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Pioneer
October 24, 2006

Fraternity hosts event to answer legal questions

BIG RAPIDS - Legal issues aren't easy to understand, but members of a Ferris State University fraternity want to make things a little simpler.

Tonight Sigma Pi will host "Know your Right," an event that will include defense attorney Jim Samuels and Mecosta County Prosecutor Peter Jaklevic answering questions about the law.

"By having a prosecuting and defense attorney available to answer questions, students will get honest answers immediately," said Ryan Hardy, Sigma Pi risk management chairman.

The event is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Ferris State University Rankin Student Center Dome Room. It is free and open to the public.

"We welcome and encourage all questions," Hardy said. "Students often feel pressure when asking about legal issues and this is a way for questions to be answered in a safe environment."

Organizers ask that participants submit questions by e-mail, to prevent duplicate inquiries.

Questions can be submitted to knowyourrightsfsu@gmail.com. Participants also are encouraged to submit questions that may be too personal to ask at the event. Also, cards will be available for last minute inquiries.

While the event gives people a chance to get legal questions answered, ranging from drunken driving issues to personal situations, Hardy said he hopes students will gain an understanding of how the legal system works.

"Sigma Pi hopes to help everyone, especially students, aware of what their rights are," Hardy said. "We really hope students take advantage of this opportunity."

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October 24, 2006

Phi Lambda Sigma hosts health fair today

BIG RAPIDS - The Phi Lambda Sigma student organization will host its first health fair from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. today in the Student Recreation Center at Ferris State University.

At the fair, health issues ranging from birth control, alcohol awareness, stroke prevention, proper nutrition and diet to the new HPV vaccine will be addressed.

"We would like students to become more involved and knowledgeable about the health issues facing them today," said Phi Lambda Sigma member Lizzie Engle. "We hope by having students and student organizations present the information, it will be less intimidating. We want to create an environment that is open and conducive to health education for students."

Pioneer

October 24, 2006

Creswell speaks at Ferris

Libertarian speaks in support of Michigan Civil Rights Initiative and private property rights.

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University Coalition for Liberty presented Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Greg Creswell in Merrill/Travis Hall lobby Thursday. Creswell spoke in favor of the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative and other ballot initiatives.

Creswell, who has been heavily involved with MCRI for the last three years, talked about collecting signatures for the initiative in the dead of winter.

"I deeply resent the accusations that we deceived anyone to sign the petition," he said. "What I'm hoping to do with proposal two is to stop state-sponsored discrimination."

He later added, "The very essence of civil rights is that it belongs to all of us, regardless of race, sex, color, national origin, etc. It's long past due time that our state constitution actually said so.

"I don't want anyone saying or thinking that I got to where I was based on the color of my skin.

Good looks - that's OK, but not the color of my skin, and not my gender."

Creswell said that he is the only gubernatorial candidate who supports Proposal 4, which prevents the government from ceasing private property.

Libertarian attorney general candidate Bill Hall, who spoke briefly at the event, will speak at FSU's Rankin Center Lobby at 8:30 p.m. today.

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October 24, 2006

HEAT'S ON project helps homeowners

Volunteers help with installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University's student chapter of the Greater Michigan Mechanical Service Contractors of America held its fifth HEAT'S ON project Sept. 23.

The student chapter along with United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry Local 190 and UA Local 7 coordinated the community project with the State of Michigan Department of Human Services for Mecosta /Osceola counties. Volunteers included MSCA service technicians and chapter students who provided preventive maintenance calls on furnaces, and installed carbon monoxide and smoke detectors to select family homes across Mecosta and Osceola counties.

Volunteer service technicians came from Goyette Mechanical Company, Flint; Johnson Controls, Ann Arbor; Boone & Darr, Ann Arbor; Comfort Zone, Dexter and Hurst Industries, Grand Rapids. Also in attendance were chapter sponsor Sandra Miller and her assistant Lily Calmeyn, from Greater Michigan MSCA, and chapter advisor and Ferris HVACR Department Chair Mike Feutz.

The morning of the event, Miller reviewed required service call procedures with the technicians and students. Volunteers in five service vehicles then took carbon monoxide and smoke detectors to install in homes. Additional volunteers served as "runners" to deliver parts to the various service calls as necessary.

"This experience has allowed me to work with an HVACR service technician for and provide a valuable service to the community," said HVACR program junior and MSCA student chapter member Alex Gasper. "At the end of the day it feels good to know I helped another person."

Student and contractor volunteers in 2006 Heats On, Big Rapids.

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October 24, 2006

FSU presentation to highlight the benefits of biodiesel

BIG RAPIDS - The social sciences department at Ferris State University is presenting "Alternate Energy: Biomass Diesel Fuel" from 7 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday in the Arts and Sciences building, Room 102.

"I am hoping students learn that there are other alternatives than gasoline and corn ethanol, which are better for our national security and environment," said Don Roy, an associate professor in the social sciences department.

Biodiesel is a cleaner-burning fuel for diesel engines that is produced from renewable resources such as soybean oil, Roy said. It can be used as a pure product or blended with petroleum diesel.

Biodiesel is simple to use, renewable, domestically produced and readily available.

Benefits of biodiesel include helping keep the air cleaner by significantly reducing carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide emissions, which is especially beneficial to asthmatics, Roy added. It also lessens dependency on foreign oil.

Roy has arranged for a speaker from American AgFuels, a biomass diesel manufacturer, to speak to students about the negatives of corn ethanol fuel compared to biomass diesel. American AgFuels, located in Defiance, Ohio, began processing soybean oil to produce biodiesel in 2005.

"The wave of the future is alternative energy sources, and who knows, maybe some of our students will venture into this kind of business," Roy said.

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October 25, 2006

Yeoman Photography opens in Big Rapids

BIG RAPIDS - At the age of 22, Matt Yeoman is experiencing and enjoying his success so far.

In August, Yeoman and his wife, Bethanee, opened a photography studio in Big Rapids at 225 Michigan Ave. Suite B.

His biggest hope is to offer a younger approach to photography. "It's the only way you can freeze time and that just fascinates me," he said. "It's been a passion of mine for a long time. I like to add a new look to things."

Yeoman, who lives in Big Rapids, has been a professional photographer for three years; out of the house for two. He has taken photos for Ferris State University.

"I've always had a strong desire to work for myself," he added. "This fell into place; it was the right thing to do. I've been planning it out for a while. We began to seriously think about opening up the studio since February. And we made it happen." The couple works together at weddings, parties; senior pictures, baby and family photos, sports photos and other special events. He also does videography.

"We can work in the studio or on location," he added. "We work together and dual shoot events.

"My photography has a new look. It's not the same old traditional style. It's in a class of its own. There are things I can do that no one else around here does."

Yeoman has taught some photography classes at Artworks, which he enjoys. His accomplishments in photography include the 2006 SBC Phonebook cover.

"The digital aspect adds a whole new dimension to photography," added Matt.

For more information, visit www.yeomanphotography.com, or call (231) 580-1472.

Pioneer

October 26, 2006

Parking ticket funds pay off for FSU students

Parking tickets benefit university programs, not campus police.

BIG RAPIDS - Every time you walk out to your car at Ferris State University and there's a bright yellow envelope under your windshield wiper, it means two things.

First, you parked illegally and second, additional dollars for student services will be coming in when you pay that ticket.

Every parking ticket - along with every other written violation issued by the school's Department of Public Safety - generates money that goes directly into Ferris' general fund.

Bottom line, it means that paper under your wiper won't just fill up your glove box; it also will go to heating residence halls and paying instructors.

And the money adds up.

In a given week, more than \$10,000 can be earned for the university through parking tickets. For example, 665 tickets were written from Oct. 6 to 13, bringing in an estimated \$11,760 and from Oct. 14 to 19, 734 tickets were written for \$12,900.

Parking tickets might make people groan with displeasure, but Marty Bledsoe, director of the school's Department of Public Safety, said it's more than just a nuisance.

"Essentially, it's theft of services, because some one has paid for that spot," Bledsoe said.

He added that it creates a "monstrous domino effect" when someone parks illegally because it causes others to do it as well.

The majority of tickets are issued by students employed by the department as service officers that wear green reflective vests. The attire is designed to keep the students in uniform and make them identifiable as resources for proper parking, Bledsoe said.

Fees from parking tickets are just a small portion of monies that are collected at the university.

Course fees, supplies, books, field trips, room damages, library fines, health care services and other miscellaneous fees all go into the bottom-line. From there they are separated and dispersed through the general budget, according to Leah Nixon, FSU spokeswoman.

To prevent getting a ticket, parents, relatives and other campus visitors can obtain a free visitor's pass between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. from the Parking and Registration Bureau, a division of the public safety department. The parking bureau is in the West Commons Building, in front of Crammer Hall.

Pioneer

October 26, 2006

Student teachers get a morale boost

BIG RAPIDS - More than 100 student teachers from Ferris State University got a morale boost in the form of a goody bag from the Beta Kappa chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a teacher honor society.

Dan Jarzabkowski and Karen Baar, coordinators of student teaching and field experience at Ferris, accepted the mo bags on behalf of the students.

"There are no young people that are in classrooms right now, preparing lessons, working with all levels of children and youth and becoming the best educator they can be. We as active teachers of a teachers' honor society, felt that it was important to encourage these young people in a very difficult task.

We know that education is what will make this world a better place and they will be influencing how our society reacts and moves forward in the future," wrote Pat Little, coordinator of the project, in an e-mail.

Pioneer

October 28 & 29, 2006

Ferris' Klobucher up for national academic award

BIG RAPIDS - Mike Klobucher, throughout his career at Ferris State, consistently has been a guy who puts the student in the term student-athlete.

The senior linebacker, a native of Grand Haven who prepped at North Muskegon High School, learned of some more good news this week news that had little to do with what takes place on the football field. Klobucher, one of Ferris' team captains, had his name listed among y college football student-athletes who form the 2006 National Scholar-Athlete class as announced, Thursday, by The National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

"It's a great honor because it recognizes what we do, as student-athletes, off the field," said Klobucher, who is in preparation for this (Saturday) afternoon's home contest against No. 1 Grand Valley State with kickoff scheduled for 2 p.m. at Top Taggart Field. "It's a nice thing, also, because one of those things that show how all the hard work you put in, in the classroom, can pay off with something like this ... It's; definitely a big honor."

Being named a national scholar- athlete mean's the 6-foot -2, 248-pound Klobucher receives an \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship.

The distinction further means he will be recognized at the 49th National Football Foundation Awards Dinner (Dec. 5) at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City.

Twice, during his career, Klobucher has been named a GLIAC All-Academic 'ream choice and was named Ferris' 2005 winner of the President's Academic Award for owning the team's highest grade point average. The previous two years, Klobucher shared the honor with teammates. In addition to other various academic accolades, earned during his career, Klobucher has been active in organizations such as Fellowship of Christian Athletes and has served as a volunteer for Guiding Light Mission and Muskegon Rescue Mission.

On the field, Klobucher is a two-time honorable mention All-GLIAC selection who currently ranks ninth among the school's all-time tackle leaders with 362, including 189 solo, in 39 games.

An Applied Biology major, at Ferris State, Klobucher is hoping to use his degree to ultimately begin a career in physical therapy.

Pioneer

October 28 & 29, 2006

Ferris State and Lansing Community College form partnership

LANSING-- partnership forged between Ferris State University and Lansing Community College allows Ingham County residents to obtain an advanced degree from Ferris without leaving home. Soon, they may have more options.

Lansing Community College also has partnerships with seven other universities in the state.

Classes for all eight universities will be centralized in a building being constructed on the downtown LCC campus. Representatives for Ferris were in attendance at ground-breaking ceremonies for University Center on Friday morning.

Officials in the Ferris University Center for Extended Learning said the university has offered classes at LCC for some time. The three programs now offered - an associate's degree in respiratory care and bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and industrial technology and management - will continue to be offered at LCC's University Center. With the opening of that facility, however, additional programs may open at the site.

Grand Rapids Press

October 29, 2006

Foundation pumped for Jones' visit

GRAND RAPIDS - Ferris University Foundation wanted to add a little punch to its eighth annual fundraising benefit in Grand Rapids.

The foundation, which funds scholarships and professional development projects, needed a guest attraction with strong name appeal, a compelling life story exemplifying the excellence the foundation stands for and a Michigan connection.

The planning committee found all three in James Earl 'ones.

"He's one of those individuals who reflects well on audiences," said Jeremy Mishler, director of alumni relations. When we found out he was available, we jumped at the chance. He can share a story that will really elevate the specialness of the event."

Jones, who grew up in DubLra in Manistee County, cut his acting teeth at Manistee's Ramsdell Theatre. He punched into the big time in 1959 as "I he Great White Hope" on Broadway and in the 1970 film. With numerous film, television and stage credits, the award winning actor perhaps is best known as the voice of Darth Vader in "Star Wars."

"Just to hear that voice! I'm very excited," said JVZZM (Channel 13) news anchor Juliet Dragos. She will interview Jones as part of the program for the foundation's black tie gala Friday at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in downtown Grand Rapids.

Dragos, who used to live in Big Rapids and is a big fan of Ferris football, said she couldn't refuse an opportunity to do a live interview.

"We're going to concentrate on his Michigan acting roots," she said. "Then I'm going to listen to him and follow where he leads. I think he'll be an inspiration to the audience." Jones, 75, also will take questions from the audience.

This is Jones' second fundraising appearance in West Michigan this fall. He gave a poetry reading at the Ramsdell in September to raise more than \$30,000 to help convert the high school he attended in Brethren into a community center.

Mishler said the Ferris fundraiser is held in Grand Rapids as a more central location for alumni who come from all across the state.

Attendance usually runs between 350 and 400, but the goal for this year is 500.

Grand Rapids Press

October 31, 2006

Ferris State's Klobucher earns football academic honor

Ferris State University middle linebacker Mike Klobucher of Grand Haven was selected to the National Scholar-Athlete Class of 2006.

The 17 recipients were chosen by the National Football Foundation's Awards Committee, which includes former coaches, College Football Hall of Fame members and college athletics administrators.

Klobucher will receive an \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship and will be recognized at the 49th annual NFF Awards dinner Dec. 5 at New York's Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

Klobucher, a two-time Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honorable mention player who has led Ferris State in tackles the past two seasons, is up for consideration for the 2006 Draddy Trophy, which is awarded to college football's top scholar-athlete.

Pioneer

November 2, 2006

Dems make brief visit to Ferris

BIG RAPIDS - Gov. Jennifer Granholm made a surprise visit to Ferris State University Wednesday as part of her campaign tour.

The call came into the university president's office just before just before 1 p.m.

"Someone called and said they were on the highway, heading to Cadillac and were a half-hour early and they wanted to know if they could stop here," said Karen Paine, secretary for the university's Board of Trustees.

President David Eisler was teaching a course on the history of the school in a conference room next to his office when he learned Granholm was on the way.

"Someone from my office came in and said that the governor would be here in lo minutes," Eisler said.

So, he wrapped up his lecture and went outside with his students.

"It was great because it gave me time to finish class and be out there with the students when they met their governor," Eisler said. "And she was just great with them."

Granholm's campaign bus pulled up into the Timme Center for Student Services' parking lot and she got out and met with Ferris freshmen.

"And, of course, all of them had their phones with the little cameras and they were taking pictures," Eisler said. "I really hope it will be a good memory of their freshman year here."

Twenty minutes later, Granholm and staff were back on the bus, headed for the highway and north to their scheduled Cadillac visit.

"I guess it just shows that you never know what's going to happen," Eisler said.

Granholm was accompanied by Lt. Gov. John Cherry, former attorney general Frank Kelly, U.S. Sen. Carl Levin and secretary of state candidate Carmella Sabaugh.

Pioneer

November 2, 2006

Jones, speech to benefit Ferris Foundation

James Earl Jones is not a poet. He will be the first to tell you that.

But he is the voice of the poets. Those who heard him speak at Manistee's historic Ramsdell Theatre last month will tell you that. On Friday he will appear at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids to benefit the Ferris Foundation.

Jones brought the words of the poets - Longfellow, Frost, Whitman and even his old Manistee County school teacher, Donald Crouch - to life. He wove them into a tapestry of harmony and heartbeats, joy and sorrow, that gripped the many senses of those who were left sitting on the edges of their seats.

"I cried," said Sheila Maywaters, 33 of Manistee. "Even at the happy and funny poems, I cried.

I've never heard anything like it, especially not in person." Jones, 75, appeared at the Ramsdell Theatre - on the very stage he got his start in show business a half-decade ago - to read selections of poetry, and to answer questions from the audiences, to help raise funds for transformation of his old high school into the Dickson School Cultural Center, located in central Manistee County.

He grew up a few miles south of the high school in the sleeping hamlet of Dublin, and spent much of his time visiting friends in neighboring Lake County.

During his recent return to Manistee, Jones read excerpts from Longfellow's "The Song of the Hiawatha," and from the traditional Finnish epic poem, "Kalevala."

He also read from Whitman's "Oh Captain! My Captain!" and "When Lilacs Last in the Door-yard Bloom'd." But it was his reading of passages from Yabo Yablonski's play, "The Leopard," that gripped and perhaps even stunned the audiences. The play centers around the final day of Ernest Hemingway, in the minutes before he committed suicide with a shotgun.

"I was left numb," Maywaters said, "when he read about Hemingway killing himself. It was tragic." Jack Ward, 54 of Reed City, was camping in the area over the weekend when he made his way into Manistee to hear Jones speak.

"I've read a lot about him," Ward said. "And I've seen a lot of his movies, maybe most of them.

But this was the first time I attended anything like this, where a person just gets up and reads poetry.

"It was fantastic, unbelievable. It was exciting." During the second half of the evenings performances, Jones' interaction with his audiences were as captivating as his boisterous, baritone readings were during the first half.

He answered questions about growing up in southeastern Manistee County hamlet of Dublin, in the late 1930s and throughout the 1940s.

He told stories about going to a one-room school house there, and about attending Brethren's Dickson Rural Agricultural Consolidated High School. He graduated in 1949.

And he talked about the day when his teacher, Crouch, challenged him to read a poem aloud, and in front of the rest of the class.

Jones, who as a boy and even later as a teenager suffered from stuttering, read the poem - one that he, himself, had written about his love for grapefruit.

"I was astonished the words came out," Jones bellowed. "Well, I did not become a poet, I became a talker."

Pioneer

November 2, 2006

A NOTE FROM THE FERRIS FOUNDATION

As Ferris State University gears up for its annual Ferris Foundation Benefit on Friday at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids, I'd like to take a moment on behalf of the Foundation Board to highlight the importance of such an event.

Ferris State University has always following the mission of its founder Woodbridge N. Ferris, who believed in "Education for all of the people all of the time." Throughout the years, in order to make this dream a reality, the Ferris foundation has helped manage and increase the amount of funds available for scholarships that benefit both current and future students of the University.

With approximately 82 percent of Ferris students qualifying for some form of financial aid - including scholarships, long-term loans or part-time employment- it is imperative the Foundation continue to seek ways to enhance its ability to fund scholarships for students.

The Foundation's annual benefit is key to giving alumni and friends of Ferris State University an opportunity to help provide the students of today and tomorrow the educational opportunities the University's founder so whole-heartedly believed in.

As Chair of the Ferris Foundation Board of - Directors, I would like to extend an invitation to the community to join the Foundation in celebrating education at Ferris State University: Highlighting this year's benefit will be a program by celebrated actor James Earl Jones and WZZM anchor Juliet Dragos, who will discuss the accomplishments of Jones, his life in Michigan and his love of the arts and education during a special interview that evening.

Also during the evening, a feature video will give supporters of the University who have provided significant contributions to enhance campus facilities and establish student scholarships an opportunity to discuss the benefits of a Ferris education.

Please join us for this special evening. Ticket information is available by contacting Kim Erickson at (231) 591-2365.

Gary Trimarco
Chair, Ferris Foundation
Board of Directors

Pioneer

November 3, 2006

Beverly Neuman Exhibit at Ferris Tuesday

In a Pioneer Photo: On display, the Rankin Art Gallery on the campus of Ferris State University will open an exhibit of Beverly Neumann's work on Tuesday. It will remain until Nov. 30.

Neumann is a realistic painter who utilizes found objects as well as panel and canvas. Her paintings focus on Americana with a satirical edge. She creates murals, billboards, portraits, social commentary on walls, headboards, benches, chairs and antique refrigerator doors.

The Rankin Gallery will host a reception on Thursday at 7 p.m. The gallery is in Room 113 of the Rankin Student Center and is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Web site is www.ferris.edu/gallery.