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## **Pioneer**

April 07, 2005

### **Samuels to speak on DNA testing laws**

BIG RAPIDS - Attorney Jim Samuels is the keynote speaker for the College of Education and Human Services' (EHS) Alumni Return Day today (Thursday).

Samuels, former Mecosta County prosecutor and a 1975 EHS graduate, will talk on "The Laws that Permit DNA Testing of Biological Evidence" at 7 p.m. in the College of Pharmacy Auditorium 101.

Samuels recently was elected chair of the Innocence Project Commission, a project housed at Cooley Law School and funded by the Michigan Bar that relies on law school students to review cases to see if people have been wrongfully convicted. EHS alumni and community members are invited to attend the speech, which is sponsored by Ferris' School of Criminal Justice.

## **Pioneer**

April 07, 2005

### **Pharmacy society to conduct free screening**

BIG RAPIDS - The College of Pharmacy's chapter of Phi Lambda Sigma, a national pharmacy leadership society, is conducting a free health screening April 13.

The screening is open to the public and is being held in the Pharmacy Building's model pharmacy from 3 to 7 p.m. Phi Lambda Sigma members, with the assistance of pharmacy faculty, will check cholesterol, blood glucose and blood pressure.

According to group spokesperson Leonard Warren, the screening can accommodate only 70 people due to a limited number of test kits. He also noted that test results are most accurate following a nine hour fast.

## **MI BIZ West**

April 07, 2005

### **Design & 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**

April 08, 2005

### **Freeing the innocent**

BIG RAPIDS - Ken Wyniemko didn't know the victim: He'd never seen her; spoken with her ... he certainly hadn't raped or robbed her. But Wyniemko had the misfortune of resembling, vaguely, a police composite produced from the victim's sketchy description.

An anonymous call put police on Wyniemko's doorstep. The date was July 14, 1994. Wyniemko - who managed bowling alleys for a living and had no police record - was asleep in bed when the knock came on his door.

"I answered the door in a pair of gym shorts," Wyniemko said. "There was a young lady standing there in a business suit who asked if my name was Ken Wyniemko. I said yes." Seconds later, he found himself tackled to the floor, handcuffed, and surrounded by plainclothes police officers who refused to answer his questions.

Wyniemko was taken to the police station in Clinton Township, where he was denied access to an attorney and forced to participate in a lineup.

The victim at first failed to identify Wyniemko, but after some "coaching" was able to say she was "60-percent sure" he was the man who had robbed and raped her.

Despite this tentative identification, Wyniemko was released. Police were waiting for him at his home and said they wouldn't allow him to enter until they had received and executed a search warrant.

"My dad was with me," said Wyniemko. "He was 76 then and he got all nervous and started crying. He said I could go with him to his house," which they did. Later, Wyniemko returned home to find the interior in complete disarray, the result of the police search. He spent that evening cleaning house and putting things back in order.

The next day, coming home from work with a bagful of groceries he'd picked up at Meijer, Wyniemko was again surrounded by several police cars.

"Drop your groceries and put your hands on the car," said one officer.

Wyniemko describes the scene this way: "There were several cop cars all around me, and several cops had their guns out, pointing at me." Wyniemko dropped his groceries, and was cuffed and arrested for the second time. According to Wyniemko, the arresting officer said, "I'm going to call you the Million Dollar Man, because when we're done ----ing with you it'll cost you a million dollars to see daylight again." Wyniemko was held without bond.

At one point in his incarceration prior to trial, prosecutors took Wyniemko's cell mate to the police station for interrogation. After explaining to the cell mate they were willing to

“cut a deal” in exchange for his testimony against Wyniemko, they left, leaving behind Wyniemko's case file and police report.

The cell mate read them carefully, and when prosecutors returned, he willingly regurgitated the information from the file. The possible life sentence he had been facing was reduced to one year in jail.

Based primarily on the cell mate's testimony and the flimsy identification of the victim, Wyniemko was convicted and spent nearly 10 years behind bars before coming to the attention of the Innocence Project.

It would be bad enough if Wyniemko's case were an isolated incident. But according to Big Rapids attorney James Samuels, it's not isolated at all. In fact, wrongful convictions are far more common than anyone would like to believe or admit.

“It happens frequently,” said Samuels. Which is one of the reasons he became involved with the Innocence Project.

Founded by Barry C. Scheck and Peter J. Neufeld in 1992, the Innocence Project is a non-profit legal clinic and criminal justice resource center which works to exonerate the wrongfully convicted, primarily through post-conviction DNA testing. The project also seeks to develop and implement reforms in an effort to prevent wrongful convictions.

Handling only cases where DNA testing might yield conclusive proof of innocence, project representatives work in every state in the union. Students handle the lion's share of the case work under the supervision of attorneys and clinic staff. According to Scheck, “Most of our clients are poor, forgotten, and have used up all of their legal avenues for relief. The hope they all have is that biological evidence from their cases still exists and can be subjected to DNA testing. All Innocence Project clients go through an extensive screening process to determine whether or not DNA testing of evidence could prove their claims of innocence. Thousands currently await our evaluation of their cases.”

After hearing of the circumstances surrounding Wyniemko's case, Innocence Project lawyers and a reporter from a Detroit newspaper went to Clinton Township and began an investigation. That investigation revealed several key pieces of evidence which had never been presented at trial, including both semen and pubic hairs recovered from the scene of the crime. Other evidence included a cigarette butt, supposedly smoked by the rapist.

Testing proved beyond any doubt that Wyniemko could not have been the perpetrator.

None of this happened quickly, however. Investigators requested testing of the evidence in December of 2001. It wasn't until June of 2003 that Wyniemko was freed.

After 3 1/2 years at Jackson Prison and another six at Ryan Correctional Facility in Detroit, Wyniemko was finally a free man.

Wyniemko's father died while Wyniemko was in prison.

On Thursday evening, both Wyniemko and Samuels spoke at Ferris State University, explaining the ongoing work of the Innocence Project and its importance to both those wrongly incarcerated and the public at large.

Because of police and prosecutorial misconduct, not only was Wyniemko imprisoned for 10 years for a crime he did not commit, but the man who actually committed the rape and robbery is still out there, somewhere.

More information about the Innocence Project is available at the organization's Web site, <<http://www.innocenceproject.org>>.

## Detroit News

April 08, 2005

### **KKK auction back in county**

HOWELL -- Chris Janzer understands why a Howell auctioneer had a hard time finding a home for his second auction of Ku Klux Klan items.

Janzer, a Howell resident, doesn't want his city to have the stigma of hosting a Klan auction, and he believes residents in other areas feel the same. Livingston County for years has tried to shake its reputation as a place that's unfriendly to minorities, he said.

“People that have lived here a while are probably sick of the reputation,” said Janzer, 26.

“People who move here don't like the stigma. There have been times when I haven't wanted to say I live here.”

The second auction will be held in Mason in Livingston County on Sunday after the auctioneer, Gary Gray, was forced to find a new location three times. His first auction of Klan items was in January in Howell.

The auction will only add to the perception of Livingston County -- Howell in particular as a racist place and that's not fair, Janzer said.

Sue Baczkiewicz, a longtime Howell resident, said the second auction only degrades her city.

“We're beyond this prejudice,” Baczkiewicz said. “This is not Howell.” There is a history of KKK activity in Livingston County. Former KKK Grand Dragon Robert Miles lived in Cohoctah Township, north of Howell, where he burned crosses and held KKK rallies. He died in 1992. There have been other instances of racism in the county over the years. An auction of KKK paraphernalia at the Ole' Gray Nash Auction Gallery earlier this year stirred up many of those memories.

Local leaders condemned the auction, saying the items and the auction don't represent Howell or Livingston County. Some raised money to buy one of the robes through the Livingston 2001 Diversity Council, a local group that promotes tolerance throughout the region.

**The group bought the robe for \$700 and donated it to the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University in Big Rapids. The group intended the purchase to serve as a statement that Howell embraces diversity and not the racist incidents of its past.**

But the media storm that followed the auction also brought out more people who want to sell hate-group paraphernalia, Gray said. He said he doesn't endorse any of the group's politics or actions. He sees the items as pieces of history.

“I do this because I like history and antiques,” Gray said.

Gray agreed to sell his new items at the Sunday auction. Local leaders and residents again are condemning the auction.

“Why bring a bunch of old dirt up that we don’t care about anymore?” Baczkiewicz said. “It’s not us.”

About half of the hundreds of items that will be auctioned off are from the Miles estate in Livingston County. The paraphernalia fills Gray’s auction house. The first auction started out with a single KKK robe. The second auction has racks of them of all shapes, sizes and colors. There also are items ranging from a copy of “Mein Kampf,” Adolf Hitler’s autobiography, to a collection of Black Panther magazines.

Locating enough items for the auction hasn’t been a problem for Gray. Finding a place to hold the auction has proven much more difficult. “This one has caused me a lot of stress, and it shouldn’t have,” Gray said.

He held the first auction in his auction house in downtown Howell. Hundreds of people flooded his storefront and the area around it to either attend or protest.

Gray had booked the auction in two other locations before coming back to Livingston County. The first location in Flint canceled Gray’s reservation when local media started to ask questions. The second place, Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw Township, canceled Gray’s reservation earlier this week.

“As soon as we were aware of what it was about we canceled it,” Horizons’ General Manager Peter Shaheen said. “They sort of misrepresented themselves to us. They said it was an antique auction.”

Gray disagrees, saying he was upfront with them. He then tried to hold the auction under a large tent in a field in Handy Township near the corner of Hogback and Sharpe roads. Again he faced resistance.

Handy Township Supervisor Cindy Denby said the auction would violate the township’s zoning code. She noted the property Gray wanted to hold his auction on is zoned agricultural.

“It’s not zoned for commercial use,” Denby said.

Gray announced Thursday that the auction will be held in Mason at 205 Mason St. In a worst-case scenario, he said, he would hold several other smaller auctions at his storefront in Howell this year.

“What these politicians are upset about is that I am making a profit,” Gray said.



He is preparing for 600 people to attend but believes fewer will come because the location has changed so many times.

Not everyone in Livingston County is against the auction. Howell resident Brandon Rogers, 31, doesn't really care if it takes place or not. To him, it's just a bunch of history.

"I guess somebody has a bunch of stuff in their attic they wanted to sell," Rogers said. "I don't think that's racist."

Kristin Dombrowski, a college student, grew up on Hogback Road. She doesn't have a problem with the auction as long as it's not being done to promote the Klan.

"I'm not really concerned about it as much as I am that they're doing it for the right reasons," Dombrowski said.

## **The Pioneer**

April 08, 2005

### **Selemogo faces more charges**

Man accused of rape has AIDS, say prosecutors

BIG RAPIDS - An African exchange student at Ferris State University charged with criminal sexual assault earlier this year is now facing additional charges.

Kabelo E. Selemogo, 36 of Botswana, was arraigned in early March for an assault which allegedly took place March 1.

According to Big Rapids Department of Public Safety Director Kevin Courtney, the alleged assault was against a woman with whom Selemogo was acquainted.

“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 additional charges brought against Selemogo Wednesday include a count of criminal sexual assault third degree and a count of sexual penetration without informing the alleged victim that he is a carrier of AIDS.

A preliminary examination for the additional charges is scheduled for 3 p.m., April 19 in 77th District Court.

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**

April 08, 2005

### **Ferris soccer player gets kick out of spring trip**

Unity grad Aukeman on a mission - literally

While most of Ferris State's students were soaking up some sun in southern locations or relaxing at home during their recent spring break, Hudsonville's Kristin Aukeman was repairing a house and church.

Aukeman, a junior midfielder on the Bulldogs' women's soccer team, joined four teammates, 18 other FSU students and members of the school faculty on a mission trip to Engelhard, N.C., where they painted houses and helped to construct a 60-by-80-foot church addition in an area devastated in 2003 by Hurricane Isabelle.

"I really didn't have anywhere else to go for spring break, and I have never been on a mission trip," said Aukeman, a graduate of Unity Christian. "Some of us on the team go to Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the leader (Ferris campus pastor Mike Wissink) of Fellowship of Christian Athletes here on campus takes kids on a mission trip every year, and invited us to go on this trip."

"It was a great trip, and really cool to know we were actually helping others to get closer to moving back into their homes and churches."

The Ferris State contingent traveled to Engelhard in two 15-passenger vans. It stayed in an old church converted into a disaster response center.

"The first two days, I helped to paint the inside and outside of a house originally destroyed by the hurricane," Aukeman said. "One night, we got to meet with some of the families we were helping. It was neat to hear their stories, and to realize their lives aren't much different than ours, except they've had to deal with the hurricane tragedy for a year and a half.

"The family that owns the house I painted has two little kids and has been living with relatives since the hurricane came through. It really makes you appreciate what you have."

The FSU group concluded its weeklong trip helping to build the floors and walls of a church addition needed to replace local churches that were too damaged from Isabelle to be rebuilt.

"It was fun not only to know we made an impact down there, but to also make cool friendships with other Ferris State students I never knew until I went on this mission trip," Aukeman said.

## **Pioneer**

April 09 & 10, 2005

### **Ferris' Alspach, Horn honored at PKD convention**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University faculty member Sandy Alspach was installed as the 43<sup>rd</sup> President of Pi Kappa Delta (PKD), national forensic honorary fraternity, at the PKD annual Convention and tournament Awards Banquet held recently in St. Louis.

Fellow Department of Humanities faculty member Gary Horn performed the installation. Dr. Alspach noted in her inaugural address that Horn, her friend and mentor, had made the same commitments as PKD national president exactly 20 years earlier.

Alspach, professor of communication and coach of the Ferris speech team, will serve as president through 2007. Her primary responsibilities include guiding the organization through the national honoraries tournament in March 2006 in Gatlinburg, Tenn., and the national convention and tournament in March 2007. The 2007 national tournament will be held at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant.

In a special ceremony at the convention, Horn, professor of humanities, was inducted into the PKD Hall of Fame for his four decades of service to the organization and to intercollegiate debate. He was joined at the ceremony by his wife, Jeanne, family and friends. Earlier in the week, he was a participant in a panel of past presidents, sharing their stories of great and not-so-great moments in PKD history as part of an oral history project to preserve the story of PKD.

Pi Kappa Delta was formed in 1913 by collegiate forensics coaches to recognize excellence in speaking by undergraduates. The motto of the organization is "the art of persuasion, beautiful and just." Students are invited to membership when they demonstrate excellence in communication activities and commitment to community service.

Eight Ferris students became PKD members this academic year: Rita Ellison, Jennifer Lindensmith, David Malewitz, Heather Moss, Scott Sanderson, Ross Saur, Joe Viviano and Kyle Webster. Cami Sanderson-Haris and Kristi Gerding were made members of the Order of Instruction honoring their work as forensics coaches.

## **Pioneer**

April 09 & 10, 2005

### **Ferris offers info sessions on health care careers**

BIG RAPIDS - Local residents can learn about an education and career in health care by attending monthly information sessions hosted by the College of Allied Health Sciences at Ferris State University.

Programs and career areas include: Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ultra-sound), Health Care Systems Administration, Medical Records, Nuclear Medicine, Nursing, Radiography and Respiratory Care. There are associate, bachelor and master's degrees available, as well as several certificate programs.

The information sessions are free-of-charge and no appointment is needed. Sessions are held in the evening on the second Tuesday and Wednesday of each month at the Spathelf Center for Allied Health Sciences (VFS Building) on FSU's Big Rapids campus.

Exact times and locations are available by calling 1-800 GO BULLDOGS or by visiting <<http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/colleges/alliedhe/>> and clicking on the "Program Information Session" link. Additional information may be obtained by calling Jason DaDay, Allied Health Sciences recruiting Officer, at (231) 591-2733.

## **Pioneer**

April 09 & 10, 2005

### **MiCorps approves funding for watershed project**

BIG RAPIDS - The Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (MRWA) recently received funding from the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps) for its project proposal for volunteer stream monitoring.

Funding for this project includes almost \$8,200 from MiCorps and a matching \$8,200 from the Wege Foundation.

The project, the Muskegon River Water Monitoring Program, will train volunteers and provide the necessary equipment to conduct water monitoring in the Muskegon River Watershed. The four targeted project areas include the Tamarack Creek Sub-watershed in southern Mecosta and northern Montcalm counties; the Ryan Creek/Mitchell Creek Sub watershed in Mecosta County; the Clam River Sub-watershed in Clare, Missaukee and Wexford counties; and the West Branch Muskegon River Sub-watershed located in Roscommon and Missaukee counties.

Volunteers will be trained in benthic invertebrate evaluation, habitat classification and other data-collecting information, including dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature and turbidity. Volunteers will collect and record this information in the spring and fall of each year and return their data sheets to the MRWA, which will record their information in a database to generate reports that will be forwarded to MiCorps for use as a screening tool to identify sites requiring a more detailed assessment.

This data also will be available to local government offices and other organizations to assist them in developing better local ordinances- and formulating protective and restorative projects.

Training sessions will be conducted by Ferris State University biology faculty member, Cindy Fitzwilliams-Heck, who has a strong background and deep interest in aquatic and terrestrial ecology.

People interested in becoming part of this project as a volunteer should contact Terry Stilson at (231) 591-2324 or <[mrwa@ferris.edu](mailto:mrwa@ferris.edu)>.

## The Detroit News

April 10, 2005

### **Pulse strong for pharmacy jobs**

Influx of new drugs and aging population means more druggists are needed.

Finding enough druggists to dole out prescriptions is no longer the pharmaceutical field's biggest dilemma.

The new quandary: Finding a place for swarms of aspiring pharmacists, many of whom are being turned away by pharmacy schools nationwide.

A wide open job market and starting salaries that top \$80,000 -- results of a critical shortage a few years ago -have students lining up to dispense drugs. They also are attracted by a medical field without the on-call shifts of a doctor and an atmosphere mostly separated from patients.

To meet the demand, Michigan's three pharmacy schools are upping class sizes, adding courses and, in one case, looking to grocery stores to help train pharmacists.

"You do this and you're guaranteed a job," said Divyesh Patel, 23, a student at Wayne State's Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences. Patel likes the idea of a career in medicine without being attached to a pager. "I like the prospects and the salary."

Median salary for a pharmacist is \$92,964, according to [mysalary.com](http://mysalary.com) Druggists are needed to meet the demands of an aging population and an industry that's turning out record numbers of new drugs. Rite Aid Corp. will open four new stores this spring in southeast Michigan. Retail pharmacy sales nationally hit \$221 billion in 2004, a 21 percent increase over 2002, according to the National Association of Chain Drug Stores.

The demand for pharmacists in Michigan, on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being a severe shortage, is 3.60, according to a survey released by the drugstore association last week.

That means there's some difficulty filling pharmacy positions.

That's better than five years ago, when the number of unfilled store pharmacist positions nationwide rose to nearly 7,000 from 2,700 in two years, according to the association. There were about 4,700 openings in 2003.

Word of the shortage got around, and people responded.

Wayne State received more than 900 applications for 80 spots this fall in its four-year program to earn a doctorate in pharmacy science. Wayne State includes Oakland University students because of a recently formed partnership to train druggists.

Ferris State, which recently expanded its pharmacy program to 150 students per class, has received 770 applications.

The University of Michigan, with room for 65 new pharmacy students each year, typically receives 350 to 360 applications annually.

The numbers are high because of a new application process that makes it easy for students to apply to multiple schools at once. But even considering that, schools are turning away hundreds of people.

“Universities have way more applicants than they can take care of,” said Franz Neubrecht, director of pharmacy resources for the Michigan Pharmacists Association.

“But if every school graduated every applicant, we’d have more pharmacists than we need.”

Wayne State has upped the number of students it accepts in recent years. The school plans to admit 100 students next year, up from 65 in 2002-03.

Classes won’t get much bigger than that, in part because Metro Detroit lacks qualified pharmacies to train students. Students spend the last year of their education working in a pharmacy, and drugstores must meet certain criteria to qualify as a training site. Wayne State is working with area Kroger stores to help make their pharmacies fit for training students.

Sami Shimon, who owns Collie Drug Inc. in St. Clair Shores, wants schools to churn out as many druggists as possible. He’s been searching nearly a year for a pharmacist.

He’s willing to pay \$35 to \$45 an hour along with insurance coverage because he knows that’s at least what the major chains offer.

“All these chains are opening up with their extended hours,” Shimon said. “Every place has a pharmacy.”



## **Pioneer**

April 11, 2005

### **International festival another success**

BIG RAPIDS -The 17th annual International Festival of Cultures 2005 - held at Ferris State University's Student Rankin Center from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday - was another success this year, according to Sally Nicolai.

"We expect nearly 1,500 people attending this year's festival," said Nicolai, the International Student Organization (ISO) advisor. "Also, there are between 150 and 200 students involved in planning this event."

The festival is sponsored by the ISO, Ferris' Office of International Affairs and funds allocated by the Student Government.

Sunday's event featured exhibits from more than 30 countries across the world, including Algeria, Brazil, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Japan, Morocco, Pakistan, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Vietnam and others.

"There are a lot of different countries here, which shows diversity. I also enjoy meeting people and seeing items from other countries," said Ghana native Theresah Semana.

The Republic of Ghana is located in West Africa. Similar to the Ghana exhibit, each country was represented by either its foreign exchange students or faculty members from their native lands.

The representatives displayed a variety of ethnic memorabilia, including flyers, toys, clothing, music, informational videos, jewelry and more.

They also prepared and served authentic food from their countries, and attendants were able to taste the foods by purchasing tickets as they walked into the Rankin Center.

German professor Mawanne Heidemann served plates of Schwarzwalderkirschtorte (Black Forest Cake), while Ahmad Maki, Mohammad Arti and Haitham Hayat, all students from Kuwait, served a rice dish to festival participants.

"There are only seven students from Kuwait attending Ferris, and we enjoy coming to this because it reminds us of home," Hayat said.

According to festival organizers, Ferris State has approximately 275 international students, representing more than 50 countries, enrolled in classes.

"This is a huge opportunity for our international students to show their countries and cultures to the community," Nicolai said.

Also throughout Sunday's festival, several representatives presented demonstrations related to their countries.

Tae Kwon Do Master Jason Lee, a native of Korea, brought several of his students from Grand Rapids to perform for the festival participants.

Other presentations included Indian and African dances, a game from the Southeast Asia country Hmong and a piñata from Mexico.

Another major highlight, Nicolai said, was awarding the International Student of the Year Award to co-recipients Benedikt Ager (Germany) and Francisco Valinzea (Venezuela).

Jacob Hewitt, who served as the festival advisor, also received the ISO Member of the Year Award, and Vietnam native Chi Thi Quynh Le, a festival co-chair, was honored with the ISO Scholarship Award.

“Planning for this festival is a year-round process,” Nicolai. “The students work hard to make this festival a success, and they begin planning for next year as soon as this festival is complete.”

## **Pioneer**

April 11, 2005

### **Ferris to honor four alumni at Spring Reunion**

BIG RAPIDS - Four alumni of Ferris State University will be honored during special ceremonies at the annual Spring Reunion May 5 in the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center.

Chosen to receive Ferris Distinguished Alumnus Awards are Richard “Dick” Dolack, of Muskegon, retired pharmacist and National Football League official; and Randy Seaman, of Lowell, president and CEO of Seaman’s Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Inc., in Grand Rapids.

Selected for Pacesetter Awards (graduates of 12 or less years) are Mark Guindon, of Linden, district sales manager for Eli Lilly & Company; and Michael Pung, of Mount Pleasant, director of the Mount Pleasant Area Technical Center.

The Distinguished Alumnus and Pacesetter awards are bestowed by the Ferris Alumni Association to recognize exceptional career success, outstanding public service contributions and noteworthy fidelity and devotion to the university.

Recipients are picked by the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee.

In addition, the university will induct members of the Class of 1955 into the Golden Eagle Society and recognize those in attendance from the Class of 1965.

Cost for the event, which begins at 6 p.m., is \$25 per person. Reservations must be made by April 28 by calling the Alumni Office at (231) 591-2345.

## **Pioneer**

April 11, 2005

### **Ferris State students place second in national Rube Goldberg contest category**

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) - A team from Ferris State University placed second in the voting for the national Rube Goldberg Machine Contest People's Choice Award on Saturday.

Ferris State's carnival-themed machine was voted on by the more than 400 audience members at the competition, which took place in the Purdue Armory and pays homage to the late cartoonist Rube Goldberg, whose drawings displayed whimsical machines with complex mechanisms to perform simple tasks.

Purdue University students won the overall contest by proving that changing the batteries in a flashlight isn't always simple.

Students from the Purdue Society of Professional Engineers devised the most whimsically complex method of taking two batteries out of a flashlight, replacing them and turning the flashlight on.

The team, which gave Purdue its third straight national title in the event, used 125 steps to accomplish this year's design task - more than six times the 20 steps required in the event.

"You spend most of your time trying to get the last 1 percent of things to work," said Kevin Hollingsworth, a senior in the School of Aeronautics and Astronautics from Zionsville.

The winning machine simulated a rocket launch and a meteor impact on Earth, which was - portrayed by an orange ping-pong ball. The team also won the event's People's Choice Award. A team from the University of Texas at Austin was third in that category.

## **Pioneer**

April 13, 2005

### **Ferris offers room/board deal for summer semester**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University again is offering students a private room at its Big Rapids campus at no charge this summer when they take six credits or more and purchase a meal plan with a minimum of 10 meals per week.

The free room offer equates to a \$748 savings for students enrolled in the four-week summer session, \$1,496 for the eight-week session and \$2,248 for the 12-week session.

Four-week sessions are offered May 17-June 14, June 15-July 13 and July 14-Aug. 10; six-week sessions are offered May 17-June 28 and June 29-Aug. 10; eight-week sessions are offered May 17-July 13 and June 15-Aug. 10 and a 12-week session May 17-Aug. 10.

More information is available by calling Ferris' Admissions Office at (231) 591-2100.

## **Pioneer**

April 13, 2005

### **Ferris Theatre to present 'The Diviners'**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University will present four performances of "The Diviners" on April 14 through 17 as the concluding production of the Ferris Theater's 2004-2005 season.

The performances in Williams Auditorium are scheduled for 8 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday with a matinee show at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$4 for students and senior citizens and \$8 for adults. The ticket office in the auditorium lobby is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"The Diviners" is the story of a young boy, Buddy Layman, in the dusty 1930's of Zion, Ind., who has a gift for divining. Water and faith are both in short supply in this small farm community during the depression. But back-sliding preacher, C.C. Showers, drifts into town and meets the gentle but misunderstood boy with the gift of water-witching. The two outcasts find a common bond and help each other divine for truth, faith and hope.

The townspeople begin demanding the preacher return to a way of life he no longer believes in and it drives both he and Buddy to a crisis of trust. Jim Leonard Jr.'s earthy, funny, poignant and profoundly tragic play has echoes of Steinbeck's classic depression-era work. The characters are simple but good people searching for hope and something in which to believe.

## **Pioneer**

April 14, 2005

### **Ruettiger, subject of 'Rudy' movie to speak at Ferris**

BIG RAPIDS - Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger, one of the most famous names in University of Notre Dame football history, will speak at Ferris State University April 21. His 7 p.m. talk in Williams Auditorium, part of the Student Leadership and Activities Speaker Series, is free and open to the public.

Ruettiger, the subject of the inspirational 1993 movie "Rudy," spent several years in the insurance business after leaving college and now tours the country as a motivational speaker. His against all odds-success story led first to his admittance to Notre Dame and ended with him being the only Fighting Irish player to ever be carried off the field on his teammates' shoulders.

He was born in 1948 in Joliet, ML, into a lower class family of steel mill workers. Upon graduation from high school, Ruettiger worked at a power plant both before and after serving in the Navy. After losing his best friend in an industrial accident, he decided to no longer waste time by putting off his dreams. He set out for Notre Dame with hopes of one day playing football for the Fighting Irish.

After being admitted to Holy Cross Junior College in South Bend, Ind., he spent his time studying and working as a groundskeeper at Knute Rockne Stadium. During that time, he learned he had a mild case of dyslexia, which he overcame to receive good grades. It still took him three semesters to be granted admittance into Notre Dame as a transfer student.

Ruettiger then won a spot on the scout team and practiced against the varsity for two years. He earned the respect of his teammates and coaches, and in the last home game of his senior year, he finally dressed and took the field with the varsity. In the only play of his career, which lasted just 27 seconds, he managed to sack the Georgia Tech quarterback and secure a place in Notre Dame football lore.

## **Pioneer**

April 14, 2005

### **Ferris Board of Trustees committees to meet Friday**

BIG RAPIDS - The Finance and Academic Affairs/Student Affairs committees of Ferris State University's Board of Trustees are meeting Friday in Room 201 V-W of the Timme Center for Student Services.

Both the Finance Committee meeting at 10 a.m. and the Academic Affairs/Student Affairs Committee meeting at 1:30 p.m. are open to the public.

The Finance Committee will consider several items, including an opportunity to refinance three of the university's general revenue bonds; a professional services contract with Bentz, Whaley, Flessner to provide ongoing counsel for the operations of university advancement and marketing; a lease agreement with ALLTEL Cellular to place cellular communications antennas on top of Cramer Hall; and a contract for an authorizer's oversight information system to automate the oversight function of the Ferris Charter Schools Office.

Among the items the Academic Affairs/Student Affairs Committee will consider are Charter Schools Board appointments and reappointments, the reauthorization of Marshall Academy and an honorary degree recipient for Kendall College of Art and Design.



## **Pioneer**

April 15, 2005

### **Ferris College of Technology seniors to display projects**

BIG RAPIDS - An interesting range of senior projects by students in three College of Technology programs will be on display April 22 in Ferris State University's Rankin Center Dome Room.

Members of the campus and local communities are invited to view the ingenuity of students from the Computer Networks and Systems (CNS), Electrical/ Electronics Engineering Technology (EET) and Mechanical Engineering Technology (MET) programs between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

As part of the CNS, EET and MET program requirements, seniors plan, design and build capstone projects and make a presentation for their faculty, peers and guests. More than two dozen projects will be displayed in a booth format.

In addition, the CNS and EET projects will be presented in a seminar format by the students involved with each project. These presentations in the adjacent Mecosta Room will start every half hour from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be no seminars between noon and 1:30 p.m.

More details are available by calling the CNS or EET departments at (231) 591-2388.