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The Grand Rapids Press
Thursday, May 13, 2004

High-profile, low-key deeds win honors

By Rick Wilson

One helped lock up a pair of serial rapists. The other rescued a man who was dangling from the top of the tallest building in town.

Not bad references for a pair of public servants honored this week as the best in their fields.

Grand Rapids police Detective Les Smith and city firefighter Jeff Lysiak was named officer and firefighter of the year for 2003.

Smith was honored in part for investigating and helping to convict serial rapists James Earl McRae and Ryan Gervenak, who between them were convicted of, or confessed to, sexually assaulting 10 women from 1998 to 2003.

"He's been working in the family services (unit) for the past five years, which is a really tough job," said Capt. Jeffrey Hertel, Smith's supervisor. "Those kinds of cases take a toll on you because you're constantly dealing with women and children who are getting abused and assaulted."

Smith, a 1986 Ferris State University graduate, began his career with the Mecosta County Sheriff's Department. He joined the Grand Rapids force in 1990. While conceding the job can take a toll, he said it also gives satisfaction.

"It is gratifying to call a victim, especially with a guy like Gervenak, and say, 'Hey, we got your attacker,'" Smith said. "The thing is that a lot of women can't identify their attacker so they live in fear because, to them, the guy at the gas station or the grocery store potentially could be their attacker."

Smith has received four unit performance awards and numerous letters of commendation. He and his wife have two children.

"The thing about Les is that he basically got Gervenak in a room and not only got him to confess but also to realize what he'd done and not make his victims go through a trial," Hertel said.

The department honored Smith and its Civilian Employee of the Year, Ruth Ann Cook, on Tuesday at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

Lysiak is to be honored at a dinner Friday at the American Legion Furniture City Post 258.

"Jeff is one of the quietest, most steady performers we have in the organization," Fire Chief Mike Burton said. "He successfully rescued that window washer from the Plaza Towers and looked just as calm and collected as could be doing it."

Lysiak, 33, worked as a paid-on-call firefighter for Muskegon Township before joining Grand Rapids in 1994. He and his wife have two children.

Lysiak said he didn't have much time to think about danger in the July 2003 rescue of Moses Avila at the Plaza Towers.

The window washer, who had slipped from his seat harness, was left dangling 32 stories from the ground. Lysiak rappelled down the building to reach him.

"At the time, it didn't seem like we were all that far up there because of all the adrenaline pumping and we were focused on the guy," Lysiak said. "We had to go back later that afternoon, and that's when I started saying, 'That's a long way up there'."

Lysiak hopes to spend his entire career with the Grand Rapids department and said he enjoys being on the front lines. He also said he was a little surprised by the award because in recent years it has served as a capstone for careers.

"Since I've been here, most of the people who've gotten it have been here like 20 years and I feel like I'm still a rookie," Lysiak said. "I'm honored by it."

The Grand Rapids Press

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ferris State looks to put weight on Rebels' Lancaster

By Steve Ungrey

Lee basketball standout Marcus Lancaster can finally be acknowledged by Ferris State.

A college basketball coach cannot comment on a potential recruit until that recruit delivers a signed letter of intent to the university, which Lancaster did May 4.

With letter of intent in hand, Ferris State coach Bill Sall was only too happy to talk about his newest addition.

"Marcus actually came on an unofficial visit at the end of last year," Sall said. "I've been watching his team play boys basketball and also watching Marcus during AAU season and he certainly gets the ball up court very fast."

Sall plans to redshirt Lancaster because of a backlog of talent at the guard spots, but Sall also wants to strengthen Lancaster off the court.

"What will really help is getting some weight on him," Sall said. "The skills are certainly there, it's a strength issue and giving him some time to work on that will only help out."...

Congratulations to former Wyoming Park golfer Enid Gage, who is headed to Division II national play with Grand Valley State this week. Gage won medalist honors at the Great Lakes Regional May 5 at Ferris State University, as she fired a three-round total of 232.

I saw some familiar faces in the crowd and in the field of 10,000 at the 27th annual Fifth Third River Bank Run Saturday.

I saw Rogers wrestling coach Dale Miedzielec and I thought he was down there to root for Rogers athletic director Ted Hollern, but it turns out Miedzielec's wife, Ruth, took part in the 5K run.

Ruth, who is recovering from knee surgery, ran a respectable time in the 5K. Congratulations to Ruth, given what she had just been through.

As for the team of Hollern and Lee athletic director Brett Lambert? Hollern finished the 25K in 2:13:16, while Lambert came across in 2:21:37.

Congratulations to former Wyoming Park and Grand Valley standout Dave Vandermeer, who was 23rd overall (1:23:41). ...

The O-K Gold girl's golf meet (involving Wyoming Park) takes place Tuesday at The Meadows, while the O-K Rainbow meet (Godwin Heights, Rogers) will be at Saskatoon Monday.

In boys tennis, the O-K Gold meet is being played today at East Kentwood and South Christian. It originally was scheduled for Saturday, but was postponed because of rain. The O-K Rainbow meet is Saturday at the same sites, hosted by Kelloggsville.

In addition to the O-K Gold track meet today and Friday at Middleville, the O-K Blue meet will be at Godwin Heights on the same two days. The O-K Silver meet is Friday, at Comstock Park.

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Monday, May 17, 2004

Finishing second never felt so good

LONGWOOD, Fla. - Brad Bedortha found himself overwhelmed as his team wrapped up its final round of competition at the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championships.

By the time everything was said, done, written and tallied - the Ferris State head coach could never have imagined second place could feel so good. Bedortha's Bulldogs concluded the 2003-04 campaign as one of the, three best teams in all of NCAA) Division II as it tallied a final score of to finish tied with Florida Southern. This spring's national championship was won going away by heavily-favored Rollins College (Fla.) as the Tars posted a single-round team record 294 on the final day to finish 1,196 - well ahead of Ferris and Florida Southern at the Legacy Club at Alaqua Lakes in

"It was absolutely unbelievable ... the swing of emotions we went through on (Saturday)," said Bedortha as he and his players celebrated their historic finish in the Sunshine State. "As the final rounds were being played and the scores were coming in, we literally went from fourth place to second place in a matter of like five minutes. ... This whole experience has been unbelievable for me, the players and everyone else involved."

On the individual leader board, Ferris' Casey McKinnon, the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's Freshman of the Year, finished tied for 10th as she fired a four-round score of 311 (81-77-79-74) to pace the Bulldogs. Freshman Heidi Aittama, who has been playing her best golf near the end of the season and recently earned all league first-team honors with McKinnon, continued that positive trend as she shot a 312 (7678-78-80) to place tied for 12th.

Elena Robles, who started the national tournament on fire, finished in a tie for 21st in the field with a four-day total of 318 (74-78-80-86) as she slipped from a 10th place tie, at the start of final-round play Saturday morning, to 21st.

"Elena got off to a fast start (in the tournament), but was struggling a little bit for us early Saturday," Bedortha said. "The good thing about being a team is even though Elena, our best golfer, was not having her best round the other players on the team stepped up and performed well when we had to have them to stay in contention with Florida Southern for second."

Two golfers in particular, who posted higher scores than they would have liked through the first three rounds of the national championships, excelled for Bedortha's club.

Ellie Saladin, the lone Bulldog senior this season after playing her previous three seasons at rival Grand Valley State, enjoyed her best round of the tournament Saturday.

Saladin, a native of Greenville, shot a 79 in the final round to finish with a total of 328 and tied for 32nd.

Junior Meredith Johnson also shot her best round of the tournament in the national tournament's final round as she carded an 81 and finished with a score of 334 to tie for 42nd.

"As I looked around at our players and thought about how excited I was I could see the same thing in their eyes.... They were ecstatic," Bedortha said. "We came in with a goal that we wanted to finish in the top four and we were not only able to do that, but we did even better as we finished second and we'll have a chance to bring that trophy back to Big Rapids."

Even as national champion Rollins continued to set school records with third-and fourth round scores of 296 and 294 Bedortha encouraged his team to maintain its focus.

"We knew pretty quick (on Saturday) Rollins was going to win the national championship and we knew they were the big favorite coming in, but I told the girls that all you can do is come out and play the best you can,"

The Bulldogs managed to hang tough and finish second in the nation - the best Ferris athletic team finish since the softball team placed third at the national championships in 1998.

Rollins' Charlotte Campbell won medalist honors as she finished with a four-round total of 299 to finish one stroke ahead of teammate Freddie Seeholzer. The Tars had all five of their golfers finish in the top six in the nation.

GLIAC rival Grand Valley "State finished sixth in the nation as it posted a four-round

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Weekend, May 15&16, 2004

Ferris honors fallen police officers

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University's Department of Public Safety hosted a ceremony honoring law enforcement professionals on Thursday in front of the Ferris Library for Information, Technology and Education. The event was scheduled to coincide with police memorial week.

Uniformed members of Ferris' DPS and officers from Big Rapids, Mecosta County, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Grand Valley State University and the Michigan State Police were on hand to honor their fellow officers, especially those whose lives were lost in the line of duty.

Martin Bledsoe, Ferris' DPS director, reminded the assembled of the risks faced by those committed to law enforcement.

"There is a sacrifice being made on the behalf of our communities by officers and their families," said Bledsoe.

The flag was lowered to half staff accompanied by the playing of taps and a 21-gun salute. The ceremony concluded with the flyover of a Blackhawk helicopter piloted by Bledsoe's son, Daniel M. Bledsoe, a member of the Michigan National Guard.

In 2003, 146 police officers were killed in the line of duty. Fifty-one officers have lost their lives thus far this year. Among " those who fell in the line of duty was Ferris graduate John Watson, an 18-year veteran of the Kenai, Alaska, Police Department, who was shot and killed while on duty Christmas Eve. And Officer Gary Davis, a 12-year veteran with Bloomfield Township in Oakland County, died in the line of duty just hours before the ceremony.

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Tuesday, May 18, 2004

Ferris State returns all smiles and with trophies in hand

BIG RAPIDS - Even before Ferris State head coach Brad Bedortha's women's golf squad departed for the NCAA Division II Women's Golf National Championship in Longwood, Fla. a week ago - he had a vision.

Upon his team's Sunday return to Big Rapids after it finished second to national champion Rollins College (Fla.) Saturday afternoon Bedortha's vision came to fruition. As it became obvious the Tars, with all five of their golfers in the top six on the final national leader board, would run away with the championship - Ferris State still had designs on as stellar a finish as it could muster.

"After we realized there was no way we could win the national championship we turned our focus to getting the best finish that we could possibly get even as we were running close with teams like Florida Southern (the team that tied Ferris for second)," Bedortha said as his squad finished with a score of 1,264 to wrap up well behind Rollins' eye-popping 1,196 pace. "It got to a point where we knew we could finish somewhere between second and fourth and we just hoped we could finish as high as possible.

"But, when we left for Florida our big goal was that we wanted to come back with one of those big trophies and we got it."

That mission was accomplished as the team concluded its spring as one of the three best teams in all of Division II women's golf.

The potential benefits of Saturday's results were hardly lost on Bedortha.

"This helps bring respectability - on a national level - to our women's golf program and to our university as well," he said. "This is not only going to help with bringing more respect to our women's golf program, but it's also going to help with our recruiting and in so many other ways ... this is an incredible accomplishment for our team."

Ferris State's Casey McKinnon, named 2003-04 the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year, was the top Bulldog finisher as she tied for 10th (81-77-7974-311) on the final leaderboard.

Ellie Saladin, who transferred to Ferris for her fourth and final season, is the lone Bulldog senior.

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Tuesday, May 18, 2004

Ferris “Foundation awards Exceptional Merit Grants”

BIG RAPIDS - Eight Exceptional Merit Grants have been awarded to Ferris State University faculty and staff through the Ferris Foundation for the 2004-05 academic year.

Those receiving funding are:

- Dean Krager, College of Technology, for high-precision, modular measuring equipment.
- Carrie Weis-Taylor and David Pilgrim, College of Arts and Sciences, for the Jim Crow Museum.
- Robert Buckingham, Michigan College of Optometry, for an Interdisciplinary Diabetes Health Care Clinic.
- Tracey Ward, Michigan College of Pharmacy, for the testing of promising anti-cancer compounds in nu/nu mice.
- Bakhodirzhon Siddikov, College of Arts and Sciences, for Maple Software purchase.
- Fred Wyman, College of Education and Human Services, for Television and Digital Media Production.
- Connie Morcom, College of Education and Human Services, for the Michigan Career Pathways Project.
- Carrie Weis-Taylor, College of Arts and Sciences, for a summer youth art camp.

The Exceptional Merit Grants Program was established by the Ferris Foundation to promote excellence in faculty and staff at the university. Funding for the grants was provided by the annual Ferris Foundation benefit, which also funds the Foundation for Excellence Scholarship Endowment.

The Gifts and Grants Committee of the Ferris Foundation consists of Debra Cox, Carla Erlewine, Kim Hancock, Thomas Hartwig, Clare Johnson, Ron McKean, Carla Miller, Tom Oldfield, LaVal Perry, Randall Phelps, David Sobota, Lynwood VandenBosch, Erin Weber, Adam Wetherell and David Wright.

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Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ferris offers Dial-a-ride next fall

BIG RAPIDS - Students attending Ferris State University next fall will have the option of coming to classes via shuttle bus, thanks to an agreement worked out between the university and the city's Dial-a-Ride program.

The service a special bus set aside exclusively for Ferris students - will be available from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

The university has agreed to guarantee the city \$23,512, the cost of operating the service. To recoup these funds, students will be charged 50 cents per ride. According to Big Rapids City Manager Steve Sobers, the service will help buoy the city's transit service.

In a letter to the city commission, Sobers said, "This will obviously be a boost to the economics of the bus program and (it) will be interesting to see how the students respond to the service."

PR News Wire
May 18, 2004, Tuesday

Once in a Lifetime National Award for Father & Son

Father & Son Construction Company of Troy, Mich. was named one of the best of the best remodeling construction companies in the United States by REMODELING Magazine.

According to the respected national publication's editors, "Recipients of this coveted award can't just be good. They must be excellent -- and excellent when measured against their highest-quality competitors. They lead the industry in business acumen and customer service, running exciting and dynamic companies that stand as models for the industry."

Mat Vivona, 34, became the second Vivona added to the Big50 roll of honor. His father, Mat Sr. was honored in 1986.

This honor is especially meaningful to Vivona.

"I am proud, yet humbled," Vivona said. "Proud of the 'family' of terrific people at Father & Son Construction. Their support at a time when I desperately needed it was proof that what I couldn't do, we could. Father & Son is definitely a 'We' company. That enthusiasm to commitment continues each day," Vivona said and added. "I dedicate this to an extraordinary influence in my life. Dad, I miss you."

Vivona, was sadly thrown into the captain's chair at Father & Son in 1995, when his father, Mat Vivona Sr. tragically died in an automobile accident. Mat, 25, at the time, had learned well. He understood that his father had put together a team of experts dedicated to service and quality. He counted on them and trusted they would continue to deliver. And, they did. This year Father & Son Construction is on course to set records on the amount of metro Detroiters it serviced.

Father & Son Construction has been a Detroit area anchor in the remodeling and home improvement business for close to 40 years. One of the key reasons for its success is, again, something Mat's father taught him.

"In business there always are problems," Vivona said. "The secret to success is in providing quick solutions, solutions that result in customers coming back to Father & Son again and again."

Vivona recently won a distinguished alumni award from **Ferris State** University for community involvement and business achievement. He was later appointed to the **Ferris State** alumni board.

For the past two years, Vivona Jr. has served as a board member of the Detroit/Eastern Michigan Better Business Bureau.

Pioneer

Monday, May 24, 2004

Dolly-McGlothin bound over to face trial

BIG RAPIDS -An 18-year-old Grand Rapids man was bound over to Mecosta County's 49th Circuit Court Friday to stand trial on charges of home invasion and criminal sexual conduct.

Larry Lorenzo Dolly-McGlothin was originally charged with one count first degree criminal sexual conduct, one count of second degree criminal sexual conduct and five counts of first degree home invasion. A three-day preliminary hearing concluded Friday with Dolly-McGlothin being bound over on the first degree criminal sexual conduct charge, three counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct and three counts of first degree home invasion.

The charges stem from incidents on the campus of Ferris State University on Jan. 30. Several female residents called the Ferris State University Department of Public Safety to report men breaking into their rooms. An investigation revealed two female students in Hallisy Hall and two female students in Clark Hall had been sexually assaulted.

Another suspect in the case, William David Herth, 19 of Grand Rapids, testified against Dolly-McGlothin during the preliminary examination. A third co-defendant, Kevin DeWayne Holman, also 19 of Grand Rapids, faces multiple charges of first degree home invasion, the Mecosta County Prosecutor's Office reported.

First degree criminal sexual conduct is punishable by up to life in prison; Second degree criminal sexual conduct is a 15 year felony; and first; degree home invasion is a 20 year felony.

Pioneer

Monday, May 24, 2004

Ferris' Irwin eager to test her skills among nation's best

By Sandy Gholston Pioneer Sports Writer

BIG RAPIDS - The competitor in second-year runner Jenny Irwin always has been motivated by the highest of expectations - whether in cross country or track and field seasons.

But, as Irwin has demonstrated throughout her brief college running career at Ferris State University - the combination of high expectations and a relentless work ethic can take a person to big places. There have been bumps in the road, but the bumps have never been too overwhelming to slow Irwin.

"When I first got to college I knew there would be a lot of adjustments I'd have to make to a higher level of competition with learning different race strategies and the amount of time you have to put in to get yourself prepared," said Irwin, who qualified in the 1,500-meter run for the 23rd annual NCAA Division II Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships (May 27-29) at Mount San Antonio College's Hilmer Lodge Stadium in Walnut, Calif. "Getting to nationals was a big goal for me.... I came into the season with a goal to be an All-American."

In the field of 20 to compete in the 1,500, Irwin's time of 4:33.11 ranks ninth-best as she will put her best to the test in the preliminary round Thursday at 6:20 p.m. The 1,500 finals are scheduled to take place Saturday at 7:37 p.m. For the native of Scottville and graduate of Mason County Central High School, to reach her ultimate goal being named All-American - requires a top-eight finish Saturday.

Irwin's head coach at Ferris State, Jeff Kavalunas, feels one of his ace runners has the tools and work ethic essential to finish in the top eight.

"Jenny has worked really hard," he said. "The first year for runners coming in is such a transition, but she came back as a sophomore a lot more familiar with what to expect and made some great strides to where she is right now."

"I think her big breakthrough came at the conference (cross country meet) where she finished in the top seven and I think that gave her a lot of confidence because we have some of the best runners in the nation in our conference."

"The big thing for Jenny is going to be to get through the preliminaries and earn her spot in the finals."

Irwin earned AllGreat Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference cross country honors in the fall (22:29.8) on Oct. 25 in a meet held in Big Rapids at Katke Golf Course. This spring, Irwin met the national provisional qualification mark and broke the school's outdoor 1,500 record at the conference championships in Hillsdale as she took

fourth in 4:33.11. For that effort, Irwin was named all-conference and posted the school's second best time in the 3,000-meter run (10:20.78) as she won the race at the indoor conference championships in Findlay, Ohio (Feb. 27-28).

Irwin met the national provisional mark in the 3,000 thanks to a strong effort on the home surface of Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids at the Bulldog Invitational with a time of 10:05.80. That mark, however, was not quite good enough to allow her to finish among the top 16 in the nation to earn a spot in the field at that event in California.

Although Irwin did not make her way into the field for the 3,000 she is in the 1,500 - and that by itself has her feeling a little emotional. Irwin knows the emotions she feels, now, will be nothing like what will be running through her body when she looks around her on the track this week with her competition. The lights shine: 'little brighter on the national stage.

"I know I'm going to be a little nervous when I finally get out there for the preliminaries and look at all of those other great athletes around me," she said. "You just have to go out there, work hard and try' and focus on the race.

"I know if I do well I can become an All-American so that is the thing I really want to focus on when I get out there."

Driving around Big Rapids it is not all that uncommon to see Irwin off running by herself to get a workout in – in addition to team workouts.

"I do a lot of running on my own and I run with the guys some times to get a faster pace," said Irwin who also is 2003-04 GLIAC Indoor All-Academic and NCAA Division II Cross Country Coaches Association Individual All-Academic pick. "I know I have to keep working hard if I want to reach my goal."

Pioneer

Wednesday, May 26, 2004

FSU-Community Summer Band seeks members

BIG RAPIDS -The Ferris State University-Community Summer Band is the summer version of FSU's West Central Concert Band. Each summer, Ferris summer school students, community members and local student band musicians gather for a series of six weekly musical escapades. Rehearsals are on a Monday evening in FSU's Music Center, with a concert on the following Thursday evening in and around the greater Big Rapids area - many of which will be performed outdoors in parks and other settings. Each of the six weeks will feature a different program, making for a rich musical venture for both performing musicians and friends, family and neighbors who come to listen.

Guidelines for FSU Students (Music 160)

All FSU students who will be in town this summer are invited and encouraged to participate in Summer Band. To take Summer Band for credit, sign up for Music 160. Students are cautioned to sign up for the class only IF they will be able to make ALL six rehearsals and ALL six concerts. A course syllabus is available and will be distributed at the first rehearsal. For those only able to make some/most rehearsals and concerts but not all for those already at the credit limit, or for those who just prefer not to take it for credit, participation is possible under the guidelines for community members.

Guidelines for Community Members in the greater Big Rapids area

Director Scott Cohen know to the best of their ability for which rehearsals/ concerts they will and will not be present would help him immensely in planning the repertoire. A survey form will be distributed to help gather this information. Please note that local high school students (and even those middle school students with an advanced level of performance) are welcome to join the group.

All community members who will be in town this summer are invited and encouraged to participate in Summer Band. While participation in all six rehearsals and at all six concerts would be ideal, community members unable to make all of them are invited to perform for all of the concerts for which they can also make the preceding rehearsal. Participants able to let

MiBiz West

June 1, 2004

Grand Rapids HVACR pros applaud Ferris State

Big Rapids- When Chris Comperchio recruits college graduates of HVACR (heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration) programs, he feels fortunate that he doesn't have to travel far.

Comperchio, district manger for Trane West Michigan in Grand Rapids, regularly recruits from Ferris State University's HVACR program as the university in Big Rapids is one of only two in the country that offers four-year degrees in HVACR.

"Within the HVACR industry Ferris is nationally recognized as a leader," Comperchio told *MiBiz*. The quality of Ferris program and graduates were reasons Comperchio didn't hesitate to donate equipment for the new Granger Center for Construction and HVACR, a facility that recently underwent \$18 million in expansion and renovations. The new building was dedicated on May 7.

"There's no doubt in my mind it's a world-class facility as far as HVACR. It's as good as it gets. The hands-on labs are just spectacular," Comperchio said. "We fully support the facility and we feel very good about the fact it is in West Michigan."

While working as an intern for Trane West Michigan, Ferris student Megan Mayle did detailed engineering work in selecting and specifying the air conditioning equipment for the new building.

The Granger Center for Construction and HVACR was named for Alton and Janice Granger, from Granger Construction Company in the Lansing area, whose lead gift of \$1 million made the facility a reality.

The Granger Center's 45,000-squarefoot addition to the former Construction Technology center gives the construction and HVACR departments 75,000 square feet of new or renovated space for their programs.

The entire building is now a 3-D teaching tool as structural steel, plumbing and telecommunications and electrical systems are color-coded, and partially or completely visible. One of the geothermal heat pumps that cool faculty and administrative offices is exposed in an open ceiling to allow students to monitor it. The building includes five in-floor radiant heating zones in student labs. Students can observe three variable air volume main airhandling units in the upper mechanical room. Throughout the building, pipes, ducts, pumps, fans and mechanical components are visible.

Randy Seaman, owner of Seaman's Air Conditioning and Refrigeration in Grand Rapids knows first hand the value of the HVACR program at Ferris. He earned an associate's degree at Ferris in HVACR before joining the family business.

"We're familiar with the classes and their training. They (Ferris students) have a good basic understanding of what goes on," Seaman told *MiBiz*. He said because of this training Ferris graduates tend to progress faster than others and he attributes that to students being trained in the environment they will work in. He cited their professionalism and motivation of the Ferris graduates he has hired.

Seaman said the HVACR industry changes just as fast as the computer industry so it's important to keep up with the latest , technology and equipment that the new Granger facility can offer.

"There's an absolute need in our industry for good, trained people," Seaman said. In the HVACR industry there's more job openings then graduates and some students have several job offers upon graduation with high starting salaries.

Many other industry donors made the ' Granger facility possible. On April 14 Ferris ' officially dedicated the Klett Family Materials Lab located in the Granger facility. That facility is named for James Klett of Dowagiac, a leader in the asphalt industry, who made a lead gift of \$100,000 to expand and upgrade the facility.

Pioneer
Thursday, June 3, 2004

Ferris students win Health and Human Service award

BIG RAPIDS - Four Ferris State University students are the recipients of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Award for Innovations in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

Sarah Lessard of Dollar Bay, College of Pharmacy; Zakri Burns of Lansing and Joy Kerns of Wyandotte, College of Optometry; and Lindsey VanDenHeuvel of Shelby, College of Allied Health Sciences-Department of Nursing, received first place for their interdisciplinary paper on the "Development of a University-Based, Interdisciplinary Approach to Diabetes Care in a Rural Community Setting."

The competition provides an opportunity for students enrolled in the health professions to describe their innovative health promotion projects. Papers are submitted in one of two categories - single discipline and inter-professional. The award winning Ferris team's inter-professional entry impressed this year's judges through its innovative approach and the significant level of collaboration displayed by the students.

The Ferris student team and their faculty sponsors will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.. on Monday, with the student team receiving an award of \$7,500.

More than 100 papers describing inter-professional projects were submitted to the 2003-2004 Secretary's Award for Innovations in Health Promotion competition, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration in collaboration with the Federation of Associations of Schools of the Health Professions.

Faculty sponsors were Stephen Durst and Eric Jarvi, Pharmacy; Robert Buckingham, Optometry; and Jacqueline Hooper along with Arlene Morton and Mary Cairy, Allied Health Sciences.

"We are all very pleased with the collaborative effort displayed by the students in the development of this innovative approach to the management of a very debilitating disease and the national recognition they have received for their efforts," said Durst, associate dean/department head. Pharmacy Practice, Ferris College of Pharmacy.

Students entering the competition submitted describing their innovative health promotion or disease prevention projects that have been proposed and/or implemented to meet certain course requirements or are part of service learning or other academic experiences. The Ferris students' clinic experience was a component of the extensive clinical training that is a requirement of each discipline's curriculum. Optometry clinic patients with diabetes were offered the option of entering

the inter-disciplinary clinic, providing them with an expanded education session focused on the management of diabetes.

In addition, follow-up telephone questionnaires were used to measure the effect of the education session. Discussing the interdisciplinary clinic prior to the announcement of the award, the students commented that the experience had provided them with a much broader understanding of each discipline's role in health care and the great need for enhanced support for patients with diabetes. The inter-professional project the Ferris team submitted reflected the collaboration the three professions with the specific goal of developing a multi-disciplinary approach to enhance clinical services to patients with diabetes.

Diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and is the leading cause of new-onset blindness. With in-depth patient education, the Ferris interdisciplinary team addressed several areas identified in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' "Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health" goals and focus areas.

The second and third place winners in the interdisciplinary category included Auburn University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, respectively.

Through a grant received from the Ferris Foundation, the students' pilot project will be continued throughout the next academic year, incorporating additional students from each discipline.

Pioneer

Weekend, June 5&6

Ferris State president, staffers plan tour by bus

Trip highlights university's virtues

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University President David Eisler and members of the Ferris community will tour the state June 21 to 25 to connect with alumni, friends, and current and prospective students and their parents.

The 14-stop 2004 Ferris Hometown Tour will first travel to Alpena, make Upper Peninsula stops in Brimley and St. Ignace, then follow the Lake Michigan shore from the Mackinaw Bridge to the Benton Harbor/St. Joseph area.

The tour will then head eastward with stops from Kalamazoo to Flint before ending in Detroit and returning to Big Rapids.

"This will be a great way to recognize the achievements of Ferris students and active alumni, as well as for me to meet the university's next generation," said Eisler, who was officially inaugurated as the university's 18th president on Oct. 2.

The tour's itinerary includes visits to Alpena Community College, the Bay Mills Resort, the St. Ignace School District, Boyne Mountain Resort, Northwestern Michigan College, Interlochen Center for the Arts, West Shore Community College, the State Capitol Building and Mott Community College, among others.

"At all our stops people will have the opportunity to learn about what Ferris has to offer them - whether they're just out of high school, changing careers or strengthening their job skills," said Eisler.

During the current academic year, Ferris launched new programs forensic biology, digital animation and game design, a graduate certificate in nursing education, and master of science in nursing with specialization education, health care informatics or administration.

Pioneer

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

FSU hosts youth art camps in June

BIG RAPIDS -Ferris State University's Rankin Art Gallery will host youth art camps for the summer.

The first session will be in June for children ages 10 to 13 the second session in July for teens ages 14 to 16. Art lessons and art activities will be planned during the day and early evening. Both commuter and overnight camps are available.

Classes will include painting, drawing, mosaics, photography, fabric painting and screenprinting.

For more information, contact Carrie Weis-Taylor or Aaron Nemecek at (231) 591-2536 or visit <www.ferris.edu/gallery> for an online application.

Pioneer

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ferris finishes second in President's Cup standings

By Sandy Gholston Pioneer Sports Writer

BIG RAPIDS - The times when a second-place finish will make a competitor happy typically are few and far between.

But, Ferris State Athletics Director Tom Kirinovic could not help but swell a little bit with pride as he received word of the final standings for the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's Presidents' Cup. The FSU Athletic Department finished second to Grand- Valley State, which won the honor for the sixth season in a row with 142 points to 108 for the second-place Bulldogs.

"I am very pleased that we, as an athletic program, were able to achieve that high of a finish in the Presidents' Cup standings for this year," said Kirinovic, who also noted that his team's high finish is even more remarkable since no Ferris team won a GLIAC championship. "It's especially gratifying when we're going up against a number of schools who offer more athletic programs than we do, are fully-funded or are close to being fully-funded.

"I am really pleased with the hard work and dedication shown by the coaches on our staff as well as that of our student-athletes."

The GLIAC's Presidents' Cup annually is awarded to the league's athletic program with the best overall point performance among the sports sponsored by the league.

The Bulldogs enjoyed second-place finishes in men's golf, women's golf, men's tennis, women's tennis and women's basketball.

Thanks to a balanced effort led by first-team all-league guards Willie Thomas and Carlton Epps, Ferris head coach Bill Sall's basketball squad did win the North Division championship during the regular season, but takes third in the overall standings, according to the conference.

"Even though we did not win a single conference championship we had eight of our programs finish in the top three or four," Kirinovic said. "And, if you give us two or three of the sports we don't have and some other schools do have then those are some more points we could potentially add to our total."

Both Bulldog tennis teams and the women's golf team advanced to the NCAA Division II National Championships this season as well. On the links, coach Brad Bedortha's squad, led by GLIAC Freshman of the Year Casey McKinnon, finished tied for second in the nation.

Ferris' women's basketball team, on the strength of good guard play from program career scoring leader Lucy DeMartin and all-league guard Erin Miller, helped the Bulldogs earn their second-ever bid to the NCAA Division II Tournament.

Grand Valley State won nine conference championships this season in men's and women's cross country, men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field, women's golf and baseball. The Lakers had second-place teams in men's golf, football, women's soccer and volleyball.

Wayne State finished third with 95 points, Ashland was fourth (93.5), Findlay was fifth (88), Northwood sixth (81.5), Saginaw Valley State seventh (73), Mercyhurst eighth (71.5), Hillsdale was ninth (68.5), Michigan Tech was 10th (58.5), Northern Michigan was 11th (57), Gannon was 12th (54.5), Lake Superior State finished 13th (49.5) and Indianapolis took 14th (20.5).

Indianapolis is an associate member of the conference and competes in only men's and women's swimming and diving and in football. The rest of the Greyhounds' athletic teams compete in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Wayne won GLIAC championships in men's golf and men's swimming and diving while Northwood claimed titles in men's and women's tennis.
