Youngstown State University News Service Youngstown, Ohio 44555 Telephone 742-1704

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE

Mailed April 21, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Grant Johannesen, internationally acclaimed concert pianist, will conduct a master class for some selected high school pianists at 3:30 p.m. Friday, April 24, in Room 2036 of Bliss Hall at Youngstown State University.

He will listen to them perform, then offer comments. The students were chosen from the studios of area piano teachers.

The public is welcome to attend and meet him afterwards.

Johannesen will be soloist with the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra at 8:30 p.m. April 25 in Powers Auditorium, Youngstown.

He has been soloist with most of the major American and European symphonies and has served as judge for many piano competitions.

From 1975-85 Johannesen was president of the Cleveland Institute.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Stephen Birmingham, popular fiction and non-fiction writer whose many books have frequented best seller lists, will give a public lecture Monday, May 11, at Youngstown State University as a Schermer Scholar-in-Residence.

Birmingham, author of such books as <u>Young Mr. Keefe</u>, <u>Real Lace</u>, and <u>Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy</u>, will speak at 8 p.m. in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center, Spring Street. The lecture, "Confessions of a Social Historian," is free and open to the public.

A reception will be held in the Special Lectures Lounge of Kilcawley immediately following the lecture.

Birmingham will also lecture on "More About Our Crowd" at a luncheon Tuesday, noon, May 12 at the Jewish Community Center in Youngstown. The lecture/luncheon is open to the public. For information and reservations, call the Center at 746-3251.

Birmingham started out in a New York advertising agency as a copywriter, where he was responsible for the slogan "Never Underestimate the Power of a Woman" for Ladies' Home Journal.

His first novel, Young Mr. Keefe, was published in 1957 and was an immediate best-seller. His next, a non-fiction book Our Crowd, remained on the New York Times Best Seller List for 52 weeks.

His next book, The Right People, was also a best-seller, and marked the first time in publishing history that two books by the same author had appeared

simultaneously on the <u>Times</u> list. His other books include <u>Life at the Dakota</u>,

The Auerbach Will and The LeBaron Secret.

His articles appear frequently in magazines, particularly <u>Vogue</u>, <u>Harper's</u>

<u>Bazaar</u>, and <u>Gentlemen's Quarterly</u>.

The Schermer Scholar-in-Residence Program was established at YSU in 1980 through an endowment from the Frances and Lillian Schermer Charitable Trusts administered by the Youngstown Zionist District of the Zionist Organization of America and B'nai B'rith Mahoning Lodge 339. It memorializes the Schermer family of Youngstown and seeks to advance their interest in young people, education, the Jewish community and the community at large.

Each year, Schermer residencies bring to the campus notable speakers and performing artists who explore contemporary issues and interests in a series of public presentations. The Schermer Program thus serves to extend the academic resources of the University beyond its classrooms and strengthens the link between the campus and local communities.

Patrons are encouraged to use the Wick Avenue Parking Deck, park on the fourth level and walk across the bridge to Kilcawley Center. There is a \$1 parking fee for all events.

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