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May 17, 1979

W.U. RECORD

Eliot Society Honors Adele Starbird, WU Dean of Women for 28 Years

Adele Chomeau Starbird (Mrs. Robert Stinson Starbird), dean emeritus of women at WU, received WU's William Greenleaf Eliot Society Award Thurs., May 10, for her distinguished service to the University. The Eliot Society Award, a replica of the sculpture, "The Search," designed by WU Professor of Art Heikki Seppa, symbolizes the never ending inquiry at WU in every field of endeavor.

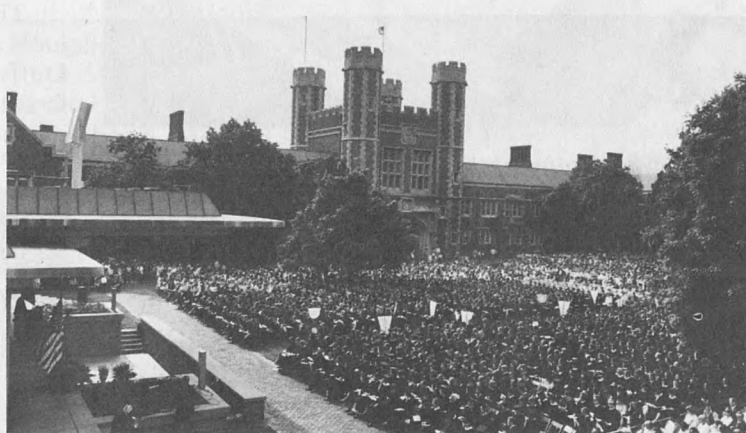
George Kassabaum, president of the Eliot Society and a member of the University's Board of Trustees, presented the award at the group's annual dinner meeting May 10 at the Old Warson Country Club, 9841 Old Warson Road. Kassabaum is a partner in the St. Louis architectural firm, Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum.

The Eliot Society, named after one of the University's founders, is an organization of University alumni and friends.

The Honorable William H. Webster, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a member of WU's Board of Trustees and a WU alumnus, was the featured speaker at the event.

Starbird was dean of women at WU for 28 years before she retired in 1959. In his presentation remarks, Kassabaum said that it was difficult to assess the influence of Starbird, a much admired and beloved counselor to hundreds of young students. "The number of people who have been influenced by this individual, directly and indirectly, can only be guessed at. To be able to count a handful of men and women whose lives have been bettered because of our counsel and presence is a mark of high achievement. To be able to count hundreds, as the person we honor tonight can, is a mark of exceptional achievement."

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Herb Weitman

1815 Will Receive Degrees May 18 At 118th Commencement Exercises

The largest number in recent years of candidates for the bachelor of science degree in engineering, 199, will be among 1815 WU students receiving May degrees at WU's 118th commencement ceremonies Friday morning, May 18.

Receiving doctoral level degrees will be 36 doctor of philosophy candidates and 2 doctor of education candidates in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 136 doctor of medicine candidates, 2 doctor of dental medicine candidates, 7 doctor of science candidates, and 146 doctor of law candidates. A total of 827 graduate level and 988 undergraduate degrees will be conferred at the exercises.

Also participating in commencement will be students who received degrees earlier this year. Among them are recipients of 105 undergraduate degrees and 172 graduate degrees, August, 1978; recipients of 141 undergraduate degrees and 224 graduate degrees, December, 1978.

The academic procession will begin at 8 a.m. and proceed into the University's quadrangle, where ceremonies will begin at 8:30 a.m.

(Francis Field House in case of rain.)

William Gass, WU professor of philosophy, novelist and essayist, will deliver the commencement address entitled "Learning to Talk."

Arts and Sciences senior Thomas Countryman will also speak. The first member of the graduating class to speak at commencement exercises since 1970. He will reflect on six words: education, community, commitment, humor, pain and joy.

Seven honorary degrees will also be conferred by Chancellor William H. Danforth.

Receiving the Doctor of Science degree will be: Daniel Nathans, MD, Nobel Laureate, 1978, and WU alumnus; Harold Eugene Edgerton, Institute Professor Emeritus in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Samuel Milton Nabrit, executive director of the Southern Fellowships Fund and the National Fellowships Fund.

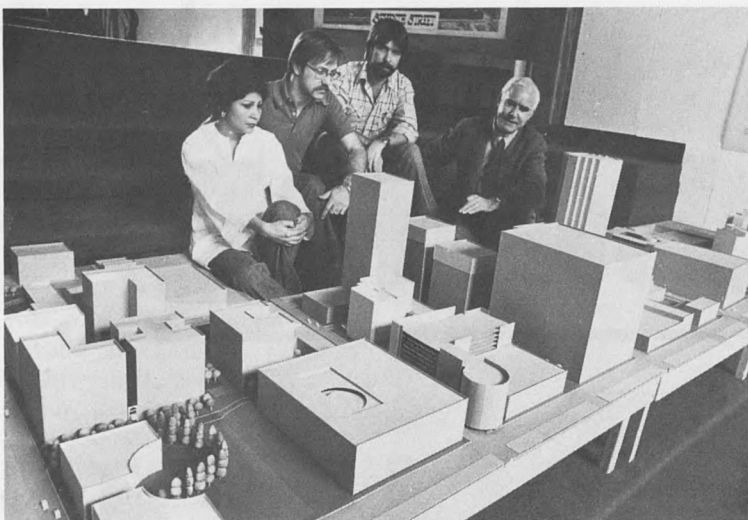
Modern dance choreographer Alwin Nikolais will be awarded the Doctor of Arts degree.

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Herb Weitman

George Kassabaum (left), president of WU's Eliot Society, presented the Eliot Society Award to Adele Chomeau Starbird at ceremonies May 10. William J. Oetting (center), who earned business and law degrees at WU, looks on. Mrs. Starbird, dean emeritus of women at WU, holds the award, a replica of the sculpture, "The Search."



Peter H. Zimmerman
Three master's candidates in WU's Urban and Research Design Center discuss the model of the proposed redevelopment of Seventh Street, which they and their classmates designed, with their mentor Frants Albert (far right). The students are from left to right: Emilia Diez, Robert Schmidt, and Ken Irons.

Students' Vision of 'Main Street' Is Presented to New York Planners

Professor Frants Albert and the students in the WU Urban Research and Design Center in the School of Architecture seem to blossom out each spring with "yeasty" ideas on the renovation of downtown St. Louis at about the same time that daffodils and other bright spring flora burst into bloom.

Last year, Albert, the center's director, offered his students, candidates for the master's degree in urban design, an opportunity to present their design projects for a Gateway Mall to a distinguished audience including the noted Philadelphia planner, Edmund N. Bacon.

A few weeks ago, Jonathan Barnett and Richard Rosan, both New York City planners and former members of ex-Mayor of New York John V. Lindsey's urban design team, met with students, civic leaders, architects and city planners in Givens Hall to discuss the urban design graduate students' plan for Seventh Street.

The WU students envisioned this street in downtown St. Louis as a true "Main Street" which could "be a powerful environment, a memorable street with a beginning, a middle, and an end." Reviewing their plans, Robert Duffy, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* arts editor, put the street in perspective when he wrote: "Seventh, as anyone who has spent time looking at downtown St. Louis realizes, is not just another downtown street. It connects the Cervantes Convention Center on the north with Busch Memorial Stadium on the south. Along its way, it passes Stix, Baer & Fuller, the Mercantile Center, the Ambassador Building, Famous Barr, two Louis Sullivan buildings (705 Olive and the Wainright Building), the Guaranty Trust and Buder buildings, and Philip Johnson's General American building. It crosses a section of the Mall, between Chestnut and Market Streets. It has, therefore, strength and significance; the students in the urban design program believe that it has a great potential."

The WU students' plan for the street was presented in eight parts. Said Duffy of their recommendations: "(They) are the result of a lot of study of downtown St. Louis and thoughtful attention to its problems. The proposal they presented last week had a number of attractive features, among them, the notion of bringing the Museum of Science and Natural History to the Mall, the idea of attracting a significant residential population downtown, and in general, the emphasis on increasing activity on the streets of the city during the day and bringing life to the streets after 5 in the afternoon."

Certain suggestions, such as a proposal to close Seventh Street to automobiles leaving only a narrow ribbon of roadway

for buses and emergency vehicles, were viewed as controversial by some members of the audience. J. Arthur Baer II, consultant to Stix, Baer & Fuller's board chairman Carrick Hill, reminded the students that "Imagination is only half of the urban planning picture. The other half is banks and money and politics."

The visiting critics tempered their praise for the students' skillful organization and presentation with specific reservations. Rosan called the WU plan "overly optimistic," and both he and Barnett advised the students not to reject the idea of an internal mall rather than an outdoor bazaar. Barnett warned that suburbanites have "strange ideas about what goes on 'downtown.' The enclosed space is one the people we want to bring back find comfortable," he said.

The students, however, managed to make people think, to look at alternatives, to dream a bit about what might be. Said Duffy in summary: "It's not often that people with a lot of different ideas get together to do that in St. Louis, but for the second consecutive year it happened in an afternoon in Givens Hall."

(Dorothy Brockhoff)



Donald N. Brandin

Three Trustees Are Appointed To WU Board

WU has elected three prominent civic and business leaders to its Board of Trustees, William H. Danforth chancellor, has announced.

They are: Donald N. Brandin, chairman of the board and chief executive officer, Boatmen's Bancshares, Inc.; Louis S. Sachs, president, Sachs Electric Company and Sachs Properties, Inc.; and Robert Joy Glaser, MD, president and chief executive officer, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Palo Alto, Calif.

Brandin, who is also chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Boatmen's National Bank of St. Louis, is a native of New York City and a graduate of Princeton University. He is on the boards of directors of

Petrolite Corporation, St. Louis; William S. Banickel & Co., St. Louis; Civic Center Redevelopment Corporation, St. Louis; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Association of Bank Holding Companies, Washington, D.C.; Laclede Avenue Real Estate, Inc., St. Louis; and Sigma-Aldrich Corporation, St. Louis.

Sachs, a native St. Louisian and a graduate of Washington University, is an advisory director, St. Louis Union Trust Company. His civic activities include: St. Louis Children's Hospital, Washington University Medical Center Redevelopment Corporation, The Jewish Hospital of St.



Louis S. Sachs

Louis, United Way of Greater St. Louis, St. Louis Area Council/Boy Scouts of America, and Junior Achievement of Mississippi Valley Advisory.

Dr. Glaser, also a native St. Louisian, is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Medical School and holds honorary degrees from the University of Chicago, Temple University, and Rush

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Goat Tender, Jazzman, Inventor and Traveler are Among '79 Grads

Every commencement at WU, several thousand students walk down the brick-lined paths in the quadrangle to receive their degrees. To get there, many followed the conventional path of diligent study. But in every class there are always those who have managed to follow several roads at the same time (despite what Robert Frost once said about a similar problem), or who have gone beyond the normal expectations. Below are seven such graduates whom the *Record* staff found particularly intriguing.

It's to be expected that a doctoral candidate in English literature can crack an obscure metaphor as easily as a squirrel cracks a nut. But it is a bit unusual for such a candidate to be able also to dehoof, dehorn and delouse a goat, deliver and butcher its kids, and turn its milk into yogurt, ice cream and cheese.

For **Adrian Frazier**, who is receiving a PhD in English literature, the above goat-related chores are among the many he and his wife perform routinely as part of their somewhat Thoreauvian, 19th-century self-sufficient life-style. The Fraziers, who have two children, live on a small plot of ground near Crescent, Mo., in a house that lacks plumbing, and raise vegetables, rabbits, goats and chickens (Adrian has been a reliable source of farm-fresh eggs for the English Department).

The house's lack of plumbing presents the Frazier's with some problems—although not insurmountable ones. Water for bathing has to be heated on a wood stove during the winter. During the summer, however, the Frazier's use an electric stove on a porch for cooking—"The wood one is just too hot", Adrian says—and bathe in the nearby Meramec River.

To stock up supplies for the fall and winter months, Alison Frazier cans vegetables from their garden. She also makes her own bread, grinding 50 pounds of wheat annually to add to store-bought flour.

"We are pretty self-sufficient," Adrian says, "except around this time of year when the canned goods have run out and the garden hasn't begun to yield yet. We also use a laundromat for washing clothes—doing diapers by hand is too much."

A descendent of John Lewis, a brother of Meriwether, Adrian lives two miles from his family's farm, which has been in the Lewis family since Meriwether and siblings invested in it at the end of the 18th century—one reason Adrian chose this rustic life. "I spent a lot of time on the farm, particularly with my grandfather Adrian Frazier (a WU trustee from 1945 to 1967) while I was growing up and find more of myself there than anywhere else."

Adrian's penchant for a life of husbandry has carried over to some extent in his choice of a dissertation topic—Irish poetry since Yeats. "There is a connection," Adrian says. "The Irish poets I've written about have a preference for the past and defend in their a poetry a regionalist, agrarian culture against the encroachment by a foreign, English industrial one."

Adrian says he is willing to leave the farm for a teaching position—especially since the St. Louis suburbs are threatening to overtake the area in the near future.

For **John C. Sommerer**, who is receiving bachelor and master's degrees in systems



John C. Sommerer and his "catastrophe machine."



Jazzman Bob Sorin at the piano.

science and mathematics, a "catastrophe" became an opportunity. John's interest in a relatively new area of mathematics known as "catastrophe theory" resulted in the discovery of a new illustration of the theory, the invention of a machine which demonstrates the theory, and the publication of his results in an international journal. His investigation began during his freshman year, and the paper which he wrote appears in the April 1979 issue of the *SIAM Review* published by the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.

As a freshman engineering student at WU, John read an article in *Scientific American* which discussed catastrophe theory. According to E. C. Zeeman, who wrote that article, catastrophe theory is "a mathematical method for dealing with discontinuous and divergent phenomena."

Intrigued by the story, John began to investigate the possibility of extending Zeeman's work to include a model of a substance under an applied torque. He not only came up with a new model, but he also invented a "catastrophe machine" which allows the quantitative analysis of the forces at work when a rubberband in a toy airplane is wound.

John discussed this project with Ervin Y. Rodin, professor of applied mathematics and systems science, who encouraged him to submit a paper on this research to the *SIAM Review*.

"The reviewer seemed to be very much opposed to catastrophe theory, and therefore I didn't think it would actually be published," John said. "Without Professor Rodin's encouragement I never would have had the patience to go through the reviewing process or even the audacity to submit the paper for publication."

But John did submit it and it was published in the April 1979 issue of the *SIAM Review*. His accomplishment is no small feat for an undergraduate.

"It is so rare," Rodin said, "that I know of no other work published by a freshman in such an international journal."

Rodin was so impressed by John's work that he sent a copy of the article to Rene Thom of the Institut des Hautes Etudes Scientifique at Bures-sur-Yvette in France. Thom is credited with inventing catastrophe theory. He presented his ideas in a book published in 1972, *Stabilite' Structurelle et Morphogenese*.

Thom's reply to Rodin read, in part, "the airplane catastrophe is a novel and innovative application. Your student has a lot of insight and deserves to be encouraged."

John will receive his two degrees, *summa cum laude*, just four years after entering WU as an Alexander S. Langsdorf Fellow.

This fall, he will enter the WU Medical Scientist Training Program under a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

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This program leads to a PhD and an MD degree in six years. Sommerer would like to teach medical topics at the university level after completing his training.

Learning to "let loose" is an important part of the academic experience and one way students do that is to listen to music.

One whose music many students have listened to and enjoyed recently is **Bob Sorin**, who is receiving the bachelor of arts degree. Sorin is leader of the Bob Sorin Quartet, a jazz ensemble which has been playing to enthusiastic audiences in campus nightspots all year. Bob "lets loose" with music himself, but there's something special about it when it's of your own making.

"The best feeling comes when you're taking a solo and you hear a hand clap or look up and see someone moving to the music," he said recently. "The audience is the most important part of the performance. As a band, we can control the level of energy, but the audience's interest and involvement establishes the limitations. An excited audience can make me more involved with my playing."

Bob's efforts to form a group last fall met its most difficult challenge early—it was hard to find players. After some time as a trio, the group was finally joined by a long-sought sax player and began to put together a repertoire. Bob arranged nearly all the group's material himself, teaching each part to the others by ear. The quartet now performs over 60 tunes.

As the leader of the group, Bob also established aesthetic goals for the band. "The purpose of the group was to have fun, but I felt we had to be serious enough to not embarrass ourselves. We still wanted to sound like a good, tight band."

Bob plays traditional piano repertoire as well as jazz and has studied for four years at WU with Sona Duckham, an instructor in the Music Department. He describes jazz with the word "action," with one note following the other because of a flow of feeling. Traditional piano music he describes as "contemplative," where a lot of thought is needed to play each note. "You must curb your own emotions in classical music and pay more attention to the score. Classical music uses emotions too, but they are expressed by the composer in the score."

A major in philosophy, Bob has been accepted at a number of law schools for next year. Although he doubts he will have time to lead another group as a law student, finding a place for playing his music is imperative.

"I'll have to play, to use as my opium to let out tension, or I'll burn out," he said. "Playing the piano is still the best cure for a headache," he laughed.

At the eighth Annual Black Awards Program this year, the Mary McLeod Bethune Award for leadership and scholastic achievement was presented to **Suraiya Finck Harris**, a native of South Africa who is receiving the master's degree in social work. The choice couldn't have been more appropriate.

In the two years that Suraiya—an A student—has been in the United States, she has contributed extensively to both school and community.

It was through Suraiya's efforts her first year here that the Host Family Program, sponsored by the United Church Women for foreign WU students, got its first black-family participants. "I went out into the black community and spoke with people, and a number volunteered," she explained.

An all-student symposium on social development in Third World countries, held at the George Warren School of Social Work this semester, was also Suraiya's idea. An International Club at GWB was recently formed as a result of the students working together at the symposium and with the urging of Suraiya and others. Suraiya has also contributed time and energy to the Negro Women's Association, a St. Louis group, by giving workshops on the status of African women.

Experience working in the St. Louis community has given Suraiya a first-hand opportunity to compare racial discrimination in the United States with that in South Africa. Last summer,



Suraiya Finck Harris (left) receiving the Mary McLeod Bethune Award from Gwen Stephenson, director of student services.

she investigated discrimination complaints for the Missouri Commission on Human Rights, and this year she has been teaching black culture twice a week in a north and a south St. Louis public grade school. Of her teaching she says, "I want children to be aware of Africa and dispell the myth of Tarzan and Jane." Of discrimination she says, "It is much more subtle in the United States than in South Africa, where it is enforced. But I prefer open discrimination—at least it is honest. I think Americans have the misconception that discrimination is out of date and therefore have become complacent about it."

Before coming to the United States, Suraiya worked for six years as a social worker and taught for one in South Africa, spent nine months in Canada, Ireland, South America and Scotland studying prison conditions and corrections systems in those countries, and published, with a social work-architectural team, a study on the inadequacy of black South African housing. Unlike many South African students who go abroad, she plans to return to her homeland with her American husband who is a parole and probation officer here.

Most people study their way through college. **Laura Lane**, however, has sung as well as studied her requirements away with a good part of the warbling being in French.

A voice student who is receiving the bachelor of arts degree with majors in music and French, Laura was a music major pure and simple until she decided to spend her junior year in Strasbourg, France, as part of WU's year-abroad program. Her experience and study there qualified her for a double major in French, which she has been studying since junior high school.

"I love to speak French," Laura said, adding that knowing languages can be a great aid to a singer. "Although we are taught diction as voice students, it really helps to know the language rather than just memorizing pronunciation. Then you understand what you are singing and can give the words their proper emphasis and rhythm." Laura, who has also studied German, plans to teach herself Italian this summer.

This year at WU, Laura combined her interests and organized and directed a French choir in the French Department. The choir made its debut with a program of *chansons* at the French Club's Christmas party held in Stix International House.

In the fall, Laura will enroll in graduate study in choral conducting at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. Her goal is to become a choir conductor and teach at a college or university—but she is leaving the door open for a possible singing career. "Usually a person's voice doesn't develop fully until he or she is in the mid or late 20s. Right now I'm classified as a "light lyric" soprano—someone with a light voice—so I will keep studying and see what happens."

An honor student, Laura received an outstanding student

award from the French Department this semester and has also won an Antoinette Frances Dames Award, which provides a \$500 scholarship for graduate study.

Dragoslav Scepanovic, who as a lad of 17 fled his native Yugoslavia and took refuge in Italian camps at Trieste and Capua, is probably the only journeyman machinist among this year's graduating class. Now 28 and a sculptor, Dragoslav is receiving the bachelor of arts degree in fine arts.

A soft-spoken man, who chooses not to talk about his adventures in leaving his native Montenegro for life on this side of the Iron Curtain, Dragoslav has been an able student. In the fall he will leave for the University of Miami to serve as a teaching assistant while studying for the master's degree in fine arts.

With the aid of a friend, Deda Gelevec of the Bronx, N.Y., who worked with representatives of the Albanian church, Dragoslav made his way to New York in 1969. A year later, he moved to St. Louis where he also had friends who could help him make a new life in this country. "There was a big change in life-style," he acknowledged, "but I didn't have any problem adjusting."

Dragoslav enrolled at the St. Louis Community College, Forest Park campus, in 1975, where he took a potpourri of courses, including political science, history, American civilization and filmmaking. A year later, he entered WU's School of Fine Arts with advanced standing. To finance his studies, Dragoslav has earned his living as a journeyman machinist at the Essex Manufacturing Co., 8213 Gravois Ave., while carrying a full schedule of classes. Apparently, the mix of work and study suited him, for he is graduating after only three years of study here.

"Life as a student at WU has been a wonderful experience," he says happily. He looks upon sculptor Jim Sterritt as a special friend, and also thinks highly of a covey of other faculty members, including Professors Stanley Tasker, Barry Schactman, Jon Palmer, Edward Boccia and David Hershey.

He is married to the former Helena Milich, born in this country of a Ukrainian mother and Serbian father. She is a production artist at the Christian Board of Publication.

Dragoslav is uncertain precisely what he will do after he completes his graduate education in Florida. A cautious man, all he will say just now is, "I'm open for opportunities. My main concern," he added, "is to experiment and communicate in three-dimensional art."

Most students contemplating travel after graduation will be paying their own way whether it be to Pago Pago or a less exotic destination. **Michael L. Riordan** of Wichita, Kan., is an exception.

He is one of two graduating seniors in the United States, selected from over 125 candidates from 60 universities (the majority of them already recipients of graduate degrees), who have been named a Luce Scholar. As one of 15 young Americans accorded this honor this spring, Michael will leave in the fall to spend a year in the Far East on a professional apprenticeship under the guidance of a leading Asian. Each Luce Scholar receives a basic stipend of \$9000, accompanied by added compensation where the cost of living is substantially higher than in the United States. Economy class transportation is also

provided.

The distinguishing feature of the program is that it is directed toward those who are not Asian specialists. In fact, students of Asian studies or of international affairs are specifically excluded in favor of young men and women with professional interests that may range anywhere from architecture to zoology.

Michael, graduating with both the bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering *cum laude* and the bachelor of arts degree (with a major in biology, *summa cum laude*), plans to become a doctor. In conformance with the heart of the Luce program, he will be assigned an internship or a job placement arranged specifically to suit his career interests, experience, training, and general background. Michael does not yet know his final destination, but he has been informed that he will be involved with health care either at a medical institution or in a rural province.

The Luce Scholarship is the latest in a series of honors accorded Riordan. He attended WU as an Alexander S. Langsdorf Fellow, selected through a national competition.

Michael was one of four outstanding students chosen for this prestigious award as a member of the 1975 freshman class of the WU School of Engineering and Applied Science. (Another WU student and Langsdorf Fellow, Jim Harlan, won the Luce Scholarship in 1974.)

Michael opted, also, to become a candidate for a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences, and claims "it was not difficult to study in two such very different kinds of programs." While earning high grades (he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honorary, during his junior year, and to Sigma Xi, this year), he also squeezed in a variety of extra-curricular activities.

During his freshman and sophomore years, he received a coveted "letter" as a member of the varsity swimming team. A versatile athlete, he also competed, as a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, in intramurals, including swimming, basketball and football.

Michael was part of the Academic Committee for 1977-1978 which is responsible for choosing the Graham Chapel Assembly speakers as well as for other programming. Two summers ago, he studied Shakespeare and the contemporary British novel at St. Benet's Hall, Oxford University. This year, he was one of two students chosen to sit on the University's Board of Trustees.

On the basis of this outstanding record, WU chose him as one of its three nominees for the Luce Scholars program.

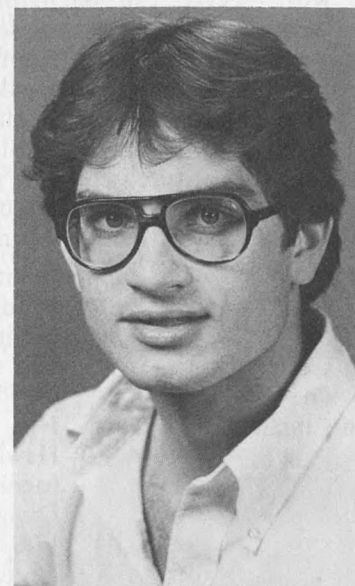
Michael and the other 14 Luce Scholars for 1978-1979 will meet in late August for a one week orientation at Princeton University. Then the Scholars will participate in a series of seminars at the Chinese University in Hong Kong. The individual work assignments will run from mid-September through June, and conclude with a final evaluation session at a site elsewhere in Asia.

"Luce Scholars are expected to return to this country at the end of their year abroad not as Asian experts, but as potential leaders whose perceptions—of Asia, of America, and even of themselves—have been significantly sharpened as a result of

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Laura Lane



Michael L. Riordan

Countryman Speaks At Commencement

Like most of the students who will line up the morning of May 18 to receive their degrees, senior Tom Countryman has a lot of thoughts about the meaning of commencement, about the past, the years at WU, about the future, about what was learned and about the questions which remain, perhaps forever, unanswered. Unlike his classmates, however, Tom will have a chance to express his thoughts as the first student speaker at commencement in nine years and, as he says, "I'm not shy about sharing those thoughts."

Tom has no title for his address but describes it as a reflection on six words: education, community, commitment, humor, pain and joy.

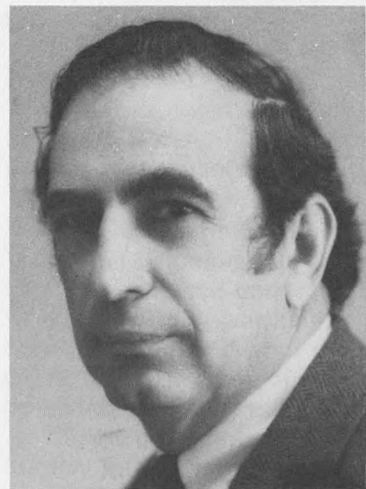
"These are ideas I've given a lot of thought to and I think other people should think about them also," he said recently. His remarks may also reflect his feelings about the purpose of commencement. "Commencement should be an occasion for us students to honor each other for what we've accomplished together," he said. "It's also an opportunity to say goodbye."

The idea of a student speaker at commencement originated as a request from students. A committee of students, faculty and staff conducted a competition, open to students from all of the undergraduate divisions at WU. Applicants submitted drafts of their speeches and were interviewed by the committee. The committee made recommendations to Chancellor Danforth who made the final decision.

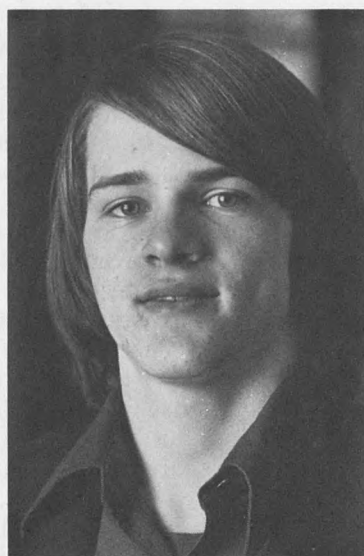
Tom will receive the bachelor of arts degree with majors in economics and political science. Next fall, he will attend the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. As a sophomore, he was speaker of the South-40. He studied at the University of Sussex during his junior year and this year, he was a member of a Student Union committee recommending divestiture. He is a passionate cross-country runner and took part in the Canadian National Marathon Championship the week before commencement.

Trustees

Medical College. His previous university appointments include WU, Uni-



Robert Joy Glaser



Tom Countryman

versity of Colorado School of Medicine, Harvard University, Stanford University, and the Columbia University of Physicians and Surgeons. His directorships include: Hewlett packard Co., California Water Service Co.; Dynapol, Inc.; The Equitable Life Assurance society of the United States; The Commonwealth Fund; The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation; and Palo Alto Medical Research Foundation.

* * *

EDWIN B. FISHER, JR., assistant professor of psychology at WU, was recently presented the annual Speaker of the Year Award by the American Cancer Society's St. Louis City and County Units.

Dr. George F. Wooten Receives Award For Research on Parkinson's Disease

Dr. George Frederick Wooten, Jr., assistant professor of pharmacology and assistant professor of neurology at the WU School of Medicine, is one of two leading researchers who have received the Dr. George C. Cotzias Memorial Senior Research Fellowship Award from the American Parkinson Disease Association.

He and the other recipient, Dr. John H. Growdon of Tufts School of Medicine, each received a \$150,000 stipend to cover a three-year research program. He is doing research on the effects of aging on neurotransmitter systems implicated in Parkinson's disease.

Dr. Wooten completed his undergraduate studies at Rice University and earned the medical degree at Cornell University Medical College.

Dr. Wooten was honored by the American Parkinson Disease Association last year also, when he received a \$20,000 grant from this group. Previously, in 1976, he received a National Research Service Award from the National Institutes of Health, and an Andrew Mellon Teacher Scientist Award. Two years later, he was the recipient of a Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association Research Grant. Dr. Wooten works at St. Louis City Hospital where he does his research.

International Biology Conference To Be at WU

WU's Department of Biology will be host of a three-day "International Conference on Polyploidy: Biological Relevance" May 25-27.

According to Walter H. Lewis, professor of biology and chairman of the conference. "Polyploidy is a major mechanism in the evolutionary process and a major resource for the development of new domesticated plants."

This conference will bring together botanists, zoologists and agriculturists to discuss current knowledge of polyploidy, to explore new avenues of approach to remaining problems, and to learn of

new techniques and methodologies and their applications. It is the first international conference on polyploidy.

In most animals and some higher plants, the somatic or body cells contain two sets of chromosomes. These organisms are called diploids. Others, known as polyploids, have three, four or more chromosomal sets in their somatic cells and tissues.

"Polyploidy is a dramatic mutational event having wide implication in nature as a mechanism of evolution and in human hands as a means of generating new and valuable crops," Lewis said.

'79 Grads

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this experience," according to information from the Luce Foundation. The entire program is funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and administered in Asia in cooperation with The Asia Foundation.

The peripatetic Michael will spend the summer as a world traveler leading tours abroad as a travel director for a Clayton, Mo., travel company, Intrav. His first such assignment will take him to Greece on May 31 and other equally distant and fascinating points after that. Seven-league boots seem to suit the Riordan style.

DR. ROBERT E. BEDDELL, who taught at WU's School of Dental Medicine for 34 years, was the recipient of The American Association of Orthodontist's Distinguished Service Scroll, presented at

the dental specialty group's 79th annual session meeting May 5-May 9 in Washington, D.C. Dr. Bedell received his DDS from WU in 1944 as well as his MS in orthodontics in 1951.

Fracture Mechanics To Be Host of National Symposium

WU's Center for Fracture Mechanics will be host of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) 12th National Symposium on Fracture Mechanics May 21-23 on campus.

Professors Mario P. Gomez and Paul C. Paris, directors of the center, are technical co-chairmen of the symposium which is sponsored by the ASTM Committee E-24 on Fracture Testing.

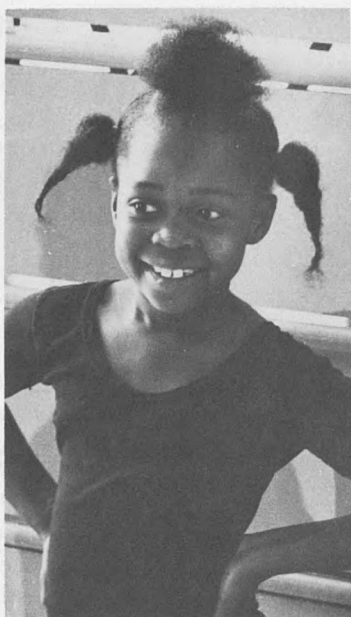
Fracture mechanics, the analysis of the effect of flaws on the structural strength of materials, is used in the design and testing of aircraft and aerospace materials, nuclear reactor pressure vessels, pipelines, offshore oil platforms, optical glass fibers and even fossil fuel recovery from rock formations.

The featured speakers at the symposium will include: Howard Wood of the United States Air Force; Professors J. W. Hutchinson, Harvard University; J. R. Rice, Brown University; J. Schijve, Delft University in the Netherlands; and C. E. Turner of Imperial College in England.

Thirty-five papers will be presented at the symposium representing the work of researchers in the Netherlands, Peoples Republic of China, United Kingdom, Finland, Japan, West Germany and the United States. The symposium proceedings will be published as an ASTM special technical publication.

GEORGE L. ANDRUS, director of social work continuing education at WU's George Warren Brown School of Social Work, spoke on "Training Human Service Professionals in Rural Areas" at the 106th Annual Forum of the National Conference on Social Welfare.

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Creative dance classes for children and young adults will be offered by WU's Dance Division June 18-29. The fee for each session is \$29. For information, call Ext. 5858 or 5885.

Hexter Receives Guggenheim

J. H. Hexter, WU Distinguished Historian in Residence, is one of 291 scholars, scientists and artists chosen from among 2974 applicants to receive a 1979 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship. Hexter is a three-time winner of this award, having previously received Guggenheim Fellowships in 1942 and 1947.

An authority on English history of the 16th and 17th centuries, Hexter will use his Guggenheim Fellowship to write a book on *The First Modern Crisis of Liberty*. It will deal with the 50 years preceding the English Civil War of 1642. His purpose, he explained recently, will be "to produce a new account of the crisis of liberty under the early Stuarts, James I (1603-1625) and Charles I (1625-1649), that is more supple, tough and persuasive than any account published up to now."

This spring, his most recent book, *On Historians—Reappraisals of Some of the Masters of Modern History*, was published by Harvard University Press. Also recently off the press is a paperback edition of Hexter's 1961 book, *Reappraisals in History—New Views on History and Society in Early Modern Europe*, published by Harper and Row.

Department of Psychology Announces Establishment of Meltzer Award

The establishment of the Hyman Meltzer Award was announced last Friday by the Department of Psychology at a party celebrating the eightieth birthday of Meltzer, WU professor of psychology. The prize will be awarded for the first time next year to the student "who has exemplified the highest level of scholarship and creativity in expanding our knowledge of human behavior."

Associated with WU for over fifty years, Meltzer was cited in the award as one "whose teaching, writings, humanistic orientation, and outlook on life have influenced thousands of individuals worldwide." The award is supported with gifts from his colleagues, former students and friends.

A WU full-time faculty member since 1962, Meltzer came to the University in 1928 as a lecturer in the evening and summer schools. Most of the applied and professional courses in psychology currently offered at WU were originally introduced by Meltzer. In 1948, he initiated a course in clinical psychology applicable to managerial and organizational problems in industry. The course is one of the first attempts to apply clinical and mental health orientation to industrial psychology problems. Since then, similar curricula have been instituted at many large universities.

In 1969, he introduced courses in humanistic psychology at WU. In 1977, Meltzer developed an interdisciplinary doctoral program in organizational behavior at WU. He is the author of some 90 articles and more than 150 book reviews.

To contribute to the Hyman Meltzer Award fund, call the Department of Psychology, Ext. 6565.

Starbird

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Starbird received both the bachelor of arts degree (1927) and the master of arts degree (1933) from WU. She also studied in the early 1920s at Columbia University. She returned there later and partially completed a doctoral degree in French language and literature.

One of Starbird's earliest ambitions was to become a concert pianist, and she studied at the Strasbourg Conservatoire and at the University of Paris from 1913 to 1916. In 1913, she married Robert Stinson Starbird, formerly her creative writing teacher at WU. Following his death in 1916, Starbird operated a music studio in St. Louis and taught French at Mary Institute. From 1925-1931, she was chairman of the institute's French department.

The recipients of Starbird's intelligence and wit have not been limited to students. For over 30 years, her column, "The Dean Speaks Up," has been read by thousands of St. Louisans, first in the *St. Louis Star-Times* and since 1951, in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Over the years, Starbird's column has reflected her interest in France and in politics, her amusement with the vagaries of everyday life and her thoughts about family, faith, religion and, in the words of Chancellor William H. Danforth, ". . . the love which gives us the capacity to endure." Kassabaum described her writing as "perceptive, filled with wit and wisdom, disciplined, candid, clear, unadorned with verbal embroidery and compassionate."

In 1977, *Many Strings to My Lute*, a collection of her columns, was published. Among the colleagues and friends who paid tribute to Starbird on the jacket of that book was actress and WU alumna Mary Wickes, who described Starbird as ". . . that increasingly *rara avis*—a true lady, cultured and worldly."

Starbird received a distinguished faculty award from WU in 1967 for her scholarly achievement and her impact on students. She also received an honorary degree, the Doctor of Humane Letters, from The Lindenwood Colleges, and in 1959, she was decorated with Les Palmes de Academie by the French government.

Calendar

May 18-31

FRIDAY, MAY 18

8:30 a.m. WU 118th

Commencement Exercises.

The principal address, "Learning to Talk," will be delivered by William Gass, WU prof. of philosophy, novelist and essayist. Thomas Countryman, graduating senior, College of Arts and Sciences, will also speak. Brookings Quadrangle. (Francis Field House in case of rain.) The processional will begin at 8 a.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

9 a.m. School of Dental

Medicine Two-Day Continuing Education Course for Dentists,

"Recent Advances in Operative Dentistry for the General Practitioner," Dr. Ronald E. Jordan, professor and chairman, Department of Restorative Dentistry, U. of Western Ontario, Canada. School of Dental Medicine, 4559 Scott. To register, call 454-0387. (Also Sun., May 20.)

TUESDAY, MAY 22

4 p.m. Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences Cellular, Developmental and Systemic Biology Program Seminar,

"Drug Resistances in Mammalian Cells," Dr. Victor Ling, Ontario Cancer Institute and Department of Medical Biophysics, U. of Toronto. Erlanger Aud., McDonnell Science Bldg., 4570 McKinley. Coffee will be served at 3:30. Beer and pretzels will be served in the lobby following the seminar.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

4 p.m. Department of Ophthalmology Seminar, "The

Physiological and Pharmacological Basis of GABA, Glycine and Taurine Action in the Mud Puppy Retina," Dr. Robert Miller, WU prof. of ophthalmology. Physiology Library, 4th fl., South Bldg., 660 S. Euclid.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

9 a.m. Three-Day International Conference on

"Polyploidy: Biological Relevance." Distinguished scientists from the United States and abroad will



Herb Weitman

Sculpture, paintings, and works in other media by WU undergraduate fine arts students are on display in the Bixby and WU Galleries through May 20.

participate in research presentations, workshops and discussions. Walter Lewis, WU prof. of biology, chairman. Edison Theatre. To register, call Lewis at 889-6841. (Also May 26 and 27.)

9 a.m. Department of Surgery Lecture, "Familial Polyposis: A Model for Human Cancer,"

Dr. Jerome J. Decosse, chairman, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Twelfth Evarts A. Graham Visiting Professor of Surgery. Scarpellino Aud., Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, 510 S. Kingshighway Blvd.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

9 a.m. Department of Surgery Lecture, "What is Surgical Oncology?"

Dr. Jerome J. Decosse, chairman, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and Twelfth Evarts A. Graham Visiting Professor of Surgery. East Pavilion Aud., 4949 Barnes Hospital Plaza.

9 a.m. School of Dental Medicine Continuing Education Course for Dentists,

"Oral Rehabilitation for the Edentulous Patient," Dr. Robert W. Elliott, Jr., assoc. prof. of prosthodontics, Georgetown U. School of Dentistry. School of Dental Medicine, 4559 Scott. To register, call 454-0387.

Exhibitions

"Master Prints from the WU Collection," an exhibit of

works by printmakers of the 16th through 20th centuries, including Dürer, Rembrandt, Goya and Picasso. WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall. 1-5 p.m., daily. Through June 17.

"The Arts of Japan," an exhibit of books from the WU Libraries' collections illustrating Japanese painting, architecture, sculpture and performing arts. A significant portion of the exhibit will be concerned with three plays which were performed at Edison Theatre May 4-6: *The Little Elephant is Dead*, by Kobo Abe, Japan's foremost playwright; and *The Exiled Monk* and *The Forty-Seven Samurai*, classics of Japanese Kabuki theatre. Rare Book Department, Olin Library, level five. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Through July 31.

"School of Fine Arts Undergraduate Exhibit," including student works in all media. Works by 1st- and 2nd-year students will be displayed in the Bixby Gallery, School of Fine Arts, 10 a.m.-12 noon and 1-4 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Works by undergraduate majors (3rd and 4th year) will be displayed in the WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 1-5 p.m., Sat., Sun. Through May 20.

Medicine, A. J. Cervantes Convention Center; Health Administration and Planning Program, program classrooms and lounge, Old Shriners' Hospital, 724 S. Euclid.

Commencement

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Leigh Gerdine, president of Webster College, and Germaine Brée, Kenan Professor of the Humanities at Wake Forest University, will receive the Doctor of Humanities degree. Chancellor Danforth will also read the citation for the Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Its recipient, Roy Wilkins, executive director emeritus of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), will be unable to attend the ceremonies because of illness.

Richard Coles, director of the Tyson Research Center, will serve as grand marshal at the ceremonies. Viktor Hamburger, Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Biology, will be the honorary grand marshal. Student marshals, representing each school, will accept symbolic diploma covers and hoods for their classes. After the ceremonies, graduates will receive their diplomas at receptions given by the various schools.

Receptions will be held at the following locations: College of Arts and Sciences, quadrangle and area north of Graham Chapel (Holmes Lounge in the event of rain); Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Stix House, 6470 Forsyth; School of Engineering and Applied Science and Sever Institute, Millstone Plaza, between Bryan Hall and McMillen Laboratory (Millstone Lounge in the event of rain); School of Fine Arts, Steinberg Auditorium; School of Law, Graham Chapel and Seeley G. Mudd Informal Lounge; School of Social Work, Brown Hall Lounge; School of Architecture, Givens Hall; School of Business and Public Administration and Graduate School of Business Administration, Edison Theatre and Bowles Plaza (Schoenberg Gallery, Mallinckrodt Center, in the event of rain); School of Continuing Education, Brown Hall Auditorium; Program in Occupational Therapy; Alumni House; School of

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