

January 16, 2006-January 25, 2006

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## **The Detroit News**

December 20, 2005

### **Michigan's special education ranks high**

State requires districts to offer programs up to age 26, much longer than the rest of the nation.

If there is one bright spot for people with disabilities, it is in the area of access to education. Fifteen years prior to the Americans with Disabilities Act, Congress passed major reforms in public education aimed at reversing the pattern of shunning kids with disabilities from public schools. The legislation, known as IDEA, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, guarantees children with disabilities a free, appropriate public education.

The act is credited with opening doors for children who in the past were relegated to special schools and mental institutions. In some cases, wheelchair users were told they couldn't attend public schools because they would be a fire hazard.

"The issue (today) is less than one of access.... The question is making sure they have access to a challenging educational program," said Nancy Reder, deputy executive director of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education.

Michigan is considered one of the best states for special education because it requires districts to offer services up to age 26, the largest time frame in the country, said Ken Reid, a special education teacher for about 30 years and president of the Macomb Intermediate Federation of Teachers.

The average limit for most states is age 21, Reder said.

More than 6.7 million students with disabilities age 3-21 attended U.S. public schools last year, including 242,000 in Michigan, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

Parents today have a choice of having their child integrated with the general school population or being taught in a specialized setting, Reid said. And children are embraced more by the community. "I think 30 years ago, I didn't notice our kids outside the school," Reid said. "You are now seeing them out in the community."

Despite the progress, Reder notes that "on any given day we are not going to be 100 percent."

#### **'Law has made it harder'**

As a child, Karen Massaro-Mundt's parents battled with schools in Ohio to ensure she had a good education. Decades later, Massaro-Mundt, who is visually and hearing-impaired, found herself waging the same battles for her son.

In 2003, Massaro-Mundt filed a civil rights complaint against Port Huron High School for failing to accommodate her son, Joe, who has used a wheelchair since he was hit by a car at age 7, suffering a head injury that impairs his movement and communication.

The room in which Joe had his therapy and classes was inaccessible, according to the complaint filed with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. The bathroom was too small to fit his wheelchair, the doorway to the classroom was too small, and the room was so cluttered he couldn't lie down on the floor for his physical therapy, the family said.

"When I look at my own life ... and how hard I had to struggle and what my own parents had to do, and now what I have to do with my son, it's not that much different," said Massaro-Mundt, who has been an advocate for people with disabilities since the 1970s.

"And in some ways, the law has made it harder than easier. People get antagonistic because they have to do it, not because they want to do it."

The school system agreed to install new electronic doors, build new ramps and make other improvements.

Port Huron Area School District Superintendent Michael Jones did not return several phone calls for comment. He later directed inquiries to a district employee who was not working in the district at the time of the complaint.

Shelley Harding, executive director of labor relations and building operations, said she isn't familiar with the history of the case, but "it appears we have made all the accommodations we were asked to make."

"Port Huron Area School District makes every effort to give students what they need so they can learn as well as they can," Harding said.

### **Student fights testing firm**

Valarie Franklin, a second-year student at Ferris State University, was shocked when proctors wouldn't let her take the Pharmacy College Admission Test because she brought her service dog, Sunny, with her to the testing site at Grand Rapids Community College on June 25.

A proctor representing the test company, Harcourt Assessment Inc., told her she had to leave because she didn't give the company advance notice of Sunny.

Franklin has brittle-bone disease that has stunted her growth to 3 feet. Sunny, her golden retriever, allows her to be more independent by opening doors and picking up dropped belongings.

Harcourt's policy had been that testers with guide dogs had to take the test in a separate room so other testers afraid of dogs or allergic to them wouldn't be distracted.

"Ultimately, she was right and we were wrong," said Mark Slitt, spokesman for Harcourt Assessment, based in San Antonio. "We discovered it was not a proper policy under the ADA and we felt that we were obligated to make it right and correct it."

Testers with guide dogs now don't have to give advance notice and are permitted to take the test with others. If another tester is allergic to the dog, that tester is moved to another room.

"I wouldn't have pushed this beyond getting retested if it were just about me and Sunny," said Franklin, 19, of Davidson. "But it's not just about us. It's about anyone else who takes the test and other companies that have big gaping problems in their policies that violate the ADA."

## Traverse City Record Eagle

December 30, 2005

### **'Glory Road' Hits the Big Screen**

Local director plays for keeps in first feature film

Traverse City - James Gartner has never attended a Hollywood premiere, let alone been feted at one.

But all that is about to change as the Traverse City-based director's first feature film - with legendary producer Jerry Bruckheimer - prepares to hit the big screen.

"Glory Road," a fact-based drama about the first all-black basketball team to win the NCAA national championship, opens nationwide on Jan. 13. The Disney/Bruckheimer film is the story of coach Don Haskins, who led the 1966 underdog Texas Western College team to victory against an all-white Kentucky team and helped break down university barriers to black athletes.

While the movie has yet to be reviewed by critics, it's already garnering a lot of attention. Rolled out during a 13-city promotional tour, its reception has been "really quite amazing," said Gartner, who leaves Traverse City Jan. 2 or 3 for press junkets in Los Angeles and New York.

In late November, Wheaties unveiled its box honoring the 1966 NCAA title team and the University of Texas at El Paso (formerly Texas Western College). And Gartner said audiences at a Los Angeles preview rated "Glory Road" higher than any other Bruckheimer film.

"That's pretty good because he's done some big stuff," he said, referring to Bruckheimer blockbusters like "King Arthur," "Pirates of the Caribbean," "Black Hawk Down" and "Armageddon."

Best known for his award-winning national commercials, Gartner said he worked on the film for a year and a half and is looking forward to the finality its release will bring. He and his family will attend its Los Angeles premiere Jan. 5 at the Pantages Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard.

"It's done. There's absolutely nothing I can do about it any longer," he said. "I want people to like it, I hope it does real well. But I'm not nervous. I'm definitely anticipating it."

While in Los Angeles, the Gartner entourage will get the star treatment, including a limousine to take them to the premiere and a party afterward at the Hollywood Palladium on Sunset Boulevard. Gartner, who will wear a dark suit with an open collar, will be accompanied by wife Lauri and the couple's three children, as well as an aunt and uncle, a niece, a daughter-in-law and a family friend.

Lauri Gartner, a Traverse City native, said she consulted with Bruckheimer's wife before settling on what to wear: a black velour dress with scoop neck and jacket, and strappy shoes. She'll carry a beaded bag.

"I'll probably be nervous when I get there just because I'm out of my comfort zone," she said. "I'm not into going to big, high-profile events."

Filmed in pre-Katrina New Orleans and El Paso, among other locations, "Glory Road" stars Josh Lucas, Emily Deschanel, Derek Luke and Jon Voight. Extras include the Gartners' daughter, Elizabeth, a college student at Bennington, Vt., and niece Elaina Gartner. Son James Gartner, who works as Gartner's personal assistant, also has a brief role.

Basketball players in the movie are portrayed by real athletes and actors who attended basketball camp, Lauri Gartner said. But audiences who stick around until after the credits will be rewarded with interviews of the 1966 teams.

While "Glory Road" is expected to be released in Traverse City Jan. 13, "something is in the works with Disney" for a special opening here, promised Carmike Cinemas Buyer Bryan Jeffries.

Gartner said he is proud of the film's message and hopes the movie will be as popular in his home town as it promises to be elsewhere.

"I think it's an important movie because of what it did with those racial barriers that had been there for so long," he said. "It's a good story, bottom line."

## **Lansing State Journal**

January 3, 2006

### **Mighty Ducks 5, Blues 4**

ST. LOUIS - Former Ferris State All-American Chris Kunitz scored twice in regulation and had the only goal in a shootout to give Anaheim the victory.

Kunitz, who has six goals and 11 points in 26 games, got one of his scores during a two-goal, 10second flurry that tied a franchise record in the first period.

Anaheim scored an unusual goal in the second period when St. Louis' Dean McAmmond's pass to the point went into an empty net after sailing the length of the ice.

Vitaly Vishnevski, the last Ducks' player to touch the puck, was credited with the goal. Andy McDonald also scored for Anaheim.

## **Ironwood Daily Globe**

January 12, 2006

### **Artist's work exhibited**

IRONWOOD -- Two batiks by artist Connie Kerkove are part of Midwest Winter, an art exhibition that opens Friday in Wausau, Wis.

The 16th nationwide juried competition at the Center for Visual Arts features 59 pieces by 42 artists celebrating the beauty and power of winter.

Kerkove's batiks, "December Morning" and "Katherine Lake," were inspired by the woods and waters of the western Upper Peninsula.

"I spend a lot of time outdoors. I work -shoveling snow, taking care of livestock," the artist said. "Living here, you're made very aware of the changing of seasons."

Kerkove and her family -- husband Bruce and their children Barbara, 19, and Marcel, 16 - live on the edge of the woods in Ironwood Township. They keep horses, pheasants and an Airedale dog.

"I am a Yooper by choice," Kerkove said. "The Upper Peninsula is where I choose above other places I have lived."

Feeding songbirds, gardening and hiking provide visual images for her art.

"These hemlocks are from our property," Kerkove said, pointing to a batik hanging at the Pine Tree Gallery in Ironwood. Cedars, pasture land and woods close to home appear in other pieces.

The Pine Tree began showing her work in 1985, and Kerkove credits gallery owner Phil Kucera with encouraging her and offering sound advice on everything from presentation of her art to packing it for shipping.

Since 2001, Kerkove has shown her work in invitational exhibits at the Pine Tree, Gogebic Community College and North Lakeland Discovery Center in Manitowish Waters, Wis. Her work has been accepted in juried shows as well -Art on the Rocks at Marquette, and Northern Exposure at the Bonifas Arts Center in Escanaba.

In 2004, five of her batiks were selected by the Bonifas for "Superior States: The Governor's Invitational," a traveling exhibit by U.P. artists.

Kerkove said she has loved to draw for as long as she can remember. She studied commercial art at Ferris State University and fine art at Northern Michigan University and the Art Academy of Dusseldorf, Germany.

She has taught batik, drawing and watercolor painting at GCC.

## **The Grand Rapids Press**

January 13, 2006

### **Racism theme drew director**

"Glory Road" director James Gartner got his start in show business at WLAV-AM in Grand Rapids.

"I was born just north of Detroit, and after graduating from Ferris State University, I worked in Grand Rapids at WLAV in the early '70s," Gartner, 53, said in a telephone interview from Salt Lake City, where he was doing promotional work for the film.

"I was (on the air from) six to 10 at night and was number one in the market at that time. It would have been '71, '72 and maybe part of '73."

Gartner moved to Los Angeles for a while, then Atlanta before settling in Salt Lake City for 14 years.

"I worked at an ad agency called Bonneville Media Communications, and that's where I started directing," Gartner said. "Then, I moved to Traverse City, where my wife is from, and that's where we live to this day .... I do an awful lot of commuting."

"Glory Road," Gartner's first feature film, was produced by Jerry Bruckheimer ("Pearl Harbor," "Black Hawk Down," "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" and television's "CSI.")

"I've been a (television) commercial director for about 15 years, and Jerry Bruckheimer was pretty familiar with me and my work," said Gartner, who has directed commercials for AT&T, Coca-Cola, Pepsi and Visa.

"He likes drawing from the commercial pool," Gartner said. "I think he appreciates the fact that commercial directors have a lot of experience. We do humor. We do drama. We do emotion, and certainly that is what this movie is about.

"(Bruckheimer) and I had spoken in the past about doing some projects together, but nothing seemed correct for me.

"Then, one day, the script for 'Glory Road' was sent to me, and I really liked it. It wasn't just because it was about sports, but the subtext of the racial elements really drew me in."

"Glory Road" is the story of the 1966 Texas Western basketball team which, under the leadership of Coach Don Haskins (played by Josh Lucas) won the NCAA championship and made history for starting black players.

"For me, a huge priority was to let people know where we were 40 years ago" Gartner said. "The rule back then regarding the black players was that you played one at home, two on the road and three when you were behind. This movie is about a color-blind coach

named Don Haskins who comes in to coach, and he recruits players that nobody else wanted."

Casting the film was difficult, because the actors also had to play basketball, Gartner said. He cast Derek Luke ("Antwone Fisher," "Friday Night Lights") because of his acting capabilities, but that wasn't the case for many others who appear in the film.

"I needed people who could play ball, because I don't believe that you can ever fake sports," Gartner said.

"So I went after (basketball) players, and if they could play, then they would read for me, because if they couldn't play, then there was no point in seeing them. So a lot of these guys (in the film) were players who became actors."

So how does he feel after completing his first feature film?

"Love and hate," he said. "There were parts of it that were so demanding and so difficult, but there were things that were so rewarding. Working with Jon Voight and Josh Lucas -- how do you get better than that?"

## **The Ann Arbor News**

January 16, 2006

### **Jim Crow is alive and well**

Racist objects still being made today, curator says visitors came to Howell from throughout Livingston and Washtenaw counties Sunday for a lesson in racial stereotyping from an exhibit called "Hateful Things." The 39-piece exhibit, which runs all week at the Howell Opera House, is part of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia from Ferris State University.

Lee Reeves, vice president of the sponsoring Livingston 2001 Diversity Council, said the exhibit is an important part of the group's mission to "provide education experience to our residents about other cultures."

"Our aim is for all visitors to see the racial stereotypes Dr. King fought against," Reeves said during a preview for news media and others. "By putting this into the context of information, we learn how bigotry, intolerance and hatred has been advanced and people dehumanized."

Manah Martin, a 13-year-old from Fowlerville who came to see the exhibit Sunday afternoon said she was upset by what she saw.

"It's sad that this stuff actually happened. It's horrible. We've been learning about it in school. It makes me think about what I say to people."

Grace and Alex Washington, a black couple from Brighton who grew up in Arkansas, said they found the exhibit educational.

"A lot of our children don't know the history, and by not knowing history, don't understand the present or the future," said Grace Washington.

The exhibit in Howell includes such items as Aunt Jemima advertisements for pancakes and "Rastus," the smiling chef on the Cream of Wheat box; signs, like "white only" used during segregation in America, a print of 10 naked black children with the caption "alligator bait" and underneath a letter opener in the shape of an alligator both portraying black children as food for animals; and various distorted and exaggerated caricatures of black Americans.

While many of the pieces reflect the past, David Pilgrim, the museum's founder and curator, said items in the museum "in some form are being made today." A check of Internet sites such as eBay and Yahoo shows that "literally thousands of things are being created," he said.

The traveling segment of the museum will be displayed throughout Michigan as well as other states, including Florida and Wisconsin, said Kevin B. Miller, interim associate dean of FSU's College of Arts and Sciences.

"We're one of the few institutions that can handle toxic material (the racist objects) because we handle this in a scholarly context," Miller said after the exhibit was set up.

The Jim Crow Museum features a collection of more than 4,000 racist items that trace the history of the stereotyping of black Americans. Pilgrim said that for the most part, the exhibit has been well received in communities.

When it comes to people attending the museum, Pilgrim said, the most common response is a "kind of reflective sadness, then from there the questions come."

"This is a very serious critique of racism," said Pilgrim, a sociology professor at Ferris State. "Our goal is to create a place where people can talk about race honestly, though it may be uncomfortable."

The items, by themselves, may seem demeaning and insulting, but they can be used as ways to further discussions on race. "We must place this in a scholarly context and use it as physical material evidence in race relations." Pilgrim said.

It's not that Americans don't talk about race, Pilgrim said, but they don't talk about it in an "open and constructive setting" where their views can be challenged.

"We know February is Black History Month and we want to teach our kids that it's not right to have negative stereotypes about anybody - people of color and people not as well off," said Kevin Kingshott of Green Oak Township as to why he and his wife and two daughters had come to look at the exhibit.

Pilgrim said he is planning to open a new exhibit at FSU in April called "Them: Images of Separatism" that will feature stereotypes of others who have been oppressed, including women, Polish Americans, Jewish Americans, Asian Americans and Arab Americans.

## **Pioneer**

January 16, 2006

### **Friends of Ferris gear up for annual fund-raiser**

Making preparations: The Friends of Ferris Fund-raiser Committee is solidifying plans for the 17 annual dinner/auction fundraiser, set for Feb. 18 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center in Big Rapids. Tickets are now available from Friends of Ferris members at a cost of \$50 per person. This year's theme is "Enjoy the Great Outdoors" and the evening will begin with social time at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. The committee members are Maxine McClelland, Justin Mortier, Roxanne McIntyre, Miles Postema, Edward Burch and Sueann Walz.

## **Pioneer**

January 17, 2006

### **Ferris State awards Martin Luther King Jr. Social Justice Award to architect**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University recognized one individual Monday for his lifetime of contributions to society.

Ken Neumann, an architect with Ken Neumann, Joe Smith & Associates, was presented with the 2006 Martin Luther King Jr. Social Justice Award.

David Pilgrim, curator of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at FSU, presented the award. The criteria for winning the 14-year-old award, he noted, was living "a life consistent with Martin Luther King's ideals of social justice - that you work to improve the lives of others."

Neumann helped design the Holocaust , Memorial Center in Farmington Hills. In addition, Neumann is helping to design the new Jim Crow museum and has spent his entire life helping people, Pilgrim said.

"His whole life is about helping people, especially in the area of human rights," Pilgrim said. Addressing Neumann after the award presentation, he added, "You have been a good steward with your resources... when I hear the president talk about 1,000 points of light, I think you are one of them."

Neumann made a few comments upon his acceptance of the award.

"I'm very honored by this plaque, which will be hung appropriately where everybody will be able to see it," he began. "... I'm deeply honored to be associated in any way with Martin Luther King.

"He was a man that has shaken up the whole world and was incredibly meaningful in the fact he talked about loving your neighbor and all the values we talk about in America but don't ever live up to - I think justice and loving your neighbor is incredibly important. ... If we had listened more to him and people like him, this would be a better world."

The award was presented at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Faculty and Staff In service. The annual event, organized by Pilgrim and his staff, brings awareness to social injustice across racial and socio-economic lines.

Several faculty and staff members read poems or portions of King's speeches, adding their own commentary if they so chose.

Raymond Gant, director of Minority Student Affairs, read a poem by Langston Hughes. He then followed his reading with a few thoughts about the necessity to incorporate King's teachings into a lifestyle and not have it just be a one-day thought.

Using some of King's words, Gant said, "He who is greatest among you shall be your servant - that is the new definition of greatness... Anyone can serve... all you need is a heart full of grace, a soul granted by love and you can be that servant."

The annual in-service and other events, surrounding King's teachings mean more than just a week or day of activities to Ferris State University, said Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Harris.

"(It goes) beyond recognizing Martin Luther King and his legacy and activity..." Harris, began. "This type of activity also is a part of the evolution of Ferris as an organization. Maybe most important, it has a lasting impact on our values and what we will continue to be."

FSU President David Eisler also thought the in-service was a success.

"It was a wonderful event - it really shows the power of people to create change," he said.

"It's a real tribute to David Pilgrim and his colleagues that they put on this wonderful event."

## **Pioneer**

January 17, 2006

### **Mecosta-Osceola United Way had a record year**

BIG RAPIDS - The Mecosta Osceola Chapter of the United Way experienced a record year in 2005 as it raised a total of \$417, 253 for local agencies, surpassing its goal for the first time since 2003.

The annual cake auction, which raised almost double what it did last year, contributed \$9,200 to the 2005 United Way campaign compared to \$5,300 in 2004. The celebrity auction was brought back as part of the campaign and raised \$11,451, up from \$7,130 in 2003.

Over half of the total amount collected for the campaign came from 16 different companies in the manufacturing and utilities industry as well as corporate donations.

The second largest amount raised, \$72,440, was from educational institutions. Ferris State University contributed \$61,000 of which \$10,000 was donated to hurricane relief efforts along the Gulf Coast. The FSU student campaign almost tripled in 2005 with a total contribution of \$7,762.

"It seems as though the United Way has renewed vigor and people have renewed caring for one another," said Betty Seelye, executive director of the Mecosta-Osceola United Way. "A lot of people will benefit from it."

The United Way needs volunteers to help with the allocations process. Volunteers will be assigned to a panel and meet three times to review three different applications. Last year the Mecosta-Osceola United Way was able to help 22 agencies. Applications from agencies are due to the United Way by, Feb. 15. Anyone interested in volunteering to be on the allocations committee may call Betty Seelye at (231) 592-4144.

## **The Detroit News**

January 17, 2006

### **Exhibit on racism stuns visitors**

Howell display of 'Hateful Things' draws steady crowd to Opera House on King holiday.

While some communities marched in unity and featured noted speakers to keep the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream alive, a slow, steady crowd filed into the Howell Opera House.

They came to see Little Black Sambo books and games, Tom, the happy, submissive servant to Cream of Wheat advertisements from the 1930s, and restaurant menus and logos from The Coon Chicken Inn, which operated in the West from the 1920s to 1950s.

"Shocking" was the word most often used by patrons on the second day of an exhibit brought to the community by the Livingston 2001 Diversity Council.

"Hateful Things -- Objects from the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia" from Ferris State University shows the history of racism through images from the late 1800s to the present.

Some remembered the signs used to separate water fountains and bathrooms for "Whites Only" and "Coloreds" and another placard seemed familiar from the same time period: "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone."

"This is so embarrassing," said Linda Heard, who came of age in the 1960s and spent her day off from her job at the state Senate Democratic Party office to view the traveling exhibit.

"On one hand, you look at all this and think, 'we've come a long way' and then on the other, you see it still exists in many forms."

Aaron Smith, 23, a Fowlerville senior attending Ferris, had never seen the Jim Crow museum on campus so he decided to stop in Howell with his parents and wife during his day off from school. His wife, Alita, from Hungary, was disturbed by what she saw.

"We learned about this in (Europe), but not this deep. I knew about Rosa Parks and people having to sit at the back of the bus. We hardly saw any pictures, nothing like this," she said.

During the first hour Monday, 72 people came to see the collection compared to the 54 who came on opening day, said Pat Convery, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

"It seems like it's being well-received. Of course, we didn't know what to expect," said Vic Lopez, president of the diversity committee.

The group has been in existence for nearly 20 years attempting to shed the city's image as a haven for racists. Robert Miles, the late grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, once lived in neighboring Cohoctah Township. Last year, a planned auction of a Klansman's robe on the King national holiday touched off bitter protests at a downtown business and unearthed local history.

This year, the Diversity Council was hoping to offer some healing through the exhibit. Some view the collection of hateful memorabilia as an educational tool. Others said it focused on the negative.

School groups are expected to tour the traveling museum, although interest, so far, has been minimal.

## The Grand Rapids Press

January 17, 2006

### **Herbal Fallacies: Federal Trade commission cracks down on far-fetched claims**

True or false:

Garlic does more for your health than ward off vampires.

Saw Palmetto is as effective as prescription medication in shrinking an enlarged prostate gland.

Echinacea boosts your immunity.

All true, but don't believe everything you hear about the medicinal qualities of herbs, cautions Robert J. Krueger. He studies the chemistry of natural products and is a professor of pharmacognosy at Ferris State University.

The late-night infomercials and farfetched advertisements that proclaim cures for Alzheimer's disease or guaranteed weight loss should not be taken seriously.

"It makes you think you're back in the snake-oil era," Krueger says. "These people can make absolutely millions of dollars on these fake claims in relatively short periods of time."

The problem is the U.S. Food and Drug Administration treats herbs and other botanicals as food supplements, not as drugs. They aren't tested or run through a vigorous approval process in the same manner as prescription medicines, Krueger says.

But all that is changing.

First, a little history: The movement toward herbal products began with the Dietary Supplement and Education Act, adopted in 1994, which allowed botanicals to be marketed with little oversight and put no money into educating the public on how the substances should be used.

More recently, the FDA has been reevaluating its role in monitoring these "food supplements" and has worked with the Federal Trade Commission to crack down on the "crazy claims," Krueger says.

A good example is coral calcium, he says. Infomercials touted its ability to cure cancer, treat diabetes, lower blood pressure, ease arthritis pain and address the symptoms of many other ailments.

"This is nothing more than ground-up seashells," Krueger says. In 1994, the FDA charged companies with making false and unsubstantiated claims. The infomercials and related advertising ceased.

More recently, the FTC has targeted a company selling avian flu remedies on the Internet.

"There is nothing like that out there. People who are duped into purchasing this are wasting their money and perhaps jeopardizing their health," Krueger says.

The FDA also is cracking down on the makers of medicinal herbs and other food supplements by forcing them to use Good Manufacturing Practices, better known as GMPs, similar to those used by companies that manufacture medicine.

"Slowly but surely, the science is catching up," Krueger says.

"But the other guys have had an 11-year head start."

## **Slam! Sports**

January 19, 2006

### **Collins gets his wish**

TORONTO (CP) - Rob Collins never gave up on his dream of playing in the NHL, and at age 27 he's skating on the big stage.

It's likely only temporary, but he'll take it. Injuries prompted the New York Islanders to summon Collins from the Bridgeport, Conn., AHL farm team for what was a 5-4 home win Saturday over Colorado, and he was in the lineup again for his second big-league game Monday night in a 9-6 loss against the Leafs. Collins picked up his first NHL assist then scored his first NHL goal in the first period against Toronto.

"I'm not sure what the reason is but, whatever it is, it's good enough for me," Collins said after pulling off his practice sweater following the morning skate at Air Canada Centre.

The five-foot-10, 185-pound playmaking centre was born in Peterborough and the family moved to Kitchener when he was 11. He played Jr. B hockey in Elmira for coach Jeff Snyder.

Collins wasn't drafted by a major junior team, and he wasn't drafted by any NHL team. He developed his game at Ferris State University in Michigan before turning pro.

He was hoping a few of his buddies would be able to watch him play Monday night either in person or on TV.

"I was never a Leafs fan," he explained with a grin. "All my good friends are Leafs fans so, hopefully, we can get a win and stick it to them."

Collins played for Detroit's AHL farm team in Grand Rapids for a year. In the summer of 2003, with no contract offer from the talent rich Red Wings, he didn't know where he was headed.

"No teams were out there offering deals," he recalled. "Kenny Morrow saw me play in the playoffs in Grand Rapids.

"He must have put in a good word for me but I'm not sure."

Morrow is director of pro scouting for the Islanders. Collins was just happy somebody - anybody - was interested.

He's in his third season at Bridgeport. This is his first big break, and his first big-league road game was an hour's drive from home.

"It's very gratifying," he said of this chance to make an impression in the NHL. "It's what you hope for growing up."

He'll take his skates off and walk barefoot over burning coals if that is coach Steve Stirling wants.

"Whatever they need me to do, I'll try to do," said Collins. "If I can pull on the rope and help the team win games, I'd love to be that guy."

"Whatever coach Stirling tells me, I'll be more than happy to do it."

He's playing on the fourth line with enforcer Eric Godard of Vernon, B.C., and fellow call-up Jeremy Colliton of Blackie, Alta.

"Eric gave me the green light to wave my stick around like an idiot," Collins said impishly.

He was never frustrated by not getting a shot at the NHL previously, he said.

"I was making money playing hockey so I can't bitch about that."

Stirling likes what he's seen.

"He's worked awfully hard to get here," said Stirling. "He's skilled and he's poised with the puck."

"You can't teach the poise he has. I'll use him in a lot of different places because he's pretty versatile, which is what I need right now with (Shawn) Bates and (Oleg) Kvasha out."

Collins played 6 1/2 minutes against the Avalanche. He got a couple of scoring chances, and had one shot on goal. He leads Bridgeport in scoring with 26 (7-19) points.

## **Pioneer**

January 21 & 22, 2006

### **Ferris spring enrollment hits record**

BIG RAPIDS-Ferris State University officials are reporting another record-high enrollment for the 2005-06 academic year, with a system-wide enrollment of 11,736 students for the Spring 2006 semester - 649 more students than this time last year.

The university posted its highest enrollment ever during Fall 2005 with a system-wide enrollment of 12,547 students. Ferris' previous high for both fall and winter semesters was 1991.

"This tells me students are satisfied with what we're doing," said Ronnie Higgs, Ferris assistant vice president dean of enrollment services. "We're starting to see the rewards now for past initiatives aimed at increasing enrollment."

Stricter enrollment standards Ferris State are one such initiative officials attribute to successful growth, as well as the creation of more scholarship opportunities such as the Military Veterans Scholarship. There are 54 more veterans enrolled in Spring 2006 versus Fall 2005, which is approximately a 37 percent increase, Vice President for Student Affairs Daniel Burcham said.

"It is wonderful to see record enrollment for spring semester," FSU President David L. Eisler added. "This growth results from the hard work of our faculty and staff. We are very pleased to see the continued, strong interest from students for the unique, high-quality education Ferris State University provides."

Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University in Grand Rapids also is experiencing a spring semester enrollment increase, with 83 more students on the roster versus one year ago.

The University Center for Extended Learning also is surpassing previous enrollment records with a 22 percent increase in its student population, which officials attribute to its 29 percent increase in students utilizing online learning opportunities.

"The entire system is experiencing growth," Burcham said. This growth also is seen at Ferris-Grand Rapids, where officials reported a 27 percent enrollment increase over last year due to growth in programs like health care and digital animation and video game design, as well as a surge in interest in education programs.

## **The Grand Rapids Press**

January 22, 2006

### **New formula boosts graduation rates**

GSR method includes academically eligible transfer students at the state's Division I schools.

The government's annual study of how many scholarship athletes earn a college degree within six years came with a twist when the NCr1A announced its findings last week: a new counting method that dramatically improved the graduation rate of every Division I university in the state.

It's called a graduation success rate (GSR), a statistic at which the NCAA arrived by including transfers who were academically eligible. Under the U.S. Department of Education reporting standards used for the past 15 years, such transfers counted against both schools, even if the athlete received a diploma.

The new formula added eight percentage points, for instance, to Michigan's four-year average 77percent graduation rate for athletes. That comes to 85 percent - exactly the rate at which the general student body graduates. Both figures are, by far, highest in the state.

Michigan State's rate was 60 percent under the government's formula, but 76 percent counting transfers - six percent better than the student body as a whole.

Detroit Mercy's graduation rate jumped from 64 to 81 percent with transfers counted for the first time.

The graduation-rate study is the first half of a one-two punch de4sed by the NCAA to toughen academic standards. The academic progress report will be next in late February - and that one could cost some state programs scholarships. The graduation-rate study is basically flawed, in that it counts students who entered school six years ago. As coaches and administrators change jobs, accountability gets left behind. The academic progress report, however, is a snapshot in time, with current coaches and administrators directly responsible.

The NCAA says every sport at every university should have at least 92.5 percent of the previous semester's scholarship athletes back and academically eligible for the next semester.

If a program misses the 925 mark (the NCAA removes the decimal for simplicity) for two straight years, it will not be able to use, for one year, the scholarship of any athlete who left school and was not academically eligible at the time. As many as nine football grants-in-aid, and two from men's and women's basketball, could be forfeited each year. Repeat offenders could lose postseason rights or suffer disassociation from the NCAA.

Last year's count, the first, was just for practice. It identified at least eight programs at Division I schools that failed to meet the mark - including every big-school football program but Michigan's.

The program in the most trouble appeared to be Eastern Michigan's men's basketball, with a rating of only 865. Ominously, the latest graduation rates show that not one basketball player from the 1998-99 recruiting class has graduated. The team's four-year average graduation rate sank from 47 to 29 percent.

Charles Ramsey, an EMU graduate who took over as basketball coach in March 2005, already has raised the team's CPA from 2.21 to 2.51- its highest ever.

"This is brand new with the NCAA, and they've built in several waiver procedures," Ramsey said. "The NCAA has been terrific with us. They've taken into consideration the kids I've recruited, kids I'm extremely proud of. Five of my six freshmen had over 3-point GPAs when I recruited them. Hopefully, we're not going to lose any scholarships."

Melody Reifel, Eastern's compliance director said all the school's coaches are emphasizing recruiting good students. "There's an awareness," she said, "that if the athletes are good in the classroom, disciplined there, they're just that much easier to coach."

### Division II schools

	<b>Athlete 4-year avg.</b>	<b>Student 4-year</b>	<b>Athlete edge</b>	<b>Athlete edge over</b>
Mich. Tech	70%	48%	22%	6%
Lk. Superior	59%	39%	20%	1%
<b>Ferris St.</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>-2%</b>
Gr. Valley	55%	49%	6%	0%
All D-11	54%	45%	9%	3%
North. Mich.	51%	45%	6%	1%
Sag. Valley	42%	32%	10%	-3%
Wayne St.	41%	32%	9%	0%

## **The Detroit News**

January 22, 2006

### **My excellent Up North adventure**

Indiana transplant is still adjusting to life in the Upper Lower, starting with the jerky.

Plaid shirts tucked into fitted jeans, unfair trade coffee in hand, they lingered between the lumber stacks in a semicircle, jawing in faintly Yooper brogue as I approached.

I've had to explain to puzzled people how I wound up here, alone, almost 400 miles from my lifelong southern Indiana home. For one thing, wistful memories of my college days at Hope, summers at my parents' Crystal Lake cottage, and endearing "up north" encounters, like that morning inside Frankfort Building Supply, started to overwhelm my thoughts during idle moments.

Then I gradually realized that, although I love my extended family, our town isn't big enough for both them and me. Suddenly my job situation turned shaky. Next, I met a Michigianian "Prince Disarming" on the beach.

Like the Zen proverb says: Leap and the net will appear.

So I leapt. I landed as a graduate student at Ferris State. Acquaintances in Indiana seem to think I'm on a National Geographic expedition. Granted, the living conditions in my apartment could serve as Peace Corps training.

And I'm definitely still adjusting to life up here, starting with jerky.

You can tell a lot about a place by the prominence of jerky products in its culture. In Big Rapids, jerky is a staple item -- like flour, milk or eggs. Even the vending machine in the FSU library offers jerky.

Plus, jerky serves as a traditional element in "Deer Day" celebrations. My failure to observe this Michigan holy day makes me a heretic, I guess. It's just that in Indiana we don't show deer carcass photos on the evening news. Also, back home, "Deer Day" isn't an excused absence from school.

My twang is an ongoing issue, too. I have to repeat myself frequently, and it takes a hardy sense of humor to withstand the smirks and snickers. It's an accent, not an IQ indicator. Ya'll need to get those noses that you talk through out of the air.

I've suffered other miscommunications. Prince Disarming and I exchanged several e-mails after I migrated north. His replies became sporadic, though, and after the third time I'd asked him how to pronounce his last name without an answer, I abandoned the chase.

Unwilling to admit that I had bored His Highness to death, I've chosen the delusion that either he has ADD, or he was afraid I'd beat him in a game of H-O-R-S-E.

That's another thing. I'm struggling to actively practice my native religion -- basketball -- in northern Michigan. Hockey shmockey. Where are the b-ball highlights? Many aspects of my Michigan experience have been positive, however. For example, reactions to winter weather are more reasonable here.

Back in Indiana, my fellow Hoosiers empty grocery shelves of bread and bottled water in response to a forecast of 4-6 inches of snow. And while *femmes nordiques* defer to the climate and stow any midriff-bearing, thong-revealing tartlet costumes after Labor Day in my home state, Jerry Springer Show fashion is considered *de rigueur* year-round.

Other marvels include the generous volume of Michigan ice cream cone servings, and local strawberries, raspberries, cherries, blueberries, peaches, and apples -- and the pies they come in.

I've run in races along the Lake Michigan shore at Ludington, by the bay in Traverse City, and on the Chippewa reservation in Mount Pleasant. Seagull feathers tumble across the football field at Cadillac.

In less than two hours, I can be gallery hopping at Trick Dog in Elberta, or Petoskey stone hunting at Point Betsie.

I'm on professional leave this year. In theory, I can go back to Indiana.

I think I'll put those deer whistles on my car anyway. Just in case.

*You can reach Jill Forney at [btowrzballgrrl~a~yahao.com](mailto:btowrzballgrrl~a~yahao.com).*

## **The Cadillac News**

January 23, 2006

### **Ferris student receives \$500 dental scholarship**

BIG RAPIDS - Dental Health Professionals awarded Ferris State University student Kari Lytle of Cadillac a \$500 scholarship.

The Cadillac dental office awards two scholarships to Ferris Dental Hygiene School students from Wexford, Missaukee or Osceola counties.

## **Pioneer**

January 24, 2006

### **Two Ferris students receive New Horizons Landscaping scholarships**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University students Lynne Jefts of Big Rapids and Christopher Shelton of Wyandotte were awarded New Horizons Landscaping scholarships.

Established in 2002, the honors have been given to full-time ornamental horticulture students in good academic standing. The scholarships are designed to help the next generation of landscape professionals gain the knowledge and skills they need to excel in their own area of expertise.

New Horizons Landscaping, owned by Andrew and Catherine Archer, has provided a wide range of landscaping services for more than 20 years. Both Andrew and Catherine are Ferris graduates, with Andrew receiving an Associate of Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture Technology in 1981 and a Bachelor of Science in Small Business Management in 1983. Catherine, a Dental Hygiene faculty member, obtained an AAS in Dental Hygiene in 1987 and in May 2006 will earn a BS in Allied Health education.

"As Ferris graduates ourselves, we hope to promote educational opportunities for students in both the horticulture and dental hygiene programs at Ferris State University," the Archers said.

Ferris' Ornamental Horticulture program combines classroom, laboratory and field experiences to prepare graduates for employment in such diverse areas as landscape design and construction, turf and golf course management, park management, landscape construction, botanical garden management and a wide range of supporting businesses.

For more information or to make a gift, please contact the Ferris Foundation at (231) 591-2365 or [fsufdn@ferris.edu](mailto:fsufdn@ferris.edu). Details about establishing scholarships or endowments may be obtained from the Advancement Office at (231) 591-3825.

## **Pioneer**

January 25, 2006

### **FSU's monthly colloquium series**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University's College of Arts and Sciences Department of Humanities 2005-06 Monthly Colloquium Series presents the following events:

- Jan. 26 THE POLITICALLY CORRECT PACIFICATION OF PUBLIC ART  
The New Agenda: Challenging the Viewer

Robert Barnum • Professor & Resident Artist • Art

Over the last 10 to 15 years there has been a gradual shift from content oriented public art, to art that serves primarily as architectural enhancement or interior design disguised as art.

There are a number of explanations or reasons one might use to illustrate this shift, but the bottom line is that we now have a different value agenda when it comes to determining appropriate public art.

Robert Barnum has concentrated on social content and issue oriented art for nearly three decades. A recipient of the Governors Arts Award as Michigan Artist of the Year, he is also a signature member of the Watercolor USA Honor Society, the American Watercolor Society, and the National Watercolor Society. His article on the subject of the social agenda of his watercolor paintings will be published this April in Watercolor Magic Magazine.

- Feb. 9 OPEN DEBATE: Topic & Participants To Be Announced By Kristi Gerding, FSU Debate Coach & Instructor
- March 23 THE HISTORY OF COMIC BOOKS: And Their Use As A Teaching Tool In Science By Pasquale Di Raddo, FSU Professor of Chemistry Co-sponsored by the student affiliate chapter of the American Chemical Society (SAACS)
- April 20 IF IT'S UNNATURAL... IT'S HELL Carel van Mander's Explanation of Bosch's Monstrosities And Its Modern Denial By Robert Quist, FSU Instructor of Philosophy

All events are free and open to the public. All events take place from m to 11:50 a.m. at the FSU Founders Room located at Rankin Center 238.

For information on these presentations, contact Scott Cohen, Humanities Colloquium Series Coordinator at (231) 591-2484 or by e-mail at [rscohen@ferris.edu](mailto:rscohen@ferris.edu).