NAACP Leader Among Honorees At Graduation

Seven distinguished men and women, accomplished in the fields of medicine, science, human rights, the arts and the humanities, will receive honorary degrees at WU’s 118th commencement exercises Fri., May 18, in the University’s quadrangle. Chancellor William H. Danforth will present the degrees to the recipients.

The processional of some 2000 graduate and undergraduate degree recipients will begin at 8 a.m. with ceremonies following at 8:30 a.m. Commencement will take place at Francis Field House in the event of rain.

Roy Wilkins, executive director emeritus of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), will be honored

Roy Wilkins

with the Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Wilkins, who has worked with the NAACP for over four decades, served as the organization’s assistant secretary, administrator, executive secretary and, from 1965 to 1977, as its executive director. He was also chairman of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCCR) from its founding in 1949 until his retirement in 1977.

Wilkins has received many honors and awards including the Medal of Freedom and the Joseph Prize for Human Rights.

The Doctor of Science degree will be conferred upon three scientists: Daniel Nathans, M.D., one of three winners of the 1978 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine; Harold Eugene Edgerton, internationally renowned for his scientific achievements in the fields of stroboscopy and ultra-high-speed photography; and Samuel Milton Nabrit, executive director of the Southern Fellowships Fund and the National Fellowships Fund.

Dr. Nathans, who earned his doctor of medicine degree from the WU School of Medicine in 1954, was awarded the Nobel Prize for his research with DNA, the complex genetic material of cells. Dr. Nathans has been affiliated with the Johns Hopkins (continued on page 4)
not only for the fellowships which bear their name, but also for their many other contributions which "provided a residence hall and other facilities at the School of Medicine as well as an endowed professorship and a scholarship fund."

In concluding his remarks, the Chancellor said: "We feel the time has come to associate with (the Women's Building) the name of a woman who devoted her bountiful intelligence and energy to furthering the education of women, a woman who in her own activities represented the finest qualities of womanhood, in fact, of humankind: wisdom, compassion, concern for the betterment of society. The woman we honor is Ann Whitney Olin, Mrs. Spencer T. Olin." He then directed that a portrait of Mrs. Olin, painted by Simmie Gellman, be unveiled. It will hang in the lounge of the building which now bears her name. Ann Whitney Olin died on Nov. 11, 1976, at age 70. (Dorothy Brockhoff)

Daniel Nathans, Nobel Laureate, To Speak At Eliot Honors

Nobel Prize winner Dr. Daniel Nathans, WU alumnus and professor and director of the Department of Microbiology at Johns Hopkins University, will speak at WU's Eliot Honors Convocation at 8:30 p.m. Thur., May 17, in Graham Chapel.

Dr. Nathans, who shared the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1978 with two other scientists, will speak on "The Education of a Scientist." He will also receive an honorary degree at the University's commencement exercises Friday morning, May 18, in the quadrangle.

About 330 graduating students will be recognized for their scholarship and leadership at the Eliot Honors ceremony, dedicated to the memory of the Rev. William Greenleaf Eliot, a Unitarian minister and one of the founders of the University. Eliot served as Chancellor from 1870 to 1887.

Students to be recognized at the ceremonies represent the top 10 percent of the graduating class of each division, based upon grades up to, but not including the final semester. The convocation also recognizes graduating students for academic excellence and service to the University.

Born in Wilmington, Del., in 1928, Dr. Nathans obtained the bachelor of science degree at the University of Delaware in 1950 and an MD degree at the Washington University School of Medicine in 1954.

He was a clinical associate at the National Cancer Institute from 1955 to 1957 and guest investigator at Rockefeller University from 1959 to 1962. He joined the Johns Hopkins faculty in 1962 and was named director of the Department of Microbiology in 1972.

Dr. Nathans and a colleague, Dr. Hamilton Smith, also of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and Werner Arber of the University of Basel in Switzerland were cited for their discovery in the late 1960s and early 1970s of "restriction enzymes" and their application to genetics. The citation said: "Increased knowledge in this area should help in the prevention and treatment of malformations, hereditary disease and cancer."

Arber discovered "restriction enzymes," which chemically severed DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid), the long molecule containing the human genetic pattern. Dr. Smith established that the enzymes cut DNA at specific locations along the length of the molecule. Dr. Nathans used the enzymes as precise chemical scalps, cutting DNA of a simple monkey virus into fragments and determining their genetic roles.

RICHARD B. PRINCE, a senior majoring in biology at WU, has won the Marian Smith Spector Prize in Biology for 1979. Prince received the Spector Prize for scholastic excellence and a senior honors thesis entitled "Effects of Increased Levels of cAMP on Development of Cultured Embryonic Chick Intestine." The research on which his paper was based was conducted under the supervision of Professor Florence Moog.
It’s difficult to believe that items commonly available in health food stores not only could have an adverse effect on health, but might even produce fatal reactions in some individuals. Yet this is the ironic conclusion which Walter H. Lewis, WU professor of biology and senior botanist at the Missouri Botanical Garden, has reached.

Lewis has compiled a list of plant substances, many of which are available as herbal teas in health food stores, which can produce respiratory difficulties, cardiac arrest and in some cases death.

"The number of available herbal teas in particular is rapidly increasing," Lewis said. "There are at least 50 different types of teas available individually and in various combinations. "Often the teas are made from plants virtually unknown to North Americans. They are attractively packaged with no indication of possible physiological side effects."

Lewis has identified numerous plants which seem familiar, yet contain powerful chemical compounds whose effects are seldom discussed.

Ingestion of chamomile tea, one of a number of popular herbal beverages made from flower heads, can cause severe allergic reactions in the unsuspecting “teetotaler” who is sensitive to ragweed, asters, and chrysanthemums, which are members of the same plant family.

Licorice root, in large amounts, may cause hypertension, heart failure and cardiac arrest, according to Lewis.

Mistletoe leaves, stems and berries which are now available in herbal teas, contain toxic amines and proteins that may cause gastroenteritis—inflammation of the stomach and intestines. Phytotoxins, chemical substances found in mistletoe, produce effects in experimental animals comparable to those induced by injection of cobra venom. These effects include shock and cardiac arrest.

Lewis has documented cases of children who have been poisoned and died after eating the seeds of such common fruits as the apricot, cherry, peach, pear, apple and plum. He reports that the seeds or pits, bark or leaves of these plants contain a chemical compound, which after ingestion, liberates hydrogen cyanide, sometimes in sufficient quantity to cause cyanide poisoning.

Lewis also added that ingredients of some teas may be labeled incorrectly and that some are erroneously identified by suppliers. Severe liver damage in a few individuals has been documented through such errors.

“Americans lack a recent tradition of herb use and can neither readily identify plants in the wild, nor use herb and plant preparations with full knowledge of possible health effects,” Lewis said.

“The American public is unaware of the potential dangers of certain of these products; they assume that goods purchased from retail stores generally have been tested and approved for human use. Many newly available plant products, however, have not been tested; their effects on the body are not fully understood, or their effects simply are unknown to the majority of casual purchasers,” Lewis wrote in a letter to the editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

“Clearly, product labels that describe the physiologic effects of the ingredients on a substantial proportion of consumers would be helpful. Unfortunately, the Food and Drug Administration does not have the authority to require such labels except via a cumbersome product-by-product procedure.”

Lewis is co-author, with his wife, Memory P.F. Elvin-Lewis, of Medical Botany: Plants Affecting Man’s Health, which was selected as one of the 100 best science and technology books published in 1977 by Library Journal. The April 6 issue of the Medical Letter on Drugs and Therapeutics contains an extensive article on Lewis’s work.

Lewis presented his most recent findings at a program on “Poisonous Plants in Urban and Suburban Environments” a few weeks ago at the New York Botanical Garden.

Faculty Senate Defeats Proposed Committee On Investment Responsibility 57 to 43

The Faculty Senate at its May 1 meeting defeated by a 57 to 43 vote a proposal to establish an “Advisory Committee on Investment Responsibility.”

The purpose of the proposed committee was to create a means through which the University community could make recommendations to WU’s trustees and Chancellor on how University owned shares should be voted when ethical issues were involved. The committee used as models for the proposed Advisory Committee similar committees at Harvard and Stanford Universities.

The proposal was devised by a committee appointed by Chancellor William H. Danforth and chaired by Daniel H. Kohl, associate professor of biology. The committee was established as a result of the Faculty Senate’s December 1 authorizing a committee to devise and propose such an Advisory Committee.

THE CENTER FOR FRACTURE MECHANICS of WU was host of a meeting of the Plastic Fracture Analysis Group of the Electric Power Research Institute. The center is one of the contractors working for EPRl in the area of nuclear reactor vessel integrity. Thirty-five experts from 19 institutions attended the conference which took place in Cupples II on April 26 and 27.

HERBERT HOWARD HOWELL, affiliate professor of civil engineering at WU, has received the Robert Horonjeff Award for 1979 from the Air Transportation Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The award is given biannually to “an individual who has made significant contributions to the development of air transportation engineering.”
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Klein (foreground) of Frontenac, Mo., sponsored a competition, open to all graduate students in sculpture and multimedia at the WU School of Fine Arts, for the design of a sculpture which would save their 1967 Mercedes Benz 230 from the crusher. The winning work “Status Recycled,” by WU sculpture student Terry L. H. Slade, who received the $1500 commission for his design, is now on view in the Klein garden, 977 Chapel Oaks Road. This teeter-totter is a 3.5 ton sculpture with the shell of the Mercedes counterbalanced by a 3000-pound weight.

All Wait-Listed Students Housed

Over 1200 WU students have one less thing to worry about this summer: they will leave WU this spring assured of housing in the fall. All South-40 residents, who remained within the housing lottery and room selection system this spring (1237 students), have been guaranteed housing, said George Burris, director of Food Service and Housing Operations.

Current residents numbering 1613 signed up for the housing lottery which was instituted this year to establish randomly and fairly priority lists for 1114 existing spaces, Burris said. In response to the applications, 123 housing units, originally set aside for incoming freshmen requiring housing next fall, were added to the housing pool for returning students. As students withdrew from housing selection or failed to submit housing contracts, others on waiting lists, which originally comprised 499 students, were moved to the active room selection list. The last of the students on waiting lists took part in final room selection April 24.

In contrast to previous years, the allocation of South-40 rooms was done with a lottery this spring. Students wishing housing were assigned two numbers: a priority number equaling the number of semesters they had lived on the South-40, entitling those with the higher numbers the greater choice of rooms; and a lottery number which determined, within each priority group, whether students could proceed to room selection or be placed on a waiting list.

Although some students objected to the lottery idea when it was first proposed, Burris sees some advantages to it. In particular, the lottery was held early enough in the semester for students to seek alternatives to resident hall housing.

“The fact that we knew we couldn’t house all 1600 students encouraged them to make their own decisions. I know sitting on a waiting list was hard for many students, but the system helped the Housing Office tell students where they stood before the semester ended rather than try to house them long distance over the summer.”

Even among the 1237 guaranteed contracts for the fall, Burris expects some cancellations over the summer. Any openings that emerge will be held to repay the 123 spaces borrowed from the freshmen rooms. Nine hundred and fifty places have been set aside for them.

PHILIP D. SHELTON, associate dean of the WU Law School, has been named editor of the 1979-80 Prelaw Handbook. More than 50,000 copies of the handbook are sold and distributed each year.

Honorees (continued from page 1)

School of Medicine since 1962 and is now professor and director of its Department of Microbiology. He has received numerous awards for his research, which he has described in over 75 scientific papers.

The pioneering work of Edgerton, Institute Professor Emeritus in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT, led to the development of two important devices in the field of photography, the electronic speed flash and the stroboscopic light. A designer of underwater photographic equipment as well, he is a consultant to deep sea explorer Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau. Edgerton’s recent research on the uses of sonar aided in the discovery of the long-lost Civil War ship, the U.S.S. Monitor.

Before assuming his current positions, Nabrit was a professor and university administrator for over 40 years. At Atlanta University, he was a professor and chairman of the Department of Biology for 23 years and dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences for eight years. From 1955 to 1965, he was the second president of Texas Southern University (TSU). In 1966, he left TSU to join the Atomic Energy Commission.

Revolutionary choreographer and master dance teacher Alwin Nikolais will receive the Doctor of Fine Arts degree. Nikolais began to study dance seriously at the Bennington School of Dance with such pioneers of American modern dance as Martha Graham and Charles Weidman. In 1948, he became director of the Henry Street Playhouse and developed a dance technique and concept of multimedia theatre which have had a profound influence on the dance world. Today, the Nikolais Dance Theatre performs throughout the world and frequently on television.

The two recipients of the Doctor of Humanities degree will be Leigh Gerdine, president of the Webster College in St. Louis, and Germaine Brée, Kenan Professor of the Humanities at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Gerdine has been president of Webster College in St. Louis since 1970. Previously, he was Blewett Professor of (continued on page 6)
Schall's Efforts Make Possible Display of WU's Master Prints

An exhibition, "Master Prints From The Washington University Collection," is on view at the WU Gallery of Art in Steinberg Hall through June 17. Some 25 of the University's 500 works of art on paper are displayed in the newly renovated space on the lower level.

The show, which covers a period from the 15th century to the present, is the first of a continuing series of such exhibitions which are planned for the WU Gallery of Art. These revolving shows are now possible because the University's prints and drawings have all been catalogued and remounted in archivally safe materials by Jan Schall, the graduate student who organized this show. During the past two years, he has made a scholarly study of the University's print and drawing collection and arranged it in such an order that representative works of art from this collection, not seen for many years, can now be displayed.

The current show is an eclectic exhibition carefully arranged by Schall, who will receive the master of arts degree in art history on May 18, to show the unusual scope and excellence of WU's collection of prints and drawings. Among the artists represented in the newly hung exhibition are Rembrandt, Dürer, Goya, Piranesi, Picasso, Matisse, Pissarro, and Daubigny.

One of the most interesting prints in the show is Rembrandt's "Three Crosses," etched originally on a copper plate. This work went through four successive stages as the "master" altered it until he was completely satisfied. In its final form, the artist virtually transformed the subject by extensive burningish and redrawing of nearly the entire plate. The scene depicted is deeply shadowed to accentuate the tragic tone of the Crucifixion scene.

The four Picasso's on display are: "Salome," "Four Models With a Sculpture Head," "Les Pauvres" and "Combat." Lesser known artists such as Wenzel Hollar and Martin Schongauer, a German whom Dürer admired, round out the exhibition which, as a "cameo" offering, is indicative of the rich variety of prints and drawings that constitute the WU collection. Viewing hours for the print exhibition are from 1-5 p.m. daily. Regular WU gallery hours are: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., 1-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun.

The WU Record is published weekly during the academic year by the Information Office. Editor, Janet Kelley; calendar editor, Charlotte Boman. Address communications to Box 1142.

Fred J. Rosenbaum, WU professor of electrical engineering, has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

International Office (continued from page 1)

this semester from the People's Republic of China, Stone said.
A new effort is being made by Stone, in conjunction with the University's Admissions Office and Engineering Student Services, to boost the number of qualified international students at WU. This mission was the reason for Stone's stopping off in Japan and Hong Kong on the way back from a recent trip to Taiwan, sponsored by that country's government. He has also "done the international agency, embassy and consulate circuit" in New York and Washington, D.C., for similar purposes.

In addition to recruitment and general administrative duties, Stone also provides advice and counsel to international students and faculty on immigration and permanent residency, and, now and then, has coffee or tea with a visiting dignitary.

The staff member most international students have their first contact with—be it through the mail—is Diane Hasty, overseas admissions coordinator, who answers the more than 1200 annual application requests by foreign students and is in charge of processing, from start to finish, the approximately 200 applications received each year.

Vu, the Vietnamese refugee who has twice studied in the United States and worked for two years helping other Vietnamese refugees, joined the International Office staff last year.

According to Vu, many international students have trouble at first with the American academic system. "They have often had only lecture-type classes with one final exam at the end of the course and are not used to doing individual research, papers and taking several examinations." Vu added that he acts as a liaison between students and professors when academic problems come up.

At the hub of all of this activity is Janet Mendelson, the department's cordial administrative secretary, who is a 19-year veteran. Mendelson assumed her present duties when international students were still under the supervision of the Dean of Students Office. It was in 1965 that the then Dean of Students, Arno J. Haack, established a separate International Office. It wasn't until 1972, however, that the office moved into its present home in the Stix House, which was willed to the University by the late St. Louis businessman and WU trustee Ernest Stix.

(Janet Kelley)
FRIDAY, MAY 11

12:30 p.m. Division of Neural Sciences Symposium, "The Functional and Structural Organization of the Cerebral Cortex." Five papers related to this topic will be presented. Carl V. Moore Aud., 660 S. Euclid.

SATURDAY, MAY 12
9 a.m. School of Dental Medicine Continuing Education Course for Dentists, "Adult Orthodontic Techniques for the General Practitioner," Dr. William R. Profit, professor of orthodontics, U. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry. WU School of Dental Medicine, 4559 Scott. To register, call 454-0387.

MONDAY, MAY 14
12:30 p.m. Society of Professors Emeriti of WU May Party. Whittemore House. Champagne punch will be served before lunch.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16
7:30 p.m. University College Certificate Presentation. Ben H. Wells, chairman emeritus of Seven-Up Company, will speak to the students.

THURSDAY, MAY 17
8:30 p.m. WU Eliot Honors Convocation, "The Education of a Scientist," Dr. Daniel Nathan, professor of microbiology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and 1978 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine. Graham Chapel.

Exhibitions

"School of Fine Arts Undergraduate Exhibit," including student works in all media. Works by 1st- and 2nd-year students are 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) are displayed in the WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 1-5 p.m., Sat., Sun. Both shows through May 20.

"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, 4-5 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 avant-garde 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.

DR. EARL E. SHEPARD, WU professor emeritus of clinical orthodontics, and WU alumnus, received the prestigious Albert H. Ketchum Award at the American Association of Orthodontic's (AAO) 79th annual session meeting in Washington, D.C., May 5-9. The award is presented annually by the AAO and the American Board of Orthodontics to honor an orthodontist who has made outstanding contributions to the science and art of orthodontics. Shepard, who was chairman for 22 years of the Orthodontics Department, WU School of Dental Medicine, is also past president of the AAO and past chairman of the American Board of Orthodontists.

JULIE REYNOLDS, a second-year student in the WU Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, will represent the Business School at a nationwide conference of MBA women to be held later this month at the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania. The conference's major goal is the establishment of a national network of women students. Such a network, it is hoped, will highlight the presence of women in business schools and in the business world, and will enable them to share information on concerns common to MBA women.

WEST GERMANY'S leading paperback publisher (Duetsche Taschenbuch Verlag), is issuing 40,000 paperback copies of WU Professor of German David Bronsen's book, Joseph Roth: Eine Biographie. It was first published in hardback in 1974. Earlier the book was chosen by Germany's Gutenberg Book Club as a selection for its Book-of-the-Month Club.

Honorees (continued from page 4)

Music and chairman of the Department of Music at WU for 20 years. During that period, he was awarded a distinguished faculty citation. Gerdine has translated numerous texts on music and composed orchestrations of solo and ensemble works. For 17 years, he annotated the program notes for the St. Louis Symphony concerts, and from 1965 to 1967, was the orchestra's part-time artistic director.

French-born educator Brée is a distinguished scholar of languages and literature. She