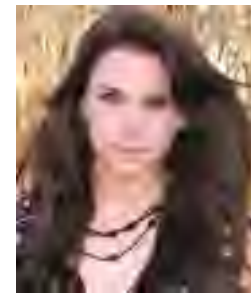




THE IRON BLADE

SINCE 1955



Ferrum Folks:

Bethany Lackey

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Vol. 56, No. 21

56 Years of Ferrum College News

April 19, 2011

Senior Thomas "Tj" Grzesikowski to speak at 2011 Commencement

Vanessa Torres
Staff Writer

Thomas (Tj) Grzesikowski says he was surprised just to be nominated class speaker for the 2011 graduating class of Ferrum College. But the two-time All American punter and history/social studies major was the top vote-getter among his peers in the senior class.

"I was shocked more from being nominated than actually winning," Grzesikowski said.

Grzesikowski has experienced many opportunities while attending Ferrum College the past four years. He completed internships through Teacher Education and got to travel to New York City for the Urban Education E-Term.

He stated, "The opportunity to see NYC for the first time and study the struggle of teaching an urban population was life-altering."

Grzesikowski noted that his success as a student wouldn't have been possible without Ferrum College staff and faculty members who have made a powerful and positive impact on his life. Advisor Nancy Beach, Head Football Coach Dave Harper and English instructor Beth Harper, former Residence Education staff member John Smith, and Virginia Seale, assistant professor of Teacher Education, have given him advice and helped him come a long way as an individual.

Grzesikowski's funny and outgoing personality can be expected to come out in his speech on May 7. He said,

"My personality is reflected heavily, but its not really six minutes of me talking about me. The focus is still on the Class of 2011 as a whole group."

With only a few weeks until graduation, Grzesikowski is busy preparing with fellow senior student teachers for their final presentation on April 20. This will be his final project at Ferrum College.

Grzesikowski states, "The more and more I think about it, I am very much a product of what Ferrum College can offer you as a student. I'm a very dedicated and driven individual that relies on a lot of support and I get that support here at Ferrum. It goes back to the principle of "Not Self, But Others."

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Thomas (Tj) Grzesikowski

photo courtesy of Sports Information

Which path will you choose in life-sized Game of Life?



Carly Jones
Staff Writer

Have you wondered what you would be doing right now if you hadn't made the choice to attend Ferrum College? Some may have attended other schools. Some may have gone right into the working world. Some may have enlisted in the military. Or some may still be taking things slowly and waiting for something to come their way.

Dr. Ed Hally, assistant professor of political science, had an idea inspired by a former student about playing a life-sized Game of Life. It will be based on the board game The Game of Life from the 1990s and be played the same way, only bigger! The board will be made up of giant squares of

construction paper, and giant inflatable dice to roll.

To start off the game, you will need to choose which path you want to go down after high school, either deciding to go right into the work field or attending college. The amount of money you have at the end of the game will be the deciding factor as to who has won. If you are interested in playing this life-sized version of Life, come and bring your friends to the fitness center April 20, at 7 p.m.

"The point of having this game is to show our students that life is all about the choices we make, and empowerment in social networks. It should be a nice break from papers and studying," Hally said.

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Spring Dance Recital: 1 night only, 2 performances

Leyu Wang
Staff Writer

Ferrum College students are going to perform the Spring Dance Recital in Sale Theater on April 20. There will be two performances, one at 4:30 p.m. and the other at 7:30 p.m. The performers are students from the four dance classes and other individual students.

Under the direction of Whitney Heptinstall, they will give you a wonderful show. There will be various kinds of contemporary dance and tra-

ditional dance, such as jazz and ballet. You can enjoy the grace and exuberance of the dancers' performance on this marvelous night.

The Dance Recital is held at the end of every semester. The Dance Recital is the final exam of the dance classes which is mainly to test what they have learned in this semester. Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator Wayne Bowman, says, "It is important to evaluate what the students have learned and what they have done in the class."

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Senior Drama Show: last chance to see John Wayne live on stage

Dawn Wang
Staff Writer

The amazing Senior Drama Shows were presented in Sale Theatre on Thurs., April 1, but the second scheduled evening of performance (April 3) was cancelled due to the campus power outage.

But Zach Gilbertson will be per-

forming his senior show one more time on Wednesday, April 27.

This year's senior drama productions were interesting because three different senior students presented three different plays with unique styles. Each senior began researching and writing his or her play in the Fall 2010 semester. The writing continued

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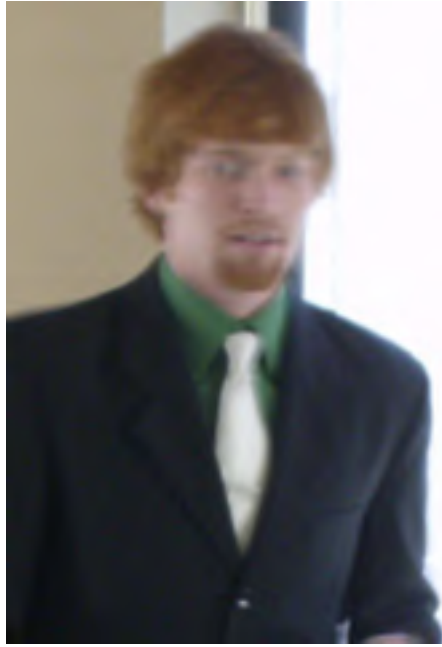
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Student Research Symposium winners announced



Bethany Lackey

photo courtesy of Bethany Lackey



Isaac Slone

photo by Stephen Washington



Mallory Taylor

photo from Facebook



Emily Fiske

photo by Bethany Lackey

The Student Research Symposium sponsored by the School of Social Science was held April 6. The event was "a fantastic night of presentations with many very impressive examples of student research," said Dr. Ed Hally, assistant professor of political science. According to Hally, it was very hard to narrow it down to just three prizes, but these winners were selected (left to right):

- (1st place) Bethany Lackey--"Autism Awareness: Becoming Emotionally Involved"
- (2nd place-tied) Isaac Slone---"Athletic Clubs: The Golf Courses of Social Networking"
- Mallory Taylor--"Hiking the Appalachian Trail: As a Form of Self-Discovery and Empowerment" (tie)
- (3rd place) Emily Fiske--"I Love College: Encouragement of Freshmen Socialization through Learning Communities"

The judging committee selected these presentations based on their fit with the school theme, Empowering Self and Others: Building Social Networks, as well as the presenter's skill, knowledge, and handling of audience questions. Dr. Hally extends thanks to the professors who recommended students for the symposium, to the faculty, staff, and students who showed up to support our presenters, and to the presenters themselves.

Wale and the Big Concert was big success in spite of delays

Tia'Lavon Butler
Features Editor

On Tuesday, April 5, the day started in a bit of a rush. Students were in a hurry to get their classes over and start their preparation for the night's festivities. The Big Concert was the talk of the whole weekend and now the time had come. Friends and family members from a variety of areas came to be a part of the concert themselves.

Black Cobain, who was the opening act for Wale, was a no-show for the meet and greet scheduled with him and Ferrum students at 5 p.m., but the tardiness didn't stunt expectations for the actual concert.

When 7 p.m. finally hit, however, students were a bit concerned to learn that Wale's tour bus hadn't arrived yet and the on-and-off rainy weather was fuel to their burning concern. The show must go on, right?

Ferrum's very own Lano Dollaz graced the stage for the crowd and Wale's dj put on a great display of his turntable capability. Their music kept the crowd's spirits up while they waited on the main event. Hours later, the moment everyone had been waiting for finally arrived. The show turned out to be phenomenal.

Many students were pumped after the concert, saying that they could feel the extreme amount of energy Wale

had on stage.

In my opinion, the students had a lot to do with the success of the show because they remained positive throughout the delay and setbacks. There were a few bumps in the road along the way, but overall, Ferrum students know how to have a good time.

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DRAMA from page 1 —

into the spring 2011 semester as rehearsals began. All the scripts are written by the performers, who oversee every aspect of the productions.

Zach Gilbertson's play is based on the story of the famous movie star John Wayne, and Gilbertson tells people of Wayne's life and film career.

Chaz Pando's show was based on a famous heroic person in American history, Martin Luther King, Jr. Pando's show featured two students on a school trip who find that Dr. King's story comes to life when they tour a Civil Rights museum exhibit.

Senior Ashley Miles portrayed the life of American-born entertainer and activist, Josephine Baker, who lived most of her life in France because of her experience with racism in America.

In addition to Ferrum Theatre Arts faculty, outside adjudicators review and critique the senior shows.

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EXAMINATION SCHEDULE SPRING SEMESTER 2010-2011

Exam Date	Time of Class	Day	Time of Exam
Tuesday, April 26	8:00-9:20	TR	8:00-10:00
	10:10-11:05	MWF	10:30-12:30
	9:30-10:50	TR	2:00-4:00
	6:45-9:45 p.m.	T	6:45-9:45
Wednesday, April 27	8:00-8:55	MWF	8:00-10:00
	9:05-10:00	MWF	10:30-12:30
	11:00-12:20	TR	2:00-4:00
	6:45-9:45 p.m.	W	6:45-9:45
Thursday, April 28	12:20-1:15	MWF	8:00-10:00
	12:30-1:50	TR	10:30-12:30
	1:25-2:20	MWF	2:00-4:00
	6:45-9:45 p.m.	R	6:45-9:45
Friday, April 29	2:00-3:20	TR	8:00-10:00
	11:15-12:10	MWF	10:30-12:30
	2:30-3:50	MWF	14:00-16:00
	6:45-9:45 p.m.	M	6:45-9:45

If a student has (3) examinations on the same day, one exam may be rescheduled to the mutual agreement of the student and the faculty member.

Opinion/Editorial

Taking away more than memories; not enough space for all the thank-you's



Bethany Lackey
Editor-in-Chief

My final editorial. Possibly my final piece of journalism is now before your eyes.

Bittersweet is the only word I can find to describe it. My time here at the "Blade" has been a wonderful rollercoaster for sure. Some weeks having much more material than we could ever use from our ever-devoted staff. Other weeks, we'd get three stories when we need double that. The struggles of getting the interview that I needed, to finding the story I wanted—it's been great.

Nothing can describe the feeling I get when I do an interview with someone and finally hit that one story that is gold. Something that grabs me. Here's my view on it: everybody has a story. My job is to find it. Sometimes that story would take awhile to come up in an interview. That one angle that reaches inside and creates a rush of excitement that makes me want to run back to write the story and hope that my words create that same feeling in others—that's why I write.

I joined the newspaper staff when I first got to Ferrum in the fall of

2009. I was required to take the first journalism course my first fall, but after that, I had a decision to make. I was no longer required to take journalism, so should I? I knew I had a bazillion things already on my to-do list, but I couldn't NOT write. It was less of an obligation for me and more of an outlet.

As I continued, Dr. Lana Whited taught me about the differences between essay writing and journalism and then helped me improve and mentored me through the whole process. I have learned more through journalism than I ever imagined I would.

For my editorials, I wanted more than anything to break away from "normal journalism," and get real. I wanted my readers to know me, and feel like there was a real conversation happening in my articles. I wanted to be helpful, while raising questions in readers' minds. I feel like I've achieved that—at least once or twice.

Speaking of Dr. Whited, I owe her a million and one thanks for giving me the many opportunities that she has. She was there from the first day and taught me to never lose faith in the paper—even when we did only have two-and-a-half stories to run the next week. I admire her witty sarcasm (which is much like my own), her

patience, and her overall intelligence.

Now, I would start with the thank-you's to everyone I owe gratitude. However if I did that, I would probably still be writing after graduation. So, here's the (very) short list with little discussion: God for never-ending patience and mercy, my parents for the same reasons, Dr. Kevin Reilly for inspiration (times a thousand), Allison Deming for making me want to be at Ferrum, Melissa Wright for being a good friend, my amazing friends for being an amazing support system, Susan Yates for letting

me vent and continuously helping me, Chris Rill for making me laugh and getting me involved here, and lastly Kristina Stump, our page designer, who often stays up really late to make this newspaper possible.

Even when I'm gone and no one remembers me here, know that you all have made the biggest impact on my life thus far.

All love - Bethany

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Thank you to you, too

To the editor,

I have worked with many Iron Blade editors over the years. The actual number of years shall remain mine and Dr. Whited's secret. And it is true that I can't remember them all, especially without reminders. But there are those that I do remember. One wrote articles and editorials about long-distance relationships. Her boyfriend/fiancé did not attend Ferrum. Another was so good at mirroring my frustration that complaining just wasn't as cathartic, but I was happy to have someone with whom to commiserate.

Then there's you. I can't remember an editor who has put in as many late hours as you. Some may have come close, but you've come the closest to keeping the hours that I do. I hope you find grad school as I did, a little less demanding. I didn't have to stay

up quite so late then. But if you have to stay up late, at least you'll be closer to your Hokies.

So, thank you for answering my phone calls and e-mails in the very late hours. And thank you for the pictures. When all else failed, you had pictures.

But thank you most of all for putting up with—some may call it my artistic nature; at least one person used "irascibility" and "charm" to describe it; my mother's description is "foul mood"; but I think of it as—my "very low boiling point." Whatever it is, I hope the fallout wasn't too bad.

Others may forget you, but late at night or in the wee hours of the morning at the Iron Blade computer, I'm sure that I'll remember you when . . .

Thank you and good luck,

Kristina
Page Designer Explosionaire

STAFF

Editor-in-Chief

News Editor
Features Editor
Sports Editor
Photography Editor
Advisor
Page Designer

Bethany Lackey

Bethany Lackey
Tia'Lavon Butler
Robert Stiller
to be appointed
Dr. Lana A. Whited
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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.

Student Activities Calendar

compiled by Carly Jones
Staff Writer

Monday, April 18

12 p.m. - North Carolina Outward Bound School, Franklin Hall
4 p.m. - Baseball: USA South/ODAC Challenge
Dance Team Tryouts, Swartz Gym
WK Club, Beckham Hall
Woman's Lacrosse
5 p.m. - Bonner Senior Capstones Panthers Den
6 p.m. - Penny Drive
6:30 p.m. - Whistle Ceremony Blue Ridge Mtn. Room

Tuesday, April 19

3:30 p.m. - J.V. Softbal@Martinsville
4 p.m. - Dance Team Tryouts Swartz Gym
Senior Art Thesis Exhibits, Reception
Woman's Lacrosse @ Burlington N.C.
6 p.m. - Penny Drive
6:30 p.m. - PAC Yoga Class Swartz Gym
9 p.m. - Improv Show, Panther's Den

Wednesday, April 20

11 a.m. - Kappa Delta Pi Bake Sale
4 p.m. - Dance Team Tryouts Swartz Gym

Woman's Lacrosse@Burlington, N.C.

Wednesday, April 20 continued

4:30 p.m. - Dance Recital Sale Theater
7 p.m. - Life-Sized game of Life Fitness Center
7:30 p.m. - Dance Recital Sale Theater

Thursday, April 21

4 p.m. - Dance Team Tryouts Swartz Gym
Woman's Lacrosse@Burlington, N.C.

Friday, April 22

4 p.m. - Dance Team Tryouts Swartz Gym
Spanish Club Movie, Beckham 204
Women's Lacrosse@Burlington, N.C.

Saturday, April 23

12 p.m. - Men's Lacrosse
4 p.m. - Women's Lacrosse@ Burlington, N.C.

Sunday, April 24

4 p.m. - Woman's Lacrosse@ Burlington, N.C.

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Corrections

The article, "Spring Fling Weekend," in the April 12 issue of the Iron Blade was written by Shirley Wang.

Features

Ferrum Folks: Bethany Lackey



photo provided by Bethany Lackey

Matt Hall
Staff Writer

It is another late evening at Ferrum as Bethany Lackey pecks away at another psychology paper. Lackey, a senior psychology major, is a busy woman. She will soon become an even busier woman. She is graduating next month, and it's time for her to finish and tie up some loose ends.

Lackey has been involved in all sorts of campus activities and events. She (most important to me) is the Editor-in-Chief of this newspaper. She has written for The Iron Blade since 2009, when she transferred here. Lackey is also president of the Psychology Club, historian of the Psi Chi Honor Society, and has played recreational volleyball and powderpuff football. She has been on the Dean's list every semester and is on her way to graduating Summa Cum Laude.

In her free time, she has a fascination with MMA (and really likes Jon "Bones" Jones). She attends Krav Maga (MMA) classes, and also attends MMA fights. An avid Hokie fan, she attends as many VT football games as she can. She is very involved with her family and church. Lackey is the former chair of a young political activist group for Patrick and Henry counties.

Before coming to Ferrum, Bethany graduated from Patrick County High in Stuart, Va. She was the captain of the volleyball team and has played in recreational leagues since she was 14. She then attended Patrick Henry Community College, where she was VP of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She transferred to Ferrum in the fall of

2009

. She was recently accepted to graduate school at Virginia Tech, where she will be studying for a master's degree in Community Counseling. She hopes to counsel juvenile delinquents in her professional future.

Bethany has been a commuter student since she arrived, and she felt for a long time that it would hurt her. "It is sometimes hard to get involved here, because I feel like I am living two different lives. I have a social life and responsibilities here and a whole different social life and set of responsibilities 35 minutes away," Lackey said.

Nevertheless, Lackey did get involved with everything that she could here at Ferrum. She feels that no matter the odds, if you strive to be involved and succeed, the possibilities are endless and phenomenal.

Lackey, famous on campus for her thought-provoking editorials, had a statement about her frankness. She stated that she wants to bring to light important issues. She has always tried to ask the controversial questions to get others talking in order to make needed changes.

She says that if there is a lesson to be learned from her two years here, she wants people to remember her as open-minded, driven, caring, and good-hearted. She tried to make a difference everywhere she could. She says that Ferrum has changed her life, and she will carry a piece of the college with her wherever the future takes her.

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Relay weekend highlights worth remembering

There was Zumba,



A crowd lined up to do Zumba.

photo by Matt Fitrer

and face painting,

Right, Britney Spaulding mimes bunny ears--or is it horns--for Matt Fitrer as he gets his face painted.

photo by Bethany Lackey



AND pie (in your face),



Left, Will Comstock prepares to smash a pie in Matt Hall's face--for a good cause.

There was music and more music, hours of play.



Above, Ferrum College's Praise Band, Ekklesia, performs and gets the crowd ready for Sanctus Real (below).

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