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LaBelle Recognizes Four Holiday Inn Managers

BIG RAPIDS – Four Big Rapids Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center managers have been recognized by LaBelle Management for their outstanding leadership and commitment to providing quality customer service.

Justin Mortier, director of sales and 2000 Ferris Business Education graduate, and Brian Walch, chef, received LaBelle’s Pacesetter Award given to managers who have been at their property for less than 18 months, demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and contribute to the company’s growth. Both will receive a four-day, three-night stay at LaBelle’s Grand Beach or Sugar Beach Resorts in Traverse City

Will Matzen, Bennigan’s general manager, and Harry Brennan, chief engineer, received LaBelle’s Circle of Excellence Award given to managers who have been at their property for more than 18 months, exhibit excellent teambuilding and leadership skills and demonstrate financial responsibility. Both will receive a four-day, three-night stay at any LaBelle property of their choice.

The four were honored at LaBelle Management’s annual awards ceremony for its 360 managers held recently in Mt. Pleasant.

“It was my proudest night,” said Brad Schmitz, Holiday Inn general manager. “You can’t get anywhere without a quality team. Of the 36 awards presented, four went to our managers, which means they are in the top 10 percent of all managers.”

Schmitz said LaBelle offers leadership training for all its managers, including three annual seminars, and hospitality sales training for its hourly employees. Schmitz, a Michigan native, has been GM of the Holiday Inn and Conference Center since July 2001.