Drafting Class in the Industrial Arts Building
Lawrence J. Brink and students in the print lab in the Mechanical Trades Building
General Shop class in the Industrial Arts Building
Western's Jet Engine Nearly Makes Unscheduled Flight

Kalamazoo's first jet motor flight almost took place Monday, but some quick action on the part of Herb Ellinger, Western Michigan College instructor, out that some studies have indi-engine and kept it on the ground.

A year ago Western's vocational industrial department acquired a General Electric jet engine and since that time has been working to get it in operating condition.

When the engine arrived it was more or less just a tube, five feet long and three feet in diameter. It lacked three essential parts, a stand to hold it, a fuel control valve and a starter.

From an old P-39 wheel retraction motor a starter was formed and parts from a model jet engine built at Western several years ago provided other needed pieces. An on-off for valve was fashioned to control the fuel and the system seemed ready for operation.

Monday morning it was moved outdoors onto a concrete drive and the motor was prepared. After about 15 seconds of work the engine suddenly caught hold. A great blast of heat from the tail end cleared in three seconds a path five feet wide and 50 feet long.

"Things were happening pretty fast about this time," says Ellinger, and he grabbed the flexible fuel supply tube, clamping it together to stop the runaway engine.

As a result of this first test, the jet engine has been taken back inside and will provide engine overhaul and engine operation classes with a lot of work in the near future to correct deficiencies and prepare it for its next test.
Ceremony for Paper Building Fund
~ April 6, 1950 ~

Unveiled plaque displays 103 donors of equipment and money.

L. to R.: Dr. Paul Sangren, President of Western Michigan College of Education; O. W. Callighan of Edgar Brothers and Chairman of Equipment Committee; Dr. Gerald Osborn, WMC professor of chemistry; Dr. Deyo B. Fox, WMC Director of Vocational Education; Dr. A.H. Nadelman, Head of WMC Pulp and Paper School
The air trainers parked in front of Mechanical Trades Building were part of the “ground school” for the Civilian Pilot Training Program.
Dean
George E. Kohrman

Dr. George E. Kohrman first came to Western in 1951 as Director of the Division of Practical Arts Education and Vocational Education. When Western became a University in 1957 Dr. Kohrman became the first Dean of the School of Applied Arts and Sciences. He would continue in that position until his retirement in 1973.

In 1980 the Industrial and Engineering Technology Building was renamed and dedicated George E. Kohrman Hall.
1950’s Electronics Lab in the Electronics Shop on Oakland Drive.
Campus entrance sign, 1952.
The Industrial Arts Building can be seen in the background.
On behalf of the Automotive Technology program, WMC faculty Herb Ellinger accepts gift of 1954 Ford from Ford Motor Company representatives.
1957

School of Applied Arts and Sciences

Department of Industrial Arts
Seated: Ted Zimmerman, Gilbert Hutchings, Lindsey Farnan, Fred Huff
Standing: Don Pullen, Charlie Nichols, Lawrence Brink, Walley Klammer, John Bendix

Department of Distributive Education
Rosalie Reber, Wendell Fidler, Raymond Dannenberg, and Adrian Trimpe

Department of Agriculture
Lee Baker, Howard Corbus
Department of Home Economics
Rachel Acre, Reva Volle, Betty Taylor, Gladys Rowe, and Opal Stamm

Department of Occupational Therapy
Rosalia Kiss, Lois Hamlin, Dean Tyndall, Marion Spear, and Alice Lewis

1957
School of Applied Arts and Sciences

Department of Industrial Technology
Seated: Henry Beukema, Dr. Donald Nantz, Herbert Ellinger, William Weeks, Dr. Andrew Luff, Dr. Glade Wilcox
Standing: William Schreiber, Donald Black, Robert Huffman, William Wichers, Clarence Van Deventer, Robert Ring, Elmer Brune, and Frank Scott
The Paper Industry addition to McCracken Hall opens its doors in 1957.
Western achieved the title of ‘University’ in 1957, shortly after being designated Western Michigan College in 1955. Western Michigan University was comprised of five Schools:

- Applied Arts & Sciences
  - Business
  - Education
- Liberal Arts & Sciences
  - Graduate Studies

Departments in the School of Applied Arts & Sciences were:

- Agriculture
- Distributive Education
- Home Economics
- Industrial Arts
- Industrial Technology
- Military Science and Tactics
- Occupational Therapy
- Paper Technology
Display setup by the Department of Agriculture showing the wide variety offered at Western Michigan.

Photo and caption from 1958 “Brown and Gold” yearbook. The hand-lettered note about the University Farm refers to the fire that destroyed the Kiltz Farm in Portage in the 1950’s. A new University Farm on Parkview Avenue was acquired in 1959.
Air maintenance and flight training are becoming important parts of Western’s curricula. Here, Dr. Clarence Van Deventer helps students with a plane.

Photo and caption from the 1958 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
Cabinet making, an important part of a high school program, is taught to a future industrial arts teacher.

Photo and caption from the 1958 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
Overhauling a motor is supervised by Mr. Robert King.

Photo and caption from 1958 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
A future occupational therapist learns the methods of rug-making from Miss Marion Spear.
ALBERT KONING and David McLinden work on machinery in Mr. Robert Ring's aircrafts class in power plants.

Photo and caption from 1959 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
MAJORS IN PAPER technology pose in front of paper-making machine, purchased with donations from industry.

Photo and caption from 1959 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
MR. GILBERT HUTCHINGS’ students, Francis Mellinger and Jerome Marz, take pride in machine woodworking skill.

Photo and caption from 1959 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
STUDENTS work under Mr. Donald Black’s instruction in radio class.

Photo and caption from 1959 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.
LEARNING BABY CARE in Miss Rachel Acree’s home nursing class are Sue Niffenegger, Linda McConnell, Eleanor Peirce.

Photo and caption from 1959 “Brown and Gold” yearbook.