



Ferris State University

TORCH

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Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services



See page 2 for graduation numbers

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NEWS

"I think minimum wage is at a good place. Increasing it nationwide can have a negative impact."
- Brent Oberlin, see page 4 for story

Angela Graf | News Editor | grafa1@ferris.edu

Helping Handshake

Program brings Ferris students and prospective employers closer



Megan Hiler

Torch Reporter

Graduating college is hard enough, but add the stress of job hunting and life becomes downright strenuous.

Enter Handshake: a company that allows job recruiters to connect with students from all over the country. According to Garrett Lord, Scott Ringwelski and Ben Christensen, they created Handshake to, "transform university recruiting for the 20 million higher education students across the country and ensure that every student would have the same access to every job, no matter where they go to school."

The three creators each graduated with a degree in engineering from Michigan Technological University and were fed up with how little job recruiters made their way to the Up-

per Peninsula.

Handshake is a website that can be used as a tool to find jobs for students as they prepare for graduation.

"Handshake offers a place where students, alumni and employers can find each other. It will hold career and internship postings and resume and portfolio documents," said CLACS Director and Coordinator of the Leadership Center Angela Roman. "It also allows employers and students to connect with each other in ways similar to popular social media sites."



Angela Roman

Handshake is easy to use and is accessible to all Ferris students and faculty. According to Roman, it was brought to Ferris to increase opportunities for students.

"As we evaluated the CLACS Career Center services, we realized our current system, Bulldog CareerLink, was not being used as much as we had hoped. Our assessments told us that students and employers were looking for a more intuitive and customizable solution to meet their employment needs," Roman said. "Handshake is new to the market as a Career Center tool but quickly made headlines that it was more customizable to each unique student and was very user friendly. We completed multiple demos and decided this was something our students and alumni would use."

"Student and alumni login to MyFSU and click on the new Handshake icon in their quick-links. It is that easy," Roman added. "Complete your profile and add job search documents as you see fit. Then start browsing through job listings and begin contacting employers. The more you use Handshake,

the better the results will be."

The website is free of charge and can even be used by students after graduation.

Ferris computer information systems and accounting senior Kristen Bonkowski was excited about more networking opportunities being offered to Ferris students.

"I am more likely to use Handshake because it is affiliated directly with Ferris," Bonkowski said. "I don't have a LinkedIn or anything like that, so this would be a good networking tool for me."

For more information, visit MyFSU.



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

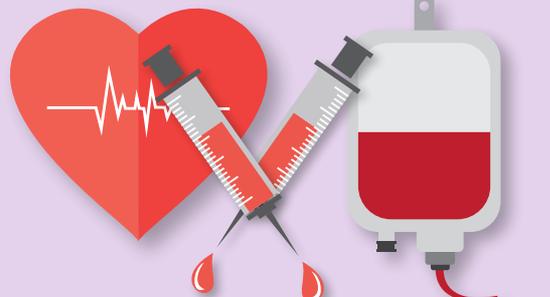
December Graduation numbers



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
147 undergrads
33 Graduate students



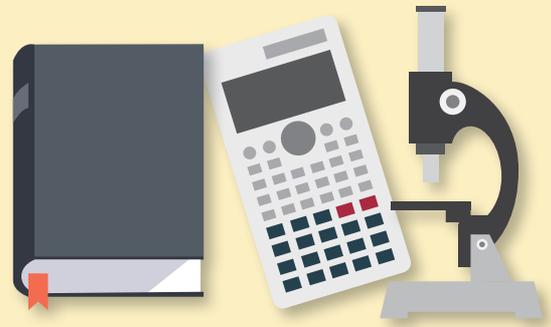
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
75 Undergrads
0 Graduate students



COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
147 undergrads
33 Graduate students



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES
111 Undergrads
11 Graduate students



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
56 Undergrads
0 Graduate students



TOTAL GRADUATES
1156 Degrees/Certificates
1002 People
19 Honors Program Graduates

Dude, where's my stuff?

A roundup of this week's crime at Ferris State University

By Angela Graf - Torch Reporter

Stranger danger

Dec. 12, 1:35 p.m. officers responded to a report of attempted fraud involving Ferris' Student Government. The treasurer received an email from an unknown person pretending to be the president of the organization requesting a transfer of funds. The email was from the address president@gmail.com, and when traced resulted in a dead end. No money was actually exchanged.

Read the Torch next week for more information.

Trouble at Wal-Mart

Dec. 12, 4:15 p.m. officers assisted the state police with a retail fraud incident at Wal-Mart. Two individuals were identified, interviewed and lodged in jail.

Dude, where's my stuff?

Dec. 13, 7:55 a.m. officers responded to a larceny complaint in Cramer Hall. A student reported that two PlayStation controllers and four games had been taken from his room. Officers interviewed a suspect but the investigation is still open.



Clouds in Cramer

Dec. 14, 11 p.m. officers responded to a report of marijuana in Cramer Hall. Two students were

identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Icee at Wesco

Dec. 30, 12:05 a.m. officers responded to a report of a one-vehicle incident at Wesco on Perry Avenue. The vehicle slid into the curb and sustained damage to the axle.

Rolling trashed

Dec. 30, 1:25 a.m. officers conducted a traffic stop on Northland Drive, south of Big Rapids, for defective equipment. The driver was found to be intoxicated and was lodged in jail.

Past expiration

Jan. 1, 8:20 a.m. officers stopped a vehicle on Northland Drive, north of Big Rapids, for improper plates. The driver was found to be in possession of an expired license and was ticketed.

NEWS BRIEFS

By Angela Graf - Torch Reporter

Brainstorm over brew

The Political Engagement Project will be hosting their first in a series of brainstorming events at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, in UCB 116. These meetings provide students with the opportunity to collaborate with faculty and administration in brainstorming ideas for curriculum elements, events, field trips and research projects they find important and relevant. Students will also receive feedback and advice on how to develop and fund their own projects. All participants will receive free Starbucks at the event.

Ice fishing tournament

Ferris' Fishing Club will be holding an ice fishing tournament to raise money for their organization. It will be held on Clear Lake, east of Big Rapids, and is part of a series of five other tournaments. The registration fee for the series is \$40 per team and the entry fee for each team will be \$40 per tournament. Cash prizes will be awarded to top placements. Those interested in participating can contact Jacob Otto at ottoj4@ferris.edu or fsufish@ferris.edu for more information.

MLK Day Observation

In recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, there will be no classes held Monday, Jan. 16.

Imagine more rubber

Ferris Rubber Engineering Technology program receives donation from Delaware

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

The Rubber Engineering Technology program has received an equipment donation from TA Instruments, a company from New Castle, Delaware, to assist students with further knowledge about the field.

According to Marc Guske, a Ferris Professor in the program, TA is a well-known leader in testing equipment for the rubber industry.

"Introductions were made at the International Elastomer Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, in 2014," Guske said. "Testing is a big part of the rubber program and researching and asking for equipment was a key focus for myself, and Professor Yang at this expo."

According to Guske, the donation of the Rubber Process Analyzer takes our rheology lab from dated to state of the art.

"This is the most advanced piece of equipment on the market," Guske said. "Students will be able to utilize it to gain a deeper understanding of the rheology and cure characteristics of the compounds developed in lab."

Rheology is the study of soft solids such as rubber and other plastics.

The program can utilize the equipment to strengthen relationships with local industry as Ferris has already received several inquiries from companies asking if they can use the equipment, according to Guske.

According to an article posted by Ferris, the partnership with TA Instruments represents a \$270,000 investment by the manufacturer, and came about through persistent negotiation.

This technology will allow students to do research that can be used to create papers and posters to present at technical conferences and according to Guske, TA has offered to help students conceptualize and execute these research projects, and to financially assist students to travel to various conferences to present their research.

Students in the program did not waste any time when it came to using the new state of the art equipment, according to Guske. Jeff Dickerson, a student in the program, will be doing some research this semester. He actually contacted TA directly to receive training.

Other students have received basic training and professors have started to utilize it in coursework.

"I am thrilled with the donation and the relationship with TA, I feel confident that in the future it will be utilized by the students, faculty and industry to gain more understanding of material," Guske said.

According to an article published by Ferris, the equipment has been installed in the National Elastomer Center.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

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MEET THE TORCH

Jasmine Nettles | *Managing Copy Editor*



I'm a graduating senior majoring in technical and professional communication with a minor in creative writing. I initially wanted an English degree but realized I enjoy the technical aspect of writing way more. Eventually I'd like to become either a book or textbook editor and live the Carrie Bradshaw life in NYC. Minus all the dirty stuff.

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Torch file photo

During last year's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, more than 700 members of the Ferris and Big Rapids community attended and took part in honoring Dr. King.

Ka-chinging in the New Year

President's council not to raise minimum wage across the board for student employees

Megan Hiler
Torch Reporter

Some working students will ring in the new year with a bigger paycheck thanks to the state minimum wage being raised, but not all of them.

Effective as of Sunday, Jan. 1, the statewide minimum wage was increased by \$0.40 for students making less than \$8.90 an hour.

"Anyone whose current hourly wage is less than \$8.90 will be brought up to \$8.90," Ferris payroll clerk Carla Kleinhessel said. "It's different than how it was done in previous years, but it's the decision of the President's Council."

The only exception will be for student employees at Ferris' Kendall College who will all receive a raise, regardless of their previous wage.

Ferris elementary education senior Brent Oberlin likes where the country stands when it comes to minimum wage.

"It's definitely fair. I'm a student working a part-time job, doing part-time stuff. I do not

"I think minimum wage should be the same for everyone, but going to school and working gets harder the deeper I get into my program."

- Natalie Dixon

need or deserve 15 dollars an hour or anything crazy like that," Oberlin said. "I think minimum wage is at a good place, increasing it nationwide can have a negative impact."

Oberlin works in the Ferris Admissions Office as a Student Admissions Representative.

According to Ferris graphic design junior Natalie Dixon, the pay raise is something to be happy about, especially because she had to scale back on her hours working as a manager at the Student Recreational Center.

"My boss told me that we would be getting an increase after the new year. I think minimum wage should be the same for everyone, but going to school and working gets harder the deeper I get into my program," Dixon said. "It's just too demanding, but I think it's worth it to have a job in school to an extent because you need money to survive. My main focus in college is to do well in my major though, so I can graduate and get a job."

This is the third of the scheduled pay raises enacted by the Michigan State Legislature. In 2014, a law was passed that would gradually raise minimum wage from \$7.40 to \$9.25 by 2018.

Honoring Dr. King

Ferris OMSS to host events for revered holiday

Harley Harrison
Torch Reporter

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is quickly approaching and students should remember that the day represents more than a day off from school.

"It is important for students to attend these events to better understand the significance of Dr. King and to learn about diversity, inclusion and social justice issues of today," OMSS Assistant Director Michael Wade said.

The Ferris Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS) will be hosting four different events starting Monday, Jan. 16, that will last until Wednesday, Jan. 18. According to Wade, the department has been planning MLK events since 1986.

"[More than] 700 members of our campus community attended the events

overall last year," Wade said. "More specifically, last year approximately 200 attended the Freedom March on MLK Day, 300 visited the Tunnel of Oppression and 200 attended the featured speaker."

This year, students, staff and community members have the opportunity to participate in a variety of events including a MLK volunteer expo, a Freedom March and Student Tribute, a Tunnel of Oppression, a featured discussion, "Politics Now: What Would MLK Think?" and the five-star Event hosted by MLK guest speaker Bakari Sellers.

"All events are important. I would encourage students to attend all the events being coordinated," Wade said. "From the Freedom March on MLK Day to the five-star event guest speaker on Wednesday, all events are open to the public."

The events were planned by a commit-

tee of seven faculty members and staff employees, the Office of Housing and Residence Life Harmony Project's student staff committee, and representatives of several registered student organizations (RSOs), according to Wade.



Michael Wade

Students who would like to volunteer can sign up for community service hours on OrgSync. According to Wade, volunteers are expected to assist with the promotion of the MLK Celebration in addition to assisting at scheduled MLK events.

For those interested, more information can be found at ferris.edu/omss, the 2017 MLK Celebration Facebook page or by contacting the OMSS department at (231) 591-2617 or omss@ferris.edu.

MyRegistration

Tips and tricks from current students on how to design the best schedule

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

As one semester ends, a new one begins and the hassle to schedule classes has begun.

As subsequent semesters progress, students continuously learn their likes and dislikes as to what makes their ideal schedule.

"I pick classes based on trying not to have Friday classes," said Ferris nursing junior Lauren Doyle. "I like morning classes because it gets your day started and I like

afternoon classes because it's something to do during the day."

Ferris plastics and polymer engineer technology major Mason Belbot also picks classes based on the time. Belbot prefers morning classes to get everything done early and then have the rest of the day for personal activities.

"I honestly prefer classes that aren't at 8 a.m., but I'll take it if it's the only one that works with my schedule," said Ferris public relations senior Jamie Baranek. "I had my first 8 a.m. this semester. It was brutal, but I got through it. I hope I never have to go

through that again."

Factoring in class times, many students also consider the assigned professor when registering for a class as well.

"When picking a professor, I do a lot of research before I take them," Baranek said. "Sometimes I post in the groups on Facebook I'm in to see if anyone else has had them and I always look at Rate My Professors."

"I choose the professor by word of mouth and also using Rate My Professors," Doyle said. "There was one time last semester I switched to an online class because my

friends were in that one and it was easier."

Advisers are also a good resource for making the perfect schedule.

"My adviser, Professor Speirs, is very helpful and I truly feel he has my best interest in mind," Belbot said. "He knows what needs to be done for me to graduate on time and does not hold back any information."

There are many factors that make the perfect schedule and they're important to consider when the classes students select can easily make or break their semesters.



Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

Business in Germany

Ferris State teams up with Rhine-Waal University

Harley Harrison

Torch Reporter

Ferris business administration students will soon have the opportunity to spend two semesters in Kleve, Germany, obtaining a dual degree while immersing in the German culture.

"The dual degree applies to business administration students," said Ferris Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Paul Blake. "They will earn that degree at FSU and the International Business degree will be earned through Rhine-Waal University (RW)."

Although a single semester exchange program has been available for business administration students since 2013, students will be able to participate in a two-semester dual degree program starting in the fall semester of 2017, according to Blake.

"The academic programs are offered in English, which makes it easier for students to spend a semester or two in Germany completing their degree without being slowed by language considerations," Blake said. "At the same time, it provides an opportunity for a type of semi-immersion in the German language."

According to Blake, the partnership enables students from Rhine-Waal to attend Ferris for the same dual degrees, as many of the academic programs align well with Ferris.

"The exchange agreement allows our students to pay regular tuition at FSU in order to attend RW," Blake said. "There are no additional tuition costs so that the only additional costs are travel costs and under the individual student's control."

Ferris students participating in the program will typically live in a shared apartment in Kleve, which has a population of about 30,000. Housing will be paid for in Germany unlike

the tuition that will be paid for through Ferris, according to Ferris' Dean of the College of Business David Nicol.

"Rhine-Waal has about 6,000 students enrolled," Nicol said. "International students [are] in the majority from 120 countries."

According to Nicol, the typical student would study in Germany during their third year at Ferris, spending their first, second and fourth year in Big Rapids, although there are exceptions.

Both Nicol and Blake agree that the program will prepare students for a global environment by giving them the international experience through immersion.

For more information, students are encouraged to contact the Office of International Education at international@ferris.edu. Their office is located in IRC 134.



Paul Blake



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LIFESTYLES

"I grew up in foster care. So this was a huge thing for me. Together We Rise has personally helped me throughout high school and getting to college." - Bryanna Williams See page 9 for story

Nick Vander Wulp | Lifestyles Editor | vandern8@ferris.edu



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Back to the grind

Committing to New Year resolutions and spring semester preparation

Alicia Jaimes

Torch Reporter

It's a new year and a new semester. Class is officially back in session. How was your break, Dawgs?

Ferris pre-dental hygiene sophomore McKenzie Freeman spent her winter break with friends and family. Freeman enjoyed her break by traveling to the slopes of Boyne and going skiing with her family.

Along with winter break being a time to unwind, some Ferris students were faced with the decision of what New Year's resolutions they would try this year.

Freeman said her New Year resolution is to work on less procrastination as far as school work in hopes this will help her become a better student. When asked what 2017 has in store for her, Freeman had a few topics in mind.

"I am looking forward to being involved more in my soror-

ity," Freeman said.

Along with her hopes in becoming more involved, Freeman is looking forward to rejoining her club tennis team and achieving personal goals in her classes.

While some students participated in outdoor sports, others prefer to stay inside.

Ferris pre-optometry freshman Daria Laisure spent her winter break working and watching movies. Laisure was able to introduce her friends to the world of ice skating, a hobby she used to participate in herself. After ending last year feeling accomplished, this spring semester is going to be an exciting one, according to Laisure.

"I'm really looking forward to meeting even more people," Laisure said. "I'm really excited for the classes I am taking this semester and for the professors that I have."

Laisure is looking forward to spending a second semester with her a capella group and is hoping this semester will provide her with even more musical opportunities.

Laisure's New Year resolution consists of becoming healthier, learning to budget her money better, and becoming more involved in volunteer work.

A new year is for new beginnings and because of this, Ferris operation and supply management junior Jamie O'connor's resolutions consists of personal goals along with school-related ones such as raising her grade point average.

Although O'connor did take the opportunity to visit with distant family members over winter break, she did partake in other activities. Some of these being catching up on sleep and catching up on Netflix shows.

O'connor hopes she will take a leadership position in her sorority and is glad to return to school for Spring 2017.

"I am really glad to be back from break," O'connor said. "Although I'll miss being home all the time, I'm happy to start fresh this semester."



MEDIA MINUTE

“Eyez” by J. Cole



Courtesy Photo



Travis Sacher
Opinions Editor

Rapper J. Cole released his fourth studio album, ‘4 Your Eyez Only,’ debuting at number one on the U.S. Billboard 200 chart.

In preparation for the Friday, Dec. 9, release of ‘4 Your Eyez Only,’ a 40-minute documentary featuring behind-the-scenes footage to the making of the album was released Friday, Dec. 2. The documentary is entitled, “Eyez” and follows Cole, his collaborators and friends as they put the pieces to the album together.

Much of the documentary shows Cole and collaborators recording, or sets the camera solely on Cole as he gives his thoughts on the upcoming album.

The film opens with a woman tracking violin parts, while Cole sits alone, reading lyrics he wrote to himself out of his journal. It immediately shows a personal side of Cole, highlighting his introspective self.

The film continues to show segments of recording contributing instruments, such as a violin, piano, guitar and synthesizers.

In one scene, while Cole and friends are driving in a car, one friend states that there are tracks that are not singles but will be so good they will become as popular as singles. This premonition proves true

as “Déjà Vu,” topped the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 chart at number 7, Cole’s highest charting song yet, hadn’t been released as a single.

Later on in the film, Cole is shown to be recording music videos for “False Prophets” and “Everybody Dies.” Neither made it onto the album but were released as singles Monday, Dec. 5.

“Eyez” portrays Cole’s detachment from the spotlight. In one scene, he states, “I live a life that’s very detached. I’m not on the news, I don’t click the headlines. It’s family and fucking music.”

The release of “Eyez” gives a behind the scenes take on Cole’s most mature album yet. ‘4 Your Eyez Only’ focuses on Cole’s view of the mortality of life and importance of family.

Much of the album references the murder of Cole’s friend James McMillan Jr., who was killed at age 22. McMillan, like Cole, has a young daughter. In the track, “Ville Mentality,” Cole includes a segment of a young girl speaking of her father’s murder, which comes from the viewpoint of McMillan’s daughter.

Cole writes about his wife and child in, “She’s Mine Pt. 2” and opens the track with a baby girl crying in the distance. Last song and title track, “4 Your Eyez Only,” shows Cole’s personal anxieties and ends the song telling McMillan’s daughter this is for her eyes only.

‘4 Your Eyez Only’ is introspective, troubling and tough to understand. The 40-minute documentary “Eyez,” is worth the watch to further understand J. Cole’s recent number one album.

MEET THE TORCH

Andrea Lenhart | Office Manager & News Reporter



I am a senior studying journalism and technical communication. I grew to love the news because I always watched it while I waited for Jimmy Kimmel Live to come on. My dream would be to start a fashion magazine or to be a news anchor in a city in the south or on the west coast.

TORCH CONFESSIONS

Torch staff members write about a slightly embarrassing aspect of his or her life because hey, we all have those.

Sorry son of a bitch graduates soon



Nick Vander Wulp
Lifestyles Editor

Graduation is coming in the spring, and it can’t come fast enough to this sorry son of a bitch.

This is probably the worst case of senioritis I’ve ever experienced. Graduating from high school was exciting because I hated that place. When I graduated from Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC), it was frustrating because I wasn’t ready to be done with university yet, but I wasn’t sure what major I should pursue to finish a bachelor’s degree.

When I was in Cuba nearly two years ago, I thought long and hard about why a journalism and technical communication degree is the best fit for me. Some of it was because I was inspired by the raw potential and opportunity I saw in Cuba, and this in turn helped me see the raw potential and opportunity in a JTC degree.

This semester will likely go by just as quickly as the last. Then, I’ll be a sorry son of a bitch with a college degree and student debt.

I’ll have a job, though. It’s not guaranteed where, yet. I do, how-

ever, know how to find what I’m looking for, and it’s finding work in a technical services role as an instructor in manufacturing, health care or media production.

My absolute dream job would be to find work with Bad Robot, the media company that has produced some of the best television and cinema to date. That’s my opinion and I’m sticking to it.

In my opinion, they’re the best, and it boils down to the fact that J.J. Abrams is my hero.

So, if you’re curious about Abrams’ work, I leave that in your capable hands to Google what he’s directed and produced.

The fall 2016 semester was a nightmare I laughed a lot. I cried a lot. But I found a way to move forward in my own misery.

I made plenty of mistakes this past semester. I also learned what I can do to fix my own broken ways of thinking, too.

As winter break ends and the spring semester begins, it’s going to be one hell of a ride until graduation.

My senioritis will only intensify. I always find it strange how people pull back when victory is in sight. But having knowledge of this will help me to push on until the end.

I’ve always said I can’t wait to leave Ferris to get on with my life, but now reality is coming closer.

SILVERNAIL REALTY

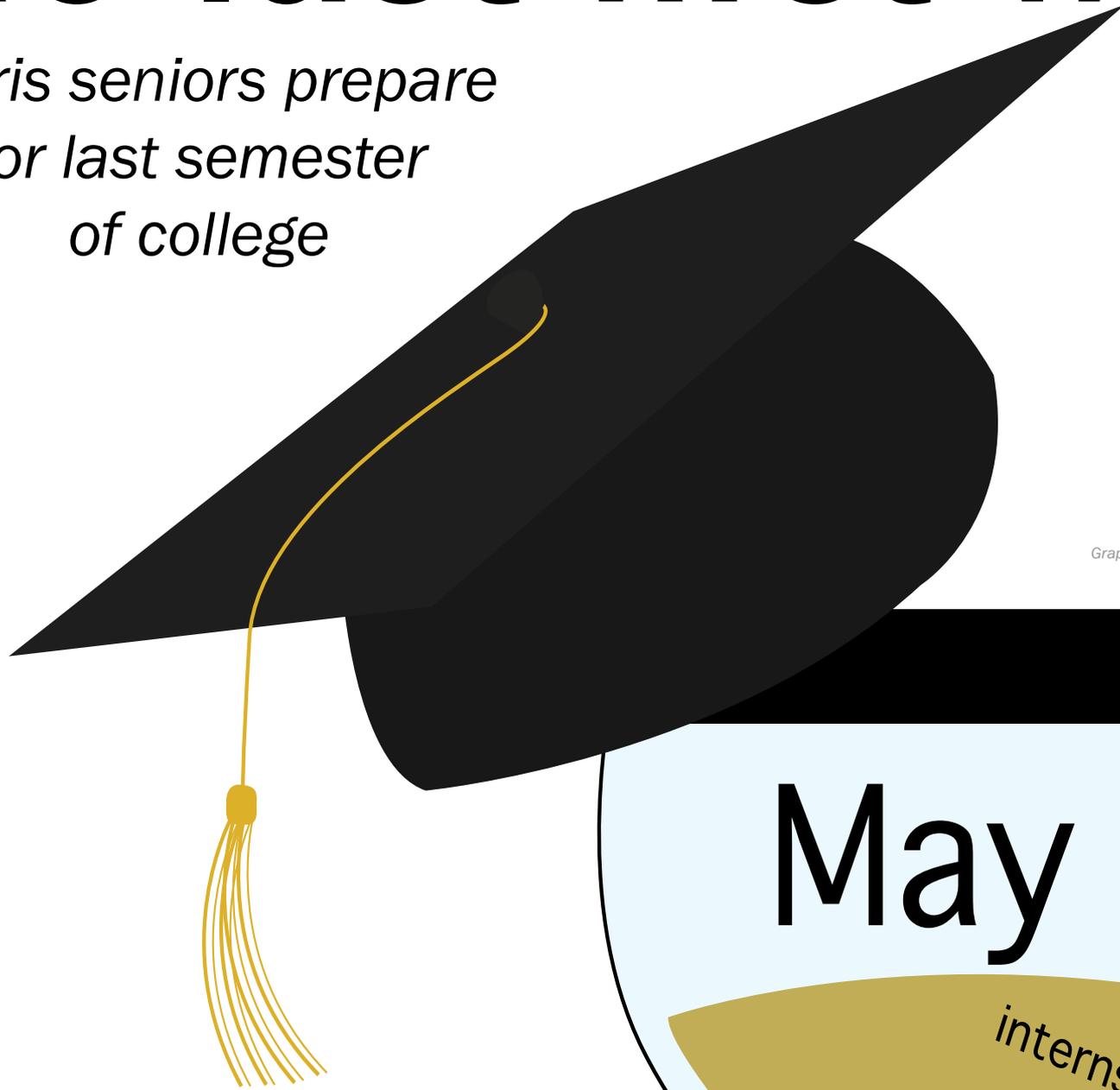


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The last first week

*Ferris seniors prepare
for last semester
of college*



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Adrianna Walker
Torch Reporter

It's graduation season and many Ferris seniors are preparing for their final push towards spring commencement.

Ferris social work senior Morgan Simons plans on working for Child Protective Services for a few years before pursuing a master's degree in her field.

Simons hopes to nab another spot on the Dean's List for her final semester as an undergrad student, but would also like to spend some of her time helping others.

"I would like to start a support group for students on campus that have been affected by drugs being snuck into their [or] their friends' drinks," Simons said.

Simons wants to begin a campus conversation about this type of crime and how the university and students alike can work to prevent it and keep students safe.

"I think that Ferris really needs to focus on prevention as well as have other students look out for one another more often," Simons said.

Now that time is dwindling down, Simons, like many other restless seniors, is both nervous and excited to finally graduate.

"I'm not sure that it's truly hit me yet. It seems so surreal that after all these years of school that I'm almost done," Simons said. "I think that I'm really going to miss all the friends that I've made here, but I am excited to start my career."

Ferris operations and supply management senior Leesa Deadwyler shares the same eagerness to join the working world, and particularly one without college classrooms.

"College places certain limitations on where [and] when I can travel, how much money I have, and what hobbies I'm able to pursue," Deadwyler said. "It's going to be really great to no longer be bound to a semester-long schedule and the issues I sometimes experience with that."

Deadwyler has already secured a job as a Customer Demand Analyst for Gentex Corporation, where she was able to get her foot in the door as a previous intern. Although her post-graduation plans are pretty much solidified, Deadwyler plans on appreciating her last semester in full.

"I want to take one day at a time and fully enjoy the last moments of my undergraduate experience," Deadwyler said.

Deadwyler adds that she hopes to earn a 4.0 GPA and have a memorable time with friends. She says she will also miss the incredible people she's met during her time at Ferris, but is looking forward to a break from academia, its high costs and gaining more experience in her field.





Sweet cases for foster children

Ferris partners with Together We Rise to donate suitcases to foster children

Submitted Photo

Ferris psychology senior Alex Reeds (left) and pharmacy sophomore Bryanna Williams helped to organize the event that raised over \$2,000 towards helping children in foster care.

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

More than 25 registered student organizations (RSO) and Ferris faculty donated Sweet Cases to foster care children this week.

Ferris pharmacy sophomore and student government representative Bryanna Williams worked with Together We Rise, an organization based out of California, to help make this donation possible.

"The more I became involved with Together We Rise, the more I wanted to bring it to Ferris, and that is the reason I joined student government," Williams said. "I grew up in foster care. So this was a huge thing for me. Together We Rise has personally helped me throughout high school and getting to college."

According to Williams, when someone is put into foster care, they are given two trash bags to put all of their belongings in. The purpose of a sweet case is to give foster children with an actual suitcase to store their things.

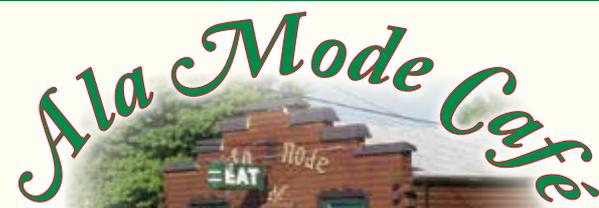
All of the RSOs that donated a sweet case decorated the outside of it and added gifts, such as teddy bears, to make them more special.

"I've done this event before and I just love it. Ferris has a lot to offer," Williams said. Less than three percent of foster kids graduate from college. So, if we start helping them while they are young, they will realize that people are out there to better their future."

According to Williams, Student Government set a goal of reaching 50 Sweet Case donations. After final count, they received 86. At \$25 dollars a case, that is more than \$2,000 raised towards helping foster children in need.

"We had a really diverse range of RSOs come out and the only marketing we did was Facebook and word of mouth," said Ferris psychology senior Alexandra Reeds. "The campus was super accepting of the idea and I had no idea that this was something people needed."

Williams is hoping that in years to come with more marketing, the event will continue to grow.



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SPORTS

“One of the biggest things for me was to go to a place where the coaches and players acted more like a family than a bunch of individuals trying to play a game.” - Trevor Bermingham See page 12 for story

Apply Now! | Sports Editor

Plenty of Ruff for the Dawgs

Quentin Ruff's take on being the only senior on the Ferris State men's basketball team

Brendan Samuels

Torch Reporter

The Ferris State men's basketball team knew they were in for an offseason of work after four of their starters received diplomas last year.

Center Jared Stolicker, forwards James Chappell and Josh Fleming and guard Jibreel Jackson all started upward of 30 games for the Bulldogs last season before trading in their jerseys for a cap and gown.

A question that floated through the minds of coaches and players alike was: who's going to lead this team? With just one senior on the roster heading into this season, naturally all eyes fell on guard Quentin Ruff.

“As the only senior on the team I have to take on new responsibilities,” Ruff said. “I have to be more of a vocal leader and produce as much as I can on offense and defense.”

Ruff was a role player for the Bulldogs last season, averaging 15 minutes per game and averaging seven points as well as one assist in each of the 34 contests he played in. While those numbers were good for a rotational player, many wondered what Ruff would be able to do in the starting lineup.

Fast-forward to the current season and Ruff

“We just need to stay focused and continue to grow as a team.”

- Quentin Ruff

has started 10 games for his team, doubling both his scoring and assist averages from last year with 12 points per contest and two assists. Along with those numbers, Ruff is also fourth on his team at four rebounds per game.

All statistics aside, Ruff's teammates are aware that he is the only senior and never let him forget it.

“It's kind of funny actually,” Ruff said. “I'm the only senior, yet there are some guys that are sophomores who are younger than me by like three months. They never hesitate to let me know that I'm getting older though.”

With Ruff stepping into a leadership role, other players around him have started to evolve into key players as well.

Junior guard Drew Cushingberry and sophomore center Zach Hankins have shown flashes of excellence to this point in the season, with 8.5 and 16 points per game respectively.

The Bulldogs record reflects their efforts as they have blown out of the gates to an 11-3 record.

“We just need to stay focused and continue to grow as a team,” Ruff said. “We still have a few things to correct and we need to build more chemistry but I think we can improve and continue to be as successful as we have been so far.”

The Bulldogs will look for their sixth consecutive win behind the likes of Ruff, Cushingberry and Hankins as they pack their bags to take on Lake Superior State 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12.



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

Ferris senior guard Quentin Ruff is the only senior player on the men's basketball team, and has averaged 12 points and four rebounds per game this

Top Dawg

Cameron Clarke

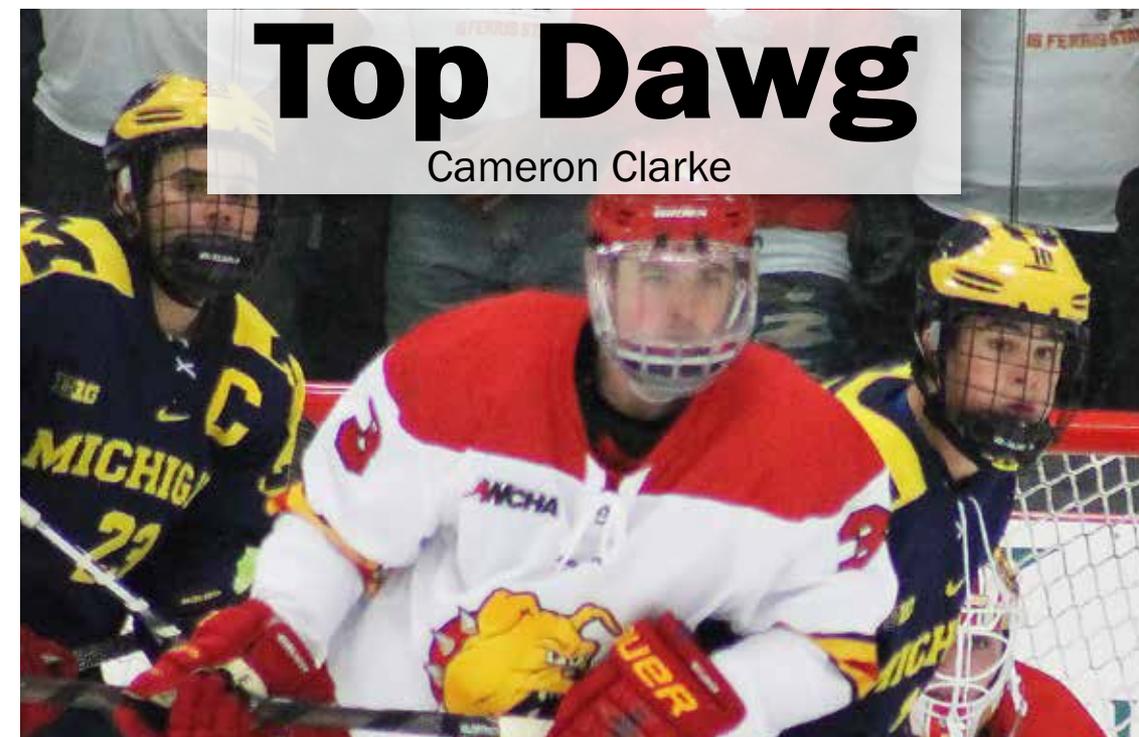


Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

Keith Salowich

Editor in Chief

ties, despite the fact that Ferris was awarded an additional point in the standings.

Ferris currently stands at a 7-13-3 overall record, which is good for sixth place in the WCHA standings. The top eight teams at the end of the season qualify for the conference playoffs with the top four teams earning home-ice advantage in the playoffs.

Clarke and the rest of the Bulldogs will be vying for a playoff spot when they next see the ice against Alaska 7:07 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, at Ewigleben Ice Arena.

Sports Shorts

By Beau Jensen - Torch Reporter

Zach Sieler nominated for top defensive player award

Sophomore defensive end Zach Sieler was a force to be reckoned with on the gridiron for the Bulldogs this past season and has been declared a national finalist for the 2016 Cliff Harris Award as a result.

The Cliff Harris Award is presented each year to the best small college defensive player in the nation. Approximately 5,000 defensive college athletes from across the nation are considered for this award, making Sieler's nomination impressive.

A starter in all 15 games, Sieler was a quarterback's worst nightmare in 2016, recording 19.5 sacks with 29.5 tackles for loss. Sieler's GLIAC Defensive Lineman of the Year nomination certainly helped his Cliff Harris Award case as well, and the sophomore steamroller will be back to help the Dawgs next year.

Men's basketball still rolling

While the rest of us Dawgs were back home for the holidays, the men's basketball team was racking up wins on the court.

The team has amassed six straight wins, five since the end of the fall semester. Their first victory over break came at home against Ashland, 82-77. The next win came at home again, this time against Tiffin in a dominating 96-65 victory.

The team's next three games took place on the road with victories over Ohio Valley, Salem International in a blowout 104-65 win and then Lake Erie. With an 11-3 record, it seems as though the program has its sights set on another conference title.

The men resume their season 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, on the road against Lake Superior State University.

New year, same Kappy

Freshman goaltender Justin Kapelmaster has been great ever since he took over in net for the Dawgs, so much so that he claimed WCHA Defensive Player of the Week honors for his performance against Boston College.

The Bulldogs may not have won the Three Rivers Classic Tournament, which took place during the last few days of 2016, but they certainly gave their goaltender some valuable practice before jumping back into conference play. Kapelmaster had an amazing 58 saves off 59 shots in the team's 1-1 tie against the Boston College Eagles.

The one game performance was enough to give Kappy the defensive player honors, his third time winning the WCHA laurel in his short Bulldog career.

Kapelmaster's skills will be put to the test with tough competition for the Bulldogs, starting off with a weekend series at home against Alaska 7:07 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, at Ewigleben Ice Arena.

What New Year's resolutions are Ferris athletes making?

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

REGGIE BELL

FOOTBALL QUARTERBACK
JUNIOR

Sports Resolutions:

"I want to win a national championship."
"I want to be a consensus for the Harlon Hill."
"I want to go harder than I did last year. Go harder off the field whether it's in practice or in the weight room with the guys."

KATE KELLY

SOCCER DEFENDER
SENIOR

Personal Resolution:

"Step out of my comfort zone."
"I decided I wanted to run the Tough Mudder since I'm not playing soccer anymore. That's definitely out of my comfort zone and something I wouldn't normally do."

GERALD MAYHEW

HOCKEY FORWARD
SENIOR

Personal Resolution:

"Spend more time with my family and make more sacrifices for them, as well as my girlfriend."

Sports resolution:

"We need to sweep weekends more. Sometimes we come out flat on the second game. We need to go in with a mind set to win both."

ANDY BRONKEMA

HEADCOACH MEN'S BASKETBALL

Resolution for his team:

"When the new year hits, we already have the discipline to continue on the same path and not hit the reset button. We make New Year's resolutions everyday."

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BERMININGHAM TOR

Senior quarterback Trevor Bermingham reflects on his career as a Bulldog

Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

Ferris senior quarterback and punter Trevor Bermingham ended his five-year career at Ferris by leading the team to three consecutive victories including two in the playoffs while under center.

Submitted by Trevor Bermingham

The past five years have been a journey that I will remember for the rest of my life.

Where to start is the difficult part because there have been so many memories that stand out. It all started back around this time of year when Coach Annese took the job here at Ferris. He recruited me and really opened my eyes to the possibilities of playing college football.

When I was in high school, I never really thought that there was a chance that I would be able to play at the next level. Coach Annese definitely changed my way of thinking.

I came up for a visit on Martin Luther King Day during my senior year of high school to work out for the coaches and potentially meet some of my future teammates. That day, I had no idea that I would become a part of not only a successful football team, but a part of a group of guys who would become my family.

I remember when Coach came to my house. He came to the front door dressed in a suit and my grandma opened the door. When he got there, I really didn't know what to think. Of course, I did my research to see what I could be getting into. His career as a high school head coach was at the top of the charts. I knew that if I decided to come to Ferris State, I was

going to be a part of a winning culture.

One of the biggest things for me was to go to a place where the coaches and players acted more like a family than a bunch of individuals trying to play a game. Along the way, I have met some friends that I will be close with for the rest of my life.

My career here was not how I thought that it would go. When I got here with a new coach and a new team, I thought that there would be a chance to stand out and show that I belonged here playing college football. But after I got here in Aug. 2012, I met and became friends with a remarkable person.

I was Jason [Vander Laan's] backup for the majority of my career and let me tell you, I didn't feel as though I was his backup. He made me feel as though I was just as important to the team as he was, even though he took 95 percent of the snaps during the games. Being around a person like him really helped to mold me into the kind of player that I was during my senior season.

Although my last year did not go the way I was planning, I felt as though I was still helping the team. Being around a great group of guys, such as the group that I came in with back in 2012, really makes you notice that not everything is about football and that the bonds created over the years are

what will be remembered the most.

One of my favorite memories from my career came this past season when we were in the playoffs. We were playing Midwestern State from Texas, and I had scored a touchdown running toward the scoreboard. It was not the fact that I had scored, but the celebration with my current teammates and former teammates as well.

I was met in the back of the endzone by Jason [Vander Laan], Jacob [Lampman] and Cody [Dingeldey], as well as a few others. It was just so surreal that those guys, who have moved on past the program, came back to support the team that they themselves have been a part of.

Football was not the only reason why I came to Ferris State. This December, I graduated with a Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering technology, and it was one of the best decisions of my life. If I had to choose a different path, I don't think that I would.

Ferris State became a place where I wanted to stay because the people here really make you feel welcome, from the classroom to the playing field, everyone here wants to see you succeed. So, thank you Ferris State, it has been a wild ride.

Who would have thought that five years would have flown by so quickly?

GAME RECAP | **HOCKEY**
JAN. 6 & 7, 2016Go online to www.fsutorch.com to read:
"Weekend woes"

Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

The Bulldogs are currently in sixth place in the WCHA standings with a 6-8-2 conference record. The top eight teams qualify for the conference playoffs at the end of the year, with the top four earning home-ice advantage.

Pickin' up the pace

Bulldog hockey sets sights on securing home ice in second half of the season

Beau Jensen

Torch Reporter

Ferris State hockey's winter break has come and gone as the program looks toward the playoffs with high hopes in mind.

As of Friday, Jan. 6, Ferris State sits at the number six seed in the WCHA. The top eight teams in the conference during the regular season will go on to play in the postseason.

The Bulldog team has higher goals than just making the playoffs according to sophomore forward Corey Mackin.

"Our main focus, I would say, is getting home ice advantage," Mackin said. "We believe we can turn it around and win a lot of games in the second half and we are hoping to do so."

Mackin scored the team's lone goal just 14 seconds into the game in a 1-1 tie during the consolation game of the Three Rivers Classic tournament Friday, Dec. 30, against Boston College, the sixth-ranked team in the nation. The Dawgs fell to Robert Morris University 0-1 before entering the consolation game against Boston College.

"We play some teams that are behind in the second half, but I believe most teams we are playing, we are chasing, so those are the really important games," Mackin said. "But we know we have to come into every game like we are playing the same team."

Ferris freshman goaltender Justin Kapelmaster turned in a great performance against Boston College Friday, Dec. 30, with 58 saves on 59 shots.

Should the Dawgs lock in another playoff berth, Kapelmaster said it would be a huge personal accomplishment to contribute to a long playoff run in his first year as a Bulldog.

"Making the playoffs is huge at any level. The reg-

ular season is one thing, but playoffs are a different animal," Kapelmaster said. "You get the best from every team you play and you know everybody is going to bring it every single night."

The Dawgs have a date on the road with the top team in the WCHA, Bemidji State, in late January followed by a series in early February with second ranked Michigan Tech on the road as well. This presents Ferris hockey with tough opportunities to get wins against the top teams of the conference.



Corey Mackin

Junior forward Drew Dorantes is confident that the team can pick up the pace after a slow start to the season for the Dawgs with a few tweaks.

"Right now we are making sure we're hitting the tape on every pass. It's such a little thing but it makes an incredible difference in creating offense," Dorantes said. "Our power play has been scoring recently which has improved since the start of the year."



Andrew Dorantes

The Dawgs weren't able to snag a win until their ninth game of the season. After their first win, the Dawgs went on a bit of a run with victories over Bowling Green State, Michigan State and a weekend sweep over Lake Superior State.

"Going into the second half, we approach it as a new year with a clean slate," Dorantes said. "We know we have the ability to sweep weekends and we have that opportunity in the second half."

The Dawgs are back in action 7:07 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13, at Ewigleben Ice Arena against Alaska. The second game of the series will go down the following night.

FERRIS HOCKEY UPCOMING GAMES

January

Support your fellow Bulldogs!

13 - Alaska**14 - Alaska****20 - at Bemidji State****21 - at Bemidji State****27 - Bowling Green State****28 - Bowling Green State****February****10 - at Michigan Tech****11 - at Michigan Tech****17 - Alaska Anchorage****18 - Alaska Anchorage****24 - at Lake Superior State****25 - at Lake Superior State**

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

OPINIONS

“Pedestrian crosswalks are meant to give the student walking the right-of-way,”
- Alicia James See page 14 for story

Travis Sacher | Opinions Editor | sachert@ferris.edu

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Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

Over the break, I turned 21. It was Friday, Jan. 6, to be exact. Happy birthday to me. I have yet to take advantage of my coming-of-age opportunity to buy alcohol, thus disappointing all of those nudging me and smiling knowingly. My latest birthday has me thinking about landmark birthdays to come. Next year, I'll be feeling 22, according to Taylor Swift. The following year, no one will like me,

according to Blink-182. Then what? People celebrate their 25th anniversary with silver, so perhaps I'll be showered with fine jewelry. I'll pay for this whole semester's expenses with one trip to the pawnshop. On my 33rd birthday, I'll head to my 15-year high school reunion, or opt to skip it if I'm still in my parents' bedroom. Then when I'm 40 years old, I'll be approximately half way to my grave.

Coming-of-age

How pleasant. The reality is, birthdays become progressively less special after a certain point. You become old enough to drive, then to play the lottery, then to drink and then you're pretty much just celebrating reminders that you're aging. Eventually, there's not even enough room for the vast quantity of candles required to portray the years of your existence. Landmark birthdays come early

and often for kids and teens, but there isn't much to look forward to after that on the birthday front. There's less enthusiasm after a while. I suppose it all just comes with getting older. Enjoy the first week of classes as we all creep towards our next meaningless birthday together. At least there's cake.

Campus Conundrums

Are we walking or are we driving?



Alicia Jaimes
Torch Interim Reporter

With winter upon us I would like to discuss an issue very dear to my heart—not getting ran over by vehicles. This is something I've unfortunately witnessed time and time again and if you haven't,

I urge you to watch closely this winter. Take the time to see the pedestrians and the drivers on campus and become aware of the unspoken war between them. When I first arrived at Ferris in 2014, I was

strictly a walker and remember the struggles I went through when it came to (ironically) the most dangerous places to walk on campus—the crosswalks. Now that it's 2017, I've discovered the joys of driving and not having to get up so early before class. This also means I have encountered my own groups of brave pedestrians. Just last semester, I witnessed a student at a crosswalk. I slowed for them to cross and **Safety** | see page 15

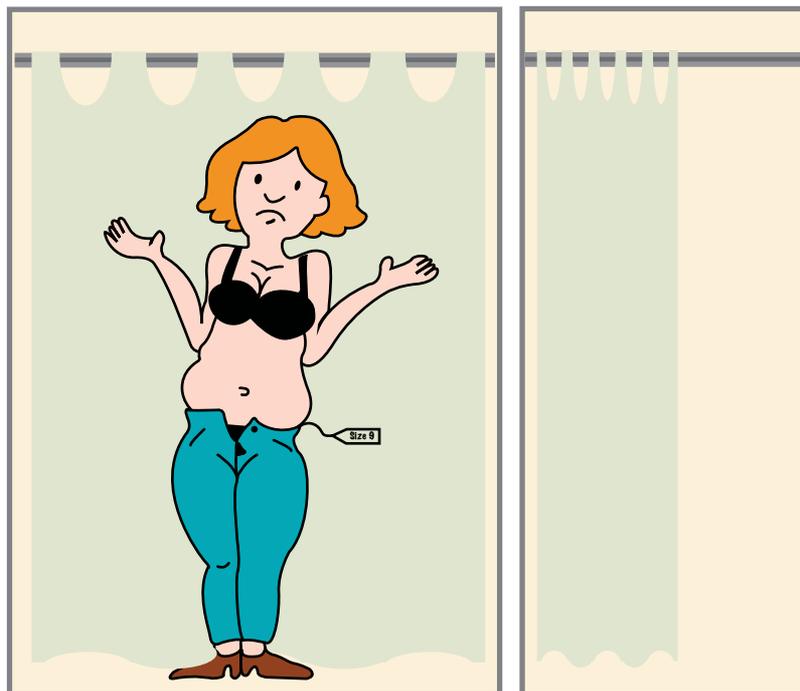


Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

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Women's Fitting Room



Graphic by: Jordan Lodge & Sarah Massey | Production

Women's fashion is wacky

Why aren't sizes standardized?



Alexandra Bourne
Torch Reporter

I understand that every brand fits a little different. But that is more than a little. On average, I wear a six or seven but in that brand, an 11 might have still been a little tight. Also, they were boot-cut jeans, not skinny jeans.

With rumors going around that the fashion industry is considering making sizes six and up plus size, it's no wonder why girls and women can have such negative self-images and the prevalence of eating disorders has grown.

It's annoying that a size six in one brand is not the same as a size six in every other brand. It's even worse that as the number gets larger, the fit is smaller. I stand at 5-feet-6-inches and weigh 145 pounds. I am by no means a larger person and yet that day I felt like I had gained twenty pounds because of a number on a pair of pants.

This is also why I never buy clothing online. You never know if the size you're buying will actually fit because they're all different. Why can't the fashion industry regulate sizes? Why is it that one brand can say that a size three is one set of measurements, while another brand can say the exact same measurements constitute a size nine?

ping for the pedestrian. Not only because it's the law and we have to, but because the way we are driving and walking right now is dangerous and someone could seriously get hurt.

I cannot tell you how many times I've been driving the speed limit at night and have found myself sliding through stop signs. If that happens to me when I'm driving legally, who's to say what's going to happen to those drivers who are speeding or texting and driving?

Yeah, I notice that, too.

Winter is scary enough, with black ice and post-holiday sales, [without people being afraid of other people as well.]

Let's just be considerate. Pause for five to 10 seconds to let students who are stuck trudging to class in cold, wintery conditions cross.

That being said, walkers, let's take a second to judge if a car is going to stop for you.

Just because you have the right-of-way does not mean everybody is willing to give it to you. I mean I know we crack jokes about how getting run down by cars will be the key to paying for college—or maybe that's just me—but sometimes these jokes are taken too far.

In 2017, let's keep in mind common courtesy, the law, and the fact that we are all speeding to classes we probably don't want to get to anyway.

So, as this winter may last until March, let's start January off with safe travels.

Getting Jew'd

An inside perspective on offensive terminology



Travis Sacher
Opinions Editor

"Ah shit, I just got Jew'd," said the racist bigot about his loss of a single round of cellphone Euchre.

Any of my weekly readers probably know by now, I am in fact Jewish. Living in Michigan for three years in a town with a minimal Jewish population, I have become accustomed to the lack of knowledge on the Jewish religion. More importantly, I have become even more accustomed to racist, homophobic, sexist and religiously ignorant remarks.

So what made me so irritated by this right now? I spent my winter break in southern New York—one of the most diverse areas in the country. I returned to Big Rapids for one day last week before I had to attend a business and leadership conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

A fellow Ferris student and myself decided it would be best to carpool with a group of guys going from Saginaw Valley State University. Due to their decision alone, they put the Ferris student and me in separate cars for the 10-hour drive to St. Louis.

It only took about one hour before somebody in the car used the term "Jew'd" as a verb, meaning that they had been screwed over. Being that I hadn't heard this in some time and didn't know these guys at all, I decided to not say anything.

The "Jew'd" remarks continued as I sat silent in the back seat. At one point all three of the other people in the car were having a conversation about "getting Jew'd." Soon after, the first user realized I hadn't said anything, which led him to ask, "You aren't Jewish right?" I sat silent.

He asked again to which I

responded with a hesitated, "Uh, yeah I am."

Feeling guilty about my religion I felt obligated to say I'm not religious and don't get offended by derogatory Jewish remarks. I was lying.

After that, the standard, "Oh, I was just joking," statements were made, but their remarks did not stop. Each time they would say sorry after some time while I continued to hide my anger and say I do not care.

It's amazing to think that the term "Jew" means being screwed over or ripped off more so than what a Jewish person is. Quite astounding honestly.

I chose to not do any form of educating in this scenario. I mean, within two hours of a 10-hour drive, one person was successful in saying anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim, homophobic, sexist, sexually misguided statements and just about every derogatory term you could think of. I do not need to list them for you.

So I sat silent. I pretended to be asleep for hours. One outburst and I knew it would be the most uncomfortable ride of my entire life.

Now that I got my story out, here is my opinion for the week. It is the year 2017. If you think "Jew'd" means you got screwed over, if you think Muslims are a threat to America, if you call people faggots and queers, if you refuse to accept those who are transgender, if you call black people the "n" word, if you treat women and men unequally, if you call people pussies for not meeting some standard you set that puts you above them, if you blame rape victims, if you generalize one misguided belief about an entire group of people, STOP. If you choose not to, you are of the lowest order and have no place in this world.

SAFETY

Continued from page 14

noticed a car going speeding over 25 miles per hour towards him. The student paused for a second at the walk, as if he was debating, and then glanced at the car before walking into its path. He wasn't jogging. He wasn't running. He was casually walking.

The driver, a male student, noticed the pedestrian and slowed for a second, again as if they were also debating and then decided to keep speeding along. This caused him to almost hit the student in his path.

I remember being extremely nervous about what was about to happen, but thankfully the driver slammed on his brakes before any damage occurred. The driver was clearly upset and waving his hands in the air at the pedestrian who had the nerve to cross at a crosswalk.

Really though, what should they have expected? Pedestrian crosswalks are meant to give the student walking the right-of-way.

Crosswalks are not some place where people congregate so that when a driver drives by they feel better about the fact that they are not stuck walking to class in the snow.

I mean come on, people. Even if you are running late to class, is that a valid enough reason for running down another human being? Probably not.

I propose that we bring back the tradition of stop-

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Finally, we're back to school.
Break was so boring!

Groaning



There are two kinds of students.

Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist

WANTED

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Ferris State Torch

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