

media packet

June 4, 2003

- **Stories are in chronological order, with the most recent stories in the back.**



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT & MARKETING

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The Pioneer

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Ferris State offers opportunity for motorcycle certification

BIG RAPIDS - Born to be wild. But not too wild; not if you want your motorcycle certification, courtesy of classes offered this weekend at Ferris State University.

According to Julia Quillen, who helps coordinate the program, the three-day class will get under way Friday beginning at 6 p.m. The second two classes, held Saturday and Sunday, both start at 8 a.m. and run till 5 p.m. All classes will meet at the FSU Heavy Equipment Center.

The classes, which incorporate both classroom study and actual road time, are intended for novice riders as well as more experienced riders seeking to improve their skills or qualify for state motorcycle certification Said Quillen,

"We provide the bikes and manuals. All (the student) is responsible for is wearing appropriate clothing - a motorcycle helmet, long pants, boots that cover the ankle, a long sleeve shirt and so forth."

The classes, funded by a state grant and administered through Ferris' Corporate and Professional Development program, are taught by certified instructors. Quillen, who handles many aspects of the program, says she doesn't teach herself because of the demanding training regimen required of instructors. "You have to go through some pretty rigorous training to become an instructor," she said. "We had one instructor, a police officer, who went through the training. He said it was one of the most difficult things he had ever done."

The class offered to the public, however, isn't quite so intimidating. "We get a wide range of students," said Quillen. "Everything from 15to-17 year olds to one student who is about 70."

FSU hosts classes at several locations throughout the state. "We have what we call a mobile site," said Quillen. "We hold the classes at five locations, and have a large bus we transport and store the bikes in."

This year Ferris received enough grant money to accommodate 648 students. According to Quillen, however, far more people than that sign up for the lessons.

"We sent out 1,200 brochures and are getting requests back every day," she said. "There will certainly be people we won't be able to accommodate."

Next year, the number of disappointed students could be much higher: Two bills currently before the House and Senate would put an end to the program's funding. House Bill 4415 and Senate Bill 0325 seek to eliminate the program altogether.

Said Quillen, "Their rationale is that the program doesn't meet the core function of the Department of Education, which is to administer to students K-through-12. Our demographics are the 30-to-60 age group."

Administration of the program, currently funded by motorcycle-related fees (license fees, etc.) could be transferred over to the Secretary of State's office. That's assuming it isn't discontinued entirely.

Quillen believes in the program as it currently exists, and feels it provides a valuable resource to motorists who want to make the move from four wheels to two.

Anyone wishing to sign up for future classes may contact Quillen directly at 231-591-5812.

The Pioneer

Friday, May 16, 2003

Interim president: Next two months will be a 'team effort'

BIG RAPIDS – Sweeping changes will definitely NOT be a trait of Ferris Interim President Scott P. Hill-Kennedy's two-month administration. Hill-Kennedy, recently appointed acting president until incoming president David Eisler comes on board in July, says things will be "business as usual" until then.

"We're going to make sure all the things in progress will continue," said Hill-Kennedy. "There's still a lot of behind the scenes things which need to be done, even during summer vacation."

Hill-Kennedy, whose "real" job is vice-president for governmental relations and general council, says he will balance both positions with the help of fellow staff members. "What's going to happen for the next two months is that everyone is going to continue doing their jobs," said Hill-Kennedy. "It should be a smooth couple months."

In addition to his interim president duties, Hill-Kennedy will continue working on the school's budget, a task with which he has been involved for "some time." Hill-Kennedy says the school must find ways to shave \$5.5 million from its current budget. "Our goal is to maintain the core curriculum," he said. "We'll be looking at which programs have more faculty and staff than are really needed so things are in good shape when Dr. Eisler arrives."

Hill-Kennedy says he will also continue working his government contacts to ensure that Ferris is "treated appropriately" with regard to distribution of funding dollars.

Hill-Kennedy's permanent position at the university involved with government relations, labor relations and affirmative action. Under outgoing president William Sederburg's administration, Hill-Kennedy also served as an advisor to the president and board of trustees.

That's a lot of responsibility for one administrator to handle, even temporarily. But Hill-Kennedy says he doesn't anticipate any problems. "We have an excellent office and staff," he said. "Everyone is going to take part. It's going to be a team effort."

Masons award Mortensen Scholarship to Ferris student

BIG RAPIDS – The Big Rapids Masons Lodge No. 171 has awarded a scholarship in memory of longtime Mason and area businessman Ivan Mortensen to Ferris State University sophomore James Kraft.

Kraft, a native of Grand Rapids, is a student in the university's Heavy Equipment program – a program with which Mortensen had a longstanding relationship.

"Ivan was a great supporter of the Heavy Equipment program – he used to bring his equipment down to be worked on," said Ken Acton, master of the Big Rapids Lodge. "And Woodbridge Ferris was an active member of our lodge – he was instrumental in the remodeling of the building downtown so that we could relocate to free up space for his school."

Mortensen's widow and sons, Jean, Gale and Rex Mortensen, joined Acton in presenting the scholarship check to Kraft.

"Ivan left the lodge some money to support a scholarship, and what better way to remember him than to support a student in this program," Acton said.

"It's a way to remember Ivan and a part of our efforts to get more involved in the Big Rapids community."

Ferris presents three with teaching awards

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University's Distinguished Teacher Award Committee has selected David Aiken, an associate professor of humanities; David Hanna, an associate professor of construction technology and management; and Phillip Middleton, a professor of English, as Distinguished Teacher Award recipients.

The award is given annually to faculty members who have demonstrated excellence in teaching, participated in professional development activities, shown an interest in students in and out of the classroom and have shown exceptional service to the university community. The award offers a cash honorarium to be used for further education.

To be considered for the Distinguished Teacher Award a nomination must be submitted to the selection committee. The committee consists of nine voting members and included one representative for each of the seven colleges.

The committee chooses semifinalists who must submit essays and are observed in the classroom.

Aiken has been at Ferris since 1997. He teaches all of the religion and philosophy courses in the Humanities department and is working to develop a bachelor of arts program in philosophy and a master of arts degree in interdisciplinary humanities at Ferris. Aiken is a member of the Faculty Senate, Faculty Development Committee, Humanities Search Committee and others. He is the humanities area coordinator and a student advisor.

He has traveled to France, Germany, Ethiopia, England, India, Nepal and many other places. Aiken also has taken students to Israel on a study abroad trip and to Chicago and Grand Rapids to see the Dead Sea Scrolls. He speaks French, German and Italian and reads Greek, Hebrew and Latin.

Akien has written many published essays and papers, as well as a textbook. His philosophy text is pending publication by McGraw-Hill in December 2003.

Hanna joined the Ferris faculty in 1991. He teaches courses in the construction management, building construction technology, civil engineering and architectural technology programs.

He has been an honored speaker at many presentations around the country, is a published author and faculty member.

Hanna was honored with the Associated Schools of Construction National Outstanding Teacher Award in 1995. He is a member of the Ferris State Academic Senate and the College of Technology promotion committee.

Middleton has been a member of the Ferris faculty since 1989. He teaches composition, African literature, African-American literature and Shakespeare.

Middleton has published many works of fiction, poetry and essays.

Middleton was a Fulbright scholar in the Sudan as well as Romania, where he taught courses in literary analysis, modern American poetry, African-American literature and many others.

He is also a member of the Ferris Fulbright Association. Middleton has worked as an assistant professor of English in Niger and a lecturer in Libya, and has delivered lectures in Hungary and West Africa.

Middleton, an active member of the Ferris and Big Rapids communities, is a member of the Ferris Minority Faculty Association, advisor to the Lamda Chi Alpha fraternity, vice president of the board for the Friends of the Big Rapids Library and a member of the Humanities Council of Western Michigan – Grand Rapids.

The Grand Rapids Press

Sunday, May 18, 2003

GLIAC honors softball coach in military

Sunday, May 18, 2003

By Howie Beardsley

The Grand Rapids Press

Selecting a Coach of the Year in any conference, in any sport, and at any level, is usually a clear-cut decision. Simply look at which team had the best season, or which was the unexpected darkhorse, and you've got your winner.

It certainly could have been that easy when the softball coaches of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference came together to name their Coach of the Year. Grand Valley State's Doug Woods could have been handed the award for leading his defending NCAA Division II runners-up Lakers to a 49-16 overall record, a first-place 17-1 mark in the GLIAC and a No. 6 national ranking.

No one would have argued with Wayne State's Gary Bryce being named the GLIAC's Coach of the Year after his Warriors went 39-13 overall, and 15-3 in the league. Bryce also led Wayne State to a 1-0 win over Grand Valley in the championship game of last week's Great Lakes Regional Tournament to send the Detroit school into this week's Division II Softball World Series.

And there certainly wouldn't have been a problem with Ashland University's Sheilah Gulas receiving the coaching honor, since her Eagles proved to be the surprise of the conference with a 49-6 record that included a 12-6 mark in GLIAC play.

So who was voted the GLIAC Coach of the Year? It was Ferris State's Keri Becker -- even though she didn't coach one inning of one game this season for the Bulldogs.

Becker, a Howard City resident and a sergeant in the United States Army Reserves, was called to active duty on Feb. 20 because of the war in Iraq. She is currently serving her country in Doha, Qatar, the site of the U.S. Military Central Command.

To call the rest of the GLIAC softball coaches a class act for voting Becker their Coach of the Year doesn't do justice to their generosity.

"Before we even started the meeting, there was a motion from Gary, who thought it would be a good gesture on the part of Keri's fellow coaches, to give her the award," Woods said.

"Everybody unanimously approved his motion.

"As soon as Gary made his motion, everybody thought, 'Heck, I wish I would have thought of that,' because it is a very nice gesture, and one Keri is deserving of."

Gulas said the other 10 GLIAC softball coaches had it easy this spring while simply making on-field decisions to find ways to earn victories.

It was Becker, she added, who has had a tough time.

"We're going on with our own easy lives, and Keri's life has been torn while being taken away from family, her players, Ferris State, her home" Gulas said. "I'm so happy everyone was in favor of doing this, because she is our Coach of the Year for sacrificing her life and coaching career to serve our country."

Gulas was asked if she thought it was unusual to have a group of coaches put their egos aside to give honor to a counterpart who didn't even coach a game this season.

"I don't think it was a matter of putting egos to the side," Gulas said. "It was good people doing a good thing for a good person."

"I think our group of coaches is a good group of coaches. We respect each other. We get along together, and no matter what kind of season someone had this year, you better not take them for granted next season."

Ferris State athletic director Tom Kirinovic said having Becker named the league's top softball coach was "a really, really cool thing."

"Voting Keri the best coach among so many other great softball coaches when she didn't even coach a game says a lot about the class of the Great Lakes Conference and its coaches," said Kirinovic, who, from the few short conversations he's had with Becker and her family, is hopeful to have her back on the Ferris State campus by the end of the summer.

Tom Brown has been the commissioner of the GLIAC for 11 years. He's also served over the years as a college president and coach.

Not even Brown has seen a corps of coaches name a fellow comrade their Coach of the Year despite the fact the honored head mentor was never in game uniform the entire season. "Even though these people are competitive with one another, there is that sensitivity for someone doing something for their country," Brown said.

"In a time when we have countries bombing each other, we have economy problems and crimes and so much negative going on, it's a shame that good stories like this get ignored." What the GLIAC softball coaches did by recognizing Becker is a special story, which is why it's just been told.

Contact Howie Beardsley via e-mail at: hbeardsley@grpress.com

The Pioneer

Monday, May 19, 2003

FSU makes second straight trip to NCAA championships

BIG RAPIDS - For the second consecutive spring, the Ferris State men's golf team will test its skills against the best the nation has to offer in Division II.

Beginning Tuesday, the Bulldogs take part in the NCAA Division II Men's Golf National Championships at the Sunriver Resort's Crosswater Golf Club in Sunriver, Ore. This season's tournament is hosted by California State University, Chico. Last spring, the Bulldogs placed 13th out of 18 teams during the 2002 NCAA Division II championships at Mission Inn Golf and Tennis Resort in Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla.

Though the 2002-03 season has proven a bit of a roller coaster ride for the men's golf team, Ferris State coach Brad Bedortha's squad could take a huge step to erase a lot of bad memories this weekend. Bedortha, who just returned to Big Rapids this past weekend from Florida, where he was with Bulldog golfer Kathryn Bobbie at the women's national championships, will pack his bags again - this time en route to the west coast and his home state of Oregon.

One major reason Ferris made it back to the national championships was the play of senior Tyler Averdick in the regional event. Averdick finished in a two-way tie for second individually in the regional at Silo Ridge Country Club in Bolivar, Mo. Averdick shot 219 (71-77-71) for a +3. Fellow senior Chris Griffin finished fourth (71-75-74--220) at +4. Mitch Flemming, another senior and 2001-02 NCAA Division II PING Third-Team All-American, earned a 10th place finish as he shot 75-74-77-256 to finish +10. Second-year golfer Aaron Brown shot a 231 (79-77-75) to finish +14 and junior Pat Simmer shot a 232 to finish tied for 24th.

Bedortha's Bulldogs finished +31 at 895 to place seven strokes ahead of Findlay (902, +38) for the regional NCAA championship. This spring's NCAA berth marks the 11th NCAA Division II Championships trip for Ferris State.

The Bulldogs, who finished third during the fall at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference men's golf championships, will enter this tournament with a positive attitude. Part of that positive attitude, according to Flemming, is not to let one shot or one day get them too far down.

"One thing about golf is that you're going to have some days when things are not going as well as you would like them to go or are not going as well as you would expect them to go," said Flemming, a native of St. Clair Shores, during the fall. "On days like that you have to stay mentally tough and grind it out... when you're able to do that... that's what makes you a better golfer."

Ferris' Bobbie finishes seventh in the nation

HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, Fla. – Ferris State's Kathryn Bobbie finished in seventh place at the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championships.

Bobbie, a senior from Salust Ste. Marie, Ontario, who qualified as an individual for the tournament, shot a 78 on the final day to finish +21 on the leaderboard after four rounds of competition at Mission Inn El Campeon.

The top individual finisher was Rollins' Charolte Campbell, a freshman, who finished +7 and shot a final-round score of 71 to finish five strokes ahead of her nearest competition, Florida Southern's Pamela Feggans, who finished +11 and shot a final-round score of 76 in the event.

Winning the team competition was Campbell's Rollins squad, which shot its best round of the four-day tournament to finish atop the leaderboard. Rollins shot a 305 to finish

39 strokes of the runner-up Florida Southern team to claim the 2003 NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship on Saturday.

The Pioneer

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Ferris to host new Michigan Construction Hall of fame

BIG RAPIDS - This fall, Ferris State University's new Granger Center for Construction and HVACR will become the home of the new Michigan Construction Hall of Fame.

As conceived by Ferris State University College of Technology Dean Weilin Chang, the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame will honor individuals in the construction industry who have distinguished themselves at the highest levels through leadership, service and innovation with the Distinguished Constructor Award and membership in the hall.

"We wish to recognize and honor those individuals in the construction industry who exemplify excellence through their life's work," said Chang. "Our plan is to feature Hall of Fame members prominently in the lobby area of the new Granger Center with plaques and interactive video presentations on each one, as well as online at a new Michigan Construction Hall of Fame Web site."

Awardees will be selected by a panel of professionals representing the following organizations: Associated Builders and Contractors, Associated General Contractors of America, the Construction Association of Michigan, the Michigan Road Builders Association, the Michigan Association of Home Builders, the Michigan Department of Transportation and Ferris State University. The panel will consider distinguished achievement in technical, managerial and leadership areas, state of national prominence as a result of industry or community activities, and service to profession and community.

The inaugural class of the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame will include up to five deceased leaders in the industry, as well as one living member. In subsequent years, the panel will select two recipients- at least one living.

"Michigan is a state known for hard work and innovation," Chang said.

"With our state's long history, the panel has no doubt that the hall will continue to grow for years to come-the most difficult part may prove to be sorting through the list of worthy recipients past and present."

Ferris State University is a four-year public university with campuses in Big Rapids, Grand Rapids and satellite locations across the state.

Ferris offers more than 150 educational programs, including doctorate, master's, bachelor's and associate degrees, through nine academic colleges: Allied Health Sciences. Arts and Sciences, Business. Education and Human Services, Pharmacy the Michigan College Optometry. Kendall College of Art and Design, and the College of Professional and Technological Studies.

The Pioneer

Friday, May 23, 2003

Ferris women's golf team earns impressive awards sweep

BIG RAPIDS - With somewhat bittersweet emotions, the Ferris State women's golf team completed a sweep of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference post-season individual awards.

FSU senior Kathryn Bobbie was named the 2003 GLIAC women's golf Athlete of the Year for her efforts on the course. Also, first-year player Elena Robles collected freshman of the Year honors and Brad Bedortha took home Coach of the Year.

Additionally, Bobbie and Robles both earned All-GLIAC First-Team accolades while Jenn Soltis, Jen Dziabo and Meredith Johnson made the second team.

"It was a really nice thing for us to have swept the GLIAC awards this season," said Bedortha, who is with his Ferris State men's golf team in Sunriver, Ore., at the NCAA Division II National Championships. "Really, the only thing that's missing for us is the conference championship.

"We gave it a great run (to try and win the league), but unfortunately we fell a little bit short."

Ferris State finished second in the GLIAC to champion Grand Valley State in a tournament played at Riverside Golf Club in Cambridge Springs, Pa. The Bulldogs finished just two strokes behind the Lakers on the final leaderboard. Ferris concluded matters with a two-round total of 626 (310-316--626, +50). It was the third-lowest score for 36 holes in school history and just two in back of second place alltime.

Bobbie wrapped up her Ferris career as a three-time first-team All-GLIAC pick and enjoyed a career-best 78.3 average during her final campaign. The Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario native won the 2001 GLIAC women's golf Athlete of the Year award and is a three-time FSU team Most Valuable Player.

Bobbie's first-place 148 score at the GLIAC championships is tied for the second-best 36-hole total in school history.

"Kathryn had a great season ... we're definitely going to miss her and all of the great things she did during her time at Ferris State," Bedortha said.

Robles, a native of Torrance, Calif., enjoyed a brilliant first season of golf - one of the best ever for an FSU freshman. She posted a two-round second-place score of 149 at the GLIAC championships and notched nine top10 finishes, including a firstplace completion at the Findlay William "Bing" Beall Classic. Robles had an 80.5 stroke average in 28 rounds this season.

"Elena played great in her first season," Bedortha said. "Hopefully, Elena can continue to get even better and follow in Kathryn's footsteps."

Bedortha is no stranger to winning the conference's coach of the year award. During the 2000-01 season, he was GLIAC Coach of the Year and named coEast Region Coach of the Year by the National Golf Coaches Association. Bedortha led the Bulldog women to the 2001-02 GLIAC championship and a fifth-place finish at the NCAA Division II National Championships that year.

"It's nice to win coach of the year ... even though we weren't able to come away with the conference championship," Bedortha said.

Graduating seniors like Bobbie, Soltis and Dziabo will leave some holes to be filled next season for Bedortha, but with returners like Robles leading the way the FSU coach has reason for optimism.

The Pioneer

Tuesday, May 27, 2003

Ferris Foundation awards Exceptional Merit Grants

BIG RAPIDS-Seven Exceptional Merit Grants have been awarded to Ferris State University faculty and staff through the Ferris Foundation for 2003-04 academic year. Those proposals receiving funding are as follows:

- Sid Systma, College of Business, for "An Online Preand Post-Testing System for Measuring the Value Added by Core Courses"
- Tim Glover, Athletics, for "Enhancement of Athletic Training Services"
- Charles R. Bacon, Mary K. Bacon, Arts & Sciences, for "Classroom Communication System"
- Charles G. Drake, College of Technology, for "Laboratory Experience Enhancement for Mechanical Engineering Technology"
- Bruce W Smith, College of Technology, to "Facilitate procurement and installation of instruction materials that will be donated to the Construction Management Program"
- Raymond Gant, Student Affairs, to "Collect various periodicals, publications and information from interviews with alumni, emeriti and staff that will create a publication to chronicle the African American student influence at Ferris State University"
- Carole K. Jones, Connie J. Nofz, University College and Robert Buckingham, College of Optometry, for "Vision Exams and Corrective Measures for Qualifying Ferris State Students."

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

The Gifts and Grants Committee of the Ferris Foundation consists of Foundation Board of Directors members Tom Hartwig, Clare Johnson, Randy Phelps, David Sobota, Woody VandenBosch, David Wright, Julie CosoNorman and John Wheeler, and Ferris faculty and staff Debra Cox, Carla Erlewine, Jim Hoerter, Tom Oldfield, Adam Wetherell, Ron McKean, Kim Hancock and Carla Miller.

The Grand Rapids Press

Friday, May 30, 2003

Former Ferris student acquitted of rape at party

Friday, May 30, 2003

By John Agar

The Grand Rapids Press

NEWAYGO -- A former Ferris State University student has been acquitted of charges he raped another student after a late-night party last year

The attorney for John Paul Kane, 20, said video surveillance tapes showed his client was at a Meijer store when the rape occurred last September after a party at an old farmhouse in northeast Newaygo County.

"Justice was done," attorney Damian Nunzio said.

He maintained during last week's trial in Newaygo County Circuit Court that witnesses changed stories to protect the actual culprit, and wrongly pinned the blame on his client. Kane, a freshman from Lake Orion, north of Pontiac, was studying marketing before he was kicked out of school, as a result of the charges.

He plans to enroll in another university this fall, Nunzio said.

The 22-year-old victim told police she was tackled and dragged into a barn after a party attended by as many as 200 Ferris students at an off-campus farmhouse on in Norwich Township.

Several people, including the victim, pitched tents so they could spend the night rather than drive home after drinking. The woman told police she was walking from her tent to the farmhouse to use the bathroom around 3 a.m. when the suspect said he would escort her.

Instead, she told police, he tackled her and dragged her into the barn, where she was held down and raped.

Kane was charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct, a potential life offense. After his acquittal, the prosecutor's office did not return a call seeking comment.

Nunzio said his client cooperated with police immediately. He agreed to undergo DNA testing, and provided his shoes and clothing for analysis.

"He said, 'I didn't do it.' He was very cooperative with them, and denied any wrongdoing -- even touching her," Nunzio said.

He said the victim blamed Kane but later said she could not identify her attacker because it was so dark. Another witness pointed to Kane after seeing his silhouette that night, he said.

At an earlier court hearing, Nunzio said, the victim described her attacker as a "big, heavy guy." Nunzio said that another man at the party was 6-foot-2, 220 pounds, while his client was only 5-foot-6, 135 pounds.

Nunzio said surveillance tapes and a receipt showed his client was at a Meijer store when the attack occurred. While the victim was injured, and covered in mud, Kane's clothing showed no signs he was involved in the attack, Nunzio said.

Kane was photographed at the party, and was wearing the same clothes when he was at the store.

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The Pioneer

Monday, June 2, 2003

Ferris State's DeMartin earns honor from BCAM

BIG RAPIDS – Junior guard Lucy DeMartin of the 2002-03 Ferris State women's basketball team has been named to the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan College Academic-Athletic Honor Team in an announcement made recently by the BCAM.

The five-member team recognizes outstanding scholar-member team recognizes outstanding scholar-athletes from Michigan colleges and universities at the NCAA I, II, and III and NAIA levels. Selected players must be either a starter or key reserve and have at least a 3.2 grade point average. DeMartin, who previously attained both first- team 2002-03 All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference North Division and Daktronics Division II All-Great Lakes Tegen honors, was joined on the squad by Lake Superior State's Alice Duesing, Amanda Kerkstra of Hope, Michigan Tech's Andrea Novak and Julie Zeeff of Grand Valley State.

DeMartin's team-leading 20.2 points per game scoring average this campaign ranked first among the school's all-time leaders and placed second in the GLIAC overall statistical rankings. The two-time (2002-03) GLIAC All-Academic Team pick compiled a school-record 525 points this season while earning 2002-03 Verizon Academic All-District IV College Division Women's Basketball First Team accolades. A 2001-02 Verizon Academic All-District IV second teamer, DeMartin was named GLIAC's North Division Player of the Week three times (Dec. 2 and 16, Feb. 24) this campaign. The 2002-03 FSU Most Valuable Player recipient posted 26 double-figure scoring outings, including 13 20-plus point performances this season.

The 5-foot-9 DeMartin, who currently has an active 31-game double-figure-scoring streak, presently has 1,154 career points and ranks seventh on FSU's career scoring leaders chart. She ranks seventh (.348; 70-201) among Ferris' career three-point field goal percentage leaders and fourth (.799; 274-343) on the school's career free throw percentage chart to date.

With the honor, DeMartin becomes the second Ferris player to earn the recognition in the last three years as former Bulldog player Debbie Killips (1998-02) garnered first-team kudos in 2000-01.

FSU, which finished the year 15-11 overall and 10-8 in league action, reached the GLIAC Tournament for the fourth consecutive season and posted its seventh straight 10-win campaign during the 2002-03 season under fifth-year head coach Tracey Fisk. The BCAM, which was incorporated in 1976, is the voice of basketball in Michigan and offers support for the game at all levels. The organization has also gained respectability nationwide by being a leader in clinics, academic awards, scholarship programs, newsletters and awards for players and coaches. BCAM, which presently has over 2,800 members, exists to represent and serve basketball coaches for the betterment of the game. In an effort to promote academics throughout the state, BCAM also honors the top student-athletes on a yearly basis.

Griffin and Flemming earn All-America scholar honors

BIG RAPIDS - Chris Griffin and Mitch Flemming both members of the 2002-03 Ferris State University men's golf team, have been named Cleveland Golf Division II All-America Scholars for the second consecutive year in a recent announcement made by the Golf Coaches Association of America.

Griffin and Flemming were among 60 individuals from across the nation to be selected Division II All-America Scholars by the GCAA, which is the professional association of men's golf coaches and is based in Norman, Okla. Established in 1958, the GCAA is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating, promoting, and recognizing both its members and the student-athletes who participate in collegiate golf at all levels. Through its established events and programs, the GCAA maintain a goal of increasing awareness and the status of men's collegiate golf. To be eligible for All America Scholar recognition, the nominated student athlete must have an overall certified minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0, be a junior or senior academically, be of moral character and in good standing at their respective institution and have a stroke average for the season in nominated under 80.0 while competing in 70 percent of the nominating institution's competitive rounds.

Griffin completed his junior year this season while Flemming was one of five seniors on the team. Both individuals are majoring in Marketing/ Professional Golf Management.

Along with the All-America Scholars being selected the PING All-Region Team for the 2002-03 season were announced and Ferris State landed two individuals on the 10-member squad. Mitch Flemming along with junior Pat Simmer represented FSU on the Great Lakes Region team as the Bulldogs were also recognized as the GCAAs Team Effort Great Lakes Regional Champions by virtue of capturing first-place honors with a three-round 895-stroke score at the NCAA-II Great Lakes/Central Super Regional held May 5-7 in Bolivar, Mo.

Flemming, who attained PING All-Region kudos last season en route to being tabbed a NCAA - II PING All-America Third Team honoree, paced the Bulldogs this campaign with a stroke average (2.126 total strikes) in 28 rounds. The FSU team captain recorded seven top 10 individual finishes this season, including a pair of top five performances – second-place tie at the Ferris State Fall Invitational (Sept. 13-14) and a third-place tie at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships (Oct. 5-6). Both a three-time (2000-03) All-GLIAC All-Academic pick, Flemming garnered FSU Most Valuable Player laurels this campaign and concluded his career with a 75.22 average (6,921 strokes) in 92 total rounds.

Griffin closed out the 2002-03 season with a 76.80 average (1,997 strokes) in 26 rounds and compiled three top-10 individual placings, highlighted by a fourth-place effort (220 score) at the NCAA-II Great Lakes/Central Super Regional. A two-time (2001-02) GLIAC All-American selection, Griffin has notched a 76.51 career average (3,749 strokes) in 49 total rounds.

Simmer produced the best season of his career as evidenced by finishing second among the team's leaders with a 76.39 average (1,757 strokes) in 23 rounds. He turned in a pair of second place performances at the NCAA-II Great Lakes Region Tournament (Sept. 21-22) and the Findlay (Ohio) Invitational (April 5-6) while sharing top team honors at the 2003 NCAA-II National Championships with a 58th-place tying 303 four-round stroke effort. Simmer has registered a 76.57 career average (3,063 strokes) in 40 total rounds to date.

Last week (May 20-23), Ferris State made its 11th NCAA-II Championship appearance in the program's history and placed 15th overall with a four-round 1,216 stroke total at the 41st annual NCAA-II Championships in Sunriver, Ore.

The Pioneer

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McIver named team captain; Smith and Mangos alternates

BIG RAPIDS -- When Ferris State returns to the ice right wing Derrick McIver will serve as the team's captain as he takes the reigns from Troy Milam.

While McIver, a native of Thunder Bay Ontario, serves as team captain, alternates will be center Brett Smith and defenseman Simon Mangos.

McIver, Smith and Mangos will all be seniors next season when the Bulldogs return to the ice in defense of their first-ever Central Collegiate Hockey Association regular season championship.

This past season, McIver served as an alternate, with Hobey Baker Award finalist and All-American forward Chris Kunitz, under captain Troy Milam as the Bulldogs went on to enjoy their most prolific season under the 12th year head coach Bob Daniels in the program's 25 year NCAA Division I history.

Ferris compiled a record of 30-10-1 overall and 22-5-1 in the league.

"We're really excited about the captains that we're going to have leading our team next season," said Daniels, who was named the CCHA Coach of the Year. "The three captains we will have for the (2003-04) season will have some big shoes to fill, but when I look at these three I don't think we could ask for a better group."

Last winter, McIver finished with 17 points on seven goals and 10 assists in 42 contests in the crimson and gold. One of the reasons Daniels feels McIver will be such an effective leader for the Bulldogs is because he is not only a role model with his play on the ice, but also because of his efforts in the classroom. McIver received CCHA All-Academic Team honors and earned the program's Scholar-Athlete award.

Additionally McIver is a three-time FSU Dean's and President's Academic Award recipient for maintaining the highest cumulative grade point average on the team.

As a sophomore, McIver earned all league all-academic honorable mention honors and also was co-winner of the team's Blue Line Competitive Award. Prior to that, McIver was FSU Rookie of the Year in 2000-01. For his career, McIver has 49 points on 21 goals and 28 assists. His totals for 2002-03 included single-season bests for points (17), goals (eight), assists (nine) and plus/minus (+5).

"McIver is a little on the quiet side, but he is a hard worker on the ice, a hard worker off the ice, a good person in the community and an outstanding student," Daniels said. "He's the kind of guy the players enjoy being around."

Mangos, who came to Ferris State from Caldeon, Ontario, emerged this past winter as one of the premier defensemen in the CCHA, according to Daniels. He ranked eighth on the highscoring Bulldogs' statistics sheet in scoring with 22 points on 11 goals and 11 assists with a +42 efficiency rating. Additionally, Mangos was a 2002-03 All-CCHA Second Team honoree and was a finalist for the CCHA's Best "Defensive" Defenseman Award.

Mangos earned a spot on the CCHA Super 6 All-Tournament Team and was league Defensive Player of the Week (Jan. 6).

"Simon is probably the best defenseman on the team and one of the top defensemen in the league," Daniels said. "He is a tremendous talent and a hard worker on and off the ice."

Smith, a native of Guelph, Ontario, provided the Bulldogs with quality depth at the center position as he finished with 17 points on eight goals and nine assists in 42 contests. His point, assist and goal totals all were career-best marks. Also a career high number was his plus/minus rating of +5. Smith, a co-winner of the Blue Line Competitive Award, has 28 points on 14 goals and 14 assists for his career (115 games.)

“Brett is more of an outgoing personality than Derrick. He’s someone who’s going to be more vocal in picking the team up,” Daniels said. “And, like the others he also is a very good student.”

Ferris State advanced the NCAA Division I West Regional championship before it was eliminated by the host school, Minnesota, which won its second straight national championship at the Frozen Four.