



# THE IRON BLADE

SINCE 1955



Ferrum Folks

Mallory Parker

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56 Years of Ferrum College News

November 16, 2010

## Recreation Major not for the faint of heart

Susan M. King  
Features Editor

From traveling the world to doing adventurous activities, the recreation major provides students with many opportunities to get out and have a great time.

During the 2010 e-term, the recreation class took a trip to New Zealand. This allowed the students to learn about the Maori culture and enjoy time rappelling and white water rafting.

These are only a few of the exciting activities a person involved in the recreation club or major can be exposed to. Students in the program have the opportunity to go to Costa Rica for the 2011 e-term, along with numerous exciting activities that are planned.

The recreation program has its stereotypes, but majors are quick to point

out that these stereotypes are off-base.

One common misconception is that the recreation major is easy and for slackers. Senior Andrew Maxwell, who switched from the business major to recreation, said the recreation courses are just as challenging for students.

“The professors that teach in the recreation field want to make sure that anyone graduating from Ferrum College with a recreation degree is knowledgeable and is a top contender for the job market,” Maxwell said.

Another misconception is that only certain people enjoy recreation. Maxwell believes that everyone is involved in some kind of recreation.

The recreation major allows students not only to be involved in fun and adventurous activities, but also

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New Zealand was the destination for the 2010 recreation e-term.

photo courtesy of Recreation Club/Major

## Great American Smoke Out kicks off November 17

Stephen Washington  
Staff Writer

The Great American Smoke Out, a national anti-smoking event held on the third Thursday of every November, will be coming to Ferrum College. It is sponsored by the American Cancer Society and is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> year on November 18.

The purpose of the Great American Smoke Out is to promote healthier living habits, and to try to get students to give up smoking for just one day. Jill Adams says, “I think that students can learn about the effects of smoking, and I encourage all students to take on a healthier lifestyle.”

Sponsoring this event will be Minds

-n- Medicine, BACCHUS, Colleges against Cancer, the American Cancer Society, and the Healthy Living floor in Bassett Hall.

The event will include games, prizes, and refreshments for students in attendance. Facts and statistics about smoking and the benefits of quitting will also be available.

Some rewards and activities include the following: students who attend the event and hand in at least half a pack of cigarettes will get a ticket to Subway; and the patio down by Subway will be smoke-free for the entire day.

The event kicks off November 17 at 8 p.m. in the Panther’s Den.

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photo from Great American Smoke Out Images

## Empty Bowl event raises \$2,400 for Panther Packs

home for the weekend with low-income children. Below, student have a wide variety of empty bowls from which to choose.



Above right, Bobby Thompson, executive vice president for business affairs, and his wife Glenna select their bowls and chat with Marcie Altice. The Empty Bowls event held on Sunday, Nov. 7, was sponsored by the Gateway classes of Glen Stevens, assistant professor of environmental science, and Jeff Dalton, assistant professor of art. Artists from the Blue Ridge Potters Guild made the bowls, and the Food Services staff prepared the soup. Approximately \$2,400 was raised to benefit the Panther Packs program at Ferrum Elementary School, which sends nonperishable food



photos courtesy of Public Relations

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# Ferrum Folks: Mallory Parker



photo from Facebook

**Susan M. King**  
Features Editor

If you have seen a theater production in the last few years, you have probably laid eyes on Senior Mallory Parker. However, her looks may be deceiving.

Unlike many of Ferrum's students, Parker is 26 years old and says she has grown out of caring about what everyone else says and thinks about her. "You'll see me walking around in flannel that is huge and I won't care at all," Parker said. "Being an older student is a plus because you're not worried about the same things."

As a theater major, Parker spends most of her time expressing her self and showing her artistic side, which is very diverse. She has designed the set for the theater productions since she came to Ferrum in 2007. She also paints, draws, and can set up the

sound and lighting for performances.

Her specialty in the theater department is prosthetic make-up. "My dream is to do zombie films, but if I don't, I won't be heartbroken," she said.

Although Parker loves the arts, she understands that most people don't get a job in what they major in, and she is okay with that.

"When I'm on my deathbed and I see I had a happy family, I'll be satisfied," Parker said.

Growing up in the south, Parker was raised to be family oriented. As one of four children, she understands what it is like to have a big family. With two other siblings in college, she decided she was going to pay for her education herself.

Although she has had to take time off from school here and there to work, Parker will finally be graduating in May of 2011.

The fact that her parents are proud of her and happy with her just the way she is makes Parker smile. Her mother is a kindergarten teacher and always puts things very simply. When Parker's mother introduces her four children, she always says, "This is Mallory, our unique one."

"If my parents can accept me for the unconventional manner in which I do things, then nobody else's opinion matters," Parker said.

Her passion for the arts, especially singing, can be traced back to when she was first able to stand, and her parents allowed her to be in the church choir. "I'd sing everyday if you would let me," she said.

Parker said everyone in the theater program has his or her own reasons

for being involved in the performing arts, but there is a misconception that many theater people are over the top or are flamboyant drama queens.

"Football players hit people and throw balls. Art majors stare at fruit for hours to decide how to show the reflection just right, and theater people get to play dress up and act like people they may never get another chance to be," Parker said.

Theater majors are just like everyone else, except they choose to express themselves a little differently. One of the things Parker appreciates

expect. You can actually relate to these people."

Although she has never stayed in one place for more than a few years, Parker likes the fact she has made some really good friends while being at Ferrum. "The people are what make Ferrum," she said.

"It (Ferrum) is like a little secret haven where you have to literally get lost in order to find it," Parker said.

She may not spend the rest of her life here, but Parker doesn't plan on leaving the area any time soon. Even if she does, she will never forget the



**Parker (right) creates the Cowardly Lion (Nate Buursma) for the Blue Ridge Dinner Theatre production of "The Wizard of Oz" this past summer, as cast member and Ferrum alumna Willette Thompson observes.**

photo from Facebook

and that surprised her most about Ferrum is the fact of how open-minded people are.

Parker said, "For being a Methodist college, there are so many open-minded people that you wouldn't

friends she has made or her memories of being the "big sister" to the theater department.

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## Exam Schedule

### Fall Semester 2010-11

| Exam Date                                   | Time of Class | Days | Time of Exam              |
|---|---------------|------|---------------------------|
| <b>Wed. Dec. 8</b><br>All English 101 Exams | 18:45-21:45   | W    | 9:00-11:00<br>18:45-20:45 |
|   | 8:00-9:20     | TR   | 8:00-10:00                |
| <b>Thurs. Dec. 9</b>                        | 9:30-10:50    | TR   | 10:30-12:30               |
|   | 10:10-11:05   | MWF  | 14:00-16:00               |
|   | 18:45-21:45   | T    | 18:45-20:45               |
|   | 8:00-8:55     | MWF  | 8:00-10:00                |
| <b>Fri. Dec. 10</b>                         | 11:00-12:20   | TR   | 10:30-12:30               |
|   | 12:30-1:50    | TR   | 14:00-16:00               |
|   | 18:45-21:45   | M    | 18:45-20:45               |
|   | 9:05-10:00    | MWF  | 8:00-10:00                |
| <b>Sat. Dec. 11</b>                         | 12:20-13:15   | MWF  | 10:30-12:30               |
|   | 14:30-15:50   | MWF  | 14:00-16:00               |
|   | 18:45-21:45   | R    | 18:45-20:45               |
|   | 11:15-12:10   | MWF  | 8:00-10:00                |
| <b>Mon. Dec. 13</b>                         | 13:25-14:20   | MWF  | 10:30-12:30               |
|   | 14:00-15:20   | TR   | 14:00-16:00               |

If a student has (3) examinations on the same day, a makeup time may be scheduled to the mutual agreement of the student and the faculty member.



**Author Adam Shepard (R) talks with Dr. Tina Hanlon, associate professor of English (L), and senior Whitney Scott (center) following his presentation on Thursday, Nov. 4.**

photo by Lana Whited

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prepares them for a successful future.

"The experience and knowledge that a recreation major obtains not only sets (the student) up for a great paying job in numerous fields but also gives them the tools and confidence for basic survival in any situation," Maxwell said.

One of the many fields a recreation student could go into is eco-tourism, which is one of the leading industries

in the world, and is continuing to grow while the world faces continuous ecological hardships.

Whether a person is looking to have a successful career doing something exciting everyday or desires to learn more about appreciating other cultures and outdoor activities, the recreation field can be very promising.

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# Ferrum Forum

compiled by Bethany Lackey

## What type of recreational activities are you involved in?



**Chris Duble**

(Junior)  
I play football.



**Daniel Alvarez**

(Junior)  
I play baseball for Ferrum, but I like playing basketball and football in my spare time.



**Joemica Donaldson**

(Sophomore)  
I like cheerleading.



**Kellee Lewis**

(Freshman)  
I enjoy playing volleyball and anything outdoors.



**Natalie Olsen**

(Senior)  
I play soccer for Ferrum.



**Nick Entsminger**

(Senior)  
I like hiking and canoeing.



**Ryan Throckmartin**

(Senior)  
I'm the captain of the golf team.



**Shavonya Smith**

(Senior)  
I like to play volleyball and ride my bike.



**Xavier Drakeford**

(Senior)  
I play arena football in Pennsylvania. My season's about to start.

# Opinion/Editorial



## Panther Crossing

**Glenn Thompson**  
Senior Staff Writer

I sat on the hard bench, listening to the quiet sounds of fall. The wind rustled the wild palettes of leaves and their rusty voices sang to me of crisp nights in fall—and even crisper ones to come in winter. It was one of those rare moments on campus, when everyone is in class and no one is about or at least in sight for a few precious minutes...of solitude. Clouds part—releasing the great and glorious dragon that is the sun. Flung groundward ahead of its flight are the rays of flame; they strike the leaves of the trees and the quadrangle is emblazoned with all the hues of golds and reds that only molten gold can paint.

Fall in Virginia can delight or thrill, and that day was definitely high on my thrill-o-meter. This moment made Ferrum seem more like home than it ever had before. My time here has not only been educational, but very precious to me. Thank you.

I have used this proffered soap box to try to delight, and sometimes to provoke your minds and hearts. I have also used it to express what have not always been my most popular diatribes. Yes...you may consider this one of those.

I commented previously on the loss of civility on the part of some citizenry campaigning to obtain a substantial government paycheck, and a package of benefits equal to any Wall Street barracuda. Now that this and other elections of its ilk are

## A dragon paints the trees

over, the absolute imbalance of their results trouble me. We have been here before, and it has never worked out. When the different sections of our government get to such a stalemate, absolutely nothing gets done. For those of you old enough: remember what it was like for President Jimmy Carter? The goal of a system of checks and balances is not stagnation. We understand that the rich simply have to get richer—the green ink gets in their blood or something...I don't know. The goal of a two-level citizenry, though, will never cut it. Did not work in the antebellum South before...won't work now.

There is a great deal of speculation around the Mayan calendar, the year 2012, and all sorts of calamitous events that may or may not occur. Someone asked me recently what I thought about it all, and what I would like to see happen...rather than what

was I afraid would happen. The uniqueness of the inquiry prompted me to think about it. You are reading the result of that overloaded train of thought.

I don't know how or what or anything, but I would like to see the women of the world, and those who suffer the punishments wielded on those called minorities to stand up—fight back—shout out—and band together to keep that earned at high costs.

A man of color achieves an unbelievable dream for himself and his people, and his own stand by and let him be painted with the tar brush of the previous administration's mistakes and failures. I wonder how that would have worked for them with Ms. Clinton...would they have blamed her for her husband's mistakes as well as those of George Bush?

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## Student Activities Calendar

compiled by **John Wells**  
Senior Staff Writer

### Tuesday, November 16, 2010

7 p.m. - Walleyball, Racquetball court in Fitness Center

9:30 p.m. - Bible Study, Lighthouse

### Wednesday, November 17, 2010

7:30 p.m. - Intramural Bowling,

Rocky Mount Family Fun Center [Bowling Alley]

8 p.m. - Great American Smokeout Program, Panthers Den

9:30 p.m. - Bible Study, Lighthouse

### Thursday, November 18, 2010

7 p.m. - Walleyball, Racquetball court in Fitness Center

### Friday, November 19, 2010

7 p.m. - Men's Basketball vs. Warren Wilson College

8 p.m. - Women's Basketball vs. Roanoke College

### Saturday, November 20, 2010

4 p.m. - Women's Basketball at Randolph-Macon College

### Sunday, November 21, 2010

2 p.m. - Men's Basketball at Roanoke College

### Monday, November 22, 2010

### THANKSGIVING BREAK

through Sunday, November 28

### Monday, November 29, 2010

### CLASSES RESUME

4:30 p.m. - 3 on 3 basketball signups, Franklin Hall Atrium

7 p.m. - Monday Night Praise, Vaughn Chapel

7 p.m. - Men's Basketball at Randolph College

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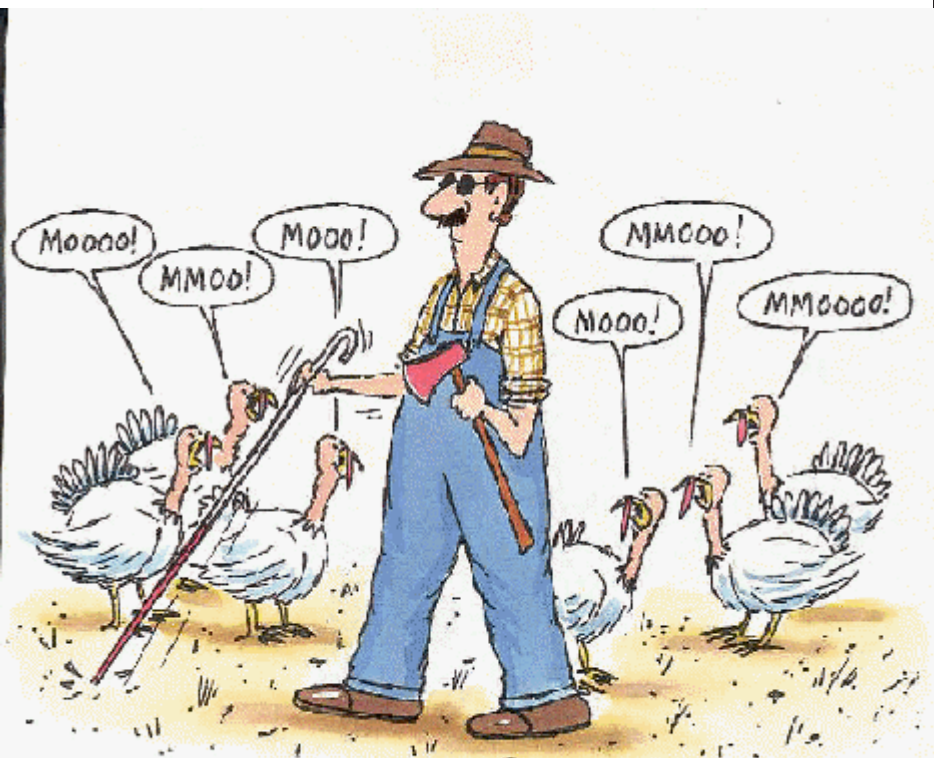
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The crest on page one was designed by alumna Sandy Southard ('04) in 2005 and updated and colorized in 2009 by Glenn Thompson.

## With a little lucky, you can survive the holidays



images online