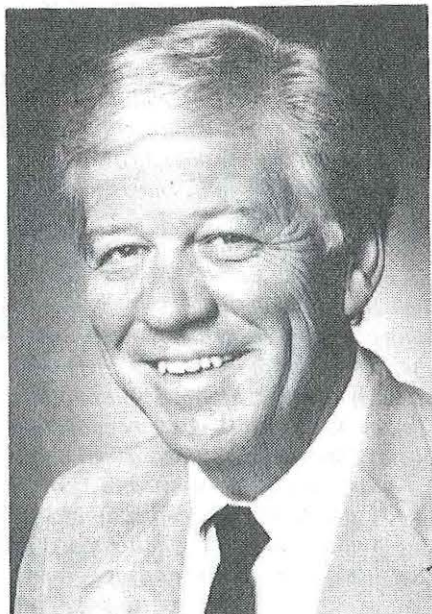


ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Bill Lee



Bill Lee, Yakima Herald-Republic editorial page editor, has been named Yakima Valley Community College's 1989 Distinguished Alumnus.

A graduate of the Class of 1961, he says, "There is no question that YVCC and the George Washington Foundation Scholarship that allowed me to attend were instrumental in shaping my career path that ultimately led to graduation from Central Washington University and a full-time commitment to the Yakima Herald-Republic. Otherwise, chances are I'd still be working in the orchards."

He serves as chair of the Frank Gayman Memorial Scholarship Committee which administers a scholarship for print journalism students. First preference is given to

YVCC students, then former YVCC students attending school elsewhere. Recent community service included being a loaned executive for the Yakima County United Way campaign.

He feels "fortunate at the Herald-Republic to have a variety of professional challenges over the years, starting as a copy boy out of Wapato High School in the fall of 1959--the same time I enrolled at YVCC." Over the years he has been a sports writer, general assignment reporter, education editor, associate editor (during which he covered legislative sessions in Olympia and then returned to Yakima for special assignments during the interim), Olympia Bureau chief, and his current position which he has held since January 1981.

YVCC is a quality institution dedicated to quality education and over the years has helped countless thousands of other alumni to get that much-needed nudge towards personal and professional achievement.

To be honored with this Distinguished Alumnus Award is very special to me because this institution--from which my daughter Lora earned her degree last year--has been, and always will be, a very special part of my life.