December Graduates Honored

December Honors Program graduates were recognized at a precommencement luncheon in the University Center on December 1. The students’ project advisors were on hand to say a few words about what is involved in an Honors project.

University Honors Scholar
Charles C. Powers
Electrical Engineering

Departmental Honors Scholars
Jennifer L. Brown
Nursing
James R. Fleming
Accountancy

Rebecca J. Hendricks
Nursing
Susan M. Levorchick
Nursing
Tracey A. Lucas
Nursing

March Honors Graduates
Joseph R. Gressis
University Honors Scholar
Film Theory and Criticism

Virginia R. Harley
University Honors Scholar
Political Science

J. Mikal Pielech
General Studies Honors

Applications for June graduation with Honors are due in the Honors Office by March 10. They are available in the Registrar’s Office and in the Honors Program Office, 179 Millett Hall.
on my honor

SMART FOR LIFE - STAY IN SCHOOL boldly proclaimed the bumper sticker on the car ahead of me at the traffic light on Col. Glenn Highway. As a teacher who is convinced that mine is the greatest profession, I could only nod my head in agreement and vow once again to make systematic collections of the clever and profound statements stuck to car bumpers and embossed on personal license plates. Some anthropologists take a professional interest in this form of folklore as an overt reflection of our most cherished cultural values. Often it is also a blatant critique of our cultural system. IBOK RU was another piece of folklore—this one on the license plate of a car travelling south on Route 675—which has stayed with me (I usually can’t remember these gems by the next day). It is at once an upbeat message and a gentle criticism which I thought especially clever. But then one day last fall I read a bumper sticker in the Millett Hall parking lot which I cannot forget. The first time I saw it I dismissed it with the thought that “you can’t please all the people all of the time.” The second time it appeared in the parking lot I actually reacted angrily with unprintable thoughts about the car’s owner. Fortunately I was forced to read the same sticker a third time a few weeks later, and this time I was more rational. What would prompt someone to make such a statement? What lesson does this announcement hold for me?

MY STUDENT CAN BEAT UP YOUR HONORS STUDENT, is what that sticker said. I’ve never liked bumper stickers that brag about achievements either, but this one advo-
cated brutality. Does it mean that the car’s owner is responsible for some of the violence so typical of our society? Or does it mean that this person is a confirmed anti-intellectual who believes that academic pursuits are a waste of taxpayers’ money? What kind of person is this anyway? Or... What is the perception of honors students that evokes such a critical reaction? Why the apparent dissatisfaction with honors students, and by implication with the Honors Program? If I should ever see the car with its driver, I shall stop and ask. In the meantime, I can only speculate.

This message might simply reflect a superficial evaluation of honors students as thin and weak with oversized brains, in contrast to strong and vigorous and not excessively brainy students. Or there may be a deeper meaning here, referring to honors students’ assumed superior standing in the hierarchy of the university’s educational and social system to the perceived detriment of other students. On the other hand, this could be a profound critique of “ivory-tower” scholarship and its alienation from life on the outside with all of its trials and difficulties. Is there any truth here?

Perhaps we need to demonstrate more clearly that the primary mission of the University Honors Program is to “produce a body of graduates who are well-educated, socially conscious, and capable of assuming leadership roles in our society.” Our honors students exemplify dedication to academic pursuits, including those that confront them with the issues that concern all segments of our society and the multitude of other social systems on our planet. Honors students develop not only academic skills but also an ethical and moral consciousness of the social problems their training can help solve. Honors students do focus their efforts on high personal achievement, but they also take responsibility for leadership in the academic community and in the society beyond campus boundaries. Let this be the image we portray to the WSU campus and the greater community.

Anna

I brake for chimpanzees and their kin.

Scholarships Awarded

Four Honors students were awarded scholarships in a competition held during the fall. Two entering students received four-year awards, Toshika Howard ($4000) and Nicole Shoults ($8000). Toshika hopes to study medicine when she graduates from Wright State and Nicole is interested in a career in biomedical research. Both Jennifer Jones, who is preparing to be a teacher, and Janice Leszynski, a junior psychology major, received $6000 awards. Congratulations to these fine students and thanks to the selection committee: Tom Sav, Isabel Rojano, and Mary Kenton.

Spring Banquet

We have reserved four facilities for May 26. If you have a preference, let us know asap. Call, fax, e-mail, or postcard. We will listen. The choices: Holiday Inn 675 across from Wright State, Stouffers, the Marriott, and Kittys—all downtown.
Honorable Mentions

Maple Hall News

by Shawn Ruble

Fall quarter 1994 marked the third birthday for Maple Hall, and many changes as well for the Honors House in the Woods complex. One of the many changes is new Community Director Michelle Wilson, who oversees Maple, Oak, and Pine Halls' activities. Michelle, who was a former Resident Director from Manchester College in Indiana, has done a superb job dealing with dorm problems, roommate disputes, disciplinary action, and guiding the new Oak, Maple, Pine Community Government. In addition to Michelle are two new Community Advisors (CA's) for the second and third floors. Third year students Christine Yoon and Lori Scheckelhoff have provided hours of guidance, friendship, and leadership to their residents and are greatly admired. Along with Lori and Christine, Jeremy Couts (first floor CA), and Tangela Monroe (fourth floor CA) have put on a number of great programs for their residents. Such programs have focused on Alcoholism, AIDS Awareness, Career Planning, Greek Culture, and Women's Issues. Maple Hall residents have also had a number of social activities to attend, including Party in the Pit, Hall-o-ween Movie Night, Trick-or-Treat in the Halls, Vogue: Snap a Pose, and November Movie Night. Other activities will continue in winter quarter such as January Movie Night, Snow Days Dance on January 6th, and more CA sponsored programs.

Besides cracking the books, Maple Hall residents have been involved in a number of extracurricular activities this past quarter. O/M/P Community Government, the governing body of the Oak, Maple, and Pine Residential Community, has had a substantial number of Maple residents involved. Four of the six O/M/P Government Executive Board Members live in Maple Hall. Those Board members include President, Josh Couts; Vice-President, Dan Barnett; Secretary, Jason Dennison; and Advertising Executive, Shawn Ruble. Floor Representatives are also an important aspect of Community Government, and Maple's reps are very reliable and responsible. Floor reps include Kara Snyder—1st Floor, Jennifer Lenner—2nd Floor, Becky Hischemiller—3rd Floor, Tia Chavis—4th Floor. These residents who are involved in Community Government bring leadership and great insight to the O/M/P Government. Many residents are involved in activities other than government. Third floor Maple had an intramural soccer team this past quarter, ending the season with a 3-6 record. Residents on the first, second, and fourth floors were involved in intramurals also, taking part in soccer and innertube water polo. Other Maple Hall residents are involved in activities including SHA, The Guardian, Student Athletics Promotions Board, Union Activities Board, Inter-Club Council, and Peer to Peer. Involvement in such a great number of activities displays the very busy schedules of Maple Hall residents this past fall quarter. Such involvement will undoubtedly continue during this quarter and spring quarter as well.

SHA Needs Help

The Student Honors Association is currently in the middle of a difficult year. Both the president and the treasurer graduated in December and one Honors Committee member has resigned. A special election is scheduled for January. Amy Howe did a great job as president for this fall. She kept the pop fund going, got a project together for October Daze and scheduled a couple of social events. She's also responsible for the pretty bulletin boards outside of 179 Millett that kept changing all fall. Amy did a lot of work to keep things together in the fall; our job is to make sure they don't fall apart for the rest of the year. Pitch in, do what you can. The student voice is too important to be lost.

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

ALD inducted a new class on October 24 in the Student Union. President and Mrs. Flack were both inducted as honorary members. During the cookies and punch reception following the ceremony, the Flacks graciously posed for photographs with each of the inductees. Mrs. Flack is spearheading a service project for the group at Lincoln Elementary School in Dayton. Anyone interested in working in a variety of ways with the students at Lincoln should get in touch with the Honors Office. We want to start logging volunteer hours in January.

This spring a second induction will be held for the students who qualified for ALD in fall and winter quarters by earning at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA. We will hold elections for next year's officers before everyone leaves for the summer. That way the organization can be off and running when school starts in the fall. Watch your mailbox for further information about this special event. We're planning for the largest turnout ever. All former officers are cordially invited to attend. Surprises will happen.

Mignon Flack, Harley Flack and Goran Petrovski inducted into ALD.
Elizabeth Phillips (BA HST 94) is making a midyear correction and heading off to Indiana University for a master’s program in Latin American studies.

The second edition of David Barr’s New Testament Story came out in time for the Society of Biblical Literature meetings in Chicago in November. Several people said nice things about it. He is busily at work on the commentary on Revelation with two chapters completed at last report.

Regina Crawford has been accepted for medical school at the University of Cincinnati for the fall of 95. She is also applying to Minnesota and Seattle.

Linda Ayers Ionelli (BA SOC 91) is back from California and living in Beavercreek. She is working as an assistant to the volunteer coordinator at St. Joseph’s.

According to sister Kim, Tim Clarkston (BS HFE 91) married Sonia Anderson and they had a baby girl on September 17, 1994, named Marisa Amber. Tim is working for Harris Engineering Corporation in Melbourne, Florida. He is staying busy and enjoying life. Does anyone else remember the midwinter surfing party Tim staged for Alpha Lambda Delta at the Campus Ministry Center the year he was president?

Amy Howe graduated in December and will continue (now full-time) working for Cargill for a couple of years before going to graduate school in chemistry.

Sharon Gwyn Short (BA ENG 82) has another book out in her Patricia Delaney mystery series, Past Pretenses. The first one, Angel’s Bidding, sold well, so it looks as though the series will continue as projected. There was a nice piece about Sharon in the Dayton Daily News early in December.

Heidi Riffle finished her education degree in December. She’s trying to decide between a teaching job in the Dayton Public Schools or an entry level supervisory position with Dayton Power and Light.

December nursing graduate Becky Hendricks hopes to get a job with Children’s Medical Center in pediatrics or OB.

Donnie Powell was glad to get a job helping Jim Hughes move his books. In addition to his salary, he inherited several boxes of books which are keeping him busy over break. With the children gone, the Hughes are downsizing, but couldn’t bear to part with most of their library. At last count Jim had bought so many bookcases from Roberds they were giving him a volume discount.

Featured Alumna

Early in November, Karen Seiger (BA PLS 88) paid an unannounced visit to the Honors Office. She was in town for just a few days to visit her family and she wanted to touch base with all her Wright State friends. Although no one would ever guess what Karen is doing, it’s not in the least surprising. She is a program administrator for Save the Children in Mozambique. She’s been on the job for a little less than a year. After an interminable civil war, Mozambique is now peaceful, but the country has yet to get much going economically. The country’s children have suffered horribly and it’s Karen’s job to devise programs and strategies to help them get the basic things they need to have a life. Karen loves the children and gets impatient with the bureaucracy. She was a UN observer at the first democratic elections in Mozambique’s history. She also functioned as a Land Mine Awareness Lady for the visiting dignitaries. Unable apparently to imagine life without her, Karen’s beau and former neighbor in Washington DC, James Weslowski, accompanied her to Mozambique. No shopping, no TV to speak of, no fast food restaurants, not much of anything, really--this must be love.

Many of you will remember Karen as the middle Seiger daughter, probably the one who had the most fun at Wright State. Leslie was more serious about her studies and Andrea planned more carefully for a career, but Karen also got her tuition waiver’s worth out of WSU. She was president of the Student Honors Association, active in other clubs, and a member of the Model UN Team a couple of years. She earned an MA in Economics and Latin American Studies at Johns Hopkins in 1990 and spent time in Latin America and DC before going to her present post. She plans to spend at least another year in Mozambique. Write to her: Karen Seiger, Save the Children-G, Maputo 2330, Washington, DC 20521.
**Recent Readings**

I want to recommend three books by and about women for those long winter evenings when there's nothing on TV and it's too cold or icy to go rent a video. All of these books have been out for some time, but I just got around to them this fall. First, out of sheer curiosity, I decided to read a novel by R. Prater Jhabvala, who is far more famous in America for her Ivory Merchant scripts than her fiction. Renowned for her intelligent and faithful translations to the screen particularly of novelist E.M. Forster, I wanted to hear what her own voice sounded like. Her novel, *Amrita*, debuted to wonderful reviews in 1955 on both sides of the Atlantic. A social comedy of manners, love and family life in modern New Delhi, *Amrita* is rich with humor and enlightened by precise observations and careful calibrations of character, custom, and social class. Lovingly crafted and beautifully structured, *Amrita* moves to a satisfying conclusion. One learns a lot about modern India without any sense of being taught. Clearly a gifted writer, the obvious question is why Jhabvala turned her considerable talents to a secondary art like screenwriting. There is probably an explanation in the public domain, but I've not come across it. Enlighten if you can.

Next, came a Doris Lessing novel written in '73, *The Summer Before the Dark*. It's the story of middle-class Englishwoman who refuses to go gentle into the good night of middle-age. When she accepts that her family not only no longer needs her but actually holds her in some contempt for needing them, she goes on the lam. Of course, while she's off translating at international conferences in Europe and traveling across Spain with a much younger lover, no one even notices she's gone. She has to find another way home and eventually she does. Armed with Lessing's sometimes embarrassingly clear insight about women, this book is a delight for anyone, but it's especially poignant for those who won't see 40 again. There to enjoy also are razor sharp observations about the international hunger bureaucracy.

Most recently published and read of the three was Bobbie Ann Mason's *In Country* which came out in 1985 to universally good reviews. In many ways a classic coming-of-age story, *In Country* deals with Samantha Hughes' efforts to find a way to fit the father she never met into an understanding of her emerging consciousness of her own life. There are the usual episodes one expects in this genre, including sexual initiation followed by hints of the possibility of sexual awakening. There is the dangerous quest for knowledge through experience that in this instance takes place in a snake-infested swamp Sam imagines to be like Vietnam. And finally, there is the pilgrimage with her uncle (who also served in Vietnam) and her grandmother to the wall in Washington DC to find her father's name and ultimately his place in Sam's story. Those who haven't visited the wall or who have none of its names written on their hearts might find the end a little overdone. But it's probably not. The wall may well be America's most powerful icon of the century. Mason does it justice with her jubilant tribute.

All three books are available in the WSU library. Go there, go home, build a fire, read a book. That's what I plan to do come January.
Not Food for Thought

Winter Cake

This will drag you out of hibernation on aroma alone. After you’ve eaten a few pieces, you’ll need to jog a bit or walk the dog. But it’s worth the calories and the effort. Since there is so much chopping and measuring to do, this is a good cake to make with a friend.

2 1/2 cups flour
1 tsp baking soda
2 tbls cocoa
1/2 tsp cloves
1 1/2 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp nutmeg (freshly grated is best)
1 cup softened butter or margarine
2 cups sugar
3 eggs
1/2 cups water
1 cup chopped nuts
2 cups chopped apples
1/2 cup chocolate chips
1 tsp vanilla

Sift together the first 6 ingredients—set aside
cream butter with sugar
Add eggs separately, beat one minute after each
Add 1/2 cup water and vanilla and beat well
Gradually add dry ingredients
Stir in nuts, apples, chips
Bake in a greased and floured bunt pan at 325 degrees for
about 1 hour—check after 50 minutes
Cool in pan for 10 minutes, remove carefully and cool
completely
Frost with confectioner’s sugar icing, or if you’re in a rush
you might use a pre-made vanilla frosting.

Winter Challenge

In recognition of how difficult this challenge might be, the prize has been enhanced. The first correct solution will win four Honors Banquet tickets and the second will win two. Each ticket has a value of about $35. Put on your thinking cap. Anyone is eligible to win, except, of course, the Honors Program staff.

Virginia, a recent graduate of Wright State, bought a pregnant Russian Wolfhound named Anna Karen. Soon she gave birth to five male puppies. Virginia decided to name them after five famous men she had recently studied: Wystan Hugh, David Herbert, Thomas Sterns, Pelham Greeneville, and Alfred Edward. First, identify Virginia’s major. Second, supply the last names of the five famous dead white men and write out the whole names as they usually are printed. Third, match the men with the titles below. Enjoy!

Pigs Have Wings
Lullaby
Terence, This Is Stupid Stuff
Odor of Chrysanthemums
Journey of the Magi

European and Asian Cultural History Tours

Eastern Michigan University offers study tours in both Europe and Asia. The Asia tour includes time in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Nepal, and China. Participants can earn credit in history, art, literature, political science, and comparative literature. The faculty who lead these tours aim for an innovative interdisciplinary experience. For more information call 1 (800) 777-3541 or e-mail: programs.abroad@emich.edu.

Scholarships Available for Spring

Five $500 scholarships will be awarded to Honors students for spring quarter. All Honors students admitted to the program by January 1 are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to those who have little or no other scholarship support. Our object is to spread the money around. Nontraditional and minority students are especially urged to apply. The application deadline is January 27 at 5:00 pm. Application forms are available from the Honors Office, 179 Millett Hall.

Research Funds Available

Limited grants of up to $400 are available to assist students in the completion of their Honors research projects. Any Honors student who is officially enrolled in a departmental Honors program may apply. Applications are available in the Honors Office and are required to be completed by January 27.
A Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom

Section I
Well aware that the opinions and beliefs of men depend not on their own will, but follow involuntarily the evidence proposed to their minds; that Almighty God hath created the mind free, and manifested his supreme will that free it shall remain by making it altogether insusceptible of restraint; that all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments, or burthens, or by civil incapacitation, tend only to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are a departure from the plan of the holy author of our religion, who being lord both of body and mind, yet chose not to propagate it by coercions on either, as was in his Almighty power to do, but to extend it by its influence on reason alone; that the impious presumption of legislators and rulers, civil as well as ecclesiastical, who, being themselves but fallible and uninspired men, have assumed dominion over the faith of others, setting up their own opinions and modes of thinking as the only true and infallible, as such endeavoring to impose them on others, hath established and maintained false religions over the greatest part of the world and through all time: That to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors, is sinful and tyrannical; that even forcing him to support this or that teacher of his own religious persuasion, is depriving him of the comfortable liberty of giving

truth is great and will prevail if left to herself...

his contributions to the particular pastor whose morals he would make his pattern, and whose powers he feels most persuasive to righteousness; and as withdrawing from the ministry those temporary rewards, which proceeding from an approbation of their personal conduct, are an additional incitement to earnest and unremitting labors for the instruction of mankind; that our civil rights have no dependence on our religious opinions, that therefore the proscribing any citizen as unworthy the public confidence by laying upon him an incapacity of being called to offices of trust and emolument, unless he profess or renounce this or that religious opinion, is depriving him injuriously of those privileges and advantages to which, in common with his fellow citizens, he has a natural right; that it tends also to corrupt the principles of that very religion it is meant to encourage, by bribing, with a monopoly of worldly honors and emoluments, those who will externally profess and conform to it; that though indeed these are criminal who do not withstand such temptation, yet neither are those innocent who lay the bait in their way; that the opinions of men are not the object of civil government, nor under its jurisdiction; that to suffer the civil magistrate to intrude his powers into the field of opinion and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles on supposition of their ill tendency is a dangerous fallacy, which at once destroys all religious liberty, because he being of course judge of that tendency will make his opinions the rule of judgment, and approve or condemn the sentiments of others only as they shall square with or differ from his own; that it is time enough for the rightful purposes of civil government for its officers to interfere when principles break out into overt acts against peace and good order; and finally that truth is great and will prevail if left to herself; that she is the proper and sufficient antagonist to error, and has nothing to fear from the conflict unless by human interposition disarmed of her natural weapons, free argument and debate; errors ceasing to be dangerous when it is permitted freely to contradict them.

Taken from Thomas Jefferson: Writings, published by The Library of America in 1984

National Competitions

Students of all majors interested in applying for Rhodes or Marshall Scholarships for study in Great Britain should consult with the Honors Program early in spring quarter to learn about qualifications and application procedures. Information about Truman scholarships for undergraduates interested in a career in public service and Goldwater scholarships for science majors is also available from the Honors Office.

Fall Challenge

No one made a serious attempt at identifying the people in the photograph. Perhaps the only person who could get everyone is Jacob Dorn. If he comes through, we'll give him two free banquet tickets.
Plan Now for the MEHA Conference

The annual Mid East Honors Association Conference will be held in Columbus from March 31 to April 2. Students and faculty interested in attending should contact the Honors Office before the end of February. The conference theme is “Cruising the Information Super Highway,” and the keynote speaker will be Anita Cook, the director of OhioLINK. Her talk will include a demonstration of OhioLINK and will focus on current capabilities for online research and what to expect in the next few years. Students interested in presenting workshops on this or a related topic need to get in touch with Mary Kenton sometime in January. Workshop presenters will have their conference fees paid.

Another way to win a free stay in Columbus at the Holiday Inn on the Lane is to win the T-shirt design contest. Using front and back or just front, come up with a clever design that incorporates the MEHA name, conference dates, and the conference theme. It won’t take the reincarnation of Picasso to win. Sharpen your pencil and get to doodling. The deadline for submission of designs is January 31.

Wright State usually takes a delegation of 10 or 12 to these weekend conferences. We try to keep expenses for students low (around $25 usually, depending on how many go) with subsidies from the Honors Program and the Student Honors Association. This is a fun, student-centered weekend with lots of time for socializing and sight-seeing. The location is directly adjacent to the Ohio State campus thus multiplying the opportunities for social interaction. Get together with a friend or two and plan to attend.

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**Spring Calendar**

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**Wright State University**

University Honors Program
Dayton, Ohio 45435