Weaving the fabric of mathematics
Dear Friends,

My first year as your president has indeed been an exciting one for me and a momentous one for our University. Without your support and involvement, I am convinced that we would not have experienced the many successes that we have enjoyed.

The culmination of these successes came in late August, just a few weeks after my first anniversary here. At that time, *U.S. News & World Report* published its annual ranking of America's 2,400 four-year colleges and universities.

It is my great pleasure to inform you that in this most recent *U.S. News* ranking, Western Michigan University made a significant move up and now is listed among the nation's top 100 public universities! This is the 10th year we've appeared in the magazine's prestigious ranking of top national universities, but the first time we've been included in that elite top-100 group.

We take great pride in this accomplishment and hope you do as well. It is recognition such as this that instills pride in each of us, increases the value of a WMU degree for our graduates, and serves to attract increasing numbers of top-quality students and faculty to our campus.

Therefore, it is no coincidence that this fall we have enrolled our largest freshman class ever, some 4,426 students, representing an 18 percent increase over last year's record freshman numbers. This freshman class, combined with increased numbers of transfer and graduate students, helped bring our total fall enrollment to 27,744. That's a 4.5 percent increase over last year's figure.

In this and every issue of the WMU Magazine, we want to inform you about our many and varied accomplishments. We hope you will share our excitement about these developments and help us spread the word about one of the truly great universities of this land.

Warmest regards,

Elson S. Floyd
President
What's happening on campus?
Planning a visit to Kalamazoo? Check the WMU News Web site for the latest information about campus events that you can attend. Calendar listings are currently available through April 2000 and are regularly updated at <www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/events/calendar.html>.

On the cover
Dream Weaver
Dr. Christian Hirsch leads a national effort aimed at weaving the elements of math into a revolutionary high school program.
Cover photograph by John Gilroy

Hollywood Broncos
A group of West Coast alumni is setting the pace in the entertainment industry.

Fish for All
Historians have spent the year casting their nets for a catch of Lake Michigan fishing lore.

Therapists Given Free Rein
Hippotherapy means horses, not hippos, help human clients get a leg up on better health.

Research Broker
Solar Flair

University News
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Beginning freshman class sets fall semester record

WMU opened the 1999-2000 academic year with a record number of beginning freshmen for the fifth consecutive year. At 4,426, the number of these incoming first-time students jumped nearly 18 percent compared to the previous all-time high set last fall semester.

Anticipating the increase, WMU officials closed admission this past May to its freshman class for the first time. The move allowed administrators to better prepare for the large influx of new students. This influx helped drive up total enrollment to 27,744 students, the second largest overall tally in WMU history. The current record was set in fall 1991, when 27,901 students were enrolled.

A surge in the number of graduate students also contributed to the fall enrollment figures. Graduate enrollment is up by 9 percent for the fall.

Our University's popularity among students and their parents is on the rise, in part because of the recognition that we offer a superb undergraduate experience at a competitive price,” President Elson S. Floyd said. “Our reputation as a premier national student-centered research institution makes us an attractive choice not only for top high school seniors, but also for increasing numbers of graduate students.”

WMU now ranks among nation's top 100 schools

In August, WMU appeared on U.S. News & World Report magazine's list of top national universities for the 10th consecutive year, this time advancing to be included among the nation's top 100 public universities.

Out of more than 3,000 U.S. colleges and universities, the magazine currently categorizes 147 public institutions and 81 private institutions as national in scope and of high enough quality to be included on its prestigious list.

It numerically ranks the top 50 universities and alphabetically lists the remaining universities in three additional tiers. Rankings are based on such criteria as academic reputation, graduation rates, student/faculty ratios, class size and faculty resources. The 2000 listing places WMU for the first time in the company of the nation's top 100 public institutions.

Tuition remains low

The WMU Board of Trustees approved a 3 percent increase in tuition and required fees for the 1999-2000 academic year, the lowest hike in three years.

“We are determined to maintain our combination of high quality and relatively low cost that makes us one of America's best college buys and that our students have come to expect from one of the nation's leading student-centered research universities,” President Elson S. Floyd said.

Floyd added that the Michigan Legislature, and in particular the team of Kalamazoo area legislators, deserves praise for assisting in that effort, by approving a 5 percent increase in state appropriations for WMU this fiscal year and a 2 percent increase in one-time funds for infrastructure improvements.

Charter schools added to agendas of officials, researchers at WMU

Beginning Aug. 1, the College of Education began accepting applications for public school academies, more commonly known as charter schools. The move was made possible this past year when the WMU Board of Trustees passed a resolution exercising the University's right to become an authorizing body for public school academies.

"The kind of schools we want to charter will form a partnership with public schools and try to provide an innovation or a service that currently is not provided and give additional choices to students in the public schools," said Dr. Frank Rapley, dean of the College of Education.

Rapley and other officials across the country are getting more information to use in making chartering decisions through research being conducted by WMU's nationally known Evaluation Center, which already has garnered four grants to study charter schools.

Its first two grants were awarded in 1997 and involve statewide studies in both Michigan and Connecticut. In addition to addressing specific issues in each state, they call on center researchers to determine if charter school initiatives are meeting the needs of the families and communities they serve. The Michigan project concluded earlier this year. The Connecticut project is scheduled to take five years.

Two other grants were awarded this year to Dr. Gary Miron, one of the Evaluation Center's principal research associates. Miron
already has helped evaluate more than 10 percent of the nation's charter schools. One project involves directing a 17-month study of 31 schools in Pennsylvania. The other involves evaluating 12 schools in six states that are managed by the Edison Project, one of the nation's largest private school management organizations.

Research grant activity reaches all-time high

Once again, external support for University research and sponsored projects has broken all previous records. Total grant support for the 1998-99 fiscal year hit more than $83 million, in large part because of a major CATIA software grant of $51 million made to the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences last November.

The total of other grants to the University, however, passed the $32 million mark for the fiscal year, surpassing the previous record total of $31 million set last year.

Three new deans named

The WMU Board of Trustees has approved the appointment of James E. Crehan as dean of the new College of Aviation, Dr. Janet E. Stillwell as interim dean of the College of Fine Arts and Dr. Donald E. Thompson as dean of the Graduate College.

Crehan, formerly an associate professor and chairperson of the Aviation Technology Division at the University of Alaska in Anchorage, becomes the College of Aviation's first dean. The college was created this past January when the Board of Trustees elevated the School of Aviation Sciences to the level of college.

Crehan entered academic life after a 20-year career in the U.S. Air Force. He has taught aviation at Southern Illinois University; Indiana State University, where he served as chairperson of the Department of Aerospace Technology; and the University of Nebraska's Aviation Institute.

Stillwell has been associate dean of WMU's College of Fine Arts since 1986 and will serve as interim dean through June 30, 2000. She joined the University in 1967 as a faculty member in the Department of Dance. She replaces Robert Luscombe, who has retired.

Thompson, who has been WMU's vice president of research since 1989, will add the duties of Graduate College dean to his current responsibilities. He joined the University in 1985 as associate dean of the Graduate College and director of research and sponsored programs. He replaces Dr. Shirley Clay Scott, who has retired.

Private support increases

Gifts to the University rose by $1.9 million for the 1998-99 fiscal year, increasing to a year-end total of $11 million. Meanwhile, gift pledges to the University during the same period rose from $10.9 million to $15.2 million, reflecting the substantial community support for the University's new engineering campus that will be built on the Lee Baker Farm as well as support for WMU's nursing school.

The gift total for 1998-99 includes a $1.7 gift from the estate of Dorothy Kercher, who was an assistant professor of libraries at WMU, as well as an anonymous $1 million gift for support of international study.
The program, Contemporary Mathematics in Context developed by the Core-Plus Mathematics Project, was cited as "exemplary" by the Department of Education's Expert Panel on Mathematics this fall. Receiving the highest possible rating for a program, the Core-Plus curriculum was one of only five programs in the nation determined to be exemplary for its ability to help make a measurable difference in student learning.

"The exemplary programs have met the highest standards set by our nation's leading mathematics experts and educators," said Assistant Secretary of Education Kent McGuire when making the announcement. "These programs work."

The Core-Plus Mathematics Project, launched in 1992, was a response to new standards for math education published by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in 1989. Hirsch, who helped develop the national standards, organized a team to develop and evaluate a new high school curriculum to meet those standards and has garnered more than $111 million in National Science Foundation funding to accomplish the task.

Hirsch, a professor of mathematics and statistics, leads a project team that includes researchers from the Universities of Iowa, Maryland and Michigan. Team members wanted to do more than find a new way to package old lessons; they wanted to find a way to teach math so that it made sense to students and so that they stayed with students long after the lesson was done.

Their efforts ultimately involved turning the teaching of math on its head. Rather than expecting students to learn math by memorizing and practicing "recipes" with a promise of real-world applications to follow, the Core-Plus program begins with realistic problem situations and challenges students to make sense of them.

The developers believed that school mathematics needed to be brought up to date with the times and needed to reflect contemporary mathematical topics, including statistics, probability and operations research. Separate year-long courses in algebra and geometry were replaced with unified courses featuring those contemporary topics in addition to algebra and geometry.

Core-Plus is very different from traditional math instruction in that it does not separate math areas like algebra, geometry and statistics into isolated courses that students learn on a progressive, one-subject-per-year basis. In Core-Plus, these areas, or "mathematical strands" as Hirsch calls them, are integrated so that each year's course involves topics from all strands.

In Core-Plus, students learn not only the mathematics of a particular strand, but also connections among the strands," says Hirsch. "By interweaving these strands, we produce a rich fabric called mathematics. The beauty and strength of this fabric depends on how all the strands work together rather than on just a single strand."

Such organization, Hirsch points out, is much more consistent with the way mathematics is taught in nations whose students are top performers in international comparisons of math achievement.

One important aspect of the Core-Plus curriculum is its use of technology—specifically, its use of the latest graphing calculator technology. Such use of technology flies in the face of the traditional thinking of many who believe using a calculator is tantamount to "cheating."

Students in the Core-Plus program use calculators for more than complex calculations. They are routinely used for such things as data analysis and modeling, for discovering and illustrating patterns and to validate students' thinking. Hirsch says that use of technology makes the classroom approach to mathematics much closer to the way mathematics is practiced in business and industry.

"There are still certain basic mathematical skills needed by all people," Hirsch says, "but we now have the opportunity to teach students how to use math and emerging technology to solve more sophisticated problems. The actual calculations are just a small part of it. The confidence and ability to know how to use mathematics to solve problems is the real goal."

Such problem solving is at the heart of Core-Plus. Students are presented with real-world problem situations, which they work on collaboratively in pairs or in small groups. The subject matter of these "investigations" is one of the curriculum's most lauded qualities. Unlike the dreaded "if Train A leaves Duluth and Train B leaves Miami" story problem found in math lessons of the past, Core-Plus problems have bearing and meaning in the students' world. (See example on page seven from an early ninth-grade unit.)

"Among the investigations our freshmen work on are some that explore performance ratings of cars, nutritional data of fast food, population growth and expected length of sports' playoff series. The project has done a great job with finding problems that are of interest..."
Hirsch makes new math curriculum a reality
THE RESULTS ARE MEASURING UP...

Evidence from nationally standardized tests and from researcher-developed tests have shown that, in comparison with students in more traditional mathematics curricula, Core-Plus students:

- Do as well as, or better than, comparable students on the SAT and ACT college entrance exams
- Scored well above national norms on a test comprised of released items from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NEAP)
- Perform better on tasks of algebraic reasoning
- Outperform comparison students on the quantitative thinking subtest of the Iowa Tests of Education Development
- Demonstrate better conceptual understanding and problem-solving ability
- Are better able to apply mathematics than comparison students
- Perform well on mathematical tasks involving probability, statistics, and discrete mathematics.

Effective implementation of the Core-Plus curriculum depends on many factors including the form of initial implementation in a district, parent and community understanding of and support for school mathematics reform, and a plan for ongoing professional development.

to these students,” says Rose Martin, mathematics department chairperson of the Battle Creek Math and Science Center. That school for gifted high school math and science students implemented the curriculum three years ago.

“You never get the question ‘what is this good for?’ because they can see how math can be applied to what they know,” she says. “When you teach it that way, they remember it. Once there’s a context that gives it meaning, they internalize it. This is a very powerful curriculum because of that.”

Another hallmark of the curriculum is its interactive nature. Students often work collaboratively in small groups to complete their investigations. One advantage of group work, according to Hirsch, is that students of different abilities see and discuss alternative ways to solve problems. Another is that as teachers circulate among working groups, they’re able to get a more complete picture of how students are thinking.

“Students help other students grasp ideas in ways that aren’t possible through teacher lectures and demonstrations,” says Jan Shetzer, a secondary math specialist with the Delaware Department of Education. Nearly half the high schools in her state have implemented the Core-Plus program.

“The investigations are written so that students discover their own ways to solve problems and then they learn further by explaining their way of doing mathematics to others. These are also problems that the students can’t solve by themselves. If they can’t communicate as a group, they can’t move forward,” Shetzer says. “In addition, a lot of kids bring life experiences to the table to help them solve problems and group members can build upon the knowledge they bring.”

Inventing a new curriculum is a complicated, lengthy process that doesn’t end once the lessons are created. Hirsch and his project team have spent the past eight years developing, testing and refining each of the four courses in the curriculum. Each course undergoes four years of research, development, testing and evaluation before it is widely available commercially. The team is now in the process of refining Course 4 for publication.

Once developed, courses were tested by 19 high schools in Michigan and, based on their input, were refined and then evaluated in more than 30 field-test sites from Alaska to Texas. Further refinements followed the field test.

Implementing the curriculum, however, involves more than putting textbooks in students’ hands. One component of successful implementation is that teachers participate in at least a one-week workshop on the teaching of a particular course and then have opportunities to discuss their progress with colleagues.

Damon Blackman, a teacher at San Pasqual High School in Escondido, Calif., says that he had much to learn before he could teach the Core-Plus program.

“The No. 1 thing to get used to was that as a teacher, I was no longer at center stage,” says Blackman, who has been teaching the curriculum for five years. “You take a back seat as a teacher. I had to learn to let it be okay to allow the students to make mistakes and to let them catch those mistakes. I’m there to clarify and to steer them if they get off track.

“Believe it or not, though, your energy level has to be higher,” he continues. “Under a more traditional model, I knew how five or six kids were doing on a lesson at a time. With this curriculum, I know where most of the kids stand and can work with them all on an individual basis every day.”
As with anything new and different, Core-Plus has drawn some criticism. One of the concerns about the curriculum was that it needed more attention to solving algebra problems "by hand." Hirsch and his colleagues have used teacher feedback to fine tune the curriculum and to develop supplementary materials for students needing additional skill practice.

The impetus of Core-Plus' development was to make more mathematics accessible to more students, regardless of perceived ability, and that, in itself, has created controversy. Some have argued that if Core-Plus is for all students, then it is not going to be challenging enough for the best students. Hirsch responds that several of Michigan's top high schools, including those in Caledonia, Portage, Okemos, and Bloomfield Hills, as well as the Battle Creek Math and Science Center, are successfully implementing the curriculum, a statement with which Rose Martin agrees.

"The Battle Creek Math and Science Center is a very research-oriented school for gifted math and science students and we wanted a math program that was more state of the art," she says. "Core-Plus has a really strong framework and you can make it work to challenge gifted students. It is truly a high-level curriculum and keeping those students challenged has not been a problem."

The curriculum's real battle is not with detractors, however, but in breaking down the stigma that has long masked mathematics as a difficult subject that only some people can understand. For decades, students have been able to explain away their difficulties with mathematics by saying "I'm just not good at math," which was acceptable in our society.

The stair-step progression found in traditional school mathematics programs reinforced that notion. If a student was good at algebra, he or she progressed on to geometry, advanced algebra and so on. If not, the student experienced very little of the power and broad utility of mathematics.

By contrast, many schools using the Core-Plus program are reporting increased enrollments in junior- and senior-level courses according to Hirsch, even when schools require only two years of mathematics.

"Core-Plus' integrated curriculum shows promise as a pump rather than a filter in the mathematics education pipeline," Hirsch says. "The program seems to nurture the differing strengths and talents of students. It truly hits head-on with the notion that you can say 'I was never good in math' and be proud of it. Our goal is to provide a curriculum where that notion would not surface in the first place."
THE TRADITION CONTINUES...

Miller
1999-2000

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Everyone knows who Tim Allen is. The 1976 WMU graduate is a ubiquitous presence on the “small screen” in both prime time and syndication thanks to his hit ABC television show, “Home Improvement.” He also has starred in three successful feature-length motion pictures for Disney and written two best-selling books, making Allen without a doubt the University’s best-known link to Hollywood.

“Everyone knows about Tim,” says Pagel, who along with professor emeritus of communication Dr. Jules Rossman has kept in close contact with the “Hollywood Broncos.” “But a lot of others have done some very big things too.”

That so many WMU graduates have distinguished themselves in Hollywood is a welcome surprise to Pagel.

“We have some very good programs, but we’re not in New York or Los Angeles,” says Pagel, who along with Rossman caught up with the Hollywood Broncos on a recent trip. “Still, we have a large number of people who have ventured out to Los Angeles and have done very well for themselves.”

Here’s a look at some WMU graduates who have gone on to earn high marks in Hollywood.
Wiler works at Sony/Columbia, formerly MGM, as an assistant film editor to Michael Jablow, whose screen credits include “Naked Gun,” “Throw Mama from the Train” and “Can’t Hardly Wait.” He also has been assistant film editor on “Muppet Treasure Island,” “Muppet Christmas Carol,” “Bullet Proof” and “Glimmerman.”

Film editing for features and television today is done mostly by computer, virtually eliminating the physical handling of film. With the new technology, fewer assistant film editors are needed and many established film editors are working later in life. Those developments, along with strikes, delays, cutbacks and industry reorganization have made staying employed more challenging than ever.

Every few months, Wiler must search for a job on a new film. But, despite all the uncertainty, he loves his work.

Barry works as a writer, producer and director of documentaries for television networks like A&E and VH-1. His latest project for A&E, titled “Celebrity Close Encounters,” spotlights public figures who share a belief in the paranormal and extraterrestrial life.

The show is set to air sometime this fall on the series “Investigative Reports” hosted by Bill Kurtis. It includes such people as astronaut Gordon Cooper, actor Dennis Weaver, director Robert Wise on his film “The Day the Earth Stood Still,” and actress Patricia Neal, who starred in Wise’s landmark 1952 film.

Barry also has written, produced and directed several other projects for the A&E series “The Unexplained,” including “Heaven’s Gate & UFO Cults,” “Close Encounters,” “Wilderness Survival” and “Is There Life Out There?” He also created and produced a documentary on Janis Joplin, which aired as the premiere episode that launched the “Legends” series for VH-1, and also wrote the two-hour A&E Biography on actor John Wayne.

Before producing documentaries, he worked on the TV series “Cops” and was associate producer of a 10-hour, Emmy-nominated, primetime special for Time/Life called “The History of Rock & Roll.” Barry currently is developing a series of documentaries on early California history.

After running his own successful New York advertising agency, Decerrchio moved to California when he sold his first script to a major studio. He established himself as a director of television commercials for such high-profile national clients as Campbell’s Soup, Fritos, Budweiser, Nike, Michelob and others.

After several years directing TV commercials, Decerrchio helped direct the major motion picture “When Nature Calls” starring Jim Carrey. He then was hired to direct the comedy “Celtic Pride” starring Dan Ackroyd.

While he would like to write and direct more feature films, Decerrchio’s energies are focused on his new TV production company, Nitro Films, with offices in New York and Hollywood. He still finds time, however, to write and direct short films and enters them in various film festivals. A recent film, “Nunzio’s Second Cousin,” won the grand prize at the Aspen Film Festival in 1996.
Digitized color correction is one of the last steps in making a feature film, TV show or commercial. Working at a computer console at Four Media Co. that looks like the control deck of the Starship Enterprise, Benson is able to make slight changes in brightness, color intensity and hue to compensate for errors in lighting, film stock, camera angles or other abnormalities.

Each shot must be examined and corrected individually. Though the process is painstaking, the results are dramatic. Benson can turn day into night or give an entire film a "reddish" tone.

Benson works long hours and must keep up with the latest technology, meeting high customer and industry demands on a tight schedule. His client list includes Warner Bros., Universal Studios, Paramount, Sony, TriStar, NBC Studios and Carsey-Warner, to name a few. The 1998 version of "Oliver Twist," which starred Richard Dreyfuss, earned him an ACE nomination for technical excellence.

Benson's most current show and feature work includes "Just Shoot Me," "Pacific Blue," "Mortal Kombat" and "Real World." He's in the process of finishing work on a feature directed by Jason Priestly titled "Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye." Benson also is working on a Disney feature to air sometime in January called "The Loretta Claiborne Story."


He left Klasky Csupo to work on the feature film "South Park" and is now contributing to the Nickelodeon show "Oh Yeah! Cartoons." Fountain's work has been part of the cartoon "Chalk Zone," which is set to debut as its own series next spring.

Ultimately, Fountain would like to create his own show. In what spare time he has, he has been busy pitching his ideas around town and finally hit pay dirt recently when Nickelodeon asked him to create a seven-minute short film for "Oh Yeah! Cartoons," which is essentially a testing ground for new shows. If the cartoon gets a good response, Fountain could be hired to create more episodes and possibly his own regular TV series.

For now, Fountain's second love of improvisational comedy is on hold, as his job as an animator consumes too much of his time and energy.

Smith is one of Los Angeles' best-known radio personalities. For several years, he was morning disc jockey at KLOS, where his show was rated No. 1.

Smith now is on KLSX with the top rock and comedy show in the city. His real love, however, is stand-up comedy, and Smith finds lots of work in Los Angeles and Hollywood. He has a record of 80 consecutive sold-out performances at L.A. clubs and regularly serves as house master of ceremonies at the Ice House in Pasadena and other events, concerts and shows.

Smith was the voice-over announcer for "Night-tracks," a weekly video music show on superstation WTBS and shown in 450 markets. He currently produces two syndicated radio shows, "Fraze at the Flicks," which is aired on 250 stations, and a radio show for Westwood 1 Radio and broadcast in 200 markets, including Muskegon and Marquette, Mich. He has had a number of small parts in feature films, such as "The Fisher King" with Jeff Bridges and Robin Williams, and has made appearances on many national and syndicated TV shows. In the late '80s, he hosted a late night show for NBC for two seasons called "Rock 'n America."

In his spare time, Smith writes screenplays and TV scripts and says one script for a film titled "Timeball" likely will be sold soon.

People who have watched network sitcoms or comedy/variety specials have probably seen a show produced by Petok. Petok's most recent series credits include "Style and Substance," "Dave's World," and the award-winning "In Living Color."

Petok's one-hour comedy specials include "A Comedy Salute to Andy Kaufman," "Kelsey Grammer Salutes Jack Benny" and a couple of recent specials involving comic relief and the NFL produced by Petok's production company.

He has also produced numerous filmed sitcom pilots starring the likes of D.L. Hughley, Jon Lovitz, Paul Sorvino, Dave Chapelle and George Wendt. In addition, he has produced both live and taped game shows, talk shows, documentaries, stand-up comedy (Sam Kinison, Richard Lewis, Dennis Miller), music specials (Motown Revue, Hurricane Relief), award shows (five Grammy and five Emmy) and two presidential inaugurals—Ronald Reagan's in '86 and Bill Clinton's in '92.

Petok is proud that he is one of a handful of producers in a town that can cross between several different genres and mediums and has been recognized for his efforts with an Emmy, Cable ACE, People's Choice and NAACP Image awards along with several nominations in which he was a close second.

Petok now is producing an HBO single camera comedy series that is executive produced by Tom Hanks and set to premiere in spring 2000.
"Tell me what you need to be successful" is the mantra of WMU's research chief.
Donald Thompson is no Knute Rockne and he's not prone to making "win-one-for-the-Gipper" motivational speeches. But when talking with him, you start to believe anything's possible.

Thompson, who is WMU's research vice president and its new dean of the Graduate College, has a knack for simplifying challenges and making remote goals seem within reach. But the simplicity of his approach belies the complexity, scope and recent growth of the research enterprise he oversees.

Since 1985 when he first arrived on campus, research funding at WMU has grown from around $4 million annually to $83.5 million during the past fiscal year. The university has evolved from a teacher's college that simply did instruction into a leading research institution.

And its research stature should continue to rise because of a recent administrative decision melding the research and graduate education areas under Thompson's leadership. It's a move that President Elson S. Floyd made to create synergy between "two vitally important and strategic academic enterprises."

Supplementing that synergy, though, will be Thompson's leadership attitude, which already has served as a trigger to success.

Charming and easy-going, Thompson sports an infectious, can-do attitude and a matter-of-fact perspective. After just a short time with him, you're convinced he could inspire a slacker to turn go-getter.

Thompson, who likes to characterize himself as more of a "broker," says his job is to match funding opportunities with the talents of faculty members. He says the secret to building a successful research enterprise is, like most things in life, pretty simple. You do your very best every day and you set the stage for those around you to do their best as well.

"I have an interest in the faculty and students first and foremost," Thompson says. "I'm trying to broker those agencies that can support the programs and research efforts at which our faculty and students can excel. It's pretty simple. You just do it."

"Don has really helped to stimulate research at this university," says Dr. William Wiener, chairperson of the Department of Blind Rehabilitation and a leading researcher on campus. "He is very positive. I think he makes faculty believe they can do it, and they go out and do it."

And "doing it" has led to results no one could have predicted a decade ago. The increase in federally-funded research combined with a growth in graduate programs enabled WMU this year to meet the current criteria set out by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to achieve Research II status. Only 126 of the nation's more than 3,000 colleges and universities have achieved Carnegie "research" status.

Thompson himself wouldn't have predicted such accomplishment when he first arrived on campus. "Back then, I just wanted Western to be all it could be," he says of his hopes for research growth in the mid-1980s.

Thompson was lured to WMU in 1985 from the University of Michigan, where he had worked and taught in the areas of education and urban studies since 1971. The job he accepted at WMU had the kind of potential that appealed to him. He'd be working for a new president, Dr. Diether H. Haenicke, who was intent on challenging the campus status quo and sparking growth.

"I'm someone who likes to develop things," Thompson notes. "I like to help people grow and develop new ideas."

The job had other appealing aspects, as well. "This is home," he says. Coming back to WMU meant returning to his alma mater where he had earned a bachelor's degree in English, master's and doctoral degrees in educational leadership, and three varsity letters as a wrestler. The Kalamazoo community is also where he grew up and its school system gave him his first job as an English teacher. Longtime friends, including one he now plays tennis with regularly, were still around.

At the time of his return, Thompson's new job wasn't considered the pivotal position it quickly became. But he felt if research became a valued attribute, WMU would prosper. An increased emphasis on research stimulates current faculty and attracts new scholars, he says. It enhances a school's prestige and bolsters the education package offered to students.

"Success breeds success," notes researcher Wiener, echoing the sort of simple logic Thompson favors.

Initially, few shared Thompson's view. Some felt changing the school's orientation wasn't realistic or was too difficult, a line of thinking that Thompson can't fathom. "Nothing is hard [to do] if someone is doing it," he says. And doing research was clearly the challenge that was laid down by Haenicke in his first year as president.

So the energetic Thompson set about working to make it happen, acting as a facilitator/cheerleader/coworker. He huddled with professors, getting to know them and learning their areas of expertise and interest. He exhorted them to start researching and publishing. Then he offered to help them find the funds to do it.

"One of the lines I use with new faculty is, 'I want to be successful but I can't be successful without you,'" he says. "Tell me what you need to be successful."

Continued on page 38
Lured by the lessons of the past, a team of WMU researchers spent the better part of the past year diving into the world of Lake Michigan fishing.

The efforts of the team, led by Dr. Michael J. Chiarappa, assistant professor of history, and Dr. Kristin M. Szylvian, associate professor of history, didn’t catch anything in the traditional sense. Instead it netted a treasure trove of oral histories, artifacts and data that will become part of a traveling exhibit on the regulation and conservation of Lake Michigan fishing.

The exhibit, “Fish for All: The Legacy of Lake Michigan Fisheries Policy and Management,” will provide a historical look at how fish have become one of the region’s most contested natural resources, with efforts to influence fisheries coming from federal and state governments, Native Americans, commercial and sport fishermen, and environmental and conservation groups. The effort was funded, in part, by a $198,720 grant from the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust and by the Great Lakes Center for Maritime Studies, a partnership between WMU and the Michigan Maritime Museum. The exhibit will open in March in Traverse City, Mich., and make three other Great Lakes stops.

For the researchers, the story couldn’t be told through interpretations of historical documents—it had to come straight from those most impacted. Armed with tape recorders and cameras, the team, which included Szylvian and Chiarappa, five students and recent WMU master’s degree graduate Paula Lange, spent nearly three physically and emotionally demanding weeks in a van, making its way from Ludington and the Leelanau Peninsula to coastal Wisconsin. Along the way, team members gathered more than 40 oral histories of fishing the “Big Lake.”

“It was important to use the very words, images, and artifacts used by the people involved,” Szylvian explains. “We need to tell their story in as close a way as they would in person.”

Among the individuals interviewed by team members were commercial, charter sport and tribal fishers and representatives from local, state, and federal regulatory agencies. The researchers conducted interviews in restaurants, on docks, on the decks of fish tugs and trap net boats, inside fish packing and equipment sheds or by spending all night on a research vessel.
In order to truly understand how fisheries regulation influences the lives and livelihoods of their subjects, the team members often found themselves putting down their recorders, picking up a net or knife and digging in.

“Getting into the work and observing what they are doing adds so much to your understanding,” says Jason M. Wintersteen, a senior from Marshall, Mich., who took on the tasks of a deckhand on a fishing tug. “If they see you jump in and do the work with them, it tends to get them to open up more. Working alongside them helped open my eyes to their views and helped me to gain their acceptance.”

Graduate student Matthew G. Anderson of Cadillac, Mich., says the generosity of those they encountered was “overwhelming.” On Washington Island, Wis., the researchers dined on lawyers, a type of freshwater cod caught in Lake Michigan considered by many to be the “poor man’s lobster.” A local fisherman, trying to explain that burbot, as the fish is formally known, must be eaten fresh, proved his point by taking them to his family’s restaurant to give them a fresh burbot dinner.

“I think we really touched nerves,” Anderson says of those interviewed. “We wanted to know about their pasts and we were respectful of their history. The power of history is that it wakes people up to their past and gives them the tools to deal with the present and look to the future.”

The team also was surprised by the willingness to share exhibited by those interviewed.

“We were very successful conducting so many interviews in such a short amount of time,” says Chiarappa. “Aware as we are of the emotional nature of the topic, we expected many people wouldn’t talk to us. But we didn’t find anyone to be like that.”

And while the team found some humor in such things as eating lawyers and their own seasickness, these experiences also brought home the serious nature of their research efforts.

“We worked very hard to make inroads into these communities and get to know their culture,” says Szylvian. “While we can see the humor in some of these activities, we also know that this is their culture and livelihood. It is very important to them and to our understanding of the impact they have on the fisheries of the lake.”

Even though they have gathered enough oral histories to support the project, the work is hardly over. They’re now involved in the arduous task of collecting artifacts, sorting through hundreds of pictures, transcribing hours of taped interviews and putting it all together as an exhibit. Some of the information will make it into the exhibit, be used in a publication or incorporated into related educational materials that will accompany the exhibit.

One student, Abraham Hohnke, worked with the staff of WMUK-FM, WMU’s National Public Radio member station, to develop a 30-minute radio documentary about the project.

“It was great documenting the human experience,” says Hohnke, a senior. “It was also good, but frightening, to see the state’s ecology and the shape it is in. It really helps you understand their culture and the attitudes they have.”

While the team’s goal is to educate the public on how public policy regarding the Lake Michigan fisheries came to be what it is and how it continues to evolve, Anderson says that he has learned plenty himself.

“I didn’t realize how much goes into this kind of work. It’s amazing how much history you can find in the smallest thing,” he says. “Before I began this, all I really knew about fishing in Lake Michigan was about the sea lamprey. But I recently was in a museum which had an exhibit of fish and to my own amazement, I could identify them all.”

What struck Lange of St. Henry, Ohio, the most about the project was the diverse and complicated perspectives the different groups have regarding fishing. “This issue is incredibly complicated and I felt lucky to hear every perspective,” she says. “If they could all do that and just hear each other the way I did, then they would be informed and have an better understanding.”

The exhibit is expected to be completed by March 2000 and will debut at the Dennos Museum in Traverse City, Mich. The exhibit will be permanently housed at the Michigan Maritime Museum following its travels.

**Exhibition Schedule**

**March-May 2000**

Dennos Museum

 Traverse City, Mich.

**June-August 2000**

Michigan State University Museum

East Lansing, Mich.

**September-November, 2000**

Dorr County Maritime Museum

Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

**December 2000-February 2001**

the Michigan Maritime Museum

South Haven, Mich.
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Schneider Hall, Home of the Haworth College of Business

WMU's 1999 holiday ornament is a dramatic and faithful rendition of Schneider Hall, which houses the Haworth College of Business, a sophisticated 170,000-square-foot teaching and learning center.

The ornament is delicately etched in solid brass, finished in sparkling 24-karat gold and enhanced by special coloring. It is the fourth in a series of exclusive holiday ornaments offered by the WMU Alumni Association.

This outstanding keepsake accurately replicates every important detail of Schneider Hall, named in honor of Dr. Arnold E. Schneider, who served WMU from 1947 to 1974 and is the founding dean of the Haworth College of Business. The college is named in honor of the Haworth family of Holland, Mich., which operate Haworth Inc., a world-leading designer and manufacturer of office furniture and seating.

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Students work to preserve South Haven lighthouse

A group of WMU students is helping to place South Haven's lighthouse and surrounding area on the National Register of Historic Places.

Students in a historic preservation class say the complex should be preserved because of its role in maritime history and its value as a tourist attraction. Placing the complex on the National Register will help ensure its preservation, says Dr. Michael Chiarappa, assistant professor of history, who is guiding the students through the application process.

The complex includes the city's north and south piers, the lighthouse and the lightkeeper's house. It is believed that South Haven may have the only surviving example of such a complex in the state.

Foreign educators learn about American culture

Foreign educators who teach about America in their home countries got a first-person look at the United States this summer during a six-week institute at WMU.

Professors and scholars from 18 countries, including Belarus, Croatia, Botswana, China, Nepal and Zambia visited the campus June 26-Aug. 6 to take part in the Summer Institute for the Study of the United States for International Professors and Scholars. The institute was funded by a $170,000 grant from the U.S. Information Agency awarded to faculty members Dr. Katherine Joslin, American studies; Dr. John Saillant, English; and Dr. Brian Wilson, comparative religion.

The institute was designed to improve the quality of teaching about U.S. culture and society at international universities. It included a four-week academic residency program and an escorted tour of historical and cultural sites in the Midwest, Northeast and South Central United States.

Azerbaijani student to take pollution clean-up methods home

An Azerbaijani student visited WMU over the summer to learn pollution clean-up techniques that he plans to take home with him for use on the Caspian Sea.

Samir Efendiev, a mechanical engineer from Azerbaijan, came to campus through the Environmental Management Fellowship Program of the Open Society Institute. The two-year program gives environmental professionals from countries in the former Soviet Union the educational background they need to craft environmental policy, legislation and remediation techniques in their home countries. As part of the program, Efendiev is in the United States to work on a master's degree in environmental engineering at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

Efendiev came to Kalamazoo to study the bioremediation of soil and ground water contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons. He worked with Department of Geosciences researchers, primarily Dr. Daniel P. Cassidy, assistant professor of geosciences.

New Ph.D. program in public administration stresses research

Beginning this fall, the University is offering a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Public Administration that emphasizes the role of research.

The new program replaces the Doctor of Public Administration degree program that had been offered by the School of Public Affairs and Administration since 1979. Changing the degree from a DPA to a Ph.D. gives the program a much stronger emphasis on learning and qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Variety name of game during institute for high schoolers

Attending a summit on school violence, exploring the gypsy moth problem, learning to build a telescope, making paper from pulp and creating loud noises through chemistry were just part of the program for 120 gifted high school juniors and seniors who attended the Summer Institute for the Arts and Sciences.

The institute, held July 11-24 on campus, was sponsored by a grant from the Michigan State Board of Education and brought students from across Michigan to Kalamazoo. WMU was one of eight universities in the state chosen to host the institute.

Focusing on the theme "The Art of Technology and the Science of Culture: Building a Global Village," the institute also included sessions on making movies, cloning and biomedical ethics, staging combat scenes, blood screening and the human brain.
College of Aviation

WMU and Northwest Airlink's Mesaba Airlines sign agreement
The University has entered into its first domestic training and hiring agreement with Northwest Airlink's Mesaba Airlines. The agreement will put aviation graduates on a fast track to being hired as Mesaba flight officers.

"This is indeed an exciting agreement for the University and our students in the College of Aviation," says WMU President Elson Floyd. "The fact that Northwest and Mesaba have enough confidence in our training curriculum to create a unique set of requirements for our graduates is further testament to the world-class nature of our program."

Under the terms of the agreement, called a "bridge training and hiring program," aviation graduates will have lower Mesaba flying time requirements than outside flight officer candidates. After examining the aviation program and curriculum, Mesaba agreed to streamline its requirements for WMU graduates.

"We have found WMU's aviation curriculum is such that it prepares graduates exceedingly well for entering commercial aviation," says Richard Lawrence, Mesaba's director of flight operations. "Western graduates are often well on their way to meeting our requirements, which is why we have modified our hiring guidelines for these students."

University to manage Romeo Airport in Southeast Michigan
The Southeast Michigan aviation community will have access to world-class flight instruction and aircraft maintenance thanks to an innovative new partnership between the University and the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The College of Aviation has assumed management of the Romeo Airport in northwest Macomb County, resulting in increased services at the airport, expanded internship opportunities for WMU aviation students, and economical and efficient management of the facility, which has been under MDOT control since November 1998.

"This partnership is truly a win-win development for MDOT, WMU and users of Michigan's air transportation system," says William E. Gehman, deputy director of MDOT's Bureau of Aeronautics. "This is an exciting opportunity to merge two of our highest priorities—airport preservation and aviation education."

Minority, women high school students get taste of flight
Minority and women high school students from around the country spent two weeks in July at the college getting a taste of flying and a look at aviation career opportunities.

Kids with disabilities discover joy of flying
About 13 youngsters from the Battle Creek area took part in Discovering Aviation Day in August at the W.K. Kellogg Airport. The College of Aviation sponsored the event for children ages 10 to 16 who have physical limitations or are economically or otherwise disadvantaged. The event lets children, who ordinarily wouldn't get close to an airplane, learn about flying firsthand.

Discovering Aviation Day debuted last year and is sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration and Jack Lewis' Challenge Air for Kids program featuring wheelchair pilot Jack Lewis.

Design of college's facilities garners national award
The design of new facilities at the College of Aviation won a specialized facilities citation for outstanding design from American School & University magazine.

The site, designed by Kalamazoo-based Tower Pinkster Titus Associates, was one of four higher education facilities recognized in the magazine's 1998 Architectural Portfolio competition and was featured among 176 projects profiled by the magazine.

Judges described the facilities as being "functional, yet has the spirit of flight carried throughout." The college's facilities honored include three buildings: a renovated flight operations building that is the former W.K. Kellogg airport terminal and tower, a new classroom building and a renovated hangar, laboratory and maintenance building.

www.aviation.wmich.edu
College of Health and Human Services

Summer camps help students with vision impairments from across state, nation and world

Visually impaired youth from Russia and across Michigan and the Midwest worked on computer, art and athletic skills at three summer camps coordinated through the Department of Blind Rehabilitation.

Eight students injured as a result of the Chernobyl accident in the former Soviet Union nation of Belarus joined 20 students from Michigan, Indiana and Illinois to take part in the second Art Education Camp for Youths with Visual Impairments held near Greenville, Mich. Students participated in stone carving, sculpting, photography, pottery and drawing during the special art camp.

About a dozen students, many of them from the Detroit area, visited campus in June and July for a one-week camp to hone computer skills and work on daily living activities, such as food preparation. Students spent much of the time in the Multi-purpose Enabling Technology Lab in the University Computer Center.

A May sports camp also attracted 30 blind and visually impaired young athletes to campus to learn or practice competitive sports and recreation skills, including wrestling, swimming, gymnastics, goal ball, bowling and track and field events.

Travel instruction degree first of its kind in nation

A new program that trains students to help people with disabilities learn to travel safely is the first of its kind in the nation.

The new bachelor of arts degree in travel instruction in the Department of Blind Rehabilitation began this fall. It prepares professionals to teach people with disabilities other than blindness how to travel independently, a need that has become more evident in recent years with the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The program has been started with the help of a four-year, $350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The Federal Transit Act also set aside $300,000 to develop standards for the preparation of independent travel specialists and develop a program leading to instructor certification.

No handicap in art

An art show over the summer provided ample evidence that people with disabilities don't have any handicap when it comes to art.

Works by seven artists with developmental and other disabilities were displayed in WMU's Unified Clinics in the University Medical and Health Sciences Building in Kalamazoo. Pieces ran the gamut from paintings and drawings to prints and mixed media. Three-dimensional pieces also were included.

The artists are clients of the Center for Disability Services, formerly the Center for Developmentally Disabled Adults. The show's June 4 opening, which was part of the Arts Council of Kalamazoo's Gallery Hop, gave area art patrons an opportunity to meet the artists and purchase their work. A number of the works were sold before the show even opened.

Holistic health program goes to Glen Arbor

The University began offering its popular Graduate Certificate Program in Holistic Health Care at the Leelanau School in Glen Arbor, Mich., in July and August.

The Leelanau Holistic Summer Institute allowed health professionals and others interested in holistic health to immerse themselves in intensive week-long classes at the scenic Leelanau School, which is surrounded by Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

Students could either take the classes for personal enrichment or apply them toward WMU's holistic health care certificate. The certificate program is one of the first holistic health care programs in the nation and integrates health knowledge into everyday life, encompassing the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, social and environmental dimensions of a person's life.

New alliance will serve Kalamazoo area citizens with disabilities

An effort to better serve area people with disabilities has taken a step forward with the forming of an alliance between the University's Center for Disability Services and two local community organizations.

The Alliance for Community Supports will let the University's Center for Disability Services and the community agencies MRC Industries Inc. and Residential Opportunities Inc. better meet the demands of today's rapidly changing health care environment.

"Joining the strengths of multiple agencies will help minimize the drawbacks of managed care and capitalize on the potential for improved services, while maintaining local community values," says Carol Sundberg, director of the WMU center. "By working together, each of us can better serve our clients."
Haworth College of Business

Military Science Program gets in step with business college

WMU's Military Science Program is marching to a slightly different drummer through an arrangement that puts it under the auspices of the Haworth College of Business. The move was effective July 1.

The arrangement is good for both the business college and the program, according to University officials.

Both the Haworth College of Business and the military science department are in the leadership education business and can learn from each other, says Dr. James Schmotter, college dean. Dr. Timothy Light, provost and vice president for academic affairs, says the reorganization is intended to bring WMU's Bronco Battalion closer to the academic mainstream.

The Military Science Program is an elective academic minor through which students can qualify for the Reserve Officers Training Corps and become prepared for officer responsibilities in the Army, Army Reserves or Army National Guard after graduation.

Advertising students take top honors in competition

Three teams of advertising students captured several top prizes in a recent national advertising design competition.

The teams claimed first and third place and an honorable mention in the Yellow Pages Publishers Association Student Creative Competition, bringing home a total of $7,500 in prize money that will be split between students and the Department of Marketing.

The competition, which drew 265 entries from 41 schools nationwide, required teams to design three print ads in various sizes, give a written analysis of the team's creative strategy and produce a 30-second audio recording of a talking Yellow Pages ad for a fictional Chicago florist.

This was the first time WMU students entered the three-year-old contest and it was the third time in the 1998-99 academic year that marketing and advertising students have won top prizes in state or national competitions.

WMU offers area businesses one-stop service shopping

A new office established by the Haworth College of Business will provide "one-stop shopping" in its services for local businesses.

The new Office of Business Development Services, located in the Kalamazoo Chamber of Commerce Building, will incorporate two of the college's existing programs for businesses and add a new program focused on continuing education. WESTOPS, the University's Office of Public Service, and the Women's Business Development Center will be housed in the OBDS and joined by the Professional Education Program, which was formerly part of the Division of Continuing Education.

“Our goal is to provide local businesses one-stop shopping for the various services that we are already providing—small business assistance through WESTOPS, assistance to businesswomen through the WBDC and professional and continuing education workshops and seminars through professional education,” says Dean James Schmotter.

The office's new location in the chamber building will be especially beneficial in its efforts to provide services to the business community.

“It will give us an opportunity to pursue initiatives in partnership with the other organizations committed to heightening the economic competitiveness of Kalamazoo.”

Instructors tale of students' heroism selected for book

A tale of heroism told through the eyes of Jo W. Cornell, an instructor in business information systems, can be found in the just released book *Chicken Soup for the College Soul*, published by Health Communications.

Cornell's story, about the courage and strength exhibited by her student Jennifer Charron and her two roommates after Charron contracted meningitis last year, was one of 101 stories chosen from more than 8,000 submissions.

"I was so impressed with the determination of Jennifer to overcome a deadly illness and the role her suitemates played in taking her illness seriously and getting her help," says Cornell.

Her roommates, Maren Strine and Kate Woods, woke up one Sunday morning to find Charron violently ill and were responsible for seeking the medical attention that saved their friend's life. Jennifer, who battled the illness for months, returned to school and earned a 4.0 grade point average for the semester.

Editors deleted references to Western Michigan University and other local specifics to give the story universal appeal, but included the information in the biography section at the end of the book.
University, community colleges team up to boost teachers of technical subjects

WMU and eight Southwest Michigan community colleges have joined forces to offer a new bachelor's degree in occupational education studies to meet the growing need for teachers of technical subjects.

The Family and Consumer Sciences Department has started the program within the Division of Continuing Education to prepare certified teachers in technical subjects for work at high schools, trade academies, area career and technical centers, and community colleges in Michigan. It is intended to meet a growing need for teachers of technical subjects in the state identified in several recent studies.

The program has been planned, developed and implemented along with Kalamazoo Valley, Kellogg, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Glen Oaks and Lansing community colleges and Southwestern Michigan College and Lake Michigan College.

New program launched in Kent County to help custodial grandparents, grandchildren

A pilot program has been launched to deliver services to grandparents, grandchildren and education professionals in Kent County to help the rapidly growing number of households headed by grandparents.

More than two million U.S. children currently live with their grandparents without a biological parent present, an increase of 66 percent since 1990.

The pilot program is coordinated by the departments of Family and Consumer Sciences and Teaching, Learning and Leadership with the help of $72,000 in grants from the Dyer-Ives Foundation and Frey Foundation, both of Kent County. The program will offer services at an urban Kent County Head Start site and a rural preschool site. Custodial grandparents, grandchildren and early childhood educators will be involved in a comprehensive service delivery model that emphasizes resource development.

The program will tackle a wide range of important issues including managing personal well being and finances, school and community relationships, parenting skills and legal concerns.

"A lot of it relates to economics," says Dr. Linda Dannison, chairperson of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and developer of a curriculum for grandparent support groups. "If you put children in foster care, society helps to support them. If they go to grandma, grandma is left with very little financial support at all."

Interior design grads win honors

Two recent graduates of the interior design program received awards in the 1999 IIDA Portfolio Review Competition, an annual event sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the International Interior Design Association.

Eleanora Philopoulos of Kalamazoo won first place, while Wei Khean Seah of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, placed second at the event in Lansing.

Each baccalaureate interior design program in Michigan may nominate two outstanding seniors to participate in the competition. Entrants present selected projects from their portfolios to a panel of professional interior designers.

University chalks up sixth win

Amy E. Shinsky, a senior majoring in biological sciences and physical education, won the Region III 1999 undergraduate William N. Wasson Student Leadership and Academic Award, the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association announced in July.

WMU students have won an unprecedented six regional Wasson awards since 1995.

"It's simply unheard of for one school to win so many of these awards in just five years," said Amy J. Seth, acting director of University Recreation Programs and Facilities.

WMU joins consortium to promote teaching with technology

WMU is one of 10 public and private universities and colleges in Michigan that are charter members of a consortium to establish the nation's highest standards for training new teachers to use technology in the classroom.

Starting this fall, the Consortium for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching with Technology, or COATT for short, will award certificates to pre-service teachers who have demonstrated exceptional ability to use information technology in teaching.

The consortium was started with the help of U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, who joined in announcing the effort in an interactive television news conference linking Levin and educators in an East Lansing studio with educators in studios at WMU and three other state universities.
College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

College continues to attract record freshman numbers
WMU's engineering programs continue to be a hot attraction for incoming freshmen. The number of beginning freshmen heading for engineering programs was up by nearly 19 percent this fall - slightly above the University's record 18 percent increase in freshman enrollment.

The increase comes after a spectacular 45 percent increase in freshman enrollment recorded by the college for the fall 1998 semester.

Industrial design students' work picked for international trade show in Chicago
Four home office/alternative office furniture designs by WMU students were displayed this summer in Chicago at NeoCon®, one of the world's largest trade fairs for interior designers, architects, and furniture manufacturers and dealers.

Quarter-scale models of the designs were featured in the Chicago showroom of Turnstone, a division of Steelcase. The showroom was part of the NeoCon display area. The models were developed for Turnstone by industrial design students as senior projects under the direction of David O. Middleton, assistant professor of construction engineering, materials engineering and industrial design.

Turnstone provided the WMU program with a $2,000 grant for students to develop design concepts for alternate office furnishings. Middleton says the projects were not conducted so students could compete with professionals, but to give students experience working in a professional environment.

"These projects allow companies to experiment, get ideas and play around with concepts," explains Middleton. "Our students looked at how people are working differently than before and their need to have furniture fit into a home office situation, but not scream 'desk'."

Two new software awards boost college lab capabilities
The addition of two new software packages to the college's computer-aided engineering labs is boosting faculty research capabilities and giving students an even greater edge in the job market.

• A $1.5 million award to the University from Engineering Methods Inc. of Cincinnati has established a Kohrman Hall training center for the use of ANSYS/Multiphysics software. The center provides training seminars and workshops on the software that offers structural, dynamic, buckling, thermal and fluid dynamic analysis.

• The leading workstation-based mechanical simulation software is now available to students, thanks to an award valued at $905,000 from the Society of Manufacturing Engineering's Education Foundation. The instructional grant put 25 seats of ADAMS virtual prototyping software in college labs, giving students access to the same tools that are being used by the world's leading companies to improve productivity.

"The addition of these wonderful new computer-aided engineering tools means our students can become adept at using the tools that they'll be expected to use in industry," says Dr. Michael B. Atkins, chairperson of the Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. "This can only enhance the reputation we have for turning out students who can be immediately productive in the work force."

Engineering Opportunity Day attracts more than 50 prospective employers
For the fourth consecutive year, potential employers from across the country flocked to Kohrman Hall Sept. 15 to take an early look at graduating seniors and make their first contacts with students as young as beginning freshmen.

Firms like Dallas-based Texas Instruments Inc. and the St. Louis-based Boeing Co. joined West Michigan's DENSO Manufacturing Michigan Inc. and Eaton Corp. for the event that attracted more than 50 potential employers. Kohrman Hall's second floor hallways became "employment central" for seniors and interns. Even freshmen were encouraged to take a break from classes and stop to meet corporate representatives at their assigned tables.

"The focus has been on seniors, interns and co-op students," says Larry Williams, director of cooperative education for the college and co-chairman of the event. "But we visit freshmen classes as well and push them to begin talking with employers and get an idea for how they want to build their resume."

www.wmich.edu/engineer/
College of Fine Arts

Jazzers do it again
It's seven in a row for the University's Jazz Studies Program.

Once again, students have come out on top in Down Beat magazine's Student Award Competition, earning five awards along with two other schools. WMU tied with the University of Miami and the University of North Florida in most awards won.

Students took top honors in a wide range of categories. Jeremy Fox was named a winner in the studio engineering category, while in the jazz instrumental soloist category, a college co-winner award was given to bassist Shawn Sommer and a college outstanding performance award was presented to drummer Quincy Davis.

In the jazz combo category, the Shawn Wallace Quartet, composed of saxophonist Shawn Wallace, pianist Bartosz Hadala, bassist Lyman Medeiros and drummer Michael Caskey, received an outstanding performance award, while Gold Company received a college outstanding performance award in the jazz vocal ensemble category.

Since 1993, WMU has accumulated more Down Beat awards than any other college.

Students step into Dance Congress
Eight students, accompanied by Lindsey Thomas, professor of dance, took part in the Jazz Dance World Congress in August in Buffalo, N.Y.

Senior Marlo Stafford entered her piece, titled "Escape," in the Leo's Choreography Competition. The piece was the only entry in the competition from Michigan.

In addition to performing the piece, students and Thomas took a variety of classes from such well-known teachers as Patsy Swayze, Frank Hatchett, Joe Tremaine, Gus Giordano and Joe Lanteri.

The congress also showcased professional talent from the United States, Italy, Canada and Japan. This is the fifth year that University students have attended the festival and the fourth in which they have competed.

New, innovative works added to outdoor sculpture tour
From a neon dancer to huge conceptual wooden and metal structures, new and sometimes provocative sculpture is finding a temporary home on the University's Sculpture Tour.

Ten new pieces have joined two continuing works on the outdoor tour on the main campus. Of the 10, five were put in place last fall, while the other five were put on display in May and June. Several of the works came direct from the annual Pier Walk show on Navy Pier in Chicago.

The new pieces are by Mike Rathbun of Minneapolis; Robert Stackhouse of Kansas City, Mo.; Paul Flickinger of Kalamazoo; former WMU student Bill Cooper of Seattle; Craig Kraft of Washington; Daniel Hunt of Wamego, Kan.; Ann Morris of Lummi Island, Wash.; Carl Tacon of Toronto; Sam Spiczka of Austin, Texas; and Alex DeCosson, of Vancouver, British Columbia.

“The idea is to maintain a sense of constant change,” says Carol Rhodes, an art instructor and sculpture tour coordinator. “We’re one of the few places doing an exhibit like this.”

Students from far and wide sharpen abilities at summer music camp at University
SEMINAR 99, the School of Music's summer camp for high school students, celebrated its 48th year in July when students from eight states, Austria and Singapore converged on the WMU campus for two weeks.

The annual SEMINAR is unique in that it provides opportunities for students to perform in small ensembles in addition to daily participation in either band, orchestra or choir. Some 180 students from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Virginia, Oregon and California, as well as Austria and Singapore, were selected by audition to participate in the program.

Each participant enrolled in one of six seminars: string, woodwind, brass, percussion, piano/organ or voice. During their stay, students studied music theory and music literature, took private lessons, maintained a rigorous rehearsal schedule and performed in both large and small ensemble concerts that were open to the public free of charge.

Music performed during the event was learned and prepared during the two-week program. Nearly all rehearsals and classes were conducted by WMU faculty members who also performed in a daily performance class in addition to teaching and conducting.

www.wmich.edu/cfa/
Lee Honors College

New grant helps juniors conduct research

Dean Joseph Reish, has created a new grant to help LHC juniors spend the summer doing research for their honors thesis. The effort has produced immediate results. This year’s winners of the Dean’s Summer Thesis Award developed a wide range of talents and interests, from biological research to creative writing. Their research included such esoteric topics as Erin Rose Wambaugh’s “Comparison of Pleiotrophin and its Effects on Mitogen Activated Protein Kinase Expressed in Yeast and Mammalian Cells.” Jonathan Clay Reid, another winner, worked on his thesis, “Neitzsche, Kierkegaard and the Problem of Nihilism” while in an honors program at Cambridge University.

Students are expected to work closely with their mentors and do the kind of research that will be pertinent to the completion of the thesis in the senior year. They may do research nationally or internationally.

To be eligible, students must be juniors in good standing with a minimum 3.25 GPA. Applicants write a proposal and have it signed by their mentor. Mentors must write a strong letter of support and agree to supervise the student during the research. Up to 10 awards will be granted each summer. Students also may apply for an additional $500 for research related expenses.

In the next capital campaign, Dean Reish will try to secure funds to raise the number of thesis awards to 25.

President Emeritus Haenicke back in the classroom at LHC

The Lee Honor’s College has among its faculty ranks this fall Distinguished University Professor Dr. Diether H. Haenicke, who has just returned to teaching after a year’s sabbatical that followed his 13 years as University president.

Haenicke is teaching an upper level honors course called “Fairy Tales—Their Origin and Tradition and their Psychological and Mythical Roots.” Drawing on his extensive knowledge of literature, Haenicke is leading his class on an investigation of a number of recurring themes in the world’s fairy tales. He is focusing on such topics as parent-child conflict, resurrection and magical numbers and objects.

Haenicke is tracing these themes in diverse national/linguistic cultures by investigating the appearance of such motifs in movies, advertising and jokes. While the majority of what students read is focused on German, French, English and Russian traditions, visiting lecturers are addressing African and Native American oral traditions as well.

Freshman class second largest

In September, the Lee Honors College began offering classes to 336 new students, the college’s second largest freshman class ever. The freshman LHC class has an average composite ACT score of 28 and an average high school GPA of 3.89, making this freshman class the “best credentialed” in the college’s history. The class is composed of 220 women and 116 men. In addition to academics, these students have excelled in athletics, with many serving as team captains, and have proven records of community leadership and volunteerism.

Two Suns in the Sky

Front Street/Cricket Books, 1999

Dr. Miriam Bat-Ami, associate professor of English

In 1944, just over 980 mostly Jewish refugees were brought to the United States during World War II and confined in a refugee camp outside Oswego, N.Y. The novel focuses on the romantic relationship between two teenagers, Chris, a girl from Oswego, and Adam, a Yugoslavian Jewish refugee at the camp, and the issues that arise when their families object to their relationship. Also depicted are accounts of the generosity and prejudices of the townspeople toward the refugees.

What is Religion? Origins, Definition & Explanations

Brill, 1998

Dr. Brian C. Wilson, assistant professor of comparative religion

Twelve essays written by a selection of scholars and edited by Wilson and Dr. Thomas A. Idinopulos of Miami (Ohio) University represent a wide spectrum of approaches to the academic study of religion. Each essay is an effort to take stock of the present controversy concerning appropriate methodologies for the study of religion and, in some cases, also to take one giant step beyond that to formulate a precise definition of religion.

Simply Cole

SMR Recordings, 1999

The Western Jazz Quartet with vocalist Tim Noble

For more than 30 years, it has been vocalist Tim Noble’s dream to record the songs of Cole Porter. The Western Jazz Quartet, a faculty ensemble in the WMU School of Music, helps Noble realize that dream on “Simply Cole,” a collection of some of Porter’s best-known classics. Recorded in WMU’s Western Sound Studios, the disc features Noble backed up by quartet members Steve Zegree, piano; Tom Knific, bass; Tim Froncek, drums; and Trent Kynaston, saxophone.
Barents, Mieras named 1999 distinguished alumni winners

Two chief executives, one in aviation and one in higher education, have been selected to receive 1999 Distinguished Alumni Awards from the WMU Alumni Association.

They are Brian E. Barents of Wichita, Kan., president and chief executive officer of Galaxy Aerospace Corp., and Dr. Barbara A. Mieras of Grand Rapids, Mich., president of Davenport College. They join a select group of WMU alumni recognized for their professional achievement since graduation.

Barents earned his bachelor's degree in economics and psychology at WMU in 1966. Mieras earned three degrees from WMU, all with honors. They are a bachelor's degree in business education in 1972, a master's degree in business education in 1974 and a master's degree in communication in 1984. She earned her doctoral degree in college and university administration at Michigan State University in 1990.

Barents began his career in management training at General Motors and later held senior sales positions with Cessna Aircraft Co. and Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc. before becoming president and CEO of Learjet Inc. in 1989. At Learjet, he engineered the company's turnaround, setting it on a course for sustained growth and creating 5,000 jobs.

In 1997, Barents helped to found Galaxy Aerospace Corp. and became its managing partner. He has spearheaded the development, production, marketing and support of an intercontinental business jet, the Galaxy.

Mieras has been an educator throughout her career, beginning as a public schools teacher and administrator. She joined Davenport College as director of continuing education at its Kalamazoo campus in 1984. Mieras rose steadily through administrative ranks as associate dean in Kalamazoo and vice president and senior vice president at the main campus in Grand Rapids.

In 1998, she was named the fifth president in Davenport College's 132-year history. She has emphasized the use of technology, including the Internet, and faculty and staff development. The college is part of the Davenport Educational System, which also includes the Detroit College of Business and Great Lakes College. The system enrolls 25,000 students.

Jeremy elected to head national group of alumni executives

M. Jamie Jeremy, executive director of alumni relations at the University and executive director of the WMU Alumni Association, has been elected president of the Council of Alumni Association Executives for a one-year term.

A charter member of the council, Jeremy has been a member of its board of directors since 1993 and served as secretary between 1995 and 1998 and as vice president last year. A staff member at WMU since 1973, she became assistant director of alumni relations in 1979 and director in 1984.

Jeremy is the organization's 11th president and the first woman to serve in that capacity. The council includes members from 85 major public and private universities across the country. Past presidents have come from such universities as UCLA, Kansas, Michigan and North Carolina.

Association elects officers

The WMU Alumni Association board of directors has elected its officers for 1999-2000. They are: William H. Higley, B.A. '69, M.A. '70, president; Jeanne Dubois Carlson, BBA '68, re-elected vice president; and Kenneth J. Meinke, BBA '80, treasurer.

Wyatt D. Kirk, B.A. '63, M.A. '69, Ed.D. '73, will serve as past president.

Higley, senior vice president at Interstate Welding Sales Corp., was elected to the board in 1994. In addition to serving on the executive committee, he has served on the finance and scholarship committees. He lives in Menominee, Mich.

Carlson, vice president for the General Motors account at Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Michigan, was elected to the board in 1995. In addition to serving as treasurer in 1996-98, she has served on the finance, distinguished alumni and executive committees. She lives in Novi, Mich.

Meinke, of Grand Rapids, Mich., is manager of health care consulting for Plante and Moran. A member of the board since 1994, he has served on the executive, finance, scholarship and marketing committees.
Alumni News

Alumnae group's 1951 gift to Kanley Chapel dedicated

It took almost 50 years, but they got the job done.

Members of Alpha Beta Epsilon, WMU's only alumnae sorority, participated this spring in the dedication of five stained glass windows in Kanley Chapel almost 50 years after they were installed.

The sorority, established in 1938, is the University's oldest alumni constituency group with chapters in 10 Michigan communities. Made up mostly of education graduates, ABE maintains an endowed scholarship in the College of Education through the WMU Foundation.

Alpha Beta Epsilon gave the windows as well as choir stalls to the University in 1951, when Kanley Chapel was dedicated. Four of the windows were designed by art students Audry Brailsford, Doris Stevenson Haynes, Norine Belden Meyers and Lillian Swenson.

Ann Willet, the wife of Henry Lee Willet, probably designed the fifth, center window, known as the "Ecumenical Window." Henry Willet's famed Philadelphia firm, the nation's oldest stained glass company, made the windows. The ensemble is listed in Michigan's registry of stained glass windows.

"There was never any harmful intent in not getting these gifts formally acknowledged before now," says Charlotte Ferraro, B.S. '48, president of ABE's Kalamazoo chapter, who discovered the omission in compiling a sorority history. "There was a lot happening on campus then, including the move of many programs to West Campus."

The idea of having students design the windows came from the late Lydia Siedschlag, who was head of the art department at the time. She and Alice Gernant, B.S. '41, of Kalamazoo, spoke at the Kanley Chapel dedication on May 6, 1951, as Gernant did at the recognition ceremony this spring.

But no plaque was installed in 1951.

"Today we've taken care of an oversight in recognizing you, the sisters of Alpha Beta Epsilon, for an act of generosity that took place nearly half a century ago," President Elson S. Floyd said at the ceremony. "Your gifts have served to inspire, soothe and provide comfort to thousands who have visited the chapel over the years."

A plaque dedicated at the ceremony honoring ABE has been placed in the lobby of Walwood Hall, home of the McKee Alumni Center. In addition to Gernant, other speakers were Ferraro; Kathryn B. Walker, B.A. '52, of Jackson, Mich., current ABE president; and M. Jamie Jeremy, executive director of the Alumni Association.

"It was a wonderful occasion," Ferraro says. "It's a little piece of history that finally has come full circle."

Chase and Gambino recognized with teaching excellence awards

Alumni have recognized faculty experts in shoreline erosion and in food marketing for their outstanding teaching and their commitment to the success of their students.

Dr. Ronald B. Chase, professor of geosciences, and Dr. Frank M. Gambino, associate professor of marketing, are the recipients of 1999 Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards from the WMU Alumni Association. Chase came to WMU in 1973 and Gambino in 1984.

They join more than 125 other faculty members who have received the award since it was established in 1966. Each recipient receives a plaque and a $2,000 cash award.

Nominators singled out both faculty members for their commitment to teaching and the success of their students as well as their professional expertise.

In recent years, Chase's research on slope stability has provided new information on shoreline erosion. Chase also has served as a key member of a team that developed science content courses for students in elementary education. WMU is nationally recognized for its science education in addition to scientific research.

Gambino coordinates an annual food marketing conference at WMU that attracts industry leaders from across the nation. A former supermarket manager and executive, Gambino remains active in the industry and he speaks and consults regularly with major manufacturers and retailers.
Classnotes

Alumni are listed under their preferred class years.
Names printed in gold 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
1201 Oliver St.
Kalamazoo MI 49008-9985
Fax: (616) 387-8770
E-mail: michelle.hastings@wmich.edu

1953 - 1969

Herbert S. Moyer
BS ’53, a member of the Michigan State Board of Education, was awarded the Children's Health Award by the Comprehensive School Health Coordinators’ Association of Michigan.

Michael E. Murch
BS ’63, MA ’67, will retire after 15 years as superintendent and elementary principal for the Posen (MI) Consolidated School District.

Roger A. Elford
BS ’66, has retired after 12 years as principal of Owosso (MI) High School.

Sharon A. Myrkle
MA ’66, has been appointed board president of Wood School District in Bangor Township, MI.

James B. Young
BS ’66, MA ’69, has retired after 32 years of teaching in the Sturgis (MI) Public Schools.

Frieda C. Aboyoun
BS ’67, has been elected vice president of the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants. Aboyoun lives in Wayne, NJ.

Katrina Jensen
BS ’67, was chosen Citizen of the Year for her community volunteerism and support of the schools in Farmington and Farmington Hills, MI.

Michael R. Sobol
BBS ’68, MBA ’71, senior vice president of investments with the Grand Blanc office of First of Michigan, has been named to the All-American Team of The American Funds Group.

1970 - 1975

Lauri E. Kallio
MA ’70, is the author of a new book, Confer or Die: The Case of William Heirens. Kallio, who lives in Park Ridge, IL, also works for Peace Action, the nation's largest peace and justice grassroots organization.

Art Nash Jr.
BS ’70, MPA ’80, has been named the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's deputy director for programs and regulations. He lives in Haslett, MI.

Douglas C. Dosson
BS ’71, has been appointed Roscommon County (MI) probate judge by Gov. John Engler.

John P. Mellein
MSW ’71, has joined the faculty of the WMU School of Social Work as an instructor in the area of policy, planning and administration.

Suzanne Nuyen Henning
BS ’72, is retiring after 27 years of teaching in Tanana, AK. In 1990, she received the Milken Educators Award for excellence in education.

Jack Bennett
BS ’74, received the David H. Ponitz Honorary Alumnus Award from Sinclair Community College in Dayton, OH, where he is a professor of English.

Members for Life

We at the WMU Alumni Association would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest life members. We thank you and commend you for your interest in your University through life membership in our association.

Luther R. Dease
MA ’65, EdD ’79, Muskegon, MI

Kim D. Donovan
BBA ’96, Chicago

Len “Lefty” Johnston
BS ’54, Indianapolis

Denise M. Olson
BS ’84, Durham, NC

Cynthia J. Patterson
BBA ’86, Sapulpa, OK

Julie E. Shroyer
BSW ’87, Washington, DC

Wendy Switzer Tackett
BA ’94, Battle Creek, MI

Paul C. Tackett
Battle Creek, MI

Laura K. Todak
BBA ’94, Springfield, VA

Peggy McKnight Wilson
BS ’92, MSW ’95, Battle Creek, MI
Sharon L. Bogardus
BBA ’75, has been promoted to superintendent of production control and logistics in Plant 2 at Delphi Saginaw (MI) Steering Systems.

Mary Dochow
BA ’75, was presented with the National Grocers Association’s Spirit of America Award in Washington, D.C. She is government relations director for Spartan Stores Inc., Grand Rapids, MI.

Darrell A. Lindman
BA ’75, has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America for 1999-2000. He practices in the firm of Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Foster, which has offices in Lansing, MI, and Detroit.

Allegra A. Owens
BS ’75, has been elected an assistant vice president of Wachovia Bank, N.A., Winston-Salem, NC.

1976 - 1985

Robert A. Buwalda
BA ’76, MPA ’79, has been named head of the global human resource consulting services practice in the Lake Michigan area for Ernst & Young, Chicago.

Michael J. Mahan
BS ’76, has been appointed vice president, Marlboro, for Philip Morris U.S.A. in Norwalk, CT.

Carol A. Wright
BM ’76, has accepted the position of associate in ministry for youth and family ministry at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, Rochester, MI.

William W. Brandt
BS ’77, has been promoted to lieutenant in the Traffic Services Section, Special Operations Division, of the Michigan State Police.

Timothy A. Knapper
BBA ’77, has been named president and chief operating officer of Lawrence Productions Inc., Galesburg, MI.

Dr. Larry A. Pfaff
MA ’77, EdD ’80, has accepted a position as dean of the School of Management and associate professor at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, MI.

D. Neil Bremer
BS ’78, has been named executive director of the Elmhurst (IL) Art Museum.

Lori Lapka
BBA ’77, has been elected to serve as chairperson of the Capital Region Community Foundation Board of Trustees, in Lansing, MI.

Gary D. Bennett
MSW ’79, has joined Eagle Village Inc., Hersey, MI, as vice president of professional services. Eagle Village is a family support center serving troubled children and families throughout the state.

Nickolas A. Vitale
BBA ’80, has been named interim senior vice president and chief financial officer of Detroit Medical Center.

Stephen P. DeBoer
MPA ’81, has retired after 26 years with the Michigan State Police Department in Haslett, MI.

Beverly Foldpausch Gordon
BS ’81, has been named executive director/president of the Clinton Health Foundation in Clinton County, MI.

Thomas L. Kloosterman
BS ’82, has been appointed senior associate at Tower Pinkster Titus Associates Inc., Kalamazoo.

John G. LaBahn
BBA ’82, was elected to the position of vice president and controller for the American National Can Co., Chicago.

David A. McKay
BS ’82, has been appointed vice president of marketing at Vivant! Corp. in Oakland, CA.

Sheryl L. Vander Baan
BA ’82, MBA ’95, has been promoted to senior vice president at Old Kent Bank, Grand Rapids, MI.

Louis A. Rhodes
BS ’83, has been promoted to senior manager of Advanced Product Design Engineering at DaimlerChrysler in Auburn Hills, MI.

Clayton R. Rice
BS ’84, has been named to serve on the boards of The Advertising Federation of Columbus and The Business Marketing Association Columbus (OH) Chapter. He is managing partner for RMD Advertising and RMD Public Relations, Columbus.

Gary L. Schmalzried
BA ’84, has been promoted to assistant general counsel, Subrogation Unit, at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Pam Heitman
BS ’85, has joined Custer Office Environments, Southwest Michigan, as the floor covering specialist.

1986 - 1993

Daniel O. Kennedy
BBA ’86, has been named a partner in the Atlanta office of the law firm Hunton & Williams.

L. Robert McConnell
DPA ’86, was recognized by the Michigan Chapter of the National Rehabilitation Association with the “Distinguished Career Service Award.” The award recognizes professionals who work in the area of vocational rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

Kimberly A. English
BS ’87, has been named as assistant principal with the Detroit Public Schools.
Community service is his focus

Jose A. Infante, B.A. ’74, passed on a possible career as a history teacher to become a banker and, after nearly 30 years in the field, established his own bank.

Banking on history

Jose Infante might have become a history teacher. But, instead, the Cuban native and 1974 WMU history graduate is a bank president who retains a lively interest in history.

“Russian history, actually,” says Infante, who became president and chief executive officer of the bank he helped establish, Community Shores Bank in Muskegon, last year. He previously was president of the former FMB-Lumberman’s Bank and its successor, Huntington Banks, in Muskegon.

More than coincidentally, Russian history was a specialty of Infante’s faculty friend and mentor, the late Dr. Emanuel (Manny) Nadel, a longtime WMU history professor who retired in 1989 and died in 1996. The friendship could have had its roots in the fact that both men were immigrants.

Nadel, a native of Lithuania who grew up in neighboring Estonia, survived the Russian and German struggle over the Balkans during World War II and made his way to the United States.

“He was a wonderful teacher, a wonderful friend,” Infante says. “He was by far the best teacher I have had.” Despite his interest in history, though, Infante went into management training at Old Kent Bank in Grand Rapids while still an undergraduate.

He had attended high school in Grand Rapids, where his family moved in the 1960s after fleeing Castro’s Cuba and settling for a time in Miami. The Christian Reformed Church in Grand Rapids had offered to place 100 immigrants, and the Infante family was among them.

“My father was an attorney in Cuba, but never practiced in the United States even though he later completed a law degree here,” Infante says. “My family, including my mother and two sisters, arrived in Grand Rapids without significant resources.”

Infante says he never started out to own a bank. But when Huntington Banks bought FMB in 1997, he began to give it serious consideration. He and his wife, Sue, who also attended WMU, have three children.

“I love the idea of community banking, with its emphasis on excellent service and local decision-making,” he says, with results to prove it. Open only since January, Community Shores already had assets of almost $46 million by June 30.
Thomas J. Miller  
MPA '91, has been promoted to captain and named commander of the Michigan State Police Communications Division in Lansing, MI.

Rick Muniz  
BS '91, was re-appointed to represent the general public on the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice, Kent County, MI.

Benjamin A. Cairns  
BBA '92, has been named Mutual Funds Magazine's first Chicago-based Midwest advertising manager.

Kevin A. Kelly  
MPA '92, received the "Medical Executive Achievement Award" from the American Medical Association. He resides in East Lansing, MI, and is director of the Michigan State Medical Society.

Dr. Timothy L. Clarey  
BS '82, MS '93, PhD '96, was recently selected by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) as a recipient of the 1999 Excellence Award for outstanding service to Delta College, University Center, MI. He was also named the 1999-2000 Betty and Don Carlyon Endowed Teaching Chair.

Hazel J. Crosbie  
BS '82, MA '93, has been appointed director of the Talent Search program for Southwest Michigan College, Dowagiac, MI.

Randall S. DeBruine  
MBA '93, is serving as interim city manager for Belding, MI.

Patrick D. Fuelling  
BBA '93, has been promoted to the position of audit manager at the public accounting and consulting firm Doeren Mayhew in Troy, MI.

John P. Glass  
BS '93, has been promoted to account manager at FIRST Telecommunications Corp., Grand Rapids, MI.

Anita L. Glesner  
BS '93, has joined Marshall (MI) Internal & Family Medicine as a physician assistant.

Chris Taphouse  
BS '93, has been promoted to engineering manager at Toledo Commutator Co., Owosso, MI.

Peggy J. Tedford  
BBA '93, has been promoted to director of Strategic Marketing, Advanced Intelligent Networks, product manager at SBC Communications in San Antonio, TX.

Stephen L. Tupper  
MBA '93, has joined Dykema Gossett PLLC in Bloomfield Hills, MI, in the firm's corporate finance practice group.

1994 - 1999

Ruth A. Anson  
BS '94, has joined the practice staff at Three Rivers (MI) Area Hospital as a certified nurse midwife.

Gary J. Erwin  
MFA '94, has been named director of publications at Kettering University in Flint, MI.

Sandy Barry-Loken  
BA '94, is director of student activities at Western Michigan University.

Kristy Muller  
BA '94, has been promoted to marketing director for 11 locations of CARSTAR Collision Repair Centers of West Michigan.

Jill Suchcki  
MBA '94, has been added to Shoreline Bank's South Haven (MI) office as assistant vice president, north region sales manager and branch manager.

Lori M. Tower  
BS '94, has been elected to the Board of Directors for the Kalamazoo Humane Society.

Robert L. Trezise Jr.  
MPA '94, has joined the Lansing (MI) Regional Chamber of Commerce as the chamber's vice president for economic development.

Rob S. DeWyre  
BS '95, has been named senior scientist at Insight Environmental Services Inc. in Brighton, MI.

Ronald D. Froeschke  
MBA '95, has been named product manager for the flooded battery line in the Electric Vehicle Division of GNB Technologies, Lombard, IL.

Dr. Bryan M. Halverson  
BS '95, has joined the dental practice of Tisch, Hosack, and Bieszka in Plainwell, MI.

Timothy R. Klander  
MPA '95, has been named city manager in Algonac, MI.

Blaise E. Krof  
BBA '95, has been promoted to senior executive at Bozell Worldwide, an advertising agency in Southfield, MI.

Ellen Muehlberger  
BS '95, has been awarded the Chancellor's Fellowship, a five-year graduate fellowship at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.

Tonya Cunningham  
BS '96, was named one of 10 "young executives to be admired and emulated" in the January 1999 issue of Ebony magazine. She is a senior engineer in software development at Boeing.

Tracey R. (Bloodworth) Fisk  
BS '96, has become head coach of the women's basketball team at Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI.

Kelly W. Odean  
BBA '96, has joined PaineWebber Inc., Traverse City, MI, as a financial advisor.

Kathe L. Sexton-Deck  
BBA '96, has been promoted to controller at Century Bank & Trust in, Coldwater, MI.

Scott W. Jansen  
BS '97, has accepted a position with the Eaton Rapids (MI) Public Schools in the special education department.

Michael Ciasek  
BS '98, has accepted a position with German press manufacturer, MAN Roland's U.S. office in Westmont, IL. He will be trained as a district sales manager.

Corey J. Cline  
BBA '98, has joined Marshall + Poe, Elkhart, IN, as a staff accountant and systems consultant.

Matthew G. DeYoung  
BA '98, has taken a position as sports writer at The Leelanau Enterprise, Leland, MI.
Jeffrey T. Hoxworth  
MA '98, has been hired as a consulting associate by Triad Performance Technologies Inc., Farmington Hills, MI.

Julie Jasienski  
MBA '98, has accepted a position with German press manufacturer, MAN Roland's U.S. office in Westmont, IL. She will be trained as a district sales manager.

Timothy M. Johnson  
BBA '98, has joined the practice staff of Plante & Moran in Bronson, MI.

Dan Kitchen  
BS '98, has accepted a position with German press manufacturer, MAN Roland's U.S. office in Westmont, IL. He will be trained as a district sales manager.

Myron Kukla  
MA '98, is the author of a new book, Confessions of a Baby Boomer: Memories of Things I Haven't Forgotten Yet. He owns a freelance writing business, the Write Stuff, in Holland, MI.

Michele McGowen  
MSW '98, has joined the staff of the Disability Resource Center in Kalamazoo as the community development specialist and Tech 2000 Grant coordinator.

Douglas S. Pratt  
BA '98, has been named commercial loans officer for Old Kent Bank, Litchfield, MI.

Mark Spragg  
BS '98, has accepted a position with German press manufacturer, MAN Roland's U.S. office in Westmont, IL. He will be trained as a district sales manager.

Mark Stice  
BS '98, has been assigned a full-time teaching position in the Eaton Rapids (MI) Middle School.

Phyllis J. Youga  
MA '98, has become the new executive director of the Tibbits Opera House in Bronson, MI.

Perry G. Hausman  
BS '99, has joined Tower Pinkster Titus, Kalamazoo, as a mechanical engineering designer.

Polishing the product image  
An interest in photography led John Stevens, B.S. '77, into the world of film and video production, where he helps make DaimlerChrysler cars look good.

Professional visualizer  
In a sense, John Stevens' career began in the dark.

"My father is an amateur photographer, and I always loved to see those images appear on paper, in the darkroom," says Stevens, a 1977 graduate in communication.

Now Stevens is a professional visualizer, a senior film and video producer for Ross Roy Communications in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. The agency's sole client is the recently merged auto giant DaimlerChrysler.

"Ross Roy produces some of the best product support materials in the auto industry," says Stevens of his employer of 22 years. "That's what the client expects, and that's what we like to deliver."

Besides Web pages and award-winning catalogs for consumers, the agency produces training videos, CD-ROMs and DVD programs for DaimlerChrysler's U.S. sales force. That's where Stevens comes in.

"I've always liked a challenge, and this job continues to be a challenge," he says, mentioning only in passing the multiple sclerosis he began to suffer in 1978, and since 1990 has had him using a wheelchair. "I try not to let the MS get in the way."

A recent challenge involved orchestrating a crew of 26 that arrived on campus this spring in a caravan of trucks to get "beauty shots" of 2000 model-year Plymouth Breeze, Neon, Prowler and Voyager vehicles. Several WMU landmarks served as backdrops, including Miller Auditorium and Waldo Library.

"The place has really changed," says Stevens, who selected WMU after coming up with the idea of using a campus setting for part of this year's production. "It's a beautiful campus, and it's provided us with some great shots."

Stevens, who grew up in Farmington Hills, says he came to WMU searching for a major and considered political science. But "the light bulb went on" when he took a course in broadcast production.

He joined Ross Roy soon after graduation, starting out in the audio-visual department "to get familiar with the clients," became a producer within a year and has been with the agency every since: "I guess you could say I'm a lifer."
Obituaries

1923 - 1940

**Bernice Duffy**
BA '23, May 12, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Lucille F. Remyse**
TC '23, April 10, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Helen D. Buskirk**
TC '25, June 1, 1999, in Shelbyville, MI.

**Naomi L. Biek**
TC '26, April 10, 1999, in Dowagiac, MI.

**Dorothy E. McKenzie**
TC '27, March 25, 1999, in Lawton, MI.

**Clarence L. Dooley**
BA '30, June 8, 1999, in Traverse City, MI.

**John H. Schuring**
BA '30, MA '47, April 20, 1999, in Bartle Creek, MI.

**Bernice M. Yeiter**
BA '30, April 21, 1999, in Grand Rapids, MI.

**Dorothy H. McConnell**
TC '26, BA '32, March 5, 1999, in Wilton, CT.

**Harry L. Nibbelink**
BS '35, Aug. 8, 1998, in Rockport, TX.

**Ethel J. Horton**
BS '37, April 14, 1999, in Orange Park, FL.

**Audrey Moss**
BA '37, March 8, 1999, in Kokomo, IN.

**Reva J. Jacobson**
BS '38, May 15, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

1941 - 1950

**Don B. Feather**
BA '41, May 6, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Lois W. Rea**
TC '42, BA '42, March 26, 1999, in Battle Creek, MI.

**Leonore I. (Stephenson) Wittenback**
BS '42, May 7, 1999, in Lowell, MI.

**Albert A. Butterfield**
BA '43, March 1, 1999, in Holmes Beach, FL.

**George E. Metcalf**
BS '43, March 16, 1999, in Bellevue, WA.

**Cecil J. Burrows**
BS '44, Dec. 21, 1998, in Pittsfield, IL.

**Alice M. Lyth**
BS '45, June 27, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

1951 - 1970

**William H. Alman**
BS '51, May 13, 1999, in Delton, MI.

**Ruth E. Bronson**
TC '52, March 26, 1999, in Otsego, MI.

**Rhonda Crowle**
BS '53, MA '54, April 2, 1999, in Grand Rapids, MI.

**Dr. William J. Yankee Sr.**
BS '54, MA '57, May 27, 1999, in Bellevue, WA.

**Ruth I. Poe**
BA '55, April 18, 1999, in Port Charlotte, FL.

**Patricia A. Wittenberg**
TC '55, April 17, 1999, in Port Myers, FL.

**James A. Brouwer**
BS '56, MA '59, March 18, 1999, in Citrus Springs, FL.

**Rosemary A. Lepley**
BA '56, June 3, 1999, in Portage, MI.

**Mildred A Phelps**
BS '58, MA '63, May 6, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Reta E. Hilton**
TC '59, BS '59, Oct. 11, 1998, in Grand Rapids, MI.

**Kenneth R. DeHrning**
BM '60, MA '65, June 4, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Sara J. Dreyer**
BA '63, March 11, 1999, in Pierson, MI.

**William J. Fitch**
BM '63, MA '68, June 30, 1998, in Beulah, MI.

**Audrey D. Schram**
BA '46, June 17, 1999, in Paw Paw, MI.

**Janice C. Winchell**
BS '47, June 25, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Robert J. Burgoyne**
BS '48, May 26, 1999, in Tyler, TX.

**Thomas T. French**
BS '49, MA '54, May 16, 1999, in Hillsdale, MI.

**Paul R. Fulton**

**James J. Kelly**
BA '49, June 28, 1999, in Fort Meyers, FL.

**Robert L. Steinman**
BA '50, June 3, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

1970 - 1990

**Judith T. Dolezal**
BA '70, June 24, 1999, in Ann Arbor, MI.

**Robert L. Hansen**
EdD '71, March 18, 1999, in Gurnee, IL.

**Irene J. Lesperance**
BS '74, MA '76, April 24, 1999, in Naples, FL.

**Claude W. Willsea**
BBA '76, June 12, 1999, in Paw Paw, MI.

**Lori B. Patitson**
BS '85, June 11, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Tracy L. Rush**
BBA '89, May 1, 1999, in Charlotte, NC.

**Kimberly Mulka**
MA '90, March 28, 1999, in Plainwell, MI.

**Carol M. Rapson**
MPA '90, May 12, 1999, in East Lansing, MI.

**Faculty**

**James O. Ansel**
professor emeritus of reacher education, April 24, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Isabel J. Beeler**
associate professor emerita of counseling June 21, 1999, in Kalamazoo.

**Elmer R. Beloof**
associate professor emeritus of music, June 8, 1999, in Lander, WY.

**Charles A. Shull**
associate professor emeritus of occupational therapy, May 14, 1999, in Chapel Hill, NC.

**Alice E. Lewis**
associate professor emerita of occupational information systems, April 16, 1999, in Plainwell, MI.

**William J. Yankee**
assistant professor of psychology, June 3, 1999, in Traverse City, MI.

**Cecil Kogge**
BS '63, Feb. 10, 1999, in Bradenton, FL.

**Virginia B. Ferris**
BS '67, MA '72, May 31, 1999, in Holland, MI.

**Jacquelyn E. Foster**
MSL '67, Dec. 18, 1998, in Greensboro, NC.

**Audrey J. Judge (Bond)**
BA '69, April 23, 1999, in Carrabelle, FL.

32
Bronco athletics has moved to a new address

wmubroncos.com
And the crowd goes wild!
A record Waldo Stadium crowd of 35,874 watched the Broncos beat Youngstown State University 46-28 Sept. 11 during the seventh annual CommUniverCity Night. The annual festival, which marks the first home game of each new football season, drew the most fans to a single game in both school and Mid-American Conference history.

CommUniverCity Night has become one of WMU's biggest sports extravaganzas. It begins with private tent parties before each gridiron contest and ends with a spectacular fireworks display. A record-setting 13,000 people attended tailgate parties in the 55-tent Corporate Village set up for this year's event.

The Broncos kicked off their season Sept. 4 with a non-conference 55-26 loss to the No.4-ranked University of Florida. WMU's 1999 squad, with third-year coach Gary Darnell at the helm, was picked by Athlon Sports to finish 38th in the nation among 114 Division 1-A programs.

New hockey coach takes the ice
Jim Culhane, BBA '87, was named head hockey coach this past March after serving in an interim role since Feb. 3. Culhane replaces Bill Wilkinson, who is now head coach at Wayne State University in Detroit. A defenseman, Culhane earned four varsity letters from 1984 to 1987. He went on to play professional hockey for five seasons, earning a stint with the Hartford Whalers in 1989-90. He joined WMU in 1992 as a volunteer coach and was named assistant coach in 1993.

NCAA certifies athletic programs
The National Collegiate Athletic Association this past May certified WMU's athletic programs as conforming with the operating principles adopted by its Division I members. The purpose of the new certification initiative is to ensure integrity in athletics operations and assist athletics departments in improving their programs.

WMU prequalified for certification and was fully certified after a year-long self-study that concluded with a site visit by a peer review team. The study examined various aspects of the athletics program with respect to academic and fiscal integrity, rules compliance and commitment to equity.

Synchronized skating team set for first varsity season
The synchronized skating team is heading into its first varsity season after the program was added last winter as an "exhibition" sport. The team's first competition is slated for Nov. 14 at the Maize and Blue Challenge Cup in Ann Arbor. Guiding the Broncos will be new coach Emily Caudill, a four-year member of the Miami (Ohio) University precision skating team.

Caudill has skated competitively at international events in Canada, France and Italy. Her instructional experience includes stints at the Oxford Skating Club in Oxford, Ohio, and with Goggin Ice Arena in Oxford and the Iceland Skating Center in Louisville, Ky. She captured two silver medals (1998, 1996) and a bronze medal (1997) at the U.S. Precision Skating Championships and finished eighth at the 1998 ISU World Challenge Cup.

Gary Fund garners record support
The 1999 Mike Gary Athletic Fund Drive raised a record $630,000 in pledges, surpassing its goal of $548,000 by 8 percent and its 1998 total by 13.4 percent.

About 40 volunteers aided in the fund-raising effort. Jerry Meininger, a retired Pharmacia & Upjohn executive, served as chairperson. The Gary Fund was founded in 1956 and provides scholarship, travel and equipment funds for WMU's 20 varsity sports.
Bronco sports schedules

1999 Football
Sept. 4 at Florida
Sept. 11 Youngstown State (CommUniverCity)
Sept. 18 at Missouri
Sept. 25 at Northern Illinois
Oct. 2 Central Michigan* (Southwest Fest)
Oct. 9 at Eastern Michigan
Oct. 16 Buffalo* (Family Festival Night)
Oct. 23 Ball State* (Homecoming)
Oct. 30 at Akron
Nov. 13 Marshall* (Hall of Fame Day)
Nov. 20 at Toledo

1999 Volleyball
Sept. 2 at Jacksonville
Sept. 4 vs Nebraska L and Florida
Sept. 5 vs Iowa
Sept. 10 at Central Connecticut
Sept. 11 Army* and Illinois-Chicago
Sept. 17 Loyola-Chicago* and DePaul* W
Sept. 18 Niagara W and Michigan State
Sept. 24 Ball State W
Sept. 25 Bowling Green W
Oct. 1 at Kent W
Oct. 2 at Buffalo W
Oct. 6 at Northern Illinois W
Oct. 9 at Toledo W
Oct. 13 at Central Michigan W
Oct. 15 at Buffalo W
Oct. 20 at Miami W
Oct. 22 Marshall* (Homecoming) W
Oct. 23 Ohio* (Homecoming, Alumnae Night) W
Oct. 29 at Eastern Michigan W
Oct. 30 at Toledo W
Nov. 5 Akron* (Parents Night)
Nov. 6 Miami* (Seniors Night)
Nov. 12 at Ohio W
Nov. 13 at Marshall*
Nov. 19 at Northern Illinois W
Nov. 23 MAC Tournament begins

1999-2000 Women’s Basketball
Nov. 15 at Illinois (WNIT)
Nov. 26 vs Washington State
Nov. 27 vs Colorado or Wright State
Dec. 1 at Detroit
Dec. 12 at San Francisco
Dec. 15 at Nevada
Dec. 18 at Stanford
Dec. 20 at Iowa State
Dec. 29 vs Georgia Tech
Dec. 30 vs Pittsburgh or Campbell
Jan. 5 at Toledo
Jan. 8 vs Marshall
Jan. 12 at Akron
Jan. 17 at Buffalo
Jan. 20 at Bowling Green
Jan. 22 at Kent
Jan. 26 at Ball State
Jan. 29 vs Northern Illinois
Feb. 1 at Florida
Feb. 3 Eastern Michigan
Feb. 5 at Central Michigan
Feb. 9 at Toledo
Feb. 12 Ball State
Feb. 14 Ball State
Feb. 19 at Northern Illinois
Feb. 23 at Eastern Michigan
Feb. 25 at Eastern Michigan
Feb. 28 MAC Tournament begins

1999-2000 Men’s Basketball
Nov. 20 at Detroit
Nov. 23 Loyola (Chicago)
Nov. 27 at Michigan
Nov. 29 vs Youngstown State
Dec. 3 vs Marquette
Dec. 4 vs Appalachian State or Toledo
Dec. 11 at Oakland
Dec. 20 at Marshall*
Dec. 22 at Marion
Dec. 28 at Richmond
Jan. 2 at Akron
Jan. 8 at Northern Illinois
Jan. 12 at Bowling Green
Jan. 15 at Central Michigan
Jan. 19 at Toledo
Jan. 22 at Ohio
Jan. 26 at Buffalo
Jan. 29 at Miami
Jan. 31 at Kent
Feb. 2 at Eastern Michigan
Feb. 5 at Akron
Feb. 9 at Ball State
Feb. 12 Central Michigan
Feb. 16 Northern Illinois
Feb. 19 at Toledo
Feb. 21 at Eastern Michigan
Feb. 26 Ball State
Mar. 1 MAC Tournament begins

1999-2000 Hockey
Oct. 8 Miami* RE
Oct. 9 Miami* L
Oct. 15 at Ohio State W
Oct. 16 at Ohio State W
Oct. 22 Bowling Green* (Homecoming) W
Oct. 23 Bowling Green* (Homecoming)
Oct. 29 at Lake Superior State
Oct. 30 at Lake Superior State
Nov. 5 Northern Michigan
Nov. 6 Northern Michigan
Nov. 12 at Nebraska-Omaha
Nov. 13 at Nebraska-Omaha
Nov. 26 at Dartmouth
Nov. 27 at Dartmouth
Dec. 3 Ferris State
Dec. 4 at Ferris State
Jan. 7 at Alaska Fairbanks
Jan. 8 at Alaska Fairbanks

Win loss “W” or “L” on football, volleyball and hockey thru Oct. 25.

Bronco Radio Network
WFAT 96.5 FM Kalamazoo-Portage
WZUU 92.3 FM Allegan
WWKN 104.9 FM Battle Creek
WTVB AM 1590 Coldwater
WVHQ 92.1 FM Dowagiac
WFUR AM 1570 Grand Rapids

Call toll free 888 4-WMU-TIX for tickets and event information

www.wmubroncos.com
Therapists given free rein to change lives

“When you are on a great horse, you have the best seat you will ever have.” —Winston Churchill
Seven-year-old Cornelius Brown probably never heard of Winston Churchill, but the two are of like mind when it comes to horses. Cornelius' weekly therapy session aboard a chestnut gelding named Trombone elicits wide grins from him and approving nods from hippotherapy specialists tracking his steady progress.

Yes, that's hippotherapy and no, there's no massive African wildlife involved. It's a little-known technique used worldwide among a growing corps of health professionals, and WMU's Graduate Certificate Program in Hippotherapy is the nation's only university-based education program in the field.

The discipline, which takes its name from the Greek word "hippos" for horse, puts the horse in partnership with a physical, occupational or speech therapist. Hippotherapy capitalizes on the muscles used when sitting astride a horse and the similarity between horse and human pelvic motion. Throw in that mystical connection between horse and rider that has entranced humans for centuries and the result is a therapy technique unlike any other.

For clients like Cornelius, it's a new and effective way to improve balance, joint mobility, coordination, muscle tone and posture. It's proving beneficial to children and adults dealing with traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, developmental disorders, spina bifida, stroke and multiple sclerosis as well as a host of other diagnoses.

Cornelius, who has cerebral palsy, is a client at the Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center in Augusta, Mich. His therapy is part of a WMU/Cheff Center partnership launched two years ago with a W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant. The goals of the partnership were twofold—to put the University's health care reputation and resources behind a hippotherapy education program and to establish a hippotherapy treatment center to serve West Michigan.

The graduate certificate program is designed for professionals who already have degrees and certification in the fields of physical, occupational or speech therapy. It trains them to use a tool that is unlike any other tool used in a traditional therapy clinic. Instead of working with a large ball or bolster, for instance, these professionals work alongside a living, breathing creature whose size can be intimidating to both therapist and client.

But the logistics and special training required pay huge dividends to those involved.

"There is really no other therapy apparatus that replicates the movement of the horse," says Jodi Haugen, director of WMU's hippotherapy program, which is offered through the Department of Occupational Therapy. "That repetitive and three-dimensional movement provides a variety of physical and sensory experiences for the client. The motivation that comes from working with a large unpredictable animal in a unique environment makes the hippotherapy facility an exciting place to be."

The therapy technique began in Europe in the 1960s and was transported to this country in the 1980s after 18 American therapists traveled to Germany for training. One of those 18 original therapists, Claudia Morin from the Medical College of Georgia Hospital, has been among adjunct faculty members teaching in the new WMU program. She also has helped develop U.S. certification standards through the American Hippotherapy Association.

Although hippotherapy facilities are sometimes physically housed in therapeutic riding centers in the United States, hippotherapy differs significantly from the sport- and recreation-focused therapeutic riding discipline. Used by a specially trained therapist to achieve specific treatment goals, hippotherapy is a recognized tool that is covered by medical insurance as part of an overall treatment plan. In such a setting, the therapist, not the rider, directs control of the horse's movement to improve the clients neurological and sensory functions.

And sensory information is at the heart of hippotherapy. Literally all of the body's senses can be impacted in therapy, from the touch of the warm moving creature to the sense of smell and hearing and the visual experience of moving through space on horseback. While hippotherapy's focus is primarily on the physical benefits, that total sensory involvement also may help improve the cognitive, psychological, behavioral, sensory processing and communication abilities of many clients.

But the focus and key to the entire process remains the variable, rhythmic and repetitive motion of the horse's movement at the walk.

"The movement of the human pelvis while walking is similar to the movement the human pelvis experiences while riding a horse at the walk," notes Haugen. "There's side-to-side movement, front-to-back movement and rotational movement of the joints. For those individuals who have never walked or who may not walk normally, sitting astride the horse and feeling that

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movement gives them their first 'normal' sensory feedback.”

Humans learn normal movement largely through experiencing and remembering the feel of normal movement, Haugen says, so the hippotherapy session can provide a way to break a vicious learning cycle established when abnormal movement is all that the nervous system has experienced.

And for victims of stroke, where often only one side is severely affected, hippotherapy provides a symmetrical movement and sensory experience that can aid in recovery.

"Hippotherapy can stretch and strengthen muscles and challenge both sides of the body equally," Haugen says. "Stroke patients usually can't achieve that symmetry in movement independently and the horse does it naturally and willingly."

In a recent therapy session, Cornelius Brown worked on overcoming his loose posture and poor spatial orientation to find and keep his "center" on the back of Trombone. The horse was controlled by a volunteer using a long rein from behind the horse as Cornelius' physical therapist, Charlene Swain, walked alongside. After becoming comfortably centered, he progressed to reaching and throwing tasks while staying centered. Before the session ended, he accomplished the task of doing a complete 360 degree turn on the horse's back—stopping while seated backward to regain the feeling of center.

"Over the summer, we saw great improvement in Cornelius' overall coordination and balance," notes Swain. Those improvements were checked in his post-therapy walking and running performance and in his ability to balance on one foot—something that has been a challenge for him.

But overcoming challenges isn’t just for the client. Hippotherapy offers challenges to the therapist as well, including finding ways to get the desired training. Since WMU’s certificate program was announced two years ago, the University has received more than 500 queries from therapists around the world who want not only training and preparation for national certification requirements, but the kind of credentials offered by completing a University program.

The first nine students in the program have finished their course work and are now compiling the hours of practical experience needed to complete WMU’s certificate program. They came from Greece, California, Missouri, Maryland and Michigan, and each committed four weeks of intense study at WMU and the Cheff Center over the past two summers. That time and travel commitment has made the program inaccessible for far too many, so the program has just been revamped to allow more of the course work to be completed at home using video and online learning materials.

"We’re working with professionals who really want this training, so we’re working hard to make it more accessible to them," Haugen says.

But for Cornelius, all that really matters is that he is totally engaged in an exciting and successful treatment that is improving his balance and muscle function, having an impact on his cognitive skills, and making a real difference in his life. From the back of Trombone, the world takes on a very different feel for the young man.

It may be the best seat he’ll ever have.  

Research Broker—Donald Thompson

Thompson, a full professor, bolstered his credibility by conducting his own research, which he still does. "In the past 15 years, I've had at least one grant operating each year," says Thompson, who is currently involved in a project to improve opportunities for students in Benton Harbor, Mich.

At the same time, he launched into what's become a frantic schedule of regular calls on legislators, foundations and federal agencies that award grants. He's touted WMU and its professors' work and he's learned a lot about funding opportunities along the way. But in the end, he says, it's the researchers themselves who make the sale.

"It's really based on faculty," says Thompson. "Without a competent faculty, you don't have product to sell. I'm really a servant of our faculty and students and staff. I'm just trying to make a path there for them."

Back home, he also began to build an infrastructure to support research and before long he began to win people over. Research funding doubled between 1986 and 1988. In fact, grants have continued to increase every year since.

To keep pace, he kept adding to WMU's research resources. Thompson, for example, has expanded his department, created a grant-writing program for new faculty and lined up more internal funding to help get research proposals off the ground. He helped create associate dean positions in several colleges to promote research. Meanwhile, he's had a big hand in developing first-rate laboratory facilities and interdisciplinary research centers.

Along the way, Thompson has risen in stature just as his research enterprise has. In 1986, he was promoted to the post of chief research officer. Five years later, he was elevated to vice president for research, a move that faculty members had urged. This past July, President Floyd assigned him additional duties as Graduate College dean. The appointment confirms the University's commitment to research. "If you look at institutions that do research," notes Thompson, "probably 75 to 80 percent have a close working relationship between the graduate college and research enterprise."

In his new role, he says he'd like to see the graduate college increase its enrollment and add to its line-up of 62 master's-level and 25 doctoral degree programs. But don't try to pin him down on goals.

"I'm typically not a goal-setter," he says. "I know that may sound odd. But I just think you do your very best you can every day. I feel when you do that, you find growth continues."

You gotta believe him.  

Hippotherapy

Continued from page 39

Research Broker—Donald Thompson

Continued from page 13

Story by Cheryl Roland—
Cheryl.roland@wmich.edu
Photography by Tom Brayne

Story by Joe Bower—
Photography by John Gilroy

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The WMU Annual Fund

The gift that gives back

When you contribute to the Annual Fund, you support:

**Students**
The Annual Fund provides for scholarships, equipment and research facilities, allowing for continued excellence in education.

**Your Alma Mater**
Alumni support is a factor in institutional rankings (e.g., *US News & World Report*) that aid in recruiting quality students and acquiring corporate and foundation funds.

**Your degree**
As WMU's reputation grows, so does the value of your education, ensuring your diploma is a continued source of pride and marketability.

For more information, contact the WMU Annual Fund at **616 387-8711** or <**www.wmich.edu/wmuf/**>.
After eight days of racing through clouds and rain, WMU's Sunseeker solar race team members finally broke through to show the world a little solar flair.
Rain, rumors of alien spaceship landings, rain, friendly crowds, rain, trailer races and more rain—that’s the Cliffs Notes version of Sunrayce 99.

But for all the difficulties faced by competitors in what Sunrayce officials called the most difficult race to date, student team members who poured their hearts and souls into the event came away winners. They got the kind of experience no amount of money can buy. It just came in wetter than usual doses.

Sunseeker 454 was WMU’s entry into the fifth biennial Sunrayce, a cross-country collegiate solar car race sponsored by General Motors, EDS and the U.S. Department of Energy. This year, just 29 teams made the cut to qualify for a grueling 1,300-mile trek that began in the rain in Washington, D.C., June 20 and ended 10 days later at Epcot Center in Orlando, Fla.

Sunrayce officials laid out a challenging course and set rigorous qualifying standards to ensure safety. But no one was prepared for the real challenge. Out of nine days of racing, eight were completed under conditions that ranged from mere clouds to downpours of biblical proportions. For cars that rely on the sun to continually recharge their power supplies, it could not have been a more difficult task.

To cut to the chase, it must be noted that the University of Missouri-Rolla was the winner. That team’s innovative development of a battery management system kept them on the road long after most other solar car teams had exhausted their meager supplies of stored solar power. And though they won with an average speed of just 25 mph, they managed to hit the pavement on eight of the nine actual race days, while the rest of the field resorted to crossing the daily finish line in trailers, giving rise to the term, “the great trailer race.”

WMU’s Sunseeker, built to run at 55 mph under a blazing summer sun, finished in 23rd place. But in the final Sunrayce award ceremony, officials honored the WMU team members for their engineering prowess. The team’s engineering work in the areas of chassis, suspension and braking system design earned them Sunrayce’s top innovation award for the year. That accomplishment was a coup in a tough competition field that included such top engineering schools as Stanford, UCLA and Purdue.

“The engineering skills that went into this vehicle were superb,” notes team advisor Fred Sitkins, professor of industrial and manufacturing engineering. “It was a wonderful concept and one that has application for future races.”

For sheer thrills and excitement, team members report, nothing could quite beat the final day of the race. WMU’s Sunseeker, which runs on solar power transferred to two in-hub motors, ran into problems early in the race when one of the motors developed a leak. Though they never regained full power in that motor, on the final sunny day of racing, team members got to show off their car’s capabilities.

Taking full advantage of ideal weather conditions and flat terrain, Sunseeker streaked past competitors, negotiating through highway traffic and reaching speeds of 55 mph. The car crossed the Epcot Center finish line in third position for the day and team members relaxed with Minnie Mouse as they watched the rest of the field arrive.

And the alien invasion? Team members learned that the futuristic appearance of Sunrayce vehicles had triggered rumors across several states that aliens were landing.

Sitkins encountered the rumor firsthand. While waiting in the rain, camera in hand, for Sunseeker to come through one small Georgia town, a somewhat frantic citizen pulled up and said, “Have the aliens landed yet?”

“I looked down the road and saw Iowa State University’s car just coming into view,” Sitkins says. “I said, ‘Look, here comes one now,’ and the guy piled into his truck and drove off saying he had to alert his buddies. That was a great moment—rain or no rain.”

Story by Cheryl Roland—cheryl.roland@wmich.edu
Photography by Richard Wojnak
1A Alumni Contrast Tipped Pique Polo
100% cotton pique, left-chest embroidery by GEAR
Color: White with charcoal/oxford trim
Sizes: S-XXL
$42.00

1B Alumni Cotton Pique Polo
100% cotton, left-chest embroidery by GEAR
Color: Butter Sizes: S-XXL
$41.95

1C Sunwashed WMU T-Shirt
Heavyweight 100% cotton by JANSPORT
Color: Sunwashed Yellow
Sizes: S-XL
$15.95

1D Center Stripe T-Shirt
90% cotton/10% polyester by JANSPORT
Color: Oxford with Navy stripes
Sizes: S-XXL
$22.00

1E Embroidered Bronco T-Shirt
Heavyweight 100% cotton by JANSPORT
Color: Black Sizes: S-XXL
$19.95

1F New Bronco Logo T-Shirt
100% cotton by JANSPORT
Color: White Sizes: S-XXL
$15.95

1G Ring Spun Cotton T-Shirt
90% cotton/10 rayon by IDENTITY
Color: Oxford Sizes: S-XXL
$16.95

1H Contrast Tipped Pique Polo
100% cotton pique, left-chest embroidered Bronco by GEAR
Color: White with Charcoal/oxford trim
Sizes: S-XXL
$42.00

1J Jersey Polo
100% cotton jersey, rib knit at collar and cuffs with black stripes by GEAR
Color: White with Black Stripes Sizes: S-XXL
$36.95
2K Mini Bronco Basketball
by FOTOBALL
$9.95

2B WMU Soccer Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2C WMU Football Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2D 2K Mini Bronco Basketball
by FOTOBALL
$9.95

2E Alumni Embroidered T-Shirt
Heavyweight 100% cotton by JANSPORT
Color: White  Sizes: S-XXL
$19.95

2F WMU Volleyball Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2G WMU Hockey Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2H Alumni Jersey Knit Polo
100% cotton by GEAR
Color: White with Black Stripes
Sizes: S-XXL
$36.95

2J Women’s Imprint Long Sleeve T-Shirt
100% cotton by GEAR
Color: Black  Sizes: S-XXL
$24.95

2L Small Bronco Logo and Stripe T-Shirt
100% cotton by JANSPORT
Color: Black  Sizes: S-XXL
$15.95

2M WMU Basketball Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2N WMU Basketball Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2P WMU Volleyball Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2Q WMU Hockey Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

2R Big Foot Bear
by IT'S ALL GREEK
Colors: Tan, Brown or White
$25.00

2S 4” Legend Bear
by COLLEGIATE TRADITIONS
Color: Brown
$8.00

2T WMU Stadium Blanket
Bavarian Fleece by GEAR
Color: Charcoal
$54.00
3A Long-Sleeve T-shirt with New Bronco Logo Imprint
100% cotton by JANSPORT
Color: Black
Sizes: S-XXL
$24.95

3B Kids' Long-Sleeve T-Shirt with New Bronco Logo
by THIRDSTREET
Color: Oxford
Sizes: 12M, 18M, 2T, and 4T
$14.95
Sizes: 6/8, 10/12, and 14/16
$17.95

3C My First WMU Sweatshirt
by LITTLE KING
Color: White
Sizes: 6M, 12M, 18M, and 2T
$16.95

3D Kids Bronco Bucket Hat
by UNIVERSITY SQUARE
Color: Denim
Sizes: Infant Small or Medium
$15.00

3E Youth Hat
by LEGACY
Color: White
$14.95

Children's Bronco Crewneck
50% cotton/50% polyester by THIRD STREET
3F
Color: Oxford
Sizes: 6M, 12M, 18M, 2T, and 4T
$14.95
$19.95

3G
Color: Black
Sizes: 6M, 12M, 18M, 2T, and 4T
$14.95
$19.95

3H Floppy Friends Bronco Plush
$7.50

3I Kids' Long-Sleeve T-Shirt with New Bronco Logo
by THIRDSTREET
Color: Oxford
Sizes: 12M, 18M, 2T, and 4T
$14.95

3J, 3K
Color: Black and Oxford
Sizes: 6M, 12M, 18M, 2T, and 4T
$10.95

3L Washed Western Michigan Crew
Embroidered Western Michigan 100% washed cotton by GEAR
3L
Color: gold
Sizes: S-XL
$48.95

3M
Color: navy
Sizes: S-XL
$48.95

3N Long Sleeve Western Michigan T-Shirt
100% heavyweight cotton by JANSPORT
Color: Oxford
Sizes: S-XXL
$22.95

3P Long Sleeve Alumni T-Shirt
Left-chest Alumni embroidery by JANSPORT
Color: White
Sizes: S-XXL
$24.95

3Q Long Sleeve Bronco T-Shirt
100% Cotton by JANSPORT
Color: Oxford
Sizes: S-XXL
$22.95
4A Houndstooth Polo
100% cotton jersey, double knit jacquard. Embroidered Bronco Logo by GEAR
Color: Black/Wheat Sizes: S-XXL
$52.95

4B Birdseye Jersey Polo
100% cotton birdseye jacquard Embroidered Bronco Logo by Gear
Color: Tan Sizes: S-XXL
49.50

4C WMU Football Jersey
by Koronis
Color: Black Sizes: S-XXL
$59.95

4D Children's Football Jersey
Color: Black Sizes: YS-YXL
$35.95
Sizes: 2T-4T
$26.95

WMU Seal Crewneck
Full-chest embroidered WMU seal and name logo
50% cotton/50% polyester

4E
Color: Brown Sizes: S-XXL
$36.95

4F
Color: Oxford Sizes: S-XXL
$36.95

Victory Jacket
Hooded jacket in water-resistant nylon taffeta, lined in super heavyweight fleece by GEAR

4G
Color: Black Sizes: S-XXL
$69.95

4H
Color: Gold Sizes: S-XXL
$69.95

4J
Glacier Jacket by JANSPORT
Color: Gold/Black Sizes: S-XXL
$95.00
5A Alumni Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

5B WMU Hat
by THE GAME  Color: White
$14.95

5C Wool Flannel Bronco Hat
by LEGACY  Color: Oxford/Black
$18.50

5D Broncos Bucket Hat
by GEAR  Color: Oxford
$21.50

5G Bronco Head Logo Hat
Wool Blend by LEGACY  Color: Black
$19.95

Big Cotton Alumni Crew
80% cotton/20% polyester with left-chest Bronco Alumni embroidery by GEAR

5H Color: Butter  Sizes: S-XXL
$42.95

5J Color: Natural  Sizes: S-XXL
$42.95

5K Color: Oxford  Sizes: S-XXL
$42.95

Big Cotton Fleece Crew
80% cotton/20% polyester combed cotton, with Western Michigan University imprint by GEAR

5E Color: Oxford  Sizes: S-XXL
$39.95

5F Color: Butter  Sizes: XS-XXL
$39.95

Western Alumni Crew
50% cotton/50% polyester Full-chest embroidery, By JANSPORT

5L Color: Natural  Sizes: S-XXL
$34.95

5M Color: Navy  Sizes: S-XXL
$34.95

5N Color: Oxford  Sizes: S-XXL
$34.95

5P Western Michigan Seal Crew
50% cotton/50% polyester by JANSPORT  Color: Oxford  Sizes: S-XXL
$24.95

5Q "W" Cap
Wool cap with stitched on felt "W" by LEGACY  Color: Brown
$18.95
6A Full Bronco Logo Hat
Wool Blend by LEGACY
Color: Black
$18.50

6B Cross Grain Crew
Super heavyweight
95% cotton/
5% polyester
by JANSPORT
Color: Oxford
Sizes: S-XXL
$36.95

6C Big Cotton Crew
Left-chest embroidered Bronco Logo
80% cotton/
20% polyester
by GEAR

6D WMU Hockey Jersey
100% polyester
Full-chest embroidered applique Bronco Logo
by KORONIS SPORTS

6E Cross Grain Crew
Super heavyweight
95% cotton/
5% polyester
by JANSPORT
Color: Oxford
Sizes: S-XXL
$42.95

6F Cross Grain Crew
Super Heavyweight Fleece
95% cotton/
5% polyester
by JANSPORT
Color: Ash
Sizes: S-XXL
$74.95

6G WMU Hockey Jersey
100% polyester
Full-chest embroidered applique Bronco Logo
by KORONIS SPORTS

6H WMU Hockey Jersey
100% polyester
Full-chest embroidered applique Bronco Logo
by KORONIS SPORTS

6J WMU Hockey Jersey
100% polyester
Full-chest embroidered applique Bronco Logo
by KORONIS SPORTS

6L New Bronco Logo Crew
50% cotton/
50% polyester
by JANSPORT
Color: Oxford
Sizes: S-XXL
$24.95

6M Nor-easter Nylon Jacket
Upper-body and collar lined with Bavarian fleece.
Lower body and arms lined in taffeta by GEAR
Color: Black
Sizes: S-XXL
$74.95

6N Reflector Jacket
Nylon shell polyester mesh
lining. Reflective Striping by JANSPORT
Color: Black/Gunmetal Stripes
Sizes: S-XXL
$79.00

6P The Quivira Pullover Nylon Jacket
Hood concealed in collar, upper body and collar lined
with Bavarian fleece by GEAR
Color: Gold
Sizes: S-XXL
$95.00
7A Gold Broncos License Plate
by R&D
$4.95

Alumni License Frames
by R&D
7B Color: Black Matte
$6.95
7C Color: Chrome
$6.95

7D Gold Medallion Money Clip
by C.S.I.
$16.50

WMU Bronco Logo Flag
3ft x 5ft Polyester Flag
by DURAKNIT

7E Color: White
$25.00
7F Color: Black
(not pictured)
$25.00

WMU Neckties
100% Silk by Chelsea

7G WMU Bronco Pillow
Corduroy with wool felt Bronco Applique by Collegiate
Color: Black
$19.95

7H Alumni Coffee Cup
by Modern China
$4.95

7I WMU Pennant
Premium wool felt pennant
by Collegiate
$15.50

7J WMU Pennant
Premium wool felt pennant
by Collegiate
$10.95

Alumni Pennant
by Collegiate

7J WMU Pennant
Premium wool felt pennant
by Collegiate
$10.95

7K Alumni Pennant
Premium wool felt pennant
by Collegiate
$10.95

7L Gold Medallion Coasters
Set of two by C.S.I.
$49.95

7M Bronco Tie
Color: Vegas Gold
$29.95

7N Full Bronco Tie
Color: Black
$29.95

7P Stripe WMU Tie
Color: Vegas/Black
$29.95

7Q WMU Seal Tie
Color: Vegas Gold
$29.95

7R The Sound of Western
The WMU Bronco Marching Band CD
Recorded outdoors so listeners can imagine they are actually at a game, this 45-minute CD has 21 tracks that include the WMU fight song with all the words and the Alma Mater as well as music from Grease, Star Wars, Robin Hood, and William Tell
$12.50

7S WMU Mini Football
by FOTOBALL
$9.95

7T Mini WMU Football Helmet
by TMAC
$34.95

Broncos Baseball Hat
Adjustable by LEGACY

7U Color: White
Crown/Black Bill
$19.95
7V Color: Natural
$18.50
7W Color: White
Crown/Black Bill
$19.95
7X Color: Natural Crown/Black Bill
$19.95
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THE GOODS
“Campus Talk” is one of two sculptures by Highland, Utah, artist Dennis Smith installed in 1997 on the south side of the Waldo Library/University Computing Center complex. The sculpture and “The Professor,” a second piece by Smith, were funded through private donations.