# FERRIS STATE

www.fsutorch.com Truth, Fairness & Accuracy Since 1931 September 3, 2014

# Up, up-eventually Michigan minimum wage sees significant raise

Megan E. Smith Ferris State Torch

The passing of the Workforce Opportunity Act will provide all students working at campus facilities with a significant raise in pay. The act, passed last May, will require the state minimum wage to be raised annually over a period of five years until it finally hits \$9.25 per hour on January 1, 2018. The first of these annual increases took effect on September 1, increasing the minimum wage from \$7.40 to \$8.15. Ferris State University made the decision to implement the transition early on August 17.

According to Student Employment and Financial Aid Advisor John Randle, it was much more efficient for both the Office of Student Employment and the Payroll Office to process each student's repaperwork for the old rate and then again two weeks later when the increase officially took place.

In addition to raising the minimum wage, the university is also increasing the pay rate for all student workers on campus.

"Preliminary estimates are that [the wage increase] will require more than \$500,000 in new funding so that student hours are not impacted," said Randle. "This fundi n g

cords once instead of filling out will be pro- ▲ vided through a variety of sources departmental funds,

tral funds, financial aid dollars in the case of Work Study."

Student workers who are concerned about the possibility of their hours being cut don't have to worry.

"The goal of providing the additional funding was to offset reductions in student work hours," Randle said. The maximum amount of hours students can work will remain at 26 hours per week. However, most student emplovees

only

work around 15 hours a week.

The increase in wages also has vet to impact how much on-campus hiring has been going on so far this year, which is good news for students seeking employment. According to Randle, the number of employment opportunities seems good compared to previous years, though he urges students to apply for jobs early on, since there are fewer opportunities later in the semester.

"Students should know that working on campus can be very beneficial," Randle said. "Studies show that students who work on campus are more likely to stay in school and graduate. They also develop work skills that will help them in their future full-time employment. Then, of course, there is the experience and income that student employment provides. I would encourage students to



NEWS

September 3, 2014 FERRIS STATE TORCH

# Search for Kendall president begins

# Committee assembling to find proper replacement for KCAD

**Devin Anderson** 

Ferris State Torch

Kendall College of Art and Design (KCAD) has begun the search for its next president by assembling a committee that will conduct interviews regarding the position throughout the year. The committee will be headed by Cindy Todd, the Program Director of Art Education at KCAD, and Ron Ricksen, the Academic Dean and Professor of Graphic Design.

In a recent campus memorandum, Ferris President David Eisler remarked that he is "confident they will provide superb leadership to the committee and the College in this role." The committee is set to be comprised of various members of KCAD faculty and, according to Todd, is close to being finalized.

"Together we will all write the position description and I expect it will be posted in the early fall," Todd said. In addition, Todd and Ricksen are interviewing search firms to aid in looking nationally for the right candidate. Ricksen also commented that the "process is on schedule and all systems are go."

The new KCAD president will replace Oliver Evans, who has served as interim president since former president David Rosen's sudden and yet-to-be-explained resignation last April. Evans served as KCAD's president for 18 years prior to the hiring of Rosen in 2012. Under Evans' administration, KCAD saw huge growth in enrollment, increased program offerings and a merge with Ferris during its 2000-2001 academic year.

KCAD continued to expand during Rosen's term in office. Notable initiatives under Rosen's year and 10 month presidency include the creation of various masters programs as well as further integration of KCAD into the Grand Rapids and greater Michigan art community.

Rosen's tenure may have been short-lived, but KCAD's student body showed him large support during his departure. Jenelle Grenier, a junior majoring in Illustration at KCAD, feels that Rosen's leadership provided great opportunity for students.

"KCAD lost a president who tried his hardest to make the school a good learning environment for students," Grenier said.

Rosen's abrupt departure raised many questions about Ferris' high level of involvement with KCAD. Rumors circulated that Rosen felt too much constraint from the Ferris administration, and some going as far as questioning the necessity of a KCAD president at all under Eisler's surrounding leader-

ship. Despite speculation, Rosen stated in an email to faculty and students that his resignation was voluntary and that he was "fully satisfied with the terms and conditions of [his] departure."

Marc Sheehan, KCAD's Communications Officer under president Eisler, only commented that the University accepted the resignation with regret. Under University policy, other details of employee resignations are kept private.

KCAD students and staff felt a shift in momentum following the change in faculty. Shortly after news of Rosen's resignation broke, MLive reported that KCAD faculty issued a vote of 'no confidence' in the newly reappointed president Evans. In its press release, KCAD's senate and association expressed to Ferris that they "do not want to take the same path as was followed during the 18 years of leadership under Dr. Evans."

Amidst these irregular circumstances, Ricksen and Todd continue the hiring process with a sense of duty. "It is an important task and I am excited and honored to be a part it," Todd said. "Choosing the next president determines the future of the college. I know the committee will take its charge seriously and I have great hopes for things to come."

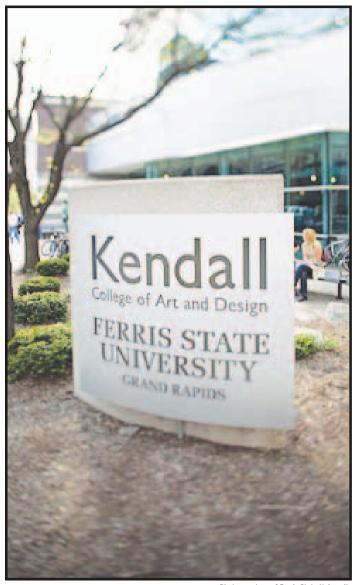


Photo courtesy of Ferris State University

Exterior of Kendall College of Art and Design (KCAD)

# Check out FSUTORCH.COM



# MINIMUM WAGE from Page 1

# How will wage increases impact students?

work on or off campus, but to remember that school comes first. If there is a magic number as far as how much is too much for a student to work, I would say try to limit work to twenty hours or less during the school year, if possible."

All student workers can expect to be earning at least \$8.15 per hour, but there are four different levels of pay ranges that student jobs fall under as categorized by Ferris' Student Employment website. Level one, which requires only routine training and no prior work experience pays from \$8.15 to \$8.45 an hour. The

second level, in which the tasks get more difficult and prior work experience may be necessary pays from \$8.40 to \$8.75/hour. Level three, which raises the bar for training and experience even further, pays from \$8.75 to \$9.15/hour and level four from \$9.15 to up to \$12/hour.

"We have an incredible student workforce of more than two thousand students annually," Randle said. "While it is often a challenge any time wages are increased, the benefits we gain from hiring students far outweigh any financial concerns."

The Student Employment Of

fice works with all departments on campus to determine which level any given position should belong to. If a department believes a student should be paid higher than the level they belong to, the department contacts Student Employment, which compares the position with similar jobs on campus to decide if raising their wages is warranted.

To facilitate the gradual minimum wage increase in the coming years the University realizes that further accommodations will need to be made.

"Although there are no plans in place yet, there are increases required to begin January of 2016 to \$8.50, January 2017 to \$8.90 and January 2018 to \$9.25," said Randle. "Ferris State University will comply with those requirements. The university, however, has not determined how it will implement the increases. The process may be different because the increases occur mid-year instead of at the beginning of the academic year. Ferris will do whatever is best for all involved."

For more information about student employment on campus go to http://www.ferris.edu/admissions/financialaid/employment/ for details.



**OFFERING MONTHLY & SEMESTER MEMBERSHIPS** 

FERRIS STATE TORCH

# First class carnival **TORCH NEWS BRIEFS** Carnival in the quad starts off the semester with a bang

**Ben Rettinhouse** 

**News Editor** 

#### **Cultural Connections Open House**

The Office of Multicultural Student Services, the Office of International Education and the Center for Latino Studies hosted the Cultural Connections Open House on Friday Aug. 29 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Concurrent open houses will take place at the OMSS, in FLITE 159; in OIE, in IRC, room 134; and the CLS, in IRC 131 to encourage visitors to learn about opportunities in each department. Attendees of Cultural Connections participated in a scavenger hunt and sampled authentic food dishes. Students who visited all three locations will have a chance to be entered into giveaways for various prizes.

"Cultural Connections is a great way for students to get involved and figure out where all of the offices are located," said Jazmine Goode, a student worker in OMSS in a quote from the Ferris news website. "It's going to be a really fun event and we can't wait to see some new faces."

#### \$24,000 Awarded in Legacy Scholarships

Alumni Associations Legacy Scholarships awarded \$24,000 in scholarships to 21 Ferris students for the 2014-2015 year.

The Legacy Scholarship recognizes the academic achievements and leadership potential in students whose parent, sibling or grandparent is a Ferris alumni. Students can be awarded up to \$2,000, which is presented in two equal increments for two consecutive semesters.

To be considered for the scholarship, the student must be related to a Ferris alumnus, but must also have a 2.75 cumulative grade point average and have successfully completed a minimum of two full-time semesters. Those applying must submit an essay that describes their personal career goals as well as a letter from the Ferris graduate describing the effect their educational experiences had on their life and a recommendation by a Ferris faculty or staff member.

Recipients will be honored at the Legacy Luncheon on Saturday, Sept. 20 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center beginning at 2 p.m.

## TORCH **CORRECTIONS**

Were we mistaken?

Let us know about it.

Corrections can be submitted through email at torch@ferris.edu or by calling 231.591.5946





CAMPUS PROGRAMMING BOARD

#### **Megan Smith**

Ferris State Torch

The First Class Carnival started the 2014/2015 academic year off with a bang... literally. The carnival took place in the North Quad on Monday, August 25th and began with loud thunder, rain and flashes of lightning. It was advertised in advance that the carnival would take place rain or shine. The rain location was the terrace of Helen Ferris Hall, but the rain ended before it was necessary to relocate.

The family-friendly carnival, took place this year for the first time ever, was the product of Student Government and Entertainment Unlimited. Since there has been a decline in attendance to events all across campus, the two organizations teamed up to plan an event unlike anything Ferris has ever seen before with the hopes that more students would want to get involved.

"The majority of events on campus involve the students in a strictly audience-type setting, so we have been trying to do more interactive events to pique interest," said Aaron Wyse, an EU member involved in coordinating the carnival.

Over 600 people were invited to attend on the event's Facebook page, 100 of whom RSVP'd that they were attending. It is unclear how many students actually showed up.

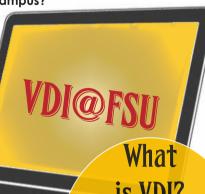
In spite of the weather conditions, Wyse said there was still an impressive turn-out. "I don't know the exact number of attendees, but there was a steady stream of attendees that came out for the food and fun," Wyse said. "The majority of students that came out seemed to enjoy themselves and a few new students even came to the Entertainment Unlimited meeting that night. I

See Carnival on Page 4



Don't have time to go to the lab to use a special software title for a class? Don't feel like braving bad weather to use special software on a lab computer? Don't live on campus?

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- Project 2013 • Python 2.7
- Snagit
- SPSS V20
- Visio 2013
- Visual Studio 2013



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NEWS NEWS

September 3, 2014 FERRIS STATE TORCI

# Board orders new MyFSU

# 10-year-old online portal for students to be replaced

**Devin Anderson** 

Ferris State Torch

The Board of Trustees has authorized the replacement of MyFSU with an upgraded system. In July, the Board's agenda included a request for a modernized platform called Ellucian Luminis 5. The version of MyFSU currently in use is approximately ten years old.

The focus of the Luminis

5 portal is to provide a more "content-rich" experience for students, supporting a broader range of media elements such as embedded video. Ellucian's website boasts streamlined tech support and is used by more than 800 colleges and universities.

Ethan Wagner, a senior in computer networks and systems, commented on the upgrade and his experience with Ellucian while working at TAC last year.

"I'll be glad to see it done. We

use Ellucian for after-hours tech support," Wagner said. "It's not surprising since we'll probably get support from them for the new portal, too."

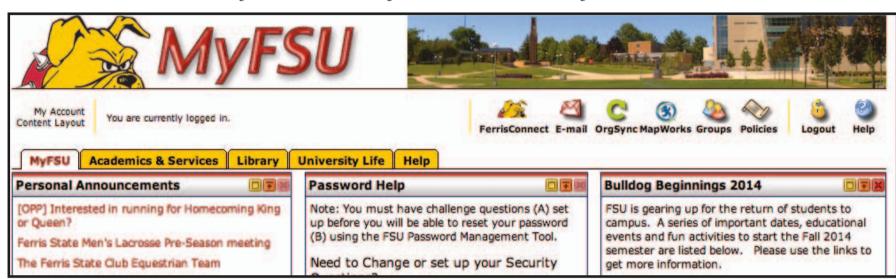
Ferris' website describes its current Luminis software as a "one-stop-shop" that integrates various applications such as email and FerrisConnect into the MyFSU platform. Generally, it runs smoothly without much down or maintenance hours, but Wagner understands the reason

for an upgrade. "I don't personally have many issues with MyFSU as it is now, but from working in TAC, it's easy to see that it wasn't perfect for many people."

Implementation of the new portal, though theoretically only an upgrade from our current software, will be a long and involved process for IT staff. In collaboration with University Advancement and Marketing, IT will integrate the new portal throughout 2015.

Developers online report that installment can routinely take up to 16 months, with multiple full-time employees overseeing development and the organization of University specific content.

The University has yet to elaborate on any specific plans for Luminis 5. For more information on Ellucian Luminis, visit ellucian.com.



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# CARNIVAL from Page 3

# Ferris carnival draws large crowds despite inclement weather

think the carnival was absolutely a success. The weather made it a bit more challenging, but the overall attendance was good and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. I think a carnival is a definite possibility for next year."

There were plenty of foods and games available for the students' enjoyment. A mix of Entertainment Unlimited and Student Government members were in charge of facilitating the activities at the carnival, which included a face-painting booth, ball toss-style games and vendors offering free cotton candy in different colors/flavors, buttered popcorn, hotdogs and funnel cakes sprinkled with powdered sugar.

Inflatable games were also

planned, but were not blown up due to the weather.

Students who are interested in learning more about membership or upcoming events hosted by Entertainment Unlimited, Ferris's campus event programming board, should visit http://www.facebook.com/ferriseu/for more information and are welcome to attend meetings, which are held at six pm every Monday in FLITE room 133. Students are also encouraged to stop by to the organization's office in the terrace of Helen Ferris

Students interested in learning more about FSU's student government should visit http://www.studentgov.ferris.edu/.



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FERRIS STATE TORCH
September 3, 2014

# FSU ARTS & LECTURES 2014-2015



# **BAM PERCUSSION**

## Saturday, September 27th 2014 - Williams Auditorium - 7pm

"Bampercussion.com, home of the biggest smallest show in the world."

In 2006, in Philadelphia, BAM Percussion unveiled *eXplosion*, their new indoor production, that brings together physical comedy and high energy percussion. From beginning to end, eXplosion electrifies the crowd with its powerful rhythms and its deliriously funny sketches. The pulsating energy of BAM is contagious: through drumbeats and laughs, it overwhelms the audience. BAM Percussion has toured in 28 countries on 5 continents. Today, BAM continues to grow on an international level while perfecting their art, to offer a high-quality product available worldwide.

"Imagine if the Blue Man Group grew out their hair and ditched the make-up – that's BAM Percussion."- artsboston.org



# **ERIC ALVA**

# Friday, November 7th 2014 - Williams Auditorium - 7pm

"I joined the military because I wanted to serve. I was patriotic, idealistic; I was also gay." Eric Alva served in the U.S. Marines for 13 years. In 2000, he was promoted to Staff Sergeant. In 2003, on the first day of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Alva was with his battalion in Iraq when he stepped on a land mine. The explosion shattered his right arm and damaged his right leg so severely it had to be amputated. Alva received a medical discharge and was presented with a Purple Heart by President George W. Bush. He was the Iraq War's first Purple Heart recipient. Having survived a war injury, Alva felt he'd been given a second chance at life. He discovered a new calling. "I had to use my voice," he says. "I had fought and nearly died to secure rights for others that I was not free to enjoy. I had proudly served a country that was not proud of me."



# THIRZA DEFOE

# Saturday, February 7th 2015 - Williams Auditorium - 7pm

Thirza Defoe (Giizhiigoquay), from the Ojibwe and Oneida tribes of Wisconsin, is widely known for her sacred hoop dancing that she has been performing since the age of 8. Her many years as an accomplished hoop and eagle dancer have awarded her recognition in both the native community and throughout the world. Thirza shares her culture: traditional Iroquois social songs, storytelling, hoop dancing, eagle dancing and the Ojibwe language through educational presentations and performances for audiences of all ages and cultural backgrounds.

"An exceptionally talented dancer, singer, storyteller and actor whose performances are among the most compelling we've had the honor to present." -Howard Bass Smithsonian National Museum Of The American Indian



# WAR BONDS: THE SOUNDS AND LETTERS OF WWII

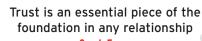
# Friday, February 20th 2015 - Williams Auditorium - 7pm

The living history cabaret is interspersed with personal letters from the war front and headline news from the era. Actual veterans' stories create a sentimental journey back to the days when blackouts and rationing were a small sacrifice in order to obtain freedom. It recalls a time when Rosie the Riveter discovered she could take care of herself; when African-Americans, who were segregated at home, integrated abroad to become war heroes; and when a man's only wish was to be home for Christmas. Twenty-two songs from the 1940s lift the mood, even as the atrocities of war are described. You don't have to have lived through World War II to appreciate the songs, which include Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree, Rosie the Riveter, One Meatball, White Christmas, I'll Be Home for Christmas and As Time Goes By.



September 3, 2014

FERRIS STATE TORCH



FERRIS STATE TORCH

Sarah Force Lifestyles Editor See page 10 for story





Dorthilen Taylor, Lindsey Theis, Andrea Kriz, Kate Volz, and Christina Randall handing out info about Panhellic Sorority recruitment 2014, in the IRC.

## **Hailey Klingel**

Ferris State Torch

Ask anyone involved in Greek Life and you're sure to get the same response—joining a fraternity or sorority was one of the best decisions of their college career.

So, how are students supposed to know which Greek organization is their future home away from home?

"If you are even a little inter-

ested in Greek Life, take a little time to check out every fraterni-

> ity an

Spencer Bovd Senior, pre-medicine

ty/sororwith open mind," s a i d Spencer Boyd, president of Alpha Chi Rho.

То check out each fraternity/sorority, potential recruits will go through the processes of Rush or Recruitment in order to find one that best complements them.

'Recruitment is about finding the right sorority that fits you and finding girls you can go to whenever you need anything," Health Care Administration and Human Resources senior and Alpha Xi Delta president Alexis Lancour said.

Sorority Recruitment is set up

in a way that allows potentials to



Senior, human resources

sorority's "room" where they talk a b o u t their organization's values, responsibilities, and philanthropy.

go to each

Alpha Xi Delta aims to aid women in realizing their potential, which is what attracted Lancour to the group.

"When I went through Recruitment, I absolutely loved the Alpha Xi Delta room," Lancour said. "I just felt comfort and had real conversations with genuine women-I could see myself calling these girls my sisters someday."

Fraternity recruitment, also known as Rush, is set up in a FERRIS STATE TORCH



# Greeks gear up for fall formal recruitment and rush in the IRC starting September 6



Last spring, the brothers of Sigma Pi Ferris chapter, enjoy an end of the year cookout and send off of the graduating brothers.

similar way in order to expose students to the fraternities on campus. Each fraternity occupies a room where they have the chance to give a 15 minute presentation about their goals and standards to potential members.

"We switched to the Formal Rush because a lot of the time, guys will want to join fraternities for things that aren't actually there, such as parties, houses, [and] things like that," Marketing junior and Lambda Chi Alpha president Brandon Stabley said.

Lambda Chi Alpha focuses on serving others.

"You're going to talk to [the

potentials] and make them feel as welcome as possible," Stabley said. "A lot of the time, it's hard to make a decision that quick, but most of the time, people just kind of know if they fit in

For those who don't "just know" during Recruitment and Rush, it could be a sign that they might not be ready to join a sister/brotherhood yet.

"It is intimidating, and you should never rush the idea of joining if you aren't sure," Stabley said. "Even if the fraternity shoots you down, it just means you weren't meant for them."

Finding the Greek organization that's meant for you can be difficult, but it also can be as simple as feeling a sense of belonging in the presence of its members.

"You shouldn't have to settle for a particular group," Boyd said. "You should be able to find one that fits you well and makes you feel very welcome."

Formal Rush begins September 6 at 1 p.m. in the IRC. Formal Recruitment begins September 12 at 5 p.m. in the

# Ferris State University's Dance Team competes on a national level

## **Hailey Klingel**

Ferris State Torch

The FSU Dance Team, currently consisting of eight members, offers their entertainment skills at FSU athletic events. They can also be spotted around campus getting down to jazz, hip-hop and pom music at events including Homecoming Week, Bulldog Beginnings and Rec Fest.

"Being on the team allows me to be involved in a club sport and RSO events as well," Pharmacy senior and FSU Dance Team president Jessica Maas said.

Those with a competitive edge and a desire for little challenge should also consider joining the dance team. In order to become a member, students must participate in competitive tryouts.

The FSU Dance Team has recently started competing at a national level against other colleges.

"This summer, our team went down to National Dance Alliance camp in Louisville, Kentucky, and we received a bid to their national competition," Maas said.

The FSU Dance Team will continue to attend the NDA College National Championship in Daytona, Florida in April 2015.



This will be the first time in Ferris State history that the dance team is represented at this competition.

Being involved with the team also opens doors to meeting other creative Ferris students.

"All of these things have helped me to meet many people at Ferris," Maas said. "I love being able to represent and support our school at every event throughout the year."

Maas, who has held presidency of the Dance Team for three years, has been dancing since she was just three years old and competing since she was nine years old. She is thankful that Ferris' team allows her to continue to display her skills through an outlet she loves.

FSU students who love to dance and pride themselves on self-confidence and a healthy lifestyle can attend tryouts on September 6 at 10 a.m. in the

# Just Dance Faces of Ferris:

# Allegra Babiarz

## **Kelsey George**

Ferris State Torch

You can't be a true bulldog if you haven't attended an Entertainment Unlimited (EU) event on campus. Vice President of Internal Affairs of EU, Allegra Babiarz, can be found behind the scenes on these occasions.

"With funds allocated from Finance Division, we bring culturally diverse, as well as, entertaining events to campus," Babiarz said.

For Founder's Day, EU hosted a silent disco dance to North Quad to celebrate Ferris' 130th anniversary, and brought us Karmin, Reel Big Fish and more great artists for Ferris Fest last April.

Babiarz designates her time to more than just Entertainment Unlimited. She also polishes up on her professional development as the Senior MCO chair for Pre-Optometry Club.

"The MCO chair coordinates student volunteers from the Pre-Optometry Club to be matched with faculty members at the Michigan College of Optometry," Babiarz said. "This offers great

experience to the student to see what is really happening across



Allegra Babiarz Senior, pre-optometry

Babiarz also hosts events outside her program like the 30-Hour Famine.

the street."

"[The 30-Hour Famine]

is a huge world hunger event that I host in the middle of

October that raises money and food for hunger both locally and abroad," Babiarz said. "Last year, I had about 80 participants."

When she isn't spending her time giving back to the Ferris community or ending world hunger, you can find Allegra doodling on her etcha-sketch or playing her flute. She also enjoys playing sports.

Originating from Elk Rapids, MI, Babiarz brought her lively personality, her drive and her passion to leave her mark as one of the many faces of Ferris.



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B LIFESTYLES

September 3, 2014 FERRIS STATE TORCH

# Digging up old bones

# Theatre Department brings the Addam's family to Ferris

#### **Dylan Peters**

Ferris State Torch

They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky, and altogether 'ooky- the Addam's Family!

We all know the story of the Addam's family. They're the weirdest family anyone would have the misfortune to meet, but that doesn't mean they're not a good show to see on stage.

The Ferris Theater department will be hosting the Addam's Family musical in time for Halloween.

Professor of Theatre Arts and Theatre Coordinator Katherine LaPietra provided a sneak peek of the musical's plot from grown up and fallen in love with Theatrical Rights Worldwide. a boy from Ohio-a normal boy.

"If I had to come up with my own [description of the Addam's family], I'd say creepy and strange, but loyal, crazy and strangely loyable," LaPietra said.

As the curtain rises, the last dead leaf of autumn falls, and all is right with the macabre world of the Addam's Family. They are visiting the graveyard for an annual gathering of all family members (living, dead and undecided) to celebrate what it is to be an Addams. At the end of the ritual, Uncle

At the end of the ritual, Uncle Fester announces that they have a problem, Wednesday, that 'irresistible bundle of malice' has

grown up and fallen in love with a boy from Ohio-a normal boy. Now with him and his parents coming to visit, two worlds are

(40.9)

Steve Yerian
Senior, television digital
media production

about to collide.

A 1 1 students are welcome to audition for the musical.

"People sign up for an acting spot as well

as a singing part," Ferris Music Director Lois Newton said.

"Students will get a chance to do a little acting and improvisation during their audition. During the singing auditions, we'll get a chance to hear how well students can sell a tune."

Although anyone is able to audition, the directors have a set of standards that anyone auditioning need to meet.

"We're looking for people with experience in high school musicals or other musicals here at Ferris," Newton said. "The more experience a person has, the easier it is to work with them. We're also looking for people with experience in dance, as there are dance sequences in this play."

There's a lot more to a

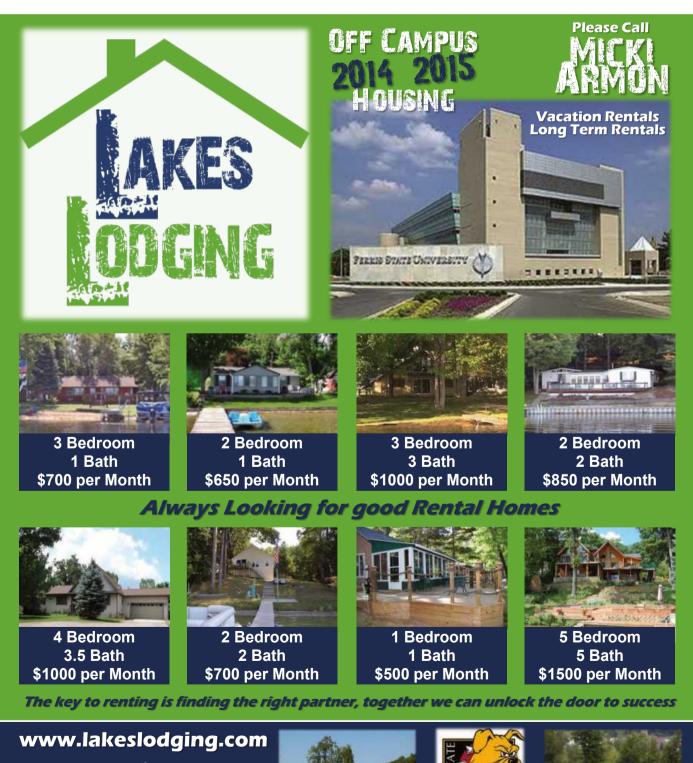
show than just acting and singing, so there are plenty of other ways to help out for those who are interested.

"We're always looking for people to work on costumes," Newton said. "We'll need prop people to make sure we have the right props in the right place in the right time, [and] we'll also need help with lights as well as painting and building the set."

Steve Yerian, a senior in Television and Digital Media Production, has twelve years of experience in theatre, four of them being at Ferris. Yerian will be choreographing a fight scene in the musical.

"I believe the Addam's Family was a good choice for the musical because it is very family oriented," Yerian said. "Adults, teens and college students all know who the Addams family is and I believe that parents will enjoy taking their kids to the play all while enjoying the experience themselves. Also, if the women have trouble bringing the men to the play, this is one even the men will enjoy as well."

Auditions for the musical will be on September 2-4 at 6:30 p.m. in Williams Auditorium.



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FERRIS STATE TORCH
September 3, 2014

# THINGS TO DO

ON CAMPUS, BIG RAPIDS, GRAND RAPIDS & MORE

**CAMPUS FUN** 

**OFF CAMPUS** 

9/3-5: Addam's Family Musical Auditions at Williams Auditorium 6:30 p.m.

9/4: Ferris Olympics 6:00 p.m. at Racquet & Fitness Center

9/6: Out of the Darkness Walk 9 am-2pm FSU Dance Team Tryouts

9/8: OMSS Remember the Titans Film Screening 6 p.m. IRC 120

1 p.m. Fraternity Rush at IRC

9/10: 5 Star Social Justice Speaker: Herman Boone 7-8:30 p.m. at Williams Auditorium 9/5-7: 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Wheatland Festival in Remus

9/7: Big Rapids Fun Fest Marion Avenue at 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

9/7: The Black Keys and Cage the Elephant at Van Andel Arena 7 p.m.

9/8: Live music at Applebee's 8

9/9: \$1 games & \$1 shoes 9 p.m.- 2 a.m. at the Gate

# Modern love Going the extra mile

You wouldn't understand a long distance relationship if you haven't had one.

For those of us that decided to take the path less traveled, it can get rather bumpy at times. Lucky for my fellow travelers out there, I've had two years of experience on this road so I've learned a few tricks along the way.

Give your significant other something of yours to keep while you're apart. It's might be something small, but it's nice to be able to hug something when you're missing them. A sweatshirt sprayed with perfume or cologne is always a good choice.

Know each other's schedules. There's nothing more frustrating than texting some-



one and having no idea why they haven't responded in three hours. Knowing their schedule will help manage both of your expectations. Dedicate some time to having a distraction-free conversation once a day. Communication is a delicate, but crucial aspect of long distance relationships and should be handled with care. Skype is your best friend.

Plan regular visits! It can put a lot of strain on the both of you not knowing when you'll see each other next. It's also nice to have something to look forward to. It might feel like you have enough of this as is, but make sure you allow each other some alone time. Dealing with college, work, life and a long distance relationship can get rough. Make sure you both get some "me" time to unwind and enjoy yourself.

Finally, one of the biggest issues I've seen with long distance relationships is trust. Trust is an essential piece of the foundation in any relationship, but even more so when you aren't around each other often. If you don't have trust in each other, you're basically destined for a crash.

As long as you're both willing to work together, you'll be in for a smooth ride.

**7 DAYS A WEEK!** 

# ARTIST OF THE WEEK I see stars

Genre: Electronicore Like: Emmure, Asking Alexandria and Black Veil Brides

If a fusion of metalcore and electronic music sounds interesting to you, then you'll get the full experience from the boys of I See Stars. Originating from Warren, MI., I See Stars has been a primary contributor to the relatively new genre of electronicore music since 2006. They signed with Sumerian Records in 2009.

Their newest album, New Demons, dropped on October 22, 2013. On the album, you'll hear Devin Oliver's clean vocals complemented with the harsh



Sarah Force
Lifestyles Editor

screams of Zach Johnson. Their music also features electric guitar, rhythm guitar, drums, keyboard and synthesizers to provide the perfect combination of dancefloor-friendly and deathcore music. I See Stars has toured with bands such as Of Mice & Men, Breathe Carolina, Chiodos, Memphis May Fire, Asking Alexandria and Black Veil Brides.

If I See Stars sounds like they might be up your alley, you can find them on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and iTunes.



"Did anyone else participate in thirsty Thursday last night? The struggle is real today."

-College of Business



September 3, 2014

#### FERRIS STATE TORCH



I'm just blessed that I've been able to be a part of this team and I'm hoping I've made a lasting impact.

Jake Lampman Ferris senior receiver See page 16 for story

**FOOTBALL** 

# Kicking off Fresh start Youth movement stars 2014 season



Ferris State football's defense gathers in the middle of the field following a team scrimmage during one of the Bulldogs padded practices.

# **Richard Mead**

Sports Editor

The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) will create another competitive season for the Bulldogs football program in the 2014 season.

Each pre-season, fans and analysts alike mull over who will be the front runner in every conference from junior high all the way to the pros. The same can be said about the GLIAC, the conference organization that the Bulldogs have played in since 1972.

"The GLIAC is always very competitive. It's a league where if you lose one league game, that could be it," senior defensive tackle Marcus Cribbs said. "I think it's very important for us to take each game one at a time, and to make sure we don't overlook any opponent."

Last season, the Bulldogs just missed out on the post season, despite a 8-3 record, as losses to Saginaw Valley State University during homecoming week and Hillsdale, in the middle of the season, ultimately sealed their fate. Saginaw Valley has slowly become one of the conference's front runners, along with Ferris State and DII powerhouse, Grand Valley State University.

The rivalry that has grown between the Bulldogs and the Lakers has grown over the years,

dominant runs against each other. Despite Grand Valley's reputation, student body size and championship history, the Bulldogs have taken the last two meetings against the Lakers, and



in 2014. W e like to perfect what we do, and

I feel as

though we

hope

make it a

three-peat

can stick Senior, running back game plan," senior running back Jamaal Jackson said. " We will come out victorious. We see the Ferris State Bulldogs on top, bot-

Apart from the big three in the GLIAC, Michigan Tech was the only other team in the North division to finish with a winning record (6-4 overall). The Huskies have slowly made their bid to also become a solid contender, but have the same challenge as the Bulldogs in taking down both GVSU and SVSU in 2014.

The South division did not see the same tight race for the division title as the North did, as Ohio Dominican won each of their nine GLIAC games, sweeping their conference schedule. Finishing with a 10-1 record, the

as both teams have had their Panthers had the best winning percentage in the entire conference. Ferris State will face off against ODU in mid-October, adding to the difficulty of their schedule, and the overall stoutness of the conference.

> Like most teams this season, Ferris will not be facing a conference foe for the first game of the season, playing at McKendree University to kick off the year. The Bulldogs will immediately pick up in GLIAC play following the first game as they are slated to face Northwood, Grand Valley and Saginaw Valley in the next three games, respectively.

> "I think the key for us is to treat them all as just the next opponent," Cribbs said. "We have gotten to a level where we no longer look at GV and say we can't wait to play them. They are just another team in our way along with Northwood and Saginaw. I think if we go into that stretch with that mind set, we will be fine."

> Even though the Bulldogs early season games will be the most challenging part of their 2014 campaign, Ferris will still face a slew of formidable conference opponents later down the stretch. The Bulldogs will square off against Michigan Tech., Lake Erie, Northern Michigan, and Walsh to finish out the season against GLIAC teams.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER** 



The Bulldogs own junior mid fielder, Stephanie Garland, advances the ball against Saginaw valley State during the 2013 season.

#### Justin Aiken

Ferris State Torch

The Ferris State women's soccer team will rely heavily on a big group of incoming freshman this fall during the 2014 campaign.

The Bulldogs finished the 2013 season with a 9-8-3 record, which included a 7-1 home record. The team lost a group of seniors to graduation, a group which included team captain Amanda Foster, and will look to rebuild with a group of eight talented freshmen.

Of the talented freshmen is midfielder Rachel Fouts. Fouts is looking forward to her freshman year on the Bulldog soccer squad and is looking forward to making 25 great friends and starting her college career off on the right foot. She also knows there will be challenges along the way for the Bulldogs.

"I think our biggest challenge will be overcoming our mental obstacles," Fouts said. "When the game gets down to the last 20 minutes, we need to keep pushing through."

Junior outside back Ashley Bradstreet also thinks the team will face some challenges along the way, but is confident in the potential of the team.

"We lost a bunch of seniors and losing a team captain is always tough. It's going to be a hard transition," Bradstreet said. "We have a lot of leadership roles that need to be filled, but we have a good incoming freshmen class who are going to step up and challenge the older players."

The Bulldogs are entering their second year under head coach Andy McCaslin. Despite

losing some seniors to graduation, the Dawgs will return 16 letter winners from last season, a group which accounted for 29 of 30 Ferris' goals from a year ago.

"With it being Coach McCaslin's second year, we are definitely more comfortable with his coaching style and training sessions," Bradstreet said. "Hopefully that will show during the games."

The 2014 women's soccer team was voted fourth in the GLIAC Pre-Season Poll. The Lakers of Grand



Rachel Fouts Freshman, midfielder

Valley lead the way in the voting and are also ranked n u m ber one nationally to start the season. Michigan

Tech finished second in the poll. followed by Ohio Dominican.

"Obviously we are really looking forward to playing Grand Valley this year, that is always a big game," said Bradstreet. "We're also really excited for our first home game against Saginaw Valley. We have quite a few big regional games early in the season which will be a good test for us. We are starting off ranked fourth in the polls, so we'll be looking to finish in the top three or four of the GLIAC for sure."

The Bulldogs will begin the 2014 campaign on Sep. 5 against Truman in the Ramada Plaza Invitational in Allendale with kickoff slated for 4:30 P.M. The home opener is scheduled for Sep. 14 against the Cardinals of Saginaw Valley.

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**OFF THE RECORD** 

# Off the record with Jake Lampman

Ferris State senior wide-receiver opens up on how he gets open

Bulldog football's veteran wide-out, Jake Lampman, is entering his final season in crimson and gold. Lampan sheds light on his high hopes to continue his football career following the collegiate level, along with sharing a glimpse into what make this receiver tick.

Torch-First off, what was your journey to Ferris State from high school like?

JL-It was a pretty smooth transition. It's easy to move away from home knowing that you're going to be introduced to one hundred plus friends that you become really close with because of football.

Torch-Was there anyone one the team that gave you crap because you were the new guy when you first arrived in camp your freshman year?

JL-Surprisingly no. When you come in, there are some people on the team that will give you a little bit of crap just to see if you have a good sense of humor. It's their



Sports Editor

way of finding out who you are in a weird way.

Torch-What about you? Do you put any Icy-Hot in any freshmen underpants? Hey man, there's no judging here.

JL- (Laughs) No. We have a few traditions that we use. For instance, the offensive line will always give each other crazy haircuts, and we will make young guys get up and tell a joke. Today (Aug. 29) we are making everyone on offense paint their jerseys on their bodies, something like that, but

See OTR on Page 12

**FOOTBALL** 

# **Brains and Brawn**

Ferris defensive end succeeds on and off field



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | Photographer

Ferris State's Justin Zimmer rests in between individual defensive lineman drills during one of the Bulldogs many pre-season practices.

#### **Justin Aiken**

Ferris State Torch

The 2014 Ferris State football team features one student on the defensive line who has proved to be a beast both on defense and in the classroom.

Justin Zimmer, a 6-foot-3, 258 pound defensive end for the Bulldogs, has not only claimed pre-season All-American accolades, but also found himself on the list of Academic All-Americans following last season.

Zimmer, like many athletes on Ferris' defense, is entering the 2014 campaign with a mind set that the Bulldogs won't be stopped.

"This year's team has all the pieces and just needs to put everything together and take it game by game, and we shouldn't have a problem," said Zimmer.

Zimmer finished fourth on the team in total tackles in last year's campaign with 57 and also lead the team in sacks with seven and a half. During the season he also added one interception, two forced fumbles and two kicks blocked.

Zimmer didn't start his career as a defensive end for the Bulldogs. His original position was linebacker, which he played at Greenville High School where he helped the Yellow Jackets to a state playoff appearance in 2010 and helped the team to a 9-2 overall mark as a senior.

"I played linebacker in high school, now I'm playing defensive end. It's a totally different

See **Zimmer** on Page 12

# Do you know

- Where to find unconditional love?
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In a panoramic, weekly study of some of the big ideas of the Bible we'll explore these topics. Starts Tues., Sept 9, 7:30pm.

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Our goal is to provide an ongoing link between the Church and Ferris Students, while providing Christian fellowship and a meaningful and enjoyable worship experience. There will be a home cooked meal provided every Wednesday night before the service!

If you have any questions please call or text Anna at 989-506-2976



September 3, 2014 FERRIS STATE TORCH



# Junior defensive lineman shares about his success off field

game," Zimmer said. "I think I've improved upon every aspect, especially because I basically had no defensive end position skills coming into it. It was the spring of my redshirt year when I decided to make the switch to defensive end. I was by far our biggest linebacker and I just kept growing and decided to make the switch earlier rather than later in my career."

Zimmer was redshirted his freshman year in 2011, but he says it didn't bother him and he knew it would give him a good opportunity to prepare for future seasons.

"Coming into my freshman year I kind of expected to get redshirted. It was a good chance to grow, get in the weight room, and get adjusted to the college game," Zimmer said. "It was a little different at first getting used to being on scout team. The biggest difference is your second year when you get thrown out into a live game for the first time and it's a lot different."

Since the switch the defensive end, Zimmer says he has really been trying hard to work on his pass rush skills and using his hands a lot more to get after the

quarterback, as well as getting in the weight room and trying to get bigger and faster.

Off the field, Zimmer keeps his studies on his mind at all times, and it has paid off. He was named an Academic All-American and says he has no one

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**Justin Zimmer** Junior, defensive end

a teacher SO she had has really high expectations for my grades.

just always shooting for good grades, but it's something that's expected of me. That's just how I was raised," Zimmer said.

Zimmer is a Business Management, Marketing and Technology Education major here at Ferris State. His dream is to play in the NFL someday or become a college football coach. Zimmer says if that doesn't work out for him, he'll be fine with being a high school football coach and teacher.

# OTR from Page 11

# Lampman talks about his final year as a Dawg

we have a lot of respect for our young guys.

Torch- (Laughs) Looking back, what is your favorite memory of your first years as a Ferris State football player?

JL-Definitely traveling. I'd say the biggest impact would be just getting to know the people who have become my roommates and best friends.

Torch-What emotions do you feel when you realize that this is your final season wearing the number eight jersey for Ferris?

JL- It's bittersweet. I'm just blessed that I've been able to be a part of this team and I'm hoping I've made a lasting impact. With that said I'm hoping to continue football as long as I can.

Torch- Are you taking that number eight home with you?

JL- (laughs) We'll see if I can get a hold of it.

Torch- Do you feel as though there might be a pro jersey with your name on the back in the future?

JL- I'm hoping so! My first goal is to finish this season and finish my degree and then hopefully God will continue to open doors for me through football. I have had a few looks so far, but my team's success this year means more.

Torch- Ok, so I'm a corner who is pressed up in man-to-man coverage, and you are split out wide left to Jason's open side, how do you beat me? And, I ain't no slappy either. I am borderline Darrell Revis.

JL- (laughs) Coach Sparky McEwen has been an unbelievable coach and has taught me multiple release moves off of press coverage, so I'd use one of those.

Torch- One thing that most people don't know about you? And, you can be honest, we are all friends here.

JL-I play the ukulele (laughs).

Torch- For the ladies, riaht? JL-(laughs) No no, I am taken.

Torch-Ok, well apart from making women faint with your ukulele strumming, what can we find you doing on the weekends?

JL-Playing football (laughs).

Torch- I walked right into that one I guess. What do you want your Bulldog legacy to be?

JL- Obviously football would be a legacy that I would want to leave, but also just being respectful to the faculty and fellow students. So, that when I leave they'll remember me not just as a football player, but someone who has respect for the university.



This event has been brought to campus in part by Student Activity Fees as allocated by the Finance Divison of Student Government.

Any person with a disability who needs special accommodations to attend this event should contact the Office of Multicultural Student Services at (231)591-2617 or by email at multiculturalstudentservices@ferris.edu at least 72 hours in advance.

## CO-SPONSORS









SPORTS 13

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#### **Richard Mead**

Sports Editor

## **Bulldogs Hockey signs on to play Wisconsin Badgers**

Ferris State hockey announced that they have struck an agreement with the Wisconsin Badgers to play two games in the ensuing two seasons.

The Bulldogs will match-up against the Badgers at the Kohl Center in a two game skid this upcoming 2104-15 season on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. They will also square off in another two game stand during the 2015-16 season, this time in Big rapids at the Ewigleben Ice Arena. The home stand against the Badgers will be played on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

Ferris will open the season this year on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> with a home game against the Michigan University Wolverines, followed by another home match-up against Wilfred Laurier on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets can be purchased at the Ferris State ticket office located in the Ewigleben Ice Arena.

#### Former Bulldog awarded recently vacated coaching job

Ferris State Alum, Jared Kelsh, was appointed the recently vacant head-coaching job for the track and field and cross country teams.

Kelsh, who was a track standout during his college career from 2004 through 2008, will take over duties following the departure of Steve Picucci. Picucci left Ferris to take a head-coaching job at Division I Moorhead State University.

Kelsh will take over the head-coaching duties for both Men's and Women's Cross Country and the entire Track and Field squad.

Prior to coming back to Ferris, Kelsh served as an assistant coach under Picucci from 2008 to 2012. Since 2012, the former Bulldog has held a job as a volunteer assistant coach at Division I University of Buffalo.

Ferris State will kickoff the 2014 cross country season by hosting the annual Ray Helsing Bulldog Invitational on Sept.  $6^{th}$ .

## Bulldog Football gains new defensive line coach

Prior to the start of fall training camp, the Bulldogs announced that tenured GLIAC assistant coach, Tesfa Smith, will begin the 2014 season as the teams new defensive line coach.

Smith spent the last seven years serving as an assistant coach at Saginaw Valley State, a conference foe of Ferris State. Smith helps sure up the defensive side of the ball following the departure of defensive coordinator, Lou Esposito, and will join Ryan Hodges (def. backs/def. coordinator) and Ryan Brady (linebackers).

Smith brings a wealth of experience with him, as he has coached in some aspect or another with Saginaw Valley for the past 14 years, leaving for a stint at MacMurray College to serve as their own coordinator on the defensive side.

Ferris football will travel to McKendree University for their season opener on Sep. 4<sup>th</sup> in Lebanon, Ill.



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CONTACT: Joanne at 734-718-9816

# Top Dawg



Photo By: Richard Mead | Sports Edito

The Torch staff will pick one person a week, athlete or other, that we believe to have impacted Ferris Athletics and name them the "Top Dawg" for that week.

Despite not having played a single snap in game action, freshman running back Robert Thomas III, is turning heads in his first season for the Bulldogs.

In his freshman season at tailback for Ferris State, RTIII has caught the eye of players and coaches alike. Thomas has been seen frequently lining up behind junior quarterback, Jason Vander Laan, and the rest of the first team offense.

Listed at 5'9" and a generous 198 pounds, Thomas has

been zipping past the Bulldogs defense in practice, earning himself the nickname "Juice" by his fellow teammates. The Bulldogs are hoping his blazing speed on the practice field will translate to yards during the regular season, as he may become the perfect compliment to Vander Laan's bullish ball-carrying.

Hailing from Apopka, Fla., Thomas put up incredible offensive numbers his senior year for the prep high school. In 2013, Thomas earned himself the Florida Class 8A State Player of the Year accolades, along with being among the top eight finalist for Florida's Mr. Football award, which names the states best high school football player overall.

Only time will tell if RTIII's pre-season hype will carry over to into the regular season. Hopes are high, though, that the freshman speedster can help the Bulldogs offense light up the scoreboards in 2014.



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September 3, 2014

#### FERRIS STATE TORCH



I love it all as much as the next person, but I still contend that we need to prioritize.

> Devin Anderson See below for story

#### FERRIS STATE TORCH

The Ferris State Torch is published on 27 Wednesdays throughout the academic year. This student-run newspaper is printed by

The Pioneer Group.

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Letter From The Editor

# Changes

**Harrison Watt Editor-in-Chief** 

The Torch has left more than a few practices in the past to open the 2014-15 academic year.

The most prominent change was that in our deal with the Big Rapids Pioneer to handle our advertising business.

In that way, it allows us to focus on a more journalistic approach as opposed to a full business approach. This change is a step in the direction of a pure journalism entity for the benefit of the faculty, staff and student body of Ferris State.

While this has added to significant staff turnover, it has started a new era in journalism at Ferris.

The Torch has also reached fsutorch. com 3.0. Our third endeavor into a new website has been successful and is more reader friendly and modern than its predecessors. Torch website 2.0 officially lasted four publication years from 2009-2013.

One of our former staff members wrote the "Today's Tech," column for most of his career at the Torch, even after leaving the Big Rapids campus. Today's Tech will be retired with Brock Copus, our now former multimedia editor's departure from Ferris.

Likewise, Bulldog Babble will be leaving the paper. The weekly online poll question will be leaving at least temporarily due to a lack of participation which sometimes lead to answers that the Torch felt misrepresented the student body. Athlete of the Week has departed from sports in a way, but is being replaced by Top Dawg.

The Top Dawg is the top member of the athletic community in a single week. This is a subjective piece that will be voted on by Torch staff members based on performance, thus some members of the community may see themselves in it more than once.

A few new standard pieces will be gaining traction in the paper. Modern Love which debuted in February 2014, will remain a staple in the paper. Artist of the Week has also been added to the mix to give the Lifestyles section a well-rounded artistic feel.

Our changes are to spice up the life of the paper that has become somewhat stale



Millennials are experiencing an unprecedented change in culture. In the industry it's referred to as "digital convergence," the tendency of entertainment and information to exist increasingly more on the internet than in physical form.

Out of this we get social media, which plays a unique role in the lives of college students. Entertainment also plays a role; music, books, movies, and television are more accessible than ever before. While platforms such as Netflix and iTunes have monetized this digitalization, almost anything we want to listen to, watch, or read can be found somewhere on the internet for free.

To this end, let's not forget Youtube. Over a billion unique users a month have unlimited access to seemingly infinite material. All at the price of watching a few ads, most of which we can skip over anyway. This is easy entertainment for college students on a budget, but ease of access can create an unquenchable thirst for more and meanwhile, life goes on. What's at play here is "too much of a good thing."

**Devin Anderson** 

Ferris State Torch

It's important to maintain a variety of relationships in college. Increasing our reliance on media content to pass the time can dearly squander the opportunity that exists for us to network. We engage professionally with some and more casually with others but neither manner of socializing is easy. Furthermore, becoming an avid socialite only gets more difficult when too much time is spent in front of a screen.

Social media and online advertising shape our tastes on an individual basis. Media is reaching better-targeted publics and as a result, the number of films and television programs

released has risen exponentially each year since the turn of the century. In the music industry, artists now have the resources to have their music heard everywhere. For authors, self publishing to the web is an option that has given birth to dozens of literary genres. So in addition to content in more places, there is also more content. I love it all as much as the next person, but I still contend that we need to prioritize.

As consumers of entertainment in the era of technology, we in abundance and whenever we want it. With mobile devices we also receive content wherever we want it. We've been enabled to tune out of awkward situations by simply pulling out a phone. Sure, visits to the doctor's office are more tolerable now, but life (especially college life) is not a waiting room. Mind-numbing entertainment in moderation; let's not miss the chance to be proactive and get involved.

## OUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A well balanced diet is a cookie in each hand."

-Irish Proverb

FERRIS STATE TORCH
September 3, 201

# Concussed and Confused

# It's getting more and more difficult to love football



forch File Photo

Offensive and defensive linemen from Ferris State's football team line up prior to the 2013 GLIAC football season. Concussions have become football's hot button issue that isn't going away.

Football season is here, with college play kicking off and the NFL gearing up from preseason to the regular season.

To this young ex-Minnesotan, that used to mean quarter-backs bombing passes to Randy Moss again - a delightful thing. Now, all I see are the negative headlines.

Sports are more profitable than ever before, with teams selling for one and two billion dollars since 2012 in professional baseball, basketball, and football. It's football, though, that has been incessantly plagued by unflattering headlines.

The league that once seemed

infallible now has major issues to attend with. Concussions are the biggest headline, but an overall perception that the league has an unshakable thirst for money at the expense of human life is the issue underlying everything.

The concussion issue isn't going away, despite the 765 million dollar settlement in the biggest, most recent case. Star Denver Broncos wide receiver Wes Welker suffered his third concussion in eleven months an alarming number - against the Houston Texans. This lead to the circulation of an even more damning number: Welker's concussion was the 61st of this year's



NFL preseason.

The fate of post-career foot-ball players isn't the only strike against the NFL. The Ray Rice controversy - Rice was accused of assaulting his fiancee, and there is video of Rice dragging her limp body from the elevator they had been riding - erupted into righteous fury when the NFL gave Rice a two game suspension.

The league has since apologized for giving Rice a lighter

penalty than he would've gotten if he'd smoked marijuana, and it beefed up its domestic abuse policy - eight game for the first offense, lifetime ban for the second - but the damage was already done to the shield's already tarnished image.

There is also the fact that the league is asking its next Super Bowl halftime performer to pay to play, an insulting request, but that pales in comparison to the humanitarian issues. It just further feeds the question of just how many dollar signs light up the league's eyes before the first human life pops up.

Because of all this and more,

there is a very real perception that the NFL is a league that resolutely denies any wrongdoing or systematic problems - whether they be concussions, violence, or otherwise - beyond the point of having no ground to stand on.

Commissioner Roger Goodell can go ahead and say "We do stand for important values." The number one value for these leagues is always money, but that shouldn't be at the cost of people's lives and well-being, and it shouldn't be so obvious.

As for the NCAA, that's a completely different set of horrifying (to the fan) realities.

# The "R" word

A story shared by a coworker of mine recently made me realize that I haven't thought about religion in a long time.

Her story involved us having a laugh at a gaggle of faithful, church going Mormon folk that she encountered in a trip that took her through Salt Lake City. Although in the moment we were laughing at their expense I thought "who am I to judge these people on their faith when I'm barely even sure of my own."

I was raised by a family that, although we acknowledged that we did indeed have a religious affiliation, we rarely ever expressed it save for the time around major holidays, so I had little reason to take it seriously.

That, and one of the defining moments my generations is that decade long war fueled in large part by undue religious hatred from both sides, so it would be easy for me to dismiss religion as a zealot's practice, and thus no interest of mine. And yet, I am not an atheist. And believe me, I tried!

One of the main problems with religion is that those who speak for it (we shall call them the "not



Ben Rettinhouse News Editor

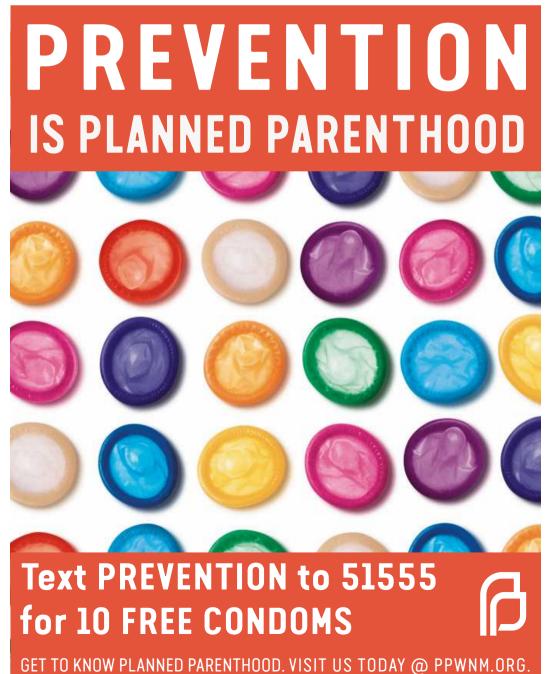
so silent minority") spend more time talking about why opposing religions are wrong and rarely about why theirs is right.

This is of course, because religion is faith, not fact, and thus relatively indefensible. And yet, just because a few people who represent any given religion are whack-jobs does that somehow dismiss the religion to which they are subscribed?

I've always found atheists to be a rather unfriendly lot of people, what with their unsolicited "science-based" tirades and myway-or-the-highway attitudes towards the rest of the world.

However, when looking at the way their opposition usually behaves it's not hard to understand the bitterness. Still, you'd think they'd want to be more welcoming considering they're fighting a battle they can't help but lose (and this writer hopes they do.)

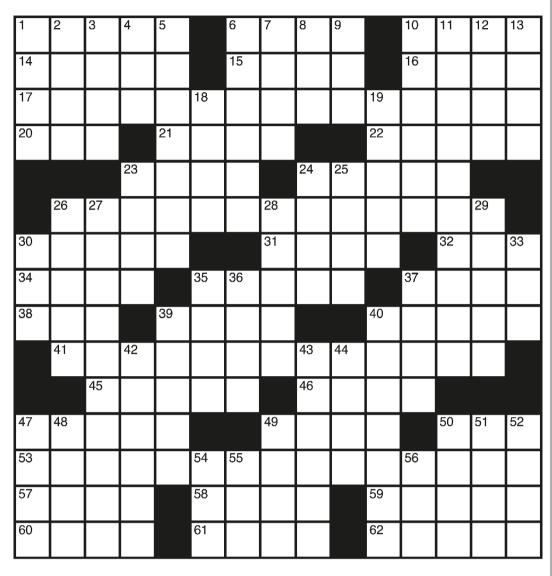
Religion has been a driving force behind cultural evolution since the beginning of time, for better and worse. To dismiss it



September 3, 2014 FERRIS STATE TORCH

# **Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis



Across

1 Gather for oneself

6 accompli

10 Brontë or Boleyn

14 Video game hedgehog

15 Up to the task

16 Cambodia neighbor

17 1971 road film co-starring

**James Taylor** 

20 Cozy stopover

21 Golfer McIlroy

22 Shaggy

23 City SW of Bogotá

24 Prefix meaning "loving"

26 Treachery

30 Church organ features

31 Two-masted vessel

32 "Do You Know the \_\_ to San

Jose?"

34 Got older

35 Gets hot under the collar

37 Taste, as of a sandwich

38 Mangy mutt

39 Tight-knit family 40 "Funeral Blues" poet W.H. \_\_\_

41 Spectacles

45 Hearty meals 46 Ugh-producing 47 Assume the role of

49 Poet Pound

50 New Deal agcy.

53 Status of a multiple passport

holder

57 Longfellow's bell town

58 Indian princess

59 R&B singer Sam

60 Flat-topped hill

61 Fencing weapon

62 County in SE England

1 Piedmont wine region

2 Cut with a Snapper, say

3 Shortly, to Shakespeare

4 \_\_ vous plaît

5 Sacred Egyptian beetles

6 Spenser's "The \_\_ Queene"

7 "Dear" advice giver

8 Feeling poorly

9 Celestial Seasonings offering

10 Acid neutralizer 11 Company that's "on your side"

12 Jordanian queen dowager

13 Catch sight of

18 Hall of Fame NEL

19 Kick back

23 Prompted

24 Ring loudly

25 Partner of hems

26 Unearth

27 Big names at the Met

28 Fading away

29 Garden swingers

30 Source of some D.C. funding

33 Strong desire

35 Low \_\_: cheap shot

36 Clumsy sorts

37 On a tight schedule

39 Getting gradually louder, in mus.

40 With suspicion

42 Bologna's land

43 Tin : Model T

44 Parcel of land 47 Sandler of "Grown Ups" films

48 Like kitten videos

49 Berlin article

50 Start of a "Knock, knock"

response

51 Toll road 52 Mountain climber's goal

54 Wrath 55 Sink feature

56 Sailor's distress signal

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# Dismissal of religion comes at a cost

entirely because you're butt hurt over the time a few of the kids from the local private school picked on you is beyond petty, and to talk down to those who don't share your beliefs (this goes for atheists and theists alike) makes you no better than the people you're fighting against.

But we were talking about me weren't we? Where'd I leave off? Oh, right, the Mormons. These people get a lot of crap from the media, and while I don't necessarily agree with what Mormon figureheads have to say, I've got to say I find their religion quite quaint in its own way. It's hard

to look down upon their almost nauseating amount of optimism and their charming city on the hill outlook on Christianity. I don't take it as gospel, but it's far from harmful, unless you count their pushy, "read my book" nature as harmful.

# Cross country

#### **Shelby Soberalski**

Photo Editor

I've lived in West Michigan my entire life and I may be biased but I've always thought I lived in the best and most beautiful part of the country.

Up until this past spring break, the farthest west I had ever been was the east part of Wisconsin. Yes east Wisconsin.

I've always loved to travel and honestly, your youth is the best and most important time of our lives to travel. Not only is it relaxing and fun, but its eye-opening and a great learning opportunity.

The older we get, the more we get bogged down with life, school and work, we forget to enjoy the simple things in life. New experiences keep us young

On August 14th, 2014 I flew out to California and met up with my boyfriend, Matt, and we started a road trip across America.

We drove from San Jose, California to Manitowoc, Wisconsin where we got on the S.S. Badger to Ludington, Michigan and then headed over to Big Rapids. The things we saw I will never forget.

The beauty this great country holds is breathtaking. From Lake Tahoe California, Great Salt basin in Nevada and Utah, to the wide-open skies in Wyoming, and magnificent Mount Rushmore, to only name a few of the boundlessly beautiful places in our country.

We even saw outlandish things like the Mormon Tabernacle that looked like an ancient castle smack in the middle of a modern city, and casino gas station combinations in the middle of nowhere.

Through this trip, we did see some unfortunate things as well. Homelessness and impoverishment was prevalent throughout both urban centers and the rural countryside.

We also saw firsthand the environmental effects of Shale Fracking in the forms of well and pipeline infrastructure, wastewater pits, and lowered air quality surrounding the wells and

On the other side of the coin, I don't think I had ever seen as many electric windmills as I did while driving thru the Great Planes states. Politics and the environment have been tied hand in hand for some time now, and people's blood pressure does tend to rise when there's jobs and money on the line with regards to environmental decisions.

After taking in the natural beauty of just one interstate corridor of western America, my belief in the preservation of the only home we have as a species is only reinforced.

Situations like these, we don't normally think of while we are in Big Rapids. This is why we need to travel. We need to get out in the world and see what's out there, even though we don't want to think about the unfortunate situations we may encounter.

It is important to learn and travel, to take in the natural beauty of our earth, appreciate the world outside of our normal boundaries. Experiencing these things helps us grow and have a better understanding of the beautiful world around us.



Lower Yellowstone Falls, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming.