

March 26, 2005-April 06, 2005

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## Lansing State Journal

March 24, 2005

### **State plan may lead to 10,000 new jobs**

Budget agreement could mean \$25M for MSU, LCC projects.

As many as 10,000 jobs - including ones involving projects at Michigan State University and Lansing Community College - could be created under a state budget plan agreed upon Wednesday.

That's welcome news for a state where the unemployment rate rose to 7.5 percent in February.

"It is an opportunity to put more people to work this year," Gov. Jennifer Granholm said.

Granholm and legislative leaders crafted a plan that links fixes to the state budget with her desire to create jobs by accelerating construction projects.

Higher education may be a winner in the process.

Universities and community colleges face a \$30 million cut in this year's budget, but they will get the money back if the state's financial picture improves or if the state ends the year with a surplus, as it typically does.

Meanwhile, they will get \$200 million for construction projects.

MSU would get \$20 million to for renovations at the Chemistry Building and other work.

MSU would have to come up with \$7.5 million for the projects.

MSU President Lou Anna Simon said she believes the governor and lawmakers are committed to giving higher education more money in the future once the state's current financial woes ease.

The budget-balancing deal also means MSU's Cooperative Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station will not see the cuts included in an earlier proposal.

**Lansing Community College would get \$5 million, half of the expected cost for a university center that would serve students seeking four-year degrees through colleges such as Central Michigan University and Ferris State University.**

Ruth Borger, LCC's vice president for college advancement, said the project responds to Granholm's goal of doubling the number of adults with college degrees within 10 years.

"We're excited and thrilled to be included," she said. "This increases access and makes it easier for students to complete their goal of a college degree."

The new projects are welcome news to the construction industry as it gears up for spring work.

“Whenever you can create job opportunities, it’s going to be an economic stimulus,” said Mike Nystrom of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association. “Once people start working, they create taxation; they create spending opportunities that have a compounded economic benefit.”

The agreement clears the way for lawmakers to focus on the 2005-06 budget, said state Rep. Scott Hummel, R-DeWitt and chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Associated Press contributed to this report. Contact Chris Andrews at 377-1054 or [candrews@lsj.com](mailto:candrews@lsj.com).

Box:

State jobless rate back up to 7.5%

\* Michigan’s unemployment rate went back up to 7.5 percent in February, after dropping to 7.1 percent for one month, state officials said. The national jobless rate, meanwhile, has gone from 5.4 percent in December to 5.2 percent in January and back up to 5.4 percent in February. The state’s jobless rate for last month likely will be one of the highest in the country when a national list is released in the next several days.

Box:

Budget plan changes

Details of the agreement to fix the \$380 million shortfall in this year’s \$8.8 billion general fund budget:

\* Cuts money for universities and community colleges by \$30 million, but restores it if the state’s financial picture improves. Schools would get \$200 million in capital outlay money to build and maintain campus structures. If the cuts are unavoidable, universities and community colleges would get \$100 million next academic year for building and renovation projects.

\* Spends about \$38 million on brownfields development and \$70million on state renovation projects.

\* Cuts about \$117 million in spending, partly by closing some correctional facilities.

\* Shifts nearly \$200 million from being covered by the general fund to being covered by other revenue sources, including federal funds.

\* Takes about \$80 million from the rainy day fund.

## **Pioneer**

March 26 & 27, 2005

### **Sudanese health, environment adviser presents Ferris Fulbright Lecture**

BIG RAPIDS - Suad M. Sulaiman, Sudanese health and environment adviser, is presenting this year's Fulbright Foreign Lecture, "Sudan: A Peaceful People in a War-Torn Land," April 7 at 4:30 p.m. in Instructional Resource Center Auditorium 002 at Ferris State University.

Dr. Sulaiman is a parasitologist who has served in many capacities, including research professor and adviser on health issues and coordination for the Ministry of Science and Technology in the Sudan.

She is currently the vice president of the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society, serves on the Nile Basin Initiative and the Khartoum Academy of Technology and is on the advisory committees for several non-governmental agencies including ALMANAR, a women's empowerment group, and WAG, the Women Action Group. She also has acted on several World Health Organization (WHO) advisory committees.

"We are excited to have a person of her caliber from the Sudan," said Robert Friar, professor of biology, who met Sulaiman 20 years ago when he was a Fulbright lecturer at the University of Khartoum in Sudan. "She is a delightful person who has worked tirelessly for the last 30 years to improve the quality of life of the Sudanese, especially women."

Sulaiman has worked in the Sudanese Ministry of Health, and has had a major influence on health issues in Sudan, which is the largest country in Africa. She has traveled widely in Africa and is very knowledgeable about the people, their customs and ways of life.

"She brings us an entirely different perspective on a number of crucial issues concerning Africa's potential, which is something we need," said Phillip Middleton, languages and literature, a former Fulbright lecturer at the University of Khartoum. "I am anxiously awaiting her arrival."

Besides presenting the 2005 Fulbright Lecture, Sulaiman will visit a variety of Ferris classes, discussing many subjects: parasitology; African literature; women's issues, including female circumcision; and technical communication in a global context.

The annual Fulbright Foreign Lecture is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Ferris Fulbrighters, a group of 17 faculty members who have taught and studied abroad under the auspices of the Fulbright Scholar Program. In recent years, the group has hosted lecturers from Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Paraguay, Romania and Mexico.

## **Pioneer**

March 26 & 27, 2005

### **Wurtzel, author of 'Prozac Nation,' to lecture at Ferris**

BIG RAPIDS - Elizabeth Wurtzel, author of the ground-breaking memoir about depression, "Prozac Nation," is lecturing Tuesday at Ferris State University.

In addition to speaking at 7:30 p.m. in Williams Auditorium, Wurtzel is conducting a question-and-answer session and book signing following her talk. The Student Leadership and Activities Speaker Series event is free and open to the public.

Wurtzel published her critically acclaimed work at just 26 years of age. Through her high school years and undergraduate studies at Harvard University, she suffered from bouts of acute depression. She was given prescription drugs to aide her in recovery.

She became dependent on these anti-depressants and later became addicted to harder drugs such as cocaine. In her harrowing account, she contemplates what it means to be in love with something in your blood that takes over your body, becomes the life force within you - and ultimately could kill you.

The worldwide success of her book turned her into a cultural phenomenon and opened doors to a rarefied world about which she had only dared to dream during her middle class upbringing by her divorced mother on Manhattan's Upper West Side. Using the insight of her life experiences, Wurtzel has published other books, including "Bitch: In Praise of Difficult Women and Radical Sanity."

Her 2002 publication, "More, Now, Again," is a story of survival as she hits rock bottom, gets clean, uses again and finally gains control over her drug and her life.

## Pioneer

March 28, 2005

### **Hoerter involves Ferris State University students in research**

BIG RAPIDS - Professor Jim Hoerter's latest research grant helped him reach a milestone at Ferris State University. He was happier, however, with the grant's purpose.

Hoerter recently received a \$37,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support undergraduate student research in his laboratory. That funding pushed his research grant total to more than \$1 million since joining Ferris in 1993. More importantly to Hoerter, it enabled him to continue involving students in research.

"I consider my research lab as an extension of the classroom," he said. "It's an excellent environment to help students learn biology by designing experiments and discovering new knowledge about how cells work."

"Carrying out a research project is one of the most valuable learning experiences that a student can have," stressed Hoerter, biological sciences department head. "I teach them some of the basic techniques of molecular biology and then I give them a small piece of the puzzle to solve and let them take ownership of their own research."

"As professional educators, we should be engaged in advancing our knowledge of our disciplines," said Hoerter. "This is critical. If we can involve students in this process, they can actually be helping us to learn. If you make a conscious effort to do this, you can provide a wonderful way for students to gain knowledge."

Michael Harris, Ferris vice president for academic affairs, is in total agreement.

"There is a lot of evidence that undergraduate research is exceptionally enriching for students," said Dr. Harris. "They not only gain knowledge from their research, but they acquire new skills, learn self discipline, develop analytical thinking and can enhance their commitment to the university."

"I can't say enough about the values and benefits of undergraduate research," he added. "I think that Dr. Hoerter is doing an exceptional job in providing and facilitating these opportunities for our students."

One of the initiatives of Matt Klein, newly appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is to make more opportunities for undergraduate student research. That's also a high priority of the NIH and the National Research Council (NRC). A recent NRC report challenges universities and colleges to merge research and professional development with education to create unique learning environments for students.

"They want to dispel the misconception that education and research are separate," explained Hoerter.

“To me, research and education go hand-in-hand. The classroom is only one place where learning happens. Learning can take place 24 hours a day. Classroom walls are breaking down as new technology for connecting students to learning communities and research labs all over the world is creating a whole new paradigm for learning.”

“We broke ground with this concept when I started ‘Research Link,’ a national program to connect students and researchers all over the world to communicate and share data on areas of common interest in biology,” said Hoerter. “I’m now in the process of creating a global learning community via the Internet that will link research scientists and undergraduate students who are interested in the whole area of solar light and how it affects human behavior and health.”

## **Pioneer**

March 30, 2005

### **FSU adds speaker to lecture series**

BIG RAPIDS - Dustin Anderson, a specialist with the Kent County Sheriffs Department, was added to Ferris State University's Forensic Science Lecture Series.

Anderson will discuss his job in forensics and how students can prepare for similar careers Tuesday at 11 a.m. in room 120 of the Science Building.

Other remaining speakers in the series, which covers topics made popular by television's "CSI" shows, are:

- John Trestrail, managing director of the DeVos Children's Hospital Regional Poison Center in Grand Rapids, "Forensic Toxicology," April 7 at 6 p.m. in auditorium two of the Instructional Resource Center (IRC);
- Heather Gill-Robinson, instructor and doctoral candidate at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, "Forensic Anthropology/Archaeology," April 12 at 6 p.m. in IRC-2 and "My life as a CSI," April 14 at 11 a.m. in Science120.

The lectures, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences' biology department, are free and open to the public.



## **Pioneer**

March 30, 2005

### **Larry Kirkwood Body Image Project opens Tuesday**

BIG RAPIDS - The Larry Kirkwood Body Image Project will be on display at Ferris State University's Rankin Art Gallery starting Tuesday through May 6.

Larry Kirkwood is an artist from Kansas City who uses the art of "body casting" to display the natural human form. Kirkwood began creating this unique art form as a way to express bodies aesthetically rather than sexually. This exhibit strives to give the viewer a more honest and healthy view of who people really are physically. The artist will be visiting Ferris' campus during the first week of the exhibit to participate, in workshops and lectures. This event is sponsored as part of the Speaker Series by FSU's Office of Student Leadership & Activities. Additional sponsorship also comes from FSU's Birkam Health Center.

#### Opening week events

- Tuesday, April 5, Noon to 9 p.m.: The Rankin Art Gallery will host a free workshop open to the public. Stop by to make a contribution to the exhibition. The artist will be speaking at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, April 7, 7 to 9 p.m.: There will be a slam poetry concert and reception.

Refreshments provided. Free admission.

## **Pioneer**

March 30, 2005

### **Ford headline speaker at conference**

BIG RAPIDS - Cheryl Ford, a 2004 all-star player for the Detroit Shock of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), is one of a distinguished panel of speakers coming to Ferris State University Thursday.

Ford, the 2003 WNBA Rookie of the Year, is scheduled take part in the third annual Women Investing in earning (WILL) Conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Big Rapids from 6 to 8 p.m. Also scheduled to speak at the event are: Terri DeBoer, a WOOD-TV 8 meteorologist out of Grand Rapids; and Chris MacInnes, a senior vice president of Crystal Mountain.

The conference's objective is to bring three successful Michigan women to Ferris State to share their views and experiences about rising to high roles of leadership in their future professions.

"The event is designed to have leading women tell their stories about their rise to leadership in their fields and to come here and give advice to younger women... future leaders," said Abby Lund, Director of Academic Affairs for Student Government at Ferris. "In the past, this conference has been geared more toward women, but the leadership issues we're going to be discussing are issues anyone can apply to their own situations."

The leadership program begins at 6 p.m. and ends with a social reception and a question-and-answer session after the presentations later in the evening.

Bringing in Ford, as a prominent woman athlete in Michigan, is something unique for the conference, according to Lund.

"We wanted to (have Ford speak), even though it was going down a little bit of a different avenue for us, because she is a speaker that can appeal to even more people than those we would normally attract," she said. "We're happy to have her speaking here."

Because of the Student Activity Fee, allocated by the Student Government's Division of Finance, the leadership conference is free of charge to those who wish to attend and participate. However, as part of Ferris State's dedication to offer a helping hand to those who need it on the other side of the world, donations will be accepted.

The donations go into the university's Tsunami Relief Fund.

"That's something we've been trying to do to help out the people who have been hurt by the tsunami," said Lund, a junior at Ferris who is a history major. "We've

started that program and we're trying to make it bigger and bigger to help out as much as we can.”

The conference is open to Ferris students, faculty, staff and members of the community.

Anyone with questions or comments about the WILL Conference can contact Lund via e-mail at <[abbylund@hotmail.com](mailto:abbylund@hotmail.com)>, or Public Relations Advisor Zack East, at <[StudentGovernment@ferris.edu](mailto:StudentGovernment@ferris.edu)>.

## **The Grand Rapids Press**

March 30, 2005

### **Flight sign local players Anderson, Meerman**

WYOMING - Adam Anderson knows that his paychecks won't be as big as the ones he's been cashing in playing overseas.

But the former Kent City and Ferris State standout has his own reasons for returning home to play for the International Basketball League's Grand Rapids Flight.

The 6-foot-9 Anderson was introduced as one of the Flight's newest additions on Tuesday.

"I'm not going to make near what I was making overseas, but I thought it would be good for me for the summer," Anderson said. "I thought this would be a very good opportunity for me to get my name out there around the area to different scouts and also to stay in shape for the summer."

Anderson, who recently played in Egypt for eight months and Bahrain (an island nation in the Persian Gulf) for four months, underwent reconstructive knee surgery a year ago and is still trying to return to full strength.

"I'm still trying to get back and this is a great chance for me to get my leg back in shape so I can go back overseas in the fall," Anderson said.

Anderson, 26, has been thriving since graduating from Ferris State in 2002. He averaged 24 points and 11 rebounds a game during his recent stint in Bahrain and he's looking forward to the up-tempo pace of the new league.

"I like to run," Anderson said. "I'm a bigger guy, but I can keep up with most people. That's the way the game is played now. It's run, run, run and I'm excited to get things going. It should be fun."

Another local talent, T.J. Meerman of Coopersville, also is geared up to compete for the Flight. The former Central Michigan guard was signed last weekend after a one-day tryout.

"We have a lot of guys that can play different positions and we all like to run," Meerman said. "It's going to be a lot different from the college offense, but I'm looking forward to the change."

Meerman, who recently finished his student teaching, said the IBL schedule, and the opportunity to play close to home, were too much to pass up.

"Playing games on Friday and Saturday is good because I can still do everything I want to do and on top get paid a little to play basketball," he said. "I had a couple of opportunities to go overseas or to Mexico, but I didn't like the atmosphere."

The Flight will tip off their inaugural season on April 8.

## **Pioneer**

April 01, 2005

### **Ferris adds two new CPA options**

BIG RAPIDS - Ferris State University's College of Business introduced two new options for students interested in a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) career.

Michigan, as well as most other states, now requires 150 credit hours of university education for licensure to practice as a CPA. In response to these recent requirements, the accountancy program and the College of Business graduate programs department have created two options specifically targeted for students interested in pursuing a CPA career and meeting the 150-hour requirement.

Students who have demonstrated strong academic performance and capabilities may now choose to follow a pathway which combines the bachelor of accounting and Master of Science in Information Systems Management (MS-ISM), requiring 150 credit hours to complete, or the bachelor of accounting and master of business administration (MBA), requiring 153 credit hours for completion. Either option allows students to satisfy the Michigan requirement of 150 credit hours or more for the CPA.

Interested students may apply in winter semester of their junior year. Those students meeting the academic requirements and recommended by accounting faculty begin their graduate course work toward the MS-ISM or MBA during their senior (fourth) year. A fifth-year is required to complete the graduate degree.

“The value of these new options is that Ferris recruiters and departments can now present a semester-by-semester educational path that meets the 150-hour licensure requirements for the CPA profession and a skills and career enhancing graduate degree,” said business Counselor Becky Kowalkoski.

Information about the options is available from the accounting program office by calling (231) 591-2431, the Dean's Office at (231) 591-2420 or the College of Business Graduate Programs at (231) 591-2168.

## **Pioneer**

April 01, 2005

### **Students, alumni win ADDY Awards**

BIG RAPIDS - Students from Ferris State University's Visual Design program captured 10 awards at the annual West Michigan Advertising Federation ADDY Awards ceremony held recently at DeVos Place in downtown Grand Rapids.

The following projects, designed by students and directed by College of Business faculty members Barbara Loveland and Linda Powell, earned ADDY awards:

- FSU Architectural Technology Program Promotion designed by Sandra Beach of Clarksville, Theresa Clifton of Wyoming, Sarah Hintz of Clio and Jacob Lett of Memphis.
- VISD Senior Portfolio Review Invitation Series designed by Amanda Bannink Bridle of Walker, Brooke Gilbert of Interlochen and Chad Williams of Benton Harbor.
- Design Project Center Business Card designed by Levi Borreson of Maple City, Stef Miller of Albuquerque, NM, and originally from Farwell, and Williams.
- Fifth/Third River Bank Run T-shirt Proposal designed by Scott Carmichael of Kalkaska and Lett.
- Street Banner proposal for Fifth/Third River Bank Run designed by Beach, Bannink Bridle and Lett.
- Duotone Educational Poster designed by Allison Blanshan of Rosebush.
- Unconventional Calendar designed by Bannink Bridle.
- Photographer Promotion Brochure designed by Borreson.
- Specialty Shop Packaging designed by Borreson, received the Judges' Choice Award.

## **Pioneer**

April 01, 2005

### **Shock's Ford hopes to inspire next generation of leaders**

BIG RAPIDS - Cheryl Ford, just a few years into her professional basketball playing career with the Detroit Shock, has emerged as a leader and role model to legions of young girls.

“Even though I’ve been able, with the help of a lot of people, to get to where I’ve gotten, I still want to do as much as I can to give back to other people and to try and be a positive role model for younger girls,” said Ford, the keynote speaker, inside a packed University Ballroom at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center Thursday evening.

The 6-foot-3 Ford, the 2003 Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA) Rookie of the Year and all-star player, was one of the headline speakers at the third annual Women Investing in Leadership and Learning Conference. Ford, who has become a well-recognized face for fans of women’s professional basketball in Detroit, took time out of her schedule to try and inspire the next generation of women leaders to step forward by sharing her story.

“The biggest advice I would give young women is to create a game plan for life that will help you be successful as a leader, stick with that game plan and follow through on it,” she said.

Ford, a graduate of Louisiana Tech who plays power forward for the Shock, was a member of Detroit’s WNBA championship team in 2003 as a rookie. That season proved quite a professional debut for Ford, who is the daughter of 6-foot-9 all-star forward Karl Malone, who announced his retirement this season after a prolific playing career in Utah, as a member of the Jazz, and Los Angeles, playing for the Lakers.

“A lot of people tried to make a negative out of it with me winning a championship before my father, but we’ve always made it into something that is a positive thing,” said Ford, who referred to her father as a “future Hall-of-Famer.”

Winning the title gave the family something her father came so close to winning on several different occasions - a championship.

Other speakers to take part in the program were Terri DeBoer, a WOOD TV 8 meteorologist based in Grand Rapids; and Chris MacInnes, a senior vice president for Crystal Mountain. Thursday night’s event was free to students, faculty, staff and community members. The conference was paid for with the Student Activity Fee allocated by Student Government’s Division of Finance.

Comments made by DeBoer echoed several overarching themes at the event.



“Education is the key to realizing your dreams,” she said. “The most successful people in life work hard, but the most successful people I know are also the most polite people I know and treat everyone with equal respect.”

Although the event was free, organizers were accepting donations from the attendees. The donations will be used to benefit Ferris State’s Tsunami Relief Fund.

Ford’s time away from the court will not last long, however, as she soon will begin preparation for the 2005 campaign. After averaging 16 points and 10.7 rebounds in 2004, she is hoping for another big year on the hardwood.

“I know there were some people who were a little disappointed by how we did last season, but we’re definitely going to be doing a lot better this year,” said Ford, who drew applause from the crowd for that comment. “We won a title two years ago, and we’re going to win another one,” she added.

Last summer, Detroit finished 17-17 in the regular season and made the playoffs by winning its last three games of the season.

The 2004 campaign ended, in the first round of the playoffs, as the Shock fell 2-1 in a best-of-three series against New York.

According to Ford, good things happen for those who work hard.

“People think I had it easy growing up and going through college, but it wasn’t easy,” she said. “It was a lot of hard work. ... You have to fight for what you want in life.”

She smiled.

“I had no choice because my mom was always right there to push me.”

## **Pioneer**

April 04, 2005

### **Ferris State interns aid city officials**

BIG RAPIDS - Gaining real world experience is hands down the best way to prepare for the work force and several Ferris State University students are taking advantage of local offices to gain this on-the-job knowledge.

Joshua Church, a Muskegon native studying information systems management, cannot say enough about the advantages of working in an office to complete his master's degree requirements.

"Real world work experience has been better than any courses," Church said. "You get a higher value out of the work you do. Sometimes when you're doing homework, there's no relevance. ... Here, you get to see the benefit of your work." Church says an internship was not required to attain his degree, which he is scheduled to get in May, but he knew it would give him an edge after graduation. He hopes to become a Web developer and is helping the city of Big Rapids redesign its Web site.

Opting for a job that made her resume stronger was exactly why Amy Yensch, a Carleton senior, spent the last several years working for the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety.

Yensch, who already has majored in criminal justice at Ferris and completed an internship in Las Vegas, is completing her studies in applied biology and forensics to become a crime scene analyst. She currently works in the office at the Big Rapids Department of Public Safety.

"This is what employers look for... that you're knowledgeable about situations and can interact with the public," she said. "Knowing day-today operations is beneficial and it makes you more responsible, too."

Creating well-rounded employees is precisely why Big Rapids City Manager Stephen Sobers promotes internships for students.

Not only are applicants learning how to create a resume and interview for a job, but they are learning compassion, he said adding, students learn no job is too small or big. The goal of a program like this is not just to have students come into the office everyday but actually work on projects whether they are conducting waste-water tests or mowing the lawn, he said.

"This really is win-win. We're learning from them and they're getting a taste of the real world," Sobers added.

Ishpeming senior Jeff Blewett, a business administration major, encourages students to take available opportunities and run with them.

Students only gain from their internship experience, not lose. One job may not be the right fit, so try something else, he said.

“In January, I saw the job opening and I knew it would be good experience and I could make money,” Blewett said of his position in the city treasurer’s office. “It it’s available, jump in and do it.”

## **Pioneer**

April 05, 2005

### **Ferris Students Help Paint Homes in Big Rapids**

Community service: The majority of work got under way Sunday, but Ferris State University students still were hard at work painting homes Monday afternoon as part of "Paint the Town," an event initiated by Ferris' Interfraternity Council (IFC). Participants also include members of the Panhellenic and Professional Fraternity councils.

Ghiringhelli, of Kappa Psi Professional Pharmacy Fraternity, Austin Oubre, of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, and Steven Day, also of Sigma Phi Epsilon, transform this home at 320 Rust Ave. Above top, Joe Edmonds, of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, helps paint Pat Alber's home Monday afternoon. Alber, former chief of police, was one of five homeowners participating in the "Paint the Town" project. Above middle, Ross Young, of Delta Chi Fraternity, Phil Cherrico, also of Delta Chi, and Sara Erb, of Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, paint this home on Rose Avenue.

## **Pioneer**

April 05, 2005

### **Ferris debaters meet international debaters in demonstration**

BIG RAPIDS - Fresh from their award-winning performance at the Pi Kappa Delta (PKD) forensic honorary national tournament in St. Louis, members of the Ferris State University Debate Team will face two international student debaters in a demonstration debate Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Rankin Center Founders' Room.

Coached by Kristi Gerding, department of humanities/communication, four Ferris debaters received awards at the PKD national tournament. The novice team of Jennifer Lindensmith and Kyle Webster advanced to the final round and claimed second place in National Parliamentary Debate. The junior varsity team of Ross Saur and Rita Ellison moved to the quarter finals before being eliminated. For their team effort in preliminary rounds, the debaters earned an award of excellence in NPDA debate for the tournament.

This is the first year Ferris has competed in parliamentary-style debate. This debate requires a team to analyze a resolution and prepare arguments from their general knowledge in a 15-minute period immediately before debating a team on the opposing side. Debaters prepare by doing extensive research in current events and discussing theories that support value positions on controversial issues at practice sessions.

The international debate tour is sponsored by the Council on International Debate and Discussion. Each year student debaters from several European countries are selected to visit host schools in the United States.

The two international debaters who will demonstrate parliamentary-style debate with the Ferris team are Mladen Petkov from Bulgaria and Dan Cristea from Romania. Petkov, 26, is a student in Bulgarian and English Language at Plovdiv State University.

He will attend Sofia State University next year, where he will major in psychology. He is a debate coach in seminars organized by the National Debate Association in Bulgaria.

Cristea, 20, is a student at UBB University of Cluj Napoca in Transylvania, where he majors in law and public relations. He has been a Romanian national debate champion twice and has earned honors at several European debate tournaments. The demonstration debate will be followed by a question-and-answer period. More details or special assistance in attending is available from Gerding by calling (231) 591-3505.

## **Pioneer**

April 06, 2005

### **Governor addresses groups, speaks at Pioneer**

BIG RAPIDS - Gov. Jennifer Granholm put in several Big Rapids appearances Tuesday, stopping at Ferris State University, the offices of the Big Rapids Pioneer, and the Public Safety Building, where she met with members of the Mecosta County Chamber of Commerce.

Granholm answered questions and spoke on issues as diverse as the economy, public school funding and Big Ten basketball.

Granholm praised FSU's goal of educating students with an eye toward future employment.

Speaking of trade jobs, she said, "Today there are 90,000 vacancies in Michigan, and yet we've got a 7.5-percent unemployment rate. So there's a real skills gap."

"We need to create an intensive training program for those who are unemployed and those who are collecting unemployment, while they're still collecting, in partnership with universities or community colleges like Ferris and put people to work once they are done with the training," she added.

Such training programs are just part of a five-point plan to create employment opportunities for state residents, according to Granholm. She added several pilot programs along these lines are already being implemented across the state.

Other points of Granholm's plan include single-business tax reforms and expanded infrastructure and pollution cleanup projects. "We've got pollution and ground field cleanup sites," she said. "We've got 45 hot spots in the state waiting for cleanup that could be accelerated ... we could put people to work today, tomorrow and the day after."

Granholm said employment could also be addressed by creating the "work force of tomorrow." She proposes doing this by awarding merit scholarships to qualifying students who complete two or four years of college.

"We want to get every kid thinking about going to college," she said.

This is imperative, Granholm said, because new jobs being created in the state are not the manufacturing jobs of the past.

"Those jobs are just gone," she said. The jobs of the 21st Century will be those linked to universities and those which are research and development based. "But these," she said, "will have a great spin-off to create all sorts of jobs. We want to create jobs that are not going to go to Boston or Chicago or New York."

“There’s no reason why Michigan cannot be a magnet for - for example - alternative energy sort of jobs,” she added. “It seems gas prices continue to go up every hour on the hour, but we created the automobile; we have the technology to create an automobile that goes for 300 miles per gallon, and yet we’ve not focused on exploiting that kind of technology.”

Granholm also noted that she would like to see entrepreneurial become available to educators, who would in turn use the funding to train students to succeed in the business world.

“We should establish a culture of entrepreneurship,” she said.

Educational opportunities at the high school and elementary level also are a focus of her administration, Granholm added. She said she would propose an increase in state funding to schools, which would result in an increase of \$225 per pupil for high schools, \$175 for kindergarten through eighth grade.

“Most educators will say that it costs more to educate high schoolers than it does those in lower grades,” she added.

Addressing recent cutbacks in the state’s prison system, Granholm said the real problem is not so much a shortage of space to house prisoners, but rather the loss of jobs whenever a facility is downsized or close outright. As with other problems the state is currently experiencing, she said, it all comes down to the economy.

And the economy, she insists, should not be derailed by partisan politics.

“The issues of the economy are not partisan issues,” she said. “This should not be a shootout. We should be creating jobs. This is too important for us to engage in a shooting

## **Pioneer**

April 06, 2005

### **NPR's Williams to present Ferris May Day Lecture**

BIG RAPIDS - Juan Williams, one of America's leading political writers and thinkers, will present Ferris State University's annual May Day Lecture April 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Williams Auditorium.

Ferris' Social Work Association, in collaboration with other campus organizations, is sponsoring the free public appearance of the well-known National Public Radio correspondent.

The association annually brings to campus a speaker to address issues of social and economic justice relevant to society. Williams will join in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision *Brown v. Board of Education*, the landmark verdict desegregating public schools. His talk, drawn from his considerable expertise about the Civil Rights Movement and the *Brown* decision, promises an enlightening evening for the campus and local communities.

Williams is the senior correspondent for NPR and a political analyst for Fox Television. A former prize-winning columnist and editorial writer during a 21-year career at *The Washington Post*, he also has authored three books.

To celebrate the anniversary of the *Brown* decision, Ferris is conducting several additional events during that week.

April 19, walk-in tours of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia will be held starting at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. April 20, a round-table discussion about public school segregation will take place in the Rankin Center Dome Room at 6:30 p.m. The panelists include George Hartwell, mayor of Grand Rapids; Bert Bleke, superintendent of Grand Rapids Public Schools; Rev. David May, of GRACE Institute for Healing Racism; and Emily Aleman, executive director of the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan.

Anyone with a disability who needs special accommodations to attend these events may call (231) 591-2606 at least 10 days in advance.



## **9 & 10 News Express**

April 06, 2005

### **Granholm in Northern Michigan**

Governor Jennifer Granholm is focusing the next few days on northern Michigan. Last night she visited a local university to discuss her plan to improve the state's job outlook.

The Governor toured the Granger building at Ferris State University in Big Rapids. Yesterdays, stop was just the first of many the governor will make in our area over the next couple of days. This morning, she is taking part in her annual Governor's Breakfast in Cadillac. She also plans stops in Lake City, Kalkaska, Mancelona, and Gaylord.

During her visit, she plans to talk about her "Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow," initiative.