

Fall 1984

## UA68/9/1 Western Minstrel

WKU Department of Music

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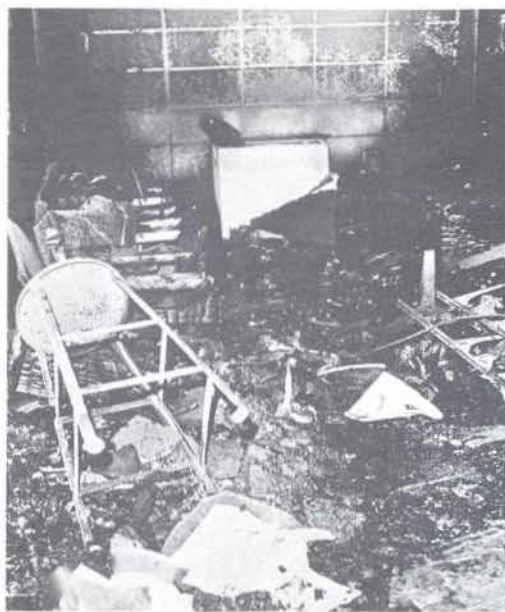
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# RENOVATION AFTER FIRES



*Fire destruction in cello-bass storage room*



*Cello-bass room after renovation*

Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center was the location of two arson-suspected fires last Spring. The first fire was started in four rooms on the top floor of the structure where the art department is housed. All four art studios received major damage, the roof of the building was severely damaged, and water damage to third floor carpet and pianos was significant.

Several nights later a second fire was started in the cello and string bass storage room and on several bulletin boards in the music department. All contents of the room were destroyed, and smoke damage was substantial on the third floor. Classes were suspended for several days. Some applied lessons were taught in homes and churches for several weeks until breathing became easier. A monitoring system was established to check persons entering the building after 5:00 p.m. and on weekends. This monitoring system is still in existence and requires that all persons entering the building use the outside door by the dean's office.

The summer of 1984 became the focus for putting the arts center back into condition for the fall semester activities and the returning student body. Many rooms on the third floor were painted or scrubbed, carpets and bulletin boards replaced, new ceiling tiles installed and pianos and strings ordered to replace the lost instruments.

## HOWARD CARPENTER RETIRES

April 28th was the date for an alumni-sponsored banquet honoring Dr. Howard Carpenter, former head of the music department and professor at Western for 30 years. Carolyn and Joe Lippo of Jacksonville, Florida, were responsible for organizing the affair and soliciting contributions for a string/piano scholarship fund to be established in Dr. Carpenter's honor. (Those alumni wishing to make a contribution to this scholarship fund should send a check to the music office marked "Howard Carpenter Scholarship Fund.")

Many good memories were shared in a filled-to-capacity banquet room at the Iron Skillet Restaurant. Both Howard and Jean were most radiant about a recently-born first grandson and the plans they were making to visit John and Adrienne in California to spoil the new heir to Carpenter charm, talent, dedication and intelligence.

Dr. Carpenter is missed in the music halls, but sources report that he has been seen picking up mail, visiting with faculty and students, and in general looking healthy, happy and relaxed. We extend our best wishes to Howard in his retirement.



## the western minstrel

*Western Kentucky  
University  
Department  
of Music  
NEWSLETTER  
for Alumni,  
Students,  
Colleagues, and  
Friends*



## Western Student Music Educators Elected to State Offices

Representatives of an active and aggressive chapter of student music educators traveled to Cumberland Falls State Park September 30th to attend the annual Kentucky Student Music Educators State Fall Conference. While there David Swift, a Leitchfield senior saxophonist, took office as KSMENC state president. Also elected to state offices were vice-president Valerie Hale, a Bowling Green senior soprano, and secretary Chandler Fowler, a senior soprano from Nashville. These students will serve as state officers until the 1985 Fall conference.

Officers of the local Chapter 8 are John Leffert, president, Mike Clark and Teresa Saylor, vice-presidents, and Chandler Fowler secretary-treasurer. The sponsor for the group is Dr. Christine Hobbs. Mr. Stephen Grugin has agreed to assist in sponsoring the group this year. Both sponsors and thirteen members attended the Cumberland Falls Conference, where Dr. Emery Alford presented a workshop for participants on 20th Century Notation Techniques.

## Western Musicians Tour Spain

Three WKU Music Department faculty members spent part of the summer in Spain performing with the American Orchestra of the Costa del Sol Festival. Gary Dilworth was trumpet soloist and associate conductor, Betty Pease served as concertmaster, and Edward Pease played principal horn. Also involved in the tour were Beth Blackerby, violin; Wilma Benson, viola; Dana Ballard, cello; and Paul Reiss, horn—all current or former members of the Bowling Green-Western Symphony Orchestra.

The American Orchestra was composed of both professional and student musicians from all over the United States. The group assembled on June 19 near Malaga for rehearsals before beginning a seven concert tour of cities in the south of Spain including Seville and surrounding area, Ronda, and in several cities along the Mediterranean coast.

For Mr. Dilworth the tour of Spain was his second experience with the American Orchestra. He later traveled to Greece with the Helenophile Orchestra performing the Haydn *Trumpet Concerto* in such cities as Athens, Patrai, Pyrgos and Chanea on the Island of Crete. Other stops on Mr. Dilworth's trip included France, Africa and Italy.

## Bartered Bride to be Produced in Early Spring

This year's major production for the Music and Theatre Departments will be Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*. Performances will be on February 28th, March 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The following faculty are assigned to the opera this year: Dr. Wayne Hobbs and Mr. James Brown, co-producers; Ms. Elizabeth Volkman, stage director; Dr. Virgil Hale, music director; Dr. Kenneth Davis, chorusmaster; Mr. Gary Dilworth, conductor; Dr. Jackson Kesler, costumer; Mrs. Beverly Veenker, choreographer; Mr. Steve Probus, set designer.

Students chosen in auditions for major roles in order of appearance are: Stephen Pierce as Krusina, Mary Beth Hancock as Ludmila, Jennifer Drury as Hata, Paul Brown as the Circus Barker, Alicia Beckham and Sherri Phelps as Marenka, Stan Paschal as Vasek, Jerry Williams as Jenick, and Teresa Saylor as Esmerelda.

Basically an enjoyable, folk-like opera, *The Bartered Bride* should be a fine experience for both adult and student groups. It will be performed in English. For further information contact the Music Department, (502) 745-3751.

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the *Western Minstrel*! The faculty and staff of the Department of Music have shown great interest and enthusiasm in putting together this long-needed medium of communication with alumni, students, friends and colleagues.

Through the generous gifts of many of you, it has become possible for us to purchase an IBM PC XT Microcomputer with printers. This has made the creation of this newsletter, as well as many other administrative functions and faculty projects possible, even with our very small clerical staff. Thank you so much for your continued interest and support!

There is another important way you can help! Please let us know of talented high school juniors or seniors who would consider coming to Western. Nothing is more crucial to the building of a quality reputation than attracting the best students. You can have an important, positive influence on Western's future.

Please let me know ways we can improve and serve you better. We always welcome letters and telephone calls from friends and alumni.

Dr. Wayne Hobbs



Soprano Elizabeth Volkman portrays Marenka in *The Bartered Bride* at the Gartnerplatz Theater in Munich, German.



# GRUGIN MARCHES THE BIG RED BAND

The looks and sounds of the Big Red Band are changing this year! A new position of Associate Director of Bands was created last Spring, and Western's choice for this new position was Mr. Stephen Grugin, a Frankfort, Kentucky, native. Mr. Grugin received his Bachelor of Music Education and Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies from Ohio State University and completed a Master of Music in Conducting from Northwestern University. He was the band director of Talawanda High School in Oxford, Ohio for four very successful years. Steve has studied trombone with Frank Crisafulli of the Chicago Symphony and conducting with John Paynter and Donald McGinnis.

Mr. Grugin was lead trombonist with the Ohio State University Jazz Ensemble for three years. This outstanding group performed at the Nice and Montreux International Jazz Festivals and recorded the album chosen by *Downbeat* magazine as the "Best Performance by a Big Band" in 1978.

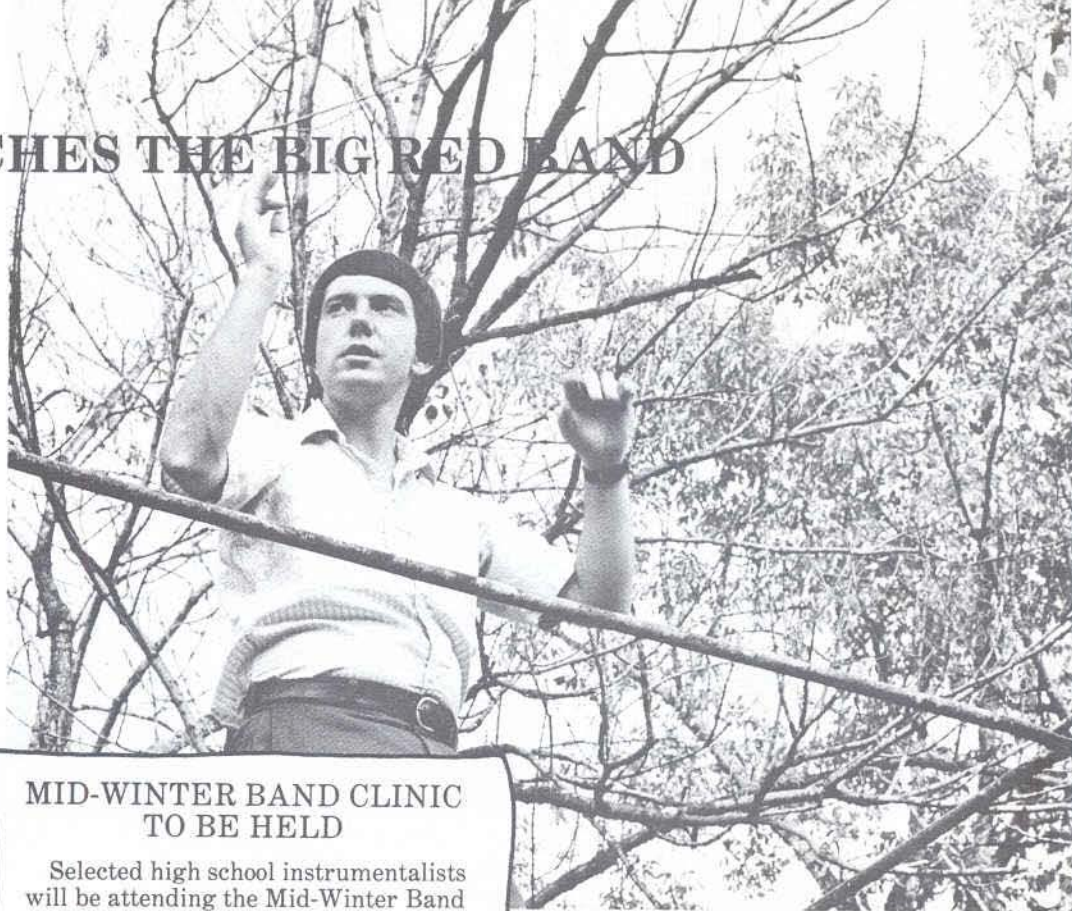
In charge of the marching band and jazz ensemble this Fall, Mr. Grugin will be directing the basketball band in the Spring. In addition, he will teach marching band techniques, trombone, and other brass technique classes. Dr. Kent Campbell continues to direct the concert band and supervise the band program.

When asked about his plans for the Big Red Marching Band, Mr. Grugin stated that "by combining progressive marching techniques with musical playing, Western has the potential to have the leading college marching band in the state."

## Graduate Assistants Fill Important Roles

The Department of Music has six graduate assistants this fall. Assisting Dr. Kent Campbell and Mr. Stephen Grugin in the band area is a second-year graduate student from Berry College in Georgia, Jeff Burton. Jeff is a saxophonist. New to the department is Jeffrey Phillips, trombonist from Middle Tennessee. Bruce Smith, from the University of Oklahoma, is working with Dr. Emery Alford in the percussion area. All three of these graduate students are assisting with applied music instruction.

Choral graduate assistants to Dr. Kenneth Davis are Suzanne Bell from Liberty Baptist College in Virginia and Edmund Goehring, a piano major from Oberlin College. Ed is also serving as a graduate staff accompanist along with second-year graduate student, Linda Harmon, a piano major from Belmont College in Nashville. Stephen Webber, a graduate of North Texas State University, is teaching group and private guitar as a graduate assistant.



## MID-WINTER BAND CLINIC TO BE HELD

Selected high school instrumentalists will be attending the Mid-Winter Band Clinic to be held on campus on January 24th, concluding with a 1:00 p.m. concert on Saturday, January the 26th. Nominated students will be divided into two honors bands which will rehearse and perform under the direction of nationally-known conductors. Conductors at past clinics have included John Paynter, Northwestern University; Howard "Zeke" Nicar, Vanderbilt; John Savage, Virginia Commonwealth; Gary Smith, University of Illinois; Wayne Tipps, University of Tennessee; James Jacobsen, Texas Christian University; and Mike Leckrone, University of Wisconsin.

The band clinic will also include sessions for students and directors on such topics as instrumental performance, conducting and band literature. For further information contact Dr. Kent Campbell.

## Fall Concert Band

With the addition of Mr. Grugin to the faculty in the band area, it became possible to start a Fall Concert Band under the direction of Dr. Kent Campbell. Rehearsals occur only once a week, but enthusiasm is high, encouraging the group to perform a public concert on November 29th.

Featured soloist on this concert was Sylvia Kersenbaum performing Janacek's *Capriccio* for piano and winds. Dr. Campbell describes this as a "marvelously strange work." The November performance may have been the first time this work has been performed in the mid-south.

## Faculty Play in Varied Groups

There is an abundance of participation in faculty chamber groups this year. A few professors have dusted off their instruments to be able to fill important small ensembles in the department.

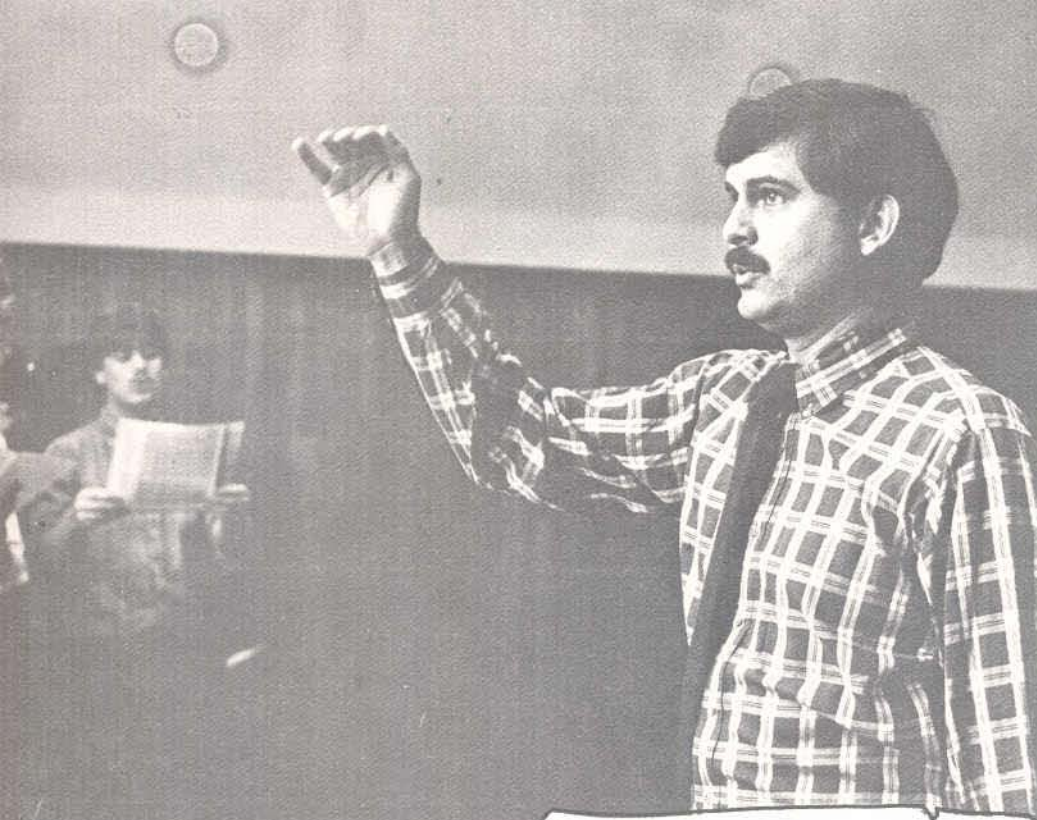
Faculty playing in the departmental Faculty Woodwind Quintet are: William Sneddon, oboe; Ann Hale, flute; Christine Hobbs, clarinet; Edward Pease, horn; and Larry Long, bassoon. This group also participates in a student-faculty octet (same instrumentation minus flutes).

The Faculty Brass Quintet is comprised of Gary Dilworth, 1st trumpet; Kenneth Davis, 2nd trumpet; Edward Pease, horn; Stephen Grugin, trombone; and Kent Campbell, tuba. There is also a Brass Trio rehearsing. Members of this group are Gary Dilworth, trumpet; Billy Orton, trombone; and Edward Pease, horn. (Does this poor French horn player ever get any rest?)

An early music group rehearsing on Friday morning is composed of Betty Pease, violin; Dwight Pounds, viola; David Kelsey, gamba; and Sue Pauli, keyboard. Mr. William Sneddon is currently compiling a list of performing groups (both faculty and student) which will be available to perform for schools and civic organizations. We will be mailing details to you later, but for immediate information contact Mr. Sneddon at WKU.

Emery Alford and David Livingston continue to play in the Billy Vaughn Orchestra. This group has been playing for almost five years and has experienced many interesting "gigs," including playing for President Reagan's visit at Beech Bend Park this summer.





## Opera Theatre Gives Valuable Experience

"Live at the Opera" is a concept of presenting chamber operas and scenes from major operas using minimal sets and costumes. Under the direction of Dr. Virgil Hale, this type of opera theatre provides talented students, and sometimes those with less talent but with perseverance, a chance to move and sing on stage. From this experience students become better singer-actors than do those exposed to studio-singing only.

On November 19th, the opera theatre presented scenes from the first act of *La Traviata* and the card scene of *Carmen*. Singers involved in this production were Alesia Beckham, Jerry Williams, Chandler Fowler, Gina Hoskinson, Jennifer Drury and Steve Pierce. In addition a longer chamber opera classified as an "adult opera for children," *Little Red Riding Hood*, was performed by Stan Paschal, Teresa Saylor, Mary Beth Hancock and Steve Pierce.

## Added Notes

There are 20 members in the horn ensemble this year—and that many horns have an "awesome" sound. The ensemble concert on Nov. 16th included the premiere performance of "Futility" for piano and horns, composed by senior piano major, Amy Tate. The ensemble is directed by Dr. Edward Pease.

## WESTERN TO HOST INVITATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL FESTIVAL

Ten selected high schools will be sending a junior- or senior-level vocal quartet to campus on March 29th through the 30th. High school students will be rehearsing the *Schubert Mass in Bb* Friday evening and all day Saturday with a performance that evening.

Dr. Davis has received an enthusiastic response to the invitations and is looking forward to a most rewarding experience. The Chamber Singers will present a brief concert prior to the performance of the Schubert.



## NEW DIRECTOR OF CHORAL ACTIVITIES

Kenneth Davis comes to Western after completing a doctorate in Conducting from Eastman School of Music, a Master of Choral Conducting from the University of Tennessee, and a Bachelor of Music Education from Georgia State. Dr. Davis has studied under Don Neuen, Seth McCoy, Alfred Mann, Don Hunsberger and Samuel Adler.

Dr. Davis was conductor of the Eastman Chorus, taught conducting and appeared as guest conductor of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. For three years he was the full-time director of music at the First Baptist Church of Salisbury, North Carolina. Besides his obvious skills in choral conducting and voice, Dr. Davis has the added depth of being a trumpet player of some accomplishment. He is presently playing second trumpet with the faculty brass quintet.

Kenneth and his wife, Elise, another choral conducting master degree recipient from UT, moved to Bowling Green in August after he completed a road show run of *My Fair Lady* in which he sang the role of Freddie. Dr. Davis directs the University Choir, Chamber Singers and Choral Union in the department and teaches choral methods, conducting I, advanced conducting and choral arranging. He is also supervising choral student teaching.

Dr. Davis brings a great deal of enthusiasm to his position in the department and cannot think of anything he would rather be doing with his life. In Ken's own words: "Directing the choral program at Western is an exciting opportunity, and I plan to continue the commitment to excellence in the choral ensembles."

## DO's and Phi Mu's Active

Delta Omicron continues to reliably usher for musical events on campus. They are much appreciated for their tireless dedication! The organization sponsored a "Fall Fest" this year, including a "Music Department Olympics" and the traditional "Night of Unusual Music." Officers of this organization are president Sheila De Jarnette, vice-presidents Karen Speaker and Karla Spires, secretary Sara Tucker and treasurer Donna Pack; Mrs. Margaret Eversole is sponsor. Phi Mu Alpha officers are president David Swift, vice-president Robert Bryant, secretary John Leffert and treasurer Bill Haynes. Five members of the organization and the sponsor, Mr. William Sneddon, traveled to the University of Tennessee at Martin in October for the Province Fifteen Fall Workshop. Phi Mu's continue to sponsor the "Performer of the Semester" and departmental caroling. The organization plans to sponsor an American Composer's Recital in the Spring.



# faculty in the news

**Dr. Wayne Hobbs**, head of the department, attended the National Association of Schools of Music national meeting in Washington D.C. during November. He serves as a member of the board of directors. Wayne has also recently accepted the Organist-Choirmaster position at Christ Episcopal Church in Bowling Green.

Besides adjudicating numerous band festivals around the state, **Dr. Emery Alford** participated as a panel member at the 1984 Percussive Arts Society's International Convention in Ann Arbor, Michigan in November. Be sure to look for an article, "All State Percussion Auditions: A Model Project" by Dr. Alford. It will be published in the research edition of the *Music Educators Journal*, April of 1985. Emery also published an article, "2B or Not 2B" in the *Bluegrass Music News* in October of 1984.

Thanks to the considerable efforts of **Dr. Kent Campbell** and others, there will be a Kentucky Intercollegiate Band. Students will be selected, rehearsals and performances set at KMEA in February. Roy Kramer of Indiana University will conduct the group this year. Dr. Campbell has adjudicated this year at the Music Bowl in Richmond, Virginia and will adjudicate at the World of Music at Fort Worth, Texas, and the Washington D.C. (Dixie) Classic in April and, in May, the Virginia Beach Classic.

**Dr. Virgil Hale** attended the International convention of the National Opera Association at Dallas in November. Virgil has been serving as state governor of the organization and was nominated and began serving as a member of the international board of directors.

**Dr. Christine Hobbs** has given several elementary music regional Headstart workshops including Trimble County, Big Sandy (Prestonsburg) and the State Regional Conference in Owensboro this year. Christine also provided the first Jefferson County full-day in-service workshop for music teachers.

Besides playing at several restaurants in the area (Le Berge de Champs and Dos Hombres), **Mr. David Kelsey** has received a faculty-research grant to compile and evaluate over 500 books, records, and tapes for an annotated bibliography of improvisational materials. Mr. Kelsey is also working with Stephen Webber on a new jazz guitar course to be integrated into the classical guitar program.

**Ms. Sylvia Kersenbaum** performed two major concerts this summer in Argentina. She played the *Nights in the Gardens of Spain* with the National Symphony and *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Municipal Concert Band. Ms. Kersenbaum also played the Fine Arts Series at Union College, Barbourville and Campbellsville. Sylvia has been learning to play the harp and reports that her cats much prefer her harp-playing to the piano.

**Dr. David Livingston**, besides his usual adjudication in Tennessee and Kentucky last Spring, found enough time in his schedule to write the music for *High and Rising*. Dr. Bill Russell wrote the lyrics and book, and the musical was produced by Fountain Square Players in May. After this experience, David left for England where he taught in the Interim Program of the Cooperative Center for Study in Britain.

**Mrs. Ruth Morris** received a diploma in intermediate and advanced literature and performance practice at the piano workshop sponsored by Frederick Harriss, featuring Myrtle Guerrero and Dr. Alan Walker. Ruth also attended the National Conference on Piano Pedagogy at Ohio State in late October.

**Dr. Edward Pease** will be on leave in the Spring semester of 1985. He plans to do research in London in the months of December and January, will serve as guest lecturer at Illinois Wesleyan University in February and read a paper on S. N. Khudekov, a Russian ballet historian, to the Teachers of Slavic Languages national meeting in April. Dr. Pease has two new articles in print: "Dance History Materials at Chicago's Center for Research Libraries" in the *Dance Research Journal*, Spring, 1984, and "In Search of the Recorded Jean de Reszke" in the *Opera Journal*, Spring, 1984. Dr. Pease has a new poem in the 20th anniversary issue of the *Kentucky Poetry Review*.

**Dr. Dwight Pounds** is utilizing all that experience he has gained from dedicated service to the reserves. As a member of the Kentucky Air National Guard and as an air force veteran, Lieutenant Colonel Pounds was instrumental in forming an agreement between Western and Tennessee State University to provide AFROTC instruction to Western students interested in an air force career.

**Mr. William Sneddon** has completed a fifth year of doubling on oboe and clarinet at Opryland and has recently recorded a jingle advertising Easy 93 FM and Easy 97 FM radio. Bill and his wife, Phyllis, play in a Nashville-based chamber group called the Stratford Chamber Players. The Sneddens also performed the Holst *Double Concerto for Flute and Oboe* on the opening day of the 1984 Greater Owensboro Summer Music Camp and Festival.

**Elizabeth Volkman** will be singing a concert at the University of Louisville at 8:00 p.m. on December 3, 1984, and will be featured soloist with the Owensboro Symphony on January 12th. Don't miss her if you are in the area! Beth was the soprano soloist in the *Messiah*, performing with the Wichita (Kansas) Symphony and the Wichita Choral Society on November 25th, and also performed a recital with Sylvia Kersenbaum at Eastern Kentucky University on October 21st for the Kentucky Music Teachers Association.

**Dr. Tom Watson** continues to administer the KMEA Third District Festivals. Last Spring Tom completed a record 10,806 students participating in festivals at Western. All those bodies keep Tom especially busy! Dr. Watson also adjudicated at various IMEA and KMEA festivals last Spring.

## alumni notes

**Ray McKeever**, '47, brought his band to Bowling Green and played a concert in Fountain Square this summer. This was his final tour with his Ottawa, Illinois, High School Band, a band with which Ray won many honors. We really enjoyed hearing Ray's band and hope that his well-deserved retirement is a time of joy.

**Monte Chance**, '74, (MA) '80, has become the assistant principal at Warren County Central High School in Bowling Green. **Phil Ashby**, '71, (MA) '73, is now band director at Warren Central. Phil should have excellent administrative support!

**Larry Long**, '77, is now directing the Barren River Area Youth Orchestra following Mr. James Godfrey, retired Western faculty member and founder of the group. Jim directed the youth orchestra for nine years.

**Jeff Hood**, '77, has relocated from Beechwood High School to George Rogers Clark High School in Winchester. **Don Martin**, '77, is now teaching at Grayson County. **Greg Lyons**, '82, is back at Muhlenberg Central after a short interlude in business.

**Joe Stites**, '77, has moved from Madisonville to Westminster High School, a private school in Atlanta. Joe is now a chief competitor of his brother Tom who teaches at a Catholic high school in the Atlanta area.

**Jeff Jansky** has finally graduated! Dr. Campbell claims Jeff should be listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for his massive accumulation of undergraduate credits. Jeff has completed requirements for the BME at Middle Tennessee State University this summer and has started work on a master's.

**Tamela Gilliam**, '82, is a faculty member at the University of Louisville where she received her master's in 1984. She is teaching studio and group piano.

**Tim Simpson**, '84, was selected to sing the rehearsal tenor part to the Beethoven *Missa Solemnis* at Eastman. **Ted Barr**, '84, is attending Westminster Choir College on an assistantship. He is choirmaster-organist at the Church of the Messiah Episcopal Church in Gwynedd, PA.

**Brant Karrick**, (MA) '84, is band director at Beechwood High School in Ft. Mitchell. He has added some jazz experiences for the students, and we hear good reports of his accomplishments.



## Call for Alumni News and Information

We are most interested in knowing what our alumni are doing so that we may report to other alumni and friends. Please take a few moments to fill out the accompanying form and send it to the editor. We would also appreciate any information you have on other alumni. Fill in the form to the right or send similar information to the editor. Thanks!

Dwight Pounds, photographer  
Christine Hobbs, editor  
Western Minstrel  
Department of Music  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101  
(502) 745-3751

## PLEASE HELP!

### WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT OUR ALUMNI!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(last) (first) (maiden)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DEGREE \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR GRAD. \_\_\_\_\_

NEWS (position, performances, awards, publications, etc.)

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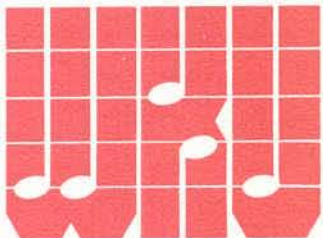
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## CALENDAR OF ADDITIONAL COMING EVENTS

(send above information for a complete listing)

- Feb. 18—Chamber Music for Woodwind Trio, 8:00 p.m. R.H.  
March 26—Bowling Green-Western Symphony, 8:00 p.m. Cap. Arts  
April 8—Sylvia Kersenbaum, 8:00 p.m. Van Meter  
April 14—Concert Band Concert, 3:00 p.m. Van Meter  
April 22—Percussion Ensemble, 8:00 p.m. R.H.  
April 23—Spring Choral Concert, 8:00 p.m. Van Meter

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