

Trustees allot \$27,500 to 97 W.A. graduates

By Gordon B. Seavey

As the demand increases for financial assistance Westford Academy students headed for institutions of higher learning were excited to learn that the trustees of the 191 year old school allocated \$27,500 to 97 students in the class of 1984.

The funds are generated through the trustees handling of nearly one-half million dollars which include amounts that have been invested for over a period of nearly two centuries.

In addition to the income derived from the general funds account the program has had substantial support from recent donors. Most notable are as follows: Fisher family, Nabnasset Boosters and the Seavey Hildreth Hall and more recently the Ross Hook and Dr. Clarence Wright science scholarship. The late Edgar Peterson added \$500 this month to the fund already established in memory of his son Lt. Jeffery Peterson.

The Westford Academy trustees at one time controlled the operation of the school, the third oldest secondary school still in operation in the state. The board since 1905 has been a separate entity from the high school which now operates under laws of the Commonwealth as a public institution.

The trustees now consist primarily of local residents and graduates of the school. The trustees also award career-oriented

reference books to all members of the National Honor Society which number 22 in this year's class.

At the special request of Miss Elaine McMahon, head of the Zaachus Wright Library at the school, the trustees approved \$8,500 for the establishment of a security system to protect the 12,000 titles in its book collection.

With the installation of this security system, she expects that the yearly loss of from 500 to 800 books will be reduced by 80 percent.

Under this system, valuable books, tapes and other material resources will be under continued electronic surveillance, making valuable materials available to more students. Miss McMahon reports.

Bruce Scott, a 1964 graduate, represented the trustees at the annual exercises last Friday night.

For the first time in the 49 years he has been a trustee, Alister F. MacDougall, Class of 1906, was unable to attend the meeting due to a fractured hip.

Officers elected for the coming year were: E. Kennard Fletcher, president; Barbara Hildreth Parkhurst, 36, vice president; A. Dana Fletcher, 43, treasurer; Eileen O'Neill Anderson, 53, assistant treasurer; Bette R. Hook, secretary; and H. Arnold Wilder, 27, auditor.