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Pioneer

January 18, 2005

Friends of Ferris help keep FSU in the political spotlight

Ferris State University and the community of Big Rapids have moved “Through the Years” together and continue their close ties as the community enters its 150th celebration year.

The Friends of Ferris, a political action committee for the university, has chosen “Through the Years” as theme for its 16th annual benefit dinner scheduled for Feb. 26 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center.

A lot of water has passed through the rapids on the Muskegon River as it winds through this city since Woodbridge N. Ferris founded his Big Rapids Industrial School in downtown Big Rapids in September of 1884.

Over the years, the city became more and more receptive to the educational institution as it grew into Ferris Institute, Ferris State College and finally Ferris State University.

Along the way, numerous community residents and organizations stepped forward to help keep the growing educational institution on track. Friends of Ferris is a great example.

The organization helps to raise funds for the political gamesmanship needed to help the university compete for higher education dollars at a time when state cutbacks have cut into the state’s expenditures for its 15-school system of universities.

FSU is among these institutions, offering many unique programs not available at any other state-supported university. And some of those programs are more costly than the norm, requiring a diligent observation of and involvement with the state’s political process to ensure recognition of the university’s special needs.

Come Feb. 26 the Friends of Ferris will hold a festive dinner and auction to raise funds for the work of this political actions through ticket sales of \$50 each and through live and silent auctions of 70 to 75 items.

You can help by donating items for the auction and or attending the dinner and auction where you can have a great time and benefit the university, as well.

Make plans to attend on Feb. 26 with the social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. and then the big auction.

Pioneer

January 18, 2005

One Person at a Time

“I Have a Dream” is one of the most famous phrases in American history and faculty, staff and students at Ferris State University kept his dream alive Monday in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Organizers designed a series of interactive events inspired by King’s vision of a free world, including “The Game of Life,” “Multimedia Tunnel of Oppression,” “The Albatross,” “Unveiling the Truth” and “The Meeting,” which all coincided with the university’s annual events to celebrate this day through a march and student tribute/celebration.

“We thought we would organize and expand on Martin Luther King Day,” Ferris Office of Minority Affairs College Day and Special Programs Coordinator Karyn Benner said. “We want people to remember what this day is all about. Even though we are aware of it, we want people to know why it is so important.”

Oppression goes beyond race and still is present within today’s society, Ferris Student Activities Coordinator Cindy Greenwood said. These programs were designed to promote awareness and let people know they can make a difference.

For example, “The Tunnel of Oppression” highlighted the historical, political and sociological aspects of oppressions and persecution using photographic and video images, as well as facts and statistics about racism, sexism, homophobia and domestic violence, among other forms of social injustice.

“If we can just spark a light into somebody.... We know one person can make a difference,” Benner said.

Added John Thorp, Ferris’s Jim Crow Museum director, “This is heavy duty material to work through... the images are overwhelming even though I am used to working with this material... but, the immediate interest turns into long-term thought and asks what about the future, what can you do to make things different?”

Engaging people to think about the possibilities was exactly what organizers did. Before leaving “The Tunnel of Oppression,” visitors were asked, “What will you do today?” “How will you change the world?”

Organizers know what one person can do and getting people to volunteer time or learn about different groups of people is how the community can change what happens everyday, Ferris Assistant Director of Residence Life Leroy Wright said.

“We want people to remember Martin Luther King’s dream,” he added.

Greenwood said, “It’s about inspiring people to act.”

Pioneer

January 18, 2005

FSU presents Big Rapids schools with plaques

BIG RAPIDS - Dan Jarzabkowski, representing the Ferris State University Department of Teacher Education, attended the Big Rapids Public Schools Board of Education meeting on Jan. 10.

He presented each building principal with an award plaque inscribed “(Building name) is hereby recognized as a teaching and learning site in partnership with Ferris State University.” Each award was signed and dated.

The awards were presented to give official notice of the appreciation and respect the university holds for each building and staff member. Annually, FSU places more than 300 students into schools in pre-teaching observation settings with certified staff. These teachers provide guidance and opportunities to see teaching in a field setting. The schools also help accept student teachers as they work on their teacher certification. Jarzabkowski and Karen Baar place FSU students in 12 local school districts.

“I work with 12 districts, over 60 buildings and several hundred teachers and staff each and every building principal has been very supportive in helping place students. Many teachers, as busy as they are, welcome these teachers-in-training into their rooms and give them help, encouragement and advice. They do it as a way of giving back to the profession. These plaques are a way of Ferris saying thanks, Jarzabkowski said,

The FSU School of Education’s Department of Teacher Education will award these plaques to other schools as they qualify and accept students from FSU. Big Rapids was one of the first districts and Department of Teacher Education personally presented the awards to highlight Big Rapids’ effort.

Pioneer

January 18, 2005

Brandalik steps down

BIG RAPIDS - After a successful two-plus year tenure as men's tennis coach at Ferris State, Kevin Brandalik) stepped down from that post last week.

In two seasons as head coach of the Bulldog men's tennis program, Brandalik led Ferris to back-to-back NCAA Division II Tournament appearances and, this past spring, to the Sweet Sixteen to finish 18-9. In his first game, at Ferris State, Brandalik guided earn to an 18-8 record and second finish in the Great Lakes collegiate Athletic Conference.

"His record speaks for itself ... For two years, he coached the team and did a nice job," Ferris State Athletics Director Tom Kirinovic said of Brandalik, who also served as a top tennis professional at the Racquet and Fitness Center? "We have an outstanding tradition in men's tennis and now we want to move on to continue that work and make things even better."

"We would like to thank coach Brandalik for his efforts with our men's tennis program over the past two seasons and wish him success in his future endeavors," he added. "Our focus is now on finding a head coach who can continue to build upon the outstanding men's tennis tradition at Ferris State."

Less than a week prior to his resignation, Brandalik was recipient of the United States Tennis Association/ intercollegiate Tennis Association Community Service Award for the Midwest section.

"I got an e-mail saying someone had nominated me for the award and I had gotten it, and it was a good feeling, but I think even more so it is an overall reflection of everything so many people here at the (Ferris State Racquet and Fitness Center) do in the community," he said in an article published in the Pioneer Dec. 20. "This is an award that could very easily have been won by Dave (Ramos, the Ferris women's tennis coach and also a professional at the racquet and fitness center) because he does all the same things I do... I really look at this as being a team award for everyone at the facility."

Brandalik coached the team in the fall through the Bulldog Team Invitational in Big Rapids and at the ITA Great Lakes Championships in Midland. Those events, which took place in late September, represented the only competition of the fall for the team. The balance of the team's schedule resumes Feb. 14 with a home exhibition contest against Grand Rapids Community College.

Following the scheduled exhibition with GRCC, is a long slate of matches that include contests against some of the premier Division II teams in the country. Also, Ferris has a full slate of GLIAC contests and the league tournament to play.

Kirinovic says the athletics department is not planning to rush into hiring a replacement for Brandalik

“At this point, we’re working under the premise we’ll try to manage our way through the season with the folks we have available to us, locally,” he said. “Assuming we get through that, then we would do a search to try and have someone in the position no later than August.”

A likely choice to fill in for Brandalik is Ramos.

“I can’t really say right now what we’re going to do, at this moment, but Dave is an option Kirinovic said.

Ramos already has assumed some of Brandalik’s duties.

“Right now, we’re forwarding: (men’s tennis office) phone calls through to me, but we haven’t really made any arrangements at this point; the women’s tennis coach said. Brandalik was contacted by the Pioneer, but declined to comment for this story.

Pioneer

January 18, 2005

Challenge will be great for next coach

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State, thanks in large part to its widely respected and unique Professional Tennis Management program, has built a long and rich tradition of men's tennis that dates back decades.

For more than two years, Kevin Brandalik built upon that success and added a few more building blocks to fortify the foundation. The team posted back-to-back 18-win seasons, NCAA Division II regional championships and trips to the national championships.

Brandalik, however, resigned last week from his post as head coach to create a vacancy in the men's tennis program.

This past spring, Ferris advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Division II Tournament before it was ousted by national power Rollins, 5-0. Prior to the match against the Tars, however, the Bulldogs defeated Kutztown (Pa.), 5-2, in the opening round.

"For a lot of years we were pretty much the only team that competed hard to be successful in tennis, but now there are other programs, like Northwood, competing hard to be successful in tennis and that makes the challenge even greater for the next coach," Ferris Athletics Director Tom Kirinovic said. "We're going to need to find someone who can continue what Kevin did the last couple of years.

"Next year, with the regional adjustments, the changes will bring Drury (Mo.) into our region and that will make things a lot tougher," he added. "They are one of the premier programs in Division II and that will help make the challenge that much greater."

Away from the competitive court, Kirinovic also knows how important summer adult and youth tennis camps are at Ferris State.

"Camps are very time consuming, and we would like to have someone in there for the camps, but I don't see us rushing to try and get someone in there before the start of the season or camps," he said. "It's important that we get the right person and not rush into this just to get someone right now."

Summer camps extend throughout the season as hundreds of boys, girls, men and women participate in the many different camp sessions. The last couple of years, Brandalik and Ferris women's tennis coach Dave Ramos have overseen a staff of 14-or-so a group that includes several varsity men's and women's players as well as Professional Tennis Management students and faculty.

Pioneer

January 18, 2005

Tunnel of oppression:

David Frank, head of the Ferris State University Physical Sciences Department, views material provided in the "Tunnel of Oppression" Monday afternoon in the Rankin Center Constitution Room on Ferris' campus. The tunnel was an interactive tour helping the community understand oppression, including racism, sexism, homophobia, domestic violence, war and other social injustices.

Pioneer

January 19, 2005

Ferris State University to present 'School for Scandal'

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University's Ferris Theatre will present "School for Scandal," a comedy by Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Jan. 27 through 29 at 8 p.m. and Jan. 30 at 2:30 p.m. in Williams Auditorium.

Tickets for the production are \$8 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors, and may be purchased at the Williams Auditorium box office or by calling (231) 591-5600.

The play originally opened at the Drury Lane Theatre in London in 1777 as an enormous success. Reviews heralded it as a "real comedy" that would supplant the sentimental dramas that had filled the stage in the previous years. It remains a standard for comedies of manner and is considered Sheridan's defining work.

His play takes audiences on a journey through London society at the time. Sir Peter Teazle has taken himself a young wife. But when it's rumored that Lady Teazle may be involved in an indiscretion with the handsome young gentleman, Joseph Surface, the gossips are off and running.

Acting as the social barometers of London, Lady Sneerwell, Mrs. Candour, Crabtree and Sir Benjamin Backbite hiss and spit their way through the play, taking aim at unsuspecting targets and hitting their marks every time.

The Ferris Theatre closes its 2004-05 season with "The Diviners" on April 14-17.

Pioneer

January 19, 2005

Ferris concert features Reel Big Fish, Finger Eleven

BIG RAPIDS - California band Reel Big Fish and the Canadian group Finger Eleven will co-headline Delta Chi's annual January Jams concert at Ferris State University's Wink Arena on Jan. 27 at 7 p.m.

The event is funded, in part, by the Student Activity Fund as allocated by Student Government, and was arranged with the assistance of Entertainment Unlimited. Tickets for Ferris students are \$8 and are limited to one per person with a student identification card. Admission for all others is \$12 per person. Tickets are being sold at the Ewigleben Sports Complex box office, Timme Center for Student Services and online at <Starticketsplus.com>.

Reel Big Fish is still thriving from "Sell Out" and "Beer," two hits off its 1996 album "Turn the Radio Off," that went gold. The group still sells out its tour dates nine years later with its own brand of entertainment.

"A Reel Big Fish show is like Kiss minus makeup and fireworks, plus horns and goofball antics and cover tunes and band and crowd alike enjoying themselves," said guitarist Scott Klopfenstein.

"We're good musicians," added lead vocalist Aaron Barrett. "There's meaning in some of the songs that people can relate to, even if it's told in a funny way sometimes."

The group defined the Third Wave Ska Movement in the 90's and has cultivated a solid fan base around the world with a non-stop tour schedule for the past 13 years. Its next album is due out this spring.

Finger Eleven, formed by mostly high school friends from Burlington, Ontario, first recorded in 1997. Its hit "Drag You Down" was featured in the second album, "The Greyest of Blue Skies," released in 2000.

The group's latest album (self titled), which took 18 months of writing and rehearsing, has been certified platinum in Canada and certified gold in the United States. The hit single, "Thousand Mile Wish," is featured on "Elektra - The Album," the soundtrack for the new movie of the same name starring Jennifer Garner, released Jan. 14.

Finger Eleven, which was chosen to tour Canada in 2003 with Ozzy Osbourne and Voivod, won best video at the 2004 MuchMusic Video Awards for its "One Thing" video.

The Grand Rapids Press

January 20, 2005

Grant pays for molding machine School will use machinery in its plastics class

NORTHVIEW -- Students in Northview's plastics class are excited about a new piece of equipment that has real-life applications.

During a recent education night banquet, the Western Michigan Society of Plastic Engineers presented a \$995 grant to Northview High School.

The funds will allow teacher Phil Klein to buy a new injection-molding machine, which he said would be used to demonstrate the process used to make car parts and other industry components.

"Almost everything in manufacturing is injection-molded," he said.

The new machine is not in use yet, but Klein said the high quality of the equipment would easily withstand the number of students that will use the machinery daily.

About 60 students are enrolled in Klein's plastics class, with many planning to make it their profession. With a potential \$45,000 starting salary and a high local demand, Klein said students could do worse, and initially he had considered a plastics career, but instead went into teaching.

Seniors Rob Stinson and Brad Rittenhouse see plastics as their future. Stinson, 17, plans to attend Ferris State University, and although Rittenhouse has not selected a school, he intends to head in that direction as well. Both say the starting salary is a factor in their decision to make a career in plastics.

Each year, a select group of students travels to Ferris State to learn about the school's plastics program. Big machines greet them, granting a glimpse of the future.

"I can't wait to use those things," Rittenhouse said.

At the present rate of replacement, it will be at least 20 years before the demand for plastic engineers is met, Klein said.

The Grand Rapids Press

January 20, 2005

Band leaps to big-city scene they're heading to Nashville to make it or break it in the music world

GRAND RAPIDS -- Five Year Echo dreams big.

Hoping to move beyond its current "local band" status, the rock band is finalizing plans to set up residence in Nashville, Tenn., to pursue a music career.

The Grand Rapids/Big Rapids quartet will need plenty drive, ambition and guts as they make the trek from West Michigan to the nationally renowned music hub.

Considering three of four band members will graduate in May with degrees in music industry management from Ferris State University, the transfer to a city with a thriving music scene was a natural choice. The city's music connections and affordable cost-of-living provide a good environment for the band to continue its music and real-world educations.

"We want the learning experience," guitarist and backing vocalist Tom Steimel said. "It's a music town. People come from all over to live and play there."

"I think it's just gonna kick our butts. We're going to have to work real hard and be competitive."

"Being exposed to so much different music and good musicians will allow us to learn a lot," drummer Don Schwehofer said. "There's a lot of rock down there. It's not just country. It's a diverse scene."

Steimel stressed the band is excited to have its music -- a blend of "straight forward" rock -- taken apart and analyzed by people in the music business.

"We all think we have some pretty good songs ... the potential is there," Steimel said. "We're looking forward to having people rip us apart."

"With people down there, it's not even a guessing game of how a song should sound ... Plus, it will be a little bit warmer."

Band lineup: Tom Steimel (guitar, backing vocals); Jerrad Reickard (singer); Don Schwehofer (drums); Mark Hutchins (bass); Sounds like: Pared down, guitar-driven rocks with a strong focus on quality song-writing. Steimel cites himself as "an aggressive guitar player, especially rhythmically," while Reickard draws on vocal influences ranging from Bing Crosby to Layne Staley.

Influences and personal favorites: The list includes Stone Temple Pilots, Alice in Chains, Sevendust, Jane's Addiction, Bing Crosby, North Mississippi All-Stars, Rollins Band

Albums: 5YE is recording a 13- to 14-track album in a friend's basement studio. The final product will be mixed at Audio Bay studios in Rockford, and the band is shooting for an early spring release. The band also has a three-song demo available.

Sharing the load; Reickard and Steimel do much of the songwriting and typically run ideas past the rest of the band in search of input. Steimel said everyone's varied tastes help to make the final sound more interesting than if the songwriting was a one-person process.

"I'll have ideas for a drum part, and (Reickard) will go at it completely differently," Steimel said. "He'll add a little funk to it."

Pioneer

January 20, 2005

One of Big Rapids' favorite sons

PISCATAWAY, N.J. - Coaching today, among the most prestigious college basketball programs in the nation, Gary Waters has never forgotten his roots.

Now head coach at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, Waters had it all begin or, at least a lot of it - right here in Big Rapids. After two seasons of college basketball at Oakland Community College, where he earned honorable mention All-American accolades, the Detroit native brought his basketball skills to Big- Rapid where he played two final years at Ferris State - for the late legendary head coach Jim Wink.

"I had a lot of respect for Jim Wink."

"I had a lot of admiration for everything he did as a coach and for everything he was as a person," said Waters, who currently is in his fourth season as head coach at Rutgers and has a career record of 148-log in nine seasons and is 5649 through three-plus years leading the Scarlet Knights. "I remember when I was first thinking about going to Ferris, as a player, and I got a letter from Jim Wink."

"He and I had a chance to meet, talk and get to know each other ... and it just seemed like we clicked right from the beginning," added the 2002 inductee into the Ferris State University Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame.

As a player, Waters earned All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors, and helped lead Ferris to a record of 47-10 in two seasons and averaged 12.4 points and 5.7 rebounds during his senior season.

Following his playing career, however, Waters spent 14 seasons as an assistant coach under Wink, and later under Tom Ludwig. During that time, the Bulldogs won six GLIAC championships and four times earned bids to the NCAA regional tournament.

Waters started at Ferris as the junior varsity coach (1975-78) became an assistant head coach (1978-85) and eventually earned the title associate head coach (1985-89). Waters, a graduate of Detroit's Mackenzie High School, had a tryout with the Pistons in 1974 after he had exhausted his eligibility at Ferris.

Playing in the NBA did not work out, but other plans for his future already were in the works.

Waters' mentor, Wink, kept his eye on one of his top protégés.

"I had always had a lot of respect for coach Wink, and when things didn't work out for me, playing pro ball, he told me I could have a spot on the coaching staff," said Waters, who coached his Scarlet Knights to the championship game of last season's National Invitational Tournament played in nearby New York City at Madison Square Garden,

known affectionately as “The World’s Most Famous Arena” - just a short ride from the Rutgers campus.

Waters earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration from Ferris in 1975 and earned a second degree from FSU, in business education, in 1978.

In between, he picked up his master’s in education administration from Central Michigan University in 1976.

Waters had options - along with a boatload of college degrees.

“I had done an internship with GM (General Motors) and they offered me a nice job, but I knew I wanted to coach,” Waters said. “I had spent a lot of time in Big Rapids and really felt comfortable in the community.”

After more than a decade of coaching success at Ferris, Waters moved on to serve on the staff at Eastern Michigan - a move that took him from Division II to Division I.

“I was really looking for a head coaching job and I remember coming back from the Final Four one year and running into Ben Braun (then the head coach at Eastern Michigan and the head man at the University of California-Berkley)”.

“He asked me what my objectives were, and I told him I wanted to be a head coach of a Division I program.”

“He told me I could get all of the Division II jobs in America, but if I wanted to be a Division I head coach I had to be on a Division I staff.”

Braun must have liked what he knew of Waters and heard during their conversations.

“He hired me (at Eastern Michigan) as an associate coach ... and, I was very fortunate for that,” conceded Waters, who along with wife Bernadette have two grown children, Sean and Seena, and three grandchildren.

Because of that opportunity, Waters was willing to leave a comfortable situation at Ferris to get himself on track for the possibility of being a Division I head coach.

Waters served as assistant head coach (1989 - 93) and associate head coach for the next three years of his seven at Eastern. During his coaching career at the Ypsilanti-based school, EMU won two MidAmerican Conference titles, made a trip to the Sweet Sixteen of the NCAA Tournament and earned a bid to the NIT.

It was then, however, Waters finally got his break.

He got his coveted Division I head coaching job - at Kent State (Ohio) where he proceeded to make waves for all mid-major college hoops programs.

Waters led Kent to a MAC title (1998-99) and upset of Indiana (77-73) in the 2000 NCAA Tournament.

He was a two-time (1999, 2000) MAC Coach-of-the-Year.

From there, Waters was offered and accepted the Rutgers head coaching job on April 6, 2001.

So much of his success, however, started in Big Rapids - more than 30 years ago.

“My two children were raised in Big Rapids and the foundation of my values was established there,” Waters said. “There will always be a strong bond between me and Ferris State and me and Big Rapids.”

Waters has implemented what he learned at Ferris in Piscataway, N.J.

“We believe in looking for quality in each potential recruit to Rutgers University,” he said. “We recruit only good people with moral fiber. We recruit young men who are hard workers and recruit only winners, student-athletes who have been a part of winning programs.”

It’s just like he learned from Jim Wink.

Pioneer

January 22 & 23, 2005

Gerbers create scholarship for architectural technology students

BIG RAPIDS - Russell Gerber, retired president of Gerber Construction Company in Reed City, and his wife, Avis, established an endowment to support scholarships for the Ferris State University College of Technology.

The distributed earnings from the Russell and Avis Gerber Scholarship Endowment Fund will be used for scholarships for fulltime students in Ferris' Architectural Technology Program. Candidates for the awards must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and must be need-based students who are motivated to succeed in the classroom and in their careers.

Gerber has maintained a close relationship with the construction management and architectural technology programs over the years. He presently serves on the university's Construction Technology and Management Advisory Committee. His wife supported him in his professional ventures while maintaining their home and helping to raise their children.

The Stanwood couple's son, Gary, is a 1977 College of Technology graduate and currently serves as an associate professor in the Ferris Architectural Technology and Facilities Management program.

For more information or to make a gift to the Russell and Avis Gerber Scholarship Endowment Fund, contact Carla Miller, associate vice president for advancement, at (231) 591 - 2391.

Pioneer

January 26, 2005

Ferris eyeballs idea of property purchase: thirty to 40 people affected

BIG RAPIDS - Forest Hills Mobile Home Park is slated to close and Ferris State

University (FSU) currently is negotiating with its owner the possibility of purchasing the land.

“We believe it is advantageous for the university to own because of its contiguousness to the university,” FSU Vice President of Administration and Finance Rick Duffett said. “It is the long-term interest and growth of the university that is the purpose of this plan.”

There are no projections by the university to develop the parcel at this time and if a decision is made to buy the land, located at 14400 Northland Drive south of town, the issue will go before the FSU Board of Trustees at its next meeting Feb. 26 at 1:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center.

The 30-acre parcel owned and operated by Patricia Stein, of Oakland County, is home to approximately 30 to 40 people, who were notified in a letter sent Monday of the owner’s plans to close the park, Stein’s lawyer Don Helder of Hults and Helder PLLC said.

A representative of Hults and Helder, Lynda Todd, is helping park occupants with the relocation process, as open lots in other local mobile home parks already are available, Helder said. “A sale to the university would be a natural fit and could provide an area for future campus expansion,” Todd said in a press release.

It is expected Forest Hills will close in mid March and a sale of the property will be completed shortly following the purchase, officials said.

Pioneer

January 26, 2005

Ferris hosts famed Preservation Hall Jazz Band

BIG RAPIDS - The Preservation Hall Jazz Band, direct from its hallowed quarters in the French Quarter and featuring the toe-tapping New Orleans jazz and heartfelt Southern spirituals for which the group has become world renowned, will perform next month at Ferris State University.

The group will present a concert on Feb. 12 at 8 p.m. in Williams Auditorium as part of the Live! at Williams Performing Arts Series. Prior to the event, Professor Harry Dempsey of FSU's Humanities Department will give a lecture on the "History of Jazz." The performance and lecture are supported by a grant from the Heartland Arts Fund, a program of Arts Midwest which is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Tickets are \$8 for students, \$22 for Ferris faculty and staff and \$24 for general admission, and can be ordered online at <www.ferris.edu/arts> or by phone at (231) 591-5600. The Williams Auditorium ticket office, located in the auditorium lobby at 901 S. State St., is open Monday through Friday from m a.m. to 4 p.m. and two hours before the performance. People needing special accommodations to attend this performance may call the auditorium office at (231) 591-3676.

Located in the French Quarter, Preservation Hall is a tiny tavern and living monument to the music and musicians of New Orleans. For more than 100 years, the players who have passed through its doors have kept the roots of America's indigenous art form alive. Members of the Preservation Hall Jazz Band perform nightly at the hall and since 1961 have toured about four months a year to bring authentic New Orleans jazz to audiences worldwide. The Preservation Hall players are hand-picked heirs of the musicians who invented the rich traditions of Southern jazz - trained, nurtured and turned loose on the world to carry the torch.

The group ranges in age from 31 to 88 and works to preserve the New Orleans jazz style and keep alive the traditions and history of this uniquely American sound. The tempo is a shade slower than the other jazz forms and the melody is always clearly heard with improvisation at its heart.

Hailed by the San Francisco Examiner as "The best jazz band in the land," the Preservation Hall Jazz Band is known for its high energy, crowd-satisfying performances.

Pioneer

January 26, 2005

Ferris observes V-day College Campaign

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University is observing V-Day, the global movement to stop violence against women and girls, with special programming Feb. 10.

As part of the national V-Day College Campaign, Ferris will present a benefit production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" at 7:30 p.m. in Williams Auditorium. The cast will include university students, faculty and staff members and community residents.

Ferris V-day programming is intended to raise awareness on the issue and generate funds to benefit Women's Information Services, Inc. (WISE). The event is sponsored by the Student Leadership and Activities office.

The V-Day College Campaign strives to empower women to find their collective voices and demand an end to the epidemic levels of violence and abuse on their campuses, in their communities and around the world. In its first seven years, the V-Day movement raised more than \$25 million.

Tickets for the performance are \$6 for students, \$10 for general admission and \$20 for the sponsorship level. They may be purchased at the auditorium box office or online at <www.ferris.edu/arts>. More information is available from Cindy Greenwood by calling (231)591-2606.

Detroit Free Press

January 27 2005

Schools Today: Achievements-

The Associated Food Dealers of Michigan has announced the recipients of the AFD Foundation/Pepsi Scholarship Challenge Drive for 2004. Students from across the state received \$1,500 scholarships for the 2004-OS school year. Local recipients included Michael Brown Jr. of Detroit, who is a freshman at Lawrence Tech University, where he is majoring in engineering. He graduated from Cass Tech High School in Detroit. Michael is the son of Cheryl Carroll and Michael Brown Sr. His scholarship was submitted by Central Distributors of Beer of Romulus.

-Ferris State University student Marcel Gooden, a junior from Detroit and a television and digital media production major in the College of Education and Human Services, was the recipient of a \$3,000 competitive national scholarship from the Orphan Foundation of America. He was raised by foster parents Roselean and Thomas Posley and graduated from Cooley High in Detroit.

-Multiple metro area high school choirs will be traveling to New York this summer to perform at Carnegie Hall as a combined ensemble representing some of the finest of Detroit's young musical talent. The concert, "Our American Music Heritage," will commemorate Independence Day.

Participating schools include Detroit Renaissance High School, directed by Nina Scott, and Detroit Southwestern High School, directed by Michelle Cotton-Stanfield. The performance will be June 29.

Do you have school news you'd like to see in your Community Free Press? Fax to 248-351-3698 or e-mail schoolstoday@freepress.com.

Pioneer

January 27, 2005

Friends of Ferris organizing annual benefit

Raising funds: Friends of Ferris is hosting its 16th annual benefit dinner Feb. 26 at 7 p.m., with a 5:30 p.m. social hour, at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center on Perry Street. Tickets are \$50 and available by contacting one of five event chairs: Marji Johnson, (231) 796-6506; Scott Hill-Kennedy, (231) 796-1649; Brad Schmitz, (231) 796-4400; Tom Weaver, (231) 796-4959; or Scott Whitney, (231) 796-8659. Organizers Whitney and Sueann Walz prepare to sell tickets while showing off one of several auction packages. This package of a Ferris quilt, mats and extra large pencil were donated by Whitney and his wife, Mari-Anne Whitney.

Pioneer

January 28, 2005

Defense Department honors FSU trustee

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University Trustee James K. Haveman Jr., of Grand Rapids, received the United States Department of Defense's highest civilian award for his work as the Coalition Provisional Authority Senior Advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Health.

Haveman last month was awarded the Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service during a formal Pentagon ceremony hosted by Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld. The award recognized his "exceptionally distinguished service of significance to the Department of Defense" during his efforts in leading the restoration and rebuilding of the Iraqi healthcare system from June 2003 to April 2004.

He worked at the Ministry of Health headquarters in downtown Baghdad daily and was the acting minister of health until the appointment of the Iraqi interim minister a September 2003. Haveman developed a budget and strategic plan reflective of the true healthcare needs of the Iraqi people, and led the effort for the travel of more than 44,000 Iraqi pilgrims to the Hajj. His award further cited that "his selfless dedication ensured the Iraqi healthcare system's rebirth and rehabilitation is on track and poised for success."

Haveman was appointed by Gov. John Engler in 2002 to an eight-year term on the Ferris Board of Trustees. He is currently with the Haveman Group, having previously served as director of the Michigan Department of Community Health since April 1966. Prior to that, he was director of the Michigan Department of Mental Health.

He received the National Governors' Association Distinguished Service Award in July 1997. In May 2000, Haveman received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Calvin College. A social worker by training, he is a 1966 graduate of Calvin and earned his master's degree in social work from Michigan State University.

Pioneer

January 28, 2005

Ferris State Artist Robert Barnum Unveils a new Masterpiece

BIG RAPIDS –“With Our Hands ... With Our Minds,” a Robert Barnum mural celebrating the 90th anniversary of Grand Rapids Community College, is being unveiled Wednesday. Barnum, professor and resident artist in the fine arts at Ferris State University, won a commission to create the mural in a competition held last summer. The 44.5-by-43-foot work, named in a campus-wide contest held last fall at GRCC, was recently installed by Barnum, students and employees over a period of three days.

The volunteers registered in hour blocks of time to help Barnum pull the fabric tightly and smoothly into its location over the bulkhead above the soon-to-be-completed Student Enrollment Center just inside the main doors of the historic Main Building. Spectators for the 6:30 p.m. unveiling will gather in the adjacent lobby. Barnum’s large and colorful mural represents the featured visual element of the anniversary observance. His work, which he began as a pencil sketch before painting the finished version, depicts notable events and faces associated with the college since it was established in 1914.

Barnum holds a master of fine arts degree in painting/printmaking from Idaho State University. He joined the Ferris faculty in 1989 and teaches a variety of fine arts studio courses, including painting, printmaking and sculpture.

He has created two striking works for the Ferris campus, “Visionary” Triptych in the Arts and Sciences Commons, and “Of Thought and Reason” mural in the Ferris Library for Information, Technology and Education. He also is involved with Ferris’ Michigan Art Walk project and created the Bulldog Athletic Tribute, a series of embossed sculptures that are part of the Bulldog Athletic Hall of Fame in the Ewigleben Sports Center. Barnum has created several other pieces of public art for the university’s campus and has won more than 30 awards in juried national and international fine art competitions.