

The
Frostburg
State
University
Magazine

profile



Artful Aspirations, Cool Careers

Creativity Takes Root at FSU

President's Message

Dear Frostburg State University Alumni & Friends:

Frostburg State University takes its role as a center for the arts in Western Maryland very seriously, as it does its mission to prepare well-rounded students, a mission in which art plays a key role. But in the end, art is truly a personal experience, and I would like to share some of mine with you.

Let me start by describing an experience that I will never forget. A few months ago, I was watching our University Theatre production of *A Raisin in the Sun*. This drama set in 1950s Chicago depicts the struggles of African American family members trying to improve their lives. Tekle Ghebremeskel '08 played the character of Walter Lee, the adult son in the family who was trying so hard to succeed. The only opportunity he saw was to use insurance money from his father's death to purchase a bar. He needed his mother's trust for this, so a large part of the play focuses on a son so badly wanting her approval. In one scene, he literally pounds his fists on the floor out of anger because his mother will not trust him enough to give him the money. I found out after the play that this young actor's mother had died only a couple of weeks before. Somehow, he was able to maintain his composure and professionalism in his performance, but clearly his pain and anguish were transferred to his role.

This is characteristic of the heart and soul that our students put into everything they do. I have seen our students produce visual art that expresses their feelings about themselves and our world. They have done this in many media, from ceramics, jewelry making and metal working to computer design and print media. Their art is displayed in the Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery on our campus, in the Allegany Arts Council's Saville Gallery in Cumberland, and now in a gallery I established outside my office in the Hitchins Administration Building.

Our alumni carry that dedication with them. Debra Monk '73, Broadway and Hollywood star, is among those



Dr. Jonathan Gibraltar

you will meet within this issue of *Profile*. I saw her perform in her Broadway show, *Curtains*, in October, then she graciously invited our party backstage. Her performance was outstanding and meeting Debra in person was such a gift; I am forever grateful to this enormously successful Frostburg State University alum for her time.

I also want to share another story that is illustrative of the quality of Frostburg's dedication to the arts. This winter, the Friends of Music at Frostburg met with alumni at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., an event hosted by Alison Combes '93. While I was there, I had a chance to speak to students in our Chamber Choir before they traveled to China. One student said that this trip — all the way to China — would be his first time on an airplane.

Following their trip, I was thrilled by the video of their performance at the Great Wall of China and Hunan Normal University. The Choir then asked me to come to one of their rehearsals. To show their gratitude, they sat me in a chair onstage, surrounded me and sang to me several of the songs they performed in China. I have never been so moved by a performance in my entire life.

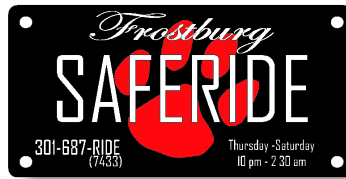
This edition of *Profile* is focused on the arts and the ways it permeates the education of a Frostburg State University student and the lives of its faculty and its graduates. Throughout this issue you will see many other examples of students, faculty and alumni who have made the arts their lives. I hope you enjoy *Profile*, and, as always, we hope you will find meaningful ways to reconnect with your alma mater over the years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jonathan Gibraltar". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue background.

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Jim Riggelman '74 has been named interim manager of the Seattle Mariners

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Notes from the Alumni Director's Desk

Dear Fellow Graduates:

Greetings from our alma mater! As I look back on the past year I am pleasantly surprised at how much we have accomplished. Your alumni association has taken a few deep breaths and revisited who we are, what we are and how we can best serve Frostburg State University.



Shannon Gribble '98

You, the alumni of FSU, are represented on the Alumni Association Board of Directors by 27 alumni who span 53 years of history built on our little campus in Western Maryland. The board members, 17 of whom are pictured here with me below, joined together this past April at their spring retreat to plan for the future. Among their discussions:

- They discussed their roles as individual directors on the Board.
- They evaluated the programs sponsored by the Alumni Association and decided what worked and what didn't.
- They brainstormed ideas on how alumni could engage with current students, reconnect with alumni nationwide and recognize their fellow distinguished classmates.
- They recognized the need to educate FSU alumni on the importance of philanthropic support. Expect to hear from us!

I am happy to report that your Board of Directors is paving the way in helping to secure the future of Frostburg State University – every single member has contributed financially to our alma mater. It is with sincere appreciation that I thank each of them and each of you who have chosen the FSU Foundation Inc. as a recipient of your philanthropy. Showing how alumni demonstrate their commitment to FSU makes the University's job much easier when it comes to asking others for support.

In upcoming editions of *Profile*, you will have the opportunity to get to know some of your representatives and hear why they have chosen to be ambassadors for Frostburg State University. In the meantime, if you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please contact the Office of Alumni Programs at alumni@frostburg.edu or 301.687.4068.

Very truly yours,

Shannon Gribble '98
Director of Alumni Programs



Members of the FSU Alumni Association Board of Directors who got together for a retreat in April are, in front from left, Shannon Gribble, Mel Malchenson and Ron Mills; second row from left, Emily Caputo, Dori (Metz) Parmelee, Gladys Faherty, Sandy (Priebe) Day, Estelle Martin and Brian Lockard; and back row from left, Harry Zacharko, Ward Orem, Joe Adams, Julie (Petr) Tobiason, David Storck, Jim Mason, Ron Forrester, Ron Kyhos and Royal Hines.

Greetings to alumni and friends of Frostburg State University,

When I moved to Allegany County from the Newport News, Va., area, any fears I had about missing out on the cultural offerings of a metropolitan area were put to rest when I saw the lineup of professional productions planned for the year through Frostburg State University's Cultural Events Series. Then when I had the opportunity to experience the excellence of the student and faculty offerings – theatre, music, dance and visual art – I realized that this University in the mountains was growing professionals of its own.



Sam Griffith

One part of FSU's mission is to be a cultural center for Western Maryland and its surrounding region. Likewise, a primary goal of the Frostburg State University Foundation is to support that regional cultural enrichment. In these pages, you can see some of the fruits of that support through the practice of the arts among students and faculty at FSU and by those alumni who have made the arts their lives and livelihood.

The FSU Foundation Inc. supports many programs at FSU through your generous donations, among them those in the arts. We hope you will consider Frostburg State University when you want to express yourself as well.

Sincerely,

Sam Griffith
President, FSU Foundation, Inc.



A scene from University Theatre's recent production of *A Raisin in the Sun*.

We'd love to hear from you!

Please direct letters to:

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Or you can e-mail us at: news@frostburg.edu

Be sure to include your name, address and graduation year.



news

Frostburg Launching B.S. in Nursing Completion Program

Registered nurses and current nursing students looking to expand their skills and advance their careers can now take advantage of a new learning opportunity at Frostburg. FSU has received approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Maryland Board of Nursing to offer a **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** completion program, presented in collaboration with Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland.

"Frostburg State University is proud to provide professional development and educational advancement for registered nurses in our area," said Jonathan Gibraltar, FSU president. "The R.N. to B.S.N. program is in line with our ongoing efforts to foster economic development in the region and provide better job prospects here."

The R.N. to B.S.N. program is a first step in FSU's efforts to address Maryland's shortage of nurses and nursing educators. FSU's long-term goal is to expand the program to offer a Master of Science in Nursing, with an emphasis on developing nursing faculty.

"Faculty shortages are cited as the number one challenge to increasing nursing enrollment in Maryland," Gibraltar said.

The program is open to those who have already been licensed as registered nurses or are eligible for a license, and to students who are enrolled in an associate degree program that will lead to a license. Instruction will be presented using a blended format, which includes online offerings. Blended instruction maximizes a student's scheduling flexibility while still maintaining the student-faculty connection that is essential to academic success.

"The partnership between ACM and FSU will enhance health care in the region. A close working relationship between the colleges' nursing programs will provide additional opportunities for both students and faculty," said Bruce Exstrom, Allegany College of Maryland president.

There has been significant public interest expressed in the program," said Joseph Hoffman, dean of the FSU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "That interest comes in the form of prospective students, interested teaching faculty and regional health-care providers."



Dual Admission Agreement Signed

FSU President Jonathan Gibraltar (right) and Bruce Ekstrom, new president of Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland, recently made it possible for students of ACM who intend to complete their degrees at FSU to be admitted to Frostburg at the same time. With this benefit, ACM students will have access to Frostburg's library and student activities, as well as advising within their intended majors. The program is intended to ease an ACM graduate's transfer to Frostburg.



Danish Delegation Visits Frostburg

FSU hosted a delegation of officials from **Copenhagen Day and Evening University College of Teacher Education (KDAS)** in April, part of FSU's continuing efforts to expand international opportunities for its students and build partnerships with educational institutions overseas. Pictured during a tour of campus are, from left, **Egon Hedegaard**, a KDAS professor of education; **Kaj Pederson**, KDAS Rector; **Karin Kunzendorf**, KDAS Dean; **Lene Bang-Jensen**, international coordinator for KDAS; **Lynn Neddo**, director of the FSU Center for International Education; and FSU President **Jonathan Gibraltar**. FSU has had a decade-long relationship with KDAS, and Gibraltar and a delegation of FSU officials visited that college last fall. FSU and KDAS officials reported a number of ideas for new collaboration under the newly restructured Danish higher education system.



FSU's Relay for Life Surpasses Goals

Frostburg State University's **Relay for Life**, held at Bobcat Stadium in April— with participants from all areas of the University community, including enormous support and organizational efforts from students – raised \$34,327.48 for the American Cancer Society, exceeding the original goal of \$28,000 and the stretch goal of \$30,000. There were 664 registered participants and 55 teams. Luminaries honoring survivors and those lost to cancer circled almost the entire stadium track, with more on the bleachers spelling out "HOPE." Relay has become a tradition at FSU, with money raised each year typically exceeding the previous year.

Student Accolades



Pictured from left are SAM adviser Dr. Mike Monahan, Josh Wolf, Chris Borleis, Krissy Dix, Marjie Gray and adviser Dr. Amit Shah.

Management Students Take Second at National Competition

A team of four FSU management students received second place in a case competition at the 2008 International Conference of the Society for Advancement of Management (SAM).

The team, Josh Wolf, Marjie Gray, Krissy Dix and Chris Borleis, competed against 33 teams from universities nationwide and defended their analysis of Krispy Kreme Doughnuts to a panel of judges.

FSU Professors Amit Shah and Mike Monahan advise the FSU SAM student chapter, which spent time researching, analyzing, preparing and practicing their study for over 10 weeks. According to Shah, the Frostburg team won the second-place trophy competing in the toughest division at the conference.

"These four stars have made us proud and brought such a wonderful name and fame to FSU," Shah said.

Wildlife Society Takes Second in Regional Conference

FSU's student chapter of The Wildlife Society placed second overall out of 18 universities at the 2008 Southeastern Wildlife Conclave, with numerous doing well in individual events.

Seven students placed first in individual events, three placed second and two students took third place. FSU placed second in the team field competition, and sixth in the quiz bowl competition.

Twenty-four members of the student chapter represented FSU, accompanied by Dr. Frank Ammer, faculty advisor.

Marie Brady and Adam Brandt placed first in radio telemetry. Saskia Fagan placed first in free-form artwork with her sculpture of a river otter. Tommy Baden, Kenton Sumpter, Seth Stivala and Chris Cary placed first in the obstacle course. Dave Kazyak placed second in drawing, Tyler Brown placed second in archery, and Anthony "Amo" Oliverio placed second in the game calling competition. Molly Bryden placed third in painting.

"Our members trained for months to prepare for this event, and it all came to fruition during this competition," said Ammer.



David Yeany writes as he and his teammates calculate the concentration of pesticides and herbicides in a plot of land, one of the competitions at the Wildlife Conclave.

BURG Wins Top Award at Regional BACCHUS

FSU's BURG Peer Education Network was honored as the Most Outstanding Network Affiliate at the BACCHUS 2008 Regional Conference in Richmond, Va., in March.

This award, which adviser Don Swogger said is the highest award a group can achieve at the conference, is given to the BACCHUS affiliate that reaches the most people with their programming and is generally the most active affiliate.

BURG presented its new educational program: "House Rules: Prescription Addiction," which is based on the Fox TV series "House" and uses the characters to depict lessons about addiction, denial, rationalizing, disease concept, addiction cycle and enabling.

Twelve FSU students attended the conference, taking in workshops and presentations surrounding peer health education topics. BURG is dedicated to creating a safe college campus by promoting healthy lifestyles through educational programs and fun social activities.

Hartell Receives Maryland Social Work 'Student of the Year' Award

May graduate Jessica Hartell was awarded the National Association of Social Workers – Maryland "Bachelor's Degree in Social Work Student of the Year" award for 2008, presented at the organization's annual conference in March.

Hartell served as vice president of the Social Work Student Alliance, secretary for the Student Center of Volunteerism, president of the Campus Girl Scouts, historian for the Colleges Against Cancer Alpha Phi Omega National Co-ed service fraternity and a lifeguard tutor. She also studied abroad at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, Ireland, she is a BSW student representative on the NASW Board of Directors, and she danced at the National Collegiate Honors Conference in the fall.

"Jessica is one of the most well-rounded students I have had the pleasure to know," said FSU Social Work professor Kathy Powell, who nominated Hartell.



Jessica Hartell

FSU Named to President's Honor Roll for Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service named Frostburg State University to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to disadvantaged youth.

"I have been gratified to see the commitment to service of so many of Frostburg State University's students," said FSU President Jonathan C. Gibraltar. "They show a dedication to the community and a passion for making things better that I find heartening and which makes me proud to be associated with them."

"[The students] show a dedication to the community and a passion for making things better ... which makes me proud to be associated with them."

— Dr. Jonathan Gibraltar, FSU President

The Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovativeness of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

FSU, by establishing, maintaining and encouraging a strong network of curricular and co-curricular activities is committed to the concept that education takes place in many different aspects of



university life. In 2006-2007, more than 3,233 students have volunteered or participated in service-learning opportunities, contributing over 50,748 hours to the Western Maryland community and beyond. FSU continues to encourage students and its community partners to develop a sense of social and civic responsibility by providing opportunities to engage in meaningful volunteer and service-learning opportunities.

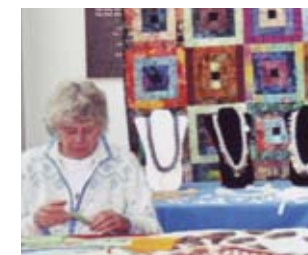
The Honor Roll is jointly sponsored by the Corporation, through its Learn and Serve America program, and the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

Appalachian Festival Becoming New Tradition at FSU

Now in its third year, Frostburg State University's **Appalachian Festival** celebrating the region's history, culture and musical and artistic traditions has become a tradition in itself.



The festival begins Friday, Sept. 19, with "The Appalachian Environment," an informative symposium focusing on pressing issues affecting the Appalachian natural environment. The Symposium, scheduled from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, includes hands-on workshops on sustain-



ability initiatives throughout the day at FSU and a performance by Pennsylvania-based musician Jay Smar emphasizing

the mountain region's rich coal heritage. An Appalachian Film Festival caps off Friday's festivities at 8 p.m. in the Palace Theatre in downtown Frostburg.

Then on Saturday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. visitors can check out day-long presentations, workshops, arts and crafts demonstrations, Appalachian dance, environmental talks and various children's activities. These festivities, held on FSU's Upper Quad, are free and open to the public and provide entertainment for all ages.

The Appalachian Festival culminates with a special concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday night at the Palace



A special concert by Robin and Linda Williams and Their Fine Group will cap off this year's Appalachian Festival.

Theatre featuring Robin and Linda Williams and Their Fine Group, regular contributors to Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" public radio show. They have thrilled folk, bluegrass and country audiences nationwide for more than 20 years and have toured with Mary Chapin Carpenter, Emmylou Harris, The Seldom Scene and many others.

For more information, visit www.frostburg.edu/events/afestival.

Frostburg Saferide Fills the Bill for Safety

By Rachel Harley, '08



David Tiscione and Kellie Goforth show off the first Frostburg Saferide van.

It's Thursday night, and for eight Kappa Tau Epsilon sisters, the excitement of a night out is coming to an end. Before March 27, they faced a nervous walk home through dark streets. But not now. "I already called Saferide," says one of the sisters, "and they are on their way to pick us up."

A short time later, the sorority sisters pile into a Frostburg Saferide van driven by one of their fellow students. Still full of energy, the young women fill the bus with laughter and share stories of their night.

For the sisters of KTE and many other FSU students, piling onto the Frostburg Saferide van has become a new weekend ritual. "I love Saferide. Being a girl, I get worried walking home alone or in a small group when it's late or dark out. It's a reassuring feeling knowing that my friends and I are getting home safely," said junior Liz Resetar.

Safety is the main reason Saferide was created: to offer students a safe alternative to drunken driving or walking home alone late on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Students call 301-687-RIDE from 10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. if they would like a free, no-questions-asked ride home from any event taking place within the city limits of Frostburg. This includes rides to campus and any off-campus house or apartment in Frostburg. Students call and speak to a dispatcher, who relays the message to a van that will pick up the students and take them home. Each van holds 10 people, eight passengers, the

driver and a "tag-along," who rides with the driver and handles phone calls and ride records.

"Our primary interest is in the safety of our students, and this program is as much for students who find themselves out and alone late at night as for those who may find themselves intoxicated," said Dr. Tom Bowling, vice president of Student and Educational Services. "Regardless of the choices they may have made on their evening out, this gives them a way to get home safely, and that is most important."

Frostburg Saferide first arrived on campus on March 27 after nearly two years in the making. The idea came from student David Tiscione, who learned about similar programs at a Student Government Associations conference at Texas A&M University. He thought it would be great for FSU and decided to pursue it as his project for LEAD 494, the practicum in Leadership Studies. Kellie Goforth, an SGA senator, learned of Tiscione's idea and approached him about getting involved. Tiscione, who graduated in May, was already looking for assistance from a younger student who would

be able to continue the program, so he eagerly welcomed her on board.

To build support, Tiscione and Goforth met with a long list of individuals and organizations for feedback and recruitment. They researched programs at other colleges and universities across the country, compiled a list of pros and cons and made a list of potential problems that could arise with solutions for each one.

After nearly a year, they began the final steps to get the program approved. They presented the idea to the monthly President's Student Advisory Council meeting, where President Jonathan Gibraltar, all his vice presidents and numerous student representatives gather to discuss initiatives and issues on campus.



Safety is the main reason Saferide was created: to offer students a safe alternative to drunken driving or walking home alone late.

Bowling was impressed with their presentation. "We all were delighted at the leadership we saw in terms of making the program a reality. They did their homework. They looked for any potential obstacles and found ways to overcome each one," he said. With a unanimous vote, Frostburg Saferide was approved.

Over the next six months, the students developed, recruited and trained the organization, Tiscione said. "Our goal was to create a diverse organization of people with a mixture of individuals from various different organizations." It wasn't easy for the pair, who had to build from the ground up. They relied heavily on donations and were thankful to receive an office, van, gas money, phone and computer from FSU. The FSU Foundation donated a cell phone for use in the van, and they also received funding through SGA.

In the short time since its arrival, Saferide has seen incredible interest and success. They received so many phone calls the first weekend it was implemented – with well over 400 riders – that a second van had to be added in only the second week of operation, well before it was anticipated.

"Our initial dream was to get two vans in motion," Goforth said. The number of riders each weekend has continued to grow, and in less than a month, by April 19, they had served a total of 1,429 riders.

Saferide has also been very successful in getting students involved.

"Frostburg Saferide has over 70 student volunteers working to make Frostburg a safer, friendlier community for all. I fully expect it to continue to grow and benefit Frostburg State students and the Frostburg community," Tiscione said. The volunteers come from all different organizations, including 100 percent participation from the Delta Zeta sorority, with each sister volunteering for at least one night in the spring. Many did more. To get even more students involved, next year Saferide plans to offer scholarships to volunteers who show outstanding effort within the organization.

"I enjoy doing Saferide. Each night I work is always fun and interesting," said DZ sister Desiree Lake. And she can take comfort knowing that her fellow students are safe.

Li, Offstein, Soysal Honored

Faculty Achievement Awards Recognize Academic, Service Accomplishments

FSU honored three distinguished faculty members this spring, two for their academic achievements and a third for his service to the University and the community. The faculty honored with Faculty Achievement Awards during the annual Honors Convocation were **Dr. Hongqi Li**, Department of Biology, for academic accomplishment; **Dr. Evan Offstein**, Department of Management, for academic accomplishment; and **Dr. Oguz A. Soysal**, Department of Physics and Engineering, for University and community service.



Dr. Hongqi Li

Li has been with the Department of Biology for eight years. He was recognized for his excellent research and publication record. Li has published eight manuscripts in prestigious journals, given over 16 papers at national and international conferences and has traveled to China several times to further his research. He also organized an international conference of the Carnivorous Plants Society at Frostburg in 2006. His publications describe some of the earliest known flowering and carnivorous plants. He and a colleague in China have been applying the relatively new technique of Terachertz spectroscopy to the study of chemicals found in carnivorous plants. These compounds have antimicrobial and anti-tumor properties that may make them important weapons in the fight against certain types of cancer.



Dr. Evan Offstein

Offstein joined the faculty of the Department of Management in 2004. He was recognized for his strong research and publication record, which includes two book chapters and 15 peer-reviewed journal articles. Most notable is his popular book, *Stand Your Ground: Building Honorable Leaders the West Point Way*, a study incorporating leadership ethics into the corporate environment. The book has won awards at top international conferences and has been endorsed by a number of prominent Americans, including former U.S. Attorney General and Governor of Pennsylvania Dick Thornburgh. Offstein has been invited to speak at major national and international conferences and asked to present his research to such diverse organizations as the U.S. Army, Southwest Florida Law Enforcement, Northwestern Mutual Life Financial and the Western Maryland Health System.



Dr. Oguz A. Soysal

Soysal joined the Department of Physics and Engineering faculty in 1998. He was awarded the Faculty Achievement Award in university/community service for his significant contribution in establishing a new B.S. in engineering program, which will be an important regional and statewide workforce development initiative. Soysal also obtained funding for K-12 science educational outreach programs for area teachers and, through his efforts, the Maryland State Department of Education funded for five consecutive years a two-week residential program on robotic design for gifted and talented students entering ninth through 12th grades. Soysal has also undertaken important initiatives in the residential use of wind and solar energy in the region with the financial support of the Maryland Energy Administration.

The Faculty Achievement Awards are made possible through gifts to the FSU Foundation, Inc.

FSU Staying Ahead of the Technology Curve

Advances Continue Momentum Begun with Construction of Science Center

With the opening of the Compton Science Center in 2003, Frostburg State University made a giant leap forward in science and technology, and that momentum continues today as FSU keeps updating its labs and adding programs to meet the needs of a changing workforce. Here are some of the latest developments:

B.S. in Information Technology

Frostburg has been granted final approval to offer a bachelor of science degree in information technology through FSU's Department of Computer Science. A minor in information technology will also be offered.

Information technology differs from computer science in its focus. Computer science tends to be directed more purely on the design of a program, while information technology tends to be more of the bridge to the program's user.

These external skills that are needed are the purpose for the program's tracks of accounting, business, computer security, graphic arts and mass communication. These are often technology-intensive disciplines that also require specialized knowledge in the field beyond the computer program itself.

Business leaders in particular have expressed interest in hiring graduates in information technology, and it was their input that led to the flexible approach to the program.

"Information technology is projected to be one of the top 10 areas of employment growth in the state of Maryland," said Dr. Brad Rinard, chair of FSU's Department of Computer Science.

The program is designed to meet the standards of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, and the University will be pursuing accreditation from that board.

B.S. in Engineering

The Maryland Higher Education Commission this spring approved FSU's proposal to offer a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree, with the first students eligible to enroll in the fall of 2008.

The new program will allow students to pursue concentrations in electrical engineering, materials engineering, industrial chemistry and engineering management. University officials expect prospective students to be attracted to the added flexibility of the program, which also makes it possible to pursue second majors or minors in disciplines such as physics, mathematics, chemistry or business.

"The graduates of the new B.S. in Engineering program will find employment in a broad range of jobs that require general knowledge of engineering to work in multidisciplinary teams such as project management, customer service, sales, quality assurance, legal services and consulting," said Dr. Oguz Soysal, former chair of the department who coordinated the new program's

Collaboration with the University of Maryland has been the basis for all past FSU engineering offerings. The new program will be in addition to dual-degree and collaborative engineering programs already offered.

FSU's new program has been designed to meet the standards of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology Education (ABET), which has previously accredited the FSU/U.Md. collaborative programs.

Coal & Shale Analysis Laboratory

FSU has been awarded \$100,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission to establish the FSU Coal and Shale Analysis Laboratory to provide chemical analysis of coal and shale reserves in Western Maryland.

ARC funds will be used to purchase the equipment for chemical analysis to determine the quality of coal and shale in Western Maryland reserves, catalog this information using spatial mapping technology, and provide it in a format

"The flexibility of the [new engineering] program will be particularly attractive for non-traditional students who wish to continue their education in engineering."

—Dr. Oguz Soysal

route to approval. "The flexibility of the program will be particularly attractive for non-traditional students who wish to continue their education in engineering."

This is FSU's first stand-alone engineering degree; FSU has offered engineering in collaboration with the University of Maryland since the 1970s.

The program was designed by examining a wide variety of existing general engineering programs and in consultation with industry leaders to ensure "best practices" as identified by industry.

accessible and useful to industry. The lab will allow FSU to partner with the state Department of Natural Resources, Western Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Council Inc., the Maryland Bureau of Mines, and the U.S. Geographical Survey to develop the best method for collection, analysis, cataloging of information, and for the dissemination of information for easy access and future reference.

A primary use of the laboratory will be for companies wanting to explore natural gas deposits in the Marcellus Shale, which lies more than a mile under the surface of the northern Appalachian Mountains, including Western Maryland. Until



Pictured from left are Dr. Barry Phillips '69 of Bayer Material Science, FSU President Jonathan Gibraltar, FSU Foundation President Sam Griffith, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Joseph Hoffman, Associate Professor of Chemistry Robert Larivee and Vice President for University Advancement Bernard J. Davisson II, in front of the new sign in the Compton Science Center identifying the lab.

recently, these resources were considered too difficult to tap. The lab may also be used to determine the potential of disposing of fly ash, a toxic byproduct of coal combustion, in abandoned coal mines, which could mitigate acid mine drainage.

These funds came from a special ARC regional initiative that targets funds to encourage and support energy resources. In addition to ARC funds, the University will provide an additional \$100,000, bringing the total project funding to \$200,000.

Nanotechnology Lab

FSU was awarded \$96,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission to establish a nanotechnology laboratory, a technology that cuts across disciplines and can be used by students in engineering, physics, chemistry and biology programs

The project will serve approximately 430 students each year after it is completed. It will integrate nanoscale science and engineering into the curriculum, and will also provide extracurricular enrichment for students from area schools and expertise to companies in the on-campus Allegany Business Center. Nanotechnology is used extensively in fields such as medicine, electronics and textiles.

FSU Earns National Certification to Offer Workshops on Solar Systems

Electricians, contractors, engineers and others will have an opportunity to expand their knowledge of photovoltaic (PV) generation systems, thanks to Frostburg State University's latest inroads in providing educational programs on renewable energy: FSU recently received approval from the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) to offer workshops and entry-level certification exams on designing, installing and maintaining residential PV generation systems.

"PV is an electronic way to convert the radiation energy of the sunlight directly into electric energy using semiconductor elements," said Dr. Oguz Soysal, faculty member of the physics and engineering department, and FSU's Wind-Solar Energy (WISE) Certified Education Program director. "This is an important step for the educational outreach activities for a proposed FSU Renewable Energy Center."

The NABCEP approval raises FSU's national prominence as an educational resource on renewable energy. FSU is now listed on the NABCEP Web site (www.nabcep.org) and is currently the only NABCEP-approved provider of PV workshops and certification exams in Maryland and throughout the region that covers Virginia, Washington, D.C., West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky.

Bayer Material Science Chemistry Lab

Frostburg State University officials gathered to dedicate the Bayer Material Science Chemistry Lab in the Compton Science Center in April, in recognition of the significant donation of equipment and supplies from the polymer company, which was orchestrated by Dr. Barry Phillips '69, a Bayer senior vice president for NAFTA, HSEQ and Future Business.

"Having spent more than three decades working with chemistry, I know how important a solid educational foundation is," Phillips said. "I am proud of my degree from Frostburg State, and I know that academic designation will represent even more today for this generation of graduates who will benefit from the state-of-the-art equipment in the Bayer Material Science Lab."



Installers position the WISE program's PV array.

Artful Aspirations, Cool Careers

Creativity Takes Root at FSU

The drive for creative expression is in all of us. Even if that expression is never publicly shared, it enriches our lives nonetheless. Frostburg State University has been nurturing and celebrating the creativity of those who come across our campus in many ways over the years. This issue of *Profile* takes an in-depth look at the arts practiced by our students and faculty, and in the lives – and often in the careers – of our alumni. From writing to painting to singing to acting, on stage and in studios, the arts are alive (and thriving) at Frostburg State University, and we're sharing them with the world.

A WAY WITH WORDS

Frostburg Cultivating Literary Talent On Campus and Off

All Things Writerly Anchored in FSU's Center for Creative Writing

By Becca Ramspott

A college English department staffed by award-winning authors and poets. A quiet, affordable area located in the scenic mountains. Regular readings and other literary events. It's the perfect setting for every aspiring writer's greatest success story, and thanks to the Frostburg Center for Creative Writing, it's a scene alive and well in Western Maryland.

"From *Backbone Mountain Review* to the small press publishing fair to the Valentine's Day poetry readings — we're bringing the writers in the area together, and that can't be beat," says **Gerry LaFemina**, the FSU Center's director and a resident writer and faculty member in FSU's Department of English.

The Center was a dream of FSU Professor Emeritus of English **Keith Schlegel** that took root in 2003 and officially opened its doors in 2005. Its staff members have spent the past couple of years creating and fostering a strong network of all things literary. It's an accomplishment that has entailed working with many different groups and helping them develop a sense of camaraderie and accomplishment.

"I'd say that the single most significant role for the Center is to keep writers encouraged — student writers, faculty, local writers — by providing them a community and by celebrating writing excellence through its publications and readings," Schlegel says.

The Center has organized readings by visiting writers and produced and edited several publications, including the popular *Backbone Mountain Review*, which draws submissions from residents in Allegany and Garrett counties, and *Nightsun*, a national literary magazine with a rising reputation. The Center is also the anchor for FSU student publications like *Bittersweet*, where wordsmiths in the campus community share their voices, and the *Writer's Notepad*, a newsletter published seven times a year that provides a social calendar of sorts for regional writers looking to hone their craft.

"*Backbone Mountain Review* is surely the most successful project (of the Center)," LaFemina says. "It gets community writers published in a fine-looking journal. We get more and more submissions each year — people start e-mailing us before the issue is out about the reading period for the next issue — and we get a great turnout at the release party."

Encouraging young writers is another area where the Center has experienced many positive developments. The annual Valentine's Day poetry reading brings tons of high schoolers and FSU students out to the Allegany Arts



Center for Creative Writing Director **Gerry LaFemina** addresses a group at one of the many literary readings held in and around Frostburg, this one at Main Street Books. The Center has helped to foster the area's sense of literary community.



Council headquarters in Cumberland, Md., for a night of reading their own work and that of other poets, and connecting with other writers in the area. And LaFemina and other staff members are always participating in activities that bring young people to FSU to learn more about creative writing.

"I love working with kids, so I think all the outreach activities that have brought high school students to campus have been particularly gratifying," says LaFemina, noting that he's taught summer programs like Maryland's GEAR UP and Savage Mountain Summer Arts Academy workshops.

With so many good programs in place and lots of publications where writers can find an outlet for their work, it makes sense that the Center has big plans for the future. LaFemina would love to relocate it from Tawes Hall to a building that provides "a better, more welcoming and bigger spot for the Center ... maybe by sharing a space and staff with FSU's Children's Literature Centre." He also dreams of offering a place where the University could house resident writers and offer more salon-type activities.

No matter how the Center grows, it's clear that the University is finally embracing an area in which it truly excels.

"Aside from the obvious benefits to the community and FSU students, I think the Center is important for highlighting an area of genuine University excellence, a field in which English at FSU really can have a national presence," Schlegel says. "The English Department is justly proud of its teaching, service and scholarship, but in creative writing it can claim something special and thus could recruit unusually talented students and truly achieve national prominence."



Gerry LaFemina

English Department Boasts Two Pushcart Prize Winners

Ask **Barbara Hurd** and **Gerry LaFemina** about how to make it as professional writers, and they might tell you it's the little things that add up to big success — and the small presses that offer some of the most exciting publishing opportunities. Both faculty in FSU's Department of English are recipients of the Pushcart Prize, an American literary award that recognizes the best writing published by small presses.

"To win one of the Pushcart Prizes is especially pleasing to me, not only because of the honor, but because the awards go to writers associated with those often-overlooked small presses of this country, where so much good literary work is happening," Hurd said.

Hurd won the prize twice in recent years for her creative nonfiction and poems that often explore the meaning of the natural world, and LaFemina won his very first prize ever in spring 2008.

"It's a great honor to win one of these things," LaFemina said. "I've been nominated eight other times, so ninth time is a charm!"

LaFemina was honored for his poem, "Returning Home in the MG Just Before Dawn," a work that was published in the summer 2007 issue of *The Chattahoochee Review*, a nationally recognized literary magazine sponsored by Georgia Perimeter College.

Both Hurd and LaFemina join some of America's most notable authors in earning Pushcart Prizes; in the past the award has been given to literary greats such as John Irving, Raymond Carver and Andre Dubus.

With Hurd, LaFemina and the other award-winning, published professors teaching in FSU's Department of English, it seems likely that aspiring student writers will find their own successful storylines and continue FSU's tradition of making waves in the literary world.

—BR

Hurd Continues to Find Meaning in Places Most Overlook

By Liz Douglas Medcalf

Dr. Barbara Hurd has a way of looking at the mundane and seeing the universe.

That ability is behind the FSU English professor's first two critically acclaimed collections of environmental essays. In 2001, she



Barbara Hurd

slogged into swamps for *Stirring the Mud: On Swamps, Bogs, and Human Imagination* and descended into caves for *Entering the Stone: On Caves and Feeling through the Dark* in 2003.

Now she has turned her attention to the waterfront and the debris on the shore after the tide goes out in *Walking the Wrack Line: On Tidal Shifts and What Remains*. The book

was published in June by University of Georgia Press, which also re-issued her two previous collections.

This collection was harder than the other two, she says. Always one to explore new ways to write, Hurd started this book wanting to compose very short essays focusing on a single object, the "small little things broken underfoot."

"I even tried using no metaphor," she laughs. "That didn't last long."

What developed were individual essays that join an object washed up on a shore to themes as varied as turning points, habits and chance. A triangular piece of green sea glass leads to a meditation on transformation, not just how a jagged shard can become a smooth jewel, but how art and time transform people and places, even a beach that once was a garbage dump. An essay on a spider crab is not only informative about this creature's unusual habit of camouflaging itself but also about the disguises we all resort to ourselves.

The question Hurd asked herself as she studied each object — "What kind of coherence binds these?" — leads the reader down sometimes surprising and often illuminating paths, as she explores different ways of looking at the world.

Already, the book has been hailed by National Public Radio's Alan Cheuse as one of his "Summer Books to Feed Your Literary Addiction." And while her publisher calls *Wrack Line* the final in a trilogy of "evocative nature writing," Hurd says she's not finished with her environmental essays. Nevertheless, she is exploring ways of expression beyond them as well.

"I like to stretch myself. I just don't always know what form that stretch is going to take," she says.

FSU Students' "Green" Creativity Can be Viewed Online

The first issue of the new student-written and student-edited magazine, *E=(LG)²*, which focuses on environmental issues pertaining to Frostburg State University, was published this spring.

A semester-long project for Dr. Sydney Duncan's English 402 class, "Editing and Production," the students created an environmentally friendly magazine, which had a limited run on recycled paper and is also available online at <http://organizations.frostburg.edu/LgMag/LgMag1.pdf>.

The magazine will be published every semester. The articles and fiction focus on environmental or sustainability issues in FSU's immediate area and concentrate on student research, class activities, nature appreciation, club activities and journalism.

Barkley Writes Half a Story, Finds New Genre

By Liz Douglas Medcalf

What began as a playful e-mail exchange between two writers has turned into an interesting sideline for **Brad Barkley**.

Barkley, an associate professor in the Department of English who has published two novels and two short story collections, says he was starting to burn out on short stories after writing about 100, and a third novel was lingering unfinished. He was looking for a change of pace.

That change came almost accidentally. He and Heather Hepler, a friend and fellow writer who lives in Texas, started bouncing a story back and forth between them, each taking the point of view of an alternate character, playing a kind of "novel ping-pong," he says.

"Four or five chapters into it, we started to think, 'This is kind of good,'" he says

That book, a young adult novel called *Scrambled Eggs at Midnight*, was finished in about nine weeks, he says, and was published by Dutton Children's Books, a division of Penguin Group. "I think it went so fast because we weren't taking it all that seriously."

"I'm just interested in good stories."

—Brad Barkley



Brad Barkley

And with *Scrambled Eggs*, Barkley had found two ways to revitalize his writing. He was exploring the young adult fiction genre that had been important to him as a youth, with books like *A Separate Peace* and *Catcher in the Rye*. And his craft, usually practiced alone, was being done in collaboration, with someone else pushing the stories to places he might not have imagined.

After *Scrambled Eggs*, published in 2006, the pair also wrote *Dream Factory*, published a year later, and *Jars of Glass*, which is due to come out this October.

Quirky situations help move the stories along: *Scrambled Eggs* is about a teenage girl whose mother follows Renaissance Faires around the country who meets a teen boy whose father runs a Christian fat farm; *Dream Factory* tells the story of teenagers hired to play Cinderella and Dale the chipmunk at a Disney-like theme park when the regular character actors go on strike. In each, the characters move the story along in their alternating points of view — as do the authors in their separate voices.

"The only rule we've had is we have full veto power over our own character. As my character appears in her chapters, I can say, 'He wouldn't do that,'" Barkley says.

He and Hepler are collaborating on a fourth young adult book, but Barkley's also back at work on *Americaland*, the novel he set aside for awhile.

And while the young adult genre is interesting right now, he'll let the ideas lead him where they want to go.

"I'm just interested in good stories," he says.

Books by Alumni

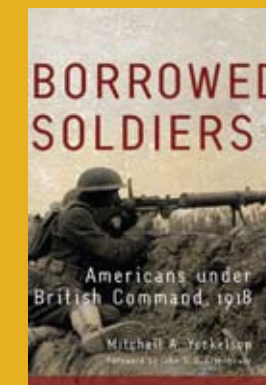
Cricket by Robert W. Brannon '62

Nine-year-old Kristie "Cricket" Adams doesn't believe the stereotype that girls are supposed to play house, wear pretty dresses and not get dirty. She'd rather play baseball. Cricket loves the game and plays in her town's Minor Little League program. But she is disappointed when she isn't chosen for an upper-level team, despite her talent and hard work. With tenacity and motivation, Cricket proves that dreams really do come true. Brannon wrote the book in memory of his daughter, the late Kristie Dawn Brannon, affectionately called "Cricket." In a story in the *Hagerstown Herald-Mail*, he said the process of writing the book helped him achieve some closure following her death from cancer at age 16. "We felt closer to her by discussing and talking about the good times, the happy times," Brannon told the newspaper. *Cricket* is published by iUniverse.



Borrowed Soldiers by Mitchell A. Yockelson '84

Dr. Mitchell Yockelson examines the first time American and British forces fought together as a coalition force during Hundred Days Campaign of World War I, some two decades before D-Day. Yockelson, an instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and an archivist at the National Archives, looks at how two forces of differing organization and attitude successfully merged their command relationships and operations. This was the partnership that broke the Hindenburg Line and helped convince the resistant American brass that winning modern wars requires a strong coalition. *Borrowed Soldiers* is published by University of Oklahoma Press.



Into the Mirror Black and Angels of the Seventh Dawn

by Frank E. Bittinger '97

Frank Bittinger has published the first two novels of his planned "hexology" of seven in the gothic horror tradition. In the first, *Into the Mirror Black*, Storm inherits a Victorian estate from his great-grandmother, but a mysterious book raises disturbing questions about his family's past. In the second book, *Angels of the Seventh Dawn*, a novelist looking for inspiration instead discovers a world of vampires, werewolves and magic, and menacing events are set into motion. Part of the proceeds will help find homes for abused and neglected animals. Both are published by iUniverse.



Growing up with B.G. by Don Hancock '72

Don Hancock humorously recounts his 1950s-1960s childhood in the Baltimore/Bel Air area, growing up as the older brother of the smarter "Boy Genius," B.G. for short. These fictional tales of the brothers and their friends includes stories of visits to the Baltimore Zoo and an Orioles game and other youthful "misadventures." Hancock mentions his alma mater in the chapter titled "Not a Creature was Stirring," where I majored in Psychology with a minor in Sledding on a Smuggled Cafeteria Tray." *Growing up with B.G.* is published by Warwick House Publishing in Lynchburg, Va.



SPECTRUM

Triad of Talent Offers Glimpse of FSU's Visual Artists

By Becca Ramspott

Whether it is photography, documentary or painting, FSU's alums use many different forms of expression to illuminate personal ideas and observations. They set their sights on careers that honor their own creative visions and in turn give their viewers a new way to see the world.

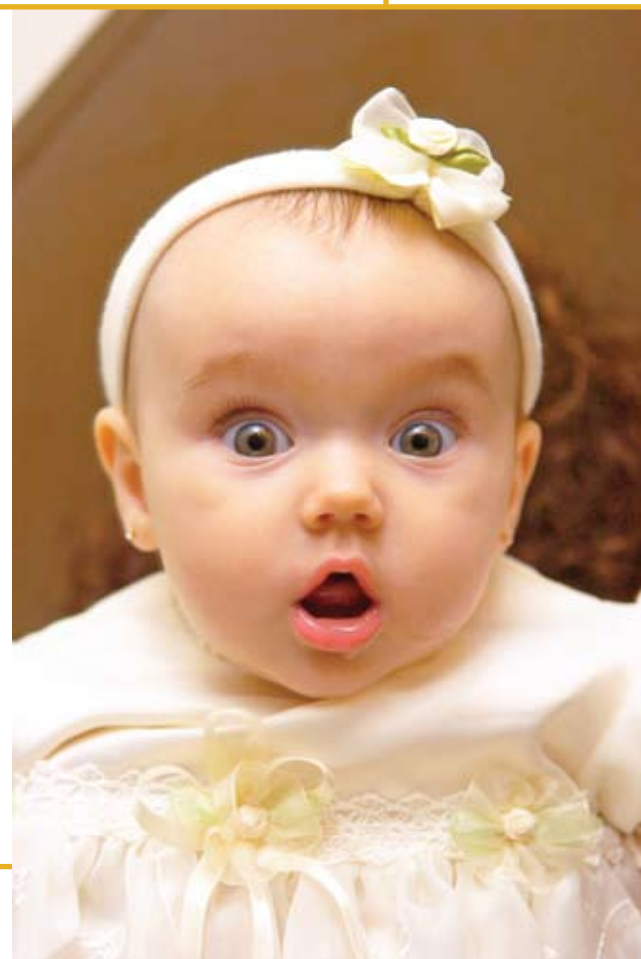
Face a 'Human Landscape' for Photographer

Brian Slanger '90 knew he was hooked on photography when his mom (Judy Dieruf, a professor in painting and drawing at FSU) gave him an Olympus XA point-and-shoot camera while he was in high school.

"I was so amazed at how time could be captured and revisited by looking at the photograph. Photography ... helped me to reinterpret the world, which was important during the changes of adolescence," he said.

Slanger supplemented his study of painting in college with a job in the art department's darkroom, where he experimented with different techniques in developing and using images. After graduation, he went on to learn from some of the top photographers in the fine art and commercial photography world — Mary Ellen Mark, Alfred Eisenstadt, Jay Maisel. The experiences helped him build an exciting 15-year career in photography based in Baltimore that includes doing work for a variety of international magazines and helping people celebrate the most important moments of their lives by taking pictures at weddings and doing portraits. He also does fine artwork; some of his images can be seen in permanent collections in China and at Johns Hopkins University.

"What I enjoy most about photography is working with people, capturing expressions, emotion and all the kaleidoscope of things that occur in the face and eyes. I call the face the 'human landscape,'" he said. "I also very much enjoy the ways I can use photography to give back to others. ... By truly capturing someone's inner nature and reflecting it back, whether that is a portrait, wedding or art piece, they get to see sides of themselves that might not otherwise be seen."



Brian Slanger '90 calls the face the "human landscape."

A Day (Night?) in the Life of ... Artist Michael Lease

Most artists aspire to find that once-in-a-lifetime opportunity with their artwork. **Michael Lease '96** is interested in the once-a-day variety.

On Dec. 18, 2006, Lease, along with FSU alum and graphic designer **Brad Walker '04**, began taking a picture at 7:15 p.m. every evening for a year and posting the photographs online in a Web project called SAMETIME: 7:15. The result — a compilation of daily glimpses into the artists' lives in an online exhibition. The creative documentation later began again on Jan. 1, 2007, with four additional artists, a new segment of image-making that extended through 2008.

SAMETIME: 7:15 is very much in line with Lease's overall approach to making art — producing images on his own terms and not just passively existing with and receiving those in advertising, television and movies.

"I love the idea of people taking it upon themselves to create their own visual culture," he said.

Lease is also averse to keeping art in confined spaces and on a pedestal — elitist and out of reach. His other ongoing body of work entails making large, intriguing images (often startling juxtapositions of pictures and text, like subversive advertisements) and affixing them to walls in public spaces through a technique called wheatpasting.

"There is a long political tradition of wheatpasting that goes back to the student and worker riots of May 1968 in Paris," he said. "I feel a certain antagonism towards being required to make precious, discreet objects and framing them beneath glass and wood. My work gets peeled off the walls and then thrown away."

To learn more about SAMETIME: 7:15 and Lease's other projects, visit www.sametime715.com and www.michaellease.com.



Michael Lease '96 has shown his work at different galleries, exhibition spaces and shows throughout the region, including American University's Museum at the Katzen Center, Washington, D.C.

Painter Abstracts Landscapes, Focuses on Aspiring Artists

Linda Humbertson '79, '81 approaches the visual arts as both a creator and an advocate: A longtime arts educator who chairs the visual art department at Hyattsville Middle School Creative and Performing Arts Focus School, Humbertson is also a dedicated painter who captures alluring landscape images in acrylic.

"Combining some of the elements of my early '70s paintings, I use areas of unexpected color, fluid design structure and expressive brushstrokes while still retaining hints of the landscape," she said. "The viewer interprets the active media-flowing composition and connects to the time, mood and atmosphere of the landscape."

Humbertson likes to use her photographs as "sketchpads" for her paintings, distilling the ambiance of the landscape from its realistic depiction in photography. In addition to finding her own inspiration in the world around her, she also enjoys helping her students find their own visions as artists through teaching, something she also describes as a creative activity.

"Even when I'm planning classroom lessons, there is an excitement of what will happen, and I rarely teach the same lesson twice," she said.

And Humbertson's commitment to the visual arts extends beyond schools to supporting art communities like the one in Cumberland, Md., where she is fixing up a house, developing a working studio and enjoying her membership with the Allegany Arts Council.

"I was thrilled to see the local area become an Arts and Entertainment region," she said.

Humbertson has exhibited regionally and nationally with exhibitions in Maryland and Florida. Her work is in the FSU art collection, as well as that of numerous private collectors.



Birch Tree I (2008) by Linda Humbertson '79, '81

NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT

FSU Grads Rely on Talent, Drive and Heart to Make It in the Acting World

By Ty DeMartino '90

IN THE FIRST ACT of the Broadway musical *Curtains*, the ensemble of nearly 30 performers gathers on the stage of the Al Hirschfeld Theatre and belt out the joys of being actors in the show-stopping number called "Show People."

Front and center of the cast, dressed in a full-length fur-lined jacket, is **Debra Monk '73**, singing at the top of her lungs.

Monk is arguably the most prestigiously decorated actor to graduate from Frostburg State University. The credenza in Monk's New York apartment holds a Tony Award for her featured role in Lanford's Wilson's *Redwood Curtain* and an Emmy for her role as Dennis Franz's ex-wife on *NYPD Blue*, as well as Obie and Drama Desk awards and a slew of other stage-related nominations.

Despite the accolades and the ability to land roles in feature films (*Bridges of Madison County* and *Center Stage*) and TV shows (she can be seen in the recurring role of George's mother on ABC's *Grey's Anatomy*), Monk, like many FSU graduates who are making their livings as actors, doesn't take her successes lightly.

"I am thankful for every job I get," she told FSU theatre students this past January in her dressing room after a performance of *Curtains*. "It's a real privilege to be working, and it's not that fun when you're not."

When Monk left Frostburg, her mentor and theatre professor Dr. David Press, who encouraged Monk to first set foot on stage, advised her to attend graduate school at Southern Methodist University in Texas before trying to make it in the Big Apple.

"I left graduate school thinking, 'Okay, now I'm going to make a living doing Ibsen. Well, that's just not possible,'" she says.

In fact, for four long years after first arriving in New York, Monk couldn't get her Actor's Equity card or an agent and had to work as a secretary and waitress. In her downtime, she and a group of out-of-work actor friends wrote and starred in a little show called *Pumpboys and Dinettes*, which eventually made its way to Broadway and earned Monk her first Tony nomination. Eventually, stage doors started to open for her.



The first time Debra Monk set foot on a stage was at Frostburg. Now, she has a Tony, an Emmy and many other honors. "It's been a dream," she says.



Getting his acting start at FSU, Matt Merchant built a lifelong confidence. "To this day, I walk in [to auditions] thinking I've got a shot every time."

"I had to learn the virtue of patience, and not everything comes as I want to write the script," she says. "The only thing I didn't lose in those four years was my goal to work. I never said I was going to give this up – ever ... But I did lose patience."

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY MILES north of Broadway, **Matt Merchant '97** is between shows at Godspeed's Opera House in East Haddam, Conn. Merchant is performing in *Happy Days – a New Musical*, based on the classic TV sitcom with Fonzie, Richie, Potsie and the whole Milwaukee gang. He plays one of the devilish demolition derby-driving Malachi brothers. Like Monk, Merchant knows the value of patience and drive.

First an education major at FSU, Merchant changed his major to theatre early on in his college career. He remembers placing that phone call home to alert his folks about the switch.

*"We can't picture being anything but show people
Civilians find the whole thing quite bizarre
But that hop in our hearts
When the overture starts
Helps us know how lucky we are."*

--"Show People" by John Kander/Fred Ebb

"My dad said, 'I just wish you had something to fall back on.' And I said, 'If I had something to fall back on, I would.' That's all he needed to hear. From that minute he supported me wholeheartedly, just like the rest of my family."

After graduating from FSU, Merchant performed at the Cumberland Theatre and found his "niche" as a comedy actor. He has had significant roles in movies such as *Flawless* with Philip Seymour Hoffman and TV parts on *Hannah Montana*, the ABC daytime drama *General Hospital* and on stage as "Gaston" in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. However, Merchant feels he has yet to make his mark in the industry.

"I get chances and have my successes, but the 'big break' is still around the corner," he says. "There's a drive that comes from knowing your first big opportunity is still yet to come."

JENNIFER KEISTER '98, who co-starred with Merchant in several FSU productions, says her years at FSU built her confidence as a performer.

"Every time I got a role in college, I swore it was my last one. I thought I'd never get cast again," she laughs. But after acting in "about 17 shows" at FSU, Keister gained the confidence to move to New York and eventually Los Angeles to work as an actress. "I never accepted that I'd do anything else."

Since arriving on the West Coast, Keister has appeared in industrial and independent films and received a co-starring role on the CBS crime show *Close to Home*. However, her biggest break came in the fall of 2007 in a series of national commercials for Home Depot. The popular holiday spots featured Keister as a wife and mother who plans home projects as her husband cheers his football team and who stands in awe on the front lawn while her husband rejoices at a table saw that "Santa" left on the roof (Search "Jennifer Keister Commercial Reel" on YouTube.com). The high-profile gig generated lots of attention from "people from the past," as well as people in the industry.

As she awaits her next national commercial, Keister has kept busy working on an independent pilot, auditioning, taking classes and looking into voice-over work. Most recently she secured a role as a cult member in an upcoming episode of *Criminal Minds*. In any case, she's always poised for her next acting opportunity with optimism.

"You have to be ready for when your time comes," she says. "There will always be that next job."

ACTING WAS THE FARTHEST THING from the mind of **David Manigault '03** when he entered Frostburg to be a basketball star. He was always interested in entertainment, so he studied mass communication and business, learning how to operate the equipment behind the scenes. His time at FSU was one of self discovery.

"I learned a lot being at Frostburg. You become who you are out there."

He credits his Mass Comm professors Dr. John Lombardi and Dr. Tyra Phipps for influencing him. When Phipps showed footage to her class from the television series of FSU alum and Hollywood producer Greg Garcia '92, she inspired Manigault to seriously seek a career in the industry.

"I remember thinking, 'Greg Garcia came from our school?' That was encouraging."

Manigault started giving on-air commentary for the FSU football and basketball games, as well working on shows on FSU cable channel TV 3. "I was a sponge. That's what propelled me to have an inner drive ... That inner drive pumps your oil."

When Manigault got his diploma, he moved to L.A. and met up with some connections he had made through an internship at X105.7 radio station in Baltimore. Through them, he met Chris Robinson, who has directed music videos for everyone from Alicia Keys to Puff Daddy to Usher. Robinson soon put Manigault in a couple of his videos, including



Jennifer Keister gained national attention in a series of "Home Depot" commercials that ran last Christmas. She's waiting for her next big break. "I want more than my 15 minutes," she says.



David Manigault dreams of one day coming back to Frostburg and filming a movie in the city. "It would have an inner city flavor in a rural setting," he says.

Jay Z's "Roc Boys." Manigault also made his way into films, including the lead in *Pretty Boy* and *I Tried*, and even had a small role as an extra in the movie *Dreamgirls*.

Recently, he has stepped back behind the camera and opened Flawless Entertainment, directing music videos for the groups D&R and D.O.G.

"Surround yourself with people who love what you do," he advises young actors. "Be a sponge and have that inner drive that overpowers that external drive."

EBEN KOSTBAR '00 had a "hidden passion" to act at FSU, but didn't know how to act on it.

"It was a battle within me," admits Kostbar, a physical education major who comes from a family that is "very old school" and wanted him to have a stable job in education.

When he decided to move to Hollywood after graduating, he knew he would have to start from zero. He lived in his Nissan Altima for over a year while he figured out how to break into show business.

"I came out here with nothing," Kostbar recalls. "But I've always had confidence. I believe if you work hard, it will work out."

Kostbar volunteered at a casting office to learn the business and took acting and improv classes to hone his skills. Now eight years later, he has over 15 films on his resume, including a small role in the 2005 D.L. Hughley

movie, *Shackles*. He is also partner in a film company, Quality Time Productions, and wrote, directed and starred in the short *Karma Café*, which made the festival circuit and has won several awards.

Kostbar believes you have to rely yourself to make things happen. "I'm never sitting around waiting for the phone to ring," he says. "I've always been creating opportunities for myself as an actor. You have to think outside the box."

His advice for young actors is to be 100-percent committed. "The earlier you can start, the easier it'll be," he says.

RECENT GRADUATE **Ryan Bowie '08** is starting his career as early as he possibly can. Before graduating this past May with a double major in theatre and music performance, he landed a lead in the stage version of *High School Musical* at Maple's Repertory Theater in Macon, Mo.

"It's always great to leave college with a job," Bowie says as he prepares to play the role of pushy drama star Ryan for the Disney mega-hit.



Eben Kostbar's latest project, a movie on Ultimate Fighting Championship fighter Matt "The Hammer" Hammill, will create a new genre: the deaf foreign film.

Ryan Bowie landed a lead in the stage version of Disney's *High School Musical*. He views his young look as a blessing. One FSU professor told him he'll play "Oliver" the rest of his life.

While he has years of summer stock experience at the Seagle Music Colony in Schroon Lake, N.Y., Bowie mostly credits FSU's theatre marketing class for helping him get his latest role. The course instructs students on the ins and outs of the business side of theatre: getting the right headshots, writing eye-catching resumes and how to present oneself at an audition.

After the curtain falls on *High School Musical*, Bowie will be heading back to FSU where he will serve as the musical director of this fall's musical *Victor/Victoria*. From there, he's heading straight to the Big Apple for his shot at the Great White Way to join the ranks of other show people.

"If I wouldn't perform, there'd be a hole in my heart," added Bowie. "I know it sounds corny, but it completes me."

BACK ON BROADWAY at the Hirschfeld Theatre, the cast of *Curtains* took its final bow in the end of June, when the show closed after 511 performances. For Monk, it means cleaning out her dressing room once again and looking for her next big gig — whatever it may be. That's show business.

But before the curtain dropped, Monk led her cast in the final lines of "Show People," a mantra for actors at FSU and everywhere:

*"It's an honor and a joy to be in show business
I feel that spotlight hit me and I'm gone
At the last curtain call
I'm the envy of all
So I know the show must
Go on!
And on!
Go on!"*

STRIKING A CHORD

Music a Passport to Cultural Sharing, Understanding in China

By Becca Ramspott

Travel typically entails maps, guidebooks and structured itineraries as ways to find a sense of direction. But as the FSU Chamber Choir discovered during a March tour in China, songs also serve as a compass that can guide you to where you want to be — whether it's to a place of connection with people you've never met before or to a final destination of togetherness you've found as a group.

The Choir's journey began as two great ideas united for a common purpose. In April 2007, three FSU administrators — Bill Mandicott, Assistant Vice President of Student and Community Involvement; Hank Bullamore, Professor of Geography; and Vice Provost John Bowman — stood on the Great Wall and wondered what it be like for FSU students to sing there. They had traveled to China to explore the possibility of forming educational exchanges with universities, and the idea of sending FSU students as cultural ambassadors struck a chord with them.

Years before, Karen Soderberg Sarnaker, the FSU Chamber Choir's director and chair of the FSU Department of Music, had heard vocalists from Singapore perform the traditional Chinese "Usuli Boat Song" and was so moved by it that she filed it away as something she wanted to teach to singers someday.

"When I was approached by the University administration about taking the FSU Chamber Choir to China, I knew I had found the perfect opportunity," she said.

Performing "Usuli Boat Song" required intense preparation to ensure its delivery would resonate with Chinese audiences. Soderberg Sarnaker enlisted the expertise of FSU language instructor Yanling Fan, who taught the 26 choir students the correct pronunciation for every word in "Usuli Boat Song" over the course of five days of rigorous rehearsal in January. "Black is the Color of my True Love's Hair" was another poignant selection made for the Choir's China program, its lyrical description a compliment of friendship toward Chinese people. The Choir practiced these pieces and more by singing them at University events and during regular class-time rehearsals.

The Speed of Sound

When the day of the trip finally arrived, the group was ready to go, complete with vaccinations, good walking shoes and just enough luggage not to go over the 44-pound weight limit for their flight between Beijing,



18

PROFILE



where they would spend four days, and Changsha, where they would enjoy the second half of their trip. Vice Provost Bowman was returning to China with the Choir to oversee campus visits, and music faculty member Mark Gallagher also joined the group as an accompanist and solo performer (*see related story*). Betty Jane Phillips, a talented pianist, was also going on the journey to provide accompaniment.

On their way to the airport, the students passed the time sharing music with one another on their iPods and chattering and laughing wildly. When Soderberg Sarnaker took out her pitch pipe to show it to Bowman and blew it for a second, several students' voices rose in perfect union to meet the notes, like a flock of birds moving swiftly and suddenly in an entirely different direction, completely unified and full of purpose.

Upon arriving in China, the Chamber Choir continued its passage immersed in song—the students sang their favorite tunes on the bus while en route to different sights and at scenic places, like the Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall, where they made FSU's administrators' dream a reality by giving an impromptu performance while bystanders nodded and clapped. The Choir also sang for several schools—Beijing Chaoyang Xinghe Primary School, where children with shining faces gave them roses and construction paper collages; Hunan Normal University, where their rendition of "Usuli Boat Song" brought audience members to tears; and Hunan City University, where, as FSU junior Erin Drenning put it, "We were all joking around about how they should have been playing 'Eye of the Tiger' when we walked in." A roaring crowd of nearly 600, including military and Changsha officials, stood and cheered as soon as FSU's students took their first steps inside the city auditorium and made their way down the aisle to perform.

A Medley of Memories

Ask the Choir members what their favorite moment of the trip was and several memories always surface: the afternoon they spent walking around with students from Hunan Normal University, several of whom Frostburg students continue to chat with via Facebook and can't wait to have visit FSU.

Others loved meeting children at the Primary School and watching them perform dances and songs for their American guests as part of a cultural exchange.



"I was there before, back in their shoes in the day. It was a memory of what I had to go through," said Brandon Strawther, a Choir member who graduated this May.

Soderberg Sarnaker also had experiences in China that will stay with her for years to come. After a performance at Hunan City University, the school's choir director asked her if he could have her music from the FSU Chamber Choir's program. She gave him her folder of sheet music, and later, when she was about to board the group bus to return to Changsha, he raced after her and gave her his, as well, a selection of musical works his choir sang for Frostburg as part of a cultural exchange during their concert.

"That wonderful sharing of 'You've given us something of your country. Let me give you something of mine,'" she said.

But perhaps the most powerful moment was the Choir's last dinner together in China with the friends they had made at Hunan Normal University, when they sang "Usuli Boat Song" for the last time.

"The pride that the people of China have in their country, and how open, respectable, caring and nice they are not only to each other, but to people of foreign countries ... leaving it brought tears to my eyes," said FSU Chamber Choir member Arnold McNeal.

And like a refrain in music, the same feeling echoed through those at Hunan Normal University.

"Your beautiful songs remember my heart," said Tang Jianwen ("Martin"), Deputy Director with Hunan Normal University's Office of International Exchange and Cooperation, after the students sang that last night.

After the Choir returned and resumed their classes and performance schedule, for the rest of the semester, Soderberg Sarnaker found herself with singers who had grown beyond their point of origin. Suddenly, many students wanted to go see Chinese contemporary art at galleries and museums in Washington, D.C., and take advantage of other opportunities to study abroad. The bickering typical of groups who are together for hours on end had also lessened.

"There were no tensions the rest of the year. This was a different group. We were all different. We had all changed," she said. "It's through music that political realities dissolve and you can look at the human side."

This story was adapted from a blog produced by the author while she was with the group in China. To read more about the FSU Chamber Choir's trip, visit <http://becca-wholeworld.com>.

The FSU Chamber Choir found friends and fans throughout China. At left, a collage of friendly faces from the trip, including Susan, a group guide who shared Beijing with the FSU group; an enthusiastic, young fan at the Primary School; and the 600-member audience at Hunan City University.

"Your beautiful songs remember my heart."

— Tang Jianwen

Deputy Director, Hunan Normal University
Office of International Exchange and Cooperation

The Choir gives a once-in-a-lifetime performance at the Great Wall.



FSU professor Mark Gallagher, above right, introduces an aspiring music lover to the clarinet.

Breaking Barriers with Music

It might be said that FSU music professor Mark Gallagher broke a sound barrier in China. Not in an aircraft (though 13 hours on a plane is certainly impressive), but by sharing his clarinet with audiences who had perhaps never seen or heard one before.

Gallagher, a first-time traveler to China who accompanied the FSU Chamber Choir in March, realized he was in for a whole new kind of performance experience when he presented his clarinet to children at the Beijing Chaoyang Xinghe Primary School and was greeted with wide-eyed looks of wonder.

"They didn't really know what it was. Or if they did, they didn't let on," he laughed. "When I saw the kids' faces, they were really captivated by the whole thing. So that was neat ... They were a great group of kids."

The captivation grew to absolute fixation when he played his solo pieces, a selection of works by Paul Harvey and Leonard Bernstein, at Changsha's Hunan Normal University, where audiences gave him their undivided attention.

"It's nice to have people interested in what you're doing. Rather than looking around. Reading their program. The people in China were definitely not doing that," he said, noting that the moment was one of his favorite memories of China. "When you perform, that's kind of what you hope for. That you're grabbing people that much."

In the end, playing on the other side of the globe expanded Gallagher's professional horizons and taught him how to adapt to the unfamiliar, as a touring professional musician.

"You're dealing with the physical aspects because you're in a different part of the world ... for example, with me, it's a wind instrument, so it's very much connected to your body and so you have to play physically," he said. "Let's say you're suffering from 12 hours of jet lag and you still have to perform ... that really stretches you physically. It stretches you emotionally because you're trying to project something emotional to the audience and somehow get them to connect. Especially if it's really unfamiliar to them. ... and ultimately, I thought it was successful."

—BR

Beall Internship Gives Students a Closer Look into the Corridors of Power



Sen. J. Glenn Beall, Jr. and Robin Strange King '06, in 2005



Jeffery Bailey '08 and Rep. Roscoe Bartlett



Carlie Canter '08 and Sen. Benjamin Cardin



Sen. Paul Sarbanes and Courtney Kamauf '07

At the 2002 dedication of the FSU-based public affairs institute named for him, former U.S. Sen. **J. Glenn Beall Jr.** said he wanted to encourage a spirit of civic responsibility and get young people involved in government and public service. Like his father and other family members, Beall, who died in 2006, dedicated his life to service both in and outside government and was acutely aware of the need to encourage succeeding generations to follow do the same. "The need for citizen participation is vital in a free society," he said at the dedication.

In the years since, the J. Glenn Beall Jr. Institute for Public Affairs has sent four students to Washington to participate in extensive, semester-long internships. The program recently branched out to internships with Maryland state legislators, with the first student, Justin Rey, serving during the 2008 Maryland General Assembly session with Del. Sue Hecht. The Institute, which was established through donations from the Senator and later by his family and other donors, provides funds to defray the cost of housing and expenses, and students can earn up to 15 credit hours.

The past four Washington interns got a real chance to experience the nuts and bolts of the congressional offices in which they served.

"It was the most amazing thing I've ever done and probably ever will do," says Courtney Kamauf '07 graduate, who served her internship in the

office of Sen. Paul Sarbanes, D-Md., in the fall 2006 semester, his final year before retiring.

While their duties differed, all of the interns did crucial work for their office, from fielding calls from constituents and doing research to writing letters and collecting information at briefings.

"I was treated more as a staff person," says Carlie Canter '08, who interned in the fall of 2007 in the office of Sen. Benjamin Cardin, D-Md. Her responsibility was significant enough that she was selected to meet with a group of South Korean experts who were giving information on the situation in North Korea.

They were also given "traditional" intern tasks, including answering phones, copying newspaper clips, delivering paperwork and giving constituents tours of the Capitol Building. That last task made Jeffery Bailey Jr. '08 a little nervous, because, despite his training, many of those he showed around managed to know at least one tidbit that he didn't. "I learned something new every time I did a tour," says Bailey, an intern in the office of U.S. Rep. Roscoe Bartlett, R-Md., in the fall of 2007.

"It was the most amazing thing I've ever done and probably ever will do."

— Courtney Kamauf '07

Unlike many Capitol Hill interns, the format of the Beall internship allows FSU students to be on hand during the height of the political season, with many more opportunities to interact with the political representatives and their staff members, says Tim Magrath, executive director of the Beall Institute and a former long-time staffer for Sarbanes. Typical internships on Capitol Hill tend to be in the summer, "with six or seven interns huddled around a copy machine."

"This program is giving people an opportunity to really experience Washington," Magrath says.

Robin Strange King '06, the first Beall intern, served as a foreign relations intern in Sarbanes' office in the fall of 2005. As a result, she was able to sit in on a number of early briefings on the situation in Darfur, an issue Sarbanes focused on long before the problems in that part of Sudan had reached the general consciousness.

"I saw the Senator nearly every day. A lot of other interns never see their senators," she says.

Each student witnessed history in the making: Bailey heard the first speech to Congress from

the new president of France, Nicolas Sarkozy; Kamauf observed the confirmation of Robert Gates and heard the report of the Iraq Study Group; Canter heard Gen. David Petraeus' final report on Iraq; and King saw the confirmation vote for Chief Justice John Roberts and was among the throngs who filed by the coffin of Civil Rights leader Rosa Parks as her body lay in honor in the Capitol Rotunda.

Both Bailey and Canter, active in their respective political parties, also were struck – and impressed – by the bipartisanship they saw on the Hill.

Bailey – who is already a member of Allegany County's Republican Central Committee – says he was gratified to see how well veteran congressman Bartlett worked with members of both parties. "Some of his better colleagues are on the other side of the aisle. I was happy to see that."

Canter, a Democrat, appreciated the opportunity to get to know what she called "hard-core" Republicans, and she was impressed by their passion. "It's good to really get into someone else's viewpoint," she says. But she also got a good view of the "tug and pull" between the parties in the push to pass an appropriations bill.

All of the interns said their eyes were opened to the energy, hard work, passion and commitment of the elected representatives and their staffers. They also were enlightened on the long hours and low pay that are part of the life of congressional employees.

"People there do those jobs because they are incredibly devoted to what they believe in, what they stand for, or because they have incredible political ambition," says King, who decided she didn't have that kind of agenda or passion for the job, but neither does she regret the experience.

"I have a broader understanding than a lot of people I know in how things work in the rest of the world."

In addition to the internships, the Beall Institute sponsors a number of educational programs on campus to promote civic responsibility and knowledge about governmental and political processes, and it also provides access to the Beall Archives in the Ort Library, which house the papers of Beall; his brother, former U.S. Attorney George Beall; and their senator father, J. Glenn Beall Sr.

If you are interested in supporting the efforts of the Beall Institute, contact University Advancement at 301.687.4161.

—LDM

Why Should I Give To The FSU Annual Fund?

Every year, alumni and friends are asked to support Frostburg State University's Annual Fund, but some may not know just how important the Annual Fund truly is to FSU and its students.

The Annual Fund supports FSU's most immediate and vital needs each year, such as financial aid, student leadership programs, alumni association programs, cultural events, educational services and student on-campus jobs. Additionally, Annual Fund donations give the University a better ability to respond to the most urgent needs and to be nimble enough to adapt more quickly to the changes around it, a flexibility not afforded by restricted and endowed funds.

FSU students would not have these opportunities without gifts from alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the University. On campus, as we work alongside these determined, hopeful scholars, we are constantly reminded of why it's so important to support them. Our students work their way through college in the hopes of entering challenging careers and bettering our world.

Giving to the Annual Fund strengthens Frostburg State University. A strong percentage of alumni giving is particularly helpful in seeking funding from other sources, and it raises our profile in such annual college rankings such as that in *U.S. News & World Report*. (Check out the back cover of *Profile* to see how FSU's alumni giving stacks up against those of other Maryland universities.)

After all, no one knows the value of a Frostburg State University education better than you.

What Should I Give?

We hope that you will make Frostburg State University one of your philanthropic priorities, particularly since the trend of declining

funding from the state of Maryland and rising costs make it harder each year to provide our scholars with the help they so urgently need. For the next academic year, we must raise at least \$250,000 by June 30, 2009.

Suggested levels of giving include, but are not limited to:

Lillian C. Compton Society:	\$5,000 or more
Nelson P. Guild Society:	\$2,500 to \$4,999
President's Society:	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Cupola Society:	\$500 to \$999
Miners Society:	\$250 to \$499
Centennial Society:	\$100 to \$249
1898 Society:	\$1 to \$99

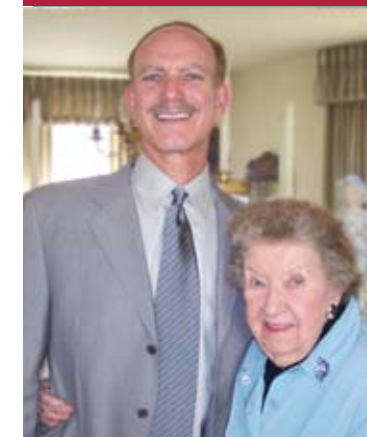
When Should I Give?

We ask all alumni, faculty, staff and friends to consider giving to the Annual Fund each and every fiscal year (July 1-June 30). You will receive this year's first appeal in your mailbox in September. Frostburg students also help out the Annual Fund during phonathons in the fall and spring of each year. Alternatively, you may choose to give online at any time.

How Can I Give Today?

Please call Jeff Krone or Alicia White at the FSU Office of University Advancement, 301.687.4161, to contribute over the phone, or visit www.frostburg.edu and click on "Make a Gift" in the upper right corner of your screen.

Thank you for your support of Frostburg State University.



Old Main Honor

Annetta Marshall '36, '76 greets FSU President Jonathan Gibraltar as he visits her at her home this spring to present her with her Old Main Society Pin. Over the years, Marshall has continued her support of the Annetta H. and Lloyd M. Marshall Elementary Education Scholarship, which benefits those interested in studying children's literature and who attend the Children's Literature Festival. She has also remembered Frostburg State University in her will, making her a member of the Old Main Society. For more information about becoming a member of the Old Main Society, contact Cherie Krug at 301.687.4161.

alumni honored

Jordan, Phillips Honored with Distinguished Alumni Achievement Awards

The FSU Alumni Association has reinstated the long-time tradition of recognizing alumni who demonstrate outstanding professional career growth, community involvement, a demonstrated interest in their alma mater and special achievements, awards, honors and distinctions. At the May commencement ceremonies, **Ralph Jordan '68** and **Dr. Barry Phillips '69** were recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Awards.



Bernard J. Davisson II '81, right, presents **Ralph Jordan '68** with his Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award during the May College of Business commencement ceremony.

Jordan is founder, president and CEO of Trident Health Resources Inc. He is noted leader, innovator and entrepreneur in the health care industry, with credentials that include founding Trident Surgical Corp., a company that distributed specialty medical and surgical products, as well as establishing a Bio-Tech company, Trident Scientific Corp. and General Hospital Corp., which developed out-patient surgery centers across the country. He is an active alumnus, serving on the College of Business Advisory Board and the Board of Advisors for the Sloop Leadership Institute, as well as the committee for the Sloop Alumni/Speakers Program and the FSU Foundation Board.

Phillips is senior vice president for NAFTA, Health, Safety, Environment, & Quality and Future Business at Bayer MaterialScience. With more than 30 years of experience in leading research, development and manufacturing in the field of polymers, plastics and inorganic



Dr. Barry Phillips '69, right, was given the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award by Davisson at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences commencement ceremony in May.

materials, his has risen to a major leadership role in Bayer MaterialScience, one of North America's leading polymer companies. Phillips earned a doctorate in organic chemistry from West Virginia University and did post doctoral studies at the University of Nebraska. He holds several patents and has authored numerous technical papers. Phillips was instrumental in the donation of lab equipment and supplies from Bayer to FSU for the Bayer MaterialScience Chemistry Lab (see page 9).

For more information, or to nominate distinguished alumni, contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Honors Alums

The FSU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences this spring honored five alumni, inducting four into the Alumni Circle of Excellence and recognizing a fifth with a Who's FSU award.

On May 1, FSU honored with ACE awards **Mary Clapsaddle '83**, a geography and sociology graduate who is now a legislative manager for the Maryland Department of Legislative Services; **Daniel P. Hunt, M.D. '77**, a mathematics graduate who is now an associate professor of Medicine at Harvard University; **Shirley Giarritta '70**, a graduate of the art education program and now owner of Connoisseur Interiors and Gallery in Cumberland, and **Richard Whelan '79**, a political science graduate who has become the president of Marketing General Inc.



From left, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Alumni Circle of Excellence Award recipients Richard Whelan '79, Shirley Giarritta '70, Mary Clapsaddle '83 and Dr. Daniel P. Hunt '77



Dr. James Russell Perkins '74

Dr. James Russell Perkins '74, a graduate of the music education program, was named to Who's FSU at a March "Friends of Music" event held at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

Clapsaddle, who has a Master of Regional Planning degree from the University of North Carolina, began her career as assistant to the County Manager of Chatham, N.C. Her career in Maryland began with the Department of Legislative Services in the General Assembly, then she became director of Policy Development with the Department of Business and Economic Development. In 2002, she was appointed the assistant state superintendent for Business Services with the Department of Education, prior to her current position.

Hunt received his M.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, with postdoctoral training in internal medicine. He is a clinician and an educator who began his career in Houston, where he practiced medicine as well as serving as a faculty member at the Baylor College of Medicine, rising to associate professor. In addition to his current faculty role at Harvard, he is director of Inpatient Clinician Educator Services in the Department of Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Giarritta earned her Master of Arts degree in painting and sculpture from James Madison University and began her career teaching art and supervising the arts program for Frederick County Public Schools in Winchester, Va. From 1972 to 1977, she co-owned The Art Shop in Winchester, Va., and Cumberland, Md. Beside her direction of Connoisseur Interiors and Gallery, she is a founding member of the Cumberland Theatre Board of Trustees and serves on the Maryland States Arts Council.

Whelan oversees a company of 60 marketing specialists in Alexandria, Va., who have strategized marketing and creative needs for 45 organizations in 11 states and Washington, D.C. He is also a frequent speaker and author on association membership and marketing topics.

Perkins has been involved in the field of education for over 30 years, serving first as a music teacher in Baltimore. For 12 years, he served as band director of the award-winning City College High School band program. Perkins holds an M.Ed. and Ph.D. and has served as an administrator in Baltimore City schools. As principal, Perkins took a special interest in the area of special education and designed a program to help successfully move special needs students into inclusion programs. He is also a charter member of FSU Friends of Music.

For more information, contact the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at 301.687.4120.



Liz Skidmore '86

a 32-year veteran of the real estate industry, has developed the company into the area's largest and most successful real estate and appraisal companies.

Robison & Skidmore began with a staff of 11 sales agents and appraisers in Skidmore's basement. Within two years the company had surpassed its five-year projections and had more than 30 sales agents and appraisers. Skidmore became sole owner in 1999 and acquired Coldwell Banker Workmeister Realtors in 2007, forming Coldwell Banker Professional Real Estate Services. Last year the firm was named the number one Coldwell Banker franchise in Maryland.

Skidmore comes from an FSU family. Her grandmother, mother, father, sister, brother, son and daughter are all Frostburg graduates.

Skidmore is College of Business Alum of the Year

The FSU College of Business honored Realtor **Liz Skidmore** of LaVale, Md., as its 2008 Alumna of the Year during the college's annual Honors Reception May 2.

Since co-founding Robison & Skidmore Professional Real Estate Services, Skidmore,



FSU Establishes Wall of Honor

For many years FSU has been helping individuals honor the memory of loved ones at the campus Memorial Wall in front of the Performing Arts Center. There, alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the University whose memories are etched in our hearts forever can be remembered every day in a lovely place of serenity and peace in the heart of the Frostburg campus.

Now, in response to many requests, the third wall in the grouping will be designated specifically to pay tribute to living individuals because of their dedicated service to FSU or the surrounding community or for similar reasons. The cluster of three walls will now be called the **Frostburg State University Wall of Honor**, with the original two walls still dedicated to memorials and the third to honoring those who are still with us.

To honor a loved one, close friend or long-time mentor, you can make a \$500 donation to the FSU Foundation Inc., restricted to the Wall of Honor Fund, which will be used for campus beautification. To have a name included on the Wall of Honor, please contact Shannon Gribble, Director of Alumni Programs, at sgribble@frostburg.edu or 301.687.4068.



New AFSCME Scholarship FSU

Members of the Frostburg State University Local 239 chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the FSU administration gathered in April to sign papers establishing the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Pass-Through Scholarship, which will provide scholarships to full-time FSU students who are members or dependents of members of AFSCME's FSU Local 239. The funds, donated by members of the local, will provide an annual award of at least \$500. Pictured from left are **Ian Reikie**, Local 239 president; **Tamera Shockey**, 239 secretary, **FSU President Jonathan Gibraltar**; **Cheryl McKenzie**, 239 treasurer; and **Bonnie Jackson**, 239 vice president.



New Bellary Scholarship at FSU

Bernard J. Davisson II, vice president for University Advancement and executive director of the FSUF, shakes hands with **Dr. Somashekhar Bellary** and his wife, **Suma**, in recognition of the establishment of the Dr. and Mrs. Somashekhar V. Bellary Pass-Through Scholarship, which will benefit FSU students from Allegany County who have an interest in mathematics. Dr. Bellary feels that it is essential that the study of mathematics is encouraged in local young people, and his and his wife's donation will further support that goal.

For more information about establishing scholarships through the FSU Foundation, call 301.687.4161.

classnotes

ClassNotes listed are those received as of May 31, 2008

1959

2009 is your 50th anniversary year!
Your Golden Anniversary Celebration is planned for Saturday, June 6, 2009. Please save the date!

1962

Rita B. Mohacsi is a mother of two and a grandmother of six. She works at the Danbury Public Library and teaches English as a second language. Her hobbies include watercolor painting, exercising and reading.

1964

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

1969

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.



Looking forward to your next reunion?

The Office of Alumni Programs is excited about alumni returning to FSU to celebrate milestone years – 5, 10, 15, etc., and we need your help. We are looking for a committee of three to five alumni who are committed to the success of your reunion to work with the Alumni Office to pick a date, plan activities and reach out to fellow alumni to encourage attendance. Contact us today at alumni@frostburg.edu or 301.687.4068 to begin the process!

1970

Larry D. Kump has been elected by his chapter president peers in the Maryland Classified Employees Association (MCEA) as Area Governor of the four-county Western Maryland region (MCEA Area IV). He is employed as a prison case manager at Roxbury Correctional Institution in Hagerstown, Md. Larry also serves as a High Priest in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He has two children, David and Sarah.

1971

Dr. James P. McCarthy is retiring from the military at the end of 2008 after three tours in Iraq and 28 years of service.

1974

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

1975

David G. Howcroft is living in Delaware. David is a network operations manager overseeing fiber optic deployment for a major telecommunications company.

1977

Kathryn L. Watson McHale is an assistant principal at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Md. She lives in Rockville, Md., and has two sons in college.

1979

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu

Michael Gellar, jazz guitarist, released his second CD, "Got the World on a String," with New York City vocalist Christiana Drapkin and D.C.-area musicians. **Tom Schultz '76** created the CD artwork.

1982

Beth Giffin Delawder graduated again from FSU with a master's degree in education, and recently completed her 22nd year of teaching.

1984

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu

Lt. Col. Duane C. DeVance is a military contractor working on the Army Staff as a Requirements Staff Officer at the Pentagon with Professional Solutions LLC. He also serves in the Maryland Army National Guard as a detachment commander for the Selective Service System. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in August 2006.

1986

Art Clay Turner is the Associate Director of Church Relations and Planned Giving for Bellewood Presbyterian Homes for Children. Art and his family reside in Goshen, Ky.

1989

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

Colleen McCarthy Wasilko and her husband Steve Wasilko reside in Keedysville, Md., and have two children, Stephen and Catherine. Colleen is a stay-at-home mom and volunteers at her church and children's school.

1992

Cristee Jo Cangianelli (also '94) has a new life-coaching business, Thrive: A Modern Approach to Personal Improvement, (www.thrivewithcj.com) based in Cumberland, Md. She creates individualized plans for her clients and encourages them to talk about their goals, dreams, habits, relationships, priorities, passions and more. She has more than 10 years of experience as a behavior specialist consultant.

1994

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

Efrain Avila, Jr. has relocated to San Antonio, as his wife, Laura, pursues a military career. He is serving as a reserve U.S. Army chaplain. He was previously a United Methodist campus minister at Northern Illinois University.

1995

Laura Lynn Temple is working as Communications Manager, Corporate Communications, for Aramark World Headquarters in Philadelphia.

1997

Raymond Eugene Bivens and **Becky Jacobs Bivens '97** celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in August. Becky is employed as a Spanish teacher at Polytech High School, and Ray serves as the Chief Naturalist for Delaware State Parks. They reside in Frederica, Del., and have two daughters, Abigail (8) and Emilyn (3).

LCDR Thomas Jason Jones, U.S. Navy, has moved back to Baltimore and will be the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and teaching law at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. He has served in the Navy in Asia, the Middle East and both U.S. coasts.

1998

Kristen Mary Kanz Acosta has been teaching middle school math and mentoring new teachers in West Covina, Calif., for 10 years. In fall 2008, she will help start up a new school, Walnut Grove Intermediate School. She's been happily married for three years and has a son, Jared (2).

Kelly Ann Gast Krumpe graduated in May 2004 from the University of Baltimore School of Law. She is an associate at Thomas, Ronald, & Cooper, P.A. in Towson, Md. Her husband, **William F. Krumpe III '97**, is a Maryland State Trooper. They have one son, Donovan (3).

Andrea Denise Pappas is the production coordinator for the ABC television show *Cashmere Mafia*. Andrea has a number of TV and movie credits on her resume, including the recent Disney movie, *Enchanted*.

1999

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

Erich Franz Muehleisen left on his third tour of duty to Iraq in summer of 2007 and is scheduled to return in summer 2008.

2000

Angela Joan Riffle Bassett and **Brian Bassett '99** live in Columbia, Md., with their children, Julia (3), and Hanna (10 mos.). Brian is a video producer.

2004

2009 is your reunion year!
 We are looking for class volunteers to help plan your reunion. Please contact the Alumni Office at 301.687.4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.



Carl Metzgar '04

Carl Metzgar won the Republican nomination to run for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in this November's general election.

Jennifer Helen Spivey graduated in January 2008 from the University of Southern Maine with an MFA in poetry. Dr. Barbara Hurd served as a reader for her thesis.

continued ►

Two Classes Celebrate Golden Anniversary

On Saturday, June 7, the FSU Alumni Association hosted The Golden Anniversary, an event to celebrate graduates of 50 years and before. This year, we were able to celebrate with two classes – 1958 celebrating 50 years and 1953 celebrating 55 years!

When our graduates arrived on campus, they began their day by gathering in Old Main – a building that is a little-changed landmark for all Frostburg alumni. Alumni were welcomed by President Jonathan Gibraltar and other University representatives at a luncheon where they learned of the progress and future plans for their alma mater. They ended their day with a campus tour aboard the FSU bus to see how far Frostburg has come since their days as students.

This is a unique opportunity we have as a University community to celebrate the history of Frostburg State. Mark your calendars now: Next year's Golden Anniversary is scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2009, when we will celebrate the Class of 1959 and before!



Class of 1953: In front, from left, are Lois (Mackay) Elliott, Betty Jane (Clingerman) Diggs, Dolores (Gillard) Pope, Lois (Wentling) White and Edith (Utt) Carter. In back, from left, are James Pope '54, Phyllis (Folk) Wallace, Juanita Lynch, Elaine (Weimer) Beeman, John Diggs, John Lynch, John Carter, Francis Ruffo, Dotty (Shertzter) Ruffo '54, Virginia Moran and Thomas Moran.



Class of 1958: In front, from left, are Carolyn (Baum) Railey, Myron Wotring, Sari (Slick) Kilheffer, Marilyn (Lewis) Stevenson, Lois True, Jack Hill Jr. and Carol (Miller) Barry. In the back row, from left, are Joan (Buskirk) Fitzpatrick, Marina (Tuya) Beasley, Thomas VanPelt, Bennett Murray, Donald Garlitz and Don Madden.

Helping People by Helping Animals

Sadie Stevens '05 has been working to save the world's otters since she came to Frostburg as a graduate student to study with biology professor Dr. Tom Serfass, whose research on the appealing mammals is internationally known.

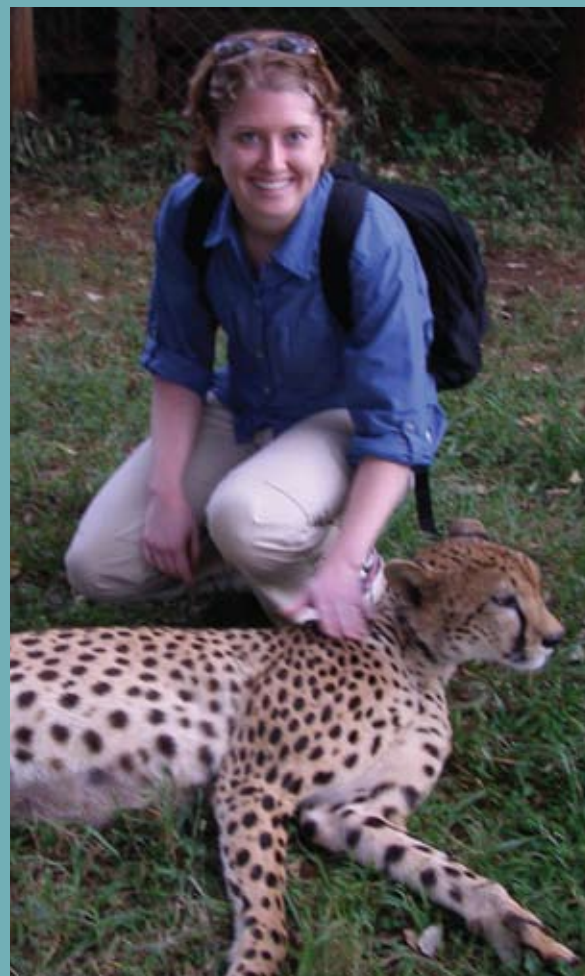
Her latest effort with otters is also designed to help the people who share the otters' world.

The focus of her current work is Tanzania's Rubondo Island National Park, which has a highly visible population of otters. She is examining ways to increase ecotourism to benefit local conservation efforts as well as the local economy. Otters, with their cute faces and engaging ways, are starting to be considered a "flagship species," because their popularity — including with tourists — can advance the movement to conserve their habitat. This, in turn, benefits other species that share the same space.

"I'm really interested in the human dimensions of conservation," Stevens says, so she is not only examining the local population of spotted-necked otters to determine the best time and place that a tourist might see them, but she is surveying people as well. For example, she is asking tour operators their opinions on whether

more tourists would be drawn to see the otters or some other appealing species, such as the hippos or fish eagles that also populate the park.

There is a strong educational bent to Steven's work. She hopes the information drawn from the surveys will be used in schools and in local communities to increase the acceptance of the park among the local people, some of whom have had to adapt to a number of changes in the use of the land over recent years. She has also made educational use of survey opportunities, such as during her trip to Tanzania this spring. She surveyed children in schools surrounding the park. Following their survey, she and Serfass, with whom she continues to collabo-



Sadie Stevens '05 gets up close and personal with a cheetah at the Nairobi, Kenya, Zoo.

rate, taught the students about some of the tools that wildlife biologists use. They learned how to use binoculars — donated to the park with the help of the Pittsburgh Zoo, Serfass' Elkins Fellowship grant and Eagle Optics. Ideally, the students will be able to continue using the binoculars to learn about the park's wildlife through activities with the park staff.

"I'm really passionate about education," says Stevens, who is continuing her studies through the University of Massachusetts. "I always wanted a conservation focus and to have a conservation outcome, a positive outcome, from what we're doing. It's a chance to make a difference."

Stevens is a little taken aback when she realizes that she's now traveling to Africa to work on a regular basis. When she first came to FSU, travel involved

going to the woods of southwestern Pennsylvania to track otters Serfass reintroduced into the wild. But Stevens played a major role in the planning of the IXth International Otter Colloquium, which brought otter researchers from all over the world to Frostburg in 2004. And she has since made academic presentations in Canada and South Korea. Now her experiences include watching elephants migrate in Tanzania's Tarangire National Park and petting a cheetah in Kenya's Nairobi Zoo.

"Having a chance to travel and work in Africa — I never thought I would do something like that. I just never dreamed it would be possible. . . . This is an amazing opportunity."

—LDM

2007

Joseph Aaron Eaton is working for Lockheed Martin as a pricing analyst in the Finance Leadership Development Program.

Births

1993

Michelle Christine Mayhew Langley and her husband, Kenny, announce the birth of their first daughter, Nicole Elizabeth, on Nov. 20, 2007.

1995

Scott Jerren Spencer and his wife, **Kathleen DeOre Spencer '97**, announce the birth of Nolan Scott on Nov. 15, 2007. Nolan joins his brother Jerren Scott (4). Scott is a community planner for the U.S. Air Force, and Kathleen is a human resources manager for Hancock and Albanese.

1998

Kenneth Allen Oldham and wife, Leilani, announce the birth of their son, Landon Rubio, on Feb. 6, 2008.

2000

Crystal A. Laurie Frantz announces the birth of her daughter, Mikayla Charlee, on June 14, 2007.

2002

Kathryn Elizabeth Harrington Stum and husband, **Brent '01, '03** announce the birth of their son, John Francis, on Aug. 27, 2007. He joins his big sister, Mary Kathryn (2).

Marriages

1990

Debra Ann Welch married Robert Breeding on Aug. 11, 2007. She is employed by the state of Maryland in the judicial system. The couple resides in Cumberland, Md.

1998

Jennifer Beth Yarnall married **Timothy Hamilton '97** on Oct. 7, 2006. Jennifer is a clinical research scientist at Vanda Pharmaceuticals in Rockville, Md., and Timothy is working at Verizon in Gaithersburg, Md. They reside in Burtonsville, Md.

1999

Shannon Leigh Williams married Troy Erickson in September 2005. Their first child, Jacob Michael, was born on Dec. 31, 2007. Shannon is a finance director at Kaplan College in Denver.

Dori Metz married Justin Parmelee on Sept. 21, 2007. She works in Human Resources at Cubist Pharmaceuticals. The couple resides in Boston.

2000

John Douglas Wade married Autumn Wolfe on Dec. 2, 2006. The couple lives in Westernport, Md.

continued ▶



It's a Family Thing

The DeVore family has taken the Frostburg State legacy farther than possibly any other, so when they gathered recently at the Frostburg home of Michael and Karen DeVore, they celebrated their FSU experience with a group photo; everyone pictured has been a Bobcat. In the first row from left are **Jennifer DeVore, Theresa DeVore-Lanni, Shawna DeVore, Mary Aleta DeVore Williams** and **Michael DeVore**; second row is **Karen Kamauff DeVore**; third row from left, **Mary T. Manley DeVore, Nancy Hafer DeVore** and **Roy M. DeVore**; and in the fourth row from left, **David DeVore, Colin DeVore, Eleanor DeVore-Cannon, Garrett DeVore, Robert DeVore, Bryan Lee DeVore, Nathan Shipe**. And that's not all. Frostburg State DeVores **Roy V. DeVore, William J. DeVore** and **Ethan DeVore** were absent from this gathering, making a total of 19 DeVores in all who chose Frostburg.

2001

Thomas Patrick Shaffer married Kelly Lynn Moquin on Aug. 14, 2007, in the Dominican Republic. The couple resides in Gaithersburg, Md.

Audrey Marie Steiner married **Aaron Shrieves '00** on Sept. 15, 2007. Audrey is employed by FreeState Electric Co. as an accountant, and Aaron is a service technician at Communication International. The couple resides in Bowie, Md.

2005

Emily Anne Rollins married **Eliot Fielding '06** on June 23, 2007. They live in Frostburg, Md.

Jillian B. Snyder married **Sean Fradiska '96** on Dec. 29, 2007. Both Jill and Sean work at Carl Belt Inc. as accountants; Jill also serves as an executive assistant. The couple lives in Cresaptown, Md.



Four out of five doctors say broadcasting your news in ClassNotes prevents frown lines.

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Maiden Name _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Graduation Date/Major _____

Employer _____

Job Title _____

News About Yourself:

News and photos should be addressed to: *Profile*, 228 Hitchins, Frostburg State University, 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532-2303. You can send e-mail to alumni@frostburg.edu or fax us at 301.687.4069. You can also send us your info via our Web site: www.frostburg.edu (click on "Alumni").

Shane P. Mathews married Stephanie Lepley on Jan. 13, 2007. He is employed with Mid Atlantic Medical as a regional sales representative for Biomet Orthopedics. The couple resides in Cumberland, Md.

2006

Amanda Nicole Reitz married Scott Robier on March 14, 2008 in St. Lucia. Amanda is a financial analyst at Aon Consulting. The couple resides in Baltimore, Md.

2007

Jaelyn Renee Ayers married Aaron Laffey on Dec. 1, 2007. The couple resides in Cleveland, Ohio.

New Classnotes Format

This issue of *Profile* includes our new-format Classnotes, with separate sections for birth and adoption announcements, and for the announcement of marriages and other commitment ceremonies. We regret that we will no longer be able to publish wedding or baby photos. However, please continue to send other alumni-related photos.

In Memoriam



Morris Willey '72, '74, who died on June 10, 2008, came to Frostburg State as a student and made it his home. His educational specialty was the teaching of math, and guiding students at Frostburg State University became his life's work, culminating in his position as University Registrar. Outside of work, he tried to live a "green" life, which included tending a vegetable garden. He was also an avid runner and loved sailing on Deep

Creek Lake with his wife, Vicki. University colleagues mourning his death described him using terms like gentle, friendly, respectful, unpretentious and witty, or as one friend wrote, "just plain special."

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four daughters, Madison Lee, Blair Yates, Katherine Tara and Jennifer Lindsay. He was a member of Alpha Delta Chi.

Alumni

1925 Margaret M. Hanna Walsh
Jan. 16, 2008

1931 Mary Lucille Lupien
Jan. 25, 2008

1943 Mary T. McGregor
March 15, 2005

1953 June May
Dec. 16, 2008

1957 Donald Cale Drury
Aug. 14, 2007

1959 Marguerite H. Jobe
Dec. 17, 2007

1960 Ronald W. Detwiler
Feb. 10, 2006

1966 Jan F. Ross
Feb. 12, 2008

1967 Charles A. Miller
April 30, 2008

1969 Larry Mills
Aug. 27, 2007

Bud Moore
April 21, 2008

1971 Michael Shane McMillan
March 24, 2008

1972 Kathy M. Tewell
Dec. 3, 2007

Morris H. Willey
June 10, 2008

1973 Connie S. Higgins
May 23, 2008

1980 L. Scott McRae
June 1, 2008

1981 R.K. Mason
May 12, 2008

1985 Roger L. Gray
Feb. 8, 2008

Betty J. Poyner
Dec. 10, 2007

1994 Kevin Walter Brooksbank
May 25, 2008

Friends of the University

Marguerite E. Chaney Blocher
May 19, 2008

Bob Robert Delaney
April 3, 2008

Nancy Dugan
March 2, 2008

Patty A. Johnson
April 25, 2008

George B. Keller
April 29, 2008

Ross Keller
April 11, 2008

Dorothy Kerbow
Feb. 25, 2008

Ronald Rowe
March 19, 2008

Naomi Sine
May 1, 2008

George Nathan Stiles
Feb. 11, 2008

Constance K. Kittle Way
April 28, 2008

June Wilson
Feb. 19, 2008

Robert James Wilson
Feb. 15, 2008

Celebrating the Life & Legacy of Dr. Richard Sloop

A spirit of fun, shown in this group photo, helped to overcome the sadness of the first Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership retreat following the death of Dr. Richard Sloop, the beloved friend and teacher in whose honor the Institute was created.

Organizers felt the importance of educating the 2008 Sloop participants was central to his legacy, so the weekend was titled, "Celebrating the Life & Legacy of Dr. Richard Sloop," and a record number of alumni participated in the leadership weekend.



Bill Graves '65

Among the special moments of this year's institute, Jane Sloop was honored by the Alumni Association for her long and steadfast support of the University, and alumni and friends of Richard Sloop were given medallions for their part in helping to create the Institute. Keynote speaker was Bill Graves, (left) who honored the memory of his friend and mentor.



LEADERSHIP & HOMECOMING WEEKEND

OCTOBER 3-5, 2008

The weekend will include traditions like the Career Expo, the Bobcat Club Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, the All-Campus Sing, the Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting, an event honoring Leadership Donors, a Pre-Game Picnic, Tailgating and Bobcat Athletics!

But there's more to come. Please watch your mailbox and the Web site at alumni.frostburg.edu (click on "Leadership & Homecoming Weekend") for more details as they become available.

RENEWING FSU SPIRIT
SUPPORTING ATHLETES

alumni.frostburg.edu

COMING HOME

where have you been?

Have you shown your Bobcat pride around the world?

Chuck Dicken '96 did so by wearing his FSU wind breaker on a beautiful day in Dublin, Ireland.

We would love to see you wearing your Frostburg garb pictured with some of the world's more recognizable landmarks – whether it's the Eiffel Tower or the World's Largest Ball of String. Send photos (prints will be returned) with your name, address, class year and e-mail address to "World Pictures in Profile," Communications and Media Relations, Frostburg State University, 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532-2303 or e-mail emedcalf@frostburg.edu.



sports

Riggleman Named Seattle Mariners' Skipper

Bobcat Hall of Famer **Jim Riggleman '74** was named manager of the Seattle Mariners for the remainder of the 2008 season on June 19, after the team ousted John McLaren, according to a release from the major league baseball team.

Riggleman, who was the bench coach at the beginning of the season, is the 13th full-time manager in Mariners history. The team promptly won its first game under his leadership.

Riggleman, 55, has extensive Major League experience. He was the manager of the Chicago Cubs from 1995 to 1999, including helping the team win the NL Wild Card in 1998 with a 90-73 record. He began his managerial career with the San Diego Padres, taking over for the final 12 games of the 1992 season and managing the club in 1993 and 1994.

Overall, Riggleman has managed over 1,000 games in the Majors, compiling a career mark of 486-598 (.448). He also has nine seasons of Minor League managerial experience (1982 to 1992) during which he had a 558-554 (.502) career mark.

Riggleman, who was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the fourth round in 1974 draft, earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from Frostburg in 1974, where he played basketball and baseball.

He was selected as an NAIA All-American in 1974 after helping the Bobcats to a 25-12 overall record. That year Frostburg was an NAIA District Tournament qualifier and finished the season ranked 13th in the country. A member of the FSU Bobcat Hall of Fame, Riggleman holds several Frostburg State single-game records, including home runs (3), RBIs (8) and total bases (12).



Jim Riggleman '74

Pair Named to Maryland Coaches Hall of Fame

A pair of Frostburg alums, **Jerry Franks '67** and **Dave Schrodel '66**, were both inducted into the Maryland High School Football Coaches Association's State Football Hall of Fame on Feb. 16 at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, as part of the four-member 2007 class.

Franks, the head coach for the Huntingtown Hurricanes in Calvert County, has had an illustrious career that stretches back over 35 years. He started in 1972 at DeMatha Catholic High School in Hyattsville, Md.; 10 years later he had a record of 66-33.

After six years as an assistant with U.S. Naval Academy, Franks returned to the high school ranks, taking the head job at Northern High School in Calvert County and quickly turning the program around. After just one winning season in 15 years, the Patriots earned a 9-3 record and a playoff berth in Franks' first season.

After four successful years at Northern, Franks took over a struggling Calvert High School program. The Prince Frederick, Md., Cavaliers had earned a winning record just four times in 34 years. By his fourth year (2000), the Cavs were 12-1, winning the 3A state title. Franks has a 35-24 overall record with Calvert.

After his stint in the collegiate ranks in Connecticut, Franks returned to Calvert County, eventually becoming head coach at Huntingtown in 2004. Last fall, the 'Caines finished 7-3 and earned the program's first-ever playoff berth.

Schrodel coached for 34 years in the state of Maryland, mainly in Frederick County. In 1971, Schrodel got his first head coaching gig at Thomas Johnson High School and he never looked back.

He was head coach for both Thomas Johnson and Walkersville for over 14 years, collecting an overall 122-30 record, including three undefeated seasons and five state playoff teams.

While at Walkersville (1986 to 1992), Schrodel's squad posted a 67-15 record with four league championships and a state championship in 1987.

Schrodel was named Frederick County's Coach of the Year five times. Along with his state of Maryland hall of fame induction, Schrodel is a member of the Frederick County Sports Hall of Fame.



Jerry Franks '67



Dave Schrodel '66

— Noah Becker

Rohrs Earns Third National Championship

Frostburg junior **Sumer Rohrs** won her third national title of her career this spring when she finished first in the 100-meter hurdles at the 2008 NCAA Outdoor Championships in Oshkosh, Wis. That achievement followed her second NCAA Indoor Championships crown, earned in March.

Rohrs, whose two national championships come in the 55-meter hurdles, won the 100 hurdles with a time of 13.68. It is the second time she has been selected as a U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-American in the 100-meter hurdles, after garnering the same honor all three years during the indoor season in the 55 hurdles.

During the preliminaries, Rohrs set an FSU and J.J. Keller Field record in the 100 hurdles with a 13.92. She is just the third FSU athlete to be named an All-American in the 100-meter hurdles in FSU's history.

Rohrs also became the school's first-ever All-American in the 400-meter hurdles after she finished runner-up with a time of 60.71 at the NCAA Championships.

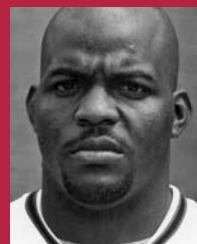
Despite being the only female student-athlete representing Frostburg at the championships, Rohrs helped the Bobcats finish the 2008 National Championships in a two-way tie for 15th place with a total of 18 points.



Sumer Rohrs



Kristie Delbrugge '89, '92



Joe Holland '95



Vicki (Avey) Lang '90



Linda Moscato-Gessner '93



Ron Wallace '97



Tracy (Wrenn) Webster '90, '94

Six to be Inducted into Bobcat Hall of Fame

FSU will induct six members into the Bobcat Athletics Hall of Fame at its annual induction ceremony on Oct. 3 as part of Leadership and Homecoming Weekend. This class, one of the largest since the first in 1971, will bring FSU's Hall of Fame to 155 members. Inductees are **Kristie Delbrugge '89, '92, Joe Holland '95, Vicki (Avey) Lang '90, Linda Moscato-Gessner '93, Ron Wallace '97 and Tracy (Wrenn) Webster '90, '94.**

Delbrugge was an outstanding two-sport athlete, a four-year letter winner and point guard for the women's basketball team and a two-year letter winner for the women's tennis team. As a senior, Delbrugge was Frostburg Female Athlete of the Year. Also:

Basketball: helped Bobcats to 71-38 overall record and two ECAC Championships; one of top point guards in school history; holds all-time mark in assists (832), averaging 208 per season; holds three of top four single-season assist records; as a senior, led nation with 273 assists; holds 12 of top 13 single-game assist records, including school record of 20.

Tennis: 22-4 overall singles record, 18-8 doubles; ESAC singles champion in 1988-89 and 1989-90 seasons; ESAC doubles champion in 1989-90.

Holland was one of the best defensive linemen to play for the football program throughout its 46-year history. During his four-year career, Holland helped the Bobcats to their first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance and victory, an ECAC Southeast Championship and an ECAC Southeast runner-up finish. Also:

Freshman, sophomore years: 57 total tackles, three sacks, two pass breakups, a tackle for loss and a forced fumble; as a freshman helped FSU earn its first-ever ECAC Southeast championship.

Junior year: 72 total tackles; led team in sacks (3) and tackles for loss (9); helped team to one of best seasons ever, finishing 10-2 and NCAA Tournament quarterfinalists.

Senior year: Coaches' First Team All-American (formally Kodak All-American); College Football Preview Magazine Pre-Season All-American; 67 total tackles; helped Bobcats post 8-2-1 overall record toward ECAC Southwest runner-up finish.

Lang enters the Hall of Fame as a four-year letter winner as a distance runner for women's track & field. She was a two-time All-Eastern College Athletic Conference selection, five-time Mason-Dixon Conference Champion and school record holder in five events. She holds three individual school records: the 3,000-meter indoor (10:22.15), the 3,000-meter outdoor (10:25.00) and the 5,000-meter indoor (18:24.49). She also holds school records in the 4x800-meter relay (10:08.00) and the distance medley relay (12:46.00). Also:

Freshman year: three school records; captured 5,000-, 10,000-meter runs in outdoor season; 3,000-meter record in indoor season.

Sophomore year: All-ECAC and All-Mason-Dixon Conference in 3,000-meter run.

Junior year: All-ECAC in 5,000-meter run; All-Mason-Dixon Conference in both 3,000- and 5,000-meter runs; broke two of her own school records in 5,000-, 10,000-meter runs.

Senior year: All-Mason-Dixon Conference during outdoor season; voted Frostburg's Most Outstanding Runner.

Moscato-Gessner ended her lacrosse career as one of the most prolific scorers in the program's history. A four-year letter, she scored 192 goals, 57 assists and 237 total points and collected numerous honors: USWLA First Team All-American, two-time Brine/Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association South Regional All-America and North/South Regional All-Star Game participant. She also helped the Bobcats to their most successful four-year run with a 47-14 overall record. Also:

Junior year: 54 goals, 22 assists (career numbers); voted Most Outstanding Attack Player; helped Bobcats to first-ever NCAA Division III Tournament berth; school

finished with highest ranking ever.

Senior year: voted Most Valuable Player; scored 46 goals, 19 assists, 65 points; Bobcats took ECAC Championship with 9-5 record.

Wallace was a two-time All-American and one of the best secondary players in Frostburg football history. A three-year letter winner, Wallace helped the Bobcats rank among some of the nation's best defensive units throughout his career and is the school's all-time leader in interceptions (19). Also:

Freshman year: helped Bobcats earn first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance and victory.

Sophomore year: helped Bobcats to runner-up finish in ECAC Southeast Championship; six interceptions for 109 yards, one touchdown; third on team with five pass breakups.

Junior year: Honorable Mention Hewlett-Packard All-American; career-high 72 tackles; team-leading six interceptions for 46 yards, 17 pass breakups.

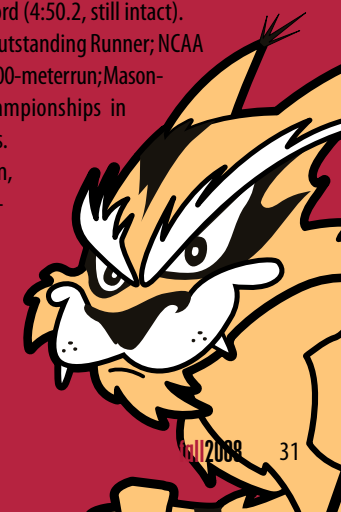
Senior year: AFCA Division III All-American at defensive back; preseason All-American by College Football Preview; helped Bobcats capture ECAC Southwest Championship; started all 11 games; made 35 total tackles; team-leading seven interceptions; on special team returned six punts for 152 yards and two touchdowns.

Webster was a three-year letter winner and two-time All-American for the women's track and field teams. She made an immediate impact when she transferred to Frostburg as a sophomore, earning an All-American in her first season. Also:

Sophomore year: ECAC Championship with school record (4:37.60, still intact) in 1,500-meter run in outdoor season; NCAA National qualifier in 800-meter run; All-Mason-Dixon Conference in indoor season 1,500-meter run, setting school record (4:50.2, still intact).

Junior year: FSU's Most Outstanding Runner; NCAA qualifier; All-ECAC in 1,500-meter run; Mason-Dixon Conference Championships in 800-, 1,500-meter runs.

Senior year: All-American, 800-meter run; Mason-Dixon Conference Championships in 800-meter, 1,500-meter runs; Mason-Dixon Most Valuable Performer; FSU's Most Outstanding Runner.



sports wrap-up

Winter '08

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team finished the 2007-08 season with a 9-16 record overall, along with an 8-10 record in AMCC play. FSU struggled through the first half of the season, posting only three wins in 16 games. They came together late in the season, however, winning six of the last nine, recording upsets over conference leaders Penn State Behrend and Lake Erie. The bright spot came as the Bobcats won eight of 10 games at home, missing the final AMCC playoff spot by one game. Individually, senior Jade Belt was nominated to Second Team All-AMCC.

Women's Basketball

Winning four of its final five games, the women's basketball team finished 9-16 overall and 6-12 in the AMCC in 07-08. The Bobcats opened 3-0, including a Jim Crowley Tournament Championship but fell on hard times with an eight-game losing skid. FSU won two of the next three but endured a six-game losing streak to drop to 5-15 overall. The Bobcats built momentum for the next season as they ended their season with four wins in five games. Elizabeth Carrington was the lone Bobcat selected to an All-AMCC team, collecting honorable mention honors.

Men's Swimming

The men's swim team finished with a 2-8 record, fourth in the AMCC conference finals in just their second season of conference competition. In the regular season, they recorded victories over Pitt-Bradford (77-63) and Bethany (108-46).

The Bobcats placed two individuals and a relay team on the All-AMCC teams. The 200-yard Medley Relay consisted of Bill Ford, Charlie Swartz, Zach Koval and Griffen Williams won second team honors. Freshman Bill Ford took home first team honors in the 1650 Free and Griffen Williams won second place in the 400 IM.



Elizabeth Carrington

Women's Swimming

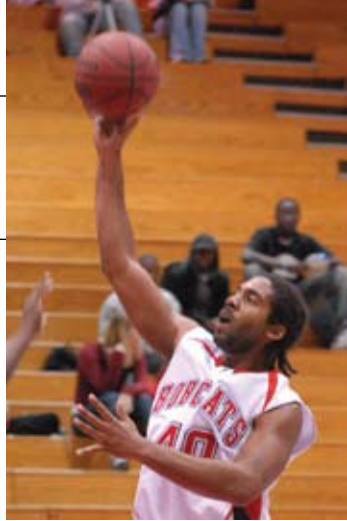
In the conference championship, the Bobcats finished just three points from second in just their second season of conference competition. They collected a 1-9 record on the season as they finished the second half sweep over Pitt-Bradford (63-33). Individually the team was led by the AMCC swimmer of the year senior Shannon Dunnigan, who took home three first team All-AMCC honors and broke her own school record with a 18:46.82 in the 1650 Freestyle. Sophomore Thirza Roberto also received three individual honors, first team honors in the 200 Backstroke and second team in the 100 Breaststroke and 100 Backstroke. FSU also placed four relay teams on the all-conference selections. The 200 Medley Relay, with junior Mindy Yost, junior Michelle Nash, Roberto and Dunnigan, took home first-team honors. The same group also made up the 400 Medley Relay, 400 and 800 Free Relays; each was selected to the second team.

Men's Indoor Track & Field

The men's indoor track & field team capped a solid season with a pair of individual ECAC participants: Brian Leiter in third place with a school record in the 800-meter run (1:53.21) at the ECAC Championships, and Arien Heggs in 16th in the preliminaries in the 55-meter dash in 6.67. Leiter, the team MVP, won in four different meets, including a pair of wins at both the Bison Open and the Frank Colden Invitational. Leiter accented his season by being named the Male Most Outstanding Track Athlete at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships, winning both the 800-meter and one-mile runs. Two others captured top-10 finishes at the conference championship, Heggs, at sixth in 55-meter dash (6.72), and Steven Flannagan, third in the 55-meter hurdles (8.55).

Women's Indoor Track & Field

Sumer Rohrs dominated the indoor season with her second-straight National Championship and third-consecutive All-American honor in the 55-meter hurdles. At the NCAA Championships, she set a field house and FSU record while capturing the nation's fastest time with a 7.96 in the 55-meter hurdles. Rohrs also collected Mideast Region Women's Track Athlete of the Year honors, two ECAC Championships, an ECAC Meet record in the 55-meter hurdles, Mason-Dixon



Jade Belt

Conference Female Most Outstanding Track Athlete honors and two ECAC Athlete of the Week awards.

The team finished second at the Mason-Dixon Conference Indoor Championships. Jessica Clingan, Gwen Massey and Kendal Moss each recorded

victories. Clingan was first in the 400-meter dash (1:00.25), Massey won the 800-meter run (2:23.31) and Moss took the pole vault (2.50 meters). At the ECAC's, Clingan was sixth in the 55-meter hurdles (8.66) and Massey set the school record (1:53.21) after placing eighth.

Spring '08

Softball

The softball team had a strong season with a runner-up finish at the AMCC Championship Tournament, 13 school and individual records set and three All-AMCC selections. The Bobcats smashed the single-season homerun record as the team totaled 23, surpassing the previous mark of 11 set in 2006. FSU also set the school record for hits (331), at bats (1,174) and walks (137). Individually, Samantha Quirin led the team and set the single-season record with seven homeruns, Amanda Baldwin set the single-season walk record (30) and Kaitlyn Wagner set the record for sacrifice bunts (9).

They finished with a 21-22 overall record, with six wins in their last nine games, including a thrilling run at the AMCC Championship. Frostburg defeated Pitt-Bradford (9-2), Medaille (3-0) and Lake Erie (9-0) in the first three games of the tournament before dropping back-to-back games to Penn State Behrend in the Championship. Katelyn Coffey and Brooke Tapman were selected to the All-AMCC second team while Quirin was named to the honorable mention team.

Baseball

The Bobcats finished 22-15 overall and 14-4 in the AMCC under first-year head coach Guy Robertson. FSU advanced to the AMCC Tournament championship round, defeating Lake Erie 17-6 before losing to Penn State Behrend and being eliminated by Pitt-Bradford. Five Bobcats were selected to the All-AMCC teams: three second-team honorees, Allen Peake, Brett Mitchell and Jeff Kroboth; and honorable mentions Gary Wolfe and Joe Clark. Peake set several

career records, including games played (166), RBIs (152) and hit by pitch (39). He is also second all-time in school history with 26 career homeruns. Classmate Andrew Speights also holds three career records, at bats (584), hits (198) and doubles (49) and is second on the career list in total bases (285).

The Bobcats started just 3-9 but rebounded with a nine-game winning streak to sit at 12-9 overall. FSU finished the regular season with a 9-4 record over its final 13 games, including conference sweeps of Medaille and Pitt-Greensburg and a non-league sweep of St. Mary's (Md.).

Women's Lacrosse

Under first-year head coach Ashley Manion, the women's lacrosse team finished the season 8-9 overall with a pair of three-game winning streaks. The Bobcats had a slow start but the team rebounded with four wins in the next five games to draw its record to 4-3 overall. FSU then dropped four of five before the second three-game winning streak, improving its record to 8-7 overall. FSU dropped its final two games of the season, including to No. 2 ranked College of New Jersey. Seniors Lindsay Lamont and Carly Rihard ended their careers ranked among FSU all-time top scorers.

Men's Tennis

The men's tennis team suffered just a 1-16 overall record despite having two of the region's top two players, senior Matt Chisholm and junior Gregg Shedd. Chisholm earned First Team All-AMCC honors in No. 1 doubles and was a Second Team All-AMCC selection in No. 2 singles. He earned eight singles wins and a 13-4 overall record in

doubles action this spring, including a perfect 7-0 doubles record against the AMCC. Shedd, Chisholm's doubles partner, was also selected to the First Team All-AMCC for No. 1 doubles. He received second team all-conference honors in No. 1 singles. Shedd finished the spring season 10-7 in No. 1 singles action and was 14-4 in No. 1 doubles.

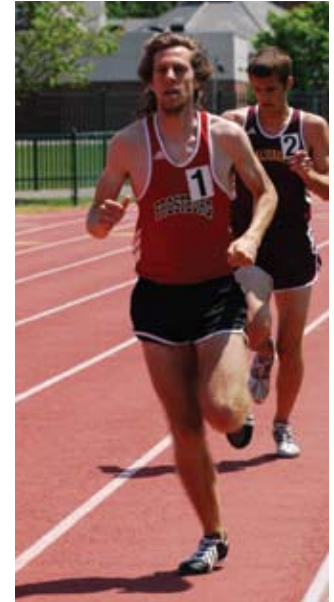
Men's Outdoor Track & Field

The men's track & field team had a solid outdoor season, capped by junior Brian Leiter's All-American award at the NCAA Championships. Leiter captured fifth in the 800-meter run in 1:52.48.

As a team, FSU took sixth place at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships and sent four to the ECAC Championships. At the ECACs, the 4x400-meter relay team (Leiter, Kyle Henning, Tarik Muhammad and Steve Flanagan) finished 20th in 3:27.80. Leiter won the 800-meter run and set the school record with a 1:51.90. At the conference championships, Leiter won the 1,500-meter run (3:54.37), Flanagan took fourth in the 400-meter hurdles (57.64) and the 110-meter hurdles (16.64) and senior Chris Mead finished his career with a fourth-place 3,000-meter steeplechase finish (10:19.24).

Women's Outdoor Track & Field

Sumer Rohrs again highlighted the women's track & field season, capturing her third National Championship after finishing first in



Brian Leiter

the 100-meter hurdles in 13.68 at the NCAA Championships. Rohrs, a two-time indoor National Champion, also captured outdoor All-American honors in the 400-meter hurdles after finishing second (60.71).

Rohrs earned numerous honors on the season, including Mideast Region Women's Track Athlete of the Year, Mason-Dixon Conference Outdoor Championships Female Most Outstanding Athlete, 2007-08 AMCC Faculty Representative Award, ECAC Track Athlete of the Week and All-ECAC

and Mason-Dixon Conference honors in a total of five events.

At the ECAC Championships, Rohrs won the 100-meter hurdles (14.35) and was third in the 200-meter run (25.19). Senior Jessica Clingan also took home All-ECAC honors after finishing eighth in the 100-meter hurdles (15.98), 25th in the 100-meter dash (13.11) and 23rd in the 400-meter hurdles (1:08.47).

As a team, FSU recorded a third-place finish at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships in early May. Rohrs, junior Jennifer Patton, sophomore Gwen Massey and freshmen Emily Furr and Ann Patron all collected victories at the conference championships.

—NB

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FSU student Dawn Lucas helps two New Orleans girls with their reading at one of the schools visited by Dr. Troy Strieby and a group of FSU students. The group is focusing its efforts on helping New Orleans schools following the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina.

It's Still Hard in the Big Easy, but Frostburg's Trying to Help

By Amanda Baldwin '08

A banner inside **Dr. Troy Strieby's** office reads, "If you want the rainbow, you'll have to put up with the rain." Strieby, an assistant professor in the FSU Department of Health and Physical Education, has made six trips to help rebuild New Orleans, and after three years, he feels that New Orleans has put up with enough rain.

"I got a good awakening to what is really going on," Strieby says. "Kids, schools, citizens — everyone and everything is still rebuilding."

During the recent Spring Break, a group of FSU students was able to see firsthand how Hurricane Katrina is still punishing New Orleans. Juniors Ali Keeney, Laura Weimer and Brittany Burns and seniors Dawn Lucas and Britney Simmons accompanied Strieby to New Orleans to assist with his efforts.

Katrina's severe winds began to destroy New Orleans in August 2005. The federally built levee system designed to protect the city failed miserably. Among the buildings that were devastated by the resulting flood were 110 of the city's 126 schools.

"The first day we were down there we saw people living in tents, under bridges — it was the biggest reality check ever," says Burns. She noted

that even the local Wal-Mart had not returned.

Strieby and the Frostburg students have been focusing their efforts in particular on helping the city's schools, which are suffering from much more than a loss of their buildings.

"The first-grade class we helped varied in age from six years to nine years old, and some of these kids were just coming back to school,"

Strieby and the Frostburg students have been focusing their efforts in particular on helping the city's schools, which are suffering from much more than a loss of their buildings.

Weimer says, noting that the disruption from Katrina broke down structure in both homes and schools.

Most schools cannot afford textbooks, and those that can normally have one for every three or four students. Students are given worksheets instead.

The FSU students recognized that teachers



Helpers unload a truck filled to the brim with playground and athletic equipment destined for New Orleans schools. FSU students, staff and other volunteers collected the equipment from the local community and from teams that Bobcats play.

had problems dividing students by skill levels in classroom activities; all student records had been lost to Katrina. Classes were given new students almost on a daily basis, and often, the classes would get a new teacher as well, making a consistent teacher-class relationship nearly impossible.

To create a better scholastic environment for the children, Strieby has teamed up with New Orleans native Troy Peloquin to remodel classrooms, paint gyms and build playgrounds. Peloquin, who has not moved back into his home since Katrina, has arranged for organizations such as KaBOOM!, a group that builds playgrounds, to help with the efforts.

A big part of the FSU efforts to help New Orleans schools has involved collecting athletic equipment. In addition to local equip-

ment drives and donations from some FSU teams, other teams in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference — Bobcat rivals such as Pitt-Bradford, Penn State Behrend and Penn State Altoona — have donated as well.

"I think that it is wonderful that Dr. Strieby has taken the initiative to organize and deliver these goods to New Orleans," says Penn State Behrend Athletic Director Brian Streeter, whose teams have donated baseballs, bats, basketballs, soccer balls, Frisbees and clothing. "It is hoped that by his efforts, he is teaching our student-athletes that it is not only the receiver who benefits, but also the givers who learn how a small, kind deed can serve communities in need for many years to come."

Keeney was astonished to learn that it would take another 20 to 30 years before New Orleans would be able to survive a similar hurricane, but everyone was impressed by the spirit of the people they met.

"They definitely have their strong roots and soul. You could tell that they love where they're from," Weimer says.

"The passion is amazing!" Strieby says of the efforts in New Orleans. "People are trying to come back with a stronger presence."

The students who returned from New Orleans brought with them a renewed commitment to help. Weimer, as part of her Citizen Leader class, put together a concert to benefit public schools in the Big Easy. The May concert, held at the Draft Zone on Main Street, featured images Weimer collected while in New Orleans.

"I would love to make it an annual thing," Weimer says.

Strieby plans to help New Orleans until he is no longer needed, and then he will continue elsewhere. "No matter where the issue is, when New Orleans is fixed, we should look for other areas where we can help make a child well-rounded."



Tom Rogish '81



Missy Grosman



Ashley Manion



Guy Robertson



Dale Luy

New Coaches Take the Lead for Bobcat Teams

Over the past year, five new coaches have joined Frostburg State University, with Tom Rogish, the new football coach, named most recently. All seem to be off to a good start.

Rogish '81, an FSU master's graduate, was named 12th head coach in the program's 47-year history this spring, bringing more than 30 years of coaching experience to Frostburg, including 29 years in the collegiate ranks. Rogish began his collegiate coaching career at Juniata (Division III), but has spent the last 22 years at the Division II level at perennial powers Indiana (Pa.) and Shepherd (W.Va.).

Prior to his arrival in Frostburg, Rogish spent two years on the defensive staff at Shepherd College. The Rams made back-to-back trips to the NCAA Tournament in 2006 and 2007, including a run to the NCAA Division II Northeast Region championship this past fall.

"Frostburg State University has always had a good academic and athletic reputation," Rogish says. "This is also a very exciting time to be at this great institution because of all the changes that are taking place. With those changes to the administration and coaching staff, the University is moving in the right direction, and I'm thrilled to be a part of it."

Missy Grosman, the new field hockey coach, is the 13th head coach in the program's 37-year history. She guided the Bobcats to an 11-6 overall record this fall, turning around a team that won just six games the year before. FSU's winning percentage (0.647) is the best for a team since the 1999 squad posted a 13-5 overall record and a 0.722 winning percentage. The 2007 Bobcats finished the fall season winning six of their final seven games.

Ashley Manion, women's lacrosse coach, guided the Bobcats to an 8-9 season in her first year after the team won just five games in 2007. The women's lacrosse team posted a pair of three-game winning streaks during the season, including scoring a season-high 23 goals against Lancaster Bible on April 15, one of two games in which the Bobcats scored 20 or more goals.

Guy Robertson, baseball, is the 12th head coach in program's 63-year history. In his first season, he led the team to a 22-15 overall record, with a 14-4 Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference mark. The team posted a nine-game winning streak in early April and had five players selected as All-AMCC.

Dale Luy coached Sumer Rohrs to her second-straight national championship and third-straight All-American honor during the indoor season in the 55-meter hurdles. In addition, Rohrs capped an excellent first year for Luy by winning her first career outdoor national championship in the 100-meter hurdles. Frostburg State women finished second at the Mason-Dixon Conference Indoor Championships and third at the Mason-Dixon Conference Outdoor Championships. In all, 16 student-athletes competed at NCAA and ECAC Championships during both the indoor and outdoor track seasons.

Bobcat Races Across America

Dr. Greg Whyte '93, an FSU master's degree graduate and a former two-time British Olympian in the pentathlon, met up with some old FSU friends near Frostburg this June while he was participating in "Race Across America," an event in which bikers ride in what is called the "World's Toughest Bicycle Race" from Oceanside, Calif., to Annapolis, Md. Greeting Whyte are Frostburg Athletics retiree Susan Eisel and Dr. Art Siemann of the Department of Physical Education (in red), as well as Richard Godfrey, a scientist and a crew member for Whyte's Team CRY-Randox. Whyte's team was raising money for the health organization Cardiac Risk in the Young, where he is chief executive officer. He is also a professor in sport science at Liverpool University.



the last word



Photo by Ann Townsell

Preparation

Behind every moment on stage, every image on a wall, every book on a shelf lies hours of preparation, practice, revision and imagination. Like all artists, those at Frostburg State University work tirelessly to find the right note, the right color, the right phrase, the right step. And when the hard work is finished the results seem simply . . . effortless.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

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Tickets for all of the 2008-2009 season events go on sale at 9AM on August 25, 2008. Ticket purchases may be made at the Box Office, Room 235, Lane University Center, Frostburg State University; by calling the Box Office at 301.687.3137 or toll free 1.866.TIXX.CES (1.866.849.9237) or on the web site at <http://ces.frostburg.edu>.

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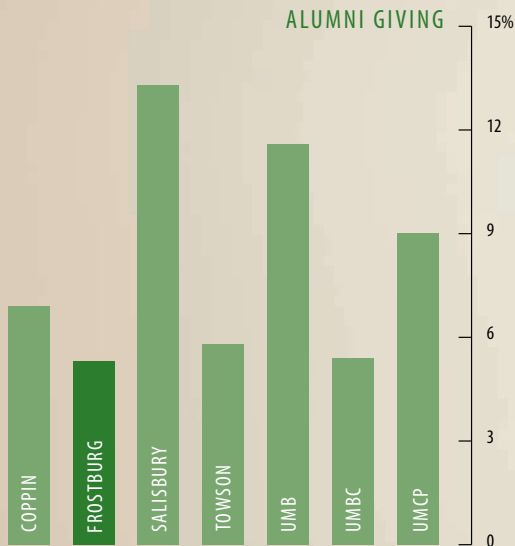
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