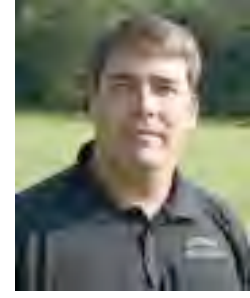




THE IRON BLADE

SINCE 1955



Dave Harper named head football coach see page 4

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56 Years of Ferrum College News

February 1, 2011

Ferrum honors student awarded Virginia Horticultural Foundation scholarship

John Carlin
Public Relations Director

Ferrum College student Deanna Reid has been awarded the Tom Eaton Scholarship from the Virginia Horticultural Foundation. Reid, a triple major in agribusiness, horticulture and Spanish, will receive \$2,000 to help defray educational expenses.

"I received the email while I was working at the feed store at home," said Reid, who returns to Broadway, Virginia, most weekends to earn money for college. "I was so excited because money is tight and it's great to have a little bit of help." Reid says that her love of horticulture comes

naturally, as her family owns and operates a retail greenhouse business.

Reid was encouraged to apply for the scholarship by Ferrum College Professor Bob Pohlad, who thought Reid, "was the perfect candidate."

The scholarship is a one-time award given in memory of Tom Eaton who was an "active and invaluable member of the Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course board," according to the organization's web site. Established in 2008, it is given to an exceptional college student pursuing a degree in any horticultural field.

In addition to the scholarship money, Reid will also receive a three-day registration to attend the Mid-Atlantic

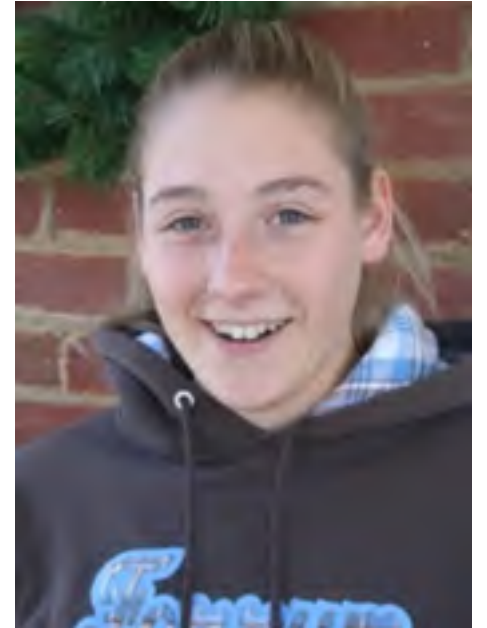
Horticultural Short Course, a professional, educational event held annually during the last week of January in Virginia Beach.

Reid, a sophomore at Ferrum and a member of the Boone Honors Program, says she plans a career in international marketing and agriculture.

"I was so excited . . . it's great to have a little bit of help."

Sophomore Deanna Reid received a \$2000 scholarship for "exceptional college" students studying the field of horticulture.

photo courtesy of Public Relations



Assessment Day: student participation makes a difference

Bethany Lackey
Editor-in-Chief

Within the last week, students have received several emails regarding Assessment Day activities on campus. Assessment Day will take place on Fri., Feb. 4, and there are rewards for all participants--some tangible, some not.

While some professors offer extra credit for attending, the college is making the deal even "sweeter" for juniors this year.

When juniors complete their Pro-

ficiency Profile, they will be given a ticket. This will get them into the Blue Ridge Mountain Room after lunch for a "to die for" dessert. Door prizes will also be given out as a way of saying "thank you."

Dr. Gail Summer, dean of Academic Programs and Faculty Development, wants students to understand the importance of the day. "The information that is gathered [on Assessment Day] helps us make informed decisions about the future of the college," Summer said.

When students complete Assessment Day activities, the information is used by the college to determine the future of certain programs. Some programs are changed for improvements, some are added, and some may be dropped completely.

The students who participate are paving the way for future students. Summer said that Ferrum College values this information greatly.

Assessment Day has been utilized for several years, and has helped Ferrum tremendously. "We collect this

data to show that the Ferrum experience is making a difference in student's lives," said Summer.

Every student is expected to be there and participate. Summer said that she would love to see more students come out this year and that every student makes a difference.

For more information on Assessment Day participation, see the informational emails or visit your ANGEL profile and find your particular schedule.

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'Social' entrepreneur Ed Walker is first 2011 Executive in Residence, spends day on campus

Ahmad Abdullah
Staff Writer

On January 19, Ferrum College was visited by Ed Walker, an entrepreneur and developer from the city of Roanoke. Walker is the most recent guest who has been invited to speak through the Executive in Residence program that Ferrum College offers. During his visit to the college, Walker visited classrooms where he gave his insight on many things that he was asked about. He also gave a keynote speech in the Blue Ridge Mountain Room during the lunch hour.

Many people in this part of Virginia would consider Walker to be somewhat of a local celebrity because of the many things he has done for the Roanoke area. Whenever you take a ride through Roanoke, add it to your schedule to see some of the things that he has helped to accomplish in the city.

One of his accomplishments is

the renovation of the Patrick Henry Hotel, which was in shambles and out of business before he purchased it. Walker will be putting \$14 million worth of renovations into the hotel before it is finished. He plans to turn the old hotel into luxury apartments and office space.

Another of Walker's accomplishments was the establishment of the Downtown Music Lab, which he created in 1999. The Music Lab is an after-school hang out spot for teenagers who enjoy listening to music or would like to have a career in music.

Walker considers himself to be more of a "social entrepreneur" and believes that money is a necessary thing, but the love for the project is the most important thing. Walker explains that while money is important in these projects, his incentive is to improve the city where he lives. Many people who have worked with him in the past have called him a visionary who constantly has creative ideas run-

ning through his mind.

Ferrum student David Preval said, "Just sitting in the room and hearing what he has to say makes you feel as though there are endless opportunities out there and the sky is the limit."

Walker graduated from the University of North Carolina, where he earned his Bachelor's Degree in history. After he graduated, he took on a job as an art broker and had the opportunity to work in central Europe for some time. After his time there, he became a lawyer, but in 2002 he left that line of work so that he could put all of his focus on reviving Roanoke.

A truly interesting and awe-inspiring man, Ferrum students who heard Walker are fortunate to have had the opportunity to gather some ideas that they can possibly use here at Ferrum and in their professional lives.

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First Executive in Residence for 2011, Ed Walker, Roanoke entrepreneur and developer, spoke to college community January 19.

photo courtesy of Public Relations

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Ferrum Forum

compiled by Bethany Lackey

Who do you think will win the Super Bowl and why?



Shabazz McNeill

Steelers because they have the same colors as our school.



Melissa Maldonado

Steelers because they have Ferrum colors. We have to represent!



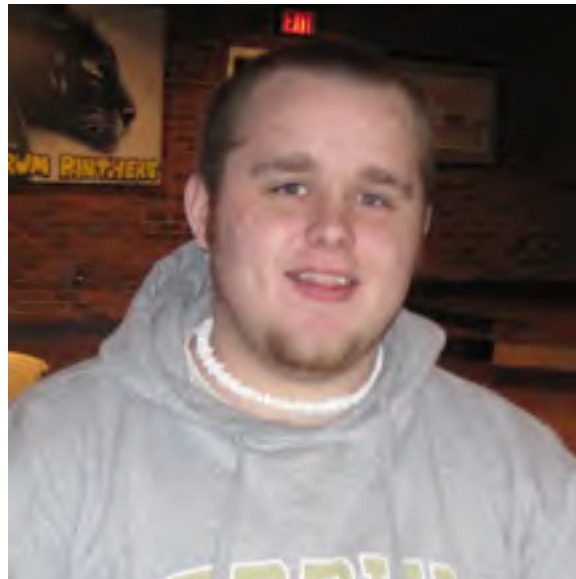
Katelyn Creedon

Anybody who isn't the Cowboys. Black and yellow, black and yellow!



Lizzy Sanborne

Packers because they start with a 'P' and so do the Patriots.



Sean Perkins

Packers because they're on a hot streak and this is one predicament Beg Ben can't get out of!



Catherine Frazier

Packers because the Steelers don't need another ring and football is fixed anyway.



Crystal Miller

I think the Packers because the Steelers are overrated.



Kristen Monroe

I think the Packers, but I totally think Dallas should've been in there.



Chris Lewis

Wait. The Cowboys aren't in it?

Opinion/Editorial

Resolution I: In order to achieve our individual resolutions, we resolve to form a plan--and follow it; so say we all



Bethany Lackey
Editor-in-chief

"I will get fit before summer." "I will stop drinking as much, and study much more." "I will make all A's this semester."

Do any of these sound familiar? They certainly do to me, because I heard these resolutions and many more from my friends about a month ago. Whether it was through Facebook posts or through announcements that they made, it seems like everyone

resolved to do something, stop something, or to start something.

Many years ago, the New Year was celebrated by random acts of kindness, making promises to others, or returning borrowed items. As time progressed, so did traditions, and now the promises are usually made to ourselves.

I have even heard the resolutions that are completely out of our hands. For instance, "I will see Virginia Tech win all of their games next season." How can a person make that resolution? I know I have no control over football games. (If I did, then the Hokies would definitely go undefeated!)

Outlandish or not, resolutions were made several weeks ago by many people and about many different things. However, many people that

made those resolutions have already broken them. According to the Journal of Clinical Psychology, by this time in the year, only 64 percent of people who made resolutions have kept them! Five months from now, about half will still have kept their resolution, according to the study.

However, the half that will keep their resolutions usually have a different way of thinking about resolutions altogether. How do they do it, and how can we reach the goals we set for ourselves? The answer sounds simpler than it is. It's all about the details.

When we make resolutions, we usually focus on the "what." A resolution is commonly what we want to do in one simple sentence. We rarely focus on the "how." The "what" of the situation is a great start. We

have an achievable goal. Now, let's figure out how to get there.

If my resolution was to make all A's, I will have set a goal. My next step is to write down my objectives for meeting that goal.

For example, I will find a quiet place after my classes at 8:30 p.m. and for x amount of time, do my homework and study (even if I don't have a pending exam).

If I wanted to get fit for summer, I would make a detailed gym schedule around my school schedule and stick to it.

With a detailed plan of action, we are much more likely to keep our resolutions and reach the goals that we set for ourselves.

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Let us be watchful over our rulers

Letter to the Editor

James Iredell, speaking at the North Carolina convention in 1788, placed the responsibility for defending our liberty squarely on the shoulders

of the people. "Let them be watchful over their rulers," he said.

The Greensboro Four

On February 1, 1960, Franklin McCain, Ezell Blair, Joe McNeil and

David Richmond (four students from North Carolina A&T College) took Iredell at his word by sitting down at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro and asking to be served.

This courageous act inspired a vast wave of sit-ins throughout the upper South. These sit-ins re-energized the civil rights movement. In 1964, the 24th Amendment became law, and LBJ signed the Civil Rights Act.

The "Greensboro Four" had no organizational backing and received no salaries. They made no speeches to thousands of cheering supporters. Instead, they doggedly returned day after day to ask for service at Woolworth's. They were despised, spit upon and had spaghetti sauce poured on their heads. They played a heroic role in changing America for the better.

This road to governmental reform

Now, a half century later, America again needs "changing for the better." Our federal government has slipped out of our control. Our presidents are (lawlessly) invading other nations in an attempt to control and re-shape their governments. Our Congress is (lawlessly) abdicating its powers. Our courts are (lawlessly) making partisan decisions. . Once more, we need to set our government on a moral and humane course.

The road to governmental reform does not pass through Congress. It is unrealistic to imagine our federal civil officers enacting (by statute)

or proposing (by amendment) any genuine reform. Genuine reform would build a fire wall between them and big-money campaign donations. The road to governmental reform, instead, passes through our state legislatures. For example, two-thirds of these legislatures would have the power, acting together, to require the calling of a Constitutional convention.

Conclusion

The Greensboro Four were not cheered by thousands. Instead, they had ketchup dumped on their heads. Now our country is threatened again – this time by a lawless federal government. Should small groups of university students ignite petitioning movements in 34 states (and should these movements lead to a national convention and a "responsive government" amendment) neither would they be cheered. Their satisfaction would come sometime in the future when they would enter an airplane, take their seats in economy class, and find themselves sitting next to a member of Congress.

Neal Q. Herrick

Neal Q. Herrick retired from the University of Michigan as a Visiting Professor. His most recent book is *After Patrick Henry*, which won the IPPY gold medal for the best "freedom fighter" book of 2009 and the silver medal in Foreword's competition for the best political science book of 2009.

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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.

Corrections

In the January 25 issue of the Iron Blade, in the Desserts Discussion article on page 2, paragraph 2, Dr. Susan Mead's name is misspelled. In the staff box, Monica Samayoa's name is spelled incorrectly. The Iron Blade sincerely apologizes for these errors and resolves to spell better.

Sports

Ferrum's Dave Harper named head football coach

John Carlin
Public Relations Director

Ferrum College Director of Athletics Abe Naff has announced that Dave Harper has been named Head Football Coach. Harper succeeds Dave Davis, who retired at the end of the 2010 season.

Harper has been a member of the Ferrum coaching staff for 18 years, where he has served as offensive coordinator since 1999. Prior to that, he served as defensive coordinator from 1993-1998. Harper came to Ferrum after a two-year stint as an assistant coach at Davidson College.

Ferrum President Jennifer Braaten expressed special thanks to the search committee. "The work of the committee during this intensive nationwide search was extremely important for Ferrum. We are confident that our historic football legacy will continue and flourish under Dave Harper's proven leadership and his vision for future

NCAA Division III championships," said Braaten.

The committee, comprised of faculty, staff, Board of Trustees and alumni members, considered over 100 applications for the position.

Supporters of the Ferrum football program, including many former students, sent dozens of letters and e-mails to the school on Harper's behalf. He also enjoys a strong working relationship with members of the athletic department. "Dave was an excellent candidate right from the beginning," said Naff, also a member of the search committee. "We needed to go through the process and see who else was out there, and we feel strongly that we selected the best candidate."

Harper has enjoyed a great deal of success overseeing the offense. Ferrum's rushing offense has finished 12th or higher in the nation in 10 of his 12 seasons as offensive coordinator. Ferrum's 2005 offense broke school records for rushing yards

in a season (4,332) points in a season (439) and single-game yards (686).

Harper, who played football at Ferrum from 1986-89 becomes just the sixth head football coach at Ferrum in the 56-year history of the program. The number 56 is significant to Harper, having twice earned All-America honors at linebacker while wearing number 56 on his jersey. His jersey is one of only two to have been retired by the College.

"I'm extremely excited about becoming Ferrum's new head coach," said Harper. "I plan to use this opportunity to lead the next generation of Ferrum College student-athletes in the right direction, so that they too can understand what wearing a black helmet at this great institution means to many alumni. I'd also would like to thank the alumni, faculty, staff and friends who showed their support to my family and me throughout the search process."

Harper and his wife Beth reside in



Dave Harper, former Panther and assistant football coach, is now the college's head football coach.

photo courtesy of Public relations

Ferrum with their two sons, Max and Sam. He will begin his work as head football coach immediately.

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Panther Update

Tia'Lavon Butler
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team has to be one of the most explosive stories on campus. This happens to be no secret if you have attended one of the super packed basketball games and witnessed Panther Pride for yourself.

The team started off their season on a great note, seeming to be nothing short of indestructible as they embarked on a record breaking winning streak of 11 wins and no losses. This record lasted until their game against Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) on January 3, where our men suffered their first loss, 85 to 79. But we weren't worried because Panthers don't stay down long.

The men's team have gone on to

win four more games so far, only having one more loss on their belt which was to Christopher Newport University (CNU) at 80 to 67. This makde our men's record 15 wins and 2 losses in the regular season, but they are 4 and 1 in the USA South tournament.

According to Lamont King, number 40 Forward, the Ferrum Panthers have no intentions of slowing down. The fresh talent assured me that when the championship approaches on March 19, in Salem, they will "rock the house." With their fast pace style of playing and undeniable chemistry on the court I have no reason to doubt such a statement.

At press time, the Panthers were scheduled to take on Averett in Danville on Wed., Jan. 26.

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Are you ready for some football; Super Bowl XLV is must see

Carly Jones
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again, time for the clashing of the football helmets, the screaming fans, and the blood, sweat and tears to be shed; it's Super Bowl XLV! The Super Bowl is one of the most viewed programs aired on television, with over 100 million people tuning in for last years' big game (and commercials too, of course). Who will take this year's win: the Pittsburgh Steelers, with their strong defense, or the Green Bay Packers, who are playing for their fifth time ever in Super Bowl history?

Ferrum College is hosting their

annual Super Bowl Party on February 6 this year in a new location. It will be in Confetti's Student Lounge, which is located in Bassett Hall. Confetti's opens at 5 p.m. and kick off is at 6:30 p.m.

Last years' party had a great turn out, and this year should be even better. Come out to support your team and enjoy the game on a high definition television. The school will be providing refreshments for all the students who attend. So, if you aren't sure where to watch the big game, head to Confetti's for food, fun and football!

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Movie Reviews

"The Green Hornet" is not all the buzz; For action and a wisecracking superhero, rent "Iron Man"

Bobby Kohler
Staff Writer

If you're looking for a movie packed with action, comedy, and a good storyline, don't go see "The Green Hornet."

"The Green Hornet" is the latest project tackled by comedian Seth Rogen, and this wasn't his best work. The director, Michel Gondry (best known for "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" and his countless music video wonders) was the man chosen to take on this huge studio blockbuster. Though his work isn't very well known, it was promising that this wouldn't be like every other

superhero movie--and it sure wasn't.

Rogen plays Britt Reid, a larger-than-life heir to his father's newspaper empire (his father is played by Tom Wilkinson). When his father suddenly and tragically dies, it becomes Reid's responsibility to run the newspaper. Mind you, he knows nothing about running anything but his mouth. On a random drunk evening, Reid decides to be a vigilante crime fighter with his father's mechanic Kato (Jay Chou) as his sidekick.

Reid goes on to use his new fortune and identity to take on the crime in Los Angeles, while using the newspaper to build the Green Hornet's image. As the movie continues, the

climax becomes more and more predictable.

Overall, the story is just as ordinary and simple as can be. Though the back and forth chemistry between Reid and Chou carry the movie, it definitely isn't the best superhero movie I've ever seen. Cameron Diaz essentially had no vital reason to be in the movie, but it's Cameron Diaz, so I'm not going to complain.

If you want to see an action packed movie with a wisecracking superhero, go rent "Iron Man," and you won't be disappointed.

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