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Letter from the President

Dear WIU Alumni,

In this issue of the Western Magazine for alumni, our graduates have shared memories of their time at WIU in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. These decades had their fair share of controversy and divisiveness across the nation, and some of this was certainly reflected on our campus and within the local community.



Throughout the years, Western Illinois University has evolved and we have a long tradition of embracing diversity, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and healthy discourse. Our town and gown relationships are strong, and the communities we serve are truly Western communities that embrace our students, faculty and staff.

While freedom of speech has long been a given on our campus, at one point a policy existed that restricted free speech to a specific area on campus (behind the University Union). In 2003, WIU President Al Goldfarb had the foresight to consider the 1995 policy as obsolete and stifling, noting "There is no better place for free and open expression of ideas than a public university. Our entire university represents the ideal of freedom of expression." I am proud that Western continues its practice of recognizing that our entire campus is a "free speech zone."

Those students who worked at the Western Courier in the late 1960s and 1970s, as well as some on campus who did not adhere to "establishment guidelines," may have felt oppressed, particularly when they were told what they could or could not say or do. I am proud to share with those alumni that freedom of the press is alive and well at Western Illinois University. Each year, it has been my privilege to visit the Western Courier, much like my predecessor, to discuss the importance of freedom of the press and freedom of speech on this campus. The University administration will not interfere with the student newspaper, nor will we dictate its content. The Courier -- which is an award-winning publication -- is a useful learning tool for many of our students, and provides a worthy forum for our students to share University news, opinions, and more.

Central to our mission is the University commitment to diversity, civility, and respect. We welcome students, faculty, and staff from all walks of life to our campus to live, learn and work in a safe and welcoming environment. We value differing opinions, and we embrace the fact that we live in a country where we are free to express our beliefs and our values. Our differing views and our individuality are what make our University an environment of learning, exploration and discovery, and we cherish a respectful, civil, supportive, and peaceful community.

Thank you to those alumni, faculty, and staff who went before us to make Western Illinois University the paragon of learning it is today.

Jack Thomas, President

Juck Themas

WESTERN SUMMER 2017

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After 50 years, a group of black Western Illinois University alumni return to campus to find it a very different place from the one they left.

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Have tips, questions or comments for the Western Illinois University Alumni Magazine? Email AA-Looney@wiu.edu. To send us your news, see pg. 45.





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University News

WIU Alumnus Follows Passion to Fulfilling Career Path

By Jodi Pospeschil MA '15

The interesting career path Western Illinois University alumnus Joseph R. Roderick '07 followed after his graduation has resulted in his discovery of his life's passion working with struggling youth.

After Roderick graduated from Western with a degree in English and a minor in creative writing, he began working as a residential counselor at The Children's Home in Peoria. IL. It was in the former hometown of comedians Sam Kinison and Richard Pryor that Roderick's desire to become a stand-up comedian began

Roderick eventually got a job counseling foster children, which freed up his evenings to build a standup comedy routine in Peoria.

"I invited all of my friends and coworkers out to the Jukebox Comedy Club's open mic night and completely bombed," he said. "I grew up in Macomb; I never grew up around a comedy club or really understood how stand-up worked. I assumed someone from Comedy Central just knew some funny people and asked them to do stand-up commedy. It was my wife who helped me realize comedians write their jokes and don't just wing it every time."

Roderick began performing each week at the Jukebox's open-mic night, then he began weekly trips to Springfield, Champaign and Mason City to craft his comedy. Thirtythousand car miles later, he won a Jukebox regional competition, beating out 60 other comedians to become the opening act for comedienne Caroline Rhea.

For the next four years, he worked as a Jukebox featured act, eventually becoming an emcee. At the same time, he took over the podcast "The

Stand-Up Chronicles," which was a consistent iTunes Top 10.

"This was the perfect storm of opportunities," said Roderick. "I got to work intimately with all of the headliners coming through town, which, because of Peoria and the club's reputation, were always the best and biggest comedians from Los Angeles and New York."

After developing relationships with comedians such as Saturday Night Live veterans Chris Kattan and Tim Meadows. Roderick and his wife. Rachel Waters Roderick '09, decided to make the move to Los Angeles.

Once in California, Roderick began working in an inner-city school in Los Angeles while he pursued his comedy dream. Through a fellow comedian, he began working for a Hollywood location company on Fox's television shows "Brooklyn 99" and NBC's "This is Us."

"It was my job to work with the director, the set designer and the locations company to try to make everyone happy," he said. "This meant that if Andy Samberg wanted to do a spit take, for example, the director would have to ask if this was okay or if it would ruin anything belonging to the locations company."

Roderick said the job allowed him to skip many of the steps people seeking to work in television have to take. But there was something about his work that left him feeling empty.

"I had spent the past eight years working with children with special needs and behavior disorders, and working on set of a TV show felt cold." he said.

He said that while most of the people he worked with were also living what they considered to be their dream, he was struck by how no one

seemed happy. The final straw came for Roderick while filming a scene on "Brooklyn 99" in a supply closet and realizing the "fake" closet had better supplies than the inner-city school he had been working in.

"I realized my dream had turned into something nightmarish, and the skills that I had learned at Western and the Children's Home, of being able to help children in need, were being squandered," he said.

Roderick and his wife eventually moved back to Peoria so he could follow his passion of working with struggling youth and still make weekend performances at The Jukebox Comedy Club. The only thing that still tops Roderick's comedy bucket list is performing on the WIU campus.

"Everything in my life has a seed that was planted back at WIU," he said. "I am working full time as a children's counselor and am enjoying comedy as a passionate hobby."



Joseph R. Roderick '07

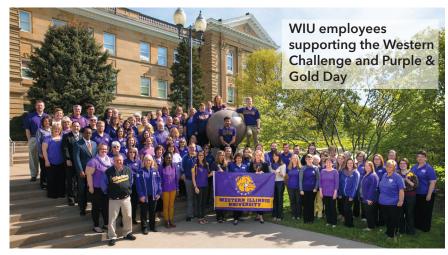
Giving Back to Western

The Western Challenge: A Record-Breaking Day for WIU

Leatherneck pride was in full force April 24 as the 24-hour Western Challenge and Purple & Gold Day opened at midnight at Western Illinois University. The Western Challenge's 24-hour online giving event goal was to reach 1,000 donors from midnight to 11:59 p.m. on April 24, and a record-setting 1,071 donors rose to the challenge, donating more than \$133,900.

Gifts ranging from \$5-\$25,000 rolled in for a variety of departments, programs, resources, scholarships and special projects, from the wee hours of the morning to the evening's end.

"The Western Challenge is indicative of the type of support the University receives far and wide from alumni, students, friends, faculty and staff. We cannot thank the 1,071 individuals enough for their incredible generosity and support. I would also like to thank Annual Fund Director Tim Hallinan '95 for leading this charge and Foundation staff members for their support, our Alumni Programs staff for their work organizing Purple & Gold Day in conjunction with the challenge, Phil Weiss '98 MS '17 of University Television for the wonderful videos, University Relations for the promotional and social media efforts,



the Visual Production Center for capturing photos of this great day and to people like JB [John Biernbaum] and so many others who made The Western Challenge a priority and ensured its success," said Brad Bainter '79 MS '83, vice president for advancement and public services. "We came together in the true spirit of the Leathernecks. I could not be more proud to be a member of the Western Illinois University family."

According to Hallinan, the majority of gifts made during the April 24 challenge were designated for student scholarships.

"This record-setting day further demonstrates to our students that

Western is a place with people who truly care about their success," Hallinan said. "The Leatherneck spirit is strong throughout the world."

Large-scale challenge gifts came in from a number of donors including Mona Sawyer 55'; Dave '72 and Jackie Thompson '85 MS-Ed '94; Col. Marinda Coultas-Wood '58 and Kate Nelson, who wished to honor her late husband Ted '51, who had a connection with Ray "Rock" Hanson, and her family of WIU graduates, Hallinan added.

The Western Challenge videos, posts and more can be found on Facebook at facebook.com/The-Western-Challenge-1335161686497804.



CADEMIC EXCELLENCE

COLLABORATION WITH FACULTY ENHANCES STUDENT EXPERIENCES AT WESTERN

By Jodi Pospeschil MA '15

One indicator of a wellrounded academic experience is the collaborative opportunities the institution's faculty offer students outside the traditional classroom.

Across the academic disciplines, Western's faculty work directly with students to conduct research, which can result in groundbreaking work and scientific discoveries that have implications reaching far beyond WIU's campuses.

The work of two faculty/student teams within the WIU Department of Biological Sciences is branching out to create partnerships with other universities across the nation and netting discoveries that have potential uses in medical treatments. The research work also creates a web of academic networking and eventual career opportunities for students.

"Batty" for Science

When Paris Hamm '15 came to Western to study biology, she only had to travel across town to get to campus. As a graduate of Macomb High School, Hamm completed her bachelor's degree in biology and French at Western in 2015, and continued on to graduate school at WIU. After her graduation, Hamm will head to the University of New Mexico to begin her doctoral work.

She chose New Mexico because of a research collaboration she and WIU Associate Professor of Biological Sciences Andrea Porras-Alfaro have spent many months cultivating. Hamm and Porras-Alfaro recently published the March cover story in

the academic journal of the America Society of Microbiology, titled "Western Bats as a Reservoir of Novel Streptomyces Species with Antifungal Activity."

The bats Hamm used for her research were collected by researchers at the University of New Mexico. The bats' wings were swabbed by researchers there, and the more than 1,700 specimens collected were tested by Hamm in Porras-Alfaro's fungal ecology lab in WIU's Waggoner Hall.

The result of the testing was Hamm's discovery of 15 new types of bacteria, which produce antifungals to control a fungus that is currently causing high mortality among bats in the United States and Canada. Another product of the work is further research into how these bacteria can be used in the development of antifungals and antibiotics for use in the medical field.

"There is a bigger impact for not only the bats, but also for society as a whole," said Porras-Alfaro.

Hamm's research, which includes work on White Nose Syndrome, a devastating disease in bats caused by a fungus, also captured the attention of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) field office in Peoria, IL. WIU students have previously completed internships at and have been hired by the USDA thanks to these collaborative efforts.

Researchers from multiple institutions have also expressed interest in the research into the potential to control infectious diseases and the discovery of novel antibiotics.

Porras-Alfaro added the collaborative efforts enhance the opportunities students have for graduate school or careers after graduating from Western.

"The difference between Western and larger schools is that we provide unique opportunities for one-on-one mentoring," she said. "This University is very supportive of faculty/student research and that is what makes us unique as an institution."

There are several WIU programs that helped Hamm have the scholarship and professional conference attendance opportunities she has, including the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Biological Sciences, the office of Graduate Studies, the Women in Science program and the Research Inspiring Student Excellence (RISE) program.

"Through my research, I learned I was happy working in the lab and I am so glad I changed from wanting to be a doctor to do more teaching and research," said Hamm. "A lot of this came from learning from Dr. Porras-Alfaro; having her as a mentor has made a huge impact."

Because of her discovery of the 15 new types of bacteria, Hamm will have the honor of naming them. While she is still pondering what those names will be, she said she told her mother, Annette '83, that one would be named after her.

Porras-Alfaro said when she writes grant proposals to fund her research, she always builds in funding to hire Western students



Sampling of Actinobacteria from a wing of a pallid bat (Antrozous pallidus) from the Grand Canyon Parashant **National** Monument in New Mexico. Photo Copyright 2013 Kenneth Ingham.

as research assistants. She said the path her research projects take sometimes depends on the passion of the students and the areas they are most interested in studying further. Grant funding that promotes student involvement has come from organizations like the National Park Service, the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Energy.

"This allows students to focus on the research and build their career opportunities, instead of having to get a part-time job to pay the bills," she said.

Porras-Alfaro praised Hamm's recent publication, saying it is difficult for students to have their work published in an academic journal before their master's degree is completed.

"As a faculty mentor, I have gained so much working with students like Paris," she said. "Students have a different perspective on things I might not see and then together we develop new projects. Faculty-student mentoring allows us to grow together. It is difficult for students to get these kinds of experiences from just the classroom."

Those Pesky Opportunities

WIU Biological Sciences Assistant Professor Catherine Miller-Hunt '02 has turned researching nature's "pests" into important findings that have numerous implications from academic to medical.

In her vector-biology lab at Western, Miller-Hunt involves students in a variety of research activities that both aid her findings and enhance the students' learning experiences.

"Research studies show that undergraduate and graduate students who do some sort of research activity are more engaged in their academic program and do better in their classes." she said. "It also enhances their educational experience and shapes their futures."

As a Macomb High School and a 2002 WIU graduate, Miller-Hunt returned to Western after getting her advanced degrees at the University of Iowa. Her husband, Jason Hunt, is a doctoral student in WIU's Environmental Science program. He also teaches dual credit classes for Carl Sandburg College at West Prairie High School in Sciota, IL, and partners with Miller-Hunt for her work studying the mosquito and tick populations in the region.

The husband-and-wife research team involves students in every aspect of their work, from tracking and capturing the mosquitos and ticks to testing them for the diseases they carry.

WIU doctoral student Michelle Rehbein '13 MS '16, of Darien, IL. received her bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from Western. She said she started school with a general interest in science, but decided to continue her education after becoming more passionate about it.

"I wanted to continue the learning process," she said. "I started in health sciences and then I took immunology with Dr. Miller-Hunt and I got more into it. She introduced me to mosquito research, field work and surveillance—it was like health



Andrea Porras-Alfaro and Paris Hamm

sciences and biology together. It's great to have a mentor who takes you under her wing and gives you hands-on experience. It's not only fun, but you learn so much, too. Being a part of this vector team got me more involved with organizations in the school. One thing just leads to another. "

After finishing her doctoral studies in environmental science, Rehbein would like to work in the conservation field in Colorado and Wyoming.

Miller-Hunt said she is proud to help guide and shape students toward attaining their academic and career goals. Like Porras-Alfaro, she said the research she and her students conduct in their laboratories at Western has attracted the attention of other universities and governmental agencies.

The tick and mosquito research has led to new relationships with

the United States Department of Agriculture and the University of Illinois.

This summer, Hunt and Miller-Hunt will work with students to conduct research on ticks in west central Illinois.

"We will be conducting a survey to figure out what is out there," said Miller-Hunt. "We want to expand on the information that is already there and see what the ticks are carrying. This is our fourth year gathering data this way and we use undergraduate WIU students to help. We train them how to sort the ticks and how to do the testing."

Miller-Hunt said she and her students will be collecting ticks from anyone who wants to drop them off or mail them to her lab in Waggoner Hall, room 279. The ticks can be put in a plastic bag with rubbing alcohol or frozen to be preserved.

"This work impacts everyday life and we want to make people more aware," said Miller-Hunt. "We want to get people thinking about the diseases ticks and mosquitos carry."

In addition to the collaborative research opportunities available in WIU's Department of Biological Sciences, the faculty also benefit from each other. Miller-Hunt said Porras-Alfaro has been her mentor and is someone whose work she wants to model.

"That is why I put my office right next to hers," Miller-Hunt said. "I hope to get those grants that will enable students to have the full internship experience in my lab."

For more information about the WIU Department of Biological Sciences and the programming it offers Western's students, visit wiu.edu/biology or call (309) 298-1546.



WHAT I KNOW NOW

Michael Litwin '70: (Retired) businessman; consultant; philosopher

YOU'RE ONLY AS OLD AS YOU ACT

I'm 69 years old going on 15. I wonder what I'll be like when I grow up?

IF YOU LOVE WHAT YOU DO, IT'S NEVER WORK

I've loved what I've done every single day of my 46-year career. My passion and enthusiasm was infectious and as a result we were able to create a culture of excellence.

SUCCESS IS BASED ON GOOD JUDGEMENT.

Good judgement is based on experience. And experience is based on bad judgement. My philosophy in my life and career has been to never make the same mistake twice. The older I get, the smarter I get because I'm running out of mistakes I haven't already made.

IT'S NOT IMPORTANT TO BE LIKED.

It is important to be respected. Sticking to your principles and doing what you think is right will serve you better than doing what you think others want or expect.

SOMETIMES ITS BETTER TO ASK FOR FORGIVENESS THAN PERMISSION.

It's better to regret a few mistakes made along the way than regret never having tried.

DRINK GOOD BOOZE And get ocean front Rooms.

Do it as right as you can within your budget. Sometimes that might mean saving a bit more to enjoy the upgrades.

GOLFING A LOT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN YOU'LL GET ANY BETTER.

One year into retirement and

many rounds of golf under my belt has not seen my handicap improve. I've learned to enjoy my mediocre game anyway. I appreciate the fact that, at least, I'm still on the right side of the ground.

NO ONE SUCCEEDS ON THEIR OWN.

Align yourself with competent advisors who you trust. Empower your employees to make decisions and compensate them fairly. Their success will ensure your success.

CHICAGO HOT DOGS AND DEEP DISH PIZZAS ARE THE BEST.

I've tried them all and it's not even close.

IT'S OK FOR A WHITE SOX FAN TO BE HAPPY THE CUBS WON THE WORLD SERIES.

What was not to like about the 2016 Cubs? I even bought a Cubs Championship t-shirt and wear it from time to time.

THERE IS NOTHING BETTER THAN GRANDCHILDREN.

I spoil the hell out of my 7- and 10-year old grandsons. We break all the rules. We go swimming at night after the pool is closed. We've become

best friends. I hope we stay this close forever.

MILLENNIALS HAVE IT MUCH HARDER THAN WE BABY BOOMERS DID.

Make no mistake about it. Competition for jobs has become global and it's harder to find employment. The cost of education is dramatically higher with student loans significantly impacting the future financial prospects of many of today's graduates. I remain optimistic, however. Western has provided our graduates with a great education and I'm confident they have the tools to succeed in any environment.

IN RETROSPECT,
MUTTON CHOPS MAY
NOT HAVE BEEN AS COOL
AS I THOUGHT THEY
WERE.

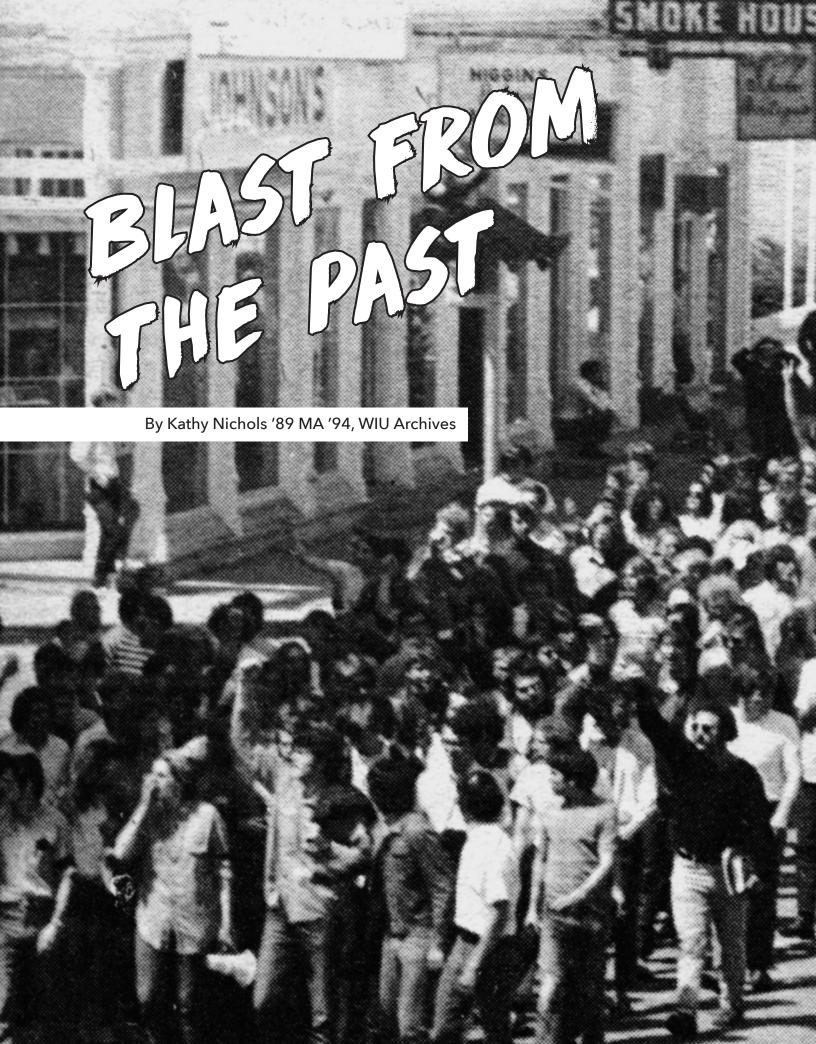
MAKE SURE YOU'RE PREPARED TO RETIRE.

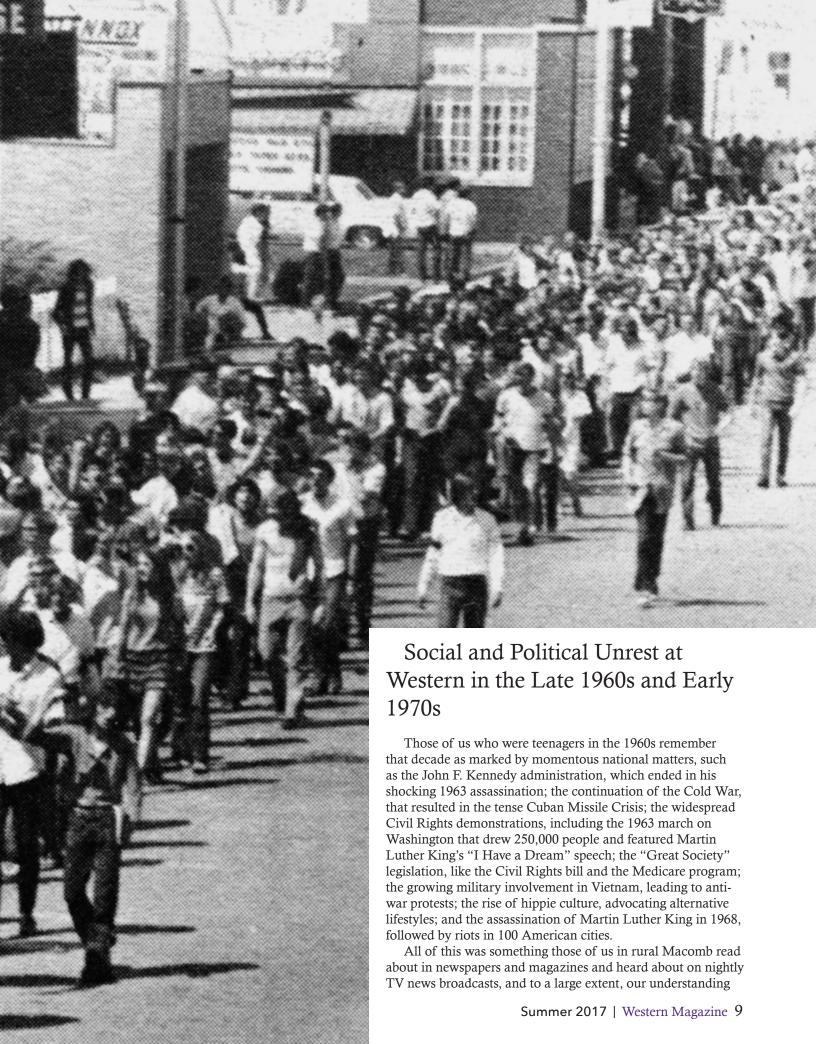
I wasn't ready the first two times I retired. I ended up going back to work both times to save my sanity (and our marriage!) I finally realized I needed to be engaged in some fashion, so when I finally retired for the third time last year, I joined some boards and continue to do some consulting work for my former employer. Now I have the best of both worlds.

YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD TO STOP LEARNING.

Like a muscle, if you stop using your brain it will atrophy. Recently, I got interested in the universe so I went out and bought a telescope and took an online college course on astronomy. Next on my list is learning how to be a better cook ...







If there were no injustice the ink would stay in the pen.

A Progressive University Weekly

VOLUME 67.

MACOMB, ILLINOIS, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1969

NUMBER 2.

Students Attend Moratorium Ra

See Story Page 3

SECOND RALLY

of national and world affairs was colored by the perspectives of commentators such as Chet Huntley, David Brinkley, Walter Cronkite and Peter Jennings. Who among us can forget Cronkite's delivery of the shocking news of President Kennedy's

death at 1 p.m. Nov. 22, 1963?

The nightly news also informed us of riots in Philadelphia, Watts and Newark, and it brought into our homes and dorm rooms the news of death tolls as a result of the Vietnam War. Still, for all its visual immediacy,

> rioting in urban areas and deaths in Southeast Asian jungles seemed removed from the reality of daily life in rural west central Illinois.

Some local residents worried about the impact on their town from the dramatic growth of WIU as the Baby Boomers reached college age. Student enrollment on campus ballooned from 2,695 in 1960 to 6,094 in 1965 and 11,112 in 1969. Still, others saw potential for local economic and cultural growth as a result of the unprecedented growth of the University population. In addition, there was change afoot as a result the Japanese firm Bower Roller Bearing coming to Macomb in 1966, and a mobile home construction company, Fleetwood Enterprises, the following year. Of course, the increase in employment potential that came with the location of these industries in Macomb was good news. Still, accompanying needs for city services placed demands on the town's infrastructure,

forcing local officials to come up with creative economic solutions.

On campus, some students were reading books like Betty Friedan's "The Feminine Mystique," Michael Harrington's "The Other America" and J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye." The last of those is a novel about a teenager's search for something to believe in. Also, they were listening to music by Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger and others containing social messages.

As changes occurred throughout the nation and the world, changes also began to take place on the Western campus. A few students dared to voice objection to restrictions imposed by the administration as the University, under President A. L. Knoblauch, was still acting in loco parentis (in lieu of parents). In the early 1960s, a group of students led by Sandra Hendrickson Birdsall '64 and Charlotte Holman Cox '64 launched an off-campus newspaper called "The Freedom Writer," which criticized limitations established by Knoblauch, as well as from what they felt was his lack of communication with students, and other problems. Unreceptive to student complaints and fearful of opposition, the president sought to quash student efforts to call attention to their concerns. In January 1964, a few students hung him in effigy from the flagpole in front of Sherman Hall. For the most part, however, students' protests remained focused on promoting student involvement



in certain activities as opposed to fostering social change. The majority of young people attending Western came from conservative Midwestern backgrounds.

However, protests and voices of the students took a turn in the late 1960s. In January 1968, the protest group, Concerned Students for Peace, handed out anti-war materials in the Union lobby, across from the U.S. Marine Corps recruiting table. Although November election results showed more students supporting Nixon than Humphrey, students were at least more conscious of the war than they had been before.

On Oct. 15, 1969, close to 1,000 Western students and dozens of faculty members participated in the nationwide Vietnam Moratorium demonstration. The Macomb march took place from Sherman Hall to downtown Macomb. A Courier article (student-run newspaper, see page 22

for more about the Courier) stated, "Homes along the line of march flew more flags than usual in what was apparently a silent protest ... Sullen high schoolers milled around in Chandler Park in a group of perhaps 10 and silently looked on as the park activities began ... A cluster of working class men

stood near the end of the marchers' route in front of Sherman Hall, looking on and making belligerent comments to the marchers. The police handling of the march revealed a professional competence that many students felt had been non-existent ... The marchers returned to the free speech area [on campus] followed by taunts from other students." Clearly, in this conservative part of the state, there was a mix of feelings regarding U.S. involvement in the Vietnamese War. Still, as John Hallwas '67 MA '68 says in his WIU history, "First Century," "A very different era had dawned."

By the end of that year, many students were outspokenly opposed to the Vietnam War, and some faculty members supported these student activists. Don Daudelin MA '72, the minister at the Campus Christian Center, called the war "morally indefensible." Because of

his connections with students, WIU President Bernhard, who replaced Knoblauch in 1968, soon appointed Daudelin as the new University Ombudsman.

With the Courier in the hands of activist students, led by Paul Reynolds who called himself "a revolutionary," others felt it focused on controversial matters, to the exclusion of campus events of interest to a wide spectrum of readers. That sentiment spawned the establishment of the independent student newspaper, the Western

Moratorium is analyzed

ous increase in the

tremendois increase in the umber of doves."

He further stated, "The mora orium will have an impact and his impact has a lready been elt as evidenced by the with-lrawal of troops. "No president an remain immune, as Nixon has stated," Until resolved, the var is going to hurt every p dent politically as it did Jo

mutee for Western's campus, I was somewhat satisfied with the results of last Wednesday's ober vance. Although the feels that he day could not be measured in terms of success or failure, Reynolds believes the moratorium was a success in terms of more involvement by students than pass offer.

Reynolds stated that the plan

Moratorium were "scared He believes that some p were intimidated by the label on the day's activi Western's events, Re

Pat Ritter, cadet commander-ROTC

by JOHN MAGUIRE
Pat Ritter viewed the "Viet
Nam Moratorium" of Oct, 15
as a group of individuals exercising their Constitutional rigi of freedom to assemble peace-fully. Ritter felt that the obser vance of the Moratorium at WI was left largely to the individu and in that respect Ritter admi

agree with her on n he was impressed by as a speaker. Ritte ee with her on



class missed a good deal re-rding the history and political applications of the war. In regard to future plans for

MORATORIUM COM-MITTEEMAN AT WIU

a workshop ran by the non-viol-ent training action center from Chicago. About the same numb attended sessions at the Campus Christian Center on the problem of relating the moratorium to people outside the University. Draft counseling and a meetin for Viet Nam veterans took pla

people participated in the oo many people.



RN ILLII

Everyone's talking about the weather, not us.

A Progressive University Weekly

MACOMB, ILLINOIS, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1969

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October

OLUME 67.

"By The Dawn's

This is the established order of things, when a Nation grown to such an height of power as to become ous to mankind, she never fails to lose her wiser justice, and her moderation, and with these she or fails to lose her power; which however returns n; if those virtues return.

JOHN ADAMS 1778, Autobiography lugust, 1969.

calling themselves patriots, were deciding should be a Moratorium at Western and sur-

> Catalyst. (See the feature "The Tale of Two Papers" on page 22 regarding the Courier's role on—and off—campus in the 1960s).

By Spring 1970, some students wanted the ROTC program at WIU eliminated. Like other anti-war students across the country, they saw it as a support group for American militarism in Vietnam. One event escalating anti-war sentiment at Western was President Nixon's April 30, 1970 announcement of his decision to invade Cambodia. In response to Nixon's announcement of the expansion of the war into Cambodia, students on hundreds



A racous horn blast and an angry driver. Ross Paterson from Palatine. GOD BLESS AMERICA from an angry high school student holding an American flag.

of American college and university campuses organized protests, including some 2,000 at Kent State. On Monday, May 4, 1970, National Guard troops fired into the crowd at Kent State, wounding nine students and killing four. Disruptions followed on nearly 450 campuses, including WIU.

At Western, on the evening of the Kent State Massacre, about 1,000 protesters marched to the residence halls, chanting anti-war slogans, and then gathered by Simpkins Hall, where the ROTC program was housed. Vice President Richard Poll attempted to speak to the group, but

was shouted down, and more than 500 students occupied the ROTC offices.

Throughout Tuesday, the students who had entered Simpkins remained. Their leaving was contingent upon administrators agreeing to a referendum to decide the fate of the ROTC program. On Tuesday afternoon (May 5), about 400 of Western's 11,000 students held a rally behind the Union, marched through the campus, and then to the Macomb square and back to campus. During the rally at the Union, demonstrators surrounded a Marine recruitment booth and attempted to

destroy materials on display there. In addition, demonstrators doused a car belonging to one of the recruiters with gasoline and set it on fire. The fire was quickly extinguished, and only minor damage resulted.

"A few minutes later," the Macomb Journal reported, "a group of students attempted to prevent the demonstrators from hauling down the American flag from the flagpole in front of Sherman Hall. When the demonstrators said that they wanted to lower it to half-mast, they were told by University officials to go ahead. The students who wished to prevent the incident were told to leave the flag alone after it was lowered."

On Wednesday, May 6, two days after the occupation of the ROTC program, President Bernhard announced Wednesday would be a "Day of Conscience" for Western students, assuring them he shared their rage over the tragedy at Kent State. However, Illinois Gov. Richard Ogilvie also ordered National Guard troops stationed at a number of state schools to protect life and property. In Macomb, the National Guard was on alert, but was never called upon. By Thursday, May 7, several hundred veterans and other students organized a countermarch and around the Macomb square, and members of the WIU Vets Club campaigned in support of the ROTC and organized visits to campus residence halls to talk to student voters.

The climax to the week of protests came before dawn on Friday, May 8. By that time, opposition to the ROTC program had been defeated by a 2-1 vote in a hastily-called referendum. With police and national guardsmen poised to evict the protestors from Simpkins Hall later that day, Poll informed the students of the penalties if they failed to withdraw, and rejected most of their demands, including the one to close WIU.

After learning of the results of the referendum, many students left Simpkins Hall. Around 3 a.m. Daudlin reported to those remaining that Poll had denied all but two of their demands: halting the practice of reporting dismissals of students more than once a year and establishing a Peace Center. At that point, the 250 remaining protestors rose from the floor of the Simpkins Hall gym and peacefully filed out of the building. As one WIU alumnus recalled, "the atmosphere here was just electric during those days of the Simpkins occupation."

For a while, it seemed to students, faculty and Macomb residents that Western might share to a substantial extent in the protest movement that characterized many campuses

nationwide during the early 1970s. Thanks to conscientious negotiation on the part of students and administration, that was avoided in our corner of the world.

There was clearly great concern about the war, and protest had finally come to WIU, but the conflict was well handled. For thousands of students and townspeople, there was understandable relief that voices had been heard without more significant social disorder.





For a little more than a decade, a group of black Western Illinois University alumni from the late 1950s-early 1960s have gathered at various points throughout the U.S. to catch up, reminisce and reconnect. One place they had not yet gathered as a group ... and most have not visited since graduating ... was Macomb, IL.

Because of societal attitudes during that era, minority students did not feel welcome in the community during their time as students and there were places they simply could not go. Therefore, they chose not to return following graduation. However, in August 2016, that changed when Alumnus Jim Shipp '65 convinced the group to return to Macomb for their annual reunion. Nearly 25 alumni returned to their stomping grounds, and enjoyed a new experience in their old college town. Friends, classmates and teammates met in Macomb beginning Thursday, Aug. 25 and spent the weekend catching up at their alma mater.

"Many of us here were students at Western in the late 50s and early 60s. There weren't many black students on campus then, about 100 or 110 of us, so we just bonded. We had weekend parties, visited each other's homes and served as a support system for one another," Shipp explained.

Following graduation, the group of about 30 alumni lost touch with several members, but a few would stay in touch over the years via phone and mail. That changed about 15 years ago when a member of the group found out two of the men with whom they had lost touch with had died homeless and alone.

"That really had an impact on us. It hit us hard that we didn't even know there was homelessness in our group. After that we decided we would stay in touch—and start getting together —with everyone so we could help one another if any of us ever needed help," Shipp said.

So for the past 15 years or so, the group, along with wives and partners, have joined together once a year at various locations throughout the U.S.—from Chicago to New York to Indiana to Ohio-for a weekend reunion. And in 2016, Macomb was the reunion destination.

"About 15 years ago, which was in Joliet that year, we started talking about our days in Macomb, but we still didn't really talk about coming back. And when we started to have that conversation last year (in 2015), we were met with a lot of resistance from some. But once Booker (Edgerson) [who had an illustrious career with the Buffalo Bills] and Leroy (Jackson) [who was the first

round draft pick for the Cleveland Browns in 1962] said they were on board, they got a lot of people turned around," he explained. "You have to understand, while we had great relationships on campus, Macomb hadn't caught up with the times, and the current WIU Administration didn't seem to do much in the way of reaching out to the community to tell residents and community leaders they needed to be more accepting. That really left a bad taste in our mouths.

Shipp was quick to point out, however, that there were some in the community who were "absolutely wonderful," including Mr. Conn at Edison School, whom Shipp worked with as a student teacher.

"I was invited to his home for dinner, and it was the first time I ever had breaded mushrooms (morels) in my life," Shipp laughed. "He was wonderful, and I think there would have been a lot more individuals within the community who would have been just as accepting had they been encouraged."

While Shipp, who was a recordsetting wrestler, and many of his classmates were athletes, they were also involved in some campus activities and organizations. But it was Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity that made the most effort at welcoming Shipp and a few other minorities, he recalled.

"I, along with Jim Wakefield and Fred Cohen '65, pledged TKE, and a headline in the student paper actually read 'Blacks, Jew Pledge TKE.' It was a big deal for the time, but the fraternity had a few guys who were forward thinking. And this was big news at the time (1962-63), and they were the first frat that was diversified," Shipp said. "But when we went downtown to celebrate getting into the fraternity with our new brothers, there was a place that wouldn't serve Jim and me. That was the norm off campus unfortunately."

At the group's 2015 reunion, they invited President Jack Thomas and Vice President for Advancement and Public Services Brad Bainter '79 MS '83 to join them. Throughout the years, the group had been invited to return to campus; however, many didn't wish to come back to Macomb.

"It was time to put the past behind us. We couldn't keep blaming the University for what the community didn't do back then. The University had the foresight and great idea to diversify, but didn't really prepare the community," he pointed out. "I've learned that in business throughout the years: you have to get support first before you succeed."

Shipp, who is the president and CEO of Shipp Enterprises, LLC in White Plains, NY, certainly took what he learned at WIU and parlayed that into a successful career, as did several of his classmates and teammates.

"We were given a great opportunity here to learn," he said. "I do credit my career accomplishments with what I learned at Western, in and out of the classroom."

Following graduation in 1965, Shipp, who had been an education major, was looking for coaching and teaching jobs back in his hometown of Chicago, when he got a call from a classmate regarding a job opening at the maximum security Illinois Industrial School for Boys (IISB) in Sheridan, IL. Shipp worked at IISB for a few years, and then moved back to Chicago to work as a street gang social worker on the south side with the Commission on Youth Welfare.

"I'd be in the housing projects to meet with kids and their families, and the kids who had been at Sheridan would see me and greet me. They trusted me because they knew me," he said.

Shipp was seen as an up-andcomer by the powers that be, and before long he was promoted, and coordinated the work of a group of parole and probation officers around youngsters who had become known to the police. As a result, in 1969 when he was just 28 years old, he was accepted to the National Urban Fellows program that was supported by the Ford Foundation, National League of Cities and U.S. Conference of Mayors who met for an academic session at Yale University. That was the beginning of Shipp's first East Coast trajectory.

As part of the class at Yale, Shipp found himself doing field work at **Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration** Corporation in Brooklyn, under the direction of Franklin A. Thomas. Shipp parlayed that into a career when he stayed on to run the Bed-Stuy physical development (housing)

"The urban problem was a much

Diversity at WIU

In keeping with the spirit of "Higher Values in Higher Education" and the institutional values and mission, diversity is a priority at Western Illinois University. The University celebrates, recognizes and values the diversity of its campus community.

Western provides a wealth of resources that promote diversity and cultural awareness, including Casa Latina Cultural Center, Gwendolyn **Brooks Cultural Center** and the Women's Center, housed in the Multicultural Center; Disability Resource Center; the new Queer Studies minor, the Center for International Studies; the **LGBTQ** Resource Center and Unity, to name just a few.

bigger problem than the juvenile justice system I had been working with. I learned that the withdrawal of lending institutions, businesses, city services and organizations caused very large community-related issues, in fact those communities were "red lined" he explained.

Shipp stayed with the Restoration Corporation for 10 years, running the housing programs and renovating



Many of us came here on athletic scholarships, and we so appreciated the opportunity. — Jim Shipp '65

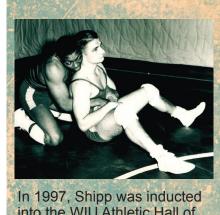
housing for low-income Brooklynites, all while earning his master's degree. A decade later, in the late '70s, he was recruited by Cummins Engine Co. in Indiana to run the company's real estate program. During his 29-year career with Cummins, Shipp worked his way to vice president of corporate facilities and assisted in the building of manufacturing plants in North Carolina, France, Mexico, Scotland and England, and in 1991, he was named president and assumed the ownership of Cummins Metropower, Inc., a position he held until his 2008 retirement.

"Many of us came here on athletic scholarships, and we so appreciated the opportunity. Many of my classmates and friends have

also gone onto wonderful careers and we've made a difference," he added. "I tell students whom I talk to now that they must take advantage of what they have been given, not just to learn from the books, but to hone your interpersonal skills—learn from others who are different from yourself-and learn to respect other points of view."

During the weekend reunion in Macomb, the group was amazed at the changes that had taken place over the past 50 years, from the diversity of student body and faculty and staff to the number of students to the facilities ... and most importantly to the alumni, how the community had changed.

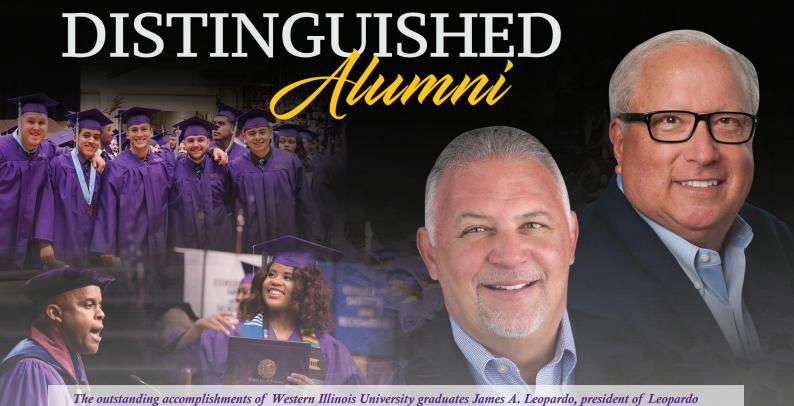
"Western has grown up," Shipp said wistfully. "So has Macomb."



into the WIU Athletic Hall of Fame. While at WIU, Shipp was a conference wrestling champion and a national finalist.

Back I-r: Herma Williams, Eric Williams, John Elliott, Gene Toms, Angie Vellejo and Jim Wakefield. Middle I-r: Joann Elliott, Jean Toms, Veronica Shipp, Dorthy Nance and Barbara Scott. Front I-r: Kenneth Freeman, Angie Vallejo, Booker Edgerson, WIU President Jack Thomas, Jim Shipp, Leroy Jackson, Roger Elliott and Walter Switalski.





Companies, Inc. of Hoffman Estates, and Michael J. Litwin, a founding member and senior executive vice president and chief credit and risk officer for NXT Capital, LLC of Chicago, were recognized at Western's Spring 2017 Commencement Exercises in Western Hall.

The Distinguished Alumni Award, given since 1973, recognizes alumni who have brought credit to the University and themselves through exceptional professional accomplishments, meritorious service to ensure the continued excellence of WIU and through service to their communities at the national, state or local levels.

Leopardo '77, a construction engineering graduate, started Leopardo Construction, Inc. after graduating from Western. Under his leadership, Leopardo Industries has grown into one of the nation's largest 300 contractors, with more than 400 employees and 400 projects built annually.

In recognition of his industry pioneering, Leopardo was inducted into Midwest Real Estate News' first ever Commercial Real Estate Hall of Fame in 2010. and he was included on the Crain's Chicago Business 2015 list of Who's Who in Chicago. He also received the Entrepreneur of the Year award from Ernst and Young in 1990 and has twice been a featured speaker at Harvard Business School's Annual Entrepreneurship Conference.

Leopardo has employed numerous WIU alumni over the years and provides internship experiences for Western students. He is an

emeritus member of the **Engineering Technology Advisory Board and** frequently attends WIU alumni events.

In his community, Leopardo has served on the board at the Foglia YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago, and received the Volunteer of the Year and Family of the Year awards. He also served on the board at JFK Health World, a non-profit children's health education museum. An alumni member of the Young Presidents' Organization (YPO), he served as the organization's Chicago chapter chair, chapter treasurer, day chair and education and membership chair. Every year, the Leopardo Charitable Foundation assists dozens of charities.

Leopardo is a member of Safari Club International, FMI Executives/Presidents Peer Group and is a board member of James A. Graaskamp Center for Real **Estate Wisconsin School of** Business.

Litwin '70, a management graduate, recently retired after a 46-year career. During the course of his career, he served in many executive positions in the commercial finance industry, most recently as the founding member and senior executive vice president and chief credit and risk officer for NXT Capital, LLC, responsible for the company's credit and risk management activities. Prior to that, Litwin served for seven years in a similar position at Merrill Lynch's commercial finance subsidiary Merrill Lynch Capital, where he was a founding member. Litwin spent 30 years at Heller Financial in a number of senior roles, including executive vice president, chief credit and risk officer, chair of the Credit and Credit **Policy Committees and** assistant general counsel. While at Heller, he spent six years in its legal department

and also managed most of the company's lending and investment activities.

Litwin was the first WIU College of Business and Technology (CBT) Executive in Residence, served on the the CBT Advisory Board and currently servces on the President's National Advisory Council. He was named the CBT Distinguished Alumnus in 1994, and Litwin has also endowed the Michael J. Litwin Scholarship at Western.

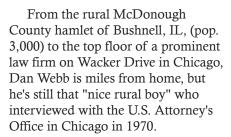
In his community, Litwin served on the Board of the Commercial Finance Association and was the first non-banker elected to the board of the Risk Management Association. In addition, he was responsible for the charitable activities at Merrill and Heller.

Litwin earned his juris doctorate from John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

SMALL TOWN UPBRINGING BIGCITY SUCCESS

A rural Illinois boy takes on Chicago and comes out on top

By Darcie Dyer Shinberger '89 MS '98 & Brad Bainter '70 MS '83



Webb, Winston & Strawn LLP's co-chair has taken down corrupt police officials and top ranking military brass, cross-examined the 40th President of the United States and defended clients from governors to Fortune 50 companies in his 45year law career, which started at the age of 21 in Chicago. A look at how he rose to the ranks of one of the most prestigious firms in the country foreshadows his career success and his ability to win in the court of law.

Bushnell Roots & McDonough County "Gumption"

Webb was born and raised in Bushnell, about 15 miles northeast of Macomb. While he lived in town, his grandparents had a farm outside of Bushnell, where Webb spent much of his youth.

"I spent more time than I wanted working for my grandfather at 30 cents an hour. I was cheap labor—I milked cows, baled hay ... you name it," Webb laughed. "I did that for a number of years, until I started

detasseling corn in the summer for DeKalb because they paid better than grandpa."

Webb said he really didn't have any idea what he wanted to do with his future. It was his Bushnell High School guidance counselor, Josephine Johnson '55 MS-Ed '58 (who later came to Western and served over the years as a faculty member, counselor, director of enrollment, special assistant to the president and vice president for advancement and public services)who gave him a book about famous lawyers and also got Webb involved involved in the school's debate team.

"I was good at it, and after debating and reading about the lawyers, and with Josephine's encouragement, I decided I was going to be a trial lawyer," he explained.

Webb enrolled at WIU, which had a 3+1 pre-law partnership program with the University of Illinois. Students would go for three years at Western, transfer to the U of I law school and after completing a successful first year, would obtain their bachelor's degree from WIU, while getting a head start on their law degree. While fulfilling all his prerequisites at Western and buckling down during the school year, Webb returned to Bushnell every summer to work at the hammer factory by

day and run card games at night at Eve's Pool Hall to earn money for the following school year. During the year, he worked as a resident assistant in Lincoln Hall in order to get the room and board benefit.

Webb was at WIU from 1963-66 and was set to transfer to Illinois in Fall 1966, when the flagship school abolished the program.

"I wanted to get going. I did what I needed to do at WIU to transfer, and I decided I was going to law school after three years here like I had planned," Webb said. "I applied to Loyola and a few others, and I got an interview with Loyola because the dean had made a mistake reading my transcript."

Western was on quarters at that time, but the law school dean read his transcript as if he had completed four years of school.

"I took the train to Union Station on the day of my interview; I didn't have any money for a cab, so I walked to Loyola," he recalled. "I walked into Dean Hayes' office, and he said 'Oh my gosh, I've made a mistake. You've only finished three years of school and don't have a bachelor's degree.' I proceeded to tell the dean that I was ready for law school and that the program I had counted on had been canceled without due process. It was my first (and finest) closing argument,

and I'll be damned if he didn't accept me on the spot.

"I don't think I would have ever become a lawyer if Dean Hayes hadn't accepted me," Webb added. "Staying at WIU one more year wasn't in the cards for me. I loved it, but I was ready to begin my career as a trial lawyer.

"Josephine really charted my course. I owe a lot of my career to her. She saw me as hell on wheels in debate and clearly steered me toward law. I owe a lot to Dean Hayes as well for his mistake," he laughed. "But when I was in law school at Loyola, I was always so afraid someone was going to find out I didn't have my undergraduate degree and here I was at law school."

Webb finished Loyola in 1970, four years after he first started. It took him a bit longer than most of the "traditional students" as he ran out of money midway through and had to switch to night school and work in a bank during the day. Yet, he never gave up his dream of being a trial attorney.

"Nice but Rural" & On the Map

After his graduation from Lovola, Webb knew he wanted to be a trial lawyer, but in order to do that, he had to get to the trials, so he needed to get to a U.S. court to get that experience. William (Bill) Bauer was serving as the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois at the time, with (former Illinois Gov.) Jim Thompson and

Sam Skinner serving as assistants, and the three men interviewed Webb to work in the U.S. Attorney's Office.

"In later years, I saw my file from that interview, and Jim and Sam recommended me for the job, but Bill had written down, "NBBR." I asked what that meant, and he finally told me, "nice boy, but rural," Webb laughed. "That 'nice but rural' air about me I guess made them think I'd be able to talk to, and relate to, folks. Jim always said I was a farm kid who could talk to juries.

"My roots, my foundation and my speaking pattern had been formed before I moved to Chicago," he added. "And during the Chicago Police Department corruption trial, the media even went as far as making fun of the way I talked. I was explaining money-laundering to the jury, and I used the term 'warshing board.' We grew up saying 'warshing' as 'washing,' and I still say it that way. The media picked up on it and had some fun with it. So, while you can live somewhere else a long time,

your speaking habits don't necessarily change. And my roots have kept me grounded."

That trial was Webb's first big trial, which took place in 1971, under Thompson, who had been named U.S. attorney when Bauer was appointed to a seat on the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. The corruption case focused on organized crime and payoffs to Chicago police officials. Webb said a strike force discovered that organized crime was paying off Rush, Old Street and 18th Street police, and gamblers were paying off the 18th Precinct commander. Further investigations revealed that clubs and bars on Rush were paying off members of the vice squad. The strike force wanted a young lawyer, and that young lawyer was Webb.

"Twenty-three police officers were indicted. One year out of law school, this made my career." he said.

Webb's former boss, Bauer, was the presiding judge, and Webb managed a conviction for every officer involved



with the exception of two. When asked if he had ever feared for his safety during this trial, which involved organized crime, Webb said he was never worried about his life, rather he was worried about not winning.

"A few of the cops had flipped and became our witnesses, but there was so much to keep straight and to get all of that in front of the jury," Webb added. "But I got my point across. Winning that case was important, and that trial put me on the map."

Interviewing

"Dutch"

Tom Sullivan, who was leaving the office, and he was going to brief me

on the case. He told me, 'There are two boxes back there. One is going to break up your marriage, and one is going to keep you from practicing law.' Operation Greylord was an undercover operation that uncovered bribery, fraud and corruption. Cardinal Cody was involved, and

Greylord erupted. The trial, which

indicted, and most were convicted.

"I met with then-U.S. Attorney

officials—including 17 judges-

took years, saw more than 93 public

if he had been indicted, that would have broken up my marriage,

and if the judges were indicted, that could affect my future as a lawyer according to Tom," Webb explained. "But I did indict judges and it didn't affect my career. The vast majority of judges are

honest and above board. I think a lot of them saw the indictments as a positive for the judicial

> system. And Cardinal Cody passed away before he was indicted, so my marriage stayed intact."

Webb left the federal attorney's office to join Winston & Strawn in 1985, to once again work alongside his former boss Jim Thompson. However, he had not yet seen an end to his career as a federal prosecutor. Within two years, he was called back to the U.S. Attorney's Office as a special prosecutor for the Lafever case and then the highprofile Koschman case, which involved the Chicago Mayor's nephew, Richard J. "R.J." Vanecko, who was convicted of manslaughter. His final stint as a special prosecutor came in 1990,

trying Admiral John

Poindexter for his involvement with the Iran-Contra Affair and deposing President Ronald Reagan as part of the trial.

"President Reagan was a major witness for Poindexter, but I also did not want this to be a spectacle, nor did I want to disrespect the Office of the President of the United States, so we opted to obtain his testimony via deposition," Webb explained. "I flew to California for the interview, and we took the deposition in an empty courtroom in LA. It was surreal.

"Poindexter's lawyers had President Reagan on most of the day, and I needed to get back to D.C. and only had one hour or so left. I began to cross-examine him and he became difficult," he recalled. "He began giving testimony that was damaging to my case, so I had to ask for a continuance so I could come back the next morning. I prepped all night and I had to be more aggressive than I had originally planned. I had completely misjudged how he would react when I first cross-examined him, so the next day, I was much more aggressive and cross-examined the president for several hours. And it seemed to work, as the jury ruled in the prosecution's favor. You just don't know how a witness is going to react, so you have to be able to adjust."

Controversial Cases & Communication

After the Iran-Contra hearings, Webb returned to Winston-Strawn. In the years that followed, he has defended such former politicians as U.S. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski and former Illinois Gov. George Ryan; high profile companies such as GE, Microsoft, Bank of America and Philip Morris; cities such as Ferguson, MO; and most recently, Ukranian oligarch Dmytro Vasylovych Firtash. Webb is currently spending the next three months in the western region of the U.S. trying a defamation case for a South Dakota business against ABC News and Diane Sawyer.

"I've tried some controversial cases and I've been involved in complex



situations," he said. "I haven't won them all, of course, and some are harder to take, like former Judge David Shields. I was devastated to lose this case. When the jury came back with a guilty verdict, I was sick to my stomach for days. I felt, and still feel, he was innocent."

When Webb is in the courtroom, even in the most complex of cases, he said he likes to keep it simple.

"If you try to talk over the jury, you'll lose the case," he explained.
"And I'm not underestimating a jury's intelligence. The strength of a good

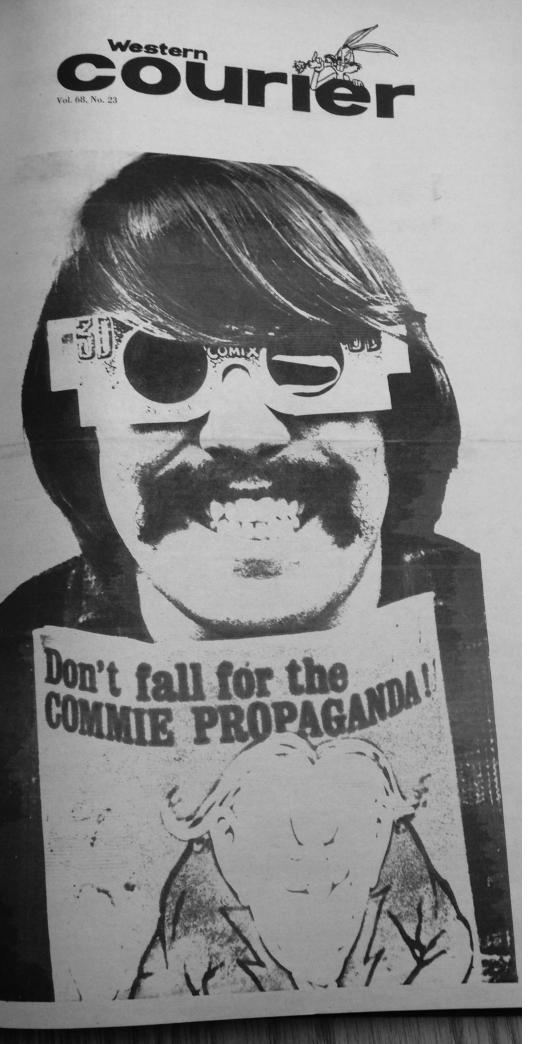
trial lawyer is to keep it simple and speak to people in honest terms."

Small Town Upbringing & Success

Webb's peers at the firm and in the courtroom have told him over the course of his nearly 50-year law career that he still has the "NBBR" touch. Webb agreed that he still has those McDonough County roots engrained deep within.

"My small town upbringing has facilitated much of my success," he said. "Growing up in Bushnell and working at Vaughn Hammer Factory gave me the ability to talk to folks. Going to Western, where I experienced diversity and expanded my horizons, was a great learning exercise that has served me well throughout my life and career."

After practicing law for nearly half a century, when asked if he was ready to "slow down," Webb laughed and simply replied, "I keep saying I'm going to slow down, but it hasn't happened yet."



A Tale of Two Papers

By Darcie Dyer-Shinberger '89 MS '98

Like Charles Dickens wrote: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

The Vietnam War, Kent State, conservatism and pro-war versus liberalism and anti-war, hippies, Nixon and more ... the late 1960s and early 1970s were rife with controversy, conflict and chaos. And the campus of Western Illinois University—a microcosm among the cornfields—began to reflect what was occurring throughout the world. With protests taking place, an "us versus them" mentality taking hold and an administration that was attempting to keep its thumb on the student body, a group of WIU students took to the pages of the Western Courier to share their opinions of the war, the presidents (U.S. and University) and the faculty, along with news that many considered "left wing."

That "liberal approach" eventually led the Courier to be kicked off campus, and to the creation of a more conservative newspaper, the Western Catalyst. The Catalyst, run by former Courier editor Rick Alm, and later by John Maguire '73, reported the "straightforward" news the journalism faculty and administration agreed represented Western.

Thus begins the "tale of two papers."

Divergence, Deviance, Diversity & Disestablishment

Paul Reynolds was the Courier's editor from 1968-69. An outspoken anti-war activist (and editor of Western's first underground newspaper, the Mae West) "shook Macomb as it was never shook before." [from the 1973 Sequel, "Revolution at WIU Revisited," by Dennis Hetzel '74, who joined the paper as a freshman in Fall 1970 and took over as editor of the Courier in 1972]. When Reynolds was awarded the editorship, the Courier was beginning to be considered a "radical" newspaper.

strenuously to the publication of a condom advertisement ... I can use dirty language as well as the next guy, but must we subject college students to gutter lingo."

"You have to remember during this Vietnam-era, it was a sensitive, volatile time. There was a lot of anger from both sides. The Courier did have a left-wing, anti-war posture and that was not popular among a lot of people," Hetzel recalled. "But President Bernhard wasn't the villain here. He was trying to herd cats, and he was under an enormous amount of pressure. This was a very controversial newspaper, with obscene language and a very alternative approach."

1950s. The change in content started when the communication students and faculty selected me as editor," Reynolds explained in a recent interview. "I was far left when I was appointed, so it should have come as no big surprise that the paper would go in that direction of progressive and anti-war."

While the Courier was still housed in the University Union with Reynolds at the helm, he has no doubt that he played a role in the displacement off campus, which Dave Huey, who took over as editor, navigated, Reynolds said.

"Right after the [post-1970 Kent

"Members of the SGA were enamored with Buckminster Fuller, the architect who came up with the geodesic dome, so on Halloween, we printed the paper on orange paper and had a geodesic Jack-O-Lantern as the center spread. People looked forward to reading this beyond the sociopolitical news."

— Dennis Hetzel '74

According to Hetzel, while President John Bernhard supported freedom of speech and freedom of press, he was coming under intense pressure from alumni, legislators, Board members, community members and parents for the content of the Western Courier. Laden with profanity and anti-war rhetoric, along with highly

political (and sometimes personal) editorials, the Courier was considered very controversial, Hetzel remembered.

"We resent the one-sided, left-wing, reactionary and revolutionary policies of Paul Reynolds and his staff ... this paper is a travesty," one letter stated.

The father of a female student wrote to President Bernhard, "I object

Looking at the Courier's "journey" to the "radical" student newspaper of the late 1960s through early 1970s, Reynolds, who was a student at WIU from 1967-71, was first part of the Courier's staff under the leadership of Alm.

"The Courier was a moderate conservative newspaper. It was a time of a small school of journalism led by faculty who were stuck in the State shootings] takeover of Simpkins Hall, President Bernhard called me into his office. It was a tense time on campus, and there was a lot of turbulence, but I think he really supported our right to say what we thought and what we felt. He was under a lot of pressure because of what we were publishing. He told me 'I wish you

wouldn't be so glandular," he remembered with a laugh. "What's funny is even though we were considered far left by conservatives on campus and in the community, there were some that still thought we were still too normal or in the middle. We covered Greek news, sports and the usual. We felt a responsibility to cover the news, but would we go out to lunch and go over the edge? Yes. We were by far not the most radical, but we were

unabashedly anti-authoritarian. We felt we had a responsibility to cover what was happening on campus and around the world."

While the newspaper took a decidedly left stance under his direction, Reynolds added he is proud of what the paper stood for. It supported diversity, and women and minorities were hired at the Courier at a time when both groups weren't given much in the way of opportunity to voice their opinions.

"They had the freedom to do what they wanted, and we helped motivate them and we supported them," he recalled.

Huey's sister, Pam '72, started with the Courier during her freshman year, covering student government and other stories. She went on to enroll in Paul Simon's master's degree program for journalists at Sangamon State (now UIS), and worked for the Associated Press, United Press International, and now is an editor for the Minnesota Star Tribune. Nate Lawrence was the first president of the Black Student Association (BSA) at Western and he was also the Courier's first Black columnist.

"We started the BSA because we weren't being well-served, and that of course, is what also prompted me to join the Courier staff. There were no other avenues for our issues and our school of thought, but the Courier provided that access and provided a forum to share what Black students on campus were experiencing," Lawrence said. "The climate of campus, as it was, there were no 'yellow brick roads,' so to speak, for Black students. Like Bill [Knight] '71, Paul and others who took more of the 'anti' posture, we felt underserved and disenfranchised either because of our long hair, our beliefs or our skin color, so it was a natural match for us to come together. Their issues were our issues."

Lawrence said one of the things he is most proud of is through his work at the Courier and his group's outspokenness, the flunk-out rate among Black students ceased.

"Nobody had a solid grasp about what was going on on campus. There were no resources for us and we were not advised what to do to succeed. The Courier allowed us to bring to light what was happening to this core group of students," he added. "The collaboration of our group and other groups of 'misfits' was perfect. It was functional and it was effective."

Prior to joining the Courier staff, Lawrence worked for Reynolds' underground newspaper (the Mae West). When Lawrence was with "the West," he actually called for a boycott of businesses due to the way Black students were treated by some merchants.

"This gave me my first insight to the true power of the press," Lawrence said. "I'm proud of the work we did. No one was buying the BS from politicians and others, and we were able to bring to light a lot of issues."

Reynolds added because of the diverse nature of not only the staff of the Courier, but also the content, he believes they

motivated the student body to take a more active role on campus.

"We had more than 1,000 join us in an anti-war march from campus to the downtown area," Revnolds recalled. "We actually had a lot of support from the student body."

But it wasn't the student body that was complaining to University

Front I-r: Neil Stegall, Karen Lange, Linda Garbo Hoppe '70, Steve Morris and **Bob Nemec.** Middle I-r: Kandi Sexton '71, Mike Law '71, Steve Croxton '71, Bobo (John) Rosemond '70 MS '71 and Greg Norton '70. Back I-r: Lew Jackson, Tom Roarke, Dave Huev. **Tom Looman** '70 and Rich

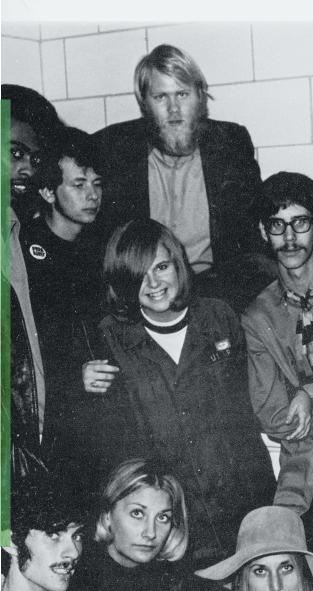
Hoppe.

administration about the newspaper's content. Hetzel recalled how, when he was a part of the staff, they couldn't unload the papers fast enough on campus as people were waiting to grab them literally hot off the press. Still, it was Reynolds' and his staff's forward thinking—and pressure from those who held the power—that led to the Courier moving off campus and forming the corporation Bitter Carrot, LLC, with Huey eventually at the helm.

Reynolds added that he didn't think it was any "one thing" or the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back that led to the "dismissal" of the paper to off-campus premises.

"Do I cringe when I go back and

"All power to



read what I wrote, sure. I know we rubbed people the wrong way, but at the time, it was relevant. It was political," he said. "I understand now that the powers-that-be had to show some strictness, and if I had to do it over, I may have done things a bit differently. Really, the only remorse I ever felt at the time was that I wasn't a bigger help to Dave when he became editor and had to navigate the paper off campus. But Dave is the strongest, most salt of the earth, man I know, and Bill (Knight) was a strong leader as well."

Huey joined the Courier staff in Summer 1969, after a four-year stint serving on U.S. Navy submarines. His sister was at WIU, he had spent four years on subs, and he was newly married and trying to decide what to do. At his sister Pam's urging, Huey and his wife, Marcia, moved to Macomb. He first worked at Edison Porcelain while attending school, but then a fellow classmate, Greg Norton, told Huey about the Courier seeking new writers.

"That was when I met Paul. He hired me and we got along well, but he was the rabble-rouser," Huey laughed. "I was the quiet guy in the background when I was hired, and we played good cop-bad cop well, but really the seeds of activism

the Press' was slogan of Courier.



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dennis Hetzel '74: Director, Ohio News Media Association; career journalist and editor; journalism instructor; fiction author, "Season of Lies" and "Killing the Curse."

Dave Huey [Attended 1969-70]: Retired Assistant Attorney General, State of Washington; 36-year law career.

Bill Knight '71: WIU Journalism Professor (1991-2012); former environmental reporter, critic and assistant editor at the Peoria Journal Star; syndicated columnist and freelancer; reporter for The Labor Paper and Peoria's Community Word; helped launch community weekly covering Peoria, Fulton and Knox counties.

Nate Lawrence [Attended 1970-72]: Executive Director, Polyrhythms, a Quad Cities-based nonprofit organization dedicated to community and cultural arts advocacy; president, Telemark Communications.

John Maguire '73: Retired Assistant Vice President for University Relations, WIU; retired director of Public Relations and Fund Development, McDonough District Hospital Public Relations; former journalist, Macomb Journal.

Paul Reynolds [Attended 1967-71]: Retired PR Director for Fortune 500 Arizona-based company; former principle in large PR/ad firm; copywriter; musician (and currently earning a second bachelor's degree in music).

had already been planted in my psyche when I was in port during the Fall 1968 Democratic Convention. I was watching on TV how kids like me were being beaten by Chicago cops and given the okay by Mayor Daly to do so to 'preserve order.' By the time I enrolled at WIU the next year, those seeds were in full bloom. I started hanging out with people who believed in the same things I did, and it was just a natural evolution the more I was exposed to what was going on."

By Fall 1969, Huey was the assistant editor, and during the 1970-71 academic year, he assumed the editorial-ship. The Courier was still housed in the Union, but there were continued rumblings about the University's liability in regard to the ongoing controversial content appearing each week. Huey echoed Hetzel's and Reynolds' sentiments that it was a "tumultuous time."

"There were demonstrations on campus, and there was a group that took over Simpkins Hall* where ROTC was housed, for three or four days," Huey recalled. "We coordinated the coverage and we had some pretty flamboyant coverage." [*Editor's Note: See Blast from the Past on page 8 for more on this event.]

That flamboyancy was apparent with the very first issue of the Fall

1970

back of the newspaper was designed to look like the cover of Zig Zag rolling papers, complete with a light screen at the top of the inside pages to replicate the adhesive.

"It looked like you could roll it as one big joint. There was a lot of consternation about that particular Welcome Back issue, and we reveled in being troublemakers" Huey said. "That's how my editorship started."

The Winds of Change (or "Hydroplaning Off Campus")

It was also that year that an accident changed Huey's course. On Feb. 4, 1971, he was on his way back to Macomb in his Plymouth station wagon, loaded with 10,000 freshly printed Couriers from Martin Printing in Havana. It was sleeting and his mind was elsewhere, thinking about how he had to get back with the papers. He passed a semi, and in the sleet, didn't see another one coming straight at him on the rural two-lane highway. Huey sped up to get around the semi to avoid a head-on collision and as he navigated back onto the right side of the road, he lost control of the car. Huey was quick to point out that he was not stoned at the time, just inexperienced driving in the central Illinois winter weather.

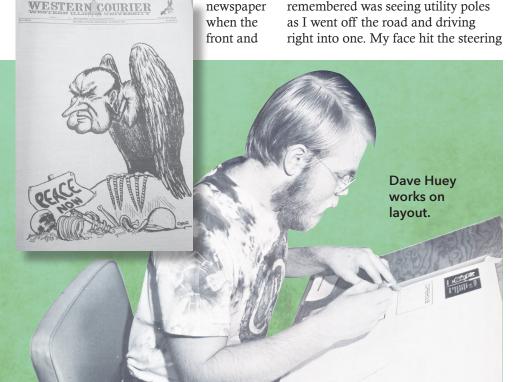
"This was my first introduction to hydroplaning. The last thing I remembered was seeing utility poles

wheel so hard that the steering wheel was unrecognizable. Yet, I was out of the car, picking up newspapers while my blood was dripping everywhere. I guess I was in shock," he said.

He ended up in the ICU, having broken every bone in his face. Huey was out of commission until at least the first part of April. George Taft '72 took over for a brief period as editor until Hetzel took over the role of editor in 1972 (Taft later went on to launch SunRise Magazine with Bill Knight and Mike Mooney). It was during Huey's recovery that Bernhard succumbed to the pressure and the Courier was removed from campus.

However, despite being kicked off campus, the paper continued to receive student fees to operate after a referendum overwhelmingly passed, the student body supporting the Courier. The merry band first moved to an old house near campus, where Hetzel said there were so many code violations, he's surprised they never fell through the floor. Eventually, the newspaper offices made its way to the Macomb Square, taking up residence on the second floor of the donut shop (where Sullivan Taylor now resides). Huey added that Gary Tagtmeier, his "frat boy business manager," was invaluable in keeping the paper together financially. He, along with his fraternity brothers, made sure the checks didn't bounce, and Neil Stegall, who was Courier columnist, was elected as the student body president, with the support of the paper.

"Neil was our heart and soul and was instrumental in passing the referendum that kept student fees coming to us. Yes, we were a leftist rag, but we were also the merry pranksters," Huey recalled. "And to protect us, and to protect the University from liability, with the help of Art Greenburg, an ACLU attorney from Peoria, who worked for us pro bono, and WIU Librarian Lois Mills, the Courier incorporated as Bitter Carrot, LLC. Art and Lois were an enormous help and really supported us. While Ms. Mills surely didn't





approve of all the content of those Couriers, she was prepared to defend fiercely students' First Amendment right to make the content decisions. Lois was a friend and mentor from day one; she was a hell of a woman."

Reynolds added that Mills "was a saint in all of this as she really helped us navigate the move to a corporation, and as a liberal herself, she really believed in and supported us."

Huey left the Courier and Bitter Carrot in August 1971, after the birth of his daughter. His wife had returned to North Dakota, and Huey chose to follow to continue his education in North Dakota, rather than continue "rabble rousing" in Macomb. Hetzel remained at the helm and continued the paper's tradition.

"Those student fees were our lifeline. It kept the Courier going," Hetzel said. "But when we were removed from campus, they literally took every desk and filing cabinet. We found that house first, and then moved to the square, and we managed to put a paper out every week. We had light tables, a dark room, typewriters, anything we could cobble together and a pop machine that dispensed beer. And the only printer that would print our paper was Martin Publishing

in Havana, so we would run the paper to Havana late into the night, wait for it to be printed and drive it back to Macomb. It was an intense time, but it was an exciting time. There wasn't just a divide on campus, but in the journalism world as well with the birth of Rolling Stone and Hunter Thompson. It was new journalism.

"Looking back now, we weren't really worried about the future of the paper, or if we were loved or hated on campus. I will tell you this though: people loved to read the paper and they looked forward to it. Amazingly, we were still allowed to deliver it to campus and people would be waiting for it," he added. "While we had some intense stuff in the paper, we had a sense of fun with it too. We had some crazy stuff that made it a fun read. Joe Layng and other members of the SGA were enamored with Buckminster Fuller, the architect who came up with the geodesic dome, so on Halloween, we printed the paper on orange paper and had a geodesic Jack-O-Lantern as the center spread. People looked forward to reading this beyond the sociopolitical news."

Fake News, Fun & Feebs
Hetzel also remembered one

week when there was a hole in the sports section that needed filled, they came up with the fictitious WIU Pinball Team, "The Steelballers." T-shirts were made, they had team photos taken and had stories about the "team's" rousing success, beating other "teams" throughout the nation.

"Today it would be called fake news, but back then it was a parody of the clichéd jock sports features," he laughed. "And the creation of this team and these stories was a success. Papers today have lost this sense of fun."

It was that sense of fun and political activism that drew Bill Knight to the Western Courier and Bitter Carrot, LLC. The English major from Hancock County started working at the Courier under Huey's leadership in 1970 and was part of the move off campus.

"It was a rude awakening for us. From a corner office in the Union and having our equipment provided, to cobbling things together," Knight said. "But we didn't care where we were. It was a challenge, but it was fun and we learned a lot on our own."

Knight recalled that those faculty and community members who supported the Courier kept their FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Knight's redacted FBI file

"Source stated that subject has not participated in any revolutionary or extremist activity on the WIU campus or Macomb, Illinois area during the 1972-1973-1974 school year."

Hetzel said after reviewing his redacted file, which he received in the 90s after filing a Freedom of Information Act request with the FBI, he concluded from the report they (the FBI) thought he was pretty harmless.

"It was clear; however, that someone in Macomb was informing the FBI about the Courier, and because of what they knew, I'm pretty sure someone from our own staff was cluing them in," Hetzel said. "Like everything else, the FBI files on us is symbolic of the intensity of that time."

> heads fairly low and

didn't actively voice their support, outside of select faculty and staff, like Mills, Don Daudelin '72, Yale and Ann Sedman, Norman Anderson, Clifford Johnson and James McKinney.

"We did have encouragement and support from a surprising amount of people, but most of them kept pretty quiet about it," Knight said. "The paper under Paul's leadership first was a stark contrast to what most were used to and it was a shock to many, but we kept it going. And despite what may have seemed like a bunch of troublemakers running the paper, we actually became more professional in terms of meeting deadlines, selling ads, budgeting and running things. We even had a business editor. It was a practicum in a sense."

One of those "big practicum" moments Knight remembers is when he and Mike Mooney were paid \$50 each in 1972 to attend and cover the Democratic and Republican conventions in Miami, FL. Because \$50 was a lot of money to a college student, the pair pocketed the money and hitchhiked to Florida ... both

times. In addition to running the newspaper, Bitter Carrot also branched out to other ventures. such as concert promotions, band posters and more to add to their source of revenue.

"I actually think getting kicked off campus was a blessing in disguise now that I look back. We learned

so much ... we developed our skills from zero. Yes, the funding was still there from the student body thanks to the referendum, but there was absolutely no more illusion that Big Brother was watching our every move and we could make this our own," he added.

While the University's Big Brother wasn't necessarily watching the group off campus ... a much larger organization was keeping its eve on the Courier and some of its staff. Knight, Hetzel, Reynolds and probably a few others had FBI files as a result of their activism and outspokenness during those years.

"I'm sure I have an FBI file that's two feet thick, and it's probably a fun read," Reynolds laughed. "I'm sure they're pretty surprised that so many of us went on to be quite successful. Our mental DNA was great."

Huev added that shortly after he returned to North Dakota, two men who looked like "buff Blues Brothers" entered his place of employment and asked to speak with him.

"They flashed FBI badges and scared the sh** out of me. I showed up at noon for the interview, and they asked me 'What do you know about the White Panther Party to

blow up the CIA HQ in Langley?' I burst out in laughter, more from nervous relief than anything else. The White Panthers were Bill's (Knight) bailiwick. I knew nothing. I saw nothing. I only wrote their press releases," Huey chuckled.

Knight and Hetzel have their redacted FBI files in their possession, and Knight remembers one of their staff members was actually picked up by men in a black sedan as he walked down Adams Street, driven to Peoria and indicted in federal court for draft evasion.

"It's really chilling that they knew so much about us, but it's even more shocking that they (the FBI) had so much wrong, as well," Knight said.

The Catalyst

While there was a sense of fun intermingled with the social commentary (and cuss words), there were still a number of iournalism students who wanted the more "traditional" clips for their portfolios, and thus, The Catalyst was established, so from 1969-74, WIU had two student newspapers. While The Catalyst didn't receive student fees, but it held its own thanks to the community advertisers who didn't want to be associated with the Courier and Bitter Carrot productions.

According to "First Century: A Pictorial History of Western Illinois University" by English Professor Emeritus John Hallwas '67 MA '68, many local people, at WIU and in town, supported The Catalyst. The chief figure behind the newspaper was (Rick) Alm, but soon the Maguire brothers took over: George was the business manager, while John Maguire, who started as a sports writer, soon became managing editor and later, the editor.

"I'd describe the two papers as one, The Catalyst, was traditional journalism, while the Courier was a more social justice, activist journalism and they were very good at it. The Courier was the anti-Fox News of the 60s and 70s," (John) Maguire '73 said. "But there were a lot of journalism

Letter from The Catalyst Editor Rick Alm appearing in the first issue on Oct. 7, 1969:

Rumors began about two weeks ago that there was going to be another paper on campus. Some said it would be a rightwing reaction to the Courier. Others said it would be the old Courier written by SGA. Happily, neither is true. With The Catalyst now a matter of public record, and an underground (above-board) paper, we can explain our purpose.

The Catalyst is a reaction to the Courier, but not a right-wing one. The editors and founders of The Catalyst felt, as we think much of the campus does, that general student opinion and news was not represented in the official campus newspaper.

The Catalyst will be presented as a NEWSpaper, but equally as provoker of thought, and hopefully of action ...

We have received help from faculty, townspeople, students and administrators in the form of cash, furniture, pencils and paper and moral support, and we are grateful for it. However, if The Catalyst is to continue printing and remain in existance (sic), it needs your help.

... We need people who can write, sell ads, take pictures, sweep floors, and generally have a share in building a newspaper at Western dedicated to responsible journalism. We feel our message and philosophy will reach more people if the paper is free. But if it does come down to the question of selling The Catalyst or ceasing to print, we hope the university community will show its support for what we are attempting to do by taking a few seconds out to stop and buy the paper.

We shall let The Catalyst speak for itself.

students who could not or would not work for the Courier. They wanted clips that weren't anti-establishment, and The Catalyst helped provide those traditional stories. But really, the Courier was ahead of the curve in its commentary."

Maguire added that President Bernhard was the right president during a time of unique transitions taking place, but the pressure from others that forced his hand to

move the Courier off campus also allowed for the creation of the "underground" Catalyst.

"That pressure translated into paid advertising for us, which allowed us to print as a traditional publication, which is what many community members and others seemed to want," he explained. "People who advertised with us didn't want to be under a column or story that went against their personal beliefs, so it worked well for us.

"And we weren't antagonistic toward our counterparts, we just wanted something for our resumes that matched up with mainstream media, because much of that was not anti-war," Maguire said. "

Knight added that there indeed was no professional animosity between the staff at the two newspapers.

"I think we were bemused by each other," Knight laughed. "And we were friends with a lot of them."

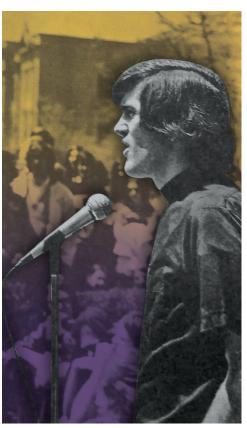
While the content of the two papers varied, what was similar was that neither paper was on campus. The Catalyst used the office of the Business News, which was an independent shopper that was run out of a house on Edwards Street.

"We rented locker 662 in the Union so people could drop off their stories and story ideas to us on campus," Maguire said.

Two Minus One = One

In the mid- to late-1970s, the editorial-ship of both papers changed, and it became apparent to the editors and the staff of both papers that two newspapers were no longer necessary. so the Courier and The Catalyst merged into the Prairie Star.

While it was the official student newspaper of Western Illinois University, it remained off campus, above the donut shop until the 1980s. Administratively, the newspaper returned to campus, in 1983, but was allowed to stay above the donut shop for a one-year grace period to "give them time to adjust to their impending return." In June 1983,



Vice President for Student Affairs Ron Gierhan sent a letter to Courier Editor in Chief Glen Ponczak informing him of the decision to allow the paper back on campus.

One year later, Terry Lawhorn '71 MA '73 was hired as the adviser to fully assimilate the newspaper back into its on campus digs, the Heating Plant Annex (where the Courier remains today). Lawhorn served as the newspaper's adviser until his retirement in June 2005, after 21 years.

Final Footnote

"The Courier and everyone I worked with and met through that experience is one of the most important experiences of my life," Hetzel concluded. "If I hadn't have gone here and hooked up with these crazy people, I'd have a much different life today. And to the students at the Courier now ... you work for one of the most interesting student newspapers in the nation, historically speaking. Those were some crazy times."



Victoria Kappel, communication sciences and disorders and Spanish '16, current communication sciences and disorders graduate student

"Where you invest your love, you invest your life." Think about it. Think about how one line of a lyric from a Mumford and Sons song can mean so much, especially when you relate it your time spent at Western Illinois University.

My journey to Western Illinois University started seven years ago. In May 2010, I was being recruited to play for the WIU women's soccer team, and little did I know, in the midst of the cornfields I had found a gem. At that moment, being introduced to WIU changed my world and my future.

After meeting, Head Coach Tony Guinn took my family and me on a campus tour. First stop: Western Hall! Before us, was the room formally decorated for graduation dressed in purple and gold banners with a grand piano on the stage. My family and I followed Coach Guinn up to the stage for what was really my "first test" of



many in my collegiate athletic career. Coach Guinn asked, "Hey, Kappel, you said you played the piano, right?" "Yes," I replied and before I knew it, I eased my nervousness onto the piano bench and pressed my delicately trembling fingers on the ivory keyboard to bring forth the melody of my vulnerable soul.

We connected in 20 minutes without words, just the confidence that he found the athlete he was looking for.

From that moment on, I felt connected, welcomed and knew there would be many more moments ahead to help me decide who I was to become. Two of them I'd like to share, which taught me the value of interaction, of connectedness and of belonging. Without these two investments of love, other accomplishments would have not been possible anywhere else but WIU.

A bold dream and a driving passion led me to create and direct what has become a successful, heartwarming program on Western's campus. The name is derived from two words: connection and Leathernecks CONNECKS. CONNECKS is a sports event with Western Illinois student athletes and individuals with special needs. I find that it is the simplest and most unique events that give us meaning. At CONNECKS field days, over 60 participants with special needs create inseparable bonds with WIU student athletes, which greatly touches the lives of those involved.

In Spring 2015, I decided to let my adventurous side take a step out of the United States and get a fresh breath of knowledge while studying abroad in San Jose, Costa Rica. One day, while I was viewing a lunch menu in a local café, a stranger invited me to her table and during our conversation she interjected, "Si no vives para servir, no sirves para vivir." These words formed a meaning, which touched me to my core. In English, it translates to, "If you do not live to serve, you do not deserve to live." This expression elicits the essential quality of a human being by caring for humanity.

We connected with words, thoughts and the energy of our souls.

From these experiences of investing love into the passions I pursued, my journey of being a Leatherneck has been filled with such greatness. As the first Women's NCAA Postgraduate Scholar at WIU, I have continued my education toward a master's degree in speech language pathology. In addition, I have the honor and pleasure of educating students by serving as a teaching assistant in public speaking. Experiencing the other side of the podium, in a University that I love, has made me realize the amount of energy and effort professors invest in their students.

I fully believe everything happens for a reason, opportunity is where you find it, and often it is a matter of recognizing unexpected things that are important, leaving you perhaps feeling a little vulnerable and trusting



in yourself to dig deeper into your soul. Although a dictionary may imply that vulnerability carries a negative connotation, I believe the opposite in that the term is actually the first step to a positive outcome. The best way to learn about who you are and what makes your heart's clock "tick" is by exploring the world, being open hearted and open minded, showing what you love, and leaving your walls down so you can experience these new things.

When you invest your love and your heart into your passions, the connections you can make are astounding, especially in the Macomb community. I believe author Victoria Erickson says it best: "When connections are real, they simply never die. They can be buried or ignored or walked away from but never broken. If you've deeply resonated with another person or place, the connection remains despite any distance, time, situation, lack of presence or circumstance."



Leathernecks, as we advance into our futures, know that whomever you have in your life—even if it is just for a moment—is there for a reason and always know, remember and hold in your heart that Western Illinois University is a catalyst for success in your passions.



Here I am, seven years later, wondering where the time has gone while still pondering the moment I first experienced that initial reward upon showing some vulnerability, pursing my passions in a place I love ,and my first WIU connection. Leathernecks, as we advance into our futures, know that whomever you have in your life—even if it is just for a moment-is there for a reason and always know, remember and hold in your heart that Western Illinois University is a catalyst for success in your passions. I know I have found, and will continue to pursue mine in Macomb.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Several groups of WIU students spent their Spring Break 2017 making a difference

Some Western Illinois University students traded in their bathing suits and beach towels for scrubs and trash bags for Spring Break 2017.

When you think of the typical college student Spring Break trip, you don't often think of students donning knee-high boots, gloves and hairnets, but that's exactly what some WIU students wore during their Alternative Spring Break trips. Part of WIU's mission is to prepare a socially responsible student population to lead in the global society—that core value is one many students take to heart.

Nursing Students Take Mission Trip

WIU Nursing Instructor Lindsay White and four of her students spent their spring break on a mission trip in Haiti. WIU nursing students Brianna Pasbrig '17 (Springfield, IL), Michalla Rodey '17 (New Lenox, IL), Aliyya Johnson '17 (Edwardsville, IL) and Madeline Gibson '17 (Peoria, IL) collaborated with a hospital that serves an area of the country with limited resources.

"The purpose of the trip was to collaborate with nurses, nursing students and faculty in Haiti while managing the healthcare of complex patients in a country with limited resources," said White. "The trip included clinical days at Sainte Croix Hospital in Leogane, mobile clinics in the mountain village of Trouin and a local orphanage, home visits and assessments and teaching first-aid and CPR to local high school teachers, all while working side-by-side with Haitian nursing students and nurses.

"I know the students have gained new perspective and appreciation for healthcare professionals functioning in challenging environments," White added. "The four students will take this experience with them throughout their life's work."

Spring Break in Kentucky

A group of 19 WIU students volunteered their time for an Alternative Spring Break in Louisville, KY. The students spent their days volunteering at local organizations, and each student volunteered for more than 40 hours during the week. Organizations that benefited from the students hard work included The Lord's Kitchen soup kitchen, Catholic Charities, Habitat for Humanity, The Cabbage Patch after-school program and Home of the Innocents youth services and foster care agency.

"I learned how to help people in different ways, how good it feels and how it really goes a long way," said senior law enforcement major Sarah Radtke (Seneca, IL). "We were

also able to get a lot of meaningful information about the organizations and how they support those in need around Louisville."

Cleaning America's Rivers

Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration (RPTA) Professor Rob Porter and four students, RPTA graduate student Antonio Raya (East Moline, IL), senior law enforcement and justice administration (LEJA) major Elizabeth Cash (Hillsdale, IL), junior RPTA major Kristel Bowden (Bettendorf, IA) and junior RPTA major Madeline Kull (Moline, IL), spent the week of spring break in the backwaters of the Mississippi River in Memphis, TN, working with Living Lands and Waters.

Because of regular flooding in the area, trash is left high and dry on the riverbanks of the Mississippi River in Tennessee. The WIU group joined 85 other volunteers from across the United States and 10 Living Lands and Waters staff members to clean up 60,000 pounds of garbage.

Porter said the idea for the trip came to him when he was approached by WIU RPTA alumnus and Living Lands and Waters staff member Dan Breidenstein '13.

"I think it's important for the students to work alongside role

who take action to benefit the environment," Porter said. "I try to create opportunities for students to take action to protect the environment and support the community and the people who live there. On this trip, students realized that some of this garbage came from our community and they can't just sit back and talk about the problem of trash; they have to act upon it."

Bowden called the Tennessee trip "a very humbling experience."

For Kull, the trip was aweinspiring, seeing how much trash was there and how it could negatively impact numerous envionmental areas.

"The plastic and garbage looked just like snow on the land and water," she said. "I would dig an inch into the ground and still find bits of plastic and Styrofoam. In my head, I feel some of those smaller pieces are the most dangerous; they are bite-size and are most likely to be swallowed by fish and many other creatures who call the river and shorelines their home.

"The feeling of knowing you are doing good for the world and this river is such a wonderful feeling, but you do have to get past the feeling of awe and rage as you see all the garbage," she said. "The foundation is full of just wonderful people who are working hard to make the river we live on a healthy safe place for all living things. I had such a wonderful time; I could actually see myself working for LLWC one day and picking up garbage for the rest of my life, who knows."



LEATHERNECK ATHLETICS

WIU Women's Basketball: A Season to Remember

By Patrick Osterman, WIU Athletics

The WIU Leatherneck Women's Basketball program turned in one of the most memorable end-of-the-year runs, and seasons as a whole, in program history ... and it ironically all started with a loss.

On a late January night when 101-year-old Alumnus and Marine Corps Veteran John Moon '39 sang the National Anthem for the Military Appreciation game, no one could have known that two events from that contest would make national news. Moon's incredible rendition of the Anthem made the front page of the women's basketball section on ESPN. com and was a hit on Facebook.

To close out the first half, Morgan Blumer grabbed a rebound off a missed shot, took one step and launched a line drive shot from threequarters court that hit nothing but net. That incredible shot made ESPN SportsCenter's 'Top 10' and ended as the number two play of the night. It too was featured on the women's basketball home page of ESPN.com. Western ended up losing the game to IUPUI, but that would actually be the catalyst to starting an 11-game winning streak.

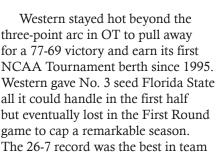
The next time out, Western ended Summit League contender South Dakota's 24-game home winning streak. Two weeks later, the Leathernecks later defeated South Dakota State inside Western Hall, and ended a 19-game losing streak to the Jackrabbits in front of what then was the largest crowd of the season. A win over Fort Wayne clinched a share

of the regular season crown, but to win the title outright, it came down to a victory over South Dakota in the regular season finale.

A record crowd of 1,600 fans watched Western win the title outright following an 81-75 victory, and celebrated as the team and coaches cut down the nets.

Two wins in The Summit
League Tournament extended the
Leathernecks' win streak to 10, and
set up another matchup against
IUPUI. Down by three, with mere
seconds left, Taylor Hanneman took
an in-bounds pass and drilled a threepointer at the buzzer to tie the game
and send it to overtime. Once again,
Western made the SportsCenter 'Top
10' as Hanneman's shot was number
two on the day.





JD Gravina was named The Summit League 'Coach of the Year,' while player Emily Clemens set a league record dishing out 241 assists. Clemens, the league's 'Most Valuable Player' and Tournament MVP, ended the year with 623 points, tying for the most in a WIU season.

history.

Blumer set a WIU season record hitting 89 shots from three-point range.

Seniors Mallory Boyle and Jasmine Patrick ended their careers in Florida, helping bring the Leathernecks back to the national stage. With nearly everyone returning, Western wants to make the 2017-18 season one that's even more exciting.



A RECORD-SETTING SEASON

STRAIGHT FROM A

STUDEN *

Wil Gradle, economics '17, current economics graduate student

It has been said that life can be chalked up to a few defining moments that forever changed the trajectory of your career. More significant to me than the moment, are the people that made it happen. Coming to Western has afforded me countless opportunities to work side-by-side with some of the best people in academia, all of whom have walked me through those defining moments.

Looking back to the beginning of my collegiate career, before I ever took my first exam, bought my first book, or even registered for my first class, I was a wide-eyed, recent high-school graduate attending Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR). Shy and overwhelmed by all the options and experiences that lay before me, I sheepishly walked table to table at the Activities Fair as my dad (a Western alumnus) talked to each department's representative. That's when I met Rick Hardy '70, director of the Centennial Honors College. Initially, I decided to forego applying for the Honors College because, in truth, I didn't think I had what it took to be successful in an academically rigorous collegiate honors program.

Dr. Hardy, being the champion of ambition that he is, laughed at me when I told him why I didn't apply and handed me an application to fill out right then and there. Every moment of academic success.

extracurricular achievement and professional development can be linked back to that moment in which a passionate administrator believed in the potential of a student. Within the hour, I was sitting down with my Honors advisor, Molly Homer, as she helped me figure out which Honors class to take in the fall, and for no particular reason at all, we settled on Econ 100Y.

Once I was enrolled in the Honors College, I decided to live on the Honors floor in Tanner Hall. Being able to live with a cohort of peers was more than an educational opportunity, but one that challenged my personal growth and surrounded me with people who would eventually encourage me to join (and eventually lead) Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, the Student Government Association and

the Economic Student Association. Nothing could have been more influential on my growth as a student leader than living on Tanner 4 my freshman year.

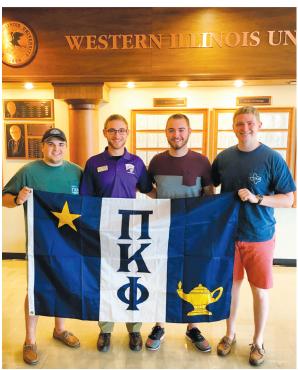
When classes started, I was relieved to see a few of my floormates in Jessica Lin's '05 MA '06 honors section of Econ 100Y. Dr. Lin was able to challenge us with more conceptually difficult material, and inspire us with a higher level of discussion than possible in her other sections. Taking this course left me hungry to learn more about the economic world around us and Dr. Lin fostered my desire to learn as I would eventually switch majors and study economics full time. Not only would Dr. Lin be the one to kindle my interest in economics, but she would also be the one to advise my senior















thesis and encourage me to come back for another year to study in the integrated master's program.

The differentiating factor between Western and its peers, in my opinion, is its people. Any school can offer a program in any field of study if they build the facilities and develop the curriculum. You can't buy culture. You can't pay for a faculty member's mindset of being student-centered. It has to be something that is refined and worked for day-in and day-out. It doesn't end with the faculty, either.

I could go on and on describing the thousands of student-first interactions with building service workers, office support staff members and Facilities Management employees.

Behind the bricks and mortar, there are the people of Western Illinois University. Without the dedication of the faculty, staff and administration of Western, my education would never have been what it has. If not for Dr. Hardy's passion for student development and Dr. Lin's tireless efforts to see her

students grow, I could never have been Student Government Association president, Pi Kappa Phi president, Student Member to the Board of Trustees, or this year's Lincoln Laureate. For that, I'm eternally grateful to Dr. Hardy, Dr. Lin and Western Illinois University.

EmBARK on an adventure with the WIU Alumni Association

Cruise the Rhine River

July 10-18, 2017 Cruise through Europe on a journey designed with families in mind.

Riches of the Emerald Isle

July 18-29, 2017 Journey through the Celtic history.

Baltic & Scandinavia Treasures

Aug. 17-28, 2017 Baltic and Scandinavian treasures abound on this voyage to some of northern Europe's most iconic ports aboard Oceania Cruises' intimate Nautica.

Music of America

Oct. 29-Nov. 6, 2017 Celebrate the classic music of America on this river cruise to picture-perfect towns in Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri.

Australia

Feb. 16-Mar.1, 2018 Join our 11-night journey that highlights Australia's sophisticated cities, verdant terroir and native wildlife.

Timeless Beauties

May 2-10, 2018 Embark on your luxury cruise in cosmopolitan Barcelona, Spain's gem of art and architecture.

Amalfi Coast

June 5-13, 2018 Journey to the Amalfi Coast, a serene paradise of majestic mountains, pastel houses and the cerulean Mediterranean Sea

Romantic Rhine & Moselle

June 13-27, 2018 From Zürich to Amsterdam and everywhere in between, romance is alive and well on the Rhine River and its idyllic tributary, the Moselle.

Switzerland

June 20-28, 2018 Discover picture-perfect towns, alpine meadows and majestic mountains during fascinating excursions via cable cars, lifts and alpine railways.

Cruise the Rhine River

July 11-19, 2018 Discover the Rhine River's timeless beauty with the people you love most on a fun and fascinating cruise designed especially for families.

Majestic Frontiers of Alaska

Aug. 16-27, 2018 Stand in awe of massive glaciers and all-enveloping scenery as you cruise up the Alaskan coast.

Coastal Vignettes

Oct. 16-27, 2018 Explore ancient cities, alluring beaches, and culture straight from the Old World as you set sail across the Mediterranean Sea aboard the luxurious Nautica.

Cuba: Art, Culture & People

Oct. 28 - Nov. 5, 2018 Immerse yourself in this fascinating nation during presentations by local experts coupled with visits to historic sites, museums, schools and community projects.

**Please note that all trip dates are subject to change.

We offer travel insurance for all types of travel. Whether you decide to travel with WIU or even for trips you take on your own, the WIU Alumni Association offers insurance for all types of trips. Feel free to check out our Travel Insurance Program!

Visit wiu.edu/alumni/travel. php for more information or call (800) 937-1387.

lass Mates

Bill Kenney '63, Streator, is retired from Valley View Industries, Inc.

Jerry Koehler '63 MA '65, Tampa, FL, has been named a Fulbright Scholar in Belarus. He will be teaching MBA classes at Belarus State University in Minsk.

Gene Nelson '64, Bryan, TX. is a professor emeritus at Texas A & M University.

Lloyd Simonson '66, Spring Grove, was re-elected to a 4 year term as a Trustee for the Village Board of Spring Grove.

Russell Poch '67, Columbia, MD, professor emeritus has retired from full time teaching after 44 years at Howard Community College.

Doug Wiborg '67, Plainfield, is the manager of the Cleveland Tour Experience at the Bolingbrook Golf Club.

Donna Viar Couch '69. Franklin, KY, is retired.

Dayle Soske '69, Tucson, AZ, is retired from the Southern Arizona VA where she worked as an RN QM Coordinator.

Michael Wilson '69 MS-ED '71, Comox, British Columbia, is retired.

Richard Funk '70, Bend, OR, is a sr. partner for Merrill-O'Sullivan, LLP law

Wayne Kelder '70, Castro Valley, CA, is retired.

David Marten '70,

Woodland, CA, is retired from teaching chemistry at Westmont College in Santa Barbara.

Richard Kulupka '71,

Princeton, is a retired high school principal and now is a loss prevention officer at Ace Hardware.

Katherine Hulick

Rosenbloom '71, Lafayette, CO, is a retired English teacher from Byron CUSD # 226 in IL.

Michael Schumer '71, Mt. Prospect, is a retired high school German and Spanish teacher.

Jim Kalteux '72, McHenry, is the president of the Cary Country Club.

James Neubaum '72, Juneau, WI, is retired.

Susan Baker Schumer '72, Mt Prospect, is retired from the editorial department at Encyclopedia Brittannica, Inc., in Chicago.

Donna Walter '73,

Annapolis, MD, published her first children's book, "The Adventures of Fish-Hook Seagull."

Walter Bouchard '74,

Scottsdale, AZ, is the president of W.L. Bouchard & Associates, Inc. in Scottsdale and Hermosillo, Sorona, Mexico.

Debbi Kouzes Burdick '74. Scottsdale, AZ, was named the American Association of School Administrators' National Superintendent of the Year for AZ.

Gary Felsten '74, Wheaton, is a self-employed HR consultant.

Ann Marie Musto Murray '74 MA '80, Carpentersville, is retired.

Gerald Boo '75, Tremont, is retired from Precision Planting.

Joe DePaulo '75,

Bolingbrook, is a retired custom home builder after 35 years and is now the president/manager of Clow Airport LLC.

Mary Wiermanski Kauper

'75, Bloomfield Hills, MI, is the director of graduate medical education administration for Beaumont Health.

Carla McNaught Mayernick '75, Girard, is a selfemployed author and was named 2016 & 2017 Springfield Journal Register's Reader's Choice Award for Best Local Author for her

Jacqueline Olson '75, Sun City, AZ, is retired.

book, "Where is Abe?"

Rick Pott '75 MA '77, Downers Grove, has been selected to be an Aide to the Medinah Shriners Potentate for 2017 and also is a bagpiper with the Medina Shriners Pipe Band.

Julie Conove Schmidt '75. St. Helena Island. SC. is retired from Manalapan Middle School as a language arts teacher in Manalapan, NJ.

Edward Zanghi '75 MA '82, La Grange Park, has retired after 25 1/2 years as a parole commander for the IL Dept. of Corrections.

Catherine Carver '76. Watkinsville, GA, is retired from teaching at Oconee County Primary School.

Frank Caccavallo '76 MA '77, Boulder, CO, is the managing director for Wells Fargo Advisors, was ranked among Barron's Top Financial Advisors for 2017 and was ranked 12th in the State of Colorado.

Barbara Holliday Quigley '77, Belvidere, is retired from U-46 School District.

Doug Wakeley '77, Palatine, is a managing broker associate for @properties in the Barrington office for Morrison Home Team.

Jeffrey York '77, Wheaton, is a substitute teacher for the Elmhurst School Dist. # 205 and Chicago Archdiocese.

Lynn Jacobs Payne '78, Waterloo, is retired.

Eugene Burger, Jr., '79, Brooksville, FL, is retired from the State of FL probation & parole.

Shaun McCarthy '79, lowa City, IA, is an asst. professor and a sr. athletic trainer at Coe College in Cedar Rapids.

Jodie Paustian '79.

Alexandria, VA, is retired with 36 years of federal government service with the last position as the director, office of procurement policy with the Internal Revenue Service.

Virginia Blake Pierson '79, Herndon, VA, is the Asst. VP for the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America Big I Advantage.

Doris Meyer Ribble MBA '79, Jerseyville, is the IT technical associate at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville.

Karen Price '81, Glen Carbon, is a retired administrator.

Edward Sweeney '81, N. Aurora, is a broker, SRES for Coldwell Banker Honig-Bell.

Daniel Alltop '82, Cedar Hill, TN, has retired as Sergeant Major, U.S. Army with 31 years of service.

Jean Blew Sproles '82, Bloomington, is retired after 34 years of service at State Farm Insurance as the lead IT architect.

Mark Holsapple '83, Little Rock, AR, is the Sr. VP and sr. loan officer at American National Bank in Beaver Dam, WI.



Stanley Maczala, Jr., '83, Antioch, is retired.

Brian McGinnis '83, Maryland Hts., MO, is the sales manager for Foam Products Corp.

Carolyn Parello '83. Dartmouth, MA, is a selfemployed designer/artist.

Phil Giles '84, Vass, NC, was selected to Captive Review's Power 50 list and also was awarded as one of the Top 10 employees within QBE North America.

Randon Ullrich '84, Frederick, MD, is the corporate VP government security for AECOM in Germantown and is also adjunct professor for American Public University System/American Military University.

Shonda Lawrence Wills '84, Anniston, AL, is an associate professor in the Social Work program at Jacksonville State University.

Karen Tindle '86. Springfield, is retired from UPS.

George Brumis '87, Marina del Rey, CA, is president/ creative director at RFP MD.

Doug Smith '87, Baylis, was re-elected as group director of the Community Bankers Assoc. of IL.

Frank Willis '87, Huntsville, AL, is the sr. robotics navigation engineer for Leidos.

Teri Hall MS '88, Abingdon, MD, was named the new VP for student affairs at Wichita State University.

Linda Tempel Buss '89, Freeport, was elected to her seventh four-year term as City Treasurer for the City of Freeport.

Renee Cagle Clippert '89 MBA '90. Des Moines. IA. is retired.

Julie Roman Courter '89, Tipton, IA, is a

media specialist at Tipton Community Schools.

Mary Garrison '89, Decatur, co-authored a book titled "Your Playbook for Beating Depression: Essential Strategies for Managing and Living with Depression.'

Nancy Harnetiaux Lischer '89, Leawood, KS, is a talent cultivation manager for Sullivan Higdon & Sink in Kansas City, MO.

Travis Mackey '89 MS '00, Geneseo, is the principal at Geneseo High School.

James Pickett '89 MA '91. Chicago, is the Deputy Police Chief for the Evanston Police Dept.

Becky Jansen Coelho '90, Quincy, is retired.

Curtis Frerichs '90, Colona, is the battalion chief/training chief for the E. Moline Fire Dept.

Christopher Lindblom MFA '90, Lockport, is an adjunct professor of theater at Joliet Junior College.

Diana Robertson MS '90, Lawrence, KS, retired from the University of Kansas as the director of student housing.

Darian Miller '91, Geneseo, is the CTO for Dealer Marketing Services, Inc. in Davenport, IA, and has also acquired partial ownership of the company.

Angel Jacobs Wright '91, Knoxville, is the program coordinator for the University of IL Extension in Galesburg.

Jeff Elits '92, Steator, is a sr. parole agent for the State of Illinois.

Jim Stolpa '92, Sherrard, is the general manager at Chicago Tube & Iron in Milan.

Johannes Tsheola MA '92, Limpopo, South Africa, was awarded a C3 Rating by the National Research Foundation (South Africa) until December 2020 and

has also taken the position of Executive Dean of Faculty of Management and Law at the University of Limpopo.

Paul Stancato '93, New York, NY, is a creative show director/choreographer for Electric Playground Productions.

Charles Gillespie '94. Rock Island, is the owner of ArtsyBug Studio in Moline.

Erica Behnke '95, St. Petersburg, FL, is a sr. front end developer for Sears.

Nicole Wemette Nemecek '95. Keokuk. IA. is the principal at George Washington Elementary and Torrence Preschool.

David Kenebrew '96, Homewood, is a photojournalist for CBS News in Chicago.

Marc White '96, Bloomington, is an immunology specialist at Rheumatology for AbbVie.

Chuck Buseman MS '97, Waverly, IA, is an instructional coach at Waverly-Shell Rock CSD.

Roberto Miller '97 MS '99, Perrysburg, OH, is the director of operations for Whirlpool Corp. in Clyde.

Brad Jorgenson '98, Arlington Hts., is the owner of Brad's Tea Room.

Andy Piec '98, Monona, WI, is the VP of sales operations for Sonic Foundry.

Rena Harrison Rose '98. Burnside, was named the Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year by the IL Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom program.

Jennifer Summary '98 MA '01, Quincy, is an asst. professor of communication at Culver-Stockton College in Canton, MO.

Philip Weiss '98, Macomb, is the television production coordinator at university television for Western Illinois University.

Shawna Whalen-Beleckis '98, Orlando, FL, is the recruitment operations manager for Hilton.

Jade Miller '99, St. Robert, MO, is currently stationed in Ft. Leonard Wood and has achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army.

Sarah Parker-Scanlon '99, Rockford, is the executive director at Shelter Care Ministries.

Michael Bork '00, Fairbanks, AK, is the parks and recreation director for Fairbanks North Star Borough and received his master's degree from Walden University in industrial and organizational psychology.

Byron Hendrix '00, Kewanee, is a regional sales agronomist for Stine Seed Company in Adel, IA.

Bobbie Delaney Tidball '00, W. Fargo, ND, is a volunteer coordinator for Rape and Abuse Crisis Center of Fargo-Moorhead.

Danielle Leong Young '00, Chicago, is a field services supervisor for the Administrative Office of the IL Courts.

Jaclyn Bellotti Napoleon MS '01. Albany. NY. is the director of graduate recruitment and admissions for Rockfeller College of Public Affairs and Policy and the University of Albany.

Ed Rzeszutlko '01, Joliet, is a sales manager for Kerr Dental in Orange, CA.

Lisa Wheat Sharp '01, Morton, is the program manager for the American Cancer Society in Peoria.

Dawn Stanley '01, Desert Hot Springs, CA, is a nurse recruiter for ReadyLink Healthcare.

Kenneth Sung '01, Laguna Woods, CA, is retired from

the federal government Dept. of Defense.

Brian Tibbs '01,

Washington, is the executive director for the Washington Park District.

Ronee LaRoche Baracani '02, Cloverdale, IN, is a nonclinical toxicologist for Eli Lilly and Co. in Indianapolis.

John Baracani III '02, Cloverdale, IN, is a clinical technical editor for

ExecuPharm in King of Purssia, PA.

Andrea Bender Beaty '02, Orland Park, received the 2017 Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching.

Matthew Clemens '02 MBA '10, Valparaiso, IN, is a digital marketer at Manufacturer Products Inc.

Jamie Dixon '02, N.

Chelmsford, MA, is the member service representative at the Hanscom Federal Credit Union.

Michele Tabares MS-ED '02 MS-ED '07, Bettendorf, IA. is the ESL coordinator for Bettendorf Schools.

Jacquelyn Goings Coleman '03, Chicago, is the director of network office supervision for Northwestern Mutual -Chicago.

Michelle Shawgo Kim '03, Galesburg, is the owner of Cherry Street Restaurant and Bar.

Mario Mirandola '03, St. Charles, is the operations manager for Follett in Aurora.

Christina Taylor Russell '03. Berwick, is an aid for the Monmouth Roseville School Dist. # 238.

Michelle Tschumper '03, Ft. Dodge, IA, is the production data coordinator for Nestle Purina Pet Care.

Brandon Williams '03, N.

Brunswick, NJ, is an asst. professor of choral music and choral music education at Rutgers, The State University of NJ.

Alicia Bonjour Taylor '04, W. Branch, IA, is the director

of admissions at Scattergood Friends School.

Janely Rivera Torres '04, Chicago, is the title IX investigator and deputy coordinator for Columbia

Jennifer Harmon English

'05, Fowler, is the case manager for Behavior Management System in Rapid City, ND.

College.

Melissa Aper Anderson '07, Lincoln, is an athletic trainer at Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

Douglas Herring '07. Bloomington, is the product business analyst in State Farm Digital for State Farm Insurance.

Michael Landi '07, Roscoe, is an elementary teacher for Rockford Public Schools.

Jon Quiaoit '07, Lockport, is an elementary music educator for Valley View School Dist.

Holly Sowlles '07, Chicago, is a paralegal for Baker & McKenzie LLP.

Angie Sanders Wierzbicki MS '07, Missouri City, TX, is the executive director at the Cullinan Park Conservancy.

Amy Burke Zank '07, Davenport, IA, is a logistics process pro at Deere & Co.

Chris Hogsett '08, New Berlin, WI, is the website administrator - revenue cycle for Aurora Health Care in Milwaukee.

Chad Koskie '08, Scottsdale, AZ, is the global

content marketing manager for Emailage.

Brian Ramsey '08, Delavan, is a researcher for QED Group LLC.

Jeff Brandwein '09, Barrington, is a sales manager for Hireology.

Jill Danzl '09, Orlando, FL, is a site supervisor for Orange County Parks and Recreation Division.

John Johnson '09,

Coralville, IA, is the campus minister at Campus Christian Fellowship.

Zakaria Khamis MA '09. Turku, Western Finland, is a researcher at the University of Turku.

Michael Anderson '10, Sycamore, is a commander for the City of Sycamore Police Dept.

Tim Atwell MS-ED '10, Atkinson, was awarded the 2016 Region IADA Athletic Director of the Year.

Joshua Flury '10, Crystal Lake, is the project manager at Curran Contracting.

Aric Katz '10, St. Charles, MO, is a sr. logistics coordinator for Unyson Logistics.

Robert Palmer '10 MUS-MM '13, Philippi, WV, is the director of athletic bands at Alderson Broaddus University.

Courtney Pazdra '10, Rolling Meadows, is the CEO of LEDIutions, Inc.

Steven Peach '10, San Francisco, CA, is the asst. director - office of student conduct at the University of San Francisco.

James Ruppert '10,

Bethalto, was appointed by the IL State Bar Association's Board of Governor's to fill the 2nd Judicial Circuit Assembly seat.

Alicia English MS '11, Knoxville, TN, is the asst. director of annual giving at the University of Tennessee.

Amy Bomarito Eppel '11, Pontiac, is the marketing and wellness director at Evenglow Lodge.

Eric Haimann '11, Lombard, is a police officer for Villa Park Police Dept.

Derek Himan '11, Carthage, is a police officer for the City of Carthage.

Caitlin Davis Justice MS '11, Petersburg, is an account executive at Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Samantha Martens '11, Lemont, is an alumni engagement officer for North Central College and received her Master of Arts degree in educational administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Morgan Matthies '11, Chicago, is the project engineer for FH Paschen.

Matt Motolko '11.

Mishawaka, IN, is the project engineer for Miller-Davis Co.

Mary Shore '11, Raytown, MO, is a recreation manager for Grandview Parks and Recreation.

Eric Simmer '11, Davis, is an analyst at Colony Brands.

Dawn Allison Baldwin PB-CER '12, PB-CER

'13, Brookfield, received her Master of Science in marriage and family therapy specializing in LGBT counseling at N. Dakota State University.

Diesel Baldwin '12.

Brookfield, is the sole proprietor of Brave Move Transportation and earned his Master of Arts in forensic

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anthropology with a major in biological anthropology and a minor in forensic science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Shaun Belk '12, Phoenix, AZ, is a service express for Marriott International.

Thomas Gallagher '12 MS '14, Austin, TX, is the associated director of development, athletics and annual programs at St. Edward's University.

Anastasia Gruenwald '12, Watertown, WI, graduated with her master's degree in health administration from the University of Phoenix and is a manager of Prader-Willi Home of Oconomowoc.

Emily Janas '12, Franklin Park, is the adult services librarian at McHenry Public Library.

Kyle Joerger '12, Chicago, is an IT security auditor at BAI Security.

Elise Pinkowski '12, Phoenix, AZ, is the student development specialist for Community Kitchen-St. Mary's Food Bank.

Monica Vaughan '12, Buffalo Grove, is a product consultant for Allstate Insurance Co.

Allison Clinton '13, St. Louis. MO. works in graphic communication at FleishmanHillard.

Matt McCormick '13, Chicago, is VP private client associate for U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management.

Ryan Reidelbaugh '13, San Diego, CA, is a client manager for Allied Universal Security Services.

Alicia Guzman-Riley Riley-Ash '13, PB-CER '14, MS '15, Round Lake, is an academic advisor at the

College of Lake County in Grayslake.

Kristen Wyse Wagner '13, Madison, WI, is the manager of educational initiatives for Alpha Xi Delta.

Jonathan Martens MA '14, Racine, WI, is the exhibition and collections specialist at Kenosha County Historical Society.

Molly Rupert '14, Ankeny, IA, is the recreation coordinator for the City of Bondurant.

Javier Skwara MS '14, Quincy, is the claims examiner for Healthcare Service Corporation via Kelly Services.

Hila Tieman Waterkotte '14, Liberty, is a bookkeeper at Quincy Farm & Home Supply.

Samuel Boender MS '15, Austin, TX, is a sports information asst. at St. Edward's University.

Alexander Johnson '15, Goodview, MN, is the coordinator of student activities at St. Mary's University of MN in Winona.

Kristen Johnson '15. W. Dundee, is a high school special education teacher at Hamilton Academy.

Steven Olson '15, Princeton, is the band director at Princeton High School.

Kathy Abbot '16, Alexis, is the practice manager at Galesburg Dermatology Center.

Blake Bradley '16, Statham, GA, is a corrections officer for Barrow County Sheriff's Office in Winder.

David Cromer '16. Moline. works the front desk at the Radisson Hotel.

Krystle Padilla MS-ED '16. Coal Valley, will be the first principal of the new Midland Elementary School in Lacon.

Alex Samuelson '16, Lynn Center, is an estimator for Superior Asphalt.

Dan Smiley '16, Macomb, is a police officer for the City of Carthage.

Marloes Van Eijkelenburg MS '16, PB-CER '16, New Haven, CT, is an assignment editor for ESPN in Bristol.

Catie Walsh '16, Joliet, is a medical staff office coordinator at the Silver Cross Hospital.

Marriages & Civil Unions

Stephanie Ackermann '15 and Samuel Hilten '15, Sept. 3, 2016.

Matthew Blume '06 and Kara Daley, Nov. 5, 2016.

Michelle Gross MS '06 and Erik Kampa, Nov. 5, 2016.

Leah Hartzell MBA '16 and Alec O'Neill, July 16, 2016.

Colleen Johnson '10 and Jesse Gross, Oct. 8, 2016.

Lauren Kulinski '05 and Greg Pipis, Oct. 14, 2016.

Elizabeth Magana '09 and Clayton Clendenny '08, Oct. 28, 2016.

Kelly McKinzie '01 and Misty Penix, June 26, 2016.

Courtney Pazdra '10 and Greg Metzger '09, Mar. 12, 2016.

Sarah Ritter '12 and Josh Twidwell '14, Oct. 29, 2016.

John Schmidt '06 and Sara Headrick, Sept. 4, 2016.

Hila Tieman '14 and LB Waterkotte, June 11, 2016.

Monica Vaughan '12 and Frederick Hailer '12. Nov. 5, 2016

Births & **Adoptions**

Curt Alsvig '06 and Meghan, a daughter, Liberty Jo, Oct. 30, 2016.

Beau Anderson '05 and Melissa Aper Anderson '07, a daughter, Parker Elizabeth, Aug. 9, 2016.

Brent Bainter '03 and Heidi, a daughter, Deryn Rhys, Nov. 28, 2016.

Shannon Phillips Bowsher '07 and Michael Bowsher '05 MS '07, a son, Matthew Michael, Mar. 16, 2017.

Audrey Liszewski Chambers '04 and Jeremy, a son, Zachary Joseph, Sept.16, 2016.

Amanda Barsema Damewood '06 and Bruce. a son, Vance Kaiden, Feb. 2,

Natalie Adcock Divan '03 MA '16 and Bob, a son, Finnegan Lee, Mar. 22, 2017.

Amy Gillespie MS '11 and Brian, a daughter, Anna Beth, Oct. 20, 2016.

Eric Haimann '11 and Jordan Kippes Haimann '10, a daughter, Madelyn Ruth, June 8, 2015.

Sam Hentchel '04 and Jenni Matts Hentchel '05, a son, Bryson Frederick, Sept. 15, 2016.

Michelle Milstead Howe '09 MS '11 and Matthew Howe '09, a daughter, Madie Lou, Mar. 3, 2017.

Marc Huston '05 and Brae, a daughter, Joan Marie, Jan. 26, 2017.

Jim Jiao MA '86 and Paola, a daughter, Alessandra Marissa, Mar. 26, 2016.

Caitlin Davis Justice MS '11 and Michael, a son, Lane Michael, May 27, 2016.





James Kveton '08 and Ashley Davis Kveton '07, a daughter, Jillian, Apr. 3, 2017.

Christina Hickey Mann '05 and Ryan Mann '05, a daughter, Riley Janice, Aug. 15, 2016.

Sarah Farwell Markham '04 and lan, a daughter, Clementine Gene, July 19, 2016.

Chelsea Bainter Miller '06 and Nate Miller '03, a daughter, Ellie Grace, Feb. 1, 2017.

Jay O'Brien '78 and Erin, a son, Gavin Paul, Nov. 17, 2016.

Collin O'Connell '11 and Bethany Wittenauer O'Connell '12, a son, Caleb, Sept. 30, 2016.

Breann Pumo M.ACCT '12 and Chris, a son, Lincoln James, Nov. 17, 2016.

Amber Peak Range '04 and Jess Range '03, a son, Jack Loren, Nov. 4, 2016.

Holly Sowlles '07 and Steve Svec '08, a daughter, Chloe June, Nov. 14, 2016.

Mia Martinie Wells '09 and Eric Wells '09, a daughter, Loxli JeAnn, Dec. 5, 2016.

Deaths

Donald D. "Zeke" Agans, Macomb, Nov. 24, 2016.

Henry H. Albers, Iowa City, IA, Dec. 6, 2016.

James L. Ault, Galesburg, Nov. 1, 2016.

Anita L. Bennett, Colchester, Feb. 1, 2017.

Fred L. Boher, Tucson, AZ, Feb. 8, 2017

Nancy S. Coney, Macomb, Nov. 8, 2016.

Dennis R. Crowe, Macomb, Mar. 8, 2017.

Phillip T. "Terry" Ehrenhart, Hawthorne, FL, Feb. 24, 2017.

Cyrus W. Elion, Homewood, Mar. 5, 2016.

Duane W. Florschuetz,

Georgetown, TX, Nov. 15, 2016.

Joseph R. "Fearless" Fosdyck, Destin, FL, Nov. 18, 2016.

Michael D. "Dave" Gravino, Macomb, Feb. 8, 2017.

Sylvia H. Gray, Macomb, Dec. 2, 2016.

Bernidene J. Gustafson, Macomb, Apr. 3, 2017.

David L. Hessman, Spencer, IA, Apr. 15, 2017. Paul S. "Scott" Hoover, Paxton, Jan. 15, 2017.

Michael G. Jacobson, Carolina Shores, NC, Oct. 21, 2016.

Garland W. "Bill" Knott, Galesburg, Nov. 11, 2016.

Jay A. Laverdiere, Macomb, Dec. 27, 2016.

Juanita A. Mathena, Colchester, Jan. 4, 2017.

Kathlyn H. "Kax" Hammes Mowbray, Las Vegas, NV, Feb. 10, 2017.

Charles W. Neidy, Colchester, Feb. 6, 2017.

Robert E. Purdy, Colchester, Jan. 17, 2017.

Richard T. Rasmussen, LaHarpe, Feb. 15, 2017.

Earl R. "Dick" Repp, Avon, Dec. 19, 2016.

James D. "Don" Roche, Macomb, Nov. 21, 2016.

William H. Sanders, Macomb, Mar. 19, 2017.

Connie L. Scarbrough, Bushnell, Nov. 9, 2016.

Gary A. Scott, Madison, WI, Jan. 23, 2017.

Robert N. Shult, Macomb, Jan. 9, 2017.

Kathryn L. Sorenson, Macomb, Dec. 6, 2016.

Lucy D. Johnson Stranberg, Candler, NC, Dec. 26, 2016.

George D. Townsend, Traverse City, MI, Mar. 18, 2017,

Dale F. Voss, Annapolis, MD, Aug. 2, 2016.

C. Don Weston, Macomb,

Mar. 31, 2017.

Harold E. "Skip" Wilde, N. Ft. Myers, FL, Dec. 11, 2016. Jill M. Zimmerman, Tyler, TX, Jan. 23, 2017.

1936 Barbara J. Page Lusk, Momence, Mar. 4, 2017.

1937 Margaret E. Hunt Legg, Macomb, Oct. 30, 2016.

1941 Gwendolyn Fosdyck Glass, Ft. Worth, TX, Mar. 6, 2017.

1943 Cleo M. Rodenhouser Applegate, Chester, Feb. 5, 2017.

1946 Geneva E. Henerhoff Eymann MSE '48, Macon, MO, Oct. 28, 2016.

1948 Mary E. Manuel Allen, Dallas City, Mar. 3, 2017.

1948 Maurice G. Kellogg MS-ED '**56**, Macomb, Oct. 31, 2016.

1949 John E. Bordenave, Tucson, AZ, Oct. 24, 2016.

1949 James R. Hunter, Boulder, CO, Apr. 14, 2017.

1949 Avis M. "Maxine" Burgard Vigna, Ellisville, Feb. 28, 2017.

1950 Mary E. Schmidt Frazier, Champaign, Feb. 13, 2017.

1952 Wendell L. Swanson MSE '55, Macomb, Dec. 31, 2016.

1952 Catherine A. "Anne" McKone Van Etten, Dubuque, IA, Aug. 31, 2016.

1954 Michael A. Reynolds MS-ED '57, McKinney, TX, Apr. 5, 2017.

1954 Glen B. Van Proyen, Debary, FL, Dec. 1, 2016.

1955 Robert F. Henkle, Grove, OK, Dec. 29, 2016.

1956 Richard W. "Dick" Crain, Indian Head Park, Mar. 26, 2017.

1957 Mary E. Ketcham Harnetiaux, Hamilton, Mar. 15, 2017.

1957 William T. Leinenweber, Ottawa, Feb. 20, 2016.

1957 Marion W. Lewis, Round Lake Beach, Nov. 9,

2016.

1957 Roy M. "Max" Toland, Denver, CO, Apr. 13, 2017.

1958 Sandra M. "Marlene" Wilson Katz MS-ED '60, Nevada City, CA, Mar. 10, 2017.

1959 James S. "Gus" Gustafson, Morton, Nov. 17, 2016.

1959 Leonard S. Siepka, Park Ridge, Nov. 5, 2016.

1960 Lyman J. Avery, Gilbert, AZ, Oct. 22, 2016.

1960 Janice A. Nott Funk, Casey, Jan. 25, 2017.

1960 Robert P. Galloway, Macomb, Feb. 5, 2017.

1960 Melvina B. Burcky Green, Canton, Nov. 18, 2016.

1960 Kenneth E. Tribbett, Austin, MN, Mar. 12, 2017.

1961 Ann M. Higgins Collins MA '68, Macomb,
Mar. 2, 2017.

1961 Barbara J. Schnell Hugi, Palos Park, Nov. 13, 2016.

1961 Cliff A. Hyink, Thousand Oaks, CA, Nov. 10, 2016.

1961 James L. Shook, Kewanee, Nov. 28, 2016.

1962 Glen C. Magnuson, Shawnee, KS, Dec. 9, 2016.

1963 Louis E. "Ed" Bednar, **Jr.,** Lancaster, PA, Jan. 10, 2016.

1963 Vivien L. Carson Campbell, Encampment, WY, May 31, 2016.

1963 Dennis P. Sullivan, St. Petersburg, FL, Feb. 20, 2017.

1963 Jill A. Heavener Vaughn, League City, TX, Nov. 8, 2014.

1964 Ralph E. "Ed" Test, Jerseyville, Nov. 2, 2016.

1965 Joseph J. Buragas, Springfield, Dec. 1, 2016.

1965 Donna J. Kociara, Brookfield, Dec. 27, 2016.

1965 Mary E. Stephenson McReynolds MS-ED, Canton, MO, Mar. 18, 2017.

Western Mourns RPTA Professor Emeritus Gil Belles

Gil Belles, professor emeritus of Western's recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA), passed away May 25 in Macomb.

Belles arrived at WIU in 1968 to teach history. While he was in that department he helped create a Black Studies Area and then chaired the department of African American studies. In 1985, Belles "retrained," earning another degree, and began teaching in the department of recreation, park and tourism administration (RPTA). He taught in RPTA, creating courses for the tourism component of the curriculum, until his retirement in 1996.

During his tenure, he was actively involved in such campus activities as Open Door and the President's Task Force to End Homophobia, and he continued to be involved in numerous community and civic organizations, including the Performing Arts Society, YMCA of McDonough County, Tri-States Public Radio and Tri-States Audio Information Services, the Western Illinois Museum, Meals on Wheels, McDonough County Historical Society and the Macomb Public Library.

To read more about the many organizational and community involvements of Belles, visit bit.ly/2sJYODQ.

1966 David L. Haak, Rock Falls, Dec. 18, 2016.

1967 Joseph R. Hickey, Waterman, Apr. 15, 2017.

1967 James L. Mateja, Lindenhurst, Jan. 30, 2017.

1968 Rose M. Bartoli Casolari, Ft. Myers, FL, Jan. 20, 2017.

1968 James E. Hinchee, Bloomington, Oct. 31, 2016.

1968 Danny J. Holmes M.ACCT '71, Walcott, IA, Mar. 7, 2017.

1968 William S. Moody, Mesa, AZ, Nov. 9, 2014.

1969 Douglas L. Butler MA '70, Springfield, Jan. 15, 2016.

1969 Richard E. Kobler. Stevensville, MI, June 11, 2016.

1969 Jo A. Dagenais Kolkay, Naperville, Dec. 5, 2016.

1969 Ralph A. Livesay, Orland Park, Dec. 8, 2016.

1971 Brenda L. Meincke DuBois, Moline, Nov. 17, 2016.

1971 Lawrence E. Smolinski, Wheaton, Nov. 27, 2016.

1972 Glenn G. Blair, Bettendorf, IA, Jan. 27, 2017.

1972 Robert D. "David" Fulton M.ACCT '76, Brookfield, Oct. 1, 2016.

1972 Kenneth L. Knapp MS, Fox Lake, Nov. 1, 2016.

1972 Margaret A. "Marge" McLaughlin MA, Camden, SC, Nov. 14, 2016.

1974 Gail E. Strock Kotecki, Goodyear, AZ, Oct. 5, 2016.

1974 Susan A. Petersen. Round Lake, Aug. 26, 2014.

1974 Lynn M. Pfeifer, Rockton, Oct. 19, 2016.

1974 Ann M. McGrann Powell, Macomb, Apr. 26, 2017.

1974 Thees G. Sterrenberg II, Chicago, Nov. 28, 2016.

1974 Douglas A. Van Camp MBA, Gurnee, Oct. 29, 2016.

1975 Wayne L. Caster, Jr., St. Augustine, FL, Sept. 5, 2016.

Corrections from Spring 2017 Magazine

Page 11: Cutline on photo should say Marshall Stoner instead of Marshall Stone. Page 12: Edgerson Booker should be Booker Edgerson.

1975 Marilyn E. "Elaine" Ginn MS. Jacksonville. FL. Mar. 7, 2017.

1975 Adele B. Hershberger Malerich, Springfield, Feb. 10, 2017.

1976 Dale F. Hilliger, Tega Cay, SC, July 14, 2016.

1976 Christopher G. Quigley, Belvidere, July 10, 2016.

1977 Steven L. Kaufman, Galesburg, Aug. 13, 2016.

1977 Viola R. McCormick Stiber, Morton, Mar. 19, 2017.

1978 Michael E. McMullan, Clearwater, FL, Nov. 9, 2015.

1981 Else M. Aden, Muskegon, MI, Nov. 10, 2016.

1981 Susan M. Harms Ledden, Portage, MI, Feb. 14, 2017.

1981 Jane E. Rutledge Pittman MA, Adair, Nov. 22, 2016.

1982 Ronald G. West, Tyler, TX, July 22, 2016.

1983 Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Pearce, Western Springs, Aug. 23, 2016.

1985 Adrienne M. Johnson Stewart, S. Holland, Nov. 27, 2016.

1986 Sondra S. Clift Schofield MS-ED,

Bentonville, AR, Jan. 30,

1988 Maria D. Nelson '90, MS '92, Bonapart, IA, Jan. 9, 2017.

1989 Deborah J. Mason Johnson, Perryville, MO, Dec. 22, 2016.

1990 Daryl L. Ellis, Macomb, Mar. 10, 2017.

1990 Mitchell W. Hutchins, Macomb, Mar. 20, 2017.

1991 Patricia J. Baugh-Riechers MA, E. Moline, Jan. 31, 2017.

1992 Stephen E. Majors, Mendota, Sept. 23, 2016.

1992 David R. Nardella. Orland Park, Feb. 8, 2017.

1992 Sue A. Sievers Voss. Durant, IA, Mar. 27, 2017.

1992 John A. Wilde, Jr., Carthage, Jan. 31, 2017.

1993 Constance Y. Anderson Crawford, Macomb, Mar. 13, 2017.

1993 Charles E. Young, Rushville, Jan. 27, 2017.

1995 Dianne C. DeBruin MS-ED, Clinton, IA, Feb. 12, 2017.

1995 Janeen K. Emory Kolb MS-ED, Effingham, Nov. 20,

1998 Brian K. Lauritzen, Lacon, Apr. 10, 2017.

2003 Ryan L. Gatz, Schiller Park, July 12, 2016.

2004 Celeste M. Gorospe. Springfield, VA, Sept. 9, 2014.

2009 Brian G. Pickle, Arlington Hts., Nov. 12, 2016. 2011 Ashley J. Lord, Moran, KS, Apr. 21, 2017.

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Mail your update to WIU Alumni Association, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390. Please include your graduation year, major, maiden name if applicable and phone number.

* Information will be included in Western's online directory and in the online Western Illinois University Magazine.

