Ferrum College Relays to Fight Back

by Vanessa Torres
News Editor

Relay for Life was held on March 30, 2012 in Franklin Quad. The Ferrum community gathered to help spread awareness and give a fight back to cancer. The 24-hour night began at 6:00 p.m. with the open ceremony and was then followed by speeches given out by community members gathered to help raise money for Relay for Life, Dakota Letteiri, worked hard alongside their Collages Against Cancer Committee to make it a successful night.

“Relay this year was a great success and I’m so thankful for everyone that participated. Jill did such an awesome job and without her hard work in everything, relay wouldn’t have been able to be done.” Letteiri says.

The relay night/day was then closed with a closing ceremony at 6:00 a.m. thanking all those who came and stayed throughout the night to cause awareness of the fight for cancer. There is still time to raise money for relay for life. Donations close July 1, 2012. Don’t stop raising money so that we are able to have more birthdays in the world and hopefully one day find a cure to cancer.

Blue Ridge Institute Reopens
by Heather Flippin

The Blue Ridge Institute and Museum has been a culturally and historically important part of Ferrum and the surrounding communities since it was built in the 1970’s. On March 8, 2012 it reopened its doors following eight months and over $600,000 worth of renovations. The construction was made possible through grants that funded the addition of over 3,000 square feet for classrooms, research, archives, and gallery and exhibit space. A reception was held to celebrate the expansion and guests were able to enjoy the musical talents of banjo players, Trish and Kevin Fore, as well as a demonstration from Nell Townley on quilting techniques. Former U.S. Representative, Virgil Goode and former Governor of Virginia, Gerald Baliles were in attendance to share their thoughts about Ferrum College and the Blue Ridge Institute. “I want to thank you for all that you have done in promoting, preserving, and going forth with the Blue Ridge Institute,” said Goode, “I think it’s a tremendous asset, not only for Ferrum, not only for Franklin County, not only for Virginia, but all of the Blue Ridge Region of the United States of America.” Baliles followed with a speech of his own stating, “As enjoyable as it is to read about and to study history it’s a lot more fun to make it, and here at Ferrum history is being made.” He went on to say, “The Institute’s mission has been made clear and straight forward: to further the appreciation of the heritage of the Blue Ridge Mountain Region, to document and present the traditional knowledge and crafts-manship of the region, and to enhance the future development of the region.”

The President of Ferrum College, Dr. Jennifer Braaten, Museum Director, Roddy Moore, and chair of the Board of Trustees, Samuel Lionberger also spoke at the Institute’s grand reopening. “What’s beautiful about this part of Virginia is the people and everything in this Institute symbolizes something valuable for the people that live in this area. A tremendous work ethic, music, culture, religion, all of that goes together and is molded into one beautiful creation called Appalachia,” said Lionberger. The Blue Ridge Institute will waste no time in putting the new gallery spaces to use. The exhibitions “Virginia Quilts & Bedcovers: Premiere Historic Textiles from the Commonwealth” and “Crooked Road Music Styles & Royalty” will be showcased this Spring.

Students support Relay for Life. Left to right, Taylor Mendler, Christian Brewer, William A. Moore.
Editors Note: The Afters Concert
by Jordan Dear
Features Editor

This past Monday April 2nd, The Afters performed a concert at Ferrum. The Mu Sigma Chi and Sigma Alpha Kappa fraternities, along with Chaplin Wes Astin and Billy Byrd organized this event.

Wes Astin’s Religion class and Justin Muse also organized and helped plan this concert. The concert was a huge success for the entire Ferrum community.

The Afters were invited to play at Ferrum after Wes received a generous donation to bring them. I went to the concert last year when Sanctus Real was invited to play and it was amazing.

Even though they are both Christian bands, I did not realize how much their music would affect me until I experienced it. I only heard one song but I instantly loved them! I was at the Café that Monday and then all of the members of the band walked in with Wes Astin. I recognized them and almost screamed. I told myself to relax because if I did scream they would think I was another crazed fan. I knew they were having a meet and greet that night so I planned on meeting them. The Praise Band opened with some awesome songs, which was a great start to the concert.

Once The Afters started I became their new number one fan. Along with my great dance partner, Erin Mucha, we created a new dance move for each song. I did not realize this would make us stand out in the crowd. Between one of the songs Josh, the lead singer, told us to move in the front. I then continued our dance moves until something fantastic happened.

Josh took a minute after one of the songs to ask my name. I replied of course and was so ecstatic. He then asked me what I called the dance I was performing and I replied, “The Jordan”.

The Afters invited me on stage to show the crowd my dance move. I went on stage and did “The Jordan” dance move and it was an awesome experience.

Next thing I know, all the kids in the crowd started doing it. It made me feel famous. The Afters performed the rest of their songs and also shared stories and words about how God is great.

After the show I got to meet them and we had a nice conversation about my dance moves. The Afters are my new friends and I hope they can perform at future events I plan to have! I highly recommend anyone and anything to book them for their next party or event.

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Coach Profile: Cleive Adams

by Vanessa Torres
News Editor

Coach Cleive Adams has been a part of the Ferrum Football team for the past 14 years. As Assistant Coach and Defensive Coordinator, he has impacted the football program not only as a coach but also as a role model.

As a young boy, Adams was introduced to the passion of football by his mother. She was a big Pittsburgh Steelers fan and had constantly taken Adams to football games at Radford High school and Virginia Tech.

Adams attended Radford High school and played football. He later attended Ferrum College where he played defensive back. As a sophomore at Ferrum he got married to his wife, Jill Adams who is currently a faculty member at Ferrum.

During 2005 and 2006 season, Adams made a professional decision and accepted a coaching position at Washington and Lee University. While at Washington and Lee, Adams heard of the big plans Ferrum had with the Hank Norton Center and heard of the positive direction the athletic program was going towards and he wanted to be a part of it.

He later realized how much of a connection he had with Ferrum and his commitment to his team after being a Ferrum Alumni himself. Adams also realized this was the best decision for his family where his wife could come back and finish school and where his children could graduate from Franklin County High school.

Adams got his coaching opportunity at Ferrum as an undergraduate. He began as a student assistant coach under Coach and later sought the open position that the Ferrum football program had open, and got it.

To Adams, the football team has grown in many ways. But the two that stand out the most would be the growth in staff members and the improvements of the athletic facilities. With this, there are more eyes on the field which gives the program more opportunities for improvement.

With the new Hank Norton Center open next school year, Adam says, “The Hank Norton Center is going to be a big improvement for our school. It gives the quality life for our athletes and is a significant impact on the campus.”

Adams has come a long way in his career and has had great mentors along the way. Adams says, “Obviously my high school Coach, Norman Lineburg, was a big inspiration for me as a player and coach. As an adult it would be Coach Davis [Former Ferrum Football Head Coach] who gave me the opportunity to be a coach and believed in me when he didn’t have to, I’m forever grateful to him.”

Coach Adams has coached many young men during his time at Ferrum and hopes that he has impacted them in a positive way. Adams says, “The most important thing that I’d like them [players] to take from me is how to be a father, husband and a mentor. To be the best person they can be. To give back and to have the desire to give back. If they have that then my job is done.”

photo courtesy of Tammi Armstrong.

USA South Conference Tournament 2012

by Vanessa Torres
News Editor

The USA south conference tournament started on April 12, 2012 in Burlington, North Carolina and lasted the entire weekend. The Panthers Softball, Baseball, Golf, Men’s Tennis, and Women’s Lacrosse teams headed to compete for the USA south Championship in their sport.

On April 12, 2012 baseball started off the tournament games against Methodist University and lost 2-0 in their first game. Later that day, the Panthers played the top seed Christopher Newport University and lost 8-7. They then got eliminated from the tournament but went home with All-Conference honors.

Senior Paul Jlagowski received first team honors as shortstop and received the top honor of player of the year. Wes Walker received first team catcher, Chris Walker received second team pitcher, Justin Puentes received honorable mention for relief pitcher and Wade Ostrowski received All-Sportsmanship team.

Men’s got finished fifth at the end of the tournament weekend. The golf team had a successful season and finished their season with a score of 944 (302-325-317). Sophomore, Scott Obenshain received honorable mention honors and All-Sportsmanship team went to senior, Brian Cox.

Men’s Tennis lost against third pick, Averett University, 8-1 in their first round and got eliminated from conference tournament finishing in sixth place. Junior, Chris Miller received honorable mention honors and Michael Marsh received All-Sportsmanship team.

The women’s lacrosse team lost against top seed Christopher Newport University 16-5. This lady Panthers then got eliminated and finished in fourth place. Brooke Hewartson received first team as an attack player while Vinsetta Secret-McDaniel received first team defense. Caila Cummings and Courtney Hamm received second team honors as midfielders. Lauren Blankenship got honorable mention for defense and Jordan Dear took the All-Sportsmanship team award. Courtney Hamm was then named All-Tournament team as a midfielder.

The women’s softball team brought the biggest award back as the 2012 USA south softball tournament champions. The Panthers beat Christopher Newport University 5-1 which qualifies the lady Panthers into the NCAA Division III softball tournament. Seven players received all conference honors.

Hannah Shumaker received first team as utility, Karly Thompson received first team as outfielder and Kaitlyn Culler received first team as pitcher and honorable mention for shortstop. Rachel Shumaker received third team honors as outfielder and honorable mention as pitcher. Brittany Barlow received third base honorable mention and Nicole Hinkley received All-Sportsmanship team.

The lady Panthers then had six players that received All-Tournament honors. Sherbie Hall for outfielder, Suzanne Plasters for catcher, Brittany Barlow for third base, Kaitlyn Culler for pitcher and designated pitcher and Rachel Shumaker for pitcher and outfielder. Hannah Shumaker received most valuable player and All-Tournament team for her position as utility player.

The USA south tournament came to a close on Sunday, April 15, 2012. For softball, Men’s Tennis, Golf and Women’s lacrosse this was their last game of the season. Baseball will end their regular season on May 8, 2012 against Emory & Henry College.

Congratulations to all the teams on their seasons and their achievements at the USA south tournament.
Rising seniors Rachel Shumaker, Josh Collins, Lindsey Shelton and Ben Farmer are in preparation for their senior project for the next academic school year. As a way to help out the Ferrum community and become more involved, the five students decided to work on a non-profit organization called “Hunters for the Hungry” as a focus to reach out to the needy.

“Hunters for the Hungry” donates meat to those in need. Hunters are able to donate meat to designated meat processors who professionally package the meat and distribute them to food banks or charities.

Shumaker says, “We wanted to focus on Hunters for the Hungry because we felt it would be a project that could engage students at Ferrum College and provide them with an opportunity to give back.”

The rising seniors are hoping on starting a “Hunters for the Hungry” program at Ferrum making it an easy project to continue once the students have graduated. Shumaker then adds, “Our project involves making connections with the local meat processors and distributors, and getting the word out about the need that we have right here in Ferrum. We want to be leaders and volunteer our time to give help to those who are struggling.”

This would be a great opportunity for students to get involved in community for a project that start a great partnership with the community. If you are interested in participating in Hunters for the Hungry, or would like more information, please email Rachel Shumaker at rshumaker@ferrum.edu.

Anberlin Takes the Stage for Big Concert

by Heather Flippen

On Tuesday, April 03, 2012, Ferrum College held its annual Big Concert. Each year students have the opportunity to choose from a selection of artists and vote for their favorite. The musician or band with the most votes is brought to Ferrum to perform. This year alternative rock group Anberlin took the stage. The show was held in the Fitness Center at 7 pm and lasted until around 10 pm. Students were admitted into the concert for free and the general public were able to get tickets for only $20 each. Attalus and And By Love were in attendance to open the show and warm up the crowd. Attalus is an alternative rock group from Raleigh, NC and And By Love is an indie rock band that formed in Fayetteville, NC. The big headliner for the concert, Anberlin is an alternative rock band that found their start in Florida. Lead singer Stephen Christian, bassist Deon Rexroat, guitarists Joseph Milligan and Christian McAlhaney, and drummer Nathan Young are the talented musicians that make up Anberlin. The band is currently signed with Universal Records and has generated five studio albums in their career. The most recent album release Dark is the Way, Light is a Place hit the airwaves in September 2010, but the band is set to produce a new album later this year. Ferrum students were excited to see Anberlin perform and a select few even got a chance to meet and greet with the band before the show in the Virginia Room in Franklin Hall. The audience had nothing but good things to say about the long awaited Big Concert. Freshman, Megan Robles said, “My overall opinion of the concert was that it was amazing. The bands sounded fantastic and the crowd seemed to be the perfect size”. Student Joselyn Thomason shared the same attitude towards the performance. “Attalus and Anberlin were two great bands,” she said, “the way Attalus got the crowd pumped up was inspiring. Anberlin was fantastic with the emotion and energy they put behind the music. If they were playing again I would totally go see them!” The Annual Big Concert would not be possible without the help of everyone behind the scenes, from the students who gave their time and volunteered, to the faculty and staff members that worked extra hard to make sure the show went on as planned. The performance was a success and students are already excited about next year’s Big Concert.

Hunters for the Hungry
Ferrum Students Hope to Help the Community

by Vanessa Torres
News Editor

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Not Self, But Others

Pictures from the USA South Conference and the Autism Awareness Softball Game

Congratulations to the Ferrum College Softball Team for their achievements at the Conference.