HONORARY DEGREE FOR NOVELIST

The University will honour the Australian novelist, Xavier Herbert, at the Arts Conferring of Degrees Ceremony in the Great Hall of the University at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, April 23. Xavier Herbert, whose mammoth book "Poor Fellow My Country" was released last year, will receive an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters in recognition of his contribution to creative writing in Australia. He will be the first novelist to be honoured by the University in this way.

He will receive his Honorary Degree from the Chancellor (Sir Alister McMullin), to whom he will be presented by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Professor K.W. Robinson). In the official tribute, Professor Robinson describes Xavier Herbert as a major force in Australian literature and also an anthropologist and social historian. Perhaps the most pervasive attribute of his work is his uncompromising adherence to the truth, as he sees it, Professor Robinson adds.

Students graduating in the Faculty of Arts will receive their degrees at the ceremony. The Vice-Chancellor will deliver the Occasional Address. On the afternoon of April 22 degrees will be conferred on students graduating in the Faculties of Economics and Commerce and Science. Mr Justice Kirby, Chairman of the Law Reform Commission, will give the Occasional Address. Degrees in the Faculties of Architecture, Engineering and Mathematics will be conferred in the morning of April 23 beginning at 10.30. Dr Lloyd Rees, painter, will deliver the Occasional Address. About 700 graduands of the University will receive their degrees in the three ceremonies.

Xavier Herbert, who was Writer-in-Residence in the University last year, is presently Writer-in-Residence at the University of Queensland. He will bring his wife Sadie with him to Newcastle. The decision that lectures should not be cancelled on the Graduation days is expected to result in an unusual flow of traffic and parking problems on these days. To accommodate visitors, the lower portion of No. 1 car park will be closed to normal University parking on April 22 and 23.

One of the University's recent art acquisitions is a bronze sculpture by Newcastle Artist, Marilyn McGrath. The work was purchased from the University's art acquisition fund and was one of 10 sculptures exhibited by the Artist at the Bonython Gallery in Sydney in September last year. The work is called 'Nucellous' and is an abstract interpretation of growth from a single cell. The sculpture has been erected on a concrete pedestal in the garden area adjacent to the paving leading to the main entrance of the Great Hall. Some plant material had to be removed to enable the construction of the pedestal and this will be shortly replaced to provide a complete contrast to the bronze sculpture itself.

Marilyn McGrath was born in Sydney and studied Sculpture with Lyndon Dadswell before furthering her studies in Japan. Marilyn is now a full-time sculptor and is assisting part-time in the University's Department of Architecture.

Some of her work was exhibited in the National Arts School Teachers Exhibition, Newcastle, in 1972, and at the Von Bertouch Gallery, Newcastle, and the C.B.A. Sydney in 1973. In addition to this University, works from her most recent exhibition have been purchased by private collectors and one by the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

D.D. Morris, UNIVERSITY PLANNER.
Dear Sir,

It seems a sad fact of this University's development over the past 15 years that the more newer courses offered the less chance there is to acquire some awareness of what is being offered in each of them. In 1960 there were not only fewer departments, but also fewer fields of study within each of them. In 1960 it was possible to have some acquaintance with the range of disciplines available apart from one's own studies; today it is impossible.

This is of course a problem for the student contemplating possible subject choices or options. It also means that every member of the academic community has a very imperfect knowledge of what the University is doing. There is something very wrong with the idea of going through three or more years of University life with a working knowledge of what is taught in only several departments out of 26, and a total ignorance of what is being studied in all the others.

As a suggestion proffered for debate, it seems to me that a member of the academic staff from any interested department should be enabled to offer annually a University-wide lecture for students not enrolled in his own course. Each such lecture could aim to be a sort of encapsulated overview of present directions in the discipline concerned, made as entertaining and informative as possible, perhaps by the use of slides or film. The cynics will say that no one would even bother to attend. I wonder whether that is true.

G.J. MARTIN.

BY-ELECTION - STUDENT MEMBER OF COUNCIL

A special election edition of "University News" will be published next week giving details of the candidates in the election, nominations for which close at noon today, April 22.

THE UNION

Just one election was necessary to fill positions on the Board of Management of the Union which will shortly be vacated.

Under the terms of the Constitution eight student positions, one staff position and one graduate position had to be filled in time for the new Board to begin its term after the annual general meeting of the Union on May 6.

Eight members were nominated for the student position. Elected unopposed they are: Paul Drinkwater, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Lyon, Anthony Hannaway, Charles Martin, Jane McCosker, Adrian O'Connell and John Takats.

Mrs Mary Maddison was nominated for election to the staff position and was declared elected unopposed.

Steven Druey and John Armstrong were nominated for election to the graduate position. A poll was conducted last week and Steven Robert Druey was elected.

SUBMISSIONS ON UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT

A seminar in the Drama Theatre on April 7 considered the "white paper" issued by the Committee set up to review University Government. The Convenor of the Committee (Mr W.G. Derkenne) presided and members of the Committee, members of the university and members of campus bodies spoke on the "paper".

The Committee has decided to extend the closing date for the submission of views on its recommended changes in the system of government to June 30.

Senate will consider the proposals at a special meeting on Wednesday, June 9. The Faculty of Arts included consideration of the "white paper" in the agenda of its April 21 meeting and the Faculty of Education has arranged for a similar discussion on June 11 if members make submissions.

YEAR OF REVIEW FOR SOCIETY

Nineteen seventy-five/seventy-six had been a year of review for Newcastle Committee of the Economic Society, the Past President (Mr F.C. Hawkins) stated on April 13. The Committee had appointed sub-committees to consider membership, its programme and special activities.

"The 1976 programme bears testament to the work of the sub-committee on programmes, whilst the group studying special activities is considering the possibility of holding some meetings in the Maitland area".

Mr Hawkins, who was giving his report at the Committee's annual general meeting, said the Economic Society's prize for the best honours graduate in Economics in 1976 was awarded to Mr Peter Werner Wollinski.

After two years in office Mr Hawkins did not stand for re-election.

Officers elected for 1976/77:

President, Dr C.J. Alsiable; Vice-President, Mr C.B.J. Catt; Vice-President, Dr N.J. Dickinson; Hon. Secretary, Mr D.K. Macdonald; Hon. Treasurer, Mr C.J. Bowser; Minute Secretary, Miss A. Harcombe; Committee, Mr J. Rees, Mr J.A. Reeves, Mr J. Thompson; Past President, Mr F.C. Hawkins and Hon. Auditor, Mr R.B. Taylor.

RADIOSITOTOPE COURSE

The Australian School of Nuclear Technology will conduct a Radioisotope Course for non-graduates at Lucas Heights from September 13 to October 1. The objective of the course is to assist personnel below graduate level to gain understanding and proficiency in radioisotope techniques to enable them to use these safely and efficiently.

It will be presented by staff of Australian Atomic Energy Commission Research Establishment and the University of New South Wales. The fee for the course, exclusive of accommodation, subsistence and fares, is $300.

The closing date for applications is August 9. Applications should be sent to: The Principal, Australian School of Nuclear Technology, Private Mail Bag, Sutherland. 2232
Among the new arrivals at the University are a husband and wife from Canada and a husband and wife from England.

Fred Guilhaus and Carol Bacchi have been appointed to teaching positions in the Departments of Commerce and History respectively.

Robert Page has joined the Department of Creative Arts as a Lecturer in Drama. His wife, Lucy, is a student in the Faculty of Arts.

Carol Bacchi is a Canadian who was previously a post-graduate student at McGill University, Montreal. She holds the degrees of BA of Loyola University, Canada, by which she was awarded the Governor General's Medal. She also holds an MA degree of McGill University where she was a Canadian Council Board Scholar and with which she is enrolled as a PhD student. Her research interests, and the subject of her thesis, are the ideology of the Women's Suffrage Movement. She is presently a Tutor in Australian History.

Fred Guilhaus, who is a Lecturer in Commerce, is an Australian who was educated at Sydney Boys' High School and the University of Sydney. He holds the degree of BA, and Diploma of Education, of the University of Sydney. In 1970 he went to Vancouver, where he worked as a teacher for two years. He then spent two years as a full-time student at McGill University which awarded him an MBA degree. Before returning to Australia Fred was attached to BP Oil Canada as a Sales Supervisor. Fred and Carol met when they were enrolled in post-graduate courses at McGill.

Robert and Lucy Page met when they were students together at the University of Liverpool. Robert holds a BA degree (Liverpool) and an MA degree (Leeds). At Liverpool he became closely associated with student drama activities. He produced plays, originated the Blackpool Modern Drama Group, worked as a Drama Critic and wrote a three-act play “Amerigeddon”.

In 1974 Mr and Mrs Page transferred to the University of Leeds, where he worked on his MA and she continued her BA studies. Before coming to Newcastle they were centred in London, Robert working as a drama critic and for the British Theatre Institute. Lucy has worked on the student stage in Britain in “Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?”

Mrs Page’s father is Sir Anthony Wagner, Head of the College of Arms, London and Garter King of Arms. Mr James Page, Robert’s father, is Commissioner of the City of London Police Force and has donated police helmets which would normally be unavailable for use as props at the University.

“TWELFTH NIGHT”

The Contemporary Theatre Company is presenting Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in the Griffith Duncan Theatre at Newcastle College of Advanced Education. Stephen Costain is the Director and Alan McFadden composed an original musical score. The cast includes: Anne Crittenden who plays Viola, Sandra Naugh (Olivia), Ross Smith (Duke Orsino), Alan McFadden (Sir Toby Belch), Geoff Svannichsen (Sir Andrew Aguecheek), Fred Biskov (Fabian) and David Wood (Clown).

The season will be April 24, 27, 28, 30 and May 1. On April 27 and 28 the productions will begin at 7.30 p.m. Admission costs $3 and $2 (students).
**SLANDEROUS VIEW OF "HAMLET"**

The recently-established professional theatre company, the Hunter Valley Theatre Company, will use the University’s Theatre as its main venue for stage productions.

With its inaugural production ("The Floating World") over, the company’s second season is scheduled to open on April 23. The play will be "Hamlet on Ice", which explains all that was rotten in the state of Denmark, in a couple of hours of outrageous hilarity, bawdy debunking, song, dance, and constant surprises. It is Australia’s first pantomime for adults. "Hamlet on Ice" was written by Michael Bodd ("The Legend of King O’Malley"), newspaper cook, actor, and writer, Ron Blair ("The Christian Brother", "Flash Jim Vaux", "President Wilson in Paris"), and television writer Marcus Conolly, with music by Graham Bond and Rory O’Donaghe (the "Aunty Jack" pair). Since its first season at Sydney’s Nimrod, the play has been performed in Melbourne, Perth, and Brisbane and has just completed a second six-month Sydney run at the Bondi Pavilion.

The HVTC season will run in the Drama Theatre from April 23 to May 8 and then tour. It will be directed by Terence Clarke and designed by John Paul. The cast is the same as for "The Floating World": Kenny Walker (Hamlet), Michael Rolfe (Buttons); Robert Alexander (Dame Gertrude); Alex Kovacs (Horatio) and Tony Sheldon and Harry Scott (the Crantz Bros) will escort you through the rotteness.

Bookings can be made at the HVTC (CNr The Terrace and Tyrell Street) and David Jones. Arrangements can be made for parties by phoning Mrs Bloomfield, HVTC Party Organiser, 51 2870, or the HVTC, 26 2526.

**EDWARDS HALL ASSOCIATION**

Elections held at Edwards Hall for the Resident Members’ Association of the Hall resulted:

Chairman: Tim Griffiths; Vice-Chairman, Neil Dawes; Treasurer, Heather Grey; Secretary, Maria Meaney. Committee: Mark McNair, Jaspal Singh, David Warne, Peter Johnson and Julie Pharaoh.

**PHILOSOPHY CLUB**

The great annual get-together of University staff and their friends is the Oktoberfest, which will be held this year at Edwards Hall on the last Saturday in October, the 25th. For the time being enter that date in your diary and we shall supply details later on as they come to hand.

H. Duwell, Ext. 437.

Mr Peter O’Brien, Lecturer in the Department of Education, has received word about his success in completing the Doctorate of Education degree of the University of South Africa Pretoria. It will be awarded to him in absentia on April 24.

**SPORTING NEWS**

A University Water Ski Club was formed at a meeting on April 7. Members of NUDES were present and offered their club’s support. The Amenities Officer (Mr H. Bradford) is acting for the Sports Union in investigations into the possibility of a power boat to be used for water skiing and NUDES’s activities. Students and members of staff who are interested in joining the Water Skiing Club should contact the Amenities Office.

Plans are taking shape for the holding of an Aquatic Day at the University’s Aquatic Centre on the Hunter River at Raymond Terrace. Students and members of staff will be invited, together with members of their families, to take part in sailing, water skiing and canoeing. Further details will be printed in the next "University News". Alterations are presently being made at the Boat Club so that facilities for canoeing, water skiing and sailing can be provided. In addition, a modern kitchen is being built. It is intended to make the premises available, together with an outside barbecue unit, to departments of the university for recreation and social functions. Mr H. Bradford is happy to give further details.

The golf match played between the R.A.A.F. and University Staff teams at Newcastle Golf Links on April 6 resulted in a win for the R.A.A.F. 243 points to 228.

The University Australian Football team is in urgent need of non-playing supporters for its Saturday afternoon matches. If you wish to help from the sideline or just to watch, please contact Tim Roberts, Ext. 577 in the Department of Biological Sciences.
**APPOINTMENTS**

Dr Bruce Philip Kennedy, BSc (W.A.), PhD (York, Canada), has taken up duties as a Tutor in the Department of Chemistry. Before joining the university he was a teaching fellow at University College, London.

Mr Ross Alexander Telfer, BA (N.S.W.), DipEDAdmin, MEDAdmin (U.N.C.,), previously attached to Newcastle College of Advanced Education, has taken up his appointment as Lecturer in Education.

Betty Francis Evans has joined the Auchmuty Library's staff as an Office Assistant/Typist.

**RESIGNATION**

Peter Laurence Morton has resigned from the Planner's Division where he worked as a Maintenance Assistant.

**DIARY OF EVENTS**

### THURSDAY, APRIL 22

- **2.30 p.m.** Confering of Degrees Ceremony - Great Hall.
- **8 p.m.** Union 'At Home' featuring "Vehicle" - Southern Cross Lounge.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 23

- **10.30 a.m.** Confering of Degrees Ceremony - Great Hall.
- **noon** Seminar by Dr B.W. Keck, Department of Mathematical Physics, University of Adelaide, "Supersymmetry" - Room V107.
- **2.30 p.m.** Confering of Degrees Ceremony - Great Hall.
- **8 p.m.** Films of Protest Series. "Easy Rider" (US 1969, Director: Dennis Hopper) - Basden Theatre.
- **8 p.m.** Opening performance of "Hamlet on Ice", Hunter Valley Theatre Company - Drama Theatre.
SATURDAY, MAY 3

8 p.m. "Twelfth Night" - Griffith Duncan Theatre, Newcastle C.A.B.

MONDAY, MAY 3

11 a.m. Film "The Searchers" - Drama Theatre (English I Film Course).

noon Staff/Student Seminar, Department of Geology, "Recent Sedimentological Studies in the Newcastle Coal Measure", Professors P. Warbrooke and A. Day - Room G04.

1.05 - 2 p.m. Seminar on "Helical Physics: Teaching Science Majors and Non-Science Majors in the same Introductory Course Sequence", Professor De Graft, Chairman, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Michigan - Room DG12, Ground Floor, Department of Physics.

4.05 - 4.55 p.m. Group discussion - "The use of Behavioural Objectives in Course Design and in Assessment" introduced by Professor De Graft - Room VI05, Department of Mathematics.

7 p.m. Film "The Searchers" - Drama Theatre (English I Film Course).

TUESDAY, MAY 4

10 - 11 a.m. Group discussion - "The Implications of Piaget's 'Levels of Thinking' for Teaching Science", Professor De Graft, University of Michigan - Newcastle College of Advanced Education, (the room will be advised before notice in the main entrance corridor on the day of the discussion).

1.05 - 2 p.m. Seminar - "Teaching Physics using a Modified Keller Plan", Professor De Graft, of the University of Michigan - Room DG12, Ground Floor, Department of Physics.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

1.10 to 1.50 p.m. Free lunch time concert, Michael Dumais at the Organ: Widor's Symphon No. 5 - Great Hall.

THURSDAY, MAY 6

8 p.m. Union 'At Home', band "Harlequin" - Southern Cross Lounge.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

8 p.m. Films of Protest series, "The Last Picture Show" (US 1971, Director: Peter Bogdanovich) - Baden Theatre.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

7.30 p.m. Seminar on the role of the Government in the future of the Hunter Region - employment and industry, speakers will include the Federal Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations (Mr Street) - Room DG08, Physics Building.

MONDAY, APRIL 26

8 p.m. Free illustrated public lecture by Dr Sandra Bowdler, of the Department of Prehistory, Australian National University. Dr Bowdler will report the findings of her archaeological work on Hunter Island in Bass Strait which has revealed that man was living in Tasmania between 18,000 and 23,000 years ago - Lecture Theatre EDI, admission free.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

2 p.m. Jazz prom - Great Hall.

ADVERTISEMENTS

HOUSE FOR RENT

Merewether Heights for 6 months from July 1 fully furnished 3 bedrooms (two double and one single) study, $60 per week, Tel. 63 1703 or Ext. 604.

WANTED TO HIRE

Four-wheel drive vehicle suitable for mountain roads, from May 9 to 15, Tel. Ext. 341.

FOR SALE

Teak look Sanyo kerosene heater in good condition, $10. Tel. Ext. 649.

Wedding gown, perfect order, SSW-SW (12-14), nylon chiffon, long sleeves, insertion lace trim, with attached train, $70 or near offer. Matching veil, $10. Complete set of Australian Encyclopaedias, $80. Single bed with inner spring mattress, $20. Double bed mattress, $5. Stereo-cassette player recorder, $60. Tel. W. Murdoch Ext. 394 or call at 10 Barena Street, Raymond Terrace.

TIPPING

Barbara Bullen, 45 Jones Avenue, Warners Bay, Tel. 28 1836. Mrs Churchward, 11 Mount Street, Mt Hutton, Tel. 48 9579. Vicki Rampton, Tel. 75 1070 between 10.30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Mrs Veronica Sparkes, Tel. 46 7228 after 6 p.m.

Mrs M. Jakubowski, 10 Dilkera Avenue, Valentine Tel. 46 7288.

ACCOMMODATION

Members of the university (staff and students) have the opportunity to stay in Mulubimba Lodge in Perisher Valley in the Snowy Mountains.

The lodge is owned by Shortland Alpine Club Cooperative Ltd, which includes number of members of staff.

Completed just before Easter, the lodge offers good accommodation in rooms with bunks and a loft with bunks for children.

The school holidays weeks during winter have been virtually booked out by members of the Club, but non-members can book accommodation in the Lodge for other periods in winter and periods in summer. The tariff is adults, $60 a week, $10 a day, and children $30 a week, $5 a day. The following members of staff or members of Shortland Alpine Club and will give information about how non-members can book at the Lodge: Mr A. W. Page (Civil Engineering), Mr J. W. Armstrong (Administration), Mr J. A. Lamberts (Computing Centre) and Dr B. Fraser (Physics).

BANK'S SERVICES

The Commonwealth Bank on campus offers a number of services for investment-minded people.

Interest Bearing Deposits: For people who have money they can put away for a time - three, six, 12, 24 or 48 months. Interest at highest bank rates is paid six-monthly; there is no limit to the amount you can invest; interest commences from the day the money is invested.

Current interest rates: three months to less than six months, 8%; six months to less than one year, 8.25%; one year to less than two years, 8.5%, two years to less than three years, 8.75%, three years up to and including four years, 9.5%.

Saving Investment Accounts: A special type of Savings Account, paying a much higher rate of interest than any ordinary Savings Account. You leave the funds in your Savings Investment Account for a minimum of three months - or as long as you like; you give one month's notice of withdrawal when you want to draw some or all of the money; the minimum amount to be invested is $500, and you can add to this in amounts of $100 or more; you have a Bank Passbook as a record of your investment; interest is paid in June and, if you want to, you can withdraw this interest immediately. Or you can leave it there to help your Savings Investment Account grow that much faster.

These accounts currently attract an interest rate of 3% on a daily basis.

The Bank has other forms of investment, some specially designed for people with large amounts of surplus money. Loans are available at competitive rates of interest and all enquiries are welcome.

Applications for Bankcard will be gladly accepted and for those people with their minds on travel a complete Travel Service is provided.

Printed in the Secretary's Division, the University of Newcastle for The Editor, The Secretary, The University of Newcastle N.S.W. 2308