

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONOURS NINE FIRST- YEAR STUDENTS

The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association held a reception on Wed., Nov. 23 in the Faculty and Staff Club to honour nine first-year students who had received Alumni Entrance Scholarships last Spring.

Michelle Armstrong, Brian Jones, Henry Kardel, Michaela Navratil, Larry Reimer, Helene Strasser, Norman Wasel, Alia Wetherow and Charlene Wolfe each received a \$1,500 scholarship which is applied directly toward tuition and student fees.

The A.E.S. Program was established to encourage Manitoba high school students to pursue their post-secondary education at The University of

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Winnipeg in the program of their choice.
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In addition to the awarding of scholarships, Dr. Harry Duckworth presented the 1988 H. E. Duckworth Prize to Jason Scott Dyck. The prize, jointly funded by the Alumni Association and Dr. Duckworth, is awarded annually to the outstanding Alumni Entrance Scholarship Program student.
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In Edition

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COMMERCIALIZATION OF CHRISTMAS: NO NEED TO WORRY, SAYS PROFESSOR

With the continuous flood of ads, flyers and the store-front windows that pressure us to buy, buy, buy, many people worry that the spirit of Christmas has been taken over by the spirit of commercialism. 'Tis the season not to be jolly, but to be greedy, frazzled and virtually bankrupt.

While there's no doubt that Christmas is very important to the bottom-line of most businesses, Professor David Cheal of the Sociology Dept. believes that Christmas is more than a money-making, money-spending occasion.

"Underneath the burdens of the Christmas season, there are powerful social processes at work," he said. "It's not really commercial pressures that drive our expenditures, but rather we are afraid of losing touch with people. There are so many things in today's world which pull us apart, like people moving more frequently and broken marriages."

In his book *The Gift Economy* (1988), Cheal said modern society sees gift-giving, especially at Christmas, as a way of maintaining family relationships. Over the years, the family's function has shifted from economic

necessity to emotional support, he explained, and we must put some extra effort into nurturing this support.



According to Cheal, the emphasis at Christmas, more than any other holiday, is on the physical presence of people and the re-affirmation of our various social relationships. You exchange gifts with Aunt Sally, who you only see twice a year, because you want to let her know that you still think of her and place some value on the relationship.

Of all the gift-giving occasions Cheal researched, he found that Christmas was by far the most important. "People spend all-totalled more money for Christmas gifts than for any other occasion," he said.

But at the same time, he found Christmas to be the least distinctive gift-giving event of the year. "Christmas is so big and there is such a variety of gifts that it's difficult to make generalizations about it," said Cheal.

People are slightly more likely to give "body preparation equipment" such as creams, lotions and scents at Christmas than at other celebrations and to give photographs, but otherwise, there's no typical Christmas present.

As you might expect, most people who Cheal interviewed for his study spend more on people closest to them, expect most gifts they give to be reciprocated, and feel obligated to give a gift to people who thought of them last year.

However, reciprocity isn't necessarily expected in the value of presents, Cheal said. While giving and receiving a gift of approximately equal value is important in our peer relationships, inequalities are common and acceptable across generations.

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COMMERCIALIZATION *continued*
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Parents spend far more on their children than children do on them, for example.

Over-spending tends to be seen very negatively, noted Cheal. Gifts that are overly generous send the message that the person is trying to buy you. "We try to maintain a balance in our relationships," he said. "We don't want to be seen as cheap, yet we strongly dislike the idea of over-spending."

Money is sometimes given as a practical solution to the problems of giving. In an affluent society where there are so many choices, it's often bewildering to know what to get. But money is not a favored gift because it's seen as anonymous and impersonal.

Homemade gifts such as baking and hand-knit scarves are seen as the epitome of gift-giving, but are infrequent because of the time involved in creating them. Take heart, though. Store-bought gifts are still seen as putting some work and thought into the process and are almost as good.

A couple of traditions in gift-giving have survived. According to Cheal, male-female roles in this area have changed very little throughout the years. Women are still far more active in gift-giving than men as they continue to be responsible for maintaining kinship ties, including those with the husband's own family. In addition, husbands still usually spend more on wives than vice versa.



Professor John Milloy from Trent University spoke on "Fitting Indians In: National Constitutional Development and the Place of Native Nations" on Dec. 7.

CHRISTMASSES THAT WON'T STAY PAST

The following is an excerpt from "Christmas That Won't Stay Past" from *The Last House on Main Street* by Gertrude Story, the University's Writer in Residence this past term.

I am pretty sure I can remember the awfulest Christmas I had as a child. The awfulest school Christmas. It wasn't awful because I forgot my part of the Santa Claus play or because I suddenly wet myself half-way through the Parade of the Wooden Soldiers drill.

It was the awfulest because I was 10 years old and I was expecting two presents from the tree, and I got them. I was expecting two presents and one would be from some Ladies' Aid in Saskatoon who made it a habit in those depression days to reclaim and rebuild used toys and then send them to children worse off than their own. I guess we were. The other present would be from the person who drew my name in the Christmas Present draw.

(Big surprise! Don't tell anybody whose name you drew, and don't ask anybody if they'd drawn your name. Rules are rules.)

In three days' time we knew not only who had drawn our names, but who had drawn everybody else's.

My name was drawn by my aunt. By my mother's baby sister who was only two years older than I was. At her house things were not as tough as they were most places in those tough times. My mother's little sister got to go to town any Saturday she wanted to and she always got spend-money when she went, at least twenty-five cents, no sweat.

I was sure I would get from her a copy of the *Anne of Green Gables*, no sweat. I made a point of mentioning, over and over in her hearing, how much I admired the *Anne of Green Gables* and how the school copy was just about worn out.

On Christmas concert night I got from the Saskatoon church ladies the cuddly baby doll that had been hung by Teacher and the Big Girls at the very top of the tree, just under the tree top holy angel. It was pink and life-

like and cuddly, and somebody had hand-knit pink booties and bonnet for it in the seed stitch. It was very pretty and I hated it on sight and thanked Jesus over and over that I was too old to have to be given a cuddly pink baby doll off the school Christmas tree.

When Teacher handed it down, she said it was a special favour to me. It was hard to say thank you. I can see that baby face and that seed stitch bonnet to this day; I don't even have to close my eyes.

My mother's baby sister gave me a necklace with a snake's head at the end. I nearly cried. That very night, at home, my mother took pliers and decapitated the snake for me and said, "There, now it's pretty, isn't it?"

What could I say? I hated snakes, headless or otherwise, and the necklet lay in its box until I managed to lose it.

Forty years later, when I had learned to admire snakes, for their beauty and for their honesty, I discovered I had been born in the Chinese Year of the Snake and was, therefore, something of a charmed creature.

That put a whole new light on the matter, let me tell you that.

ALUMNI

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dent of the past year's class of A.E.S.P. recipients, based on academic excellence.

Alumni were well-represented at the reception. Alumni Association President Carolyn Rickey '72 chaired the ceremonies and Peter Dueck '78, an Alumni Council member, introduced each award recipient and gave a summary of his/her notable achievements.

Several class representatives acted as hosts or hostesses for the evening: Jean Clark '27, Edith Thompson '28, Doris Hunt '29, Bill Rutherford '34, Margaret Roberts '39, Judge Ray Harris '52, and Elaine Hickerson '57.

Acting President Ross McCormack gave a brief address to those assembled.

AWARD WINNERS REFLECT CHANGING STUDENT POPULATION

The changing face of the student population is reflected in this year's two Stephenson Scholarship recipients. James Butler, a visually handicapped student, and Debra Blair, a Mature student, were each presented with the \$2,000 award in recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, superior leadership qualities and potential to make a valuable contribution to this country.

A dinner was held in their honour on Nov. 29 in the Faculty and Staff Club.

Butler's pursuit of academic excellence began early and continued through high school, culminating with the International Baccalaureate Diploma and The University of Winnipeg International Baccalaureate Entrance Scholarship in 1987.

Butler could well make the claim that 1987 was a "vintage year" as he also received the IODE Scholarship, the Manitoba Blue Cross Scholarship, the Imasco Scholarship for Disabled Students and the Rixon Rafter Scholarship for Visually Impaired Students. He was the recipient of The University of Winnipeg Proficiency Scholarship in 1988.

A pre-med student, Butler has also developed a keen interest in computers and related technology. While using the University's computer facilities for the visually impaired for his own work, he volunteered his services to assist other visually impaired students. This led to his employment as summer coordinator at the University's Nathan Micay Learning Resource Centre, researching and developing programs for students with special needs. As a member of the National Education Association of Disabled Students, he is currently trying to form a disabled students organization on this campus.

Butler plans to complete his Baccalaureate degree in Chemistry with the intention of entering medical school in the fall of 1990.

Blair, who graduated from high school in 1973, entered The University of Winnipeg as a Mature student in the Winter of 1987 after an interval

of 14 years in the workforce. Her diligence in her first session at The University of Winnipeg earned her an Academic Proficiency Scholarship.

During her business career, Blair became interested and subsequently involved in community-based organizations concerned with the condition of women in today's society.

Today, her involvement in women's organizations is extensive. She currently sits as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre; is a member of the Women and AIDS Committee; and is involved with the Women's Centre at The University of Winnipeg.

The depth of Blair's commitment can be illustrated by specific achievements: a three-year stint as Coordinator for the Canadian Women's Music and Cultural Festival; Coordinator of the Violence Against Women Subcommittee of the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women; Committee Coordinator of the Annual Take Back the Night March.

Blair's initiative led her to co-develop a course curriculum for Women's Computer Literacy and she continues to teach this course. She also assisted in the development of an awareness and educational manual concerned with Violence Against Women with particular emphasis on minority groups.

Blair is in demand as a speaker and lecturer, recently serving as a moderator during a session of papers on Women's History presented at the annual conference of the Manitoba Historical Society.

She is pursuing degrees in Women's Studies and upon completion of an M.A., plans to continue designing curriculums and teaching courses specifically designed to integrate women's knowledge into regular courses of study.

These two scholarships were made possible by a \$100,000 gift from Sir William Stephenson in 1984. This was the largest single private gift ever made to the University for scholarship purposes. Sir William Stephen-



James Butler (left) and Debra Blair received Stephenson Scholarships for outstanding academic achievement and superior leadership qualities.

son, through his daring intelligence work during World War II, was known by the code name INTREPID.

Responsibility for selection of award recipients is shared by The University of Winnipeg and the Sir William Stephenson Scholarship Trustees - Dr. R.O.A. Hunter; His Worship Mayor William Norrie, Q.C.; The Hon. Mr. Justice Sterling Lyon; University of Winnipeg Acting President Ross McCormack; and President Emeritus H.E. Duckworth.

BOARD OF REGENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Mon., Nov. 28, 1988

The University of Winnipeg Board of Regents made the following decisions:

- approved the 1989-90 budget and fee schedule for the Faculty of Collegiate
- authorized the formation of an ad-hoc committee to look at the marketing strategies and the long-term viability of Continuing Education
- agreed that a system of priority-based budgeting would be implemented on a pilot basis in several departments prior to its introduction throughout the university
- authorized the distribution of an actuarial surplus in the Pension Plan by approving more generous indexing provisions and by increasing the period during which the Canada Pension Plan can be "stacked" on top of the University pension
- decided against altering the structure of the Presidential Search and Nominating Committee

COMING EVENTS

Mon., Dec. 12

- **Community Access Dept. Christmas Party.** The festivities, including carols, entertainment and turkey for inner city community groups, will take place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Athletic Centre Lounge. Over 200 children are expected to join Santa Claus, Community Access Dept. staff and guest in celebrating the Yuletide season.

Fri., Dec. 23 - Mon., Jan. 2

- The University of Winnipeg will be closed for the **Christmas holidays.** Classes resume on Tues., Jan. 3.

Fri., Jan. 13 - Fri., Feb. 10

- **Public Spaces - Private Views,** sculpture by Keith Oliver, will be on display in Gallery 1C03.

Tues., Jan. 17 - Wed., Jan. 18

- **Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic** will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day in the 4th Floor Buffetaria, Centennial Hall.

Wed., Jan. 18

- **Chester Duncan** will present a lecture entitled "Music Criticism - Why?" on the uses and abuses of criticism in the arts from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Theatre 3C00. Sponsored by the Manitoba Composers Association.

Mon., Jan. 23

- **Cambrian String Quartet** will perform 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Theatre 3C00. Co-sponsored by The University of Winnipeg Alumni Association, the Music Performance Trust Fund and Cosmopolitan Florists.

Fri., Jan. 27

- The second **music recital of students from M.B.B.C.** will be held 12:30 to 1:30 in Theatre 3C00.

*Before you send it, seal it...
with a Christmas Seal!*



WESMEN AND LADY WESMEN CLASSIC

The Wesmen and Lady Wesmen Classic basketball tournaments promise to provide some excellent entertainment over the holiday season. All games will be held at The University of Winnipeg Athletic Centre.

Wesmen Classic

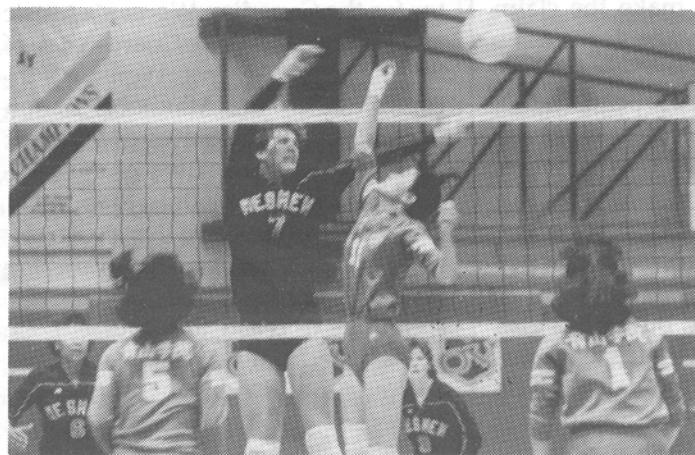
Boys' junior high school basketball Dec. 13 - 15
Boys' high school basketball Dec. 26 - 29
Men's university basketball Dec. 27 - 29

Lady Wesmen Classic

Women's university basketball Dec. 31 - Jan. 2

Schedules and tournament passes (Wesmen - \$10, Lady Wesmen - \$7.50) are available at the Athletic Centre. For more information, please call 786-9418 or 786-9349.

Major sponsors for both tournaments are Labatt's and Converse.



The University of Winnipeg Lady Wesmen volleyball team defeated the University Aoyama-Gakuin from Japan before a sold-out audience in the Athletic Centre on Nov. 30.

CAMPUS NOTEBOOK

- **Lynn Crocker** will be joining the staff of the University in the position of Health Nurse effective Jan. 3, 1989. Crocker is a nurse practitioner and health counsellor with extensive experience in government, community, clinic, hospital and school systems. As a recent graduate of The University of Winnipeg, she is also quite familiar with our campus. Crocker will be available in the health unit, basement of Manitoba Hall. She may be reached by calling ext. 9217.

- **Eva Pip**, Biology Dept., has been re-appointed by The Hon. Ed Connery, Minister of the Environment, to serve another two-year term on the Manitoba Environmental Council.

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Comments, suggestions and submissions are welcome. (All material is subject to editing.)

Please note: *In Edition* will not be published over the Christmas holidays, but will resume on Jan. 11, 1989. The copy deadline is Jan. 6.