

# Westford trustees allot \$27,500 to 97 graduates of Academy

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Sun Correspondent

WESTFORD — 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 have allocated \$27,500 to 97 students in the Class of 1984.

The 213 students in the class may also expect additional awards from other sources.

The funds are generated through the trustees' handling of nearly \$.5 million, 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 the 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. Jeffrey 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 as a public institution.

The trustees now consist primarily of local residents and graduates of the school.

The trustees also awarded 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 Elaine McMahon, head of the Zaacheus Wright Library at the school, the trustees approved \$8,500 to establish 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 between 500 and 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, McMahon reports.

Bruce Scott, a 1964 graduate, will represent the trustees at the annual exercises.

For the first time in the 49 years he has been a trustee, Allister 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 '42, treasurer; Eileen O'Neill Anderson '53, assistant treasurer; Bette R. Hook, secretary; and H. Arnold Wilder '27, auditor.