

March 07, 2005-March 14, 2005

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**MI Biz West**  
March 07, 2005

**People-Economic Development**

BIG RAPIDS - Ronald E. Snead Sr. of Greenville, vice president of corporate relations for Dixien LLC, was appointed to an eight-year term to the Ferris State University Board of Trustees.

## **Pioneer**

March 08, 2005

### **Ferris State students aid state program**

BIG RAPIDS - College of Pharmacy students from Ferris State University are helping the medically underserved in Michigan at one of four sites established under the Michigan State Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program.

Two Ferris pharmacy students are currently working in the Ferguson Adult Health Center, one of the Cherry Street Health Services clinics in Grand Rapids. The clinic at the Cherry Street Health Center houses the Western AHEC -office, according to Cambria DeHoag.

Dr. DeHoag, an associate professor of pharmacy practice at the Ferris College of Pharmacy off campus site in Grand Rapids, serves as a preceptor for Ferris' AHEC students. Two new students rotate to the site every two months and 16 students in all have served there since the program began.

DeHoag said that from one to four Ferris students would be placed later this year in a model teaching nursing home that is being developed and implemented as part of the AHEC program. In addition, she noted that discussions have been held regarding the establishment of a tele-pharmacy network for selected federally-qualified family health centers and that faculty involvement in the program will increase in the two remaining years of the grant.

AHEC, which aims to increase the number of health care providers to the populations of underserved areas of Michigan, is funded through a three-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and is matched by state and local funds.

The AHEC mission is to enhance access to quality health care, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of health care professionals through community/academic educational partnerships.

The AHEC coordinating office at Michigan State University is supplemented by the regional sites in Grand Rapids, Okemos and Marquette. More than three-quarters of Michigan's counties are designated by the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis (NCHWA) as either a partial- or full-county Medically Underserved Area/Population, and NCHWA estimates that almost a third of Michigan's citizens live in communities with a severe shortage of primary care physicians.

**Pioneer**  
**March 08, 2005**

**Ferris Emeriti Association meets Wednesday**

BIG RAPIDS - The Ferris Emeriti Association will gather in the lobby of the College of Arts & Sciences on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. for a tour of the Card Wildlife Center.

At its conclusion, there will be refreshments and an opportunity to assist the Flite Archives & Special Collections personnel by helping identify people and places at Ferris from copies of old photographs.

For any questions, contact Jim Jacobs at (231) 796-5271.

## **Pioneer**

March 08, 2005

### **Monitor ignites blaze**

**Fire controlled:** Members of the Big Rapids Township Fire Department (BRTFD) and the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety - Fire Division extinguished an apartment fire at the new Oakwood Townhouses on 14 Mile Road Monday afternoon. According to BRTFD Chief Rex Richardson, the cause of the fire was a computer monitor. The apartment's occupants, all Ferris State University students, were not at home when the fire began, and nobody was injured in the incident.

## **Pioneer**

March 09, 2005

### **Bulldogs, Cardinals move on to next level**

Two community sports teams are poised to represent Ferris and Big Rapids in state and national tournaments tonight and Saturday.

Our congratulations go out to Bill Sall and his Ferris State University men's basketball squad as they prepare to participate in the NCAA Division II tournament for the first time since the 1997'98 season.

After capturing their second straight Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title, the Bulldogs faltered in the semifinal round of the conference tournament, losing to Wayne State 68-63. ,

But, at 22-6 on the season and ranked No. 19 in the nation, no one was surprised to see them get an at-large bid to the national dance.

The Bulldogs will open play Saturday as the third seed, squaring off against sixth seed Indianapolis (19-9) in regional action hosted by the University of Findlay, the top seeded team in the region.

In addition, a large contingent of Cardinal hockey supporters will be on the road today to cheer on their Big Rapids hockey heroes in a quarterfinal contest against Hancock at 7 p.m. at Pullar Ice Arena in Sault Ste. Marie.

The Cardinals lost to Calumet in the quarterfinal two years ago.

Big Rapids entered the regional this year as a long shot to highly ranked Cadillac and Gaylord, but arose to the occasion beating those two powerhouse teams before knocking off Cheboygan to earn its trip to the U. P.

Coach Brian Guiney said he knew all along his team was capable of playing with the best teams in the state. The Cardinals will have another chance to prove him right tonight. Here's hoping they haven't peeked yet and the best is still to come.

## **Pioneer**

March 09, 2005

### **'An Evening with Mark Twain' comes to Ferris**

BIG RAPIDS – “An Evening with Mark Twain,” a recreation of an actual lecture that the world famous humorist and author would have given during his highly-acclaimed world tour culminating in 1905, will be staged March, 19 at Ferris State University.

Critically acclaimed New York actor Michael Mauldin brings this theatrical tour-de-force to the stage, having toured the country several times with the show since 1976. He undergoes a make-up transformation of almost three hours to achieve an uncanny likeness to the 70-year-old “Grand Old Man of American Letters.”

The performance is the final presentation of the 2004-05 Live! at Williams Performing Arts Series and begins at 8 p.m. in Williams Auditorium. In conjunction with the production, Ferris will conduct special make-up and acting workshops earlier that day.

In his customary white suit and ever-present cigar, Twain, takes his audience through a panoply of comedy, gentle reminiscence, biting social satire, and often dark commentary on the human condition, all seen through the eyes of a man who was at the top of the literary and social spectrum, for most of his life. Having, reached the age and level of esteem where he felt free to say, what was on his mind, he had no fear of censure.

In addition to his five national tours covering more than 40 of the United States, Mauldin's performance as Twain has aired on PBS, NPR, and was adapted into a one hour ABC special titled “Mark Twain: Sketches from Life.”

Tickets are \$8 for students, \$22 for Ferris faculty and staff and \$24 for general admission, and can be ordered online at [www.feras.edu/arts](http://www.feras.edu/arts) or by calling (231) 591-5600. The Williams Auditorium ticket office, located in the auditorium lobby, is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and two hours before the performance. Persons needing special accommodations to attend this show may call the auditorium office at (231) 591-3676.

STAGE-M, the local community theater group, and Live! at Williams are offering a make-up workshop from noon to 2 p.m. presented by Rose Kurayviec. She will guide participants through the application of basic make-up for the stage. All persons participating will receive a make-up kit for their own use.

Mauldin will present an acting workshop, titled “Acting Without Fear.” beginning at 2:30 p.m. The session provides “a simple, direct approach to acting” and is geared for the beginning student. It is also ideal for those students who are just starting in acting training, or who may be having difficulties with the symptoms of “stage fright.” This workshop includes a ticket to “An Evening with Mark Twain.”

The cost for the workshops is \$25 for each session. Registration may be made by contacting the auditorium ticket office.

## **Pioneer**

March 10, 2005

### **Student charged with criminal sexual assault**

BIG RAPIDS - A Ferris State University student accused of criminal sexual assault is in jail pending preliminary examination in 77th District Court.

Kabelo E. Selemogo, 36 of Botswana, Africa, was arraigned March 2. According to Big Rapids Department of Public Safety Director Kevin Courtney, Selemogo's charges stem from a sexual assault on a woman he knew.

"This was a criminal sexual assault acquaintance situation," Courtney said. "The victim called us as soon as (Selemogo) left her apartment. We arrested him within an hour or so." The alleged assault is said to have taken place March 1.

Selemogo's preliminary examination is scheduled for March 17 at 1 p.m.

The Republic of Botswana is situated in Southern Africa, between South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Selemogo is in the United States as a student.



## **The Grand Rapids Press**

March 12, 2005

### **Awards and achievements**

Vern Ohlman, founding partner and chief executive officer of Design Plus, received recognition by the Western Michigan Business Review as a business mentor and for more than 25 years of leadership. His designs include the GVSU DeVos Center and Center for Health Sciences the Grand Rapids Art Museum and Millennium Park.

Henry Prins, a manager buyer with DeHamer Bros. Landscaping & Garden Center, was recently named a Michigan Certified Nurseryman by the Michigan Certified Nurseryman Committee of the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association.

**Susan Hastings-Bishop, professor of recreation leadership and management at Ferris State University, was chosen to receive the Michigan Campus Compact's Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award.**

## **Pioneer**

March 12 & 13, 2005

### **Ferris HVACR program receives donation**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University's Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Department recently received a state-of-the-art, custom-built, microprocessor-based, parallel refrigeration system donated by St. Cloud Refrigeration, Inc. of Minnesota.

St. Cloud Refrigeration is owned and operated by Mike Fitch and Pat Welty, who worked with Ferris Professor John Tomczyk in developing the refrigeration system. Tomczyk teaches the commercial refrigeration class where the new parallel refrigeration system now is housed.

The system will be an actual working piece of equipment for students to utilize in the HVACR Technology associates degree program, said Tomczyk. It contains a diverse array of electronic and pressure-operated valves, an Einstein electronic controller, three parallel compressors, a sophisticated oil management system, a split suction header, pressure transducers, and many pressure temperature sensing instruments that perform energy efficient refrigeration as needed in a modern day supermarket.

Other companies contributing to the project were: Alco Controls Division; Computer Process Controls; Copeland Compressor Corp.; Gustave Larson, Inc.; Henry Valve Company; Refrigeration Research, Inc.; Sporlan Valve Company; and Zero Zone Refrigeration, Inc.

## Midland Daily News

March 13, 2005

### **Midland's Myers eyes shot at NFL**

Kevin Myers is doing all of the right things.

He's changed his diet. He's working out five or six hours a day. He's hooked up with a sports agent. He's got his mind right -- focused and confident.

Next, he waits for an opportunity.

Myers, a two-time All-American linebacker at Ferris State and a graduate of Midland High, is getting prepared for a crack at the NFL.

"I know I can play at that level," Myers said this past week in a telephone interview from the Chicago area, where he is training with a handful of other pro prospects. "I just need to show that I can play safety."

That's the catch for Myers right now.

For Myers to make it in the NFL, he believes he has to do it as a safety. In college, he was a 5-foot, 10-inch, 210-pound linebacker. That won't cut it in the pros.

So, the 23-year-old Myers, who finished the 2004 season at Ferris with 133 tackles, is focusing his entire workout on transitioning to another position -- strong safety. He's revamped his entire diet, eliminating all junk food and being selective about what he eats, and his workouts revolve around drills that make him faster and more agile.

As a defensive back, it's all about speed, agility and reaction.

"I'm working hard on my DB (defensive back) drills -- things like backpedaling and rotating my hips. I need to show them I can do all that stuff," Myers said. "I know the big question for some (NFL teams) is why I didn't play (safety) in college."

Myers has a couple of big dates coming up; his chance to show NFL scouts what he can do. On back-to-back days this week, at Ferris State and at Saginaw Valley State University, Myers will be tested by pro scouts in what is termed "Pro Days" in the business.

He'll run agility drills. He'll be timed in the 40. He'll pump iron. He'll be measured in the vertical jump. He'll be put through two to three hours of strength, speed and agility workouts.

"Right now I'm running about a 4.6 (second) 40. I need to get that below 4.6. It looks better to be running in the high 4.5s than the low 4.6s," Myers said.

The information at the "Pro Day" is shared throughout the league.

“I think we’ll have a better idea of what will happen to him after these pro days,” said Adam Robbins, Myers’ Chicago based agent. “Right now we see him as a free agent-type player, but a best-case scenario would be that he’s a late-round draft pick.”

One website, the Consensus Draft Services, has Myers ranked as the 18th best safety in the nation. It says about him, “Myers will be tried out at safety in the NFL, probably an undrafted free agent, but we know he can tackle. If he proves to be excellent in coverage he has an excellent chance of making it in the NFL.”

Myers is thinking that he’ll end up being a free agent pick up for some NFL team, possibly the Detroit Lions. He knows the Lions have a history of signing players from the state, including the GLIAC, in which Myers excelled as an all-league player.

“It doesn’t matter to me who I’m with. I just want a chance to prove myself,” Myers said.

“All I need is a chance because I believe I have the athletic talent to play football in the NFL.”

Myers says he’s already played against a couple of NFL players in high school -- Charles Rogers (Saginaw High) of the Lions and Stu Schweigert (Saginaw Heritage) of the Oakland Raiders.

“I played against some big-time talent in high school,” he said. “I’m confident in myself. I know what I can do.”

## The Grand Rapids Press

March 13, 2005

### Awards and achievements

Sharon M. Apol, executive assistant at Design Financial Group, was awarded the Fellow, Life Management Institute designation by LOMA.

Wade-Trim was recognized with a Water Quality Award by the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners for the Duck Lake sanitary sewer system and Crystal Township wastewater treatment plant project.

Cascade Engineering, Mercantile Bank and Smith, Haughey, Rice & Roegge received the 16th annual Employer Recognition Awards sponsored by the Women's Resource Center.

Carrie Corbin, WGVU's programming manager, was inducted into the Silver Circle by The National Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Felder Communications Group received a Gold Award for advertising excellence by the Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International. The award was for the 2004 Profile for the Gerald R Ford International Airport.

Michelle Jensen of the Dan Charles Agency obtained her Life and Health Insurance license. Kim Bakker received her Property & Casualty Insurance license.

**Dr. Oliver H. Evans was honored by the Western Michigan Business Review for almost 40 years in education, for his leadership at Kendall College of Art and Design and for his role in guiding the merger of Ferris State University and Kendall in 2001.**

A design by Scott Tiedgen, a senior graphic design student at Kendall College of Art and Design, submitted to the Presidents Council of State Universities of Michigan logo competition was selected to represent the group's Governor's University Award for Commercialization Excellence program.

## **Pioneer**

March 14, 2005

### **Task force continues promoting message at FSU**

BIG RAPIDS - Pedestrian safety entails more than looking both ways before crossing the street. A community that is safe for bicyclists, motorists and pedestrians includes the right engineering, educational tools and enforcement.

Enter the Ferris State University Pedestrian Safety Task Force, which today is taking its message to the next level: enforcement.

Pedestrian Safety Mobilization is an extension of the educational efforts of the task force, FSU Department of Public Safety Director Martin Bledsoe said. The purpose of this step is to continue improving community members' level of education about the issue.

Bledsoe, who also heads the task force consisting of local law enforcement and city and township and state officials, stressed that enforcement does not mean police chasing violators around Ferris' campus or even through Big Rapids. What it does mean is increasing public awareness which in turn increases compliance with the law.

"I like to use the statement, 'Warnings and tickets heal quickly; broken bones and broken hearts ran last a lifetime,'" Bledsoe said.

James Santilli Jr., of the Michigan Highway Traffic Safety Alliance, points out enforcement efforts aren't meant to be a falling hammer on the community rather a way to teach people laws which serve to protect their safety.

According to 2003 Michigan State Police figures of the latest crash facts, 169 pedestrians were killed and for each person killed, 14.7 people were injured. One pedestrian was injured every three hours and 32 minutes and one bicyclist was injured every four hours and 54 minutes, figures show.

"We want to emphasize it's about safety and getting people to comply with the law ... both pedestrians and motorists," Santilli said.

Getting people to comply with the law started in 2003 at the end of the State Street resurfacing project, Bledsoe said. Barriers, plants and shrubs were placed along this thoroughfare encouraging pedestrians to use crosswalks. Proper signage and signals also helped ensure people were able to cross the street safely.

After the engineering portion of the project was completed, task force officials set out on campus to spread their message through meetings with residence hall directors and student leaders, he added. Now, the educational process is hitting the streets.

"This is what traffic safety is all about: education. ... Getting the community to think and talk about pedestrian safety," Bledsoe said.

## **Pioneer**

March, 14, 2005

### **Students help plan, design new hotel**

BIG RAPIDS - Five students from the Ferris State University College of Business will have their imprint on a new luxury hotel being planned for downtown Grand Rapids.

The Ferris hospitality program was chosen by Alticor, Inc., the parent company of Amway Hotel Corp., to conduct a marketing research project for the new Marriott International Hotel opening in the summer of 2007. The 24-story, 340-room hotel will be built across Pearl Street from the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

Ferris' Julie Doyle, coordinator of hospitality programs, selected a graduate student and four hospitality students to complete the research. The project manager was Amy Dorey, of Stanwood, adjunct faculty member and master of business administration graduate student.

The students chosen were: sophomore Joseph Madison, of Ada; sophomore Benjamin Powell, of Manton; senior Stephan Sepanski, of Waterford; and senior Susan Veine, of Manistee.

The students worked together for the past three months using a Marriott analysis software tool to identify food and beverage concept opportunities in Grand Rapids.

The team stayed at the Amway Grand Plaza, completed personal surveys, compiled demographics, spoke with the Grand Rapids/Kent County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and identified attractions in Grand Rapids, analyzed local food and beverage competition, and compiled their findings into a formal poster and Power Point presentation.

The first presentation was made in February at the Ferris Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center for university administrators and George Aquino, general manager, and Darin Jemison, food and beverage director, representatives from the new Marriott Hotel.

The next step for the Ferris students' team is to make its final presentation later in March to the members of management from Marriott, as well as the architect and interior designers from Chicago and New York who will be implementing the research findings.

## **Pioneer**

March 14, 2005

### **Harris' confirm belief in nursing education**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University Vice President for Academic Affairs, Michael Harris, and his wife, Tali, confirmed their deep regard for the quality of nursing education by establishing an endowment to fund student excellence through nursing scholarships.

The Tali and Michael Harris Student Excellence in Nursing Endowment will recognize fulltime juniors in the bachelor of science in nursing program who show academic and clinical achievement. Candidates must earn a minimum 3.5 grade point average and submit an essay describing their career aspirations and professional values and goals.

“Since beginning her careers as a nurse, Tali has focused her professional efforts to ensure the effective delivery of patient care while enhancing excellence through nursing education.” Dr. Harris said, adding, “Nursing excellence is the result of rigorous academics combined with compassion and interpersonal skills.”

“We have established this scholarship endowment to help future nurses gain access to the educational and practical experiences that will enable them to serve as advocate, teacher, supporter and protector as they provide outstanding care to their patients,” he continued.

Harris joined Ferris in July 2004 from a position as associate provost and professor of political science at Eastern Michigan University, where he received the university's Distinguished Teaching Award and the Alumni Teaching Excellence Award. He has written three books and published numerous articles.

Tali has worked as a registered nurse for close to 30 years in a variety of different health care settings and leadership positions, including as an instructor in nursing school. Both Michael and Tali expressed appreciation for the quality and dedication of the faculty and staff in the School of Nursing at Ferris.

More information or gift forms for the Tali and Michael Harris Student Excellence in Nursing Endowment are available by contacting Debra Jacks, director of planned giving, at (231) 591-3879 or <[jacksd@ferris.edu](mailto:jacksd@ferris.edu)>.



## **Pioneer**

March 14, 2005

### **Study abroad program focuses on safety**

BIG RAPIDS- The study Abroad Office at Ferris State University has received a \$1,500 award after submitting a winning entry for its program to prepare students for emergencies they might encounter while studying abroad.

The recognition came from the Michigan Universities Self Insurance Corporation (MUSIC) which had sponsored a safety incentive program for the 15 Michigan public universities according to Debbie Carley, Ferris study abroad coordinator. The safety initiatives were to be student focused efforts by faculty and staff directed toward student safety and security in an international destination.

Some of the points Carley highlighted about the Ferris program were student advising, a pre-departure orientation session, on-site orientation and insurance and the benefits of this preparation to the students, faculty and university. Her efforts enabled Ferris to split the total award of \$3,000 with Eastern Michigan University. Carley said the funds would be used to enhance the program.

While education abroad programming for United States students dates back more than 60 years, its period of greatest growth encompasses the last few decades, said Carley. In 1997, the Interorganizational Task Force on Safety and Responsibility in Study Abroad was formed by the Council on International Educational Exchange, the Association of International Education Administrators and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

Ferris began its centralized study abroad process after Carley became the program coordinator in 1998 and safety initiatives have since been a major focus of her work. She noted that the policies and procedures developed serve to protect the university and the students and faculty, while maintaining the academic integrity of Ferris' study abroad programs. They are in keeping with the best professional practices in the study abroad field, she said.

More information on the Ferris Study Abroad program may be obtained by contacting Carley at (231) 591-3921 or by e-mailing <carleyd@ferris.edu>.

## **Pioneer**

March 14, 2005

### **Ferris hosts annual bridge competition**

BIG RAPIDS - The annual Spaghetti Bridge competition conducted by Ferris State University is scheduled for Friday and Saturday in the Rankin Center.

Twenty-two schools are registered to compete, including local entries from Big Rapids, Chippewa Hills, Crossroads Charter Academy, Morley Stanwood, Pine River and Reed City. The two-day contest features a written report, oral presentation, authentic bridge design and load-bearing competition.

Members of each of the top three teams receive partial scholarships to Ferris and the top five teams are awarded cash prizes. The actual bridge building occurs on the second day of competition when each team constructs the strongest structure possible using two pounds of dry spaghetti and glue. The bridges are then tested for weight-bearing capacity.

The public is welcome to view the weight-bearing competition on Saturday morning in the Rankin Center Dome Room beginning at 11 am.

## **Pioneer**

March 14, 2005

### **Community joins forces to promote reading**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University is collaborating with several on-campus and local educational units to observe March is Reading Month and Save Your Vision Month.

The School of Education and the Michigan College of Optometry (MCO) are joining with the university's Tot's Place and the Big Rapids Head Start program to conduct an early literacy project that culminates March 21.

At 10 a.m., all Tot's Place and Head Start classes will meet in the large motor room of Tot's Place in Bishop Hall to hear a celebrity reading session by Thomas Langdon, superintendent of Big Rapids Public Schools. Immediately following the reading, "judges" from the Ferris ROTC program and MCO students will review the children's "I Spy" art work and present gifts to each classroom. The event concludes with everyone sharing a piece of Dr. Seuss' birthday cake.

As part of this event, children will take home an early literacy information packet for their family. The packet contains tips for parents on how and why to read to children, how to select an appropriate book, signs of a vision problem that parents should be aware of, tips for enhancing a child's visual development, bookmarks and an age-appropriate book for each child.

In addition, the MCO's Optometry Student Government is conducting numerous classroom visits in area elementary schools for Save Your Vision Month activities and Tot's Place is having several celebrity readers, including Ferris President David Eisler and Big Rapids Director of Public Safety Kevin Courtney.