Grad Scholarship for Disabled Students Launched
The late Bayne Richmond “Rick” Dudley, who was born with cerebral palsy and served as an advocate for persons with disabilities under three Maryland governors, has willed some $300,000 to the SU Foundation to establish a scholarship. This is the first endowment fund in the University System of Maryland for a scholarship dedicated to graduate study for persons with disabilities.

Dudley, who died in December 2001 at age 53, became introduced to SU when his cousin Dr. Janet Dudley-Eshbach became its president in 2000. The scholarship will provide recipients up to $5,000 a year.

USA Today Names Ward Museum A Great Place for Folk Art
USA Today has named Salisbury University’s Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art as one of the 10 great places to see American folk art.

Officials at the Ward, the only mid-Atlantic museum listed, are delighted to be in such company. The museum has one of the most respected collections of wildfowl carvings in the world, from historic decoy to fine art.

The Ward Museum is a tireless promoter of the tradition, both locally and nationally, sponsoring the nation’s largest carving competition and exhibition each spring in Ocean City, M.D. The museum also has been asked to be a partner with the Smithsonian Institution in putting on the annual National Folklife Festival held on the Mall in Washington, D.C., this summer.

Science Hall Earns Design Honors
SU’s Henson Science Hall is one of the best-designed new buildings in Maryland, according to the Maryland Society chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The chapter recently announced its selection of Henson Hall for a 2003 Hono Award. Of 75 designs submitted for consideration, four were selected as Honor Award winners.

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Sea Gulls Continue Soaring
For the second consecutive year, SU is included in the Top Tier rankings of U.S. News & World Reports 2004 America’s Best Colleges. SU is in the Best Universities—Master’s category—North region, which includes both public and private universities. Salisbury also was ranked No. 4 among public universities of its kind in the North.

Also for the second consecutive year, SU is featured in Kaplan’s The Unofficial, Unbiased Insiders Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges (from among 3,500 public and privates in the nation). The guide highlights the University’s commitment to undergraduate research and service learning programs.

In the October issue of Kiplinger’s Personal Finance, SU is 75th among the more than 600 public colleges and universities in the country surveyed. The listing includes SU as one of the 100 best values in higher education.

SU is featured for the fifth straight year in The Princeton Review’s Best 351 Colleges, which represents the top 10 percent of some 3,500 public and private colleges and universities nationally. The Princeton Review also placed Salisbury in the top 20 percent of most technologically advanced campuses.

Leading the Relay for Life
SU’s Relay for Life event has been named the No. 1 college relay in the Mid-Atlantic Division by population. SU’s relay event raised $4.95 per capita based on its student population in 2003, netting some $35,000 to benefit the American Cancer Society.

The University named Relay For Life its best new community service event and best new registered student organization in 2002, when it raised $23,000 in its inaugural year.

SU’s event also helped Wicomico County earn an award as the No. 1 fund-raising county in the nation based on population.

“Cancer has become a disease that touches almost everyone’s life in some way,” said Rebecca Lyons, co-coordinator of SU’s Relay. “Working with Relay for Life on campus gives all of the students a chance to make a difference and to participate in such a worthwhile cause.”

At SU, Relay For Life teams are asked to raise at least $100 per member, averaging $1,200 per team. Team members take turns walking or running around a track set for the event in 30-minute intervals. Each team makes a commitment to have one member on the track during the entire 12-hour relay period.

“The common goal is the fight against cancer,” co-coordinator Jason Copley said. “The money that each team raises goes towards cancer education, research and patient services.”

SU’s 2004 Relay For Life is held in April on the campus Intramural Field.