

The  
Frostburg  
State  
University  
Magazine

# profile

## ancient secrets discovered

FSU professor unearths the origins of carnivorous plants





# profile

Vol. 17 No. 2 Fall 2005

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NBC Universal

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# Dear Friends,

From the President

**A**s you can well imagine, the reality of my impending retirement is finally beginning to force itself upon me. When I first announced in April that I was planning to retire on June 30, 2006, that date seemed far in the future. Now, with less than a year left, it seems to be approaching at an incredible speed.

I will reserve my comments on the wonderful opportunity I have had in being the president of this exceptional institution for the next issue of *Profile*. Suffice it to say, I continue to savor every minute of my time here and I share with and for the University the excitement of preparing the way for my successor, who will be extremely fortunate to occupy this position.

The search for the new president will begin in the fall. Briefly, the process will be as follows: the Regents and the Chancellor will determine the qualifications they are looking for in my successor; a search and screening committee will be appointed, including campus representatives, a representative of the Board of Regents, and representatives of our various Boards and external affiliates. The names of a small group of finalists will be forwarded to the Chancellor and the Regents; subsequent interviews will be conducted by them; and the appointee will be chosen. The Regents would like the process to take no more than six months, which would then provide time for the president designate to attend some campus and community functions in the spring and to meet with System administrators and Regents during the transitional period before my departure. We will keep you informed in future issues of how the search is going.



Dr. Catherine Gira

**"I continue to savor every minute of my time here and I share with and for the University the excitement of preparing the way for my successor, who will be extremely fortunate to occupy this position."**

Now, to a preview of this issue. Once again, our publications and media relations staff have worked wonders, assembling fascinating stories about our students, faculty, staff and alumni and designing stunning graphic presentations. Each time I read one of the issues, I wonder how long such good news can continue, but it always does, and I know that it will do so in the future. We are proud of the outstanding research and scholarship of some of our faculty highlighted here and of others profiled in this issue who have received widespread recognition for their professional achievements. We are proud of members of our campus community and our alumni who have merited outstanding awards at the state and national levels. We are honored to be the home of the newly established J. Glenn Beall, Jr. Institute, made possible through the generosity of the Senator, a valued friend and supporter of our institution. As you will see in the article about the Institute, not only our campus community, but also the broader community will benefit from the activities which it is underwriting. Finally, we are grateful for the support for scholarships and other programs made possible through the generous friends of the University.

Most of all, we take the opportunity through this publication to celebrate all that Frostburg State University is, all that it has been, and all that it has the potential to become, with the support of friends like you who share our vision and our pride.

Catherine R. Gira  
President, Frostburg State University



## We'd love to hear from you...

Please direct letters to:

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Or you can e-mail us at: [tdemartino@frostburg.edu](mailto:tdemartino@frostburg.edu)

Be sure to include your address and graduation year.





# editorial

## Random Acts of Recognition

Dear Editor-

...My husband and I, both FSU alumni, love to see *Profile* in our mailbox. It is always a pleasure to read about campus enhancements, faculty accomplishments and fellow alumni adventures. *Profile* does a wonderful job highlighting extraordinary student and alumni experiences... How about focusing on graduates who may not be willing to share or take the time to speak up for themselves. I am recommending the addition of the feature "Random Acts of Recognition." Alumni can nominate fellow alumni to be recognized in an upcoming issue. This feature would provide an opportunity to highlight the experiences and accomplishments of the school teacher next door who gives back to her community as a literacy tutor and church volunteer, but who may not believe she has news necessarily noteworthy to submit for publishing.

Thanks for keeping us in touch with our alma mater and keep up the great work!

Regards,

Melissa (Miller) Fike  
Class of '97  
Atlanta, Ga.

### Editor's Note:

Melissa,

*As a result of your letter, Profile would like to encourage alumni to submit the names and stories of FSU graduates who do great things and should receive special attention for their actions.*

*If you know someone who is worthy of a Random Act of Recognition, send their story (100 words or less) to:*

Profile Editor  
ATTN: "Random Acts of Recognition"  
Frostburg State University  
101 Braddock Road  
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303

or e-mail: [tdemartino@frostburg.edu](mailto:tdemartino@frostburg.edu)

*Don't forget your name, contact information and affiliation to FSU. The Profile team will choose a selection of the entries to be featured in an upcoming issue.*

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

### Greetings from your Alumni Association Board of Directors!

The summer heat is definitely upon us while your board is gearing up for another very active year. We have new horizons ahead but bittersweet farewells that accompany the good news.

As many of you know, our president, Dr. Catherine Gira, has announced her retirement for next June, after contributing a legacy of tremendous growth and development to Frostburg State University and to the entire region. Catherine's leadership has been recognized and admired statewide by her colleagues, our government partners, elected officials and the community at large. We hope you will save the date of Saturday, May 20, 2006, to join with us as we celebrate her extraordinary career and presidency at FSU. Stay tuned for details.

It is also with heavy heart that I express our deepest sympathy on the recent passing of **Walter Hedrick** (Class of '41, see his obituary, page 28). Walter was a kind and generous man, who loved and supported FSU in countless ways. He held the distinction as one of the very few recipients of the Foundation Pinnacle Award, which was bestowed upon him at commencement in May 2004, his last visit to Frostburg. His words were brief, yet so poignant, and the graduates and guests were truly in awe. He leaves a footprint to be followed, but we will miss his presence.

On a brighter note, I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Dina Poland Rephann**, (Class of '86 and '89) as our director of alumni programs. Dina is the daughter of **Bud** (Class of '57) and **Doris Poland** of LaVale and recently married to **Terry Rephann** (Class of '86), city councilman of Cumberland. I hope you will get to know Dina and participate with our many activities scheduled for the year. She will be thrilled to have you volunteer for any of the events listed below. Mark your calendars and join us!

The alumni survey printed in the last *Profile* has produced some preliminary results. I am thrilled that a large number of responses have come from the recent graduates since 2000, with equal numbers collectively from the '70s, '80s and '90s. Some of the suggested ideas include theatre events in the metropolitan areas, group travel excursions, alumni day at an amusement park, alumni/student mentoring programs and skills workshops for careers. This survey is available online at [www.frostburg.edu/admin/alumni/welcome.htm](http://www.frostburg.edu/admin/alumni/welcome.htm). We are anxious to hear from more of you. Special thanks to **Jessica Morgenstern** (Class of '78) for managing this project.

*Hope to see you soon at a Frostburg State event.*

Mary Beth Pirolozzi  
Class of '90 & '95  
President, FSU Alumni Association



Mary Beth Pirolozzi

## corrections

In last issue's story "Scholarship Honors Beloved Principal," the name Vandenberg was spelled incorrectly.

In the article "Alumni Further Their Studies in England," the name Megan Diehl should have read Megan Jensen.

We regret both errors.

Nov. 12	Regents' Cup; Towson
Dec. 15	Frostburg with Pride/Senior Send-off; Frostburg
Feb. 1	Frostburg with Pride in Annapolis
TBA-Spring '06	Frostburg with Pride in Hagerstown

*To volunteer for an event, call 301/687-4068. See ClassNotes section for more alumni news and event information.*

# viewpoint

## Ties that Bind

### In crisis, FSU grads come out in force to support a “brother”

By Teresa (Radosevic) Schrodel, Class of '93

I never knew the strength of the fraternal bond my husband, **Michael Schrodel** (Class of '93), had until life threw us a nasty curve ball. After many months of back pain, my 29-year-old husband was diagnosed with testicular cancer. Reaching out to friends after recovering from the initial shock, I sent an e-mail out the first week of March 2001. Among the phone calls and e-mail replies was one from a Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity brother named **Eric Udler** (Class of '90). “I am a cancer survivor, Teresa. I am here to help you and Michael get through this.”

Michael was the son of **David M. Schrodel** (Class of '66) and **Diana Pennington Schrodel** (Class of '67). During his grueling 18-month battle, a roller-coaster ride we all called it, I was amazed at how large the size of our circle of friends became. I learned the best way to communicate with all of our family and friends spread across the world was to send e-mails. Eventually, they would be forwarded from one fraternity brother to another.

Brothers from all over were lending their support and love through phone calls and e-mails to Michael, me and our daughter, Carmen. The response from the family that Michael had formed during college came through in a rather hard time of need not only for their brother, but also for me. I cannot thank them enough for the amount of support that they have shown and given through the past years.

Pledge Brother **Paul Dittner** (Class of '93) contacted me one afternoon with yet another offer to help. He learned Michael would be going daily to Johns Hopkins for radiation treatments to the brain. Paul

lived in Michigan and couldn't physically be there to help, so he organized rides for Michael for six weeks. I would simply send an e-mail out with the days I needed help for the following week and he would coordinate rides for us — a task that took pressure off me and my family, and also gave Michael some time to be with friends he hadn't seen in a while. His dying was bringing his once close-knit friends back together.

**Steve Herndon** (Class of '93), who was not only a pledge brother but also a groomsman for us when we were married, organized a day trip. One June day in the summer of 2001, just days after we were told Michael was terminal, Steve showed



Teresa, Michael and Carmen Schrodel

up with a caravan of brothers. This day trip included brothers we had not seen since college, bringing anything I needed — sheets for his hospital bed, as Michael was now paralyzed from the waist down due to the cancer spreading to his spine. They bought us a cordless phone for the basement, cases of sodas and other food. Our house turned into a revolving door of friends and family for the next two months. They also ripped up the carpet near the sliding glass door and installed tile so Michael could maneuver his wheelchair in and out of the house easily. The list goes on...

I will never forget seeing all these guys and Michael's smile as he shook their hands. It was during that time that **Eric Dorman** (Class of '90) called us offering his help from three hours away. He offered to coordinate a golf tournament in Michael's honor to raise money for organizations that

helped us and to get everyone together. This year at the fourth annual Michael D. Schrodel Golf Classic, \$5,500 was raised.

When Michael passed away Aug. 23, 2001, at the young age of 31, Eric Udler came to visit me with a check to help cover the funeral expenses. The money was raised through a collection from Michael's Beta Pi chapter brothers. I am still in shock over their generosity.

These same guys helped me one year later move out of the house I shared with Michael and our daughter so we could begin a new chapter in life.

And it hasn't stopped there. As I sit here finishing this article, I think how much these awesome guys are still in my life and what an impact they've made. So when I became White Rose for the Beta Pi chapter in the Spring of 1992, I had no idea how much I'd come to rely on this awesome group of gentlemen. We have a fraternal bond that will never cease to exist.

Michael's fraternity brothers also added his name to the Memorial Wall on the FSU campus. For more information on this special place reserved to memorialize alumni and friends who have passed away, please call 301/687-4200 or e-mail jaylor@frostburg.edu.

This story first appeared in the Spring, 2005 edition of SAGA, a national publication for Sigma Tau Gamma. It is reprinted with the author's consent.



Members of Sigma Tau Gamma at FSU ► came out in the force for the 4th Annual Michael D. Schrodel Golf Classic, which raised \$5,500.



Dr. Catherine Gira, right, poses with USM Chancellor William "Brit" Kirwan at the FSU spring commencement, where Kirwan served as speaker.

## FSU President Catherine Gira Announces 2006 Retirement

During her Spring Convocation in April, FSU President **Dr. Catherine R. Gira** announced her retirement effective June 30, 2006. "The past 14 years have been years of change and of progress," said Gira, who became president of FSU on Sept. 1, 1991. Prior to joining FSU, Gira served for nine years as provost at the University of Baltimore. She also previously held the positions of professor of English and acting dean of the College of Liberal Arts at UB.

"President Gira's contributions to advancing higher education in Maryland have been extraordinary," said William E. Kirwan, chancellor of the University System of Maryland. "Under her highly effective leadership, FSU has flourished. As part of the USM community, Dr. Gira has fostered collaboration among institutions and raised her voice calling for adequate support of higher education. I have benefited greatly from Catherine's friendship and wise counsel. She is able to set aside parochial issues and look at the broader impact on the entire system. She is indeed a passionate leader of higher education and a wonderful person."

Gira has held leadership positions in numerous national and state professional associations, including president of the American Association of University Administrators; Federation of State Humanities Councils; commissioner and executive member of the Commission on Higher Education, Middle States Association; chair of the Maryland Humanities Council; and president of the Maryland Association of Higher Education. She has served on several regional and national boards, including those of the Western Maryland Health System, the Rocky Gap Foundation, the Regional Education Service Agency, the Cumberland Theatre, Leadership Maryland and the Maryland Symphony Orchestra.

Gira was recognized as Woman of the Year by the Maryland Legislature in 1993 and one of Maryland's Top 100 Women in 1996 and was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame in 1997.

—Ty DeMartino

**"President Gira's contributions to advancing higher education in Maryland have been extraordinary."**

— USM Chancellor William "Brit" Kirwan

(Look for a retrospective of Dr. Gira's presidency in the next issue of Profile.)

## Atkinson Retires After 36 Years of Service

**Pansye Atkinson** (Class of '77), who with her husband started minority recruitment efforts at Frostburg State, retired from her position as director of Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity this past August.

An accomplished author, educator and advocate for minority rights, Atkinson attended Fisk University in Nashville and graduated with a degree in music. Soon after, she married the late William R. Atkinson and they moved to South Carolina and later Baltimore, where she worked as a music teacher. In September of 1969, the Atkinsons were hired at the Frostburg State College to help the institution integrate. She finished up her graduate degree in education at Frostburg and moved from the campus' Office of Minority Affairs to the AA/EEO Office in 1986.

An author of numerous articles and books, Atkinson's latest book, *An African American's View: Brown vs. Topeka: Desegregation and Miseducation*, is available at amazon.com and other online booksellers.

— TD



Atkinson

## Hoffman Named Dean

**Dr. Joseph M. Hoffman** has been named dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at FSU. He has served as interim dean of the College since 2003 and associate dean prior to that appointment.

Hoffman received both his M.S. and Ph.D. from the Department of Astro-Geophysics at The University of Colorado. He joined FSU's Department of Physics in 1981 and received professor status in 1993. During his tenure at FSU, Hoffman acted as chair of the Department of Physics and Engineering for 13 years and served on

countless campus committees, including Faculty Senate and advisory boards to construct new facilities at FSU.



Hoffman

continued ►



## Students Presented with Gov.'s Volunteer Service Awards

FSU students **Patricia Gray** and **Erin Shank** were recognized by the State of Maryland for their local efforts to community service.

This past spring, First Lady Kendel Ehrlich presented the 22nd Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards to individuals and groups from across the state at the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts in Annapolis. These awards recognized 35 individuals and groups selected by a volunteer panel of judges, reflecting the diversity of the state and demonstrating the spirit of volunteer service.

Gray, a senior, became a campus and community leader with FSU's V-Day celebration, a series of events aimed at ending violence against women. For the past two years, Gray has played a strong role among her fellow volunteers to ensure the events were successful, organizing meetings of the leadership group, developing and maintaining relationships with local agencies and the community and was instrumental in securing campus support for V-Day programs. In 2005, Gray had organized one of the most successful V-Day events in FSU history, with nearly \$5,000 raised, over 900 members of our community educated about violence against women, and over 500 toiletries and other personal items collected on behalf of the local women's shelters. Gray will be completing her degree in international studies at FSU in 2005 and will begin her service with the Peace Corps in Africa in 2006.

Shank has dedicated the last three years volunteering while demonstrating her strong commitment of time in tutoring children of Allegany County. The past two years were spent as a part-time volunteer with FSU's Read to Succeed/Mathletic program that helps students raise their reading and math levels by 15 percent, while instilling a love of learning and enhancing the students' self-esteem. In Sept. 2004, Shank was asked to become a site leader for the FSU library and provide tutoring to Western Maryland students four days of the week. In 2004, she also developed curriculum for a first grade student diagnosed with opposition defiant deficiency. It was her caring and compassion that allowed Shank to continue to tutor this child over their respective holiday breaks and after she entered into her student teaching position in the public school system in Mineral County, W.Va. She graduated this past May and is pursuing a master's degree in special education.

— Patrick Brown

In the community, Hoffman was a member of Leadership Allegany's 2003 class, where he served as vice president. Hoffman is also involved in the American Association of Physics Teachers in the Appalachian Section and was honored for distinguished service in 2002. He holds memberships with the American Association for Engineering Education, the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Association of American Colleges and Universities and the Council of Environmental Deans and Director.

— TD

## College of Business Receives Prestigious Coleman Grant

FSU's **College of Business** has received a Coleman Foundation Grant under the Entrepreneurship Excellence in Teaching Colleges Program. The grant proposal, entitled "The Trident Initiative: Pathways to Entrepreneurship Education," was submitted in November last year by FSU professors Keramat Poorsoltan and Sudhir Singh. The award of \$150,000, over a period of three years, will be used for the expansion of entrepreneurship education programs.

Entrepreneurship Excellence in Teaching Colleges is a national program supporting entrepreneurship education in colleges and universities with underserved populations. The foundation is focused on the creation of cutting-edge programs, the education of young people and building a foundation for economic growth and development.

The funds will be used for the development and implementation of FSU's entrepreneurship program's expansion. FSU will engage in opportunities for professional development and the furthering of entrepreneurship education through sharing lessons learned through other programs, including participation in the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) and its annual conference.

This highly competitive grant is awarded only to schools with existing entrepreneurship programs that have strong plans for program expansion, cross-campus outreach and community involvement.

For more information or how you or your business can participate and contribute in this exciting collaborative venture, call Dr. Keramat Poorsoltan at 301/ 687-7498.

— John Wilson

## Kauffman Recognized for Recreation Leadership

**Dr. Robert Kauffman** of FSU's Recreation Department received the Maryland Recreation and Parks Association Citation and the Governor's Citation at a recent conference in Ocean City for his "significant contributions and leadership roles in the field of recreation."

According to the citation, Kauffman "almost single-handedly" built the Recreation Department



Kauffman

of FSU into one of the most prominent programs in the Mid-Atlantic. The award is the Recreation and Parks Association's most prestigious.

Kauffman has been at FSU since 1992.

Among Kauffman's many professional accomplishments are a book on boating safety and a role as project director and co-writer of an award-winning instructional film on hypothermia, "Cold, Wet and Alive."

FSU's Recreation and Parks Management program, which offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, is a premier recreation and parks management program within Maryland. Since Kauffman has taken over leadership roles at FSU, the number of recreation students has risen from 12 to 138.

"It's a team effort. It takes cooperation of administrators, other faculty, as well as students, to make projects happen," said Kauffman.

The program is accredited by the National Recreation and Parks Association/American Association for Leisure and Recreation, one of approximately 100 programs in the country that meets the standards. Upon graduation, students from accredited programs can take the certifying examination for Certified Park and Recreation Specialist.

FSU's recreation program also collaborates with programs at regional institutions, including Garrett College's Adventure Sports program and Allegany College of Maryland's Hospitality Management and Tourism program. Frostburg's recreation program can also be completed at Community College of Baltimore County's Catonsville campus. Kauffman had a leading role in building that collaboration.

— Liz Douglas Medcalf

continued ►




FSU physics professor **Dr. George Plitnik** and a Norfolk, Va., middle school teacher have been awarded an \$82,000 grant from the Honda Foundation to develop curriculum that will use popular literature to build a bridge between reading and science in youngsters. And once again, the Harry Potter connection is bringing national – even international – attention to FSU.

## “Harry Potter” Professor, Middle School Teacher Conjure Up New Curriculum for Children

The teacher, Charlene Haviland, who works at Northside Middle School in Norfolk, was trying to develop a curriculum that would simultaneously increase reading, writing and science scores under Virginia’s Standards of Learning.

She wanted to use J.K. Rowling’s immensely popular Harry Potter books, and searched the Internet for ideas or already-written curriculum. There she found information on Plitnik, who has made good use of the Harry Potter books as a bridge to introduce his college students to a wide variety of scientific studies and received wide media attention for his efforts.



“I was trying to find a new way to get my kids to read and make the connection between reading and science,” Haviland said.

Plans are to build an after-school program using lessons based not only on the Harry Potter books, but on Dr. Seuss stories and the Lemony Snicket series. Haviland is also considering using the youth fiction classic, *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L’Engle.

In Plitnik’s college classes, his students choose magical events described in the Potter books and try come up with a way to duplicate the “magic” using current or theoretical scientific methods. Since Plitnik’s experience is all at the college level, Haviland will be creating the lesson plans for middle-schoolers. Haviland and Plitnik are hoping the curriculum will, in particular, be effective in helping academically challenged students. Eventually, Plitnik and Haviland hope to have a tested curriculum that can be used by middle school teachers everywhere.

The Honda Foundation grants support new approaches to scientific education. The grant, awarded through the FSU Foundation Inc., will in part provide lab and audio visual equipment and books for Northside Middle School.

Meanwhile, Haviland is being introduced to the kind of media attention that Plitnik first experienced when he introduced his class in 2003. An Associated Press story hit the wires not long before the release of J.K. Rowling’s latest book in

**The curriculum will use popular literature to build a bridge between reading and science.**

the Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. The story has appeared in newspapers coast-to-coast and in Canada, and Plitnik has done several radio interviews on the topic.

Plitnik says he still experiences surprising recognition from the first story, the most recent being in Scholastic Book’s *Ripley’s Believe it or Not Strange School Stories*, under the heading, “Nutty Professors,” and in *U.S. News and World Report’s* “Wild About Harry” issue, in the story “Harry Comes to Campus.”

— Liz Douglas Medcalf



Professor George Plitnik, internally known for his “Science of Harry Potter” course, “magically” restores pipe organs for his collection.

### “Potter” Professor Makes Magic with Music

While **Dr. George Plitnik** gets the most attention these days for his use of the Harry Potter stories to teach science, his actual scientific specialty is the acoustics of musical instruments, with pipe organs being his first love – and obsession, based on the amount of pipe organ paraphernalia he has collected over the years.

Now, part of his collection, 15 very rare music rolls for an even more rare “player” organ, have been donated to the Toledo Museum of Art, which has one of possibly the only two intact player organs built by the master, E.M. Skinner.

According to Plitnik, in the days before recording technology, player organs were created to provide fine music for the venues big enough to have them, such as churches, museums and mansions. The technology was more sophisticated than player pianos, where one hole in the paper corresponded to one note on the piano. For a player organ roll, the holes control all the different actions on an organ with multiple stops and keyboards.

“The mechanism was the size of a room,” Plitnik said, using blowers and magnets to make the changes.

Eventually the museum plans to make recordings from the player rolls. “They tried some, and they worked perfectly,” Plitnik said, though the museum will limit how much they are played until it comes up with a way to reproduce the potentially fragile rolls.

— LDM

## Jordan Named CoB Alumnus of the Year

**Ralph E. Jordan** (Class of '68), a recognized leader, innovator and entrepreneur in the health care industry, was honored in May as the FSU College of Business' Alumnus of the Year.

President and CEO of Trident Health Resources Inc., Jordan started in the health care industry as a sales representative for Baxter Laboratories. Following positions with Johnson and Johnson Corp.'s surgical instrument division and Concept Inc., he founded Trident Surgical Corp., a company that distributed innovative specialty medical and surgical products. He then went on to found three more health care companies, Trident Scientific Corp., General Hospital Corp. and finally Trident Health Resources.



Ralph Jordan (Class of '68) at this year's College of Business Alumnus of the Year Luncheon.

Among the many innovations that Jordan has had a hand in developing over the years are a water-tight electrosurgical scalpel, a process to coat electrosurgical blades to prevent tissue from adhering, instruments designed for microsurgery of the eye, a glass intraocular lens, a miniaturized laser for use on the eye after cataract surgery and the use of titanium as an alternative to stainless steel in manufacturing microsurgical instruments.

In addition, Jordan introduced what is now a proven concept of hospitals using outside certified providers of cardiovascular technology and advance services to meet the needs of cardiovascular surgical

teams. Trident Health Resources remains one of the nation's most trusted names in providing temporary and long-term perfusion contract services.

Jordan has spearheaded the company's expansion by adding new service lines, such as revenue optimization, peer review, risk management services, practice acquisition/mergers, system management and investment capital, among others.

While raised in the United States, Jordan is a native of Puerto Rico and fluent in Spanish. He has maintained both family and business ties there. In 2001 he formed Trident Healthcare de Puerto Rico to provide perfusion services in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean basin. The company has set the standards for perfusion services in Puerto Rico.

Jordan serves on the board of a number of charitable organizations, as well as the FSU Business Advisory Board. He is married to **Charlotte Couzens Jordan** (Class of '62).

— LDM

## FSU Passing Rate for Teaching Exams Higher than State Average



FSU College of Education students passed one or more of the Praxis tests 98 percent of the time, topping the state passing rate, which was 96 percent. Passing rates in most areas showed improvement over the previous year.

All but one of the 136 students who took the basic skills portion of the test passed it. The pass rate across Maryland is 99 percent.

"Everywhere I go, local superintendents ask me to send more of our graduates to them," said Dr. Susan Arisman, FSU's dean of the College of Education. "We have excellent programs at Frostburg State University, and the performance of our graduates will continue to confirm this fact."

At FSU, students must pass Praxis I, the basic skills test, to be accepted into the teacher education program. All teacher education candidates must pass the Praxis II licensure exam to complete the program.

In the professional knowledge portion of the test, the overall pass rate was 99 percent, meaning all but one of the 123 students who took the test passed. The statewide pass rate is 97 percent. In the Elementary Education Content Area Exercises, 99 percent, or 105 out of 106 students, passed, compared to a 98 percent passing rate statewide. Other professional knowledge testing areas had too few FSU students taking the test for a pass rate to be reported individually.

In a test of academic content areas, such as math, English or biology, 98 percent passed, 130 out of 132 taking the test, up from the previous year. The statewide rate was 98 percent.

In the individual areas with enough students to be reported:

- ▶ 99 percent, 106 of 107 students, passed the Elementary Education Content Knowledge test (the Maryland rate was comparable);
- ▶ 98 percent, 54 of 55 students passed the Early Childhood Education test (the Maryland rate was 99 percent);

FSU's initial teacher preparation program enrolled 744 graduate and undergraduate students in 2003-2004.

FSU's programs are accredited by the state of Maryland under its Redesign for Teacher Education, recognized nationally by and in compliance with 14 professional content associations and by

## New Tech Company Opens On Campus

VARGIS, LLC, a geospatial production facility from Sterling, Va., opened an office on the FSU campus this past May. The company will foster the creation of new high tech jobs for the region, work opportunities for FSU students and provide a platform for VARGIS' growing geospatial services business. VARGIS is the third organization to move into FSU's Tawes Hall, the former science building that the University has converted into a business incubator. Tawes also houses Spectrum Bioscience Inc. and an office of the U.S. Geological Survey. Attending the ribbon cutting were (left to right) President of VARGIS **Greg Tilley**, FSU President **Catherine Gira**, **B.V.R. Mohan Reddy**, Chairman of Infotech Enterprises (VARGIS' parent company) and Secretary of Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development **Aris Melissaratos**.







U.S. Sen. J. Glenn Beall Jr. poses with Robin Strange, the first recipient of the intern stipend through the Beall Institute.

## Beall Legacy Continues with Institute for Public Affairs

Some years ago, **U.S. Sen. J. Glenn Beall Jr.** started to think about ways to leave a legacy with the next generation – “something to get young people involved in government and public service.”

His initial idea was to create a scholarship for FSU students, but FSU President Catherine R. Gira had bigger ideas. Her idea was to create a public service institute, as he told those gathered to mark the opening in May of that brainchild, the J. Glenn Beall Jr. Institute for Public Affairs.

The aim of the Beall Institute is to promote a spirit of civic responsibility and an increased knowledge of government affairs and the political process at all levels.

In addition to scholarships, the Institute also supports internships, outreach programs and research fellowships – in particular to make use of the wealth of information to be found in the Ort Library's Beall Archives, which house the papers of Beall and his senator father, as well as those of their wives and of Beall's brother, George, who as U.S. Attorney for Maryland had a pivotal role in the investigation into wrongdoing by Vice President Spiro Agnew.

“The need for citizen participation is vital in a free society, and it is our hope that the programs offered through the Institute will inspire students to view public service as a satisfying and fulfilling career option,” Beall says.

FSU junior **Robin Strange** of Hagerstown, a political science and history major with a minor in international studies, is the first student to receive an internship stipend from the Institute. She now serves as an intern in the office U.S. Sen. Paul Sarbanes, D-Md.

Beall, R-Md., served as Maryland's United States senator from 1971 to 1977, and previously served as the 6th District U.S. representative and a Maryland delegate. Since leaving office, he has continued his tradition of public service, serving numerous national, state and local initiatives, most recently chairing the Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority, dedicated to preserving the history of the C&O Canal.

“Frostburg State University is honored to be the repository of the Beall Archives and to be home of the J. Glenn Beall Jr. Institute for Public Affairs,” says Gira. “The entire Beall family are inspiring role models for students wishing to pursue careers in public service or simply to be informed, responsible and engaged citizens.”

— LDM

the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education under the 2000 performance standards.

— LDM

## Prof's Chemistry Web Site Wins Science and Tech Award

**Dr. Frederick A. Senese**, an associate professor of chemistry, won a 2004 Science and Technology Web Award for his Web site “General Chemistry Online,” from Scientific American.com. “General Chemistry Online” covers the basics and beyond in chemistry. The site has a vast FAQ section on all things chemical, a library of common compounds and an exam survival guide for students. A pop-up periodic table is just one of several innovative features that separate this Web site from others.

Senese has been honored several times for his efforts in chemistry. In 2000, he was profiled in *Chemistry*, the quarterly publication of the American Chemical Society. He has also been honored for by the Association for the Advancement of Computing and Education for his paper “The Internet Chemistry Set: Web-Based Remote Laboratories for Distance Education in Chemistry.”

The Science and Technology Web Awards are given out to the 50 best sci/tech sites on the Web, voted by the editors of Scientific American.com. Scientific American.com is an in-depth Web site adaptation of *Scientific American* magazine.

— PB



## BURG Named Program of the Year

FSU's **BURG Peer Education Network** has been honored with the Outstanding Program of the Year and the First Annual Spirit Award at the Regional BACCHUS Conference in Williamsburg, Va.

BURG is one of some 900 affiliates of the BACCHUS & GAMMA Peer Education Network, an international association of college and university-based peer education programs focusing on alcohol abuse prevention and other related student health safety issues.

The newly formed peer theater group, Symbiotes, performed during the awards luncheon.

continued ▶

## Homegrown Music:

### FSU Employee Releases New CD

**David Webb** (Class of '88), a research analyst at FSU, has released a CD he has written, performed and produced entitled *Migration*.

*Migration* is reminiscent of a movie sound track. The music uses classical instruments to paint the drama of migration, says Webb. "When I write, the music just comes out and it feels like there is a story that goes along with it."

Although Webb has had only a little musical training, he has been composing since he was a child. "When I grew up there was a piano in the house, and I was just able to play, and



**David Webb** (Class of '88) composes at his keyboard. His latest CD, *Migration*, creates a story with his music.

any idea that popped into my head was what would come out." Webb has a knack for instinctively creating music in odd meters like five, seven and even eleven.

With the encouragement of his family, friends and his co-workers, Webb decided to produce this CD to share his music with the public. For Webb's next project, he is going for a whimsical sound that children, as well as adults, can enjoy.

"I want to introduce people to the idea that instrumental music can convey a message."

Webb says that he will continue to write and produce. "I have always produced music, just never have written it down."

For more information on this CD, visit [www.davidalanwebb.com](http://www.davidalanwebb.com).

— Patrick Brown

BURG advisor Don Swogger presented a program that addressed the key ingredients to effective peer education.

— PB

### Master of Arts in Teaching — Secondary, K-12 Offered at USM-H

Following approval this spring by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, FSU is now offering its **Master of Arts in Teaching** program for secondary and K-12 education at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown.

FSU has offered the secondary education program at its Frostburg campus for two years and a similar elementary program in Hagerstown since 2000. FSU's Master of Arts in Teaching programs are designed for career changers or recent college graduates who want to pursue careers in teaching. The full-time program, which began this summer and lasts a year, provides its students with all of the necessary course work and classroom experience

to obtain teacher certification in the state of Maryland.

The MAT programs are part of FSU's effort to address the growing shortage of teachers in Maryland, especially in certain critical subject areas.

"Expanding the secondary program to Hagerstown will help us alleviate the state's teacher shortage, particularly in math and science," said Dr. Susan Arisman, dean of FSU's College of Education. "This program will benefit the Washington County school system in particular, much as the Master of Arts in Teaching for elementary teachers has already. Frostburg has worked closely with Washington County to make these programs available."

Content certification will be offered in English, mathematics, social studies, biology, chemistry, earth science and physics. Certification in French, Spanish and K-12 art are currently offered in the MAT program that meets on the Frostburg campus and may be available in Hagerstown if there is sufficient demand.

— LDM

continued ►

### University Seeking Old Coal Mine Maps

FSU is launching an effort to preserve the historical record of mining in Maryland by seeking out old coal mine maps and other mining documents from Allegany and Garrett counties to scan into an electronic database of digital images.

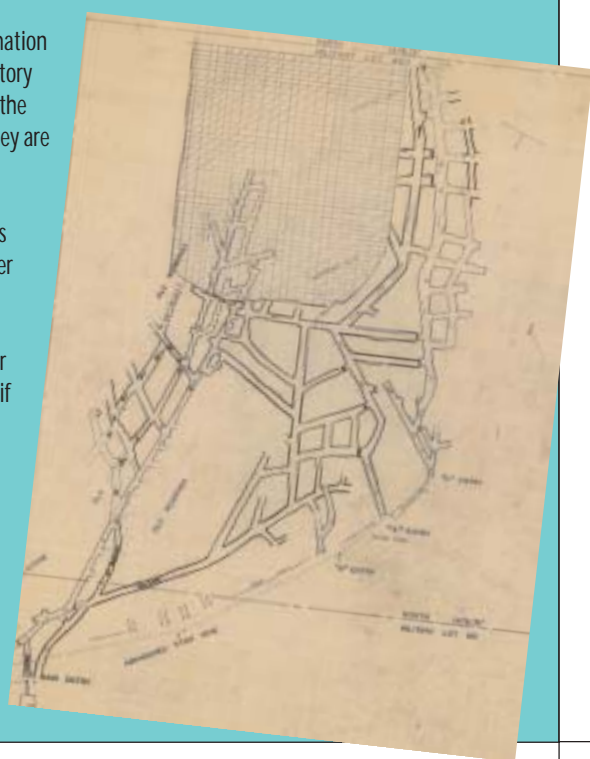
Archivists believe there is a treasure trove of information about an important part of Western Maryland's history deteriorating in closets and attics, and this may be the last chance to save it from disappearing forever. They are particularly interested in materials from before the 1970s, especially deep mine maps or engineering drawings that actually depict the mine workings, as well as photographs related to coal mining. All other mine-related materials are also welcome.

Once scanned, all maps will be returned to the owner. In addition, FSU will provide the map owner with a free CD containing the scanned image, and, if they wish, a printed copy as well.

The Lewis J. Ort Library first received a large collection of deep mine maps and related materials in 1987 from the daughter of John J. Rutledge, Maryland's first mining superintendent. Funding for the project has come from grants from several sources.

For more information, call the Maryland Coal Mine Mapping Project office at FSU at 301/687-4253.

— LDM





Frostburg State University mass communication students now get the chance to study with a professor who is an Iris and Emmy Award winner, has worked for networks like ABC, NBC and CBS, and has been on the sets of *20/20*, *Nightline*, *48 Hours*, *Dateline* and *Good Morning America*.

## Mass Comm Instructor Shares Experiences from the TV “Front Line”

**N**eil Styliniski is a new professor of Advanced Video Production where he creates opportunities to advance personal and departmental objectives relating to media education and production. He has an extensive resume in local and national production that includes producing, editing, shooting and writing.

Styliniski's fascination with the camera started when he was in the U.S. Army as an intelligence analyst and linguist and traveled throughout Europe. He then received his B.A. in communications from San Francisco State University and his MBA from National University in San Diego.

As he was coming up in the world of communications, he began his career shooting local footage for news stations.

Through his career Styliniski has won many professional awards, including two National Association of Television Program Executives Iris Awards and a National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Emmy Award. The Iris Awards were from NBC and ABC affiliates. They recognize outstanding programming and are one of the most prized awards among staff members. His Emmy was earned while working at an ABC affiliate for Outstanding Feature Story on *Inside San Diego*. This story was about a paleontologist who found a bone with marks on it that indicated butchering, and with this find he hoped to prove that man was on the continent 50,000 years earlier than we had expected.

“Iris Awards are special because they are the most sought-after award for a staff member, although they do not get as much publicity as Emmy awards,” Styliniski said. “The Emmy is nationally recognized. That’s what makes it so important.”

Styliniski went on to do work in camera, sound and lighting for ABC: *World News Tonight*, *20/20*, *Nightline*, *Primetime*, *Good Morning America*; CBS: *48 Hours*, *Street Stories*, *Eye to Eye with Connie Chung*, *CBS Evening News*; NBC: *Dateline*, *Real Life with Jane Pauley*; Animal Planet; The Learning Channel; HGTV; MSNBC; *Fox NFL Sunday*; *Nova*; *Entertainment Tonight* and numerous corporate productions. He has worked

**Styliniski has won many professional awards, including two National Association of Television Program Executives Iris Awards and a National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Emmy Award.**

on news events such as the L.A. riots, O.J. Simpson, the Heavens Gate cult, President Nixon's funeral, gang wars, the Northridge Quake, the Academy Awards, U2's concert, the World Series and America's Cup.

**T**he L.A. riots and O.J. Simpson trial stand out in Styliniski's mind out of all the amazing stories he has covered. He remembers the 1991 riots after the Rodney King beating, and he commented, “It was the closest environment to war I have ever encountered.” He remembers arriving on the scene in South Central L.A. and looking out over the smoke-filled horizon. “My fellow cameramen and I had to coordinate hand signals to escape from looters as we were in constant danger.”

Styliniski showed up at the Nicole Simpson house two days after the slaying. While his partner was shooting footage in the yard Styliniski



Styliniski.

looked down and saw his partner's shoes turn from white to pink because of all the blood that had been washed out of the house and off the driveway. “It was a very eerie feeling.”

**S**tyliniski has worked in many staff positions to go along with his backstage experience. He was the general manager of Broadcast Images San Diego, producer/videographer (editor/writer) for KGTV San Diego, assistant producer/editor (writer/videographer) for KNSD San Diego and director/videographer (producer/writer/editor) for KPWR (KGET) Bakersfield. When asked what he enjoyed doing the most, he said he likes to be able to do all of the jobs interchangeably, that way he doesn't get bored with one or the other.

Styliniski left San Diego to come to Frostburg when his wife took a position at the University of Maryland's Center for Environmental studies on the FSU campus. Styliniski says his students are motivated, up beat and the environment is more relaxed than bigger campuses.

When asked how teaching compares to his exciting life as an award-winning cameraman he said, “At some point in your life you need to take a path to new horizons, and challenge your self in new ways. Plus it's less physical work.”

— John Wilson



From buckwheat pancakes to ramps to bluegrass music, **Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas**, formerly of the University of North Carolina-Asheville and Indiana University, has been introduced to some unique traditions as the new resident folklorist for Western Maryland.

Western Maryland 101

## Folklorist Teaches Students Traditions of the Region

Thomas is conducting research and documenting communities and living traditions, as well as teaching "Folklore in Appalachia," a new course offered through the FSU Sociology Department. This course offers FSU students the opportunity to learn about Maryland's folk heritage through hands-on fieldwork. Thomas' other duties will include developing publications, audio features for radio broadcast, CDs, videos, Web sites and showcasing traditional artists in association with FSU's Cultural Events Series.

Her work will complement a number of disciplines in FSU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, particularly its growing Ethnobotany program, by educating students and the community about folk medicine and herbs and helping local cultures preserve their environment and living traditions.

Last summer, FSU began a three-year partnership with Maryland Traditions with a start up grant of \$40,000. Maryland Traditions is a collaboration of two state agencies, the Maryland State Arts Council and the Maryland Historical Trust, and receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts. Dr. Rory Turner of MSAC and Dr. Elaine Eff of MHT co-direct Maryland Traditions, a program that supports communities to discover, share, preserve and sustain traditional arts and culture.

**"Folklore has traditionally had two faces – the public program and the academic program. By working with Frostburg State University, it's a very exciting way to combine these worlds."**

— Dr. Rory Turner, Maryland State Arts Council



Rogers Thomas

"We're particularly thrilled to have an opportunity to contribute to the Western Maryland region," says Turner. Maryland Traditions supports partnerships in Southern Maryland, the upper and lower Eastern Shore, the Catoctin region and Baltimore city. "Folklore has traditionally had two faces – the public program and the academic program. By working with Frostburg State University, it's a very exciting way to combine these worlds. We're breaking new ground."

"This area is ripe with opportunities," adds Eff, commending the past and present efforts of area folklorists including the late educator and folklife advocate Alta Schrock of Penn Alps and the *Journal of the Alleghenies* publication. "We hope to reveal layers of living traditions hidden in plain sight and help people see and value traditions that might be unappreciated."

With the help of future grants and other revenue sources, the program in Western Maryland has the goal to be self-sustaining by the end of 2007.

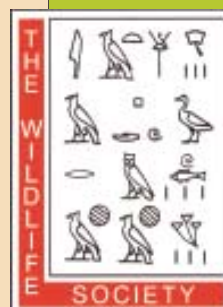
The Maryland State Arts Council is a division of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. The Maryland Historical Trust is a division of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

— Ty DeMartino



## Wildlife Society Climbs to Top of Competition

FSU's **Wildlife Society** earned several honors at the 2005 Southeastern Wildlife Conclave hosted by the University of Florida in March. The Southeastern Wildlife Conclave is an annual competition between regional student chapters of The Wildlife Society.



The FSU Wildlife Society placed eighth out of 24 schools in the quiz bowl competition, an extremely challenging event that quizzes four member teams on variety of subjects that include general biology, wildlife techniques,

genetics, ecology, mammalogy, ornithology, herpetology and ichthyology.

FSU also placed second in the field team competition, consisting of 15 timed stations that tested student knowledge in fish identification, mammal skull identification, reptile and amphibian identification, insect identification, plant identification, bird song and bird species identification, knot tying, frog call identification, geology and field equipment maintenance and use.

Wildlife and Fisheries major David Kazyak placed third in the color photography contest (see photo above). The awards and pictures from each event will be on display in FSU's Compton Science Center.

FSU professors Dr. Frank Ammer and Dr. Richard Raesly advise the FSU chapter of the Wildlife Society.



**Alesia Parson-McBean**, an FSU senior who was elected to the City Council of Hagerstown, Md., never intended to become a politician, yet when all was said and done, she couldn't help but become one.

## Student Breaks Barriers on City Council

“I didn't see all work I've done in past as a stepping stone to politics,” Parson-McBean says. But it certainly turned out that way.

Parson-McBean, a business major and non-traditional FSU student at the University System of Maryland at Hagerstown, is the first African-American to be elected to Hagerstown's council. Even in 2005, that's still a distinction. “I'm not the traditional politician,” she says.

A native of Hagerstown and the daughter of two ministers, she has spent most of her life in and around Hagerstown's traditional black neighborhood surrounding Jonathan Street. Even when she moved for a couple of years to Smithsburg, a smaller town about a dozen miles away, “I was still doing all my ‘living’ in the city. Culturally, I was coming back to the old neighborhood.”

Her public life for the broader Hagerstown community began with a regular neighborhood column she wrote for the afternoon paper, *The Daily Mail*.

Her community in the center of Hagerstown suffers from an image problem. “Jonathan Street is not north, south, east or west or downtown. I want people to see that it's a part of the city, a productive part of the city filled with God-fearing, productive people.”

Through that exposure, she feels she was able to help demystify her neighborhood and the black community to the rest of Washington County. “It tore down misperceptions.”

“I have to give the column some credit for my being elected,” she says, for giving her the visibility needed to reach a broader audience.

Still, it wasn't the column that finally spurred her to join the political fray. It was a crisis in a project near and dear to her heart that made her realize that where she was needed most was in office.

That project was the Memorial Recreation Center, since 1980 a full-time recreational resource for Hagerstown's black community.

“I can't preach it enough that the Rec. Center is the epicenter for the black community in Hagerstown,” Parson-McBean says.

In all that time, it had been run by Parson-McBean's mentor, Ruth Monroe, who recently retired from the post due to illness. Always running on a shoestring budget and through funding from the United Way, Memorial Rec. often stayed open over the years as much through sheer force of Monroe's will as anything else.

“For years, if problems arose, the motto was ‘First tell Ruth Ann,’” she chuckles.

But Monroe was a great mentor not just by sharing her successes, but also her failures, and some of those were in the operation of Memorial

Rec over the years, Parson-McBean says.

It was finally the harsh treatment of her mentor at the hands of Hagerstown's City Council and the encouragement of another local African-

American pioneer and that moved her into politics.

Monroe was seeking emergency funding for Memorial Rec from the city. Parson-McBean accompanied her to the meeting. “They talked to her so badly. I felt like I was in the hot seat just being beside her,” she says.

It was then William Mason, the first African American appointed deputy sheriff for Washington County, who tried to convince Parson-McBean that it was time for her to take her public service to the next level.

Even then, she was reluctant. “They said, ‘You need to do this.’ I said, ‘I don't need to do this.’ But in the end, she did. She won the primary election by one vote, and the general election by 31.

In the midst of all this, she has been fighting for Memorial Rec.

When the center's board of directors recently voted to close the center, Parson-McBean knew she had to step in to save her friend's legacy.

“That place is a part of her. I would not allow anyone to tear down everything she worked for. I fear no man – or board of directors. I fear God.



Parson-McBean

Ric Dugan/The Herald-Mail Co.

If I didn't do what He wanted, He'd be the one to hold me accountable,” she says.

Parson-McBean called a meeting of the community to whip up interest in saving the center. “In two and a half hours we raised the revenue needed to keep it open.”

From that time, Memorial Rec. has found a new board of directors, “people of good will,” determined to save the center and serve its community — and determined not to repeat the mistakes of the past.

“Had I not been elected, it would not be as easy to find these people,” she concedes.

The past couple of years for Parson-McBean have been a study in keeping balls in the air. Besides Memorial Recreation Center and its activities and her campaign for council, she's been caring for an ill father, planning a wedding — she married Godfrey McBean last August — and being a full-time student.

Already she's been able to apply things she's learned at FSU. During council meetings, “I'll sit back and hear something that reminds me of what happened in class.”

She has 19 credits before she graduates, but she plans to spread that over two semesters. She has to spend a certain amount of time learning the ropes at the City Council.

She's happy with her experience as a Frostburg student and appreciates the extra effort she sees from Hagerstown Center FSU program director Lew Muth. But, like everywhere in her life, she'll work to make it better. “We all need to work a little harder to ensure we're getting a diversified class of students,” she says of the Hagerstown branch of FSU.

“My experience at Frostburg has been a good one. I hope that the things I do on the Council are a good reflection of where I received my education.”

“Check back with me after four years. It's going to be a good ride for me.”

— Liz Douglas Medcalf

**Parson-McBean is the first African-American to be elected to Hagerstown's council.**

## Coal Company Creates Endowment

The **Borden Mining Company Endowment**, in memory of Albert and Elizabeth Borden, has established a scholarship through the FSU Foundation in support of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Student Research Programs.

Borden Mining was one of the main coal companies in the Western Maryland area. Albert Borden used to work for the mining operations under his father in the 1940s. His daughter, Emily Ragsdale, has sought to honor her father and mother with a named scholarship. The family has given FSU \$1,000 to start the scholarship for this year and intends to give \$25,000 for the endowment over the next several weeks.

Applicants must be enrolled full-time at the University with a declared major in either biology, chemistry, geography, physics, engineering or other programs as developed by the University for similar studies in the future. Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in research projects shown by a scholarship, research or membership by avocation. The recipient(s) must have an FSU overall GPA of 3.0 or better and may be a graduate or undergraduate student. The scholarship may be received for two consecutive years.

Application is through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and reviewed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Awards Committee to determine the recipient(s).

— JW

## New Pianos Makes Music Department Sing

The sound of music from FSU's Performing Arts Center sounds a lot better these days, thanks to the efforts of **Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon** over the past several years. Between her personal gifts to the FSU Foundation, Inc., and matching gifts from ExxonMobil's Educational Matching Gift Program – her late husband, Dr. Alvin C. Broyles, was a senior research specialist for Exxon – Dixon is responsible for raising about \$60,000 to benefit the music program.

The majority of the money has gone toward the purchase of much-needed practice room pianos, as well as keyboards and software for the MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) lab. The MIDI lab allows students to write, sequence, publish and record their compositions. It also has multi-track recording equipment for students wanting to record pieces live.

Dixon has made the donations in memory of her husband, who died in 2000. "My husband was a great philanthropist. One time I asked him, 'Why do you do this?' He said, 'I do it for the students.' That's the case with me, too."

Initiated in 1962, the ExxonMobil Foundation's Educational Matching Gift Program, ExxonMobil's largest contribution program, matches gifts to higher education on a 3-to-1 basis and has provided more than \$301 million to higher education in the United States.

"The ExxonMobil Foundation is a wonderful organization. It gives millions of dollars to uni-

versities each year. The Foundation is a major sponsor of higher education," Dixon said.

Dixon's efforts to enhance the piano program have yielded other benefits, including a relationship with Yamaha Corp. and its piano loan program, which through Kleeb's Music in Morgantown, W.Va., has loaned about \$50,000 worth of pianos to FSU each year at no cost to the University. FSU ends up buying many of these high-quality pianos at the end of the loan period.

**"Joan has led an unyielding battle to improve the quality of instruction through the upgrading of equipment for the piano program."**

— Jack Aylor, Executive Director, FSU Foundation

The monies Dixon has given or brought in have also gone to support the annual Piano Festival, now in its 10th year. This year's featured a 15-piano concert – 15 pianos, all on the stage of Pealer Recital Hall, all being played at one time.

"We're trying to do different things with it so people won't get bored," Dixon said.

"Joan has led an unyielding battle to improve the quality of instruction through the upgrading of equipment for the piano program," said Jack Aylor, the FSU Foundation's executive director. "She has made a personal commitment to obtain

equipment and has made personal gifts and has received support from the Exxon Mobil Foundation for the same. The FSU Foundation appreciates and recognizes her commitment."

"I believe in supporting our students, in supporting education. I'm happy to be in a place where I can do that," Dixon said.

— LDM

## Phonathons Raise Over \$118,000

The 2004 FSU **Annual Fund Phonathons** combined to raise \$118,883.67 in pledges from university alumni. These funds will be used to assist with student scholarships, student development, student work-study programs, the alumni association, faculty/staff/university development and events.

The fall 2004 Phonathon saw 1,227 alumni pledge \$59,752.35. "This represents a return/pledge rate of 86 percent, far above the national average for this type of fund-raising activity," stated Christopher Harmon, a co-director of the phonathon at FSU.

"The credit for the success of our phonathons goes to our student callers and supervisors and of course, our generous alumni," said co-director Jeff Krone.

In addition to the fund-raising benefits, the phonathons provide FSU student callers the opportunity to earn spending money, as well as gain valuable experience in utilizing communications, marketing and public relations skills. In addition, supervisors also gain leadership skills. The structure of the FSU phonathons creates a win-win situation for both students and the university.

Student supervisor Perry Darden added, "I have gained a lot in my role as supervisor. It has improved my communication and management skills, which I will certainly benefit from when I leave FSU."





# noted&quoted

## Button Up!

The amazing political button collection of **Al Feldstein** (Class of '78) was profiled in *The Washington Examiner* newspaper this past spring. The bi-partisan collection, ranging from 13,000 to 15,000 buttons, represents a spectrum of political causes, campaigns and issues. "Visually and graphically, these buttons are the best portrayal of our First Amendment freedoms," Feldstein told *The Examiner*. Feldstein has displayed his buttons at special events on the FSU campus and has donated duplicates to the University Ort Library. For more information, visit [www.buttonsforthecause.com](http://www.buttonsforthecause.com).



## Run, Bobcat, Run!

Running enthusiast **Vicki (Avey) Lang** (Class of '90) was featured in the January/February issue of *Washington Running Report* under the heading "Runners on the Way Up." A member of the Howard County Striders running club, the story chronicles Lang's beginning as a competitive runner at Fort Hill High School in Cumberland to her track accomplishments at FSU. Today, she averages 25 to 40 miles a week. When Lang isn't running, she helps run the Department of Veterans Affairs as a budget analyst. She and her husband **Phil** (Class of '89) have two children Tiffany, 10, and Brittany, 6.

horses since she was a young girl, Mitchell earned a \$1,500 scholarship in addition to her crown. She also had the opportunity to take part in all Preakness events, including hobnobbing with the horse owners and trainers, attending Preakness party after party and riding in royal style in the Preakness parade.

## Hurd: A Literary Force of Nature

Award-winning writer and FSU professor **Barbara Hurd** published her essay "Lives Buffeted by the Forces of Nature" in the March 29 Outdoors section of *The Los Angeles Times*. The piece talks about the purple sailor, a jellyfish-like creature that often washes ashore along



the coasts of the Pacific. A discovery of one of these hapless sea creatures stirs a memory from Hurd's childhood about sailing with her father. Hurd is well known for her environmental essays.

Her books, *Entering the Stone* and *Stirring the Mud* have both received critical acclaim and earned her several literary awards.

GREENTREE GAZETTE READER

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## Miss Preakness Duties

### Leave No Time for Horseplay

FSU junior **Margo Mitchell** was crowned the 2005 Miss Baltimore Preakness back in May. A resident of Baltimore County who has been riding



Dennis and Dawn Thomas (both Class of '65) at their Westminster home.

## Say Cheese

Readers of *The Greentree Gazette*, a business magazine for higher education, were greeted with the warm smile of FSU alum **Fabrizio Balestri** (Class of '78) on page 41 of the publication's July issue. Balestri is president and CEO of Student Loan Xpress, a lending company in San Diego, Calif. In an ad campaign featuring high profile readers of *The Greentree Gazette*, Balestri, noted for his successful loan company, was dubbed as having possibly "the best-known smile in the business."

## All-American

The star-spangled Westminster, Md., farm of alumni **Dennis and Dawn Thomas** (both Class of '65) was featured in a four-page spread in the July/June issue of *Carroll Magazine*. The story focused on the couple's two-story home (and adjoining 1820 log cabin farmhouse), which has been intricately decorated in Americana. From flags (one dating back to 1844) to photos and political memorabilia (gathered from Dennis' time as an assistant to President Ronald Reagan), the publication featured photos of various rooms and the couple's large Pennsylvania barn which is often used for private parties and community events. The Thomas' farm is also the site of the annual alumni reunion and crabfeast for the Frostburg graduates from the mid to late-60s (see page 22).

FSU Professor Discovers Earliest Known Fossil of Carnivorous Plants

# A “Sedimental” Journey

By Liz Douglas Medcalf



## It's sedimentary, dear Watson.

Frostburg State University biology professor **Dr. Hongqi Li** is a detective of sorts. And he's working to solve a mystery that has puzzled scientists since the days of Charles Darwin.

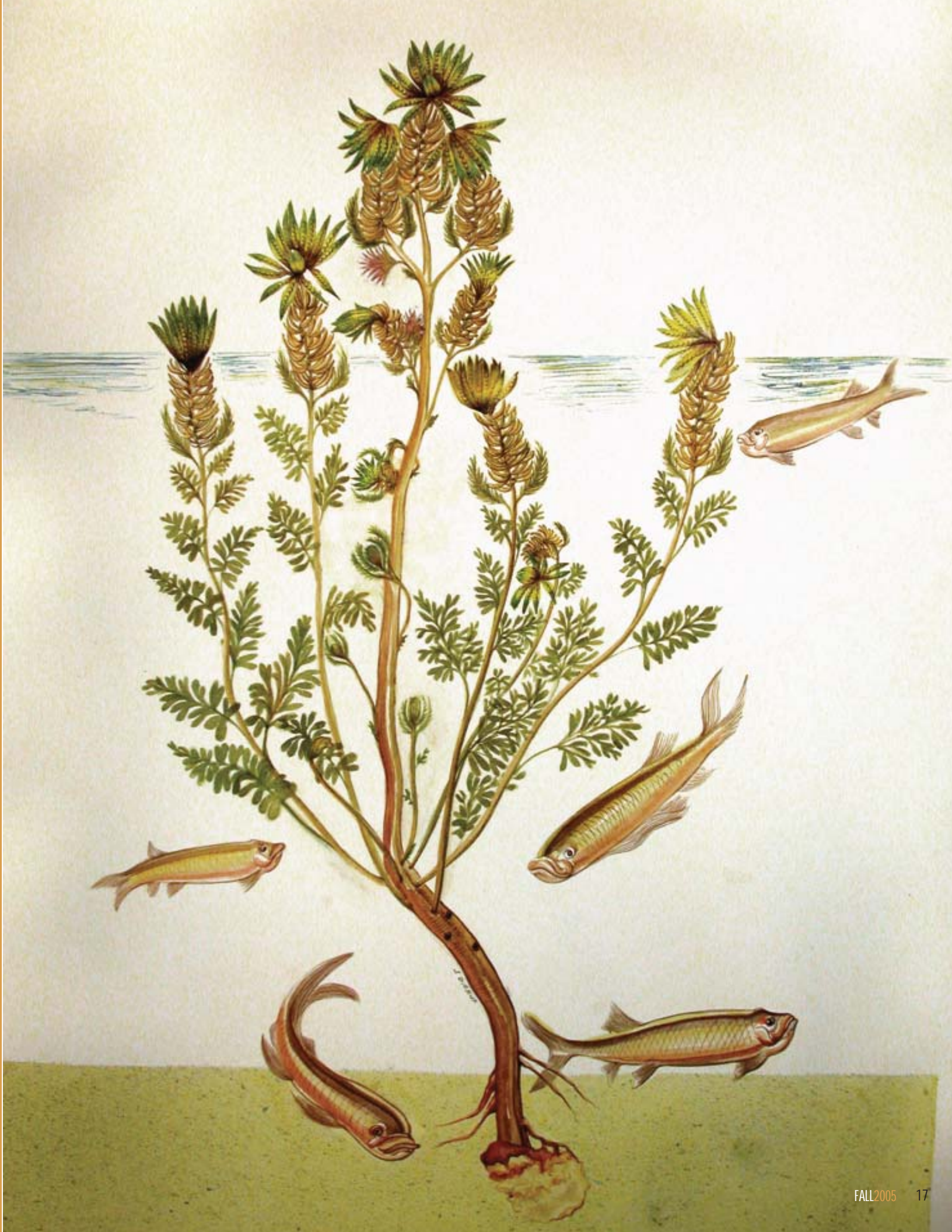
But instead of Sherlock Holmes' magnifying glass, Li is using rocks, a scanning electronic microscope, a scanning fluorescence microscope, GC-MS (Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry) and living carnivorous plants.

"Darwin called it the 'Abominable Mystery,'" Li says.

That mystery is the origin of flowering plants. ►

The scientific drawing on the opposite page is of *Archaeofructus eoiflora* sp.nov., based on a fossil identified as the oldest confirmed flowering plant. The drawing is by FSU art professor Judy Dieruf.







Li who has been at FSU for five years, recalls an article he read in the early 1980s, early in his master's degree studies, that listed the top 10 mysteries in natural sciences. They included the extinction of the dinosaurs, black holes and cancer. And the origin of angiosperms, flowering plants. Li's interest started to bloom, leading him eventually to uncovering two of the earliest confirmed flowering plants in the world.

And he's not finished yet.

Human beings depend very much on flowering plants — everything from broad-leafy trees, wheat, fruits, grasses, daisies, to the weeds that make us sneeze. However, it has been uncertain about where, when, how and from which plant group these crucial plants originated. The question even frustrated Darwin when he found numerous flowering plant fossils from the Upper Cretaceous period, about 100 million years ago, but there has been frustratingly little discovery beyond that point. Darwin and others knew that there had to be long-preexisted species from which these complex organisms had evolved.

Li, a paleobotanist, has spent much of his career looking for clues and trying to put them together in a way that tells the history of the earth's most dominant type of plants, which brought about Li's two discoveries.

His recent research has twice found the earliest confirmed plants of their type.



Dr. Hongqi Li displays the fossil *Archeafructus eoiflora*. The fossil has since been returned to China to a facility near where it was discovered.

His first one came a few years ago when an impressive plant fossil from China, a rarity because it came complete with roots, leaves, stems and flowers, was found in the Yixian Formation (dated to 125 million years ago). Since that finding was published in China in 2004, a textbook publisher has contacted Li about printing the illustration of that fossil, called *Archeafructus eoiflora*, drawn by FSU art professor Judy Dieruf.

Li's more recent work, a fossil carnivorous plant that is about the same age, came to him almost by accident. He was visiting a colleague Dr. Ge Sun at Jilin University in China. Sun was displaying

Sun did, and he let Li gather up a handful of fossils that Li believed would show various parts of a very, very, very old carnivorous plant, one that feasted on the flesh of unlucky Cretaceous-era bugs.

This is where the more serious detective work started. "To understand the fossil plants, we need to understand the modern plants," Li says.

He began to be interested in living carnivorous plants. The most famous is the Venus Fly Trap, like Audrey II of "Little Shop of Horrors" fame, which lures insects into its "flower" then snaps shut on them, releasing enzymes to digest its prey.

**Li, a paleobotanist, has spent much of his career looking for clues and trying to put them together in a way that tells the history of the earth's most dominant type of plants.**

a broad array of fossils from the same Yixian Formation as *Archeafructus eoiflora* (and many fossil animals, such as feathered dinosaurs and some of the earliest birds and mammals). Li saw one bearing an uncanny resemblance to a modern kind of carnivorous plant called a pitcher plant.

"My heart started jumping. I asked if he had any others like it," Li says.

Another kind of carnivorous plant, one of the largest groups, is known as a pitcher plant, for the cup that is modified from a leaf part looks like a pitcher. That cup is both the bait and the trap. It attracts insects to it one way or another, depending upon the species. If the insects get too greedy, they slip into the inside of the cup, and the inner walls prevent them from climbing out. Then they are trapped in the pitcher's inner fluid — sometimes as acidic as human stomach acid — where they are killed and digested, as Li recently reported in another paper on a modern Chinese *Nepenthes*.

In other words, they check in, but they can't check out.

◀ This scientific drawing by FSU art professor Judy Dieruf is of *Archaeamphora*, the earliest confirmed carnivorous plant. It is a representation of the fossilized plant shown in Dr. Li's hands on page 16.





Three families of pitcher plants are found in Australia, Southeast Asia and the Americas. The American pitcher plants belong to family *Sarraceniaceae*, with *Heliamphora* in Venezuela, *Darlingtonia* in California and *Sarracenia* in the southeastern United States, including in Frostburg's region in nearby bogs. *Sarracenia* play an ecological role as pioneer plants, because they can live in bogs without nutrients but get their nutrients from the insects that end up in their pitchers, so they can make the bogs livable so other plants can move in later.

Li's fossils share a striking similarity to *Sarracenia* and *Heliamphora*. The fossil plant resembled

the South American plant in the narrowed neck on the pitcher and its stem, but its spoon-like lid and the pitcher with a wing mirrored the North American plant.

Examining the fossil — called *Archaeamphora* — more closely using a scanning electronic microscope, he found an intimately associated fossil seed with a warty surface and a ridge along one side, much like that of the North American *Sarracenia*. This seed type is unique to the *Sarracenia* plant.

He continued to look closer, this time with a scanning fluorescence microscope, to look for the glowing fluorescence caused by a mix of enzyme and cuticle secreted by the carnivorous plant gland. Some 125 million years later, the fluorescence still could be seen.

Still, there was one more investigative step to take — to look at the fossil at the molecular level with a GC-MS. While DNA can't hold that long, a more stable molecule called oleanane is used as a biomarker of angiosperms. And this molecule — used to defend against bugs — is found in most flowering plant families, but not in other seed plants.

He found oleanane in the three examined specimens of the fossil *Archaeamphora*. What's more, he found it at a similar concentration level, about 4 percent, as in the modern pitcher plants. So this suggests another of the earliest confirmed flowering plants.

All of these clues, plus a few other details, indicated that *Archaeamphora* is the earliest carnivorous plant — previous fossils only dated to about 85 million years ago. It's also the only fossil record of pitcher plants.

As old as that is, all the traces point the origin of angiosperms ever further back in time.

That's because *Sarraceniaceans* belong to a highly evolved "crown-group" of angiosperms, on the evolutionary family tree. Humans are a crown group, with lots of less-evolved creatures below us. And, as it took time for us to get where we are, it took time for *Archaeamphora* to evolve to that level. Surely the more primitive, or basal, angiosperms should have originated much earlier. To solve the mystery, Li is digging the roots of flowering plants deep into the Jurassic era now, hoping to find their ancestors.

Li has published these latest findings in June in *Acta Botanica Gallica*, a journal for the Botanical Society of France. He also presented them in August at Botany 2005, the annual conference of the Botanical Society of America in Austin, Texas.

Before heading to Texas, he returned to China to do additional detective work on some even more interesting fossil plants he's found.



Dr. Li has been studying living carnivorous plants seeking clues about his fossils.

## The Plants That Ate Frostburg!!!

Come 2006, what will Frostburg have in common with Atlanta, Bonn, San Francisco, Tokyo and Lyon?

Each will have played host to the International Carnivorous Plant Society Conference.

FSU Biology professor Dr. Hongqi Li (pronounced hong chee lee), whose study of living carnivorous plants was sparked by his interest in similar plants found in 125 million-year-old fossils, will be co-chairing the society's sixth conference, which will be held at FSU in June of 2006.

The International Carnivorous Plant Society is made up of horticulturists, conservationists, scientists and educators all interested in sharing knowledge and news of carnivorous plants. Founded more than 27 years ago as a club of those who cultivated carnivorous plants, the group has evolved a more scientific focus, including a professional journal and a network of horticulturists, and it has taken a larger role in calling for conservation.

The first conference was held in 1997 in Atlanta, the next a year later in Bonn, Germany. Since then, the conference has made its way around the world with a conference every two years.

At the last conference in Lyon, France, in 2004, which Li attended, organizers were indicating that they wanted the next conference to be held in the United States. "I said come to my place," Li grins. Frostburg was chosen from among three proposed sites. After all, FSU was right about that time hosting the world's foremost scientists engaged in otter research, so the University had already proven itself as a host for an international scientific conference.

The conference will be primarily scientist presentations of research results and vendors, both of the plants and of books about them. A symposium will be added for the first time for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research.

Participants will have field trip opportunities, including to a lake nearby in Pennsylvania that is home to some native carnivorous pitcher plants, as well as to sites where some of those plants were transplanted some years ago.

For the sake of luring would-be scientists to FSU from around the world, Li is hoping to be able to add a pre-college scientific workshop and an art contest to the conference, but those elements are still in the early stages.

For more information, visit the Web site at [www.frostburg.edu/6thICPS](http://www.frostburg.edu/6thICPS) or contact Li at [hli@frostburg.edu](mailto:hli@frostburg.edu) or 301/687-4168.

— LDM

FSU grad has created a new show that has some calling him the “Savior of the Sitcom.”



By Ty DeMartino



Finding the right actor to play “Earl,” an ex-hood with a heart, was essential. Garcia (right) struck gold when former skater-turned-actor Jason Lee (left) signed on to play the role.

There’s nothing funny about 4 a.m. But somehow Greg Garcia (Class of ’92) is finding the punch line.

It’s pre-dawn in a dimly-lit paneled office at City Studios in Van Nuys, Calif., where TV writer Garcia, best known as the creator of the CBS sitcom *Yes, Dear*, huddles over a computer and pounds out future story outlines for his new show *My Name is Earl*. This latest sitcom centers on a ne’er-do-well good ol’ boy who, after winning the lottery and immediately losing the ticket, discovers the meaning of karma from no less than late-night talk show host Carson Daly. Earl then pledges to undo a list of his lifetime of wrongs (250 and counting).

The early buzz on *Earl* has been extremely favorable, with test audiences and TV critics loving the combination of Garcia’s edgy writing and Earl’s likability as portrayed by former professional skater turned indie film actor Jason Lee (*Chasing Amy* and *Almost Famous*). Critics say the show is a breath of fresh air that will help resuscitate a dying sitcom genre being smothered by the weight of reality TV.

Garcia’s other show, the often critically panned *Yes, Dear*, entered its sixth season in September. While Garcia will remain on as an executive producer on *Dear*, most of his creative efforts are now directed to *Earl*. People have asked how someone who created a simple domestic sitcom for five years could write this new offbeat and often irreverent comedy.

“I tell those people that Jesus had two careers,” quips Garcia. “Word on the street is that He was a carpenter too.”

Garcia, a native of Arlington, Va., started his TV career after taking FSU’s Writing for Television course. (He signed up because it “sounded fun.”) He earned a coveted spot in a Warner Brothers program for college students based on a script he wrote for his FSU class. His early writing credits include some saccharine-sweet sitcoms of the early ’90s, including *Family Matters* and *On Our Own*. He went on to create the short-lived sitcom *Built to Last* in ’97 and worked as a co-producer on the cult-favorite animated series *Family Guy*. However, it was *Yes, Dear* that earned Garcia the rep of being a Hollywood heavy-hitter. *Dear*, which tells the story of two sets of very different parents from Maryland who relocate to California, is “loosely”



based on Garcia's own experience as a husband and father (the lead character just happens to be named "Greg" and is married to "Kim." Garcia's real-life wife is **Kim Ludke**, FSU Class of '93) and continues to perform well in the ratings despite negative critical review. In announcing his network's fall line-up to a room of TV journalists, CBS president Les Moonves dismissed critical scorn by deeming *Yes, Dear* as the series that "you can't kill it with a stick."

"The critics have been tough. You sometimes feel like Bruce Willis in *Unbreakable*," Garcia says. "They knock you down, but you keep coming back."

**T**his time, Garcia is going solo, having previously created *Dear* with partner Alan Kirshbaum. In late August, he was working on a draft of the Christmas episode, in which Earl's ex-wife (played by Jaime Pressly) has to share the news that she is now dating a black man (played by Eddie Steeples) to her racist parents. Yes, we're not in *Yes, Dear* territory anymore.

Garcia created *Earl* while vacationing with family in North Carolina back in 2003. Back then, he pitched the idea to a few networks that passed. But when *Yes, Dear*'s future looked questionable last year and its season was cut to 13 episodes instead of the regular 22, Garcia met with NBC execs to discuss the development of new shows. "They remembered *My Name is Earl* script from before and said they wanted to do something like that," Garcia recalls.

On a tour of the studio, Garcia points out the three permanent sets used in the sitcom –

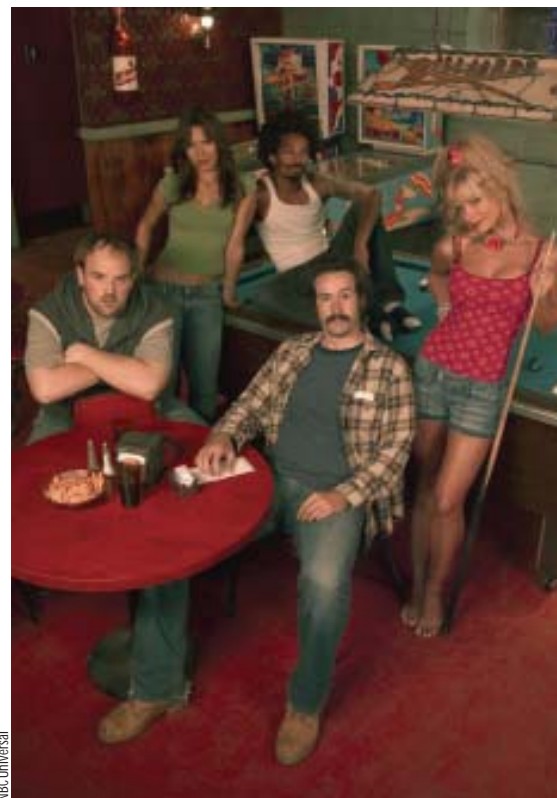
a trashy trailer inhabited by Earl's ex and her new husband, the motel room where Earl lives with his simple brother Randy (played by Ethan Suplee) and a local hang-out called the Crab Shack, which will have some FSU alumni flashing back to their own college days and a local hang-out.

"This place will look familiar," Garcia says, smiling. The dimly-lit set is adorned with pool tables and an oh-so-familiar red and black felt wallpaper, reminiscent of a popular Frostburg Main Street pub. Giving a shout-out to his alma mater is nothing new to Garcia, who created the *Yes, Dear* character of "Jimmy" to have ties to FSU, often wearing FSU T-shirts. Walking around the set of *Earl*, Garcia often greeted people with, "...And where did you go to college when you weren't accepted to Frostburg State?"

**T**he FSU references are flattering, considering the great strides Garcia has made since his days at FSU and his packed daily schedule as executive producer. On this day alone in late summer, he worked on future script outlines, reported to the set (an auto impound located 40 minutes from the studio) to watch filming, continued to write on his laptop, dealt with actors' needs, consulted on direction questions, returned to the studio to meet with the script writers (who debated which ethnic slurs Earl should use in an upcoming flashback), met with the director for the following week's script (which involved knife throwing), made difficult music selections (Salt 'N Peppas' *Push It* vs. Dee-Lite's *Groove is in the Heart*), consulted with the props master (to "OK" a tacky beauty

queen trophy) and debated casting choices for the "beauty queen" guest star (Molly Ringwald vs. Ricki Lake vs. Parker Posey. The role eventually went to actress Missi Pyle who played "Mrs. Beauregard" in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.) Whew.

**T**he day concluded with a casting call that evening, after which Garcia would return home for a quick bite, time with his wife and two young sons and then off to bed to repeat the schedule tomorrow — starting at around 4 a.m. — again.



NBC Universal

The ensemble cast of *My Name is Earl*, (clockwise, left to right) Ethan Suplee as Randy, Nadine Velazquez as Catalina, Eddie Steeples as Darnell, Jaime Pressly as Joy, Jason Lee as Earl, hang out on the "Crab Shack" set, which, at a closer look, resembles the interior of a popular Frostburg "pub."

A busy schedule for now, yes. But that's what you get when you carry the burden of saving an entire television genre.

Garcia jokes about his new "messiah" title. In a recent article in *Entertainment Weekly*, when he is asked about saving the sitcom, Garcia quipped, tongue firmly planted in cheek, "My friend calls me... and goes, 'They know you went to Frostburg State University, right?'"

Yes, everyone does, St. Greg. And your alma mater couldn't be prouder.

*My Name is Earl* is shown Tuesday at 9 p.m. on NBC. Check local listings.



NBC Universal

FSU alumnus Greg Garcia (Class of '92, third from right) joins the cast on a press tour of his new show *My Name is Earl*.

# classnotes

## 1962

**Ferman Jerry Helmstetter** wrote and published *The Adventures of "Big D."* He guarantees at least a grin if anyone reads it. The book is available from [rosedogbooks.com](http://rosedogbooks.com).

**Ronald L. Mann** has retired from Prince George's Community College as coordinator of athletics. Following his retirement, Ron will begin his new role as compliance officer at the College of Southern Maryland and continue to serve as secretary-treasurer of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

## 1963

**Gene Counihan** was honored with the Outstanding Leader Award from the 2005 class of Leadership Montgomery, where he was praised for his "learning and leadership." Gene worked in the Montgomery County School System for 29 years and has been an advocate for higher education. Gene serves as chair of the Montgomery College Board of Trustees.

**Mary Ellen Cunningham South** writes poetry that has been printed in both local and national publications. Last year, she and **Darleen VanRoon Miller** (Class of '62) had items published in the Alpha Xi Delta Alumnae Magazine, *The Quill*.

## 1964

**Ned G. Boehm** has been appointed to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Dr. Boehm has served as president of Key-



## Aloha, Frostburg?

When FSU band instructor **Noel Kunkle** and his wife **Susie** (Class of '66 and '65, respectively) vacationed in Kauai, Hawaii, this past winter, they thought they were leaving Frostburg behind. At a luau, the Kunkles introduced themselves to the strangers beside them and found out the man was **Scott Davis** (Class of '88). "You can't imagine the look on Susie's and my face. It is a small world and FSU is a big place," Kunkle jokes. Above, Kunkle (right) poses with Davis in Kauai.

stone College in LaPlume, Pa., since 1996. The 27-member commission plays an integral role in the peer review accreditation process in the middle states region.

**Gary W. Trail** is a missionary and evangelist with Gospel Trail ministries. He spent several weeks in October 2004 preaching in Bulgaria during a missions trip.

## 1966

**Irene C. Kuykendall** was the featured quilter at the 26th Annual Quilt Show of the Schoolhouse Quilter's Guild Inc.



## Special Delivery/Special Guest

At the annual crabfeast for the classes of the 1960s at the Westminster, Md., home of Dennis and Dawn Thomas (both Class of '65), Charlotte (Couzens) Jordan (Class of '62) jokingly received her "long lost" college transcript from Frostburg State — equipped with footprints and tattered edges. Also, Dr. Alice Manicur, longtime vice president of Student and Educational Services, made a surprise visit. This was Manicur's first visit to the annual party, which has been happening for the past 35 years. Pictured (left to right) are **Edward "Ned" Boehm** (Class of '64), **Colleen Peterson** (vice president for University Advancement), **Manicur**, **Jordan** and **Dennis Thomas**.

## 1967

**Johnita Jackson** was one of 20 winners in the *Washington Post* Educational Foundation's 22nd Annual Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Awards. She is a teacher at Lettie Marshal Dent Elementary School in St. Mary's County, Md.

## 1968

**Patrick Chorpennig** is Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano's policy advisor on military affairs and the director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services. The Vietnam veteran directs the operations of a statewide department of 298 employees and a budget of more than \$14 million.



## OH! Those Golden Grads...

FSU held its annual Golden Anniversary this past June with grads from the classes of 1955 and earlier. Those attending this year from 1955 included (bottom row, left to right): **Gladys Faherty**, **Barbara Henry**, **Margaret Goodwin**, **Nancy Robeson**, **Patsy Hannah**, **Phyllis Myers**, **Norma Fagan**, **Jane Bugg**, (middle row) **Rosemary Cain**, **Bruce Ambrose**, **James McGann**, (top row) **Ronald Ruffo**, **Beverly Roderick**, **Joanne Nickel**, **Mary Greise**, **Eleanor Hetrick**, **Benjamin Elkins**, **Francis Harris**, **George Habeeb** and **Ron Chapman**.

Press. Matthews is a writer, sports historian and director of athletics at Sage Ridge School in Reno, Nev.

## 1973

**Brenda Cooper Davidson** has been teaching for 23 years in Easton, Md., and is celebrating 30 years of marriage with husband, Jim. Their son, Bobby, is a first-year resident intern at the University of Maryland Medical School while daughter, Laurie, received her master's in criminal justice from University of Baltimore. Brenda proudly keeps in touch with her mentor teacher, Margaret Winner, in Mount Savage, Md.

## 1974

**James Antonio** has been appointed vice president for enrollment management at the University of New Haven.

**Stephen Douglas Pearl** is celebrating 31 years of teaching and 28 years with Frederick County Public Schools. He is currently employed at Crestwood Middle School in Frederick, Md.

## 1975

**Thomas A. Bender** has been named to the Board of Directors of the Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG). Tom is the director of information technology - North American Tire for Goodyear Tire Co.

## 1975

**Richard Titi** is a retired captain of the United States Navy and is currently working as a management analyst at the U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va. After his 2001 retirement,

**Roger E. Bruner** has recently published his first novel. Named after the old Bee Gees hit, *I Started a Joke* is a humorous love story about two middle-aged best friends who fear it would destroy their friendship to reveal their romantic feelings for one another. An excerpt is available at [www.rogerbruner.com](http://www.rogerbruner.com). "I feel deeply indebted to Dr. Warren Fleischauer for all I learned about writing in his Shakespeare class many years ago."

## 1972

**George R. Matthews** has written *America's First Olympics*, a corrective history of the often-misunderstood and wrongly maligned 1904 St. Louis Olympics, only the third games in modern history. The book is available in bookstores or directly from the University of Missouri



he briefly taught middle school math and continues to tutor on a part-time basis.

## 1978

**Diana Leigh Stephens Johnston** has opened her own agency after years working as a part-time travel agent. And much to her surprise, her first employee turned out to be FSU graduate, Lisa Fish Shockney (Class of '00).

## 1980

**Kevin Frederic Brooks** and **Cindi Brooks** (Class of '80) are celebrating 22 years of marriage with their two children, Eric (15) and Alie (12). Kevin has been with Xerox for the past six years, while Cindi has been with trade association, AdvaMed, for 15 years as a meeting planner.

## 1981

**Luray Zehrbach Greenwell** will celebrate 23 years of marriage to **John Greenwell** (also Class of '81). Their oldest son, John II, is a student at FSU majoring in criminal justice. Luray has been teaching art and publications at St. John's Prospect Hall in Frederick. John is on the board of directors at St. John's and will conclude his third term this summer. John works for Grunley construction in Rockville, Md., as the senior executive project manager. Luray and John have two other children, Nick (20) and Lyz (16).

**Joan Martz Knosp** will be retiring as assistant vice president from the Business Banking Division of Bank of Hawaii after 15 years. She will be taking on a new vocation as full-time mom to her two sons, Kevin and Lawrence.

**David C. Mahoney** is executive vice president for Jordan Kitts Music Inc., a piano and keyboard dealership. He recently celebrated his 10th wedding anniversary with wife Rosemarie and enjoys spending time with his children, Kathleen (6) and Kelly (3).

## 1983

**Lizabeth A. McDowell** was a speaker at the 19th annual Lahr Symposium at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., in March 2005. She presented a slide program entitled "Creating a Wildlife Garden in a Shrinking Forest."

## 1987

**William J. Garvey** was one of the candidates vying for the position of mayor in Wellsburg, W.Va. Bill has served several terms as a city councilman. He is the owner of an insurance agency in Wellsburg and recently joined the Brooke County United Way's board of directors.

## 1988

**Richard Joseph Hornig** is a franchise business manager for Snap-On Tools.

## 1989

**David Daniel Dunn** married Judith M. Conti on April 2, 2005. David is a sales manager for United Rentals, a construction-equipment rental company in Herndon, Va.

**Timothy Robert Nichols** is the director of Student Support Services at Potomac State College. He recently published *The Reunion*, a historical novel detailing the actions of the 12th Virginia Infantry in the Civil War. For details about his book, contact Tim at [www.timothynichols.com](http://www.timothynichols.com).

**Shelly Horton Niverth** was named winner of the Marian Greenblatt Fund Award and finalist for Teacher of the Year during the Champions for Children Awards Gala in April in Montgomery County, Md. Shelly teaches fourth grade at Viers Mill Elementary School.

## 1991

**Sheila Renee Colbert** was promoted to assistant principal at Herndon High School, Fairfax County Public Schools.

**Dannyl Matthew Moreland** married Jessica M. Parker on May 22, 2004, in Williamsport, Md. Dan is employed by the State of Maryland, Department of Human Resources in Hagerstown, Md.

**Brian Joseph Swift** was recently named director of property management at Armiger Management Co. in Ellicott City, Md.

## 1992

**Peter Emery D'Arcangelo** became superintendent of the Franklin Regional Schools after serving five years as the assistant superintendent of Somerset Area School District.

**Cynthia Brubaker MacDonald** was named partner in the law firm Webb, Burnett,

continued ►

# Pitching "Ringers" in Life

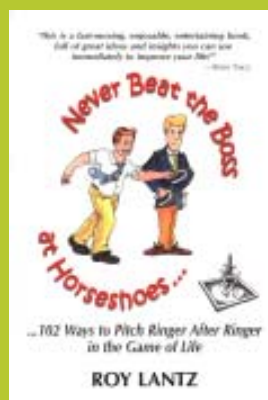
Alum's motivational book looks at the game of life (and horseshoes)



It was a company picnic where **Roy Lantz** (Class of '71) learned a valuable, life-changing lesson. After watching a bevy of his co-workers lose graciously to his boss in an innocent game of horseshoes, Lantz stepped up, pitched his best and publicly beat the "man in charge" in front of a group of potato salad-eating onlookers.

The next Friday, Lantz was fired. Coincidence? Lantz never knew for sure, but he did know he could use the unfortunate instance in a positive way. Lantz is now fulfilling a dream by being a full-time motivational speaker and author.

His latest book, appropriately titled *Never Beat the Boss at Horseshoes... 102 Ways to Pitch Ringer After Ringer in the Game of Life*, gives inspirational thoughts, QUOTE-avations (inspirational, motivational quotations) and life skills. The book is chock full of quotes from Aristotle to Mae West, with Lantz giving his unique, positive perspective on life when it falls into the "pits." (He even gives a shout out to his alma mater in a section on the value of education.)



Positive thinking is nothing new for Lantz who, in eighth grade, was voted the Optimist Club's "Boy of the Year." During his days at Frostburg, he admits to being the "go-to guy" for advice among his classmates. He served as sophomore class president (although a lack of motivation for schoolwork cut his term short) and was a founding father of Alpha Delta Chi fraternity. He also met his wife of 33 years, **Bonnie** (Class of '71), who works as a division manager for a large recycling company near the couple's Atlanta, Ga. home.

For the past decade, Lantz has visited every continent giving motivational talks and conducting his goal-setting seminar, *What Do You Want to be When You Grow Up?* And he practices what he preaches.

"It's important to write down one good thing about your day," he says, flipping through a bulging day planner, marked-up by notes in minuscule handwriting.

To find his own motivation, Lantz immerses himself (a minimum of 15 minutes each day) in the writings of fellow motivational speakers like Norman Vincent Peale (*The Power of Positive Thinking*), Dennis Kimbro (*What Makes the Great Great and Think and Grow Rich*) and Les Brown (*Live Your Dreams*).

His next project will be both inspirational and delectable — a motivational cookbook inspired by his wife's seafood recipes called *Life is Like a Crabcake... It's the Lumps that Make it Sweet*.

*Never Beat the Boss at Horseshoes...* is available online at [www.roylantz.com](http://www.roylantz.com) or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

— Ty DeMartino



## Real World of Business

Students from an FSU College of Business class taught by **Mike Monahan** (Class of '91, back row, center) visited alumni and toured three Virginia area businesses for an inside look into the real world of business. **Jessica Morgenstern**, (Class of '78), senior manager of business involvement at General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems, led the students through a morning tour of her company. Later that day, **Steve Gielda** (Class of '87, front row, far left), president of Advantage Performance Group, and **Bill Milligan** (Class of '78, front row, far right), chief financial officer of High Performance Technologies, Inc., hosted the students at their respective companies.

Cornbrooks, Wilber, Vorhis, Douse and Mason LLP in Salisbury, Md.

**Matthew Scott Walls** and Daphna Walls announce the birth of Carson Tyler, Feb. 8, 2005. Carson joins big sister, Madison Tierney, who was born in July 2003.

**Heather Shawn Crump** married Travis Eugene Werner on Sept. 27, 2003, in James Island, S.C. After earning a master's degree in Library Science at University of Maryland College Park, Heather is employed as a contract administrator at the Southeastern Library Network in Atlanta, Ga.

## 1993

**Barbara Ann Browning** is the technical services/reference librarian in the instructional affairs area at Allegany College of Maryland and was recently granted in-class advancement by the college board of trustees.

**Linda Wilson Kirkwood** and **Bruce Kirkwood** (Class of '93) are proud to announce the birth of Kendall Daisy Kirkwood.

**Sheri Lynn Graham** married **Frederick B. McKenzie** (Class of '97) on Sept. 27, 2003. Sheri is the director of finance for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Tyson's Corner, Va. Frederick is employed as an area manager for Enterprise Rent-A-Car in Baltimore. The couple resides in Elkridge, Md.

## 1994

**Julia Louise Sweitzer** has been listed in 2005 *Who's Who Among Teachers*. She presented a paper at EISTA 2004 (Proper Support Improves Online Student Success) which was selected Best Paper in Application of Educational Technologies session. She presented at the Society of Applied Teaching and Learning (SALT) in Arlington last August and was one of eight semi-

finalists for FACC Professor of the Year in 2004. Julia is looking forward to the League for Innovation in Community College's conference this year where she will be a presenter.

**Lori Beth House-DeFries** married Kenneth John Christo II on July 24, 2004, in Cresaptown, Md. Lori is employed with the Joseph D. Brandenburg Center as recreation supervisor.



Zachary Harold Emerson

**Lisa Ann Bradburn Emerson** and husband, **Jeremy** (Class of '95) announce the birth of their first child, Zachary Harold, on April 12, 2004. Jeremy is a computer technician and Lisa is a stay-at-home mom. The couple were married in December 1996.



Michael Owen and Carter Garrick Greene

**Rhonda Sue Shaffer Greene** and Rick Greene would like to announce the birth of their son, Carter Garrick Greene, born April 21, 2004. He and his big brother, Michael Owen, now 3, are having so much fun together.

**Russell David LeBlanc** has been a PE teacher for nine years at the high school level where he has also coached football, indoor track and lacrosse. He is currently at Cockeysville High

School teaching and coaching basketball and lacrosse. He and wife, Rena, live in Pennsylvania with their five children.

**Jennifer Elaine Ruppenkamp** married John W. Riley on Oct. 9, 2004, in Cumberland, Md. Jennifer is employed at CBIZ Insurance Services.

**Allison Jill Stein** and husband Rick Stein welcomed their second child, Adam Michael on July 7, 2004. Adam joins big brother, Andrew (4).

## 1995

**Shannon Marlene Gilbert** is living in Israel, and recently converted to Orthodox Judaism. After publicity in both Israeli and U.S. Jewish newspapers, Shannon was integral in breaking the bureaucratic block of converts to the Jewish faith by the Chief Rabbinate.



Kolton Edward Dombrowski

**Jennifer Michelle Meagher Dombrowski** and **Paul Dombrowski** (Class of '95) welcomed their second child, Kolton Edward, on March 10, 2005. Jennifer is teaching kindergarten while Paul teaches fifth grade. They reside in Colorado Springs, Col.

**Karin Anne Clark** and her husband, John Clark of White Marsh, Md., celebrated their son Dillon's first birthday on Dec. 22, 2004. Karin continues to work part-time for Merck & Co. as a pharmaceutical sales representative.



Nicholas Chester Littleton

**Jodie Ann Taylor** married **Sean Littleton** (Class of '94) on Dec. 16, 2000, in Frostburg. Sean works for world-famous guitar builder Paul Reed Smith Guitars. Jodie launched Word Up!, a freelance editorial business, in 2003 and fronts an acoustic pop band from time to time. Son Nicholas Chester Littleton arrived Nov. 6, 2003. They reside in Centreville, Md., on the Eastern Shore. Jodie says "hello" to anyone in the English Department who remembers her.

**Steven Michael Gill** has left his position at Chowan College as head coach to become full-time assistant football coach at Shenandoah University. He joins head football coach, **Paul Barnes** (former coach at FSU). Steve will serve as the defensive line coach as well as strength and conditioning coordinator.

## Upcoming FSU Alumni Events

Regents' Cup Game

FSU vs. Salisbury

Saturday, Nov. 12; 7 p.m.; Uitas Stadium, Towson University

Frostburg With Pride/Senior Send Off at FSU

Thursday, Dec. 15, 2005; 6 - 8 p.m.

Manicur Assembly Hall, Lane Center

Frostburg With Pride in Annapolis

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006; 6 p.m.

Miller Senate Office Bldg., Bladen St., Ste West 1, Annapolis, MD

Frostburg With Pride in Hagerstown

TBA - Spring 2006

mark your calendar!



# 1996

**Eva Sonia Kantorow Buckingham** announces the birth of son, Corey Blake on May 10, 2003. Eva is a CPA for Hertzbach and Co. in Owings Mills, Md.

# 1997

**Heather Marie Hanger Wilson** and Ron Wilson announce the arrival of Gracie Wilson on Feb. 16, 2005. Gracie joins big sisters Johanna (4) and Naomi (2). The family resides in Northern Virginia. Her husband, Ron, completed an internship at a church in Mississippi after finishing one seminary degree. He is working on a thesis for a second master's degree while employed in the D.C. area.



Mr. & Mrs. Nick Finamore Jr.

**Christine Ann Krell** eloped on June 9, 2004, to marry Nick Finamore Jr. The couple honeymooned in Bermuda. They celebrated their marriage with family and friends at a pig roast in September 2004 in Calvert County, Md. Christine says "hello" to all her sisters in Gamma Psi Chapter of Alpha Xi Delta!

# 1998

**Nicole Andrea Hendel** married Eric Thompson on April 16, 2005, in Lancaster, Pa. Nicole is employed as a Web developer with Sinclair Broadcast Group in Hunt Valley, Md. They reside in Baltimore, Md.

# 1999

**Jennifer DeWan Helmstetter** married Derek Philip Crippen on May 8, 2004, in Cumberland. Jennifer is employed as a critical care paramedic and interim shift captain in Orange County, Va. The couple resides in King George, Va.

**Khara Lynn Pence** received her Ph.D. in Education (Cognition, Development & Instruction) from the University of Delaware in January 2005.

continued ▶



The National Philharmonic, with Maestro Piotr Gajewski, on stage at the Music Center at Strathmore.

Jill Boethrich

## Music Grad Hits High Notes as President of National Philharmonic

**Kenneth Oldham Jr.** (Class of '98) is singing to a different yet appropriate tune as president of the National Philharmonic. Oldham graduated from Frostburg with a music management major, which combines both music and business.

Oldham has worked with the National Philharmonic since September 2002, when he was hired as the development manager then promoted to vice president of development, and most recently promoted to president. The National Philharmonic is the local resident orchestra at the new Music Center at Strathmore in Bethesda, Md., that opened in February 2005. With a budget of \$1.7 million, and 16 concerts at Strathmore in the 2005-06 Season, the Philharmonic is the largest free-lance orchestra in the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan area, and the third largest orchestra overall in the U.S.

Having grown up in Taneytown, (Carroll County) and attended a high school that was completely surrounded by cornfields, an internship at the Kennedy Center was Oldham first "big city" experience. While he worked with great people and learned an incredible amount, he was literally overwhelmed by all that was going on. "Orchestral music, jazz, opera, theatre, dance, and film in four theatres and several other stages. . . you name it, it's all there and under one roof," he states.

Oldham then worked in development positions with the Washington Chamber Symphony and fund-raising internship in the Grants and Sponsorships Department of the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts. "The experience at the Washington Chamber Symphony was extremely helpful, the organization's claim to fame was its educational programs including an international concerto competition (Viva Vivaldi!) based on the music of Antonio Vivaldi," Oldham says. Unfortunately, with growing expenses and its inability to adapt to the new fund-raising challenges post 9/11, the Washington Chamber Symphony ran into financial difficulties and, as a result, was forced to close its doors.

While working as president at the National Philharmonic, Oldham has a major responsibility that he says, "can be summed up in three words: overall financial accountability." The business of running a symphony orchestra is a complex task. Ticket sales alone never make up the expense of producing a symphonic concert and account for only one-third of the overall program expenditure. The remaining dollars must be developed through financial contributions.

An average day for Oldham as president would be engaging in substantive conversations with board members, aligning staff to meet the objectives of the strategic business plan, maintaining and improving relations with Strathmore and other partners and sharing ideas with Philharmonic donors.

Reflecting on his time at FSU and how it prepared him for his current role, he comments, "A music degree, if approached with enthusiasm, is a gateway to learning how to learn (anyone that has spent hours on end trying to master the perfect trill — one that can be executed with accuracy 100 percent of the time — will confirm this), and establishes a work ethic that can be transferred to any career path."

— John Wilson

close-up

# reunionsgalore!

## New Spring Fest/Reunion Weekend

Be one of the first classes to celebrate during FSU's first annual Spring Fest/Reunion Weekend -- reserved for the classes of 2005, 2001, 1996, 1991 and 1986.

May 5-7 marks the weekend of Spring Fest at FSU where a multitude of activities are already being planned for a campus-wide day of fun and excitement.

What a great opportunity to have your reunion on this weekend.

Help us plan something great for your class!

## Silver Anniversary Reunions

The Golden Anniversary has been historically celebrating the 50th year reunion the first weekend of June each year.

This is the inaugural year of adding the **Silver Anniversary** for the class of 1981. Classes of 1956 and 1981, your festivities will begin on **Friday, June 2**, and culminate on **Saturday, June 3**.

## Counting by "5s"

Don't miss it, join in the planning!

Frostburg State alumni of '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96...

2006 is your reunion year!

For more information, call 301/687-4068.

## Classes of '61, '71, '76

The classes of 1961, 1971 and 1976 will come together to celebrate their days at FSU during a special reunion weekend devoted to the '60s and '70s.

The dates are **July 14-16, 2006**. Call 301/687-4068 today to volunteer!

## Class of '66 Reunion

Sept. 15-17, 2006

## How Can You Help?

These dates have been reserved, but we need you. Grab your address book and contact some of your college friends. It's time to start planning. A reunion can only happen with your help. Once you have three or more volunteers, please call the Office of Alumni Programs at 301/687-4068 or email [alumni@frostburg.edu](mailto:alumni@frostburg.edu). Effective reunions require 6-8 months of planning. Don't miss out on this special reunion year -- call us today. **We are waiting to hear from you!**



## High Kicks

A group of FSU alumni from the Colorado area got together this past December to see a special holiday show with the New York City Rockettes. From left to right, **Chris George** (Class of '93), **Jim Schmitt** (Class of '93), **Connie Bellace** (Class of '93), **Andy Schuler** (Class of '94) and his wife, Karen.

**Jennifer Elizabeth Adkins Voorhaar** received her Master of Arts in Social Work in May 2003. Jennifer married Ben Voorhaar, a police officer, on Nov. 27, 2004. She is employed as a social worker.

**George William Winters** married Elizabeth Jorin Miller on Sept. 18, 2004. George is employed with Resources for Independence of Virginia as Director of Operations. The couple resides in Herndon, Va.

## 2000

**Stefanie Rebecca Hohing** married Steven Ray Boggs on June 12, 2004, in Cumberland, Md. Stefanie is employed at Frostburg State University. They reside in Cumberland, Md.

**Eric Marshall Jewell** assisted with sets for the production of "Twelve Dancing Princes" at Belmont Ridge Middle School in Ashburn, Va. The production was a 15-year anniversary production for VSAarts (Loudoun County, Va.)

**Heidi Lynne Stroker** married Gregory Louis Maciulla on Oct. 16, 2004, in Hagerstown, Md. Heidi is an eighth-grade teacher with Washington County Public Schools.

**Tara Lynn Highland** married Kyle McInturff on Oct. 25, 2003, in Cumberland, Md. Tara is currently employed as marketing assistant at Apple Blossom Mall in Winchester, Va. The couple resides in Leesburg, Va.

**Susan Deborah Hershman** married Charles "Pete" Strawser III on June 19, 2004. Susan is the operations coordinator for Enterprise Rent-A-Car. They reside in Germantown with their son, Chase.

**Lori Ann Cannon** is celebrating the 10th anniversary of her dance studio, Lori's Dance Reflections. Lori has 190 students between the ages of 3 and 18 attending her studio in Keyser, W.Va.

## 2001

**Debra Jean Nixon** married John M. Baker on May 15, 2004, in Frostburg. Debra is employed as the admissions director at Devlin Manor Health Care Center. They reside in Cumberland.

**Todd James McCarty** married Amy E. Douglass on Oct. 16, 2004, in Hagerstown. Todd is employed as a physical education teacher with Washington County Public Schools at South Hagerstown High. They reside in Hancock, Md.

**Leslie Jo Buckel** married **Brian B. Stevens** (Class of '01) on July 18, 2004. She is employed as a first-grade teacher in Lusby, Md. Brian is employed as a buyer/category manager for Boater's World corporate office in Beltsville, Md. They reside in North Beach.



Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Mock

**Pamela Renee Entwistle** married **Jeffrey Mock** (Class of '01) on Nov. 6, 2001, in Annapolis, Md. Pamela currently works for Greenhorne and O'Mara as a Senior GIS Specialist. Jeffrey works for the National GeoSpatial Intelligence Agency as an Imagery Analyst.

## 2002

**Jairid Ryan Mowen** married Jamie L. Kriner on Oct. 23, 2004 in Clear Spring, Md. Jairid is employed as a quality adviser at Mack Trucks. They reside in Hagerstown.

**Holli Ann Lancaster** married **Nicholas T. Hadley** (Class of '02) on Nov. 1, 2003, in Westernport, Md. Both are employed at CBIZ Insurance Services. The couple resides in Lonaconing, Md.

**Stacy Lynn Turner** married **Ernest Christopher Brumage** (Class of '02) on Dec. 21, 2003, in LaVale, Md. They reside in Laurel, Md.



Emilia and Peyton Porter

**Jennifer Jean Fazenbaker** married Urban Wayne Porter on April 19, 2003. Wayne is employed with Allegany Computer Services in Frostburg, while Jennifer is a stay-at-home mom to Peyton (3) and Emilia (6 months).

**Michelle Lynn Ingrodi** was recently employed by VARGIS, an Infotech Enterprises Company, as a photogrammetrist. VARGIS is one of several businesses now located on FSU's campus in Tawes Hall, which has been designated a business incubator (see story on page 8).

## 2003

**Leann Marie Grossnickle** married **Darrel Harrison Buchanan** (Class of '01) on July 31, 2004, in Frederick, Md. Leann is employed as a



teacher with Frederick County Public Schools. Darrel is employed as an HVAC maintenance technician with Frederick County government. They reside in Hagerstown, Md.

**Natalie Marie Mills** married **Jeffrey L. Ingram Jr.** (Class of '03) on June 5, 2004, in Hagerstown. Natalie is employed as a senior administrative specialist with Information Network Systems in Fort Detrick, Md., while Jeffrey is a grants specialist with Engineering System Solutions in Frederick, Md. They reside in Waynesboro, Pa.



Mr. & Mrs. Armand Walters

**Malikah Harrison** married **Armand D. Walters** on May 29, 2004. Malikah is working on a Master of Education at Towson University while em-

ployed as a kindergarten teacher. The couple resides in Harford County.

**Tara Marie Bascelli** married **Jeremy D. Strother** (Class of '03) on July 10, 2004, in LaVale, Md. Tara is employed at Allegheny Power in Cumberland, while Jeremy is employed at Calvary Christian Academy and the Riverside YMCA.

**Holly N. Aleshire** married **Matthew W. Patrey** on Nov. 27, 2004, in Hagerstown. Holly is employed as a teacher with Brook Lane Health Services.

**Raymond Alan Kiddy** is the assistant principal at Allegany High School in Cumberland, Md. He recently earned his doctorate in applied sports psychology from Columbia University.

## 2004

**Heidi J. Frazee** married **Matthew L. Fletcher** (Class of '02) on July 31, 2004. Heidi is pursuing a doctorate in chemistry at Rensselaer Polytechnic University in Troy, N.Y. Matthew is employed by Essex Corp. as a GIS analyst at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The couple reside in Kingston, N.Y.

**Sheri L. MacGray** married **Brian Orndorff** (Class of '03) on July 17, 2004, in Cumberland, Md. Sheri is employed with Washington County Schools as a mathematics teacher at E. Russell

continued ►

# got frostburg?

## Join the Alumni Business Group

On May 24 in Bethesda, an overwhelmingly powerful group of business executives came together, bonded by at least one common trait — they were all Frostburg graduates. The caliber of this group was amazing. Presidents networked with sales executives, consultants mingled with finance executives and entrepreneurs chatted with recruiters. The dynamic of the event was business-oriented and fast-paced. Frostburg alumni came together and helped each other with business leads, marketing collaboration and job search assistance.

A grass roots effort has taken shape to further our presence in the business community. This effort is driven by previously unconnected alumni who are galvanized in their effort to leverage the FSU experience in a positive way in the business community.

For more information and to register to be part of this exciting emerging community, please visit the new Web site at [www.gotfrostburg.com](http://www.gotfrostburg.com). As you look at your business network ask yourself... Got Frostburg?

## Graduate Chosen for Donald Trump's "The Apprentice"

### FSU's James Dillon "Hand-Picked" by Trump

A Rhodes Scholar, NFL player and a Frostburg State University graduate are among Donald Trump's "hand-picked" cast of 18 young entrepreneurs on the fourth season of NBC's *The Apprentice*, which began airing on Sept. 22, at 9 p.m. ET/PT.

"For the first time, I hand-picked an Apprentice cast and I'm thrilled with the results," said Trump, executive producer. "This is the best reality show cast I've ever encountered. They have it all: beauty, brains, and big bucks."

Among those selected by "The Donald" is **James Dillon** (Class of '00), a 27-year-old sales executive from Alexandria, Va., and a cum laude graduate of FSU with a B.S. in business administration.

According to his official NBC bio, Dillon is in the top 3 percent of sales for Cingular Wireless and is a Cingular Summit award winner. He recently started a real estate investment firm, J.S. DILLON, with his wife Shawna, and they currently own properties in Alexandria, Va., Washington, D.C., and Chicago.

At FSU, Dillon was also vice president of Sigma Beta Delta (honorary business society) and a four-year baseball letterman/captain. Upon graduation, he earned his second diploma in broadcasting and interned at *The John Thompson Show* and *The Sports Reporters* on SportsTalk980. He was dubbed "Gentleman Jim" while interning on Z104's, *The Bush League Morning Show*. This experience led him to a position as a roaming reporter, production assistant and weekend sportscaster at WHSV TV3 in Harrisonburg, Va.

Ranging in age from 22-41, these candidates boast degrees from Oxford, Wharton, MIT and Georgetown and several of the candidates are already millionaires, according to an NBC news release. A wide range of applicants will greet Trump in the boardroom each week, including an NFL player-turned ad sales executive, an inventor, a salon and spa chain owner, a risk manager and FSU's Dillon, a financial journalist.

Look for more details on Dillon's TV appearance in the next issue of *Profile* to find out if he hears those Trump words "You're fired!" or "You're hired!"

FSU's James Dillon (front row, third from the right) has joined a special cast hand-picked by Donald Trump in this season's *The Apprentice*.



close-up



**James Dillon** (Class of '00) is hitting the TV boardroom as part of the cast of NBC's *The Apprentice*.

NBC Universal

NBC Universal

Hicks Middle School. Brian is also employed in Washington County as a second-grade teacher at Winter Street Elementary.

**Kathleen Elizabeth Stewart** is one of 248 AmeriCorps members chosen to serve at the Central Region campus in Denver as part of the National Civilian Community Corps, an AmeriCorps program. Kathleen was required to complete 1,700 hours of service.

**Guy Djoken** is founder and executive director of the recently opened Center for Peace in Frederick, Md. The nation's first, the center promotes the ideas of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). He is also president of the Frederick County NAACP.

## 2005

**Melanie J. Spears** was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from Studio Art Centers International to study in Florence, Italy, as part of SACI's Post-Baccalaureate program.

### No Class Year — Non-Degree Alumni

**Heather Ann Brecka Binnix** and her twin sister, Tricia, were recipients of the Parade of Champions award from Arbonne, a Swiss skin-care company, for their work as independent consultants. The award is presented to the company's top 20 sellers; Binnix ranked 15th.

**Elizabeth Grace Stangarone** transferred to Marymount University in January 1997, where she graduated with a BA in Psychology. In 2001, Beth was accepted to the Leadership Institute of Seattle, Wash., and graduated in 2003 with an MA in Applied Behavioral Science. She had a private practice on Whidbey Island (Wash.) before accepting a position as a therapist and family treatment coordinator at Timber Ridge Preparatory School for Girls in Clark Fork, Idaho. Beth is the proud mom of Hannah Grace (7) and Catherine Patricia (3).

**Carl Wright** is an award-winning sculptor and recently exhibited in his first group sculpture show at the Fine Art & Artists Gallery in Georgetown. Carl is also a sculptor of stone for residential and commercial clients.

### In Memoriam

**1929 Thelma Kyle Byers**  
Jan. 18, 2005

**1930 Hannah Louise Green**  
April 20, 2005

**1931 Ann A. Dilgard**  
Feb. 2, 2005

**Mildred VanHorn**  
Oct. 2, 2004

**1941 Walter N. Hedrick** (see story)  
July 18, 2005

**1945 Elizabeth M. "Betty" Roik**  
Feb. 2, 2005

**1952 Harold L. Scott**  
May 8, 2005

**1954 Alan C. Sweitzer**  
July 23, 2005

**1956 Joan Filer Sonner**  
Dec. 31, 2004

**Charles Andrew Thompson**  
Feb. 4, 2005

**1959 Robert E. Wilson**  
Feb. 23, 2005

**1961 Helen A. Herboldsheimer**  
June 19, 2005

**K. Eugene Kidwell**  
Jan. 24, 2005

**1963 Thomas W. Carter**  
Nov. 25, 2004

**1963 Edward Eugene Eagan**  
March 10, 2005

**1964 Alleene Mae Hoopengardner**  
May 11, 2005

**Donna L. Williams Komatz**  
July 18, 2005

**1965 Paul R. Farris**  
Dec. 7, 2004

**1969 Aden C. Miller**  
April 22, 2005

**1978 Darlene Dawson McCullough**  
May 11, 2005

**1988 Mary Sandra Boyd**  
June 12, 2005

**Steven M. Teets**  
Dec. 4, 2004

**1990 Christopher Scott Crowder**  
Nov. 6, 2003

**1991 Christopher Lynn Durben**  
April 2, 2005

**1993 Linda M. Armentrout**  
July 30, 2005

**Non-Degree Alumni/Friends/Faculty**  
**Delbert Clark**  
Dec. 25, 2004

**Evelyn H. Shaw**  
Nov. 25, 2004

**Margaret G. Sleeman**  
June 15, 2005

**Dr. Eugene T. DeLuca** (see story)  
Professor  
July 13, 2005

**Dr. Walter Rissler**  
Professor  
July, 2005

## Grad and Beloved Friend Walter Hedrick Dies

**Walter N. Hedrick** (Class of '41), recipient of both the FSU Pinnacle Award and the Alumni Achievement Award, passed away at his Kansas City home on July 18. He was 89.

The Pinnacle Award is an honor bestowed by the FSU Foundation, Inc., for time, treasures and talent contributed to the University. The Alumni Achievement Award is the highest honor bestowed by the FSU Alumni Association.



Walter Hedrick '41

Through his generous contributions to the FSU Foundation, Hedrick established the Hedrick Teacher Excellence Award for Math/Science and the Hedrick Business Excellence Award for financially disadvantaged students. In his community, Hedrick served as president of the LaVale Civic Improvement Association and a member of the Sikeston, Mo., Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club. He devoted much of his spare time to helping the Boy Scouts of America, where he received the Silver Beaver Award for distinguished service.

Hedrick was founder of the Hedrick Concrete Products and Landscape Corp. in Sikeston, Mo., a company of 165 employees and over \$15 million in sales.

He was predeceased by his wife, **Lois Williams Hedrick** (Class of '39). He is survived by two daughters, Suzanne Hedrick and Janet Hunter; a son, Thomas Hedrick; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

— LDM

## Noted Professor Succumbs

**Dr. Eugene DeLuca**, who established FSU's Recreation and Parks Management program in 1977 and directed it until his retirement, died on July 13 after living with Parkinson's disease for many years. DeLuca had been living in Owings Mills for the past several years near two of his children. He was 74.

According to Susan Eisel, who worked with him throughout his Frostburg career, DeLuca was hired to create Frostburg's recreation program, and he built the foundation to what today is the state's premier program.

"To get it started, he had to write the curriculum, get it approved by [faculty] senate and then downstate," Eisel said. "He was the only faculty member, so he had to write a syllabus for each course."

"Even to the day he retired, he still received high marks from his students on evaluations," said his son, Paul DeLuca. "He was an institution around the physical education building then."

Eisel said he contacted agencies all over the country to find the ones willing to take interns. The process he created to find quality internships for his students is still the same today.

"Gene was the foundation of all that," Eisel said.

In addition to running the recreation program, DeLuca kept the intramural program going, including running the PE center's snack bar to raise money, his son said.

DeLuca fought the effects of Parkinson's Disease as long as he could, Eisel said. "He really had a good program going until his health required him to stop."

"He was very gentle spirit, a quiet man with a very dry sense of humor," Eisel said. "He worked diligently his entire career."

Even though DeLuca remained very involved in the activities of his five children, he still spent significant time traveling each summer to visit students



Dr. Eugene DeLuca

continued ▶



He is survived by his wife of 50 years, the former Aurora Viola “Woody” DeLuca; five children, Karen Senesi, Gail Mouse, Tom DeLuca, Paul DeLuca and Patricia DeLuca; and 10 grandchildren.

# HallSTARS! Alumni Chapter Forming

The HallSTARS! Alumni Chapter is a student-led organization that provides meaningful volunteer and service-learning opportunities for all graduates of the HallSTARS! volunteer and national service program. Partnered with the FSU Alumni Association and the Student Center for Volunteerism, this new group will provide service projects including the Help the Homeless Walk held in Washington, D.C., C&O Canal Clean-up and the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk.



A group of four people are standing next to a red Chevrolet Equinox SUV in a showroom. From left to right: a man in a white shirt and tie, a woman in a floral dress, a man in a red polo shirt, and a man in a dark polo shirt. The car is parked on a light-colored floor in front of large windows with white blinds.

## Car Raffle to Support FSU

classnotesclipper



\*sniff!\* \*SOb!\* \*gasp!\*  
"you never write me!"

News and photos should be addressed to: *Profile*, 228 Hitchins, Frostburg State University, 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532-2303. You can e-mail to [alumni@frostburg.edu](mailto:alumni@frostburg.edu) or FAX us at 301/687-4069. You can also send us your info via our Web site: [www.frostburg.edu/](http://www.frostburg.edu/) (click on "Alumni").

## Susan Eisel Retires, Leaving a Rich Legacy

(And So Many Memories...)

By Noah Becker

Think of the Frostburg State University Health and Physical Education Department and the first thing that comes to mind is **Susan Eisel**. For two generations, Eisel has been a constant in the PE office after becoming the secretary in September of 1966. She retired at the end of the 2005 spring semester after 38 years and nine months of service. To many, she was more than just a secretary, she was a confidant, resource and a friend. To all who knew her well, they will carry forever the memories and good times she shared with them.

After taking the job at the young age of 17, Eisel started her career among athletes, which was a natural progression. She began to develop lifelong friendships that have left memories and stories that everyone can enjoy.

"I was brought up around sports for my entire life," laughs Eisel. "I was dragged to every game and my parents even started the baseball little league in Frostburg. I love sports and working with athletics and physical education was the ideal job."

She was originally assigned to Compton Hall as secretary for the Department of Health and Physical Education/Athletics, Music and Speech and Theatre. Working for all three, she made travel and meal arrangements for all sports, handled insurance and eligibility and also dealt with equipment and recruiting.

"My office was so small I used to tell people they had to step outside just to breathe," says Eisel, who was no stranger to practical jokes. "One of



Eisel visited spring training in Florida when FSU graduate Jim Rigglesman (right, Class of '74) coached for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

my favorite times in that office was when a football player by the name of Neil Callahan tied me in my chair. When the phone rang, he would answer the phone and tell them I was all tied up. We just laughed and laughed."

### Susan's Most Memorable Moments

For anyone who knows Susan Eisel, they know she is a memory maker! *Profile* asked Eisel to share some of her favorite memories from her tenure at Frostburg State. While they are numerous (too many to list here), here are some of her memorable moments:



Susan Eisel

#### Christmas Spirit

"One of my fondest memories is of a young man named Henry Were who came to Frostburg State from Kenya to get his master's. He arrived in the middle of January wearing a summer suit. Over time, we started talking and became good friends. At Christmas time, I took him past a house with a Christmas display, and we later went to a Christmas program at a church in Cumberland. I even took him to get his picture taken with Santa. At the end of the night, he turned to me and said he couldn't thank me enough for the evening. He said I not only shared the religious part of the holiday with him, but I showed him the fantasy as well."

"When he later graduated from Frostburg, I couldn't say goodbye to him because we were so close. However, I promised him I would see him again."

A few years later, his wife came to Frostburg State and earned her master's degree.

#### Thanksgiving Blitz

*During Thanksgiving in the mid-70s, Frostburg was hit with a huge snow storm. The college was closed for one week and the town's power was knocked out. Eight students who had already returned to Frostburg from the break moved in with Eisel because they had no way of preparing food and heating their homes.*

"I was able to cook and heat my house because I had a natural gas stove and heater. It's funny because we used the snow to keep the food cold. I remember making pots and pots of spaghetti so we could all eat and it was simple to make. After dinner, we would all go down to the Coral Reef to drink warm beer since there was no power. It was a fun week even though it happened in those circumstances."

#### NFL Debut

"Bobby Maddux was a good friend with my family and he was at my parents' house on a regular basis. As





Eisel remembers the Homecomings of the early '90s and "the eventful" tailgating in the PE parking lots.

secretary on the board of directors for the FSU Bobcat Club. She also became the chairperson of not only the Bobcat Club Hall of Fame Selection Committee, but the annual Bobcat Club Hall of Fame Dinner and Induction Ceremony. She carried each of the roles until 2000.

continued ►

In 1977, the Harold J. Cordts Physical Education Center was built to house all athletics and physical education offices.

"I was so excited to move over to the new building because I got a larger office," says Eisel. "It was just heaven."

Later in '77, she decided to drop the Athletic, Music and Speech and Theatre parts of her job and concentrate fully on the newly expanded Health and Physical Education Department.

"I chose to stay with HPE because I loved working with the international students. I was able to help impact lives, as well as make friendships that

will last me a lifetime."

In the early '80s, when Frostburg welcomed visiting teams that traveled from overseas to play in Frostburg, Eisel hosted three men's soccer teams from England and a Czech Republic basketball team. When the head coach left the Czech team and took a head coaching job in Finland, he brought his new team back to Frostburg because of the wonderful experience.

"For years I got letters from the Finland basketball players telling me what a wonderful time they had," says Eisel.

Starting in 1984, Eisel became a member and



Eisel was the 125th inductee into the Bobcat Hall of Fame. Here, former baseball coach Bob Wells presents Eisel with the award.

everyone may not know, Bobby was an excellent football player at Frostburg State and was an NFL draft prospect. My mother asked him what he wanted for a gift if he were to get drafted. Bobby replied that he wanted white cleats because most players wore black cleats in those days. So my family came through with white cleats for him. He was later drafted by the Cincinnati Bengals and I traveled to Baltimore to watch him play his first-ever pro game. He wore the white shoes the whole game and I was just so excited for him. It was my first NFL game and I will always remember watching Bobby running around in his white shoes."

## Harold Cordts, Former Chair of HPER

"Dr. Cordts was and still is an inspiration to me and so many others that knew him. When I was inducted into the Hall of Fame, I dedicated it to him. Not only was he my boss, but a very good friend. Not too many people have the same boss for 29 years, but I was extremely fortunate to have been able to work with him for so

long. He gave me the freedom to be active in so many other campus activities. I'm afraid if I had another boss, I wouldn't have been able to accomplish all that I did.

"In 1995, some of the people who were close to Dr. Cordts, planned a surprise retirement dinner for him. He was totally surprised and had no idea anything was going to happen. Not only was dinner a great time, but those involved had a blast planning it as well."



Dr. Harold Cordts

## Kenyan Student

"I had arranged for a graduate student to pick up Felix Kamunge, an incoming graduate student, at the Baltimore airport. However, Felix's flight was late and the graduate student in charge of picking him up, waited for three hours before returning to Frostburg State.

Kamunge would later meet up with a taxi cab driver who was a fellow Kenyan. Felix convinced the man to drive him to Frostburg. Upon his arrival, I received a call at 3 a.m. Unaware of what was going on, Felix paid \$198 for the cab trip. I felt so bad about the mix up and confusion that I called the airline the very next morning and got his money returned. Felix and I remained friends through his stay at Frostburg even though we had a mix-up at the beginning."

## Fraternity

"In 1972, some of the male athletes decided they would form a fraternity called Kappa Zeta Chi. I helped them write their charter and bylaws and it was an interesting experience. In 2002, the guys had their 30-year reunion and I got to see some of them for the first time since they graduated. It was an exciting time."

"We started the Hall of Fame at an old tavern on the corner of Main Street and Grant Street called the Coral Reef," says Eisel. "All the portraits were hanging there because we didn't have anywhere else to put them. When the Cordts Center was built, we moved them into the hallway outside the gym, where they are today."

The Lillian M. Wellner Distinguished Scholar Program started in 1985. Wellner worked in the registrar's office at FSU for years and left a scholarship endowment to the Physical Education Department when she retired. Eisel assisted in the organization and presentation of the award as well as coordinated travel arrangements and helped bring in guest speakers to the annual dinner presentation.

In the early 90s, Eisel was a member of President Gira's Cabinet that was formed to discuss issues dealing with FSU. During that same time frame, Eisel was the first representative for FSU on the first University of Maryland Systems Council of University System Staff (CUSS). She also organized the FSU Staff Senate and served as senator from 1993-97.

Eisel became a member of the Faculty/Staff Campaign Committee for the FSU Second Century Campaign in 1996. She helped raise funds for scholarships and new equipment.



Eisel (center) took part in many day trips with the many international students who studied with the HPER Department. Here, the group enjoys the sights at Ohiopyle State Park in Pennsylvania.

However, one of her fondest memories was at the very end of her tenure. In the late spring of 2005, she and her colleagues gathered at Giuseppe's for her goodbye dinner and reflection. Much to her surprise, she was presented with a Frostburg State class ring, engraved with the year she started, 1966, and her final year, 2005. In the middle of the ring, a diamond sparkles thanking her for her wonderful service and memorable years at FSU.

"I was ecstatic when I saw it," says Eisel. "I will forever wear it with pride."

Even though she retired and her career is over, she has volunteered to come back and help out in different capacities. So even though she has left her position, she still has trouble walking away from the place that shaped her life and impacted so many others.

## Final Goodbye

In saying goodbye, Eisel received numerous letters thanking her for the time and energy she spent helping others. Here are just a few things that people have said that touched her heart.

- "Without your help many of us from the time period of the early to mid 1970s wouldn't have made it through. You were the BEST department secretary anyone could have had."
- "Trying to imagine you gone from the university is impossible. You have been such an important part of FSU and your keen ability to keep people in touch with the university and with each other is remarkable. There will NEVER be another Susan Eisel. No one will ever be able to fill your shoes. There is an emptiness in my heart today."
- "In everyone's life, there are always special people who help us become who we are. You were special to all of us."
- "She always made sure someone had a place to go on the holidays and treated everyone like they were family. My life has certainly been enriched for having met you, Susan."



## Grad Heads Up Real Salt Lake Soccer Team

**John Ellinger** (Class of '73) is now the first head coach for Major League Soccer's Real Salt Lake City expansion club.

A 12-year veteran of the U.S. Soccer National Coaching Staff, Ellinger was the head of the Under-17 Men's National Team for seven years and added duties as U.S. Soccer's Director of Youth Development in 2001. He led the National "B" Team and served as Region I (East) Under-14 National Coordinator. He also served as former assistant coach of MLS' Columbus Crew in the League's inaugural season in 1996.

Ellinger has been praised for his qualities as "a developer of young talent" and "experience and success with the U-17s." A native of Laurel, Md., Ellinger is considered one of the most successful coaches of the U.S. Men's National Teams program history, leading his squad to a fourth place finish in the 1999 FIFA U-17 World Championships, achieving the best finish at an U-17 World Championship in the 21-year history of the U.S. program. He led his team to a 15-month, 25-match unbeaten streak — the longest in the history of any U.S. Soccer Men's National Team program.

Additionally, while molding the U.S. U-17's in the 1990s, his teams earned the best mark of all U.S. programs with a .723 winning percentage and 30-8-9 record over that 10-year period. While alongside Head Coach Clive Charles, Ellinger helped guide the U.S. Under-23s to a berth in the Olympic semifinals for the first time in U.S. Soccer history, as well as capture the Bronze medal at the Pan Am Games in 1999.

Ellinger began his coaching career as head coach at Montgomery College in 1979, leading his squad to a No. 5 ranking in 1980, before moving on to a nine-year stint at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County from 1981 to 1990. He and his wife, Tami, have three children, daughters Leigh and Brooke, and son Matt.

(From MSLnet.com)



# sports

## Winter/Spring Recaps

### Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team had an up-and-down season finishing 14-12 overall and 9-9 in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference. After starting 0-2, the Bobcats caught fire, capturing 13 of their next 17 contests, including wins over eventual AMCC Tournament champion Penn State Behrend (61-59) and regular-season champion Pitt-Greensburg (85-80). However, FSU dropped five out of its last six regular-season games and entered the AMCC Tournament as the No. 6 seed. The Bobcats' season would come to end with a tough 85-67 loss to No. 3 Lake Erie in the first round. Junior forward/center Dan Ryley earned post-season honors as he was selected to the All-AMCC second team.

### Women's Basketball

FSU began the year as the pre-season favorite to capture the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference championship and the Bobcats lived up to the hype, winning both the conference regular-season and tournament titles. Frostburg State, which finished 21-7 overall and 16-2 in the AMCC, started conference action a perfect 15-0 before dropping a 71-61 decision to league newcomer Medaille. FSU rebounded with a win over Hilbert (100-52) but dropped its final regular-season game to Pitt-Greensburg (95-93 OT).

After capturing the regular-season title, Frostburg State earned the No. 1 seed and a first-round bye in the AMCC Tournament. In the semifinals, the Bobcats defeated Penn State Behrend 63-53, and won the tournament title by downing Pitt-Greensburg 81-62 in the championship. With the win, FSU earned the league's first-ever automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The Bobcats would eventually lose to McDaniel, 71-64, in the first round.

Senior Tracey Little earned AMCC Co-Player of the Year honors while garnering a first-team selection for the third straight season and sophomore Tracie George was a second-team honoree. Little was also named to the 2005 NCAA Division III Kodak/Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-America Honorable-Mention Team, the *D3hoops.com* All-Atlantic Region First Team and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Division All-Star First Team. Little became just the third athlete in Frost-

burg State history to earn All-American honors when she was chosen to the 2005 *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America® Women's Basketball (College Division) Third Team.

### Men's Swimming

The men's team battled through a rough 0-4 start before winning its first meet of the season with a 97-28 victory over Gallaudet. However, FSU suffered two more losses before rebounding to down Hood 130-17. The Bobcats then dropped a hard-fought meet to Bethany 111-107. In the final meet of the regular season, Frostburg State beat Penn State Behrend 122-104. The men capped the year with a sixth-place showing at the Grove City Invitational, while junior Chris Williams set a school record in the 50-yard freestyle with a time 21.44. He also competed at ECAC Championships in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle as well as the 100-yard butterfly.

### Women's Swimming

The women opened the season with an impressive 112-92 win over Division II Salem International but would drop their next three meets before collecting their second win of the season with a 110-89 victory over Gallaudet. After losses to Savannah Art & Design and Randolph Macon, the women battled to a close 104-95 win over Hood. The Bobcats then crushed Bethany 137-58 for their second straight victory heading into the last meet of the season against Penn State Behrend. Unfortunately, FSU fell to the Lions 110-103 but rebounded to finish the season seventh at the Grove City Invitational.

### Indoor Track & Field Men

The men capped a solid season with a fourth-place finish at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships. Senior Brian Bonn was FSU's top finisher, placing second in the 800-meter run in 1:57.47. The Bobcats also had three third-place finishes—sophomore Andy Watson in the 1,500-meter run (4:04.43); freshman Curt Ruble in the 5,000-meter run (16:06.39); and freshman Adam Jones in the shot put (45-10.5). The 4x400-meter relay team of Trevor Albro, Travon Morgan, Ryan Abe and Bonn finished second in 3:29.64, while



Tracey Little finished her career ranked fourth on the FSU all-time scoring list (1,650) and fifth on the rebounding chart (933).

the distance medley relay team of sophomore Lee McCloskey, freshman Zach Gaudette, freshman Chris Negley and sophomore Thomas Clerkley was third in 11:26.18.

At the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships, Bonn again led the way for the Bobcats, finishing sixth in the 800-meter run in 1:57.86 and garnering all three team points for the men.

### Women

The Bobcats posted a strong finish with a runner-up showing at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships. Sophomore Bonnie Axman was FSU's lone champion on the women's side, capturing the 5,000-meter run with a time of 18:31.35. Junior Chelsea Lewis posted second-place finishes in both the 55- and 200-meter dashes with times of 7.46 and 26.89, respectively.

continued ►

In the 400-meter dash, sophomore Adrienne Raiford finished second (1:02.03), freshman Jess Clingan placed third (1:02.93) and senior Lynnea Finch took fourth (1:03.80). Clingan was also third in the 55-meter hurdles with a time of 8.81. In the field events, junior Jenn Waskiewicz landed in third in the weight throw (42-4.25) while freshman Bekah Rauch placed third in the pole vault with a height of 9-0. At the ECAC Championships, Clingan had the highest finish for the women placing seventh in the 500-meter dash in 1:21.89.

## Baseball

After a 7-8 start against a tough non-conference schedule, the Bobcats opened AMCC action with a 10-game winning streak that included convincing sweeps of Medaille, Hilbert, Mt. Aloysius, Pitt-Greensburg and Penn State Behrend. The streak was snapped with a loss to Washington & Jefferson but FSU would win five straight before suffering its first conference setback with a close 4-2 loss to La Roche. Frostburg State would close out the regular season winning six out of seven including a sweep over league rival Pitt-Bradford.

The Bobcats finished the regular season 17-1 in league play and earned the No. 1 seed in the AMCC Tournament. In the opening round, FSU was upset by Pitt-Bradford 2-1 but stayed alive in the tournament with a big 15-7 win over La Roche. In the next round, FSU was eliminated by Penn State Behrend, 8-1, and finished the season 29-17 overall.

A host of Bobcats received league honors led by AMCC Player of the Year Billye Hollister and Newcomer of the Year Andrew Speights. Lance Williams, Art Barone and Chris Jones all received first-team honors while the second team included Dan Lindner, Todd Holmes, Mike Gitzen and Allen Peake. For the second consecutive year, Chris Baugher was named to the honorable mention squad.

## Softball

The Bobcat softball team endured a tough season under interim Head Coach Wes Landrum. FSU opened the season 5-8 with games against some of the nation's top teams in Christopher Newport and Moravian. The Bobcats would rebound by opening league competition with sweeps of Pitt-Greensburg and Penn State Behrend. After two



Billye Hollister was named the AMCC Co-Player of the Year after posting a 7-3 record and a 1.75 earned run average and helping the Bobcats win the AMCC regular-season title.



Page Macey earned IWLCA all-region honors for the fourth straight season in 2005 and graduated as FSU's all-time leading scorer with 192 goals.

losses to McDaniel and a split with Hilbert, the Bobcats rallied by winning six straight to improve to 16-11 overall and 11-1 against the AMCC. Frostburg State would later fall on hard times,

losing eight of nine to end the regular season, and earned the No. 4 seed in the AMCC Tournament. Thanks to two six-run innings, FSU downed Hilbert 14-0 in the play-in game and advanced to face No. 1 La Roche. In the opening round of the double elimination portion of the tournament, Frostburg State fell to the Redhawks 4-2 and was later eliminated by No. 6 Penn State Behrend, 4-2. The Bobcats placed seven on the All-AMCC team. Trish Brown, Jen Cook and Lori Potts led the way with first-team honors while Bethany Seyler and Krystal Dixon were second-team selections. Earning honorable mention honors were Amanda Boswell and Sarah Savoye. Brown and Potts were also named to the ECAC Division III Southern Softball All-Star Team.

## Women's Lacrosse

In the opening game of the season, Frostburg State held off a feisty Roanoke team (11-9) and would carry that momentum to a 4-1 start. During that stretch, the Bobcats defeated Methodist (20-12), Greensboro (12-10) and Shenandoah (14-9). FSU would lose its next six contests, including a 20-1 setback to eventual national champion Salisbury. The Bobcats snapped the skid with a 12-11 win over the College of Notre Dame but dropped the next match to College of New Jersey (19-2). FSU would finish the last four games of the season 2-2 with wins over Villa Julie (18-9) and Ursinus (10-9) but losses to Ohio Wesleyan (15-13) and St. Mary's (14-11). Overall, Frostburg State finished the season 7-10. Senior Page Macey was selected to her third straight Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association All-Region First Team. In the win over Notre Dame, Macey became FSU's all-time leading goal scorer with 183 and finished her career with a total of 192 goals. She also finished her career with 94 assists and 286 points.

## Men's Tennis

The Bobcats fought through a tough season with a 1-12 overall finish and a 1-6 mark against the AMCC. For its lone win, FSU defeated Pitt-Greensburg 9-0. In the AMCC Championships, Gary Lyst took home the No. 1 singles title and Matt Chisholm captured the No. 3 singles crown. Lyst was selected as the AMCC Player of the Year for the second straight year and Chisholm was awarded the Newcomer of the Year. Chris



Schoenbauer was the lone Bobcat on the all-conference second team.

## Outdoor Track & Field

### Men

The men took fourth at the Mason-Dixon Conference Outdoor Championships led by senior Brian Bonn's two first-place finishes. Bonn took home the title in both the 800-meter and 1,500-meter events in 1:53.16 and 4:05.01, respectively. He also teamed with freshman Kevin Williams-White, freshman Ryan Abe and sophomore Dave Cheeks for a second-place finish in the 4x400-meter relay in 3:27.29. Junior Sid Bittinger grabbed a second-place finish in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (9:47.58) and freshman Curt Ruble placed second in the 5,000-meter run (15:46.13). Williams-White took third in the 400-meter dash (51.13) and later teamed with Cheeks, freshman Arien Heggs and junior Michael Moxley to take third in the 4x100-meter relay in 44.90. At the ECAC Championships, Bittinger paced FSU with a seventh-place showing in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a personal-record time of 9:35.47. Bonn finished 12<sup>th</sup> in the 1,500-meter run (4:00.77) and 21<sup>st</sup> in the 800-meter run (1:57.18).

### Women

The Frostburg State women finished third at the Mason-Dixon Conference Outdoor Championships, while Head Coach Felix Moreno was named Women's Coach of the Year. Sophomore Adrienne Raidford was named the meet MVP after winning the 400-meter dash (1:00.22), placing third in the 200-meter dash (26.00) and finishing fourth in the 100-meter dash (13.20). Sophomore Bonnie Axman took home the title in the 5,000-meter run in 18:05.99 and added a third-place finish in the 1,500-meter run in 4:55.81. Junior Chelsea Lewis grabbed second in both the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes with times of 12.63 and 25.90, respectively and freshman Jess Clingan finished runner-up in both the 100-meter (15.43) and 400-meter hurdles (1:04.67) and landed in third in the 100-meter dash (12.90). Juniors Carolyn Kilkus and Jenn Waskiewicz took home third-place finishes as Kilkus finished the 10,000-meter run in 43:27.20 and Waskiewicz launched the javelin 79-7.5. Four women qualified for the ECAC Championships. Axman finished third in the 5,000-meter run with a personal best 17:45.04 and Raidford ran a personal best 58.37 in the 400-meter run to place fourth.

## Athletics Welcomes New Coaches

The athletic department has announced that **Peter Letourneau** has been hired as the head coach for the volleyball program and **Wes Landrum** has been promoted to head coach for the softball team after serving as the assistant coach for three years.



Letourneau

Letourneau has the challenge of carrying on the winning tradition of a program that has won seven Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference titles in the league's eight-year existence. He brings more than 15 years of coaching and playing experience to FSU.

A 2003 graduate of Towson, Letourneau joins the Bobcats after serving one year as the top assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Division I Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J.

In his lone season at Rutgers, Letourneau helped the Scarlet Knights to a 16-10 overall record and a 4-6 mark in the BIG EAST. The season was highlighted by a nine-match road winning streak and an upset of eventual conference runner-up Pittsburgh.

Prior to his stint at Rutgers, Letourneau served as the head coach of both the men's and women's volleyball programs at Division III Villa Julie College in Stephenson, Md., from 2001 to 2003. Letourneau's women's squads showed improvement each season, winning seven, eight and 14 matches, respectively, in his three seasons.

Before Villa Julie, Letourneau coached the Time Out Junior Olympic Volleyball Club. He has also coached at numerous camps over his career, including the Gold Medal Squared Volleyball Camp and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Girls Volleyball Camp. In 2002, he received a Program Level I coaching accreditation from USA Volleyball.

Letourneau gained valuable experience during his playing career. Over his six-year stint with the United States Air Force (1992-98), he was selected to the All-Services Volleyball Team and the All-Air Force Team (1994-95). He also played on the Florida Pro-Beach Volleyball Tour (1990-92) and began his playing career at Division II East Stroudsburg University in 1989.

Landrum, who had served as the interim head coach since April 1, is familiar with the program but now takes on a new challenge as he becomes the full-time head coach.

Landrum began his coaching career as FSU's top assistant in the fall of 2002 and helped the Bobcats quickly become one of the top teams in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.

After a 13-12 showing in 2003, FSU enjoyed record-breaking success in 2004, finishing 26-14 overall and 11-1 in the AMCC, and setting 28 school records, including marks for overall and conference victories.

The Bobcats claimed their first-ever regular-season AMCC title, hosted the AMCC Tournament for the first time and earned a berth in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Tournament, the first post-season invitation in the program's nine-year history.

In all, Landrum has coached 17 All-AMCC selections, including the 2003 Newcomer of the Year and the 2004 Co-Player of the Year.

FSU has also enjoyed great success in the classroom during Landrum's tenure as an assistant, ranking among the top National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division III academic squads in 2004. The Bobcats have also had four NFCA All-America Scholar-Athlete selections over the past three years.

— NB



Landrum

# the final word

FSU to Open Campus Exploratorium as a Learning Tool

## “Class” Menagerie

It's a wild world inside a few rooms of the Tawes Engineering Annex, which are serving as a temporary home to an amazing menagerie recently donated to FSU.

Inside, scores of zoological specimens reside from all over the world. Primarily mammals, the animals range from an Arctic fox to a zebra, and are as large and exotic as an elephant and as small and common as a groundhog. There are more than 200 in all.

The vast animal collection is the life's passion of Joseph Cavallaro, who has donated them to FSU for the purpose of enhancing science education and knowledge throughout the region.

The animals are destined to be the centerpiece of a Science Exploratorium that will eventually be housed on the ground floor of the Compton Science Center. The taxidermy specimens, which have been reproduced in realistic and dramatic poses, will be placed in environmentally accurate dioramas to teach not only about the animals but their habitats as well.

Partnering with local school systems, the Maryland Science Center, the University System of Maryland, local businesses and private donors, the museum will be designed to teach the need for respect and conservation of wildlife throughout the world and inspire learning in people of all ages.

— Liz Douglas Medcalf







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