



THE IRON BLADE

SINCE 1955



Ferrum Folks: Al Mellone
page 5

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55 Years of Ferrum College News

April 5, 2010

Ferrum professor's sculptures accepted into two prestigious art shows.

John Carlin
Public Relations Director

Ferrum College Assistant Professor of Art Jeff Dalton's work has been accepted into the *National Drawing and Small Sculpture Show* in Corpus Christi, Texas, and the *Feats of Clay* national ceramics competition presented by the Lincoln Arts & Culture Foundation of Lincoln, Calif.

Dalton's work entitled "Blue Vase Form" received the Juror's Purchase award in the *Drawing and Small Sculpture show*, meaning it will be purchased by the Joseph A. Cain Memorial Gallery on the campus of Del Mar College as a permanent part of the gallery's collection. "It is such an honor just to be selected for the show, said Dalton. "To win the Juror's Purchase award was icing on the cake."

Two of Dalton's creations, "Yellow Vase Form" and "Blue Bottle Form" have been selected for the *Feats of Clay* exhibit, which is an international exhibition featuring work from artists in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The show takes place on the property of the Gladding, McBean Terra Cotta Factory and displayed in-

side an original 35-foot beehive kiln in the historic architectural design studio.

Dalton describes his work as "architectural terracotta" and says he is inspired by the industrial use of clay. He finds motivation in everyday things such as junkyard piles of cables or steel gears in which he admits, "I see drawings." The compositions accepted into the shows in Texas and California are part of a new body of work he calls "Refuse (refuse)."

Dalton says he begins a composition with trust, believing in his ability and sense of form to create a composition in three dimensions. "I approach my work as drawing in clay," says Dalton. "I pay homage to the craft trades – brick workers, tile workers and potters. My work is not 'pottery' per se, as much as it is sculpture that's a tribute to potters."

Juror for the Texas show was Ron Koehler who teaches three dimensional design and sculpture at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi. His works are highly regarded and included in the permanent collection at the Smithsonian National Building

see **DALTON** page 2 —



Professor Jeff Dalton's "Yellow Vase For" (pictures above) was one of two pieces selected for the *Feats of Clay* international exhibit.

photo courtesy of Public Relations

Election results for SGA cabinet 2010-2011 announced: Pando's slate prevails



In a close race with three slates of candidates, Ferrum students have elected a Student Government Association Cabinet for 2010-2011. This group, led by Chaz Pando, has worked very hard for five months in establishing their agenda for next year. They are to be commended and congratulated.

Pictured from left to right are the new SGA officers:

Vice President for Legislation
Trasan Moore

Treasurer
Erin Mucha

President
Chaz Pando

Vice President for Student Activities
Chris Schenko

Secretary
Felicia Wingard

photos courtesy of Chaz Pando

Relay for Life event slated

Bethany Lackey
News Editor

"Superman" is what Heather Luther calls her grandfather, Kennard Luther, who passed away in July of 2009 due to lung cancer. While her loss was devastating, she is doing something to honor his memory which she hopes will also help millions of others. "I am joining Relay for Life because I celebrate the survival of those who have beaten cancer, honor those who are still fighting, and remember those who have lost the battle," Luther's Relay for Life profile states.

Relay for Life is a global event that is set up by the American Cancer Society in which teams in specific localities come together on one day and hold events to honor those that have been lost to cancer, and celebrate the lives of those that have won their battle. It began in 1981, and has been a growing staple ever since. People are standing up, trading in their work attire for one day while making and seeking donations to aid in cancer research. The eventual goal is simple:

a cure.

Ferrum College is joining in to do their part to fight back against the disease. Relay for Life at Ferrum is an overnight event that takes place on campus April 9. The teams will participate in events such as the luminaria lightings and walking the track, all in memory of those who have been before them.

Teams have been set up. The date has been set. The money is being raised. Now all that's missing is you. An amount of \$10 is all that it takes to join a team. As of March 30, there were 34 teams, 285 participants, and an amazing \$10,320.94 dollars from Ferrum alone.

Some of the top teams are "Colleges Against Cancer," "Psych Out Cancer" (Ferrum's Psychology Club), and Sigma Alpha Kappa. If anyone is interested in joining a team, you may join online at www.relayforlife.org/ferrumcollege. or see a team captain. Relay for Life begins on April 9, so join in and give hope today!

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Theatre majors to present senior shows

Press Release

Senior theatre arts majors Aleks Battek-Melson and Mallory Parker will perform one-person shows on April 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Grousebeck Recital Hall.

Battek-Melson's performance is based on Anna Jantar, a 70s Polish folk singer. Possessing a Euro-pop/ABBA-esque style, Jantar died in a plane crash in 1980.

Parker chose Rock-a-Billy performer Janis Martin. Martin was known as the female Elvis.

The one-person shows of senior theatre arts majors are intended to reflect a culmination of the major's experience. Theatre majors are required to research, write the script, and perform their show. They also design all technical areas of the performance which include costumes, set, lighting and sound. The ultimate result of the process is for the senior to have created a viable one-person show that can be toured or published, if the student so chooses.

Following these performances each night, there will be a small reception.

Former Peace Corp volunteer to speak April 15

Interested in finding out what it takes to apply for the PEACE CORP?

On Thursday April 15th at 6:30pm in the Panther's Den

Dr. Richard LaBarbera, who was a Peace Corp volunteer in the Philippines, will talk about the Peace Corp experience.

The qualifications to be part of the Peace Corp have gotten more complex. The earlier you plan the better chance you have of being accepted.

If you have ever entertained the thought of joining the Peace Corp, you owe it to yourself to explore the possibility.

DALTON from page 1

Museum. *Feats of Clay* was jurored by Bill van Gilder, MD, a ceramist with 40 years experience, whose credits include being the creator of *Throwing of Clay* on the DIY Network and the owner/director of the Frederick Pottery School in Frederick, Maryland. "I'm pleased that nationally renowned artists see value in my work," says Dalton. "The recognition is nice, but what's most important is the personal sense of validation for what I'm doing."

The *National Drawing and Small Sculpture Show* will be held from April 9 - May 7 at the Joseph A. Cain Memorial Gallery in Corpus Christi,



Texas. *Feats of Clay* takes place from April 24 through May 30 in Lincoln, California.

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Jeff Dalton's vases and bottles merge clay and contemporary art. On the left, "Blue Bottle Form" was selected along with "Yellow Vase Form" to appear in the *Feast of Clay* international exhibit. Above, "Blue Vase Form" received the Juror's Purchase Award in *The Drawing and Small Sculpture show*."

photos courtesy of Public Relations



Philanthropy Week 5K Run winners announced

Stephen Washington
Staff Writer

The 2010 Philanthropy Week 5k Run, March 22 - 25, included 55 participants this year. The winners of this year's 5k run were: Chris Wendling (overall winner) came in at 21:48, Jason Sharp (Professor of Accounting) (22:54), and Travis Smith (24:14). Sandy Lagana (Soccer Coach) came in at (25:59), Gabrielle Dobbs at (26:13), and Hannah Pegram came in at (26:17).

The purpose of Philanthropy Week is to help students understand their role at Ferrum College, and to also pave the way for future students by making it more affordable for them to attend. "When every class of students graduate, their affinity for Ferrum College would compel them to make donations, and later make it more affordable to future students of Ferrum College," says Hugh Haskins Director of Development. "Philanthropy Week is about educating students on the business model, and how they as students play a role as alums," says Haskins.

Philanthropy Week helps students become more informed citizens. Philanthropy Week was established at Ferrum College just this year. During Philanthropy week 2010, there were many activities, such as the 5k sun,

seminars for students to take part in, along with a variety of businesses that sent representatives to educate Ferrum students.

These representatives were experts in the fields of finance, healthcare, insurance, real estate, auto industry, and telecommunications. Some of the organizations that were represented were; BB&T, Farm Credit, Mountain to Lake Real Estate, Jim Mills Nissan, Carillion Healthcare, Farm Bureau Insurance, and Century Link.

A part of Philanthropy Week included various activities for student to partake in. Each day had a specific event for the students, such as trivia days Monday through Thursday, where students can answer questions. The first of these students to answer back won a gift card.

There was also an opportunity for faculty members to show their appreciation for students who attend Ferrum College by serving in the dining hall, as students pass through, they emphasized how important it is for students to give back to the college. Some of the faculty and staff that served in the dining hall were: Dave Johnson, Gail Holley, Margaret Drakeford, Jason Jones, Justin Muse, and Tom Cosgrove.

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Ferrum Forum

compiled by Chalet Satterthwaite

What movie are you looking forward to seeing in the near future? Why?



Brittany Kemp

“Salt” with Angelina Jolie because it looks like it has a good plot and a lot of action.



Israel Roberson

“Why Did I Get Married 2” because I like Tyler Perry movies.



Tyneisha Atkins

“Eclipse” because I like the “Twilight” movies.



Malyka Walton

“Karate Kid” because Jayden Smith is in it.



Ashley Johnson

“The Last Song” because it’s a love story.



Mike Cherry

“Why Did I Get Married 2” because it looks like a good movie.



Jevonte Whitfield

“Why Did I Get Married 2” because “Why Did I Get Married” went hard.

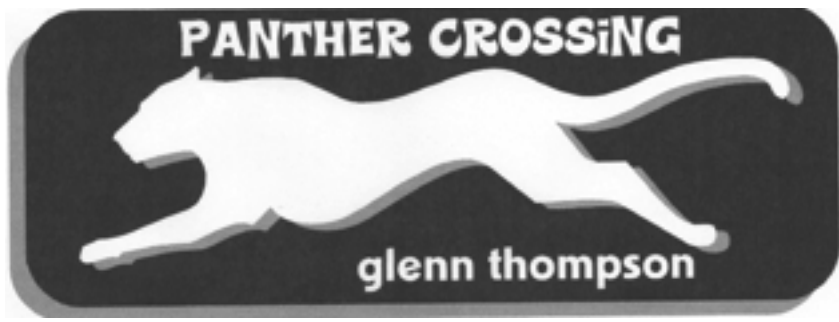


Marcus Marshall

“Iron Man 2” because the first one was good.

Do you have a topic or idea for a Forum question that you would like to have addressed? If so, send those ideas or questions to Lana Whited, advisor, at lwhited@ferrum.edu or to the Iron Blade at iblade@ferrum.edu.

Opinion/Editorial



Love 4 Sale?

Glenn Thompson
Special to the Iron Blade

My apologies to my friends who look to my missives for a bit of cheer...this is not going to be one of those. Recently I had the pleasure of making a presentation in one of Dr. Goodnow's REC classes on "Drugs and Sex Tourism," which was well received and reviewed in this excellent publication. I had suggested those easily offended by life might want to reconsider attending that day, as I had intended to place before the class many horrible truths revealed in videos from around the world. I chickened out a bit...and I am somewhat remorseful. For this project, I spent over a hundred hours reviewing materials for inclusion. Much of the material was quite heartbreaking, and the parent and grandparent-to-be came out of me and I chose to spare the attendees the effect this work had on me.

The issue however needs as much discussion as possible, and it is young

minds and hearts that will change the world. And boy does this smelly place need a change!

I had understood that there were places in Europe, Africa, and Asia where sexual slavery of women and children even was commonplace. I had no concept of the numbers, however. On any day of the week, world-wide, there are one to two million women and children (both sexes) who fear the forced intimacies the new day will bring.

Bangkok...Rio de Janeiro... Kenya...Costa Rica...Montenegro... these exotic locales, international sites for these travesties, once maintained a position of unparalleled mystery in my mind and heart. Now...I only see the faces on the films. Much of the work was done surreptitiously; a benefit of the new age of technology. I suspect if the subjects had known, it would have meant the lives of the videographers. Other subjects, filmed throughout Europe, were interviewed for productions and revealed the extreme depths of the dark hell they

had escaped from. One young lady in her twenties talked about spending the previous decade of her life being smuggled around Europe, sold and passed from hand-to-hand like livestock. Abuse and forced drug addiction are common tools of these traders in human misery.

The footage of the little children in Asia was worse. The poverty in many of the areas is indescribable. Starvation, disease, and predation are the rule rather than the exception. Parents sell their children into an often brief future, rife with degrading and dehumanizing demands. The trafficking of children for sexual slavery is a criminal multi-billion dollar industry, with a world-wide network of support and communication. Unfortunately, the Internet that has brought mankind such positive benefits, also serves as a global tool for networking and sharing information by customers and procurers.

There are a number of excellent human rights agencies fighting for the victims of this travesty, but they often come up against the local and national

authorities and governments, more involved in the conduct rather than the prevention of these crimes. In one particularly vile piece of life cinema, a procurer, after touting the particular talents of an available six year old girl, told the videographer to not worry because the brothel was owned by the local police.

I chose to pen this today to ask a favor. You will graduate to go on to bigger and better things, and some of you will even become rich and powerful. When you are, help destroy this perfidious parody of love. Support the ones who fight to end it, and the ones who seek to help those who have nothing, and cannot help themselves. I may be a heathen pagan, but I understand the Christian tenets quite well, and they not only compel it...they demand it.

So, for those of you who did not think my presentation was everything you thought it was going to be...this is why. You may think you know what ugly is, but you do not.

I spared you that. De nada.

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The Back Road

Mike Gresham
Staff Writer

Rt. 42...

...somewhere, a hundred and twenty miles outside of Ferrum, flashes a fever dream, and the landscape is alive again. The last time was a thousand miles ago—thirteen of us singing and laughing around a campfire in the suburbs of Chicago. Sam Cooke is singing "beyond the sky" beside the glowing rhythm of a green midnight, and Douglas Adams is resting in the backseat, dust on a broken spine, laughing between the lines...

I find myself in the theater, staring at an empty stage, and as I'm standing there, a truth hits me in the head like a balled-up piece of paper: choosing Political Science as a minor was the worst decision I ever made. The theater group has wrapped up production of the spring musical, and I didn't audition. Backstage, on a rolling chalkboard, is the phrase "Work is a blessing". Nervous energy still hangs in the air like electric haze.

There are spirits here. I've heard footsteps and seen shadows in the corners of my vision; only brief flickers, but still. I've never been bothered. I suppose whatever haunts this place is comfortable with my presence. Superstition is laughed at until its midnight in the middle of a supposedly haunted house, and the whole place becomes a microphone. But, I love it here.

I've always been more comfortable in the dark. It's been that way as long as I can remember. Night has a solid grip on my imagination, because I learned early on that things seen plainly in the light of night often go unnoticed in shadows of day.

The power went off in Chapman last semester, for example, and as we leaked into the hallways, bleary and confused, RAs demanded that we go back into our rooms. I snuck into the stairwell to walk outside and onward to the chapel. I read the book of prayers sometimes. It grounds and reminds me that everyone is struggling under an equally heavy load.

To me, temporary collapses of formal structure are not only exciting, they are proof of chaos theory, and support the paradoxical but giggle-inducing conclusion that there is no such thing as a genuine conclusion, only the recurrence of strange loops in the routine patterns of life. Some people buy tickets to these strange loops, and watch other people have Genuine Moments.

I think, as I stare at the stage, that I want to act, and be part of a Genuine Moment, collapsing a structure with mock revolutions to make people laugh and cry at the same time.

For the Midsummer Night sequence in Dead Poets Society, Peter Weir directed the play's audience—composed of extras—as a conductor would an orchestra, crescendos of laughter fading away with Robin Goodfellow's final exit into a standing ovation raised with the flick of a wrist.

To carve moments out of life and sing with a genuine desire to feel alive, and make you feel alive as well... to me, this is the height of accomplishment.

But I wonder...

...should I take the Back Road?

Should I take the "road less traveled by"? Will it make a difference?

Where does the Back Road lead? Let's find out, shall we?

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Letters Policy and Publication Details:

Address letters to the editor of The Iron Blade through campus mail, or e-mail iblade@ferrum.edu; all letters must include names and phone numbers and are subject to editing for grammar, space, and potentially libelous material. Names may be withheld in special circumstances, subject to the discretion of the editor, but in no case will a letter be printed if the identity of the writer is not known to the editor or advisor.

Opinions expressed in The Iron Blade do not necessarily reflect those of Ferrum College administration, staff, faculty, or students.

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To contact The Iron Blade, call 365-4304 or e-mail iblade@ferrum.edu.

The crest on page one was designed by alumna Sandy Southard ('04) in 2005 and updated and colorized in 2009 by Glenn Thompson.

Features

Applications available for 2010-11 student media positions

News Release

The Communications Board is accepting applications for the following positions:

Iron Blade editor-in-chief
Ferrum Radio Station manager
Chrysalis editor

If interested, please pick up an application form from Elaine Carter in Rm. 212, Britt Hall and return

to Elaine Carter or Jeff Dalton, Communications Board chair, by Monday, April 12, at noon.

The Communications Board will meet during the week of April 19 to interview candidates.

If you have questions about these positions, please contact Dr. Lana Whited for the Iron Blade, Demond Hairston for Ferrum Radio, Matt LaRose for Chrysalis, or Professor Dalton by e-mail at jeffdalton@ferrum.edu.

Student Activities Calendar

compiled by **Ellie Miller**
Staff Writer

Monday, April 5, 2010

8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. - Wilderness Advanced First Aid Course
Panthers Den
9 a.m.-10 p.m. - Annual Student Juried Awards Exhibit
E. Taylor Greer Art Gallery, Stanley Library **through April 17**
1-4 p.m. - Master Gardener Class
Garber 123
6-6:45 p.m. - Agriculture Club mtg
Garber 123
7-8 p.m.: The Church, Vaughn Chapel
9-10 p.m. - PEM Club Meeting
Trophy Room, Swartz Gym

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

8 a.m. - Classes Resume
7-9 p.m. - School of Theatre Senior Performances
Grousbeck Recital Hall

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

5:45-9:30 p.m.- Professional Protocol Dinner, Blue Ridge Mountain Room, Franklin Hall
6:30-8:30p.m. - College Against Cancer/Relay For Life Meetings

Beckham 103
6:30-7:30p.m. - Night Hike Outside of Panthers Den
7-9 p.m. - School of Theatr Senior Performance
Grousbeck Recital Hall
9-10 p.m. - Improv Club Show
Panthers Den

Thursday, April 8, 2010

8-9 p.m. - Recharging Thursday Night Bible Study
Roberts Hall Conference Room

Friday, April 9, 2010

4-6:30 p.m. - Survivorship Panthers Den
6 p.m.- Saturday, April 10, 2010,
6 a.m. - Relay For Life
Franklin Quad

Saturday, April 10, 2010

9 a.m.-10 p.m. - Student Art Exhibit continues, E. Taylor Greer Art Gallery
Stanley Library

Sunday, April 11, 2010

9a.m.-10p.m. - Studen Art Exhibit continues through April 17

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Ferrum Folks: Matthew "Al" Mallone



photo by AnnMichelle Bolt

Susan M. King
Features Editor

When Matthew "Al" Mellone first came to Ferrum College, he was getting very little sleep. In order to gain the comfort of home, which is Cocoa Beach, Florida, he began turning on the faucet just enough so he could hear it dripping while he lay in bed. While Mellone admits he has grown out of that habit, he still values the outdoors and his faith.

From fishing to just being on the beach, Mellone tries to spend as much time enjoying the sunshine as possible. "It's just nice to be out there (fishing)," Mellone said. "It's just you, a fishing pole, sunshine, and fish."

Although there is no beach at Ferrum, Mellone believes he is able to get the best of both worlds. He believes that mountains and the snow are just as beautiful as the beach. His extracurricular activities only enforce his passions.

When Mellone is not spending time with his Mu Sigma Chi (MEX) brothers, which is a Christian fraternity on campus, he can often be found playing sports. He is involved in many intramural sports and is on Ferrum's tennis team.

"I'm pretty simple; it's faith, family, education, girlfriend, and friends," Mellone said. However, he was quick to add that they are not always in that order.

Mellone describes himself as passionate, happy, and humble, and his friends agree. Even if a day is going

poorly, he still finds happiness in it because he can "see Christ working through it." His mother always told him that it takes more muscles to frown than it does to smile, and it has always stuck with him.

He comes in contact with many people every day and is always trying to take advantage of the opportunity to talk with them about his faith. He tries to surround himself with people like his MEX brothers that he can be comfortable talking about anything with. "I like to take advantage of each day and of what Jesus gives me," Mellone said.

Mellone wants to make an impact on young people especially. "I had it great growing up, and I want to help kids that don't have that," Mellone said. If he could do anything with his life, he would choose to be a youth pastor, a high school teacher, and a football coach so he could reach as many different youth as possible.

Football is actually one of the reasons Mellone decided to attend Ferrum. His father wanted him to continue playing football and Mellone happened to have an aunt in Danville who mentioned Ferrum College.

Several years later, he can be seen walking across campus with his "If you need answers, ask God" bracelet and MEX hat. However, don't be confused by the nickname printed on his hat. His nickname is Al, as in alligator, rather than A-1, like the steak sauce.

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**The Iron Blade staff
meets regularly
at 1:25 p.m. Mondays
in LA 202A.
No experience is necessary.**

Movie Reviews

“Hot Tub Time Machine”: Flashback to the 80s is lukewarm



Michael Rich
Senior Staff Writer

“Hot Tub Time Machine” is a cross between “The Hangover” and “Back to the Future.” The good news is that the film proudly carries the absurdity of the title. The bad news is unlike “The Hangover,” in which we have a bunch of guys that we would love to hang out with, “Hot Tub Time Machine” doesn’t. Also, “Back to the Future” had a sense of urgency, while “Hot Tube Time Machine” just wants to revisit the 80s.

“Hot Tub Time Machine” starts with four buddies down on their luck. There is recently separated Adam (John Cusack), his 20 year old basement slacker nephew Jacob (Clark Duke), Adam’s friend Nick (Craig Robinson) who discovered his wife cheating on him, and then there is Lou (Rob Corddry) who fails at a suicide attempt while playing a Motley Crue song. They all eventually agree to all go to Kodiak Valley, which is a ski resort that Adam, Nick and Lou all went to during their early adult years. They find Kodiak Valley in a state of disrepair.

After a night of partying in a hot tub, they come to realize that the hot tub they were in transported them to Winterfest of 1986. Suddenly

Adam, Nick, and Lou have to do the things that they were doing exactly at that time in history. That leaves Adam dumping his girlfriend Jennie (Lyndsey Fonesca), Nick bombing a concert song and Lou getting beat up by some bullies.

Considering our heroes have traveled to the 80s, there are a lot of references to the 80s pop culture. There are references to films such as “Red Dawn,” “Sixteen Candles,” and “The Karate Kid.” Also, we get some jokes about what the future may hold. Maybe it is just me, but it just doesn’t give well.

Director Steve Pink clearly thought that this was good material. There are a couple of chuckles in this film. One includes a running gag on a bellhop (Crispin Glover) regarding when exactly the guy will lose his arm.

The cast here really looks like they would rather be somewhere else. John Cusack, whose career took off in the 80s seems to be going from point A to point B without trying. Craig Robinson and Clark Duke look bored. Rob Corddry does try to make the best of this zany material. What is even sadder is that poor Chevy Chase, as the mysterious repairman, doesn’t even have anything funny to say or do.

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“Brooklyn’s Finest” stars A-list actors

Calvin Gunter
Staff Writer

Before the March 5 release of “Brooklyn’s Finest,” word of the film was getting out over the internet, TV spots, and radio, months before its release. The hype, in fact, is very necessary.

The film is headlined by A-list actors Ethan Hawke (“Daybreakers”), Wesley Snipes (“New Jack City”), Richard Gere, and Don Cheadle (“Crash”). The director is Antoine Fuqua, who has worked with Hawke in the hit thriller, “Training Day.”

In some ways, Fuqua takes us back to “Training Day,” revisiting the world of crime and the fine officers who either stop crime or further contribute to it. This time, he combines elements of both “Training Day” and “Crash,” focusing on three Brooklyn police officers and their lives during the course of one week.

Eddie Dugan (Gere) is a veteran patrolman on NYPD’s force who is ready to work through his last week and retire away to Connecticut for good. He’s burnt out from the stress and the troubles of the force, waking up every day to a glass of whiskey and trying to resist the urge to blow his brains out.

Hawke steps out of the “good cop” character he portrayed in “Training Day” and tiptoes more into the dark side as Sal, a narcotics officer. Sal

is a father of seven and a devoted husband to his pregnant wife, Angela (Lili Taylor). All he is aiming for is to provide a better life and home for his family. Sal would cross any line to get his family out of Brooklyn, particularly robbing the drug dealers he busts in on.

Tango (Cheadle) is an undercover cop who has been on Brooklyn’s streets for so long that his loyalties to the force have been shaken and questioned. He is almost as dirty as the criminals he has vowed to bring to justice. He has also become close to drug lord Caz (Snipes), forming a friendship after Caz saved Tango’s life. Tango remains loyal to Caz, requesting to be off the case after attempting to set Caz up during a potential drug deal. After Tango tries his hardest to convince Caz to leave town and quit the drug game, Caz is gunned down by one of his own, sending Tango on a fierce and vengeful warpath.

The paths of the three officers intertwine at the end, with Eddie on the trail for a missing girl, Tango looking to avenge Caz’s murder, and Sal looking to strike it rich raiding for money. They all wind up at the same Brooklyn housing project with their fates sealed.

Snipes’ role as Caz is somewhat more laid back than drug kingpin Nino Brown, the character he played in the 1991 crime drama, “New Jack



City.” Caz had a chance to take out a suspected snitch in the neighborhood, but let him go and saved him from his own henchmen, whereas had that been Nino, he would’ve dropped the snitch off the rooftop himself.

Each of the officers is conflicted both on and off the job. Their personal issues grow and grow even while in uniform, causing them to be tested in

see **FINEST** page 7 —

Sports

Panther Profile: Bob Dill

Roger L. Keaton, III
Sports Editor

There is one student at Ferrum College whose brevity in name length and slightness of stature match perfectly. Bob Dill, whose favorite philosopher is Yoda (their slight statures not being a coincidence), is a senior tennis player here at Ferrum College. A four-year letterman for Gary Holden and Lew Hege, excels in the classroom and on the tennis courts.

Dill came to Ferrum from West Point High School in Williamsburg in order to play tennis as a part of Gary Holden's last recruiting class. Unsure about what he wanted to do with his life, but made a decision toward physical therapy after his grandfather had TKA (total knee arthroplasty) or a total knee replacement done. Upon Dill's arrival in Ferrum Dr. Chris Aylesworth pushed Dill toward medicine instead of just physical therapy. Dill eventually obliged and is double-majoring in Pre-Professional Sciences and Health Sciences with Biology and Chemistry minors. Dill is currently waited to hear from medical schools across the Commonwealth.

During his time at Ferrum, Dill has especially connected to two professors: Aylesworth and Dr. Jason

Powell. Dill says Aylesworth is "father-like" to him and he especially enjoys Powell's personality. Like many others who have taken the class, he says Calculus-based Physics, i.e. PHY 203 & 204, were especially challenging courses.

Outside of academics and athletics, Dill is a member of the Minds-N-Medicine club, has been a PAL Tutor for chemistry and biology, and was Student Employee of the Year for 2008-09 (the first year of the award) while working with Gary Holden, work that continues today, as Dill helps with stats for football and doing the scoreboard for volleyball and basketball contests. During the summer Dill helped with the water quality lab under the guidance of Dr. Thomas, Dr. Powell, Dr. Johnson, and Carol Love. When he is not busy in class or lab or playing tennis, Dill can usually be found somewhere doing homework.

Dill admittedly loves tennis and the relationships that have come due to playing the sport, including but not limited to his girlfriend, Lea McMillan, a member of the women's tennis team. His love for tennis started in a way different than the way most come to love something. During eighth grade, Dill played soccer, not

tennis, but after a blowout win, his coach came down hard on the whole team, and then and there Dill decided to give up the sport. He was not sure what would fill this void, but after talking with some Chess Club buddies (Dill admits he was and still is a nerd) he decided to try his hand at tennis. The two soon became inseparable and Dill is now Ferrum's #3 singles and #3 doubles (with Darren Agee) player, and a team captain the past two years. In addition to tennis, Dill ran cross country his freshman year for former coach Robert Knotts because he felt Knotts was a "cool guy" and believed competitive running would be a "good way to kill time."

In realizing that he is coming to the end of his time at Ferrum, Dill says it is the "saddest thing ever." He is happy with the way tennis has gone this year, doing what he thinks is the best the team has done during his time playing. Dill says he is going to miss all of Ferrum, the faculty and staff, and he particularly hates to leave behind his younger teammates.

Dill says the four years getting his degree have been the best four years of his life, but definitely not the stereotypical college life. Dill says he is not a partygoer or someone who partakes of alcoholic beverages



photo courtesy of Sports Information

but has enjoyed his college career nonetheless. In leaving all those at Ferrum with a quote, Dill remembers the words of his favorite philosopher in the movie "The Empire Strikes Back": "Size matters not. Judge me by my size, do you?" Dill feels this quote is an excellent description of himself and Ferrum College as a whole. Some people may come in and quickly judge the college by its size but doing so would be unfair to the person judging as he would never get to experience the joys of Ferrum College.

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Rill's review of intramurals this year: "very good with a lot of participation"

Calvin Gunter
Staff Writer

When Ferrum's students do not participate in varsity sports or attend any varsity athletic events, there is an alternative for them: intramural sports.

"Intramurals, as a whole, had a good turnout this year. (It had) more numbers and participation than last year," Chris Rill, the director of Ferrum College's Fitness Center, said. Rill sets the intramural sports up as a means to allow students to get away from the pressures of classes and homework, to exhibit top-notch athleticism, and to prepare students trying out for varsity teams the following semester. Normally sporting a Redskins jacket, you can tell Rill enjoys his job to the fullest extent.

"5-on-5 intramural basketball had one of the best turnouts and some of the fiercest competition in any

intramural sport," Rill said, recalling some close games and devastating blowouts. The 5-on-5 intramural basketball mini-league ran from January to February, consisted of sixteen teams split in two divisions, with each team playing six games at the most. A tournament soon followed with the two winners from each division facing off in the championship in Swartz Gymnasium. A team featuring men's basketball assistant coach Rob Fuller and former Ferrum basketball players Cam Piper and Ryan Prunty would eventually win the championship.

Intramural volleyball was another fun and popular event in the Fitness Center. Even though the games were a little less fierce than basketball, the students still came out and enjoyed themselves. A team, headed by Sam Catron, would eventually win the championship.

During intramural volleyball

season, Rill also implemented an intramural bowling mini-season. "It was held in the Rocky Mount bowling alley and consisted of ten four-man teams," Rill said. "The students enjoyed that a lot as well. It will continue until the week after Easter Break, with a winner being picked depending upon the total number of pins each teams has knocked over."

Softball is one of the first outdoor intramural sports being held this semester, giving students the opportunity to watch their classmates play in Bassett Field or to just come out and enjoy the fresh spring breeze.

Rill has started to plan for intramural soccer and tennis with both sports starting after the students' return from Easter Break. "Intramural soccer will consist of five-on-five games, with two Ferrum soccer players allowed on each team," Rill said, "and intramural tennis will be set up with singles and doubles matches.

Both sports will be outdoors."

As usual, Rill is still planning ahead for another semester of fun-filled intramural games, sports, and events. "For next semester, it will pretty much be the same format. Kickball, basketball, flag football, you know. Things like that," Rill said. "For the first week in October, I'm planning on doing an Amazing Race with the Ferrum Outdoors club. It will be a twenty-four-hour event, consisting of twenty tasks and a campout in Bassett Field."

For the fall 2010 semester, Rill also expects the incoming class of freshmen to be quickly involved in intramural sports as well. "Freshmen normally come on to intramurals at a good, quick pace," Rill said. "I don't really expect anything any different from what we have been getting, which is a strong freshmen base."

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FINEST from page 6

the most shocking and grueling ways imaginable. The purpose of this film is to let the viewers decide whether or not the protagonists will make the right choices and rise to the occasion as officers of the law.

Although some sequences and elements of "Brooklyn's Finest" spark up a feeling of déjà vu, it was an overall decent and interesting film that

will keep viewers on the edge of their seats. The ending could've been a little bit better, but the film fulfilled its purpose, which was to provide a first-person perspective of the New York crime scene and the selected few who reform this world every day.

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**Staff/Student basketball game
Saturday April 17 at 5:30 in Swartz Gym.
Looking for Faculty and Staff that
are interested in playing!
Please e-mail Chris Rill at crill@ferrum.edu
if you are interested.**

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