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Pioneer

April 13, 2006

Waters accepts head coaching position at Cleveland State

CLEVELAND - With his credentials, Gary Waters did not need a whole lot of time to resurface in the Division I head coaching ranks.

Waters, 54, was named head coach at Cleveland State University and was formally introduced to the campus and community Tuesday in a press conference.

The Detroit native was a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) all-district choice during his senior season of college basketball at Ferris State (1973-74). Waters earned a degree in business administration at Ferris (1975) and later returned to his alma mater to earn a second degree in business education. Between those two he was at Central Michigan, where he earned his masters in educational administration.

Waters resigned as head coach at Rutgers but is back in business, now, at Horizon League member Cleveland State - a University of Detroit rival.

"You know, when you take a new job or you go into a different environment, they say things about you and you wonder if they are talking about you or if there is some foreign guy they are talking about," said Waters, who played for the legendary Hall of Fame coach Jim Wink at Ferris State, during Tuesday's press conference conducted in Wolstein Center. "But I'm excited about being here, and I hope you have had the same excitement that I have."

Waters, who attended or worked at Ferris State for 15 years as either a coach or a player, believes he has reemerged in an attractive situation at Cleveland State.

"As I go through this and look, I make decisions in my mind about what should happen and why should things happen and I have had a lot of people come to me and ask me questions," he said. "They've asked me, 'Why should you go to Cleveland State? Why should you be there?'"

"And, you know what? I only come with one phrase, and that phrase is going to be our theme this year," continued Waters, who coached Kent State (Ohio) to a 24-win season and a memorable run in the NCAA Tournament (2000-01). "It's going to be called 'get it done!'"

For Waters, who has been in the coaching profession for 32 years of his life and was a major reason Ferris State won six Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships and made four NCAA Tournament appearances during his 15 years in Big Rapids, the expectations are high in Ohio.

"You know, we're here to get it done. I've watched different people in the past and I've watched them from afar when I was at Kent State, but we won't talk about that much because that's history," added Waters, who took over the Rutgers program in 2001-02

and led them to three National Invitation Tournament appearances during his tenure at the New Jersey-based institution. "This is now."

The Cleveland State University administration is pleased to have Waters running their men's basketball program.

"He wills his teams into family. He does it because he has great help in Bernadette (Waters' wife) and he does it because he knows it's the right thing," Cleveland State University president Michael Schwartz said of Waters, who had a training camp tryout with the Detroit Pistons in 1974, in a press release. "And I know I will never again have to worry about academic matters in basketball."

From a basketball standpoint, CSU believes it has hit a home run by hiring Waters as head coach of a Viking program coming off a 10-18 record last season and seventh - place finish in the Horizon League standings.

"Gary Waters' accomplishments as a basketball coach are well chronicled, but it is Gary Waters the person that separates him from all of the rest," Cleveland State Director of Athletics Lee Reed said in a statement. "In this business, like with others, timing is everything, and during this short process, it became immediately clear that Gary Waters was the person for this job."

Midland Daily News

April 13, 2006

Ferris receives \$1 million gift from local foundation

The proposed Michigan College of Optometry and Center for Collaborative Health Education at Ferris State University has received \$1 million in funding from The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation in Midland.

The gift will benefit the University's "Realize the Vision" building campaign, which will house an eye and vision care clinic, center for collaborative health education; laboratory, classroom and office spaces; and distance learning facilities. The 91,000-square-foot facility will support the Michigan College of Optometry's teaching, research and patient care missions.

"This is a gift that will change the lives of people across the state of Michigan," Ferris President David L. Eisler said. "Through the efforts of The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, we will be able to educate the next generation who will help provide the highest quality eye care to citizens throughout Michigan.

"The Dow Foundation has a wonderful history of support for Ferris State University. We both appreciate and are excited by this donation, which will help support our optometry program, faculty, staff, students and patients who will receive eye care in this facility," Eisler added.

Established in memory of her husband by Mrs. Dow in 1936, The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation supports organizational missions that strive to improve the educational, religious, economic and cultural opportunities of Michigan residents.

"We trustees are pleased to support this project as it will greatly help the people of Michigan," Margaret Ann (Ranny) Riecker, president of The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, said. "Ferris State University's Michigan College of Optometry has developed a reputation over its 30-year history of providing the finest optometric training in the United States, producing more than half of the practicing optometrists in Michigan."

The Michigan College of Optometry was created in 1974 in response to a need for optometrists in Michigan. As the scope of optometric practice has grown more complex, the resource and learning environment needs of faculty and students have made necessary a move to an updated facility.

Pioneer

April 14, 2006

Former campus pastor creates endowment to support lecture program

BIG RAPIDS - Meredith Rupe, former campus pastor and adjunct faculty member at Ferris State University, created the Rupe Lectureship Endowment to support a lecture program on faith and work.

The Kingsford resident, formerly of Aroma, Ind., and graduate of Walnut Grove High School, established the endowment in memory of his father and mother, Robert and Margaret, who lived in Aroma. His father worked his way up from working on the assembly line for Delco Remy to supervising the purchasing departments of the Delco battery plants. His mother was a woman of her time, working in the assembly plant during World War II. Rupe also established the endowment to honor his wife, Pauline, their three children Manuel, Dylan and Majenica) and to celebrate the 40th anniversary of his ordination.

"My family heritage has followed the American dream from tenant farmers to factory assembly line workers, from corporate management to business persons to university educated professionals," said Rupe. "Religious faith, for many, has been the power that has propelled them into the university to make this world a better place. Sociology has long studied the impact of religion upon work in such classical works as Max Weber's 'The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism' and Liston Pope's 'Millhands and Preachers.'

I hope that this lectureship advances the sharing of knowledge with the students, faculty and staff of Ferris about the impact that faith and work have on each other as Ferris continues its rich heritage in providing career and occupational education for its students," shared Rupe.

The Rupe Faith and Work Lectureship Program will offer an annual lecture or series of lectures through the auspices of the Community Studies Institute of Ferris State University. The program will be centered on the sociological study of such topics as how faith influences the meaning of work.

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

Pioneer

April 17, 2006

A busy week for Ferris State

BIG RAPIDS- From MTV personalities to a celebration of the Bard's birthday to public service projects, Ferris State University has several opportunities for community member this week.

The following is a partial list of events on the Ferris campus' for a full listing, visit www.ferris.edu and click on the Campus Calendar link.

William Shakespeare's Birthday Party

A celebration of the Bard's 442nd birthday will take place Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon on the Campus Quad. This even has taken place for about 10 years, but it's only been in the last five or six years that the festivities were located at the quad. Participants can enjoy free cake, free music, free entertainment, free flowers and fruit, free insults and other gifts.

Operation Cans

The FSU Association of Future Educators and Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society will conduct Operation Cans from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. Operation Cans is a can and bottle drive designed to raise funds for the Mecosta-Osceola United Way and Project Starburts. Cans and bottles may be dropped off on Morrison Avenue across the street from Burger King. Volunteers will collect and recycle all can and bottle donations.

Car Show

The High Performance Motor Sports Organization will host a car show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at Lot 2, northeast of the Rec Center, behind the Swan and welding building. Car classes include Best in Show, 4x4 Truck, Late Model, Road Bike, Sport Bike and Vest Beater. Registration is from 10 a.m. to noon and costs \$10 per car. Other activities include Car Bash, Dynometer, Loud Bass and Loud exhaust competitions.

Junior Olympics

Families with school-age children may want to check out the Junior Olympics, set for Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at the FSU Student Recreation Center. The free event is open to all children ages 8 to 13 and will feature competition in four sports: basketball, soccer, tennis and track and field.

After the Olympics, families may want to head to the Campus Quad for some free music at Ferris Fest.

Ferris Fest

A free, day-long event Saturday will help Ferris students, faculty and community members "End the Year with a Bang." Ferris Fest will take place on the Campus Quad from noon to 6 p.m., with a picnic lunch from noon to 2 p.m. The lunch is free for Ferris students with a meal plan and \$5 for the general public.

The annual event is a staple for everyone to come together, have some fun and end the school year on a positive note, said Entertainment Unlimited Special Events Coordinator Amanda Bryer. Activities for the event, hosted by Entertainment Unlimited in collaboration with the campus community, will run the gamut, offering "something for everyone," she added.

La La from MTV will be on hand at the event's main stage to introduce events throughout the day. This year's main stage performers will be students during Live Band Karaoke beginning at 12:15, hip hop group Black Violin beginning at 2 p.m., up and coming country musicians Ryan Shupe and the Rubber Band beginning at 3:30 p.m. and pop music sensation Ryan Cabrera beginning at 5 p.m.

In between acts on the main stage, Ferris student musicians will perform 15 to 20 minute shows on a second stage on the opposite end of the Quad.

Other activities available throughout the day will include Registered Student Organization and vendor tables, mechanical bull riding, bouncy boxing, an inflatable obstacle course, henna tattoos, photo postcards and caricature artists.

"This is a diverse, family-friendly activity that we encourage everyone to come out and enjoy," said Matt Eickhoff, Student Engagement and activities coordinator.

Gospel Fest

Picking up where Ferris Fest leaves off will be Gospel Fest, 'organized by the choir group Lyrical Praise. From 6 to 10 p.m. in Williams Auditorium, Gospel Fest will offer free gospel music and entertainment by nine groups, said LyAshia Yarbrough, a Lyrical Praise member.

The nine acts include Lighthouse Mass Choir and its dance group, Vision, Lyrical Praise, Central Michigan University Gospel Choir, Voices of BU, Majestic Praise and Capericia Reed will perform a dance number.

Yarbrough noted the event was begun as an alternative to Ferris Fest for those who don't listen to the music played during the day. By scheduling after Ferris Fest, anyone who likes both gospel and the daytime music is able to attend.

"For those who'd like to come, please join us and bring your friends and family." she said. "Bring yourself and your worship.

Pioneer

April 18, 2006

Booher visits Ferris State

BIG RAPIDS - Cramped workspaces, small classrooms and inadequate clinical space are a few of the problems Rep. Darwin Booher, R-Evart, encountered during his tour of the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University Monday afternoon.

FSU is working to obtain state funding for a new \$23.8 million building to house the optometry school, one of only y in the nation. The current facility, Pennock Hall, was constructed as a dormitory in 1968 and renovated in 1977 to house the program "temporarily."

Nearly 30 years later, the College of Optometry is still located in Pennock Hall.

Five third-year optometry students guided Booher on a tour of the aging facility, pointing out the problems with the building as well as the various clinical areas servicing the surrounding community.

Following the tour, Booher addressed a classroom full of students about the political budget process for allocating capital projects funds.

"My general impression is we have to do something about this situation," Booher said of the inadequate facility.

"If we're going to graduate high-caliber students, we've got to (have a facility) conducive to learning.... I know they're doing the best they can with what they have."

During his discussion with the students, Booher said he believes there will be "a lot of discussion" about how the capital projects money is allocated this year.

On another note, Booher shared his thoughts on the governor's race with the Pioneer during his visit to Big Rapids.

"It's going to be a very, very tight race," he said. "The key is 'Can we get this state to turn around?'"

"The governor's had four years. Can Dick DeVos do it - (revive the economy) and get people back to work?"

Recent polls indicate DeVos is gaining on Gov. Jennifer Granholm, and Booher believes that is a result of DeVos' advertising campaign.

While nothing has been announced officially, Booher said Republicans will back DeVos in the governor's race.

"We know what we've had and we think Dick DeVos and his business background ...

What the state needs now is someone who knows business and how to run a business...

We think Dick DeVos can get it turned around," Booher said.

Pioneer

April 18, 2006

Support Card Wildlife Education Center with visits, donations

While tickets are closed for a benefit dinner and auction Friday for the Card Wildlife Education Center on the campus of Ferris State University, supporters of this unique learning facility can still make gifts to benefit the center.

Friday's 6:30 p.m. benefit at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center will be preceded by an open house at the center to highlight the attractions of the five-year-old center to potential users and donors.

Proceeds from the dinner and auction and other gifts from the community will be used to benefit a mini-grant program designed to help defray transportation costs for schools wishing to bring student groups to the museum as well as center renovations that include dedication of another room to house animals from Asia.

The center, a 5,000 square foot facility, is located on the ground floor of the Arts and Sciences Commons building. Its primary function is to serve as an educational resource for Ferris students, K-12 school children and community members.

It offers rooms dedicated to displays of animals from Michigan and North America, Africa and Asia, and South America and the South Pacific, along with a conference center.

We urge area residents to take advantage of the open house to see what the center has to offer, including an array of mounted animals that include a baboon, hippo, lion and polar bear.

Come view the center's attractions for yourself and judge the value of providing financial assistance to help extend its availability to school children throughout the area and to provide more and better displays.

Or arrange for a visit at another time by calling Dr. Joseph Lipar at (231) 591-5387. Or learn details about establishing scholarships or endowments for the center by calling (231) 591-3615.

Timesunion.com

April 19, 2006

Appert RPI's man

Denver aide is expected to be next hockey coach.

Seth Appert, an assistant at the University of Denver, will be named RPI's new ice hockey coach Friday.

Tuesday night, a source close to the school verified that Appert, 31, has accepted the position. It was also reported on the Web site U.S. Hockey Report (<http://www.ushr.com>).

The Web site report said Appert was offered the job by RPI athletic director Ken Ralph but only after the school's first choice, former Los Angeles Kings coach Andy Murray, turned it down.

The report said Murray was offered the job over the weekend.

Once Murray turned it down, Ralph immediately turned to Appert, who, according to the Web site, has accepted the job.

Ralph has refused to comment on any potential candidates. The RPI job opened when Dan Fridgen resigned last month.

As of 11 p.m. Tuesday, the school had made no announcement of a news conference. Joe Juneau, a former NHL star and one of the most recognizable names in the history of RPI hockey, said he still follows the program and wants to see the Engineers back in the national spotlight.

"I want to see a great name when they announce the new coach," said Juneau, who played 13 years in the National Hockey League after graduating from RPI in 1991. "I talked to some of the fans the last time I was there (February), and I realized pretty fast they were not happy with the way the program is being treated right now. It is a great school, and people have to understand what RPI hockey is all about."

Appert, a former goaltender at Ferris State, has been at Denver for nine seasons and helped the Pioneers to back-to-back national titles in 2004 and 2005.

He was a volunteer coach at Denver from 1997-99 before becoming the top assistant and recruiting coordinator at Mercyhurst College in the spring of 1999. He rejoined Denver in August 1999.

At Denver, he was responsible for recruiting, on-ice coaching, video breakdown and game analysis work. He has also played a big role in the development of Denver's goaltenders.

Appert was a big reason why Denver's goaltending tandem of Wade Dubielewicz and Adam Berkhoel were considered the nation's best goaltenders from 2000-04.

In the past six years, Appert helped Denver sign nationally-ranked recruiting classes. He has coached or recruited six All-Americans, 19 All-WCHA picks, two WCHA Defensive Players of the Year, one WCHA Student-Athlete of the Year and 17 NHL draft picks at Denver.

As a player, Appert was a four-year letter winner at Ferris State from 1992-96.

Appert had a .900 saves percentage in 1992-93 and helped the Bulldogs to one of their most successful seasons in school history -- a year that culminated in a final four berth in the CCHA playoffs.

He also spent time playing in the East Coast Hockey League with the Charlotte Checkers following his collegiate career. During the 1996-97 season, Appert worked as an undergraduate assistant coach for Ferris State. He also has been selected to coach at the USA Hockey Select 15, 16 and y Festivals for the past eight summers.

He and his wife, Jill, and daughter, Addison (1), live in Denver.

Tim Wilkin can be reached at 454-5415 or by e-mail at twilkin@timesunion.com.

Pioneer

April 19, 2006

FSU optometry revising meaning of `temporary`

The definition of "temporary" in an aging dictionary in the newsroom of the Pioneer is "lasting, used or enjoyed for a limited time."

The dictionary was intended to be and has been a permanent fixture in the newsroom since 1984. The cover is nearly ready to fall off and some pages have been torn beyond repair.

The book's useful life has nearly expired. The same is true of the Ferris State University facility housing the Michigan College of Optometry. The building's usefulness as an optometry school is nearing an end.

That building, Pennock Hall, was constructed as a dormitory in 1968 and renovated in 1977 to house the optometry program.

Renovation of the former housing facility was a "temporary" measure to get the program off the ground.

Now, nearly 30 years later, the word "temporary" is old hat as the optometry school, one of only 17 in the nation, struggles to keep pace with changing times from an aging facility.

The Michigan College of Optometry is one of FSU's premier programs, but must offer new and improved facilities to keep pace with other optometry schools if it hopes to maintain its reputation for "top notch" programming.

FSU is pushing a nearly \$24 million proposal for a new optometry facility to help alleviate cramped work spaces, small classrooms, inadequate clinical space and many other problems.

Hopefully the long overdue construction of a new facility will receive approval from legislators this year as they consider the state's capital projects budget.

We'd like to see construction of the new facility begin before we have to send in a revised definition of "temporary" to the publishers of the new dictionary we need to buy.

Pioneer

April 19, 2006

On Broadway!

BIG RAPIDS -Ferris State University's West Central Concert Band directed by Richard Scott Cohen presents the concert, "On Broadway!" Sunday, at 4 p.m. in Ferris State University's G. Mennen Williams Auditorium.

This year's annual spring concert by the FSU West Central Concert Band is entitled "On Broadway!" and features great tunes and medleys from a number of wonderful Broadway musicals including Fiddler on the Roof, Gypsy, Man of La Mancha, My Fair Lady and The Phantom of the Opera. Also featured are narrator Donna Smith and guest conductor Donald Flickinger.

The program will include the following works:

- Broadway Show Stoppers Overture by Warren Barker
- Fiddler on the Roof by Jerry Bock
- On Broadway by Mann, Weil, Stoller & Leiber
- Lerner and Loewe in Concert by Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner
- Man of La Mancha by Mitch Leigh
- Selections from "The Phantom of the Opera" by Andrew Lloyd Webber
- A Tribute to Rodgers and Hammerstein by Rodgers & Hammerstein

The FSU West Central (WCCB) is currently celebrating its 14th Concert Season. It's comprised of talented musicians from the area, including Ferris students, adult community members from throughout West Central Michigan and talented musicians from area high school music programs.

The WCBB is sponsored by FSU as part of its "Music for Life" program, and presents a series of varied and diverse concerts throughout the concert season.

For assistance with attending this event, please call the FSU Williams Auditorium at (231) 591-3676. Free tickets are available in advance or at the door. The Williams Auditorium ticket office hours are from u a.m. to 4 p.m. or call at (231) 591-5600.

Pioneer

April 19, 2006

FSU presents spring band concert today

BIG RAPIDS - A Spring Band Concert featuring the Ferris State University Symphony Band directed and conducted by Richard Scott Cohen will take place at 8 p.m. today in the FSU G. Mennen Williams Auditorium. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

This will be the first Spring Band Concert presented by the FSU Symphony Band, Ferris' newest musical group which was founded this past fall. The musical selections will include a variety of traditional and contemporary favorites, including music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, swing band music and marches by Edwin Franko Goldman and John Philip Sousa.

The program will include the following works: • Big Band Classics by Eric Osterling

- Cheerio March by Edwin Franko Goldman
- Flourish for Wind Band by Ralph Vaughan Williams
- The Liberty Bell March by John Philip Sousa • The Lion of Lucerne by James Curnow
- Rollo Takes a Walk by David Maslanka
- Three Songs from Sussex by Hugh M. Stuart

The FSU Symphony Band is sponsored by FSU as part of its Music for Life! initiative.

Celebrating its very first concert season, the FSU Symphony Band presents a series of varied and diverse concerts throughout the year. It is comprised of Ferris State University students, adult community members, and talented young musicians from high school programs from throughout West Central Michigan.

Ferris students can earn credit and scholarships for their participation in the FSU Symphony Band by enrolling in Music 160. Adult community members and qualified high school students recommended by their directors may participate free of charge.

The band rehearses every Wednesday evening throughout school year. Every summer, the band presents an outdoor concert series on Thursday evenings for six weeks as the FSU Community Summer Band, which holds rehearsals on Monday evenings in the Music Center on FSU's main campus.

All experienced players of brass, woodwind and percussion instruments are invited to join the band. Please contact Scott Cohen at (231) 591-2484 or rscohen@ferris.edu to sign up.

Pioneer

April 20, 2006

Downtown has improved, but room to continue

BIG RAPIDS - Downtown Big Rapids has made significant improvements in the last decade and can keep its forward momentum going with a little elbow grease.

Doyle Hyett, half of the Hyett Palma consulting team, first visited Big Rapids 10 years ago. He believes the city has experienced positive changes in that time and should implement strategies to keep it going.

"You've got a good, quality community here," he said. "I like the scale, like that the university is close.... Today, it's a very different town than even six years ago - it's improved quite a bit. I'm extremely impressed with the attitude of the leadership. We feel comfortable about the leadership and their commitment."

Among the improvements Hyett noted since his first experience with Big Rapids is an improved town-gown relationship between the city residents and Ferris State University students. That relationship could improve further if the city were to utilize some of the techniques Hyett Palma employs, he said. For example, the student focus group could be continued regularly. "It's something I'm hoping they continue to do. They could get a lot of information very quickly," Hyett said.

An earlier consultant the city employed suggested updating demographic information even six months. While Hyett feels that isn't necessary, he would conduct various focus groups on that schedule.

"They should be continuing to do this... it's a way to constantly keep connected," he said.

Focus group discussion should be inclusive of all segments of the community. Hyett said.

For example, the attendees at the vision session Tuesday evening were not very diverse in age or ethnicity.

"We're going to have to get out there and shake the trees," Hyett said. "You've got to make a purposive effort to bring them in.... It's not that person's responsibility to show up; it's your responsibility to get them to show up."

Focus groups are useless, however, unless the business owners listen to what the potential customers are saying. For example, implementing "market-driven" hours to better accommodate when customers have time to shop could make a great deal of difference. That change might mean working different hours, not simply longer hours, he explained.

"A smart business person talks to the customers and says, 'I'll try to be open when you have the opportunity to spend money with us,'" Hyett said.

The student focus group shared several ideas with Hyett Wednesday, including linking Riverwalk and the riverfront area with downtown or having a slate of downtown events for students to come to.

FSU sophomore John Kurtz said sometimes he feels "there's not enough to do.

"But, if you look around you can find stuff. It's really not that hard. They have flyers everywhere on campus about the events going on," he added.

Kurtz and his friends find themselves in the downtown district about once a week.

"We usually just hang out," he said. "We go to the bar or down to the park. Mainly, it's just to hang out or window shop at what's down there.

"They have a lot of the mom and pop shops there," the Boyne City native added. "Walmart and the others have your basic needs, but down there, they have more of your wants."

Kurtz noted that he generally feels welcomed to the downtown area whether it's at bars or the bowling alley.

"As far as the workers at stores and businesses, the college students who are at their part time job, you get the feeling they're actually there to help you out," he said. "With the older workers, it is 50-50. It seems half of them don't care to help you find what you need and the other half makes an effort to try. I guess, some feel you don't have much to offer them."

Kurtz said he's been asked before for his thoughts and believes his input was taken to heart. He mentioned he brought up he would like to see a computer hardware parts store in the downtown area.

"I was told there was, it was just tucked away," Kurtz said. "For me, I don't watch television and the only radio I listen to is from here to home, so I don't get to see a lot of the advertising that is needed to get me to go downtown."

Kurtz said he would recommend Big Rapids as a spot for family, friends or old school mates to come for college.

"It really depends on what they want to do with their education. For education, health care, pharmacy or pre-op, it's excellent and the town's great," he said.

"For anything else though, you're better off going somewhere else," Kurtz added. "But overall, the town does support you, I think."

Hyett Palma was brought to Big Rapids by the Cool Cities Blueprints for Michigan's Downtowns program, a part of Gov. Jennifer Granholm's Cool Cities initiative. They will create a "Blueprint" or action plan to revitalize the downtown area. Their report will be presented to the community May 31 in an open forum meeting.

The consultants have been pleased with the participation from the community in the process this far. Hyett said the groups have exceeded his expectations. Not only the numbers of people who have attended the focus groups but also the quality of conversation occurring in those sessions has been excellent, Hyett said.

Pioneer

April 20, 2006

Free lecture, presentation today at FSU

BIG RAPIDS - "Carel van Mander's Explanation of Bosch's Monstrosities and Its Modern Denial," a lecture presentation by Ferris State University Instructor of Humanities Robert Quist will take place from 11 to 11:50 a.m. in the Ferris State University Founder's Room located in Rankin Center room 238. This lecture is free and open to the public.

The mystery surrounding Hieronymus Bosch's (c. 1450-1516) strange monsters continues to captivate the imagination of art historians. In the decades following Bosch's death, Spanish writer Don Felipe de Guevara and Dutch painter and biographer Carel van Mander both proclaimed that Bosch "never painted anything unnatural, except in terms of Hell and Purgatory." However, several modern scholars deny and ignore the simplicity of this interpretation. Their analyses range from notions that Bosch's works represent LSD induced hallucinations, secret heretical cults, and alchemical processes. This presentation examines both interpretations of this controversial topic.

Robert Quist holds degrees in humanities, musicology and library and information studies. He currently teaches introductory and survey courses in humanities at Ferris. He also has taught American film, music theory and music appreciation courses. His area of interest includes the western arts of the Renaissance, Baroque and twentieth century. He specializes in the musical styles of modern Scandinavia. In addition, he enjoys performing on the recorder, crumhorn, harpsichord and organ in early music ensembles.

For information on this presentation, please contact Robert Quist at (231) 591-2071 or quistr@ferris.edu or Scott Cohen, Humanities Colloquium Coordinator, at: 591-2484 or rscohen@ferris.edu.

Pioneer

April 21, 2006

Ferris celebrates Shakespeare's birthday

In a courtesy photo: Acting: Ferris State University student Tyson Acosta was pictured reading William Shakespeare on the Ferris campus quad Thursday as a way of celebrating the Bard's 442nd birthday. Those attending received apples, oranges, cake, carnations and bookmarks. Ray VanRiette was pictured reading William Shakespeare on the Ferris campus quad Thursday.

Pioneer

April 21, 2006

Ferris State University presents spring orchestra concert **Sunday**

BIG RAPIDS - The FSU West Central Chamber Orchestra directed by Richard Scott Cohen at 4 p.m. Sunday in Ferris State University's G. Mennen Williams Auditorium. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

This year's annual Spring String Orchestra Concert features a lively mix of orchestral favorites, ranging from classical hits such as Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusic" and Hugo Alfen's "Swedish Rhapsody" to modern works by Norman Leyden and Leroy Anderson's delightful "Plink, Plank Plunk!" Pianist Janet Mallet will be featured on the children's favorite, "Carnival of the Animals."

For assistance with attending this event, please call G. Mennen Williams Auditorium at Ferris State University: (231) 591-3676

Currently celebrating its 39th season, the FSU West Central Chamber Orchestra (WCCO) is sponsored by Ferris State University as part of its "Music for Life" initiative. It is comprised of Ferris State University students, adult community members, and select students from throughout West Central Michigan.

Ferris students can earn credit and scholarships for their participation in the WCCO by enrolling in Music 271. Adult community members and qualified pre-university students recommended by their directors may participate free of charge. This string orchestra rehearses every Tuesday evening throughout the school year from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Music Center or FSU's main campus. We invite all experienced players of string instruments to join orchestra. Please contact director Scott Cohen at (231) 591-2484 or rscohen@ferris.edu to get signed up!

The program will include the following works:

- The Carnival of the Animals by Camille Saint-Saens
- Eine Kleine Nachtmusik by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- Plink, Plank, Plunk! by Leroy Anderson
- Serenade for String Orchestra by Norman Leyden
- Swedish Rhapsody by Hugo Alfen

Pioneer

April 22 & 23, 2006

Jim Crow Museum creator part of television sitcom episode

David Pilgrim, curator of the Ferris State University Jim Crow Museum, will be a part of actor Will Smith's directing debut on an episode of the sitcom "All of Us" in which racial issues facing an African-American family are explored.

Smith, executive director of the show, directed the episode titled "The N-Word," which begins when a young boy, Bobby, blurts out the N-word during his birthday party and his parents try to help him understand the impact and significance of the word. This sparks conversation and debate among the adults at the party.

Pilgrim, a FSU professor, was contacted by staff of the show in January and was flown to the Hollywood set where he worked as a consultant from January through 25.

"This museum is my life's work - and increasingly the life's work of many others - and I want to see it reach its fullest potential," Pilgrim said. "It's humbling to see the museum and staff addressing academic conferences, corporate summits, even Hollywood shows. This tells me that the small room at the little university can make a big difference."

The mission of the Jim Crow Museum is to promote racial tolerance by helping people understand the historical and contemporary expressions of intolerance.

"The Jim Crow Museum is a wonderful example of the difference a faculty member can make through passion and determination," FSU President David Eisler said. "David Pilgrim has spent much of his life collecting artifacts and educating people on diversity, understanding and acceptance. The traveling exhibits of the museum help bring this message throughout the country. Thousands of people visit the Jim Crow Web site and exhibits on campus, which helps raise understanding of these issues on campus and in the community."

Pilgrim's role was to offer criticism, identify stereotypical behavior, suggest script changes, monitor characters and read through the script.

"I felt like I made a contribution. I became emotionally involved in the project," Pilgrim said. "I told Will Smith that he could do more in a 30-minute show to address issues of race and racism than I could do in a year of giving public addresses."

Pilgrim believes that television can be a vehicle for teaching; however, it's not easy. "All of Us" is a situational comedy; therefore, viewers expect to see something funny.

Viewers watching may turn away from serious discussions about race; nevertheless, he believes the show will get people talking about race in a meaningful way.

The objectives of the museum are to collect, exhibit and preserve objects and collections related to racial segregation, civil rights and anti-Black caricatures; promote the scholarly

examination of historical and contemporary expressions of racism; serve as a teaching resource for Ferris courses which deal, directly or indirectly, with the issues of race and ethnicity; serve as an educational resource for scholars and teachers at the state, national and international levels; promote racial understanding and healing; and serve as a resource for civil rights and human rights organizations.

"At the risk of sounding immodest, I envision the Jim Crow Museum as a national, maybe an international, resource for the scholarly analysis of racism. I also believe that we can be a resource for individuals and groups that want to heal the hurt done by racial conflict," Pilgrim said. "I hope it [the show] gets people talking about the word. I want it to spark intelligent conversation and bring attention to what the museum can be and the impact it has."

While in Hollywood Pilgrim worked with other stars besides Smith, such as Duane Martin, Keith David, Cedric the Entertainer, Tony Rock, Debbie Allan, Khamani Griffin and Lisaraye McCoy.

The show will air Monday at 8:30 p.m. on UPN.

Pioneer

April 22 & 23, 2006

Ferris Traffic Safety Team steps up safety enforcement initiative

BIG RAPIDS - The Ferris State University Traffic Safety Team dedicated extra patrols recently for an intensive enforcement effort to ensure continued safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists.

This is the second consecutive year state and local law enforcement agencies joined together for the community traffic safety initiative.

"This intense enforcement action brings our pedestrian safety initiative full circle," said Chief Martin J. Bledsoe of the Ferris Department of Public Safety. "Enforcement is the 'third E' in following engineering and education."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the goals of a pedestrian safety law enforcement program are to have citizens be aware of and comply with pedestrian laws, and to have police officers enforce the laws. MHTSA also reports that adjudication is necessary to correct and remediate pedestrian law violators.

Law enforcement officers began the day by attending a 45minute synopsis of pedestrian laws and ordinances, and enforcement objectives for the campus.

In attendance were law enforcement officers from the Michigan Department of State Police, Mecosta County Sheriffs Office, Big Rapids Department of Public Safety and Ferris Department of Public Safety. James A. Santilli Jr. of the Michigan Highway Traffic Safety Alliance was also in attendance and assisted with the briefing. Students and staff were put on notice of the enforcement effort by Santilli even though not required by law.

According to Bledsoe, law enforcement officers conducted a total of 53 pedestrian safety stops resulting in a variety of warnings, instruction, and in some cases, citations to appear in the 77th District Court.

The FSUTST takes great pride in the effort to make the Ferris community a safer place to travel. Santilli said. In addition to dedicated patrols, the FSUTST is continuing the engineering and education initiatives.

Santilli, who also serves on the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commissions' Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Team, said the latest Michigan Department of State Police crash data indicates that in 2004, there were 2,864 pedestrians and 2,246 bicyclists involved in Michigan motor vehicle crashes.

"On average, one pedestrian was injured every 3 hours 39 minutes and one bicyclist was injured every 4 hours 53 minutes," Santilli said. "Nationally, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death ages 3 to 33."

For more information, including pedestrian laws and ordinances, please visit www.mhtsa.us/fsu/fsutst.htm. The Web page is hosted courtesy of the MHTSA with the approval of the Ferris Department of Public Safety.

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April 22 & 23, 2006

DeHoag receives honor from Michigan Compact

BIG RAPIDS - Dr. Cambria DeHoag, an associate professor in the College of Pharmacy, was recently honored by Michigan Campus Compact. She received its Faculty/ Staff Community Service-Learning Award, the organization's most prestigious annual award that is the highest honor MCC bestows upon faculty and staff throughout Michigan.

The award recognizes the influence on or engagement of students to be involved in community service or service-learning through modeling, instruction and/or special projects. DeHoag was acknowledged by her peers as a faculty person on campus who has made outstanding contributions in community service-learning. She was nominated by Stephen Durst, associate dean of the College of Pharmacy.

"Dr. DeHoag has provided valuable direction in the GR-MERC Engaged Partners Project, for both our students and the project," Durst said. "Students under her direction have gained a valuable understanding of the inter-professional health care needs of a local community and the contribution they can make every day in the lives of its citizens."

During the past two years, DeHoag has played a key role in the development and implementation of an innovative, community based initiative through the College of Pharmacy's affiliation with the Grand Rapids Medical Education and Research Center. She has developed a successful elective course for third-year Doctor of Pharmacy students that links them directly with the urban underserved through the Engaged Partners Program, engendering a significant understanding of the community-based role of health care professionals.

"Dr. DeHoag's efforts in developing student opportunities in community service-learning in the Grand Rapids area are exceptional," College of Pharmacy Dean Ian Mathison said. "Her being recognized with this prestigious award is a deserved acknowledgment of her dedication to involving the college's students, in conjunction with students from MSU and GVSU, in serving the health needs of the citizens of Grand Rapids."

MCC is a non-profit organization that promotes the education and commitment of Michigan college students to become civically engaged citizens through creation and expansion of academic, co-curricular and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service-learning and civic engagement.