Association to receive the 2004 Distinguished Alumni Award.

This year’s recipients are: Dr. Robert Bruininks, president of the University of Minnesota; Richard G. Haworth, chairman of the board of the Holland, Mich., office furniture maker Haworth Inc., and Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, a veteran member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Detroit.

The Distinguished Alumni Award was initiated in 1963 and is the alumni association’s most prestigious honor. It recognizes graduates who have achieved a high level of success in their respective professions. Only 122 men and women have won one of these awards.

Bruininks earned a bachelor of science degree from WMU in 1964. He became the University of Minnesota’s 15th president in November 2002, just months after his selection as interim president. He came to Minnesota in 1968 as an assistant professor of educational psychology and has served in several posts, including executive vice president and provost.

Haworth, a former chairperson of the WMU Board of Trustees and a board member from 1991-2001, earned a bachelor of business administration degree from WMU in 1964. He has led Haworth Inc. through its evolution from a small company with a single-product line to a global corporation that has $1.23 billion in annual sales and employs 8,500 people in 120 countries.

Kilpatrick earned a bachelor of science degree from WMU in 1972. A former business teacher in the Detroit Public Schools, she served 18 years in the Michigan House of Representatives. For the past eight years, she has been representing Michigan’s 13th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where she serves on the powerful House Appropriations Committee.

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2004/10/014.html
College of Arts and Sciences
Two students receive Fulbright Fellowships

A recent graduate abandoned as an infant in Korea has returned to the land of her birth, and a doctoral student is studying Muslim-Christian interaction in the medieval Mediterranean, both as Fulbright Fellows for 2004-05.

Aimee Jachym, an April 2004 graduate in English and business, and Travis Bruce, a doctoral candidate in history, have been awarded Fulbright Grants for Graduate Study Abroad. The awards bring to 17 the number of Fulbright Fellowships won by WMU students over the years.

Jachym headed to Korea in July to participate in the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program. The Medallion Scholar and Lee Honors College member was adopted at age 2 by American teachers after being abandoned as an infant. Bruce who has language skills in Latin, Arabic, Spanish, Catalan, French and Italian—all essential to his research—traveled to Spain in September and will spend the full academic year there studying the 11th century Hispano-Muslim kingdom of Denia.

College of Aviation
Women aviators fly to best-ever finish in historic Air Race Classic

WMU pilots Amanda J. Gruden and Sarah Tower finished 10th out of 33 teams entered in the 2004 Air Race Classic, an all-women’s event that took competitors on a 2,400-mile journey through eight states.

This year’s finish was the highest for a WMU team in five annual Air Race Classic competitions. Gruden and Tower also finished second among four collegiate teams entered. Ohio University finished one place ahead of WMU at ninth, Purdue University was 11th and Kansas State University came in 29th.

“We are extremely happy with our results and how we finished,” says Tower, who was competing for the first time and is slated to be the senior member of WMU’s two-woman team in 2005. Tower, ’03, and Gruden, ’00, are flight instructors in the College of Aviation.

College of Education
College honors 100th graduating class

The College of Education, which boasts WMU’s oldest academic tradition, celebrated the success of its 100th graduating class following commencement ceremonies in June.

College faculty and alumni, including this year’s graduates and their families, gathered for an old-fashioned ice cream social on the East Campus on the Prospect Hill side of East Hall June 26. Those attending witnessed the passing of the College of Education Key from members of the Class of 2004 to the Class of 2005, a moment reminiscent of the ceremony staged June 22, 1905, when the first WMU graduation exercise was held. Eight women and one man received teaching degrees in that long-ago ceremony.

Haworth College of Business
Professor selected as Michigan’s Accounting Educator of the Year

The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants has selected WMU’s David L. Rozelle as the association’s 2004 Accounting Educator of the Year.

The award to Rozelle, who is WMU’s Beulah I. Kendall Associate Professor of Accountancy, was presented at the MACPA’s awards reception and dinner Sept. 8 in Dearborn, Mich. A panel from the association selected Rozelle from among 12 nominees based on recommendations from colleagues, students, former students, and professional leaders in both education and accounting.
College of Fine Arts

Music students snag more Down Beat honors

And the beat goes on.

For the 12th straight year, WMU music students have racked up multiple awards in Down Beat magazine’s annual Student Awards Competition.

And in a related bit of news, Gold Company, the University’s vocal jazz ensemble, continues to win accolades from a jazz music journal for its releases, this time for its most recent compact disc “25,” named in honor of the group’s 25th anniversary.

WMU students tallied seven Down Beat awards this year, while Dr. Thomas Knific, chairperson of the Jazz Studies Program, was given an Achievement Award for Jazz Education.

“This is the second greatest number of student awards for any institution in North America this year,” Knific says. “For the past decade, we remain in the top three schools for award winners.”

College of Health and Human Services

HHS college ranks sixth in NIH research funding

A prominent federal agency has ranked the University’s College of Health and Human Services as No. 6 on its list of 50 allied health professions schools receiving awards from the agency.

The National Institutes of Health, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announced the rankings recently. The college moved up three spots from a No. 9 ranking in fiscal year 2002. For fiscal year 2003, the college held three NIH grants for a total of $1,535,974.

The new ranking puts NIH funding for the WMU College of Health and Human Services ahead of 44 other institutions, including the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Kansas, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Missouri Columbia, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. All but one of the universities ahead of WMU on the list have either medical schools or colleges.

Lee Honors College

Fourth LHC student named Udall Scholar

WMU senior Tristan Brown is the school’s fourth recipient of a prestigious scholarship for environmental studies from the Morris K. Udall Foundation.

Brown, of Franklin, Mich., is one of 80 Udall Scholars from around the nation who are receiving $5,000 for tuition, fees, books, and room and board for the 2004-05 academic year.

A member of the Lee Honors College, Brown is majoring in environmental studies, as well as creating a Student Planned Major, which includes a curriculum of hard sciences, social sciences and humanities.

Other WMU students have won Udall Scholarships in 2000, 2001 and 2002. All four students were nominated for the award by Dr. John E. Martell, assistant dean of the Lee Honors College.

Dr. Lynne Heasley, assistant professor of environmental studies, also assisted Brown in the application process.

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Senior nabs top scholarship

Amy J. Conine, a WMU mechanical engineering senior, is one of only 40 students from around the country to be awarded a scholarship from one of the nation’s leading engineering honor societies.

Conine of Lima, Ohio, was named a Tau Beta Pi Scholar by that organization’s fellowship board. As part of her designation, she received a $2,000 cash award for her senior year of study. The scholarship Conine received is funded by and named for General Motors Corp.

The 40 students honored were selected from among 643 applicants for the award, which is based on scholarship, campus leadership and service. Tau Beta Pi, founded in 1885, represents the entire engineering profession and has chapters on 228 U.S. college campuses as well as a membership of nearly 470,000.
U.S. Paralympic goalball teams have strong WMU ties

Both the U.S. men’s and women’s goalball squads that competed in the recent Paralympic Games in Athens, Greece, have strong connections to WMU.

In all, nine of the 16 visually impaired athletes on the two teams have Bronco ties. In addition, John Bakos, U.S. men’s goalball coach, is a recent graduate of the WMU Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies.

The women’s team, which won the silver medal, has the strongest ties. Team members include Robin Theryoung, a WMU graduate student; Nikki Buck, who attended WMU sports camps; Jennifer Armbruster, a project manager in blindness and low vision studies; Asya Miller, a WMU graduate and member of the track team; and Jessie Lorenz, who lives in California, but learned the sport at WMU sports camps.

Rounding out the team were alternates Lindsay Sloan and Jackie Barnes of Illinois, who also learned goalball at WMU sports camps.

The bronze medal-winning men’s team includes WMU sophomore and former sports camper Tyler Merren and team alternate Joe Hamilton, a former sports camper and recent WMU graduate.

Goalball is a team sport played by blind and visually impaired athletes around the world. Three players on each side of the court launch a ball at speeds of more than 30 mph at the opposing side’s goal on an indoor, volleyball-sized court. All athletes are blindfolded, and nine bells encased in the basketball-sized ball help competitors track its location.


Theatre students win praise at Scottish festival

Summer was a magical time for theatre students who traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland, where they staged a well-received production at the 2004 Fringe Festival, Scotland’s internationally known gathering for the arts.

The trip marked the University Theatre’s first appearance at the famous festival. Students made the most of it by staging a critically acclaimed production of “Women of Troy: Women of War” Aug. 7-14.

“Every once in a while, you leave a theatre feeling completely drained,” wrote a reviewer in the festival newspaper Three Weeks. “A case in point is Western Michigan University’s immaculate ensemble production, which seamlessly fuses the classic Greek tragedy with personal accounts of 20th century war victims. Their relentless energy and faultless timing make their performances … deeply affecting.”


Internationally known pianist Lori Sims has a new accolade to add to her growing list of accomplishments. She is now the John T. Bernhard Professor of Music.

The appointment was announced by President Judith Bailey earlier this year during her State of the University address. Bailey expects several similar appointments to be made each academic year. Outstanding faculty members will be named to a professorship that bears the name of a significant member of the University community. Sims’ professorship bears the name of WMU’s fourth president, a lifelong supporter of the arts who died in January.

Sims, an associate professor of music and a faculty member since 1997, has been turning heads in the classical music world. Her 2000 Lincoln Center debut came two years after she won first prize in the prestigious Gina Bachauer Piano Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sims also won best performance of a work by Brahms at that international competition.

2004

November
6  Roberta Flack
12  Momix
20  Sinbad
30  The Producers

December
1–5  The Producers
7  Babes in Toyland
18  LeAnn Rimes

2005

January
14–16  Over the Rainbow:
23  Rent

February
1  The Chieftains
4  New York Philharmonic
12  Bobby McFerrin

March
12  National Acrobats of Taiwan
13  Broadway: The Big Band Years
18–20  Smokey Joe’s Cafe
24  H.M.S. Pinafore

April
2  Bonnie Rideout Scottish Trio
8  Just Between Friends:
9  Marilyn Horne & Barbara Cook
12  Miami City Ballet

May
4  One More for the Road:
    Steve Lawrence & Eydie Gorme

For tickets call (269) 387-2300 or (800) 228-9858.
Order online at www.millerauditorium.com,
visit the Miller Ticket Office at WMU or the Epic Center Box Office in
downtown Kalamazoo. Groups of 20 or more call (269) 387-2312.
It’s awesome

The new College of Engineering and Applied Sciences campus is already a magnet for engineering students, high-tech firms, research partners and exclamations of praise.

“Awesome!”

That was the near unanimous exclamation of engineering students who poured through the doors last fall of WMU’s new home for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

The $72.5 million building is 343,000 square feet of efficient, highly flexible space designed to promote communication, contact and collaboration. The facility, part of a $99 million project, is WMU’s largest academic building and was constructed with a blend of private/public funding that included more than $20 million in private cash and in-kind gifts. A fall 2003 opening ceremony marked the end of a decade of planning and two years of construction.

The two-story brick and glass building features two, 600-foot-long wings radiating from a glass hub. Classrooms, departmental offices, labs, small-group breakout rooms and student living rooms occupy the two wings, and behind each wing is a parking ramp. The glass hub includes college offices, large and small lecture halls, more classrooms, a faculty lounge and a cafeteria.

The engineering complex is the heart and architectural focus of the University’s new Parkview Campus and the main attraction for WMU’s Business Technology and Research Park. By late this fall, more than two dozen private firms, including advanced engineering, life science and information technology companies, had committed to the park. Fall semester saw some 3,000 engineering students, faculty and staff sharing the Parkview Campus with more than 400 employees of those corporate partners.

The new college provides a visible WMU presence for motorists passing on nearby U.S. 131. Putting a focal point on that presence is a 120-foot stainless steel icon that marks the campus location.
It’s awesome
Students hammer home housing message

A year after pounding in the first nail, WMU students dedicated a two-story, 1,100-square-foot house near campus that not only increases Kalamazoo’s stock of affordable housing, but also honors the University’s 2003 centennial.

Student volunteers began “raising the roof” in September 2003 after the WMU Student Centennial Committee sponsored the construction project with help from Kalamazoo Valley Habitat for Humanity, says committee chairperson and WMU staff member Lynn Kelly-Albertson.

“Our students historically have been service-oriented,” Kelly-Albertson says, “and their decision to commemorate the centennial by doing a volunteer project is a reflection of their longstanding involvement with the larger community, especially organizations such as KVHH.”

The Student Centennial Committee raised $25,000 in monetary gifts and in-kind donations of materials and services to support the project. This figure includes gifts from the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, which brought in nearly $16,000; the student chapter of Habitat for Humanity; and the Centennial Steering Committee.

Some 200 campus and community volunteers contributed more than 2,000 hours of their time and talents to building the University’s centennial home. About one-quarter of these volunteers were WMU students, faculty and staff.

WMU expert has banner year for media appearances

Mel Gibson’s “The Passion,” the bestselling novel “The Da Vinci Code” and a popular set of books known as the “Left Behind” series have made it a banner year to be the go-to guy for news outlets around the nation examining all things Christian.

Dr. Paul Maier, the Russell H. Seibert Professor of Ancient History, has become something of a mainstay in the popular press with appearances in recent months on two ABC News primetime specials and a raft of interviews with print media that includes the Christian Science Monitor, Newsday, the Arizona Republic and the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

Maier, the co-author of “The Da Vinci Code—Fact or Fiction?,” appeared last April as a major historical source for the three-hour primetime special “Peter Jennings Reporting: Jesus and Paul—The Word and the Witness,” which focused on early Christianity.

“When I did ‘Jesus and Paul’ with them, they filmed about two-and-a-half hours of our interviews and really liked them,” Maier says. “When ‘20/20‘ wanted a fresh look for its ‘Jesus, Mary and Da Vinci,’ special airing in August, they took some of my interviews back up from the cutting room floor to examine some of the controversial theories about Christianity expounded in Dan Brown’s book.”

To see what other WMU experts have been doing with national media, go to <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/links/inthenews.html>.
New research center capitalizes on Kalamazoo’s drug heritage

Life sciences research and commercialization are in Southwest Michigan’s DNA.

From W.E. Upjohn to Homer Stryker, the community’s forebears established a legacy that has been carried forward for more than a century. Now the new Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center at WMU is leading the community into a new era of life science discovery.

Established in late 2003, the BRCC was conceived in response to pharmaceutical giant Pfizer’s 2003 announcement that it would lay off hundreds of researchers in Kalamazoo. Concerned about keeping this intellectual capital in Southwest Michigan, legislators, University officials and community leaders put their heads together to develop a plan that would enrich the academic and intellectual life of the region—and stem the brain drain.

With $10 million in funding from the state of Michigan, the BRCC was established, and in a few short months, a governing board was recruited and the first $2 million distributed to promising life sciences startup companies. This fall, a yearlong national search resulted in the selection of Dr. Charles Nawrot, a life sciences executive with more than 25 years of industry experience, as the BRCC’s executive director.

Already the nine firms that received funding from the BRCC have attracted additional support from such federal agencies as the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The University has even been able to begin repaying the state’s investment in the BRCC and this fall, an initial check for $1,200 was cut, reflecting 10 percent of the center’s first earnings.

The early success validates the model and the community’s expertise that led WMU to launch the center.

“I’ve lived in Southwest Michigan for about 20 years, and over that time I’ve developed a very deep and sincere respect for the talent in this community, particularly the scientific talent,” says Dr. Jack Luderer, WMU vice president for research and a former scientist with Pfizer predecessors Pharmacia Corp. and the Upjohn Co. He served as interim BRCC director while the nationwide search for Nawrot was under way.

“When I first moved to Portage, I learned that the mayor was a chemist, and as a science guy, I thought that was pretty neat. But as I look back, I think that wasn’t an aberrancy, but rather it speaks to the rich scientific fabric of this community. We are one of the few cities on the planet with this talent base, and we’re uniquely poised to make this center a success.

“Bioscience is a research area the University plans to emphasize and we saw the potential to retain some fairly rare talent in Michigan,” Luderer adds. “So it all just meshed.”

www.wmich.edu/brcc
Five historically black colleges from around the nation are joining with WMU’s College of Aviation to form an Aviation Education Consortium that will work to diversify the aviation industry workforce and expand opportunities for minority students and women.

Delaware State University, Florida Memorial College, Hampton University, Tennessee State University, Texas Southern University and WMU are the charter collegiate members of the organization that was announced March 31 in Nashville on the campus of Tennessee State. Other consortium members are the Organization of Black Airline Pilots Inc. of Silver Springs, Md., and Tuskegee Airmen Inc. of Arlington, Va., which will both serve the consortium in an advisory capacity.

The aim of the new organization is to use the resources and expertise of all consortium members to identify and support minority individuals who have an interest in pursuing an aviation career and to establish a strategy and process for taking such individuals seamlessly “from ninth grade to the airline industry door.” To accomplish its goals, the consortium will use a variety of tools, including faculty and student mentoring, exchange programs between consortium members, establishment of aviation student fellowships and coordination among members’ academic program resources and delivery systems.

“This is a demonstration of our commitment to achieving real diversity in the aviation industry,” says WMU’s Capt. Rick Maloney, dean of the College of Aviation. “We’re excited about expanding our relationships with the colleges and with OBAP and the Tuskegee Airmen.”


‘Where to? WMU.’

Chicago’s “Cows on Parade” has inspired similar community art projects in many cities, including Cincinnati’s “Big Pig Gig” and now, “Hail Kalamazoo.”

Chicago has cows; Kalamazoo has cabs—identically cast, four-foot replicas of the Checker Marathon taxicab, an American icon manufactured in Kalamazoo until 1982, when Checker Motors stopped making cars. Dozens of local artists have applied their talents to create more than 30 unique works of art—beautifully, curiously and hilariously adorned Checkers—which are displayed in public spaces throughout downtown.

Among the first cabs completed was one purchased by the WMU Alumni Association, painted by two artists with close ties to the university and displayed this fall at the Union, a WMU-theme restaurant and cabaret on the Kalamazoo Mall. Graduate art student Kathy Murphy and Kim Nelson, a graphic designer in the Office of University Relations, shared in the creation of WMU’s cab, titled “Where to? WMU.”

Like most similar projects, “Hail Kalamazoo” is intended to make art more visible and accessible to the public, help familiarize the community with local artists and raise money for local charities. Kalamazoo’s United Way and the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts will share in the proceeds from the sale of the art cabs, about 30 of which have already been purchased for public display.

www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2004/10/001.html
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“Full Sail,” by Dearborn, Mich., artist Bruce Niemi, is one of the newest installations that is part of WMU’s campus Sculpture Tour.

artuser.art.wmich.edu/www/exhibitions/sculpturetour