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“Homecoming Was a Huge Success”

Tia’Lavon Butler

Homecoming has just passed and students now know that we are well into the fall semester. This year’s homecoming at Ferrum may safely be called a huge success. The entire campus showed a great deal of school spirit throughout the week.

Each day of the week was given a theme for students to participate in. Tuesday was Super Hero day, where students would dress as their favorite super hero or makeup one of their own. Wednesday was Nerd day and Thursday was Wacky Tacky day –which was the student’s day to let their inner creativity influence their fashion dramatically. Lastly, Friday was School Spirit Day or what I like to call Black and Gold day; but either way students could proudly wear the colors they love so much. If you wanted to update from last year’s homecoming then I hope you were able to purchase one of the new 2011-2012 Ferrum

College Homecoming t-shirts that were sold for just five dollars.

There were numerous activities for students, such as round two of Panther Idol on Tuesday in the Panthers Den. If you missed this round then make sure you keep your ears open for the next one because a great way to celebrate Ferrum is by celebrating the talented young people who attend the college. On Wednesday students enjoyed a nice Seafood Dinner courtesy of the cafeteria and later topped it off by playing Spirit Bingo in the Panther’s Den. After the Pep Rally Friday, spirits were on an ultimate high and ready for the homecoming football game on Saturday. The stands were filled with alumni, faculty, students and family members who watched the Panther’s win their 2011-2012 homecoming game against Bridgewater. In the middle of this exciting game Tremaine Whitney who is also a valuable member to the Ferrum Football

Team and Vinsetta Secret-McDaniels were crowned this year’s Homecoming King and Queen.

The festivities didn’t just end there; alumni basketball games and cookouts as well as other activities were scheduled to celebrate the beginning of another successful year here at Ferrum College. This year’s homecoming at Ferrum seemed particularly different than those held in previous years. School spirit touched every corner of this campus and for a moment we all felt like family.



Speedway President to Speak at Ferrum College

by John Carlin

**Public Relations Director for
Ferrum College**

Ferrum, Va. (September 29, 2011) – Martinsville Speedway President Clay Campbell will spend a day interacting with students, faculty and staff at Ferrum College, on Wednesday, October 5, 2011. Campbell will audit several classes on campus in addition to an 11:15 a.m. keynote address to be given in the Blue Ridge Mountain Room in Franklin Hall. The keynote address is open to the public.

“We are excited to have Clay Campbell visiting us as part of our Executive in Residence Program,” said Vice President for Institutional Advancement Kim Blair. “Clay is an icon in NASCAR and NASCAR is a staple of the economy in Virginia. He brings a first person opportunity that is a unique resource for our students,” said Blair.

Campbell has been president of the Martinsville Speedway since he succeeded his grandfather, Clay Earles in 1988. He began working at the track fresh out of high school in 1978. In addition to his position at the Speedway, Campbell is a well-known local businessman, member of the National Stock Car Racing Commission and a licensed pilot. He was recently awarded the Heck Ford award for service to the community by the Martinsville and Henry County Chamber of Commerce.

Campbell is expected to focus his time on campus around a theme of racing and its ties to economic development.

The Executive in Residence Initiative at Ferrum College brings the real world business experience of current and retired business professionals to campus. Each guest executive tours the campus, audits classes, interacts with students and faculty, and are asked to deliver a lecture sharing their personal experiences and philosophies. Speakers offer insight on the knowledge, skills and leadership qualities necessary for a successful business career.

Dyer Does it Better High Quality Living

by Jonathan Sartell

Ferrum College dedicated Dyer Residence Hall on Sept. 19, 2011. The brand new \$4 million building is now home to 117 students this Fall Semester and features a state of the art 1,000-square-foot conference facility combined with a beautiful connecting patio overlooking Chapman Pond.

The Building was constructed in memory of Ferrum Alumni Horace Dyer, a prominent businessman in Martinsville, community leader, and former member of the Ferrum College Board of Trustees. Dyer’s estate provided Ferrum College with a generous gift, allowing the college to expand on-campus living with the construction of a 31,000 square foot building.

Jordan Dodd resident of Dyer said “I like it [Dyer] a lot, it’s really nice and the rooms are really big.”

Dyer is a top option for on campus living at Ferrum Col-

lege. The larger rooms have given students a more comfortable living situation than other dorm rooms on campus, including apartments Arthur and Moore.

Student and Dyer resident Cee Cee Bartels stated “Even though I moved to Dyer from Moore and don’t have my own room anymore, the rooms are so big and nice it’s not even a downgrade like some people might consider it.” Dyers’ rooms are in fact the largest and the newest of all the dorm rooms on campus. Jordan Dodd agreed saying “I lived in Chapman before this, so it’s a big step up.”

Along with extra space of the large rooms, each room in Dyer has its personal full bath. Jordan Dodd confirmed “I like that I don’t have to use a community bathroom anymore.” The bathrooms in Dyer are also larger than those in Clark. “I love my huge shower!” said Bartels. The convenience for students of having their own bathroom is another superior-

ity that Dyer has over other dorms such as Basset, Riddick, Sue Wes, and Chapman.

Dyer also features a large laundry room located in the second floor stairwell. The laundry room contains six new washers and six new dryers. Bartels states, “I’ve never had a problem with laundry and usually Dyer has more than one washer and dryer available.”

The high quality living space was created by Mod-U-Kraf, of Rocky Mount, Virginia. Construction was completed in mid-August as students began moving in for the fall semester. Mod-U-Kraf hand built each unit at their Rocky Mount facility. The previously made parts were then trucked to the College where workers used large cranes to construct the building. Final work, such as exterior and interior, were completed on site.

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Study Abroad

by Meagan Hodges

Jessi Naff, Ferrum College graduate, was thrilled to find out that she would be taking her second study abroad opportunity with a student who had never even traveled by airplane, much less made it out of the United States. She remembered how ecstatic she was to trek across Europe, learning about and visiting various countries. Accompanying another student and watching her have the experience for the first time would put many things into perspective for Jessi.

Waking up at 3 a.m. to make an international flight at an airport two hours away is a grueling task, but the girls were packed and ready to go have the time of their young lives. By 6 a.m. they were on the plane bracing themselves for a nine hour journey to Salzburg, Austria. They spent the week in a motel next to the Schloss Leopoldskron palace in Salzburg, listening to prominent intellectuals lecture on global citizenship and taking part in European culture. As Jessi's novice travel friend, I realize the importance of international travel for young adults in college. Traveling to Europe as a

sophomore in college surpassed my wildest expectation as a student, and it would not have been possible without Ferrum College, the Salzburg Global Seminar program, and the Mellon Fellows Foundation. The application process was as simple as responding to an email, writing a letter of application, acquiring a couple of letters of recommendation from my professors, and turning in a copy of my grades. I was both shocked and grateful to be selected to study abroad, however I was apprehensive since I had never before traveled internationally. The travel experience was beyond value, something I will always remember and continue to learn and grow from.

My experienced travel partner, Jessi Naff, had her first opportunity for study abroad in May of 2010 with an e-term class supervised by Associate Professor of Religion Dr. David Howell. This class visited Germany, Poland, and Czech Republic. Naff also appreciates the benefits of study abroad and would recommend it to any college student who wants to broaden his or her base of knowledge and worldly experi-

ence. Regarding her international travel, Naff said, "I had an epiphany. I realized that things in life really aren't just black and white... By going on this trip, I realized that atrocities do happen, and there is not a clear cut way of life. No one person has the key to the right or wrong answer."

These intense learning journeys are only some of many that Ferrum will be offering. Ferrum has proposed a series of travel e-term courses for May 2012, and presently has two students studying abroad. One student is in Sevilla, Spain and one is in Ecuador, participating in a program with American University based in Washington, D.C. This past summer, several Ferrum students studied abroad. Vanessa Torres studied in Alicante, Spain – through an agreement with the Center for Cross Cultural Studies (CCCS), and Vinsetta Secret-McDaniel took classes at Intensa Language School in Costa Rica.

Sophomore Cody Wright, who also accompanied Jessi Naff and I to Salzburg, traveled to Belize for an E-term in May of 2011 and once studied in Korea for a month. He spent 14 days in Belize for the ESC 205 Tropical and Marine

Ecology course supervised by Dr. Glen Stevens, assistant professor of environmental science, along with other professors from Virginia Tech and North Carolina State University. The students in this course spent their time seeing many Mayan pyramids, collecting, pinning, and identifying insects, and setting up plots containing numerous species of trees from Ferrum College and Virginia Tech. They monitored the growth of these trees to test how they would grow in a different climate. Wright's favorite part of the trip was living in the jungle for 4 days near a Mayan ruin research excavation site. "It was a big bonding experience because once [the other students and I] got done with the lectures," he said, "we had a lot of group time to talk about different things. Everyone got together and had fun."

Wright also spent July 3 through July 29 in Korea learning about Korean language, culture, history, and economics. His typical day on this trip began at 9 a.m. with a series of lectures until noon. After an hour for lunch, he and his classmates spent most

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

Homecoming King and Queen

Tia'Lavon Butler

Its halftime of this year's homecoming game here at Ferrum College, the crowd is abnormally excited because the panthers are winning at the half against Bridgewater. The contestants for the homecoming court are lined up at the 50-yard line waiting to hear whose names will be called and who will be crowned as Ferrum College's 2011-2012 Homecoming King and Queen. You could smell the nervousness in the air, but only Tremaine Whitney and Vinsetta Secret-McDaniel felt the relief of winning.

Tremaine Whitney, who is affectionately called "Bubba" by his peers, is a senior this year; and, although he has 2 more semesters until he officially graduates, this is his last year on the football field. Whitney is a linebacker for the Ferrum football team with a 19 credit hour schedule and a work study job in the weight room, which makes free time for him that much more valuable.

He credits time management as the sole reason he has any free time at all. Home, for Tremaine is a small town in Ivor, Virginia called South Hampton County. Tremaine and his twin brother Jermaine are the middle

siblings, as they have 2 other brothers as well.

The topic of family seemed to have a soft spot in Tremaine's heart, especially when he talked about his mother. Not wanting to have his mother spend so much money on college was one of the main deciding factors for Tremaine when he chose Ferrum College as the institution he wanted to attend to further his education. This was his motivation to succeed as well as being just the 3rd person in his family to graduate from a four year college with a scholarship.

Tremaine recalls himself as a freshman as being "shy but I still made a lot of friends." Tremaine still considers himself to be rather shy, especially when he has to be the center of attention like when you're crowned Homecoming King in front of hundreds of faculty, peers, alumni, and their families for example. He didn't think there was a chance he was going to win and Tremaine was so nervous that when he heard his name all he could do was look down and walk.

Tremaine didn't even submit his own name on the ballot for Homecoming, nor did he promote himself leading up to the actual Homecoming day; but, instead, his loyal peers and teammates did it

Sports

Panther Profile: Michael Walker

by Myesha Bolling

There is something inside every one of us that enables us to excel with our own special talents. The blinding lights, thunderous roars, and a sea of black and gold have surrounded Senior Michael Walker during his tenure at Ferrum College; which began in the Fall semester of 2007.

Michael Walker, "Sweaty", has played football all four years. Currently he plays left guard, but for previous years he played both right and left guard. "To me, when I pad up to play, I get a kind of euphoric high. I love it when time seems to slow and even stop as I set down into my stance and contemplate my next move to break through the opponents' defensive line."

Walker's interest in football began long before time for college recruits. He has been playing football since he was 7 years old. To family and friends football is known as Sweaty's first love. His parents have always been his most adamant supporters. They encouraged and motivated him to do

almost anything to please them, including sustaining all the pressures that his mother and father put on him to succeed. At a young age, he realized that his parents depended on him to become everything that they have always wanted to become themselves.

Beginning with his challenge to be the first in his family to graduate from college, Michael devotes his time off the field to both academics and extra curricular activities. He has been involved in Relay for Life, SIFE, which is part of his business and administration major, Panther Productions, and played the drums for the Ferrum College Gospel Choir as well.

Michael was born in Philadelphia, Pa. but was raised up in South Hill, Va. He attended Park View Senior High where he played his high school career. Michael one of three children; has a twin brother, Melvin Walker, that used to attend Ferrum College and a little brother Matthew Walker.

Walker attributes much of his continued academic success to reaching his goal of being the first

in his family to graduate from college. Although his parents didn't obtain degrees, they are very supportive of his education.

"In the weight room, we challenge each other to become the best. On the practice field, we sacrifice every bone in our bodies for the good of the team. And on game day, when we stand together against our adversaries, we push ourselves beyond our limits not as individual players, but as a family."



"A new feeling fills my body. It is not pain, shame, or embarrassment. It is pride, respect, and undying triumph."

Men's Soccer Update

by Jordan Dear

The Ferrum College

Men's Soccer team returned this season with many new faces. The Panthers currently have a record of 2-6-1 in the USA South Conference.

"The season is going all right," said Head Men's Soccer Coach Andrew Pauly. "We have a very young team with not many upperclassmen. The freshmen are still going through the process of switching from high school to college level. So far, they have shown a lot of progress, and a lot more injuries have happened than I hoped for."

The team is still working on clicking together, playing-wise, and the new players have shown they have great potential to add to the team at Ferrum.

"Because they're so young, they have to learn to come together and having improvement for the games," Coach Pauly stated.

The Panthers dropped a 1-0 heartbreaker in their first conference home game against the Captains of Christopher Newport University on October 1. October 5 is a road game at Greensboro College, and they return to their home field on October 9 to take on Piedmont College at 1p.m.

What a Homecoming Game!

by Jordan Dear

Beginning the season with a rough start, the Black Hats Football Team was ready to add a win to their program during Homecoming Weekend versus Bridgewater College.

Despite the losses to both Emory and Henry and Hampden-Sydney, the Panthers still came out strong and got points on the board. By showing their team's potential and working together the team became successful.

The Homecoming game showed how all their hard work paid off. They started off with a guessing game of who was going to win based on how they were playing. Once the team scored its first touchdown everything clicked. One after the other, the players would take the ball down the field or they would catch a pass from Quarterback Marcus Mayo.

After halftime, Tyler Brubaker obtained a 49-yard run on a pass from Mayo to score a touchdown. The Panthers had a lot of great plays and the players were at the right place at the right times. Many tricky plays were used, which even confused the crowd!

"We took a while to grasp the offense and get things going up front" said Sophomore Offensive Lineman Joseph McDonagh. "Once we all got on the same page we started to click and put points

on the board. We still have a lot to work on, but being in shape also helps us."

Among all the great things that happened during the game, the team experienced some injuries. Junior Running back Justin Donnelly explained "Marcus Mayo threw me a screen pass and I caught it, running the ball for the end zone breaking a tackle, jumping over a Bridgewater player, and [I] got tackled from the side [and] behind causing my knee to give out. As soon as I hit the ground I knew something was wrong, even though I was not in pain. I ended up finding out that the LCL tore off part of fibular head, my ACL is completely torn, and my peroneal nerve is not working so I cannot lift my foot. I did not get a touchdown, but I got us close enough to where the next play was a touchdown. Even though I did not get to finish the game, I am very proud of my team for how well they did, ending up winning 37 to six against Bridgewater".

After Darrick Young, Marcus Mayo, and Corey Smith added more points to the board; the Panthers won the game 37-6 over the Eagles. This was Coach Harper's first win at home this season as Head Coach. The Panthers return to W.B. Adams Stadium, October 15 to play the Monarchs from Methodist University at 1p.m.

Zumba

by Meagan Hodges

Zumba classes began on Monday, Sept. 26, 2011 in the Ferrum College Fitness Center. They will be offered each Monday in the same location, and classes are free to students, faculty, and staff. Zumba instructor Lisa Gibson was invited back to Ferrum to teach by Chris Rill, coordinator of intramural programming and wellness, because of the positive turnout last spring semester. Zumba is a Latin-inspired aerobics dance exercise routine, usually taught to the rhythm of international dance music or current pop and dance music.

Gibson lives in Boones Mill, Va. and enjoys traveling to Ferrum to teach Zumba. She said, "It's a challenge for me. I see everyone enjoying it and it gives them a relief to their busy day." She gets excitement from teaching others who otherwise may not be participating in an exercise routine. Last spring, she taught at Ferrum for a total of 16 weeks at one class per week. Junior Erin Mucha said that "last year, more people came as the year went on."

Students packed the Fitness Center on Monday to participate in the first Zumba class of the semester.

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for him. Tremaine is one of those rare athletes that are completely different when they're on the field and from when they're off the field.

Considering the end results, Tremaine made it clear that he doesn't take this experience for granted by saying "I'm happy I did it". Tremaine's brother and cousin came to the homecoming game to cheer him on and support him for running. It would be safe to classify football as Tremaine's first love but he knows that having a degree to fall back on is essential. Tremaine is an exercise and sports major with a minor in coaching.

Being invited to the NFL combine is a major goal for Tremaine. He will use next year's fall semester as his time to work out so that he can continue to pursue his dream of playing in the NFL. But, if not, Tremaine says that he will most likely strive to be a personal trainer for professional athletes.

This year's homecoming queen, Vinsetta Secret-McDaniel is originally from Hampton, Virginia. Although being the daughter of a father who is in the Air Force means she has lived in numerous places like New Mexico,

California, and Philadelphia, just to name a few. She is the oldest of 3 children and a very fine example of what an older sibling should be like. When the time came around for Vinsetta to pick a college she initially didn't have



any in mind because she was so eager to join the working world, but having experience working at Panera Bread didn't promise her the stellar future she wanted for herself.

Virginia Military Institute (VMI) was Vinsetta's first choice, but expenses and the fact that they didn't have a basketball team brought her to Ferrum. Vinsetta recalls herself as a freshman as "excited and ready to graduate from school". Ironically, Vinsetta got cut from the very basketball

e-terms each May.

Dr. Suppes thinks that studying abroad is an "invaluable" experience for college students or anyone willing to go above and beyond for a better education. She feels that the best way to improve our second language skills is to visit a country that natively speaks that language. She also says that learning about other cultures helps one to learn about his or her own culture and examine it "from a different perspective."

Dr. Suppes understands the importance of study abroad since she has encouraged and worked with many students in the past who have traveled. "It is a transformative experience, and students are always thrilled and grateful for the opportunity. I've never had a student regret studying abroad, but I've spoken with many who regretted their decision not to take advantage of the opportunity," said Suppes. The study abroad program is flourishing and receiving praise from both faculty and students, so it is expected to grow and become a more regular form of education at Ferrum. From my perspective, there is no better way to learn about what is going on in the world than to get out and experience it firsthand

team she couldn't wait to be a part of, so she decided to transfer, but play lacrosse in the meantime to stay in shape.

Little did Vinsetta know that she would fall in love with the sport as well as her team. Since Vinsetta



finally gave up on transferring and committed to Ferrum College she decided to become more involved saying "If you treat school like your job there's no way you should ever be bored". Vinsetta majors in psychology with a minor in business as well as Spanish. She didn't want to limit herself to just speaking to one kind of person, since a major part of psychology is about interacting with people.

To further her fluency in Spanish Vinsetta often walks campus listening to Spanish music on her iPod and she even lived in Costa Rica over the summer. There she stayed with a host family that only spoke Spanish and attended school there regularly Monday through Friday. Along with her major, double minor, and playing lacrosse, Vinsetta is an admissions ambassador, tutor/mentor, head

resident, President of SAAC, a part of the sophomore honor society as well as the Alpha Chi Junior Honor Society, and has made the Dean's List for six semesters straight.

The last thing she wanted to accomplish her senior year was running for Homecoming Queen. To help her chances Vinsetta told her lacrosse team to vote for their fellow teammate. She was pleased to find out how supportive they were of her and what she was doing. Homecoming was a busy day for Vinsetta as are most days for her.

Vinsetta gave a tour of the campus to prospective students and their families, found some time to attend the alumni game, and returned back to give another tour. After her ambassador duties were over Vinsetta joined the team in tailgating for the game. As time began to wind down Vinsetta's nervousness increased - finding the right outfit, shoes, and makeup was a hassle - but with the help of her mother and father Vinsetta was able to make it to the field and receive her crown.

Graduate school seems to be the goal for Vinsetta after Ferrum, but she's also weighing out other options. Vinsetta is aspiring to be an Organizational Industrial Psychologist so she can help people improve their business by studying people in the business environment. Both Tremaine Whitney and Vinsetta Secret-McDaniel seem like well deserving candidates for their titles and we here at Ferrum wish them well in their endeavors.

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visiting historical destinations, such as tombs for Korean kings and queens. He was required to write a one page summary for every lecture, and during his stay he gave a presentation on Korean baseball. He found this especially enlightening because he was able to teach his international peers from England, Japan, and Australia about a sport they weren't familiar with.

According to Dr. Patricia Suppes, assistant professor of Spanish, the easiest way to get involved with the study abroad program is to either contact her for information regarding Spanish programs or to contact the Director of International Programs and Russian Professor, Sasha Saari. Also, the Study Abroad and E-term Fair on September 28 from 2:30 to 5 p.m. will be a helpful resource for students who are interested in international travel opportunity. Ferrum College has an agreement with the CCSC which provides programs based in Sevilla, Spain, Alicante, Spain, and Córdoba, Argentina. New to the study abroad program at Ferrum is the program in Korea, and Dr. Suppes hopes to see possibilities for students to study in China. Ferrum offers both summer and semester-long programs abroad, along with a few travel

in the routines" after learning some Zumba last year and is ready to work the moves back into her exercise routine this semester.

Yvonne Walker, registrar, and Toni Davis, residence hall educator and housing coordinator, met up before the class. Walker, there with her 6-year-old daughter, said, "[Zumba] is a fun, high energy way to exercise with friends." Davis agreed, saying, "It's a fun workout that doesn't make you feel like you're working out."

Chris Rill wants to continue the program because of the positive student and faculty response and turnout last semester. Classes will run through the fall and spring semesters this year and will be held each Monday at 6 p.m. unless noted otherwise. Rill's goal is to have the program flourish at Ferrum and to add classes in kickboxing and yoga soon in order to promote wellness across campus.

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While stretching, Sophomore Brittany R. Jones said that she has "been waiting since football camp for Zumba," and that "it's a great workout and fun to do." Most students present were females; however Sophomore Carlos Peralta said he also enjoyed Zumba and even brought his friend, Sophomore Holly Abril, along to enjoy it with him. "Zumba relieves stress, keeps the mind going, and I like the music," said Peralta.

Faculty and staff also came to the class either as first timers or as Zumba veterans from last year. Lead Development Researcher and Grant Writer Brooke Gill, is happy to see Zumba starting up again after enjoying the classes so much last spring. "It took a few classes to get over feeling a bit silly with some of the moves, but it ended up being fun," said Gill about her prior experience with Zumba. She is "more confident