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UA11/2 Rodes-Helm Lecture

WKU Public Relations

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bowling Green, Ky., Feb. 3...Pearl S. Buck--a recipient of the Pulitzer and Nobel Prizes for Literature--will deliver the 1967 Rodes-Helm Lecture in Western Kentucky University's Van Meter Auditorium at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday.

Her appearance at Western is entitled "An Evening with Pearl S. Buck". Prior to her lecture, she will hold a press conference at 3:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. An informal conference and a reception in the Ball Room of the Paul L. Garrett Student Center immediately following the delivery of the Rodes-Helm lecture. At the conference, Pearl Buck will be available to answer the public's questions.

Presiding over the lecture is Dr. Kelly Thompson, president of Western Kentucky University, with Dr. O. J. Wilson, Director of Institutional Research, delivering the invocation. Miss Margie Helm, retired director of library services at Western, will introduce Pearl Buck.

During her appearance at Western, Pearl Buck will autograph books only. Books to be autographed should be left at her motel to be signed in the privacy of her room. The books can be picked up at the front desk of the Holiday Inn later.

Pearl Buck is an internationally acclaimed novelist and humanitarian who spent a childhood in the Orient, which explains the Asiatic background of nearly all her works. She has combined Asian experiences, an American education, and world involvement into her writings and her life to become an authority on Asia. Some of her remarks were recently heard on the television presentation of "China: The Roots of Madness".

She won the Pulitzer Prize in 1931 for The Good Earth and received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938 for her works up to that time. She is the first woman to have received the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Pearl Buck has written 70 novels, from her East Wind, West Wind in 1930, to her latest novel For Spacious Skies. Among her novels are Sons, A House Divided, The Chinese Novel, The Patriot, Dragon Seed, The Promise, and The Living Reed.

In addition to her novels, she founded the Welcome House, Inc., in 1949, and the Pearl S. Buck Foundation, established for the health, education and welfare of those children born in Asia of American fathers and Asian mothers.

The Rodes-Helm lecture series, which has brought distinguished speakers to the Western campus, was endowed in 1961 by Harold Helm, New York banker, and his wife, both former Bowling Green residents.