

From: [Leah D Nixon](#)
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Subject: See Ferris Rube Goldberg Machine in Action May 2
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Included below, please find a press release regarding an upcoming demonstration of Ferris State University's award-winning Rube Goldberg machine. Demonstrations are free and open to the public. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services, at (231) 591-5604.

For Immediate Release
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See Ferris State's award-winning Rube Goldberg machine in action May 2

BIG RAPIDS – Orange juice made simple? Not if you consider the Ferris State University Rube Goldberg team spent more than 3,000 hours designing a 345-step process to make freshly squeezed orange juice as part of the national Rube Goldberg competition, held annually at Purdue University.

See the machine in action between 3 and 5:30 p.m. this Wednesday, May 2, at the Timme Center for Student Services as team members run demonstrations of their award-winning machine every half hour, beginning at 3 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

The College of Technology students incorporated such items as a toy train, a Slinky, a jack-in-the-box, dominoes and a hobby horse, among other items to set a world record and beat out previous record holder and four-time defending champion Purdue University.

The competition is named for Rube Goldberg – a cartoonist made famous by his elaborate drawings of imaginary devices requiring many steps to perform simple everyday tasks. The challenge of the 19th annual event was to take a whole orange, squeeze the juice from it and then pour the juice into a glass using 20 or more steps. Past competitions have required machines to perform such tasks as mark a ballot, toast a piece of bread or put a stamp on an envelope.

Participating in the demonstrations will be co-advisors Tom Hollen of Grand Rapids, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology, and Dan Wanink of Ironwood, associate professor of CAD Drafting/Tool Design; and team members Tom Sybrandy (captain) of Holt, Matt Tomaszewski of Byron Center, Mike Dunakin of Grand Rapids and James Travis III of Cedar Springs.

Since winning first place in the national Rube Goldberg competition on March 31, the team has made appearances on the TODAY Show in New York City and Jimmy Kimmel Live in Los Angeles, as well as been featured in such publications as the Chicago Tribune. The team won first place over Purdue University, University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M, Penn State University, University of Cincinnati, Hofstra University and Washington State Community College.

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