

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Bennett children establish Ferris endowment honoring parents**

BIG RAPIDS, Mich. – The children of the late Norman and Helen Bennett, emeritus faculty members at Ferris State University, have established an endowment fund in their memory.

The Norman and Helen Bennett Memorial Endowment Fund, established through an estate gift by daughters, Sally Lauer of Decatur, IL, and Terry Perkins of Big Rapids, and son, Thomas, of Cedar, will benefit Ferris female student-athletes, the University's Professional Golf Management program and the Bulldog men's track program. Most immediately, the Fund endows the Helen Bennett Memorial Award for an outstanding female athlete who excels in the classroom and in her sport. The award is presented at the annual Commencement Breakfast hosted by the Ferris Professional Women.

The Endowment also will fund Norman and Helen Bennett Memorial Scholarships to assist PGM students and members of the men's varsity track team. In addition, after the fund fully supports both the award and the scholarships, it will provide support to the PGM program and the men's track team for equipment, structures, tournaments, meets and other enhancements, including additional scholarships.

Helen Bennett began teaching at Ferris in 1956, serving as a physical education instructor and coach. She was a leader and role model for women in athletics and personally excelled in field hockey, tennis and golf, holding the club championship at Meceola Country Club for a number of years.

Norm Bennett served as head track coach from 1956-1971, leading Ferris to three unbeaten seasons. He directed the building of and managed both Katke Golf Course and Ewigleben Ice Arena. Instrumental in administering the nation's first PGM program at Ferris, he also was head golf professional at Meceola Country Club from 1963-1976. Mr. Bennett was inducted into the Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame in 2001.

For more information or to make a gift to the Norman and Helen Bennett Memorial Endowment Fund, interested persons may contact Debra Jacks, director of planning giving, at 591-3817 or jacksd@ferris.edu.