



Ferris State University
TORCH
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HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

FOCUS ON THE FLAG

Get into the heads of Ferris golfers breaking down their thoughts before each shot and throughout a match

SECTION | PAGE 10

SOMEPLACE WARM

Guest writer Drue Thornton breaks down the merits of traveling over spring break while in college

SECTION | PAGE 14

Water wars

Nestlé fights to draw up to 400 gallons of water per minute in Mecosta County, Michigan Citizens for Clean Water fight back

Keith Salowich & Marley Tucker
Torch Staff

Nestlé has landed in hot water as Michigan citizens push back against their effort to increase the amount of groundwater the bottling company takes from the state.

Nestlé Waters North America, the world's largest bottled water company, has many ties in Michigan as the company has extracted billions of gallons of groundwater from aquifers in multiple locations within the state since May 2002.

Michigan, a state known for its freshwater lakes, charges water bottler companies such as Nestlé \$200 per year to operate. There is no state tax, licensing fee or royalty connected with the company's extraction of groundwater.

"So they're not paying for the water, they're not paying much if anything for the taxes and then they're charging more per gallon of water if you go with bottles than gasoline or milk," said Ferris biology professor Scott Herron. "The state is not really benefitting from it and the local economy is minimally benefitting."

Nestlé announced a \$36-million expansion at its bottling plant in Stanwood. This expansion would add 20 new jobs to the plant that employs 250 people.

Many residents have been upset after it was revealed that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) wanted to approve a 167 percent—from 150 gallons per minute to 400 gallons per minute—increase on a well Nestlé owns in Osceola County. That means that they would be pumping nearly 210 million gallons of groundwater per year for \$200.

"It kind of made me upset about it because I heard that it was going to impact the watershed down here in Big Rapids," said Ferris business administration junior Rachael Milkey. "One of my favorite things to do, especially when the weather is nice, is to go hike along the (Muskegon) River, and I've already noticed that it's been down lately."

Issues with Nestlé aren't unprecedented. Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation sued Nestlé in 2001 due to the potential environmental damage that its groundwater withdrawals would cause.



Rachael Milkey

"They were asking, 'would their withdrawal of water negatively impact the local environment, the local aquifer, the local water.' The evidence that was produced caused the judge to say, 'It appears that there would be an environmental harm at the required or requested rate of 400 gallons per minute,'" Herron said.

A settlement agreement was reached in 2009, reducing Nestlé's extraction to 218 gallons per minute.

People have also been angry about the lack of transparency from both the DEQ and Nestlé. The public window of review through the DEQ has been pushed back multiple times in wake of negative comments made about the process.

"Allowing companies like Nestlé to do whatever they want undermines the public water system we all rely on and people are taking note," said Liz McDowell, campaign director at SumOfUs, an international consumer watchdog organization. "The upswell of public interest in stopping Nestlé's greedy water grab has been overwhelming—the DEQ is currently receiving a flood of public comments opposing the Nestlé proposal."

A petition created by SumOfUs opposing Nestlé is currently backed by 374,726 signatures, 66,000 of whom are Michigan residents.

Nestlé | see page 3

2001

Nestlé is permitted by the DEQ to pump, treat and bottle up to 400 gallons of water per minute from aquifers in Mecosta County.

Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation (MCWC) take Nestlé to court over environmental concerns due to the pumping capacity.

2005

2001-2005 - A judge rules in favor of MCWC, but Nestlé appeals twice before overturning the ruling.

2009

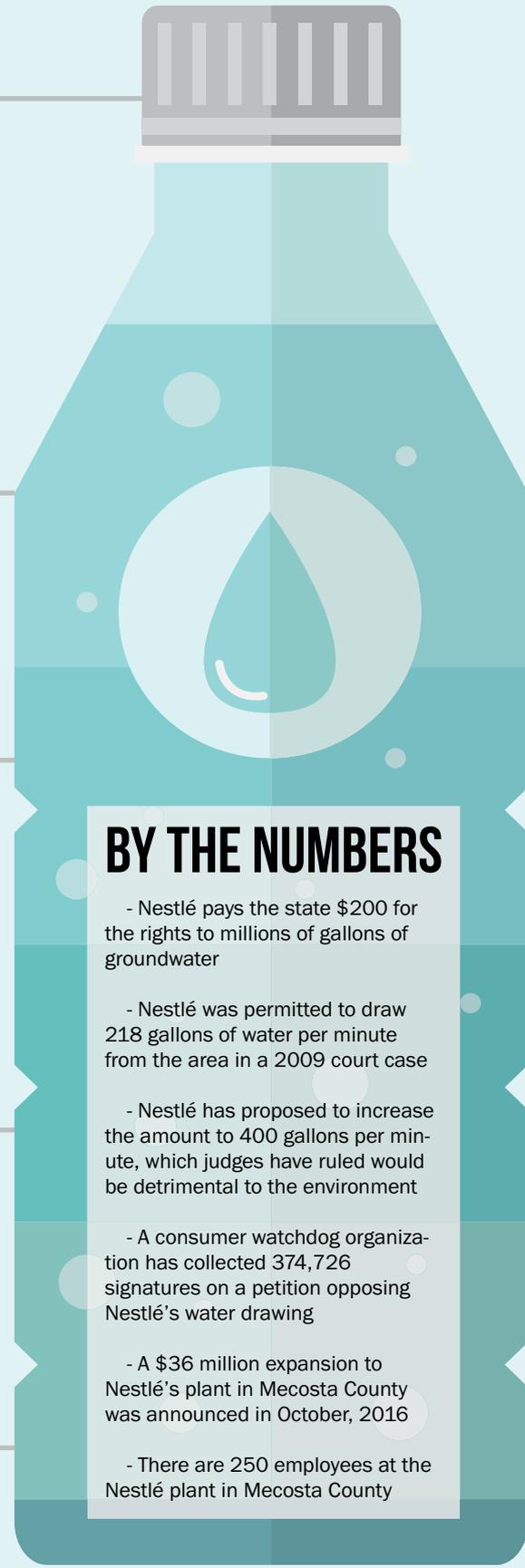
A settlement is reached between MCWC and Nestlé preventing Nestlé from increasing the amount of groundwater taken to 400 gallons per minute.

2016

Oct. 31, Nestlé announces a \$31 million expansion to their plant in Osceola County.

2017

March 3, Last day for DEQ public comment.
April 12, Nestlé Water public hearing at Ferris State University.



BY THE NUMBERS

- Nestlé pays the state \$200 for the rights to millions of gallons of groundwater
- Nestlé was permitted to draw 218 gallons of water per minute from the area in a 2009 court case
- Nestlé has proposed to increase the amount to 400 gallons per minute, which judges have ruled would be detrimental to the environment
- A consumer watchdog organization has collected 374,726 signatures on a petition opposing Nestlé's water drawing
- A \$36 million expansion to Nestlé's plant in Mecosta County was announced in October, 2016
- There are 250 employees at the Nestlé plant in Mecosta County

Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

Got news? Let us know.

Email: fsutorcheditor@gmail.com
Phone: 231.591.5978



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NEWS

“... all of a sudden a thousand food trays were missing from dining because people were using them as sleds. And they made great sleds,”

- Mary Gallagher-Eustice, see page 4 for story

Angela Graf | News Editor | grafa1@ferris.edu

Fluency on the rise

Could knowing a foreign language get you the job?

Harley Harrison

Torch Reporter

If you went to high school in Michigan, you probably had to take a foreign language class. In fact, you may have been required to take a couple courses at Ferris. But was the struggle necessary?

According to Job Outlook 2017, a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, only 4.5 percent of employers attribute knowing a foreign language as a highly important skill on a résumé.

Creativity, for comparison, surveyed at 21.2 percent and tactfulness at 25.8 per-

cent.

Similarly, when employers have to choose between two equally qualified applicants, being fluent in a foreign language was rated a 2.1 on a five-point scale as “Not Much Influence,” according to the same survey.

Foreign language majors and minors, as well as students who suffered through a language class to fulfill a credit, should not believe their hard work has gone to waste just yet, because the New American Economy (NAE) reported that bilingual employees are in-demand.

“In 2010, there were 239,267 job listings targeting bilinguals while in 2015, that figure had more than doubled to 627,182,” reported the NAE.

This figure did not result from a random need for translators or interpreters. According to NAE, the need is across the board from customer service representatives to medical secretaries.

Ferris music management junior Ashlee Jones can attest to this need.

“I think it’s important that some people

know how to speak different, just with my experience in working in customer support,” Jones said. “I support people with internet and it’s really difficult when you get that phone call and they’re speaking Spanish and you can’t even tell them that you don’t speak Spanish because you don’t even know that much Spanish, but I don’t think it’s important for everyone to be able to speak a second language.”

Jones, who has had one year of Spanish in high school, does believe fluency in a second language can add to a résumé. However, it might make a person appear overqualified. Jones mentioned that it was surprising that foreign language fluency was rated by employers as having little influence on hiring an employee.

“I think it is just because there are a lot of people in America where their first language isn’t English,” Jones said.

Ferris pre-welding freshman John Campbell was not surprised by how employers rated fluency in a foreign language.

“I mean, I imagine that it would be high-

er on the list in certain fields like if you’re going to be interacting with lots of different people. But other than that, no, not really,” Campbell said.

For those who think they might need a second language for their future career, NAE concluded that employers are increasingly searching for bilingual workers who speak Arabic, Chinese and Spanish.

NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING U.S. CITIZENS

1980:

Overall U.S. population - 11.0%
U.S. foreign-born population - 70.2%

2014:

Overall U.S. population - 21.1%
U.S. foreign-born population - 84.2%

The above information was taken from an article by the NAE entitled “Not Lost in Translation.”



Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Multimedia Editor

The president of the American Academy of Diplomacy and former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan Ronald Neumann shared his insight on foreign policy and the place of diplomacy in modern culture.

The first line of defense

Former U.S. ambassador discusses the role of diplomacy with Ferris crowd

Harley Harrison

Torch Reporter

The president of the American Academy of Diplomacy and former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan Ronald Neumann spoke to Ferris audience members Tuesday, March 14.

Ferris’ Office of International Education collaborated with the World Affairs Council of West Michigan to bring Neumann and his wife Elaine to campus. The presentation, “Looking Ahead in American Foreign Policy,” was part of the university’s effort to expand global engagement and encourage discussion with students.

“I really think foreign policy should be taught more in classes because it can help connect us to issues abroad,” said Ferris social work junior Alyssa Gardner.

After an introduction by Ferris State University President David Eisler, a short film detailing the history of America’s diplomats was screened for the room packed with students, faculty and local residents.

“We are the foreign-service, the diplomats, the first line of defense in much of the world. We are the people on the ground in 270 countries,” Neumann said. “If you get into trouble overseas, we are the people who will be first to help you if we can.”

With his years of service spanning three wars, Neumann formerly worked as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State. He served three times as an ambassador to Algeria, Bahrain and Afghanistan.

Neumann focused on explaining what a diplomat’s job entails and the impacts on foreign policy throughout the years. He referenced several of his experiences

serving abroad during times of crisis and how American servicepeople assisted other countries.

“I was initially expecting the presentation to be a bit more about the Middle East and specifically the issues there, but the fact that it ended up being more about diplomacy and the development of it is something that I didn’t expect to learn,” said Ferris chemistry sophomore Abby Demaet. “I think a huge issue right now and something I see on campus, is this division, especially with this new administration in the White House. I think diplomacy and hard-working American ideals are things this generation needs desperately right now.”

Near the end of his presentation, Neumann answered questions from the crowd and offered advice to those looking ahead.

“Personally, I think take a deep breath and be a little patient. For a lot of people this is the first transition to a radically different administration they’ve known and it’s very traumatic, including inside the state department,” Neumann said. “This is the ninth transition I have seen.”

To learn more about foreign policy and get involved, log onto the World Affairs Council of West Michigan webpage for more information.



Alyssa Gardner



Abby Demaet

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Failure to adult

By Angela Graf - News Editor

There's a car there, pal

Feb. 28, 1:20 p.m. officers investigated a hit and run accident that occurred in Lot 28.

Time to renew

March 3, 2:35 p.m. officers stopped a vehicle with an expired license plate near an apartment complex on 14 Mile Road. The driver was lodged in jail for not having proper insurance.

Broken and stoned

March 3, 8:30 p.m. officers stopped a

vehicle for defective equipment on State Street near Maple Street. The driver was found to be in possession of marijuana and was ticketed.

Failure to adult

March 7, 9:10 p.m. officers stopped a vehicle on Perry Avenue near Ferris Drive for defective equipment. The driver was found to have an outstanding warrant regarding charges of child neglect and was lodged in jail.

Oh yeah, that's where I left that...

March 8, 6:50 p.m. officers assisted Ferris staff with a report of a lost phone in the Timme building. The phone was ultimately

recovered and found to be misplaced rather than stolen.

Hit the lights!

March 11, 6:45 p.m. officers responded to a report of a one-vehicle accident in Lot 33. The vehicle was found to have struck a light pole.

Also lost?

March 11, 9:45 p.m. officers responded to a report of an item stolen from a West Campus Apartment during spring recess. The investigation is ongoing.

Red means stop

March 12, 3:20 a.m. officers stopped a

vehicle for ignoring a traffic light at the intersection of Perry Avenue and State Street. The driver was ticketed after being found in possession of a suspended license.

Green means stop

March 13, 10:10 p.m. officers responded to a marijuana complaint in Merrill Hall. One student was found in possession and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

The Ferris Department of Public Safety issued 191 parking violations between the dates of March 9, and March 15, totaling \$3,120.



NEWS BRIEFS

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Spring Food Drive

On Mar. 22 and 23 there will be a canned food drive held in the IRC Connector. The event is hosted by Ferris' American Marketing Association in collaboration with Project Starburst. For more information contact Dominic Hasbrouck at hasbrod@ferris.edu.

History Quiz Bowl

There will be a trivia bowl hosted in the University Center in which teams of three and four will be quizzed on their knowledge of history. For the winning team, prizes include novelty history-themed sodas and a secret grand prize. The event will take place in UCB 203 on Monday, Mar. 27, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Spring Graduation Fair

Ferris seniors either graduating or walking in the spring commencement ceremony are invited to stop by the spring graduation fair on Tuesday, Mar. 28. You will have the opportunity to purchase caps and gowns, print tickets, and decorate your caps. The event will be held in UCB 202 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

Did we make a mistake?
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Corrections can be submitted through email at fsutorcheditor@gmail.com or by calling 231-591-5978

NESTLÉ

Continued from page 1

Now, the proposed permit from the DEQ would take the company's

groundwater withdrawals back up to the level that caused the lawsuit.

Issues surrounding water are especially controversial in the Great Lakes state, due to an ongoing water crisis.

Residents of Flint, just two and a half hours away from Big Rapids, have been without clean water for 1,058 days as of March 18, 2017.

"I think it puts a sour taste in people's mouths when they see

that Nestlé is taking in water for so cheap and people in Flint can't even get clean water. It definitely changes how people look at it, especially because Flint hits so close to home," Milkey said.

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Turn up the good times



Photo borrowed from Freddy Todd's Instagram Account

Detroit native Freddy Todd will take the stage alongside Jade Cicada at Ferris' annual Turn Up the Good benefit, hosted this year at the Big Rapids Eagles Club.

Freddy Todd and Jade Cicada to headline

Melanie Bale

Interim Reporter

After months of effort and backstage planning, Ferris State's Music Industry Management (MIM) program is gearing up to put together this year's electronic concert for students and ticket holders.

This year's headliners include Detroit-based Freddy Todd and Jade Cicada.

"One of the main factors in determining how to choose the performers was to bring an artist that can get people to dance and have a high energy while performing," said Ferris MIM student and Turn Up the Good Executive Director Ian Strasser.

Freddy Todd produces nothing short of glitch-funk and laser bass electronica, but his roots embedded in Detroit shine through his sound cueing into jazz, Motown and funk.

"I know he's with All Good Records so he has to be good," said Ferris student Zach Wohlgamuth. "He's a bit more house-y than I'm used to."

Jade Cicada gets inspiration for their name from the Chinese gem known for wisdom and peace. The cicada symbolizes metamorphosis and illumination.

As well as for show attendees, Turn Up the Good allows MIM students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in concert

production with aspects such as planning, contracting with venues and artists, negotiating a price with artists, gathering the proper equipment, developing a marketing plan and developing a safety and security plan.

Any previous speculation about the location can be put to rest and to students' benefit.

"The Eagles Club has a later curfew that will allow the show to go until 1 a.m., compared to if we had it at Wink where there is a strict cut-off of music at 11 p.m.," Strasser said.



Ian Strasser

Eagles Club will allow the show to start later in the evening like typical electronic concerts, and give students a chance to get classes or homework done, as well as on-campus jobs.

Tickets will be available at MIM promo tables in the UC and IRC during the next two weeks or online with an extra processing fee. Students can see specific dates for the promo tables and find the link for online purchasing on the Turn Up the Good Facebook page.

Tickets are \$12 and the show is for ages 18 and up.

The event will take place 10 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Eagles Club in Big Rapids on 16 Mile Road.

The truth behind the legend

What really happened during the storm of '78?

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

There was a blizzard that closed campus in 1978, allegedly resulting in empty liquor store shelves and rowdy Bulldogs causing college presidents to make a pact to never have a snow day again.

After 39 years, tales have been told, but what really happened that blizzardy day?

The storm hit Thursday, Jan. 26, and didn't stop until Friday, Jan. 27, resulting in 30 inches of snow—a record 24-hour snowfall according to midmichiganweather.com.

"This was a true winter, the kind of winter we do not have anymore," said Ferris Archival Associate Mary Gallagher-Eustice.

According to Gallagher-Eustice, who in 1978 worked in the university's library, the storm was one of the worst, but liquor stores were not sold out and the storm is not the reason behind the lack of snow days.

"As the years go on, the snowfall gets deeper, the wind gets higher and harder. It cracks me up," Gallagher-Eustice said.

But having lived through it, she knows the truth.

According to Gallagher-Eustice, president at the time Robert L. Ewigleben was out of town, so the vice president of academics made the call to close campus. The state of Michigan declared it a state of emergency, while Ewigleben declared it an act of God. Classes were cancelled that Thursday and Friday.

"(On Campus) it was like a giant snowball fight," Gallagher-Eustice said. "At first everyone was like 'whoa, this is unreal' and then



Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist

all of a sudden the students realized they weren't going to have classes, so everyone started flooding outside."

"We used to have food trays, and all of a sudden a thousand food trays were missing from dining because people were using them as sleds. And they made great sleds."

According to Gallagher-Eustice, the library remained open, along with the Rankin Center for dining purposes.

According to a 2010 Torch article by Dan Hamilton, the rumor about Grunst Brothers

Sport Center and Party Store selling out was indeed, just a rumor.

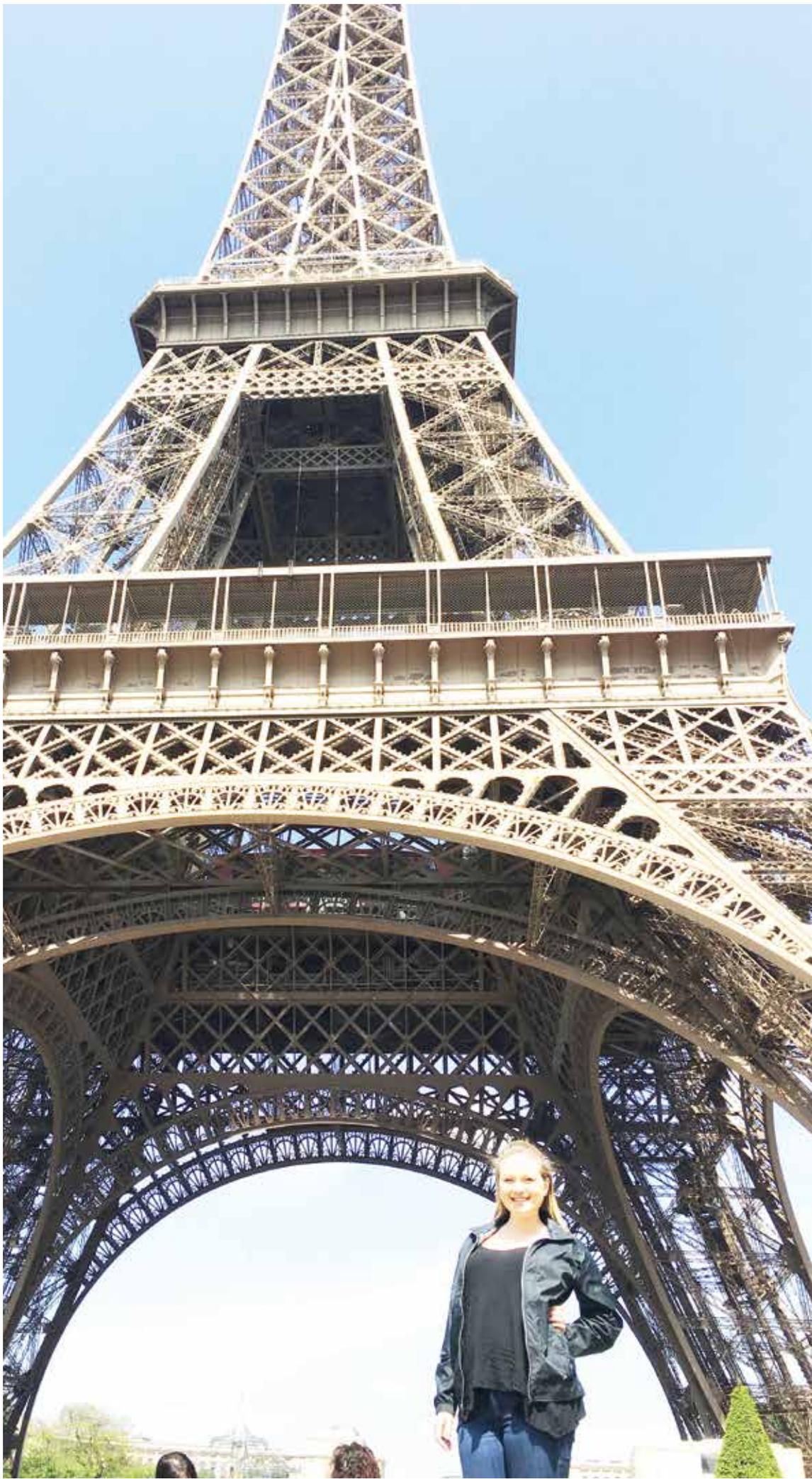
According to the article, Grunst Brothers did have an impressive day, but they did not sell out of inventory. The owner did say it could have been possible for smaller stores in town at the time to sell out, and he did remember seeing students coming in on toboggan sleds and cross-country skis.

Gallagher-Eustice does not recall seeing any drunkenness throughout campus, but she does remember people packing snow

up against Cramer and jumping out of the windows.

"We had skiers, downhill skiers, people on sleds, snow angels," Gallagher-Eustice said. "It was cold. Some of the library staff even got into a snowball fight. You know, like, what else can you do?"

"By Sunday everything was back up and running. On Monday we were still all shell-shocked, and that's when the rumors started," Gallagher-Eustice said.



Submitted Photo

"It felt so surreal to be in a place that you have seen in pictures before, but never expected to be there in person," said Ferris radiography junior Abby Harmala. "It was by far one of the most memorable experience of the trip!"

Bon Voyage!

Students immerse themselves in culture through study abroad

Andrea Lenhart
Torch Reporter

At this point in the semester there are many students waiting on their acceptance to study abroad programs and many other students sharing GoFundMe pages to raise money for their trips. Ferris offers short-term and exchange program opportunities all over the world for students to study abroad and students say it has been one of their best decisions in college.

"The best thing about studying abroad was interacting with the native people and learning about their country's history and culture," said Ferris radiography junior Abby Harmala, who traveled to Italy, France and Spain last summer.

According to the Ferris international website, a short-term program is two to four weeks and worth three to six credits. This program is a great way to introduce students to studying outside of the United States.

During the summer of 2017 Ferris will be sending students to destinations such as Costa Rica, El Salvador, Germany, Austria, Haiti, Italy, Russia, Scotland and Spain for short-term programs.

An exchange program student can go almost anywhere including France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, South Korea, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Ferris public relations junior Drew Myers will be studying abroad in Italy this summer.

"I have known people to study abroad in Italy," Myers said. "My mom has gone there. This is the last summer I can do this before I need to start my internship, so I thought this is the time to go. People have told me they love Italy, so I wanted to experience it for myself."

"Living at home and always living in Big Rapids, I feel like I don't really get to experience that much," Myers added. "So I really wanted to finally get out and go somewhere that I am completely unfamiliar with and explore other places." Myers said she was lucky be-

cause her parents started an education savings plan that is helping her pay for this experience.

"(Studying abroad) is not hindering my graduation," Myers said. "I wouldn't say it is speeding it up either. It's keeping me on track." Ferris public relations senior Katie Nimtz is waiting on her acceptance letter to study abroad in the Netherlands.



Drew Myers

"I've always wanted to study abroad and it kind of worked out perfect with my credits," Nimtz said. "They have an amazing program there that offers international communications media and it plugs perfectly into the public relations degree." Nimtz is taking this oppor-

I haven't even gone yet and I already know it is going to be a once in a lifetime opportunity

- Drew Myers

tunity to explore the big world and take on a change of pace. "When doing a semester program, it's a lot like paying for credits here at Ferris, so I am paying for it the same way I would be paying for classes here," Nimtz said. "I will also be getting a job during the summer to pay for other expenses like airfare and food."

Nimtz suggests that students to check it out, but research the programs to figure out what works best.

2017 MAY COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 5, 2017 and Saturday, May 6, 2017

Ewigleben Sport Complex (Wink Arena)



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College	Contact	Phone #	Location
Health Professions	Richelle Williams	(231) 591-2263	VFS 210
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Engineering Technology	Deb Ducat	(231) 591-2961	JHN 200
Optometry	Michelle Aldrich	(231) 591-3700	MCO 236
Pharmacy	Tara Lee	(231) 591-3780	PHR 105
DCCL	Megan Biller	(231) 591-2710	ALU 113

Note: You must satisfy all of your degree requirements before you officially graduate and receive your diploma. **Caps and Gowns** may be purchased at the Grad Fair on March 28th, 11:00 am - 5:00pm in the University Center - Multi Purpose Rooms or starting March 28th - May 3rd, 2017 at the Ferris State University Bookstore (located in the University Center, 805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids MI 49307).

Tickets are required for all ceremonies. All students planning on participating in a ceremony will receive (6) six tickets. Electronic tickets will be available for students to reserve or print starting March 28, 2017. Extra tickets are not distributed and lost tickets will not be replaced. Tickets must be reserved by Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 11:59 pm.

Commencement Program - Graduates must complete their online graduation application by **Friday, February 24, 2017 for their names to appear in the Spring 2017 Commencement Programs** or their name will not appear in the Commencement Program. In order to have the program printed and back in time for the ceremonies we have to adhere to these deadlines. Contact your college's Commencement Coordinator if you have any questions.

Friday, May 5	
Time	College
3:30 pm	College of Health Professions
7:00 pm	College of Arts & Sciences College of Pharmacy Doctorate in Community College Leadership
Saturday, May 6	
Time	College
9:00 am	College of Engineering & Technology
12:30 pm	College of Business
4:00 pm	College of Education & Human Services Michigan College of Optometry

For special accommodations or for more information regarding the Commencement ceremony, please visit the Commencement website www.ferris.edu/commencement or call (231) 591-3803.



LIFESTYLES

"When I first came to college, I'm sure I was nervous because I'd always lived in small towns growing up so I didn't know what to expect when entering a larger community,"
- Kennedy Schafer, see page 9 for story

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

Boycotting grapes



Photo by: Odette Lopez | Torch Photographer

Monica Rodriguez (left) talks with students after the screening of "Cesar Chavez," a film about an activist who led a successful labor-rights campaign against unfair working conditions and wage exploitation.

Exploring the life and teachings of Cesar Chavez

Alexandra Bourne

Torch Reporter

After a five-year strike and a 25-day fast in 1968, civil rights activist Cesar Chavez and the National Farmworkers Association (NFA) won fair wages and working conditions.

The film about the events, "Cesar Chavez," was shown Tuesday, March 14, at 5 p.m. in IRC 120 by the Center for Latin@ Studies.

"Cesar Chavez should have more acknowledgment, and I feel like going to events like this is a way for students like myself to get educated and I think that's important," said Ferris Spanish for the professions and communications sophomore Daniel Rivera.

Chavez was born in Arizona but moved to California to work the fields when he was 11 years old.

"I really felt as if this movie did a great job of showing society about what farm workers had to do," said Ferris biology freshman Amanda Ponce. "It really educates society about how horrible the working conditions

were. People don't realize how awful and unfair the workers were treated, but this movie really goes to show the truth behind the movement."

Chavez and members of the NFA obtained success by boycotting various brands of grapes and persuading others to boycott them as well. When the growers decided to export the grapes to Europe to make up for the millions of dollars Chavez and the NFA were costing them, Chavez traveled to England and successfully created a boycott there as well.

"It's part of not just Latino history but history of the United States, and it's something that impacts all of our communities," said Ferris anthropology professor Monica Rodriguez.

"The fight is never about grapes or lettuce," Chavez said in the film. "It is always about people."

Chavez was named Time Magazine's Man of the Year in 1969 and even met with Pope Paul VI. He died in 1993.

"I think that more people should have come to get a little more educated on what kinds of things people have fought for in the past versus what kinds of things we're going to need to fight for now," said Ferris secondary English education junior Rebecca McCarty.

The minimum wage in 1962, when the NFA formed, was \$1.15 per hour (which was equivalent to \$8.89 in 2013 after inflation). Many farm workers at the time made only 20 to 30 cents per hour, the equivalent to \$4 to \$5 per hour in 2013.

"These are topics that are still relevant in today's society," Rodriguez said. "He was fighting for better wages, for better working conditions for people, and those are still issues that affect a lot of different communities, not just farm workers."

"I thought it was very important that we had a very diverse group of students come and learn about issues that are relevant in our history and the issues that are still happening today," Rivera said.

Ponce's family, on both her mother's and father's side, worked in the fields.

"All brothers and sisters had to work in the fields, just because it was their only way of putting food on the table," Ponce said. "My grandparents, aunts and uncles all suffered through the terrible working conditions that the movie projected."

Ponce's grandmother has back problems from spending hours in the field bent over picking produce. Her grandfather was diagnosed with skin cancer after working in the sun for several years up and down the east coast. Her father's feet were destroyed by pesticides.

"These are just some examples out of the many of the long-term effects of terrible farm working conditions," Ponce said. "Even though pay is much better today for farm workers, they still spend countless hours working, which wears on their body."

"We draw our strength from the very despair in which we have been forced to live," Chavez said. "We shall endure."

Green eggs and beer

College: where drinking starts at 7 a.m. and classes are optional

Alicia Jaimes

Torch Reporter

St. Patrick's Day started early for some Ferris students looking to get a nutritious breakfast with a side of green beer, but hold the cries of alcoholism.

The promise of green beer and green eggs at the Gypsy Nickel Lounge had students planning their Friday earlier in the week.

"I'm starting the day at Gypsy at 8:30 a.m. with eggs and kegs—the 'nutritious' way to start your day," said Ferris professional tennis management and marketing senior Michael Manning.

The Gypsy Nickel Lounge opened at 7 a.m. with the sweet aromas of a St. Patrick's Day themed breakfast buffet and, of course, alcohol.

At 7:30 a.m. the Lounge was filled with festive Ferris students, a full bar and a line of students waiting for a table to clear.

Ferris hospitality management senior Maci Palmer was one student who wanted to take advantage of the breakfast buffet, but her hopes were dashed when she arrived.

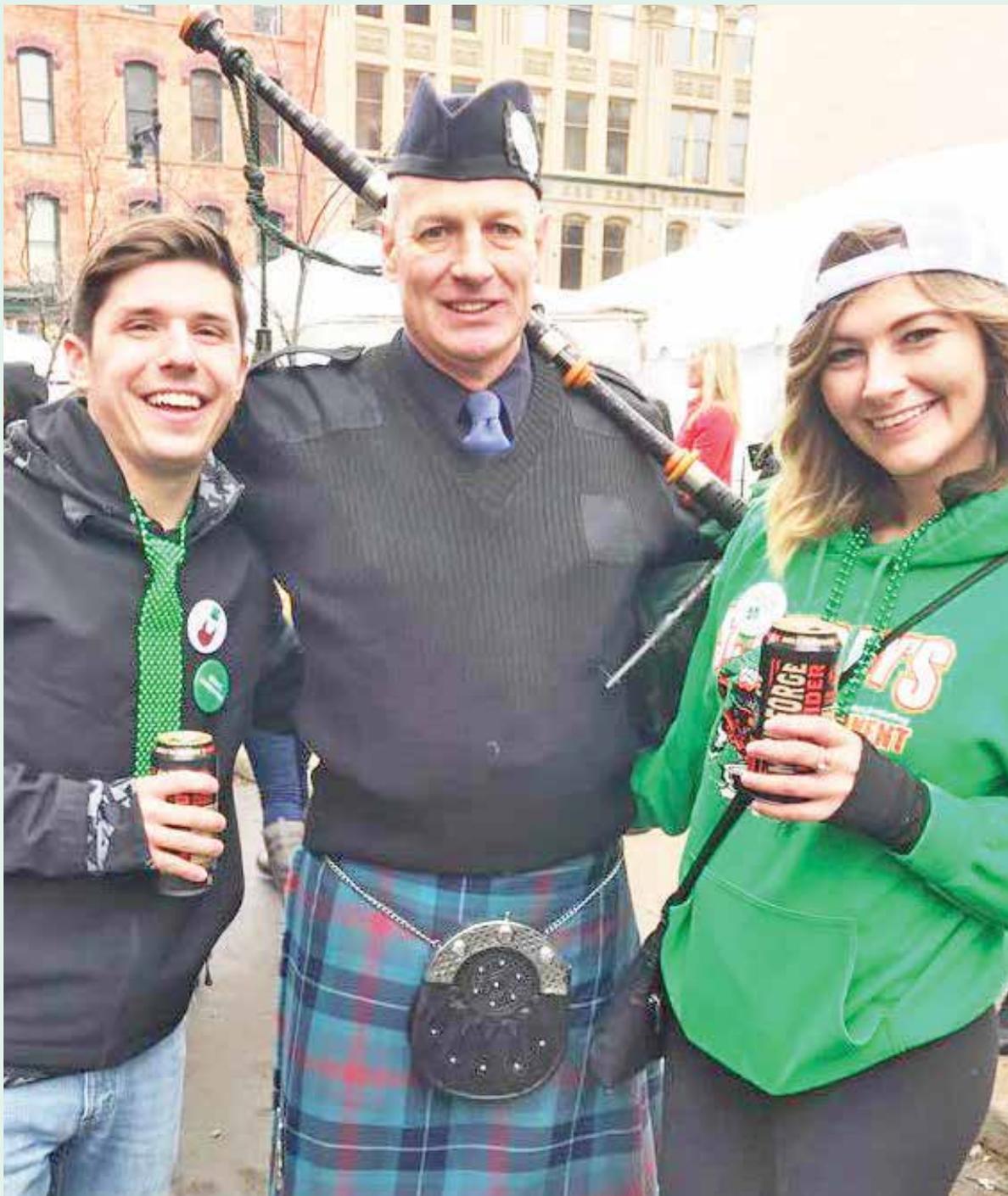
"I planned to go to Gypsy for breakfast to eat green eggs but it was too packed to get a table before class," Palmer said. "I'm bummed because it's literally the only day of the year you can have a beer with breakfast and not be an alcoholic."

While this was Palmer's first year participating in the alcohol consumption that St. Patrick's Day is known for, Ferris television and digital media production senior Kyle Gilmore recalled his past St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

"I've spent a few St. Patty's Days in East Lansing, which I feel is kind of the ultimate place for St. Patty's Day, but Ferris is cool because it's easier to meet up with and see people you know," Gilmore said.

Aside from wearing "Kiss Me, I'm Irish" shirts, drinking green beer and spending the day with friends, many students discussed drinking before class, after class and even skipping classes just so they could drink as much alcohol as possible.

With events being hosted at Shooters, The Gate and



Submitted Photo

Max McPherson (left) and Amanda Barnes (far right) party on St. Patrick's Day in Grand Rapids at Irish on Ionia.

The Gypsy Nickel Lounge, most students planned their early weekends in advance—the Gypsy being the start to almost all those plans.

"[St. Patrick's Day] has turned into a nice money maker for many people. Beer companies spend a few bucks on green dye and make a bunch more money," Gilmore said.

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Ferris honors influential women

Adrianna Walker
Torch Reporter

As part of Women's History Month, Ferris continues its dedication to recognizing influential and important women.

The Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS) will host another event focused on commemorating influential women from the past and from the present. The Women's History Month Student Tribute will take place 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 22, in IRC 120.

The event is part of the #BecauseofHER women's appreciation campaign on campus and will include a variety of presentations from Ferris students about influential women. Presentations will be delivered in song, dance, poetry and other creative forms.

One historical woman who personally influenced the university was Helen Gillespie Ferris, wife of Ferris State University's founder Woodbridge N. Ferris. Mrs. Ferris would conclude her distinctive teaching career at the university.

Born Sept. 7, 1853, in the state of New York, Helen Ferris would later be cited as the best geometry teacher in Michigan by the state's superintendent of public instruction. After teaching at Franklin College and a high school in New York, Mrs. Ferris became a full-time teacher at Ferris, according to her husband, who gave her much credit in helping build the school.

Helen Ferris retired in 1901 as teacher and vice president of the then-called Ferris Institute.

The Women's Advocacy Forum at Ferris recently created the Helen Gillespie Ferris Distinguished Woman Leader Award in her honor, awarded to individuals who have set themselves apart as leaders to women in their institutions.

"The award is designed to recognize work on behalf of women in higher education that is beyond the scope of the nominee's formal staff or faculty job responsibilities," according to the women's advocacy forum website.

Woodbridge lauded Helen's life and impact after her death by writing and publishing a booklet in her honor, at one point stating that "the life of Mrs. Ferris adds new luster to American womanhood."

If students wish to participate in the Women's History Month Student Tribute, they can sign up in the OMSS in Flite 159.

For more information on Women's History Month Events, visit ferris.edu/omss.

TORCH CONFESSIONS

Survival Skills

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

An average day for me contains lots of laughs, screams and smirks.

I'm a senior in college working towards my bachelor's degree and trying to keep my sanity at the same time. I never thought I would make it this far but here I am.

The semester is coming to an end and my thoughts are all over the place. Mainly, in places they shouldn't be.

Every day, I'm thinking about my summer vacations and what new hairstyles I want to try, but never school.

That's until I walk into class and am reminded of all the assignments and projects that are due in a month.

I knew college would require time and dedication, but I probably overlooked the complexity of some of the assignments.

Me being who I am, I always seem to manage. It may take me being up until five in the morning but I get it done.

I must say I can be quite a procrastinator, I feel as if I work well under pressure. But this semester, all of the assignments I have been given requires more than three hours.

How will I make it to graduation you may ask?

Two things: holy water and tequila.

Life was so much better when all I had to worry about was if my uniform was clean and my pencils were sharpened.

Since I've become an upper-classman, I worry about things such as internships and credits.

My professors are so adamant about due dates and pre-



Tia-Jane' Oakes
Torch Reporter

paring for the real world. They make so many assumptions about what students are going to experience in the work field.

I hate assumptions because I like to view myself as a one-of-a-kind individual. Just because your boss gave you hell doesn't mean I'll go through that.

Things like this make me hate college and professors.

Since becoming an adult, I've learned to deal with whatever life throws my way. I have to accept the things I can't change.

I try to not complain about the work and college because this will only make me stronger and better.

When I hear my colleagues talk about work and its complications I instantly become irked.

I feel, as college students, we have an idea of what professors are going to throw our way.

Some stuff might seem easy but most of it will be hard and will require a lot of our time.

School is school no matter how we feel, and we have to deal with it.

I do agree we have those days where school is just a complete frustration. But in a few years, hopefully we'll be living large in our nice houses and driving expensive cars.

My advice to my fellow bulldogs: keep striving and have tunnel vision.

Ferris State University Scholarship Opportunity for Students

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship

Applicant must be the child, sibling or grandchild of a Ferris Alumna(us), and have a 2.75 GPA. Have successfully completed a minimum of 26 earned credit hours at Ferris State University.

Please note the following: Students seeking an associate degree must have completed 30 credit hours at the end of spring semester; students seeking a bachelor's degree must have completed 56 credit hours at the end of the spring semester. To be considered for the scholarship, must submit an application including essay describing personal career goals, the role of a Ferris State degree will play in achieving set goals. A letter from a FSU Alumna(us) parent describing educational experiences/professional career. Recommendations by Ferris Faculty or staff. Have not previously received this scholarship. Recipients selected and announcements made July 2017. October 2017 - Legacy Luncheon honoring recipients.

Visit and apply: ferris.academicworks.com

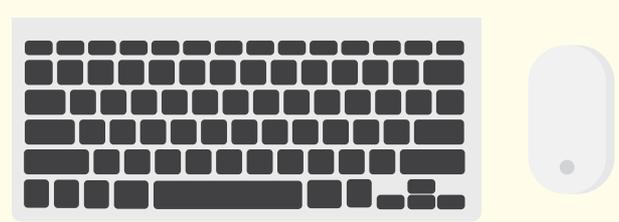


**Application deadline:
MAY 15, 2017**

*All submissions must be made on line using MyScholarships. Visit <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/admission/financialaid/scholarship/Incoming/myscholarships.htm> for more information.



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Alumni Association

There's a first time for everything

RSO discusses what it's like to live the college life

Matthew Miller

Torch Reporter

Some students at Ferris are the first in their families to attend a four-year university, and some have formed a registered student organization (RSO) to support each other.

First Generation (or First Gen for short) is an RSO that helps first generation college students connect with fellow first generation college students. The RSO helps answer questions and concerns that first generation students may have.

First Gen can provide a support system for students by connecting them to stu-

dents, staff and faculty, as well as help students acclimate and understand college as much as possible.

Ferris human resource management junior Alecia Dillard is a member of First Generation. Hailing from Detroit, Dillard chose Ferris because it is an opportunity school. Getting connected within the Ferris community and scholarships gave her enough of a reason to leave home and make Ferris her new one.

"It was a relief for me to get away from my hometown and come to a completely different environment," Dillard said. "The students and staff here are so kind, caring and willing to help me succeed in every way

possible."

Getting involved in a professional fraternity and different RSOs has helped Dillard receive support, reach out and ask different questions. Dillard said she wouldn't be where she is today without the support and love from her friends, family and the people she's met at Ferris.

Ferris psychology junior Kennedy Schafer is a member of First Gen and loves it. Schafer grew up in a small town close to Traverse City and chose Ferris because her first major was pre-pharmacy.

"When I first came to college, I'm sure I was nervous because I'd always lived in small towns growing up so I didn't know

what to expect when entering a larger community," Schafer said.

First Gen has helped Schafer make more connections with other students and staff. Schafer loves the support that the faculty offers students, and it would have made school more difficult if RSOs, students and faculty weren't as connected.

Although the group is focused on first generation students, any student is welcome as it's not just first generation students that have questions about different aspects of Ferris life.

First Gen meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 11 a.m. and the third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m.

Dorm and Other Four Letter Words

"Dorm and other four letter words" is a play about college life written by Ferris theatre professor Katherine LaPietra. It goes through the highs and lows of college and brings up the hardest and most satisfying parts. It is showing at Williams auditorium 7:30 p.m. March 23, 24 and 25, and 2:30 p.m. March 26 at \$5 per ticket.

Left to Right: television and digital media production sophomore Colin Assink, game design freshman Devin Baxter, manufacturing junior Dewight Braxton.

Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Multimedia Editor



SPORTS

“Golf humbles anyone and everyone who tries to play it, that is why it’s so addicting and millions of people play around the world.” - Jack Weller
See below for story.

Apply now! | Sports Editor

Focus on the flag



Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Ferris junior Jack Weller helps lead an experienced pack of Bulldogs with six upperclassmen on a 10-man team. The team will next compete March 27-28 at the GLIAC South Invitational in Lexington, Kentucky.

It may not involve full contact collision, but golf can still beat you up



Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

Concentration is important in all sports, but not many sports demand as much focus as the game of golf.

In golf, just one mental slip-up can take your golf ball from sitting pretty on the green to swimming with the koi fish in the pond.

Junior golfer Jack Weller of the Ferris State men’s golf team said that as a golfer, he feels that he does a lot more focusing than any other sport.

“You can’t win or beat golf, even when you think you have played the best round of your life, there are things you can think back to

during the round that you could have done better,” Weller said. “That can drive some people crazy. Golf is an unbeatable sport, there is no perfect way to play it.”

There is no amount of muscle or speed that can guarantee a superb game of golf. A football, basketball or hockey team can be a bigger, faster and stronger team than their opponent, giving them a higher chance of winning.

As Weller explains, that is not something that’s going to help you out as much in the game of golf.



Ryan Bayer

“In golf, you can be 6-foot-4 and hit the ball 400 yards but lose to a guy that is 5-foot-5 and can only hit the ball 225 yards,” Weller said. “Golf humbles anyone and everyone who tries to play it. That is why it’s so addicting and millions of people play around the world.”

You can’t get anywhere on the course without first focusing on your tee shot, and having a routine is important. A focused golfer can line up a shot and bomb it down the fairway, whereas I usually come out of a

round of golf with cuts and bug bites on my legs from rummaging through the woods in search of my ball after a nasty slice.

Junior golfer Ryan Bayer makes sure positive thoughts are rolling through his head before each shot. Bayer thinks about things like what club to use, how far the shot is playing, and what kind of outcome he wants out of his hit.

“Once I step into my shot I’m 100 percent committed to it and ready to go,” Bayer said. “It’s just all about making sure I’m taking care of the calculations first and then getting my mind in the right spot before I actually take the shot.”

Not only is focus huge in collegiate golf, but so is mental fortitude. Bayer said that he and his teammates have played in rounds exceeding seven hours. Though the days are long, there are benefits to the dedication to the game.

“I’ve played in a lot of tournaments and I have become friends with a lot of the competitors, so it’s become a lot better to find things to talk about between shots,” Bayer said.

For the below-average golfer like myself, Bayer brings up a great point. Even the worst golfers can enjoy the social aspect of

the game, leaving the hole-in-ones and the beautiful birdie shots to the focused golfers.

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Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Multimedia Editor

According to the American Gaming Association, Americans fill out 70 million March Madness brackets each year.

March is madness

The annual fight for the collegiate basketball throne is underway



Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

Finally, the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament has returned to entertain all of us March Madness fanatics.

Another month of filling out brackets and staying glued to every TV, computer or phone screen around to see which of your chosen teams has been bumped from the tourney is in full effect.

Some people fill out one bracket just for fun, some people fill out ten brackets in hopes of winning some cash, but only a select few ever choose correctly early on thanks to smaller teams upsetting their brackets.

Whether it was 15-seed Lehigh taking down the mighty two-seed Blue Devils just miles away from Duke's campus in 2012 or 15-seed Florida Gulf Coast earning the Dunk City nickname in 2013 for their impressive win over Georgetown, the tournament never lacks excitement.

Ferris men's basketball redshirt freshman point guard Greg Williams is a self-proclaimed March Madness addict who fills out several different brackets every year.

"It's the best time for college basketball because anything can happen and you've got these college players giving it all they've got," Williams said. "It's intense, exciting, unpredictable and the teams just step their game up and go to that next level for the tournament."

With a March Madness app on his phone, Williams has all his picks available to him at the touch of a button. Flipping back and forth between games on the TV when he gets a chance to chill out on the couch, Williams grabs the snacks and watches basketball all day.

With a Final Four consisting of Duke, Arizona, Kansas, and the

University of North Carolina, Williams is picking UNC to go all the way and nab their sixth NCAA Tournament title.

When it comes to picking the right teams, Williams pointed out that it's easy to pick the top-seeded programs, but that's not always the fun way to go about it.

If I'm in a predicament with a pick and don't know which way to go, I always have a look at the competing teams' colors. I'm a big fan of the color purple, so if Northwestern is one of the two teams I'm torn between, I'm going with them and their purple jerseys.

It may not be the soundest technique for deciding the fate of your bracket, but sometimes you should follow your heart when it comes to the tourney.

As for this year's tournament, three of my four Final Four picks may not be the most creative in the field of bracketology, but they're mostly sound picks. For my east and Midwest matchup, I went with what was considered a safe choice in Duke, but followed my heart and chose the Michigan Wolverines to march back to the Final Four.

My west and south matchup won't surprise anyone as I have Gonzaga taking on Kentucky. As a born and raised Michigan fan, I took a huge leap of faith and pinned Michigan against Gonzaga in the contest for the national title.

In a move that broke the very same heart I have been following throughout the tourney, I have Gonzaga leaping past Michigan to claim their first ever NCAA tournament championship in their first ever matchup against the Wolverines in the tournament.

It may not always be the right decision to follow that gut feeling in college basketball, but instead listen to your brain when it come to the madness that is late March. I followed my heart with the Wolverines and so far, I'm safe. But the NCAA Tournament has a knack for unpredictability, which is why we all love it.



Photo Courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Ferris Hall of Famer Jack Spencer celebrates with teammate Ron Harke after a win during the undefeated season.

Winless to the Hall of Fame

1968 football team inducted into the Ferris Hall of Fame

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

The first undefeated team in Ferris football history was inducted into the Ferris State University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Among eight inductees in the 2017 Hall of Fame class, including six athletes from different sports and a highly successful coach, the 1968 football team is the only team in Ferris history to finish a season with no losses.

Ferris was far from a powerhouse in the mid-1960s. From 1964-67, the Dawgs went 1-26-4 in the worst four-year stretch in Ferris football history. After years of being deprived of success, the 1968 Bulldogs went from winless to undefeated.

Head coach Bob Leach inherited a winless team in 1967 and saw his team go 0-7-1 in his first year. In order to turn the program around, Leach recruited older and younger athletes, veterans and

African-American players when most schools did not. The result was a team that Ferris then-quarterback Al Beamer described as a team of misfits.

The 1968 season started as if the streak of 'tie-or-lose' was going to continue. The Dawgs drew against Taylor College 13-13 in their season opener. However, they rattled off seven straight victories commencing with a 29-28 win over Div. 1 school Illinois State.

Members of this 1968 squad have contributed to the growth of the Ferris program by establishing a scholarship endowment that benefits football student athletes. By providing more scholarship money and raising Ferris football prestige, the 1968 team allowed for players like 2017 Hall of Fame inductee running back Chris Pulliams.

Pulliams garnered All-American honors and ran for a school record 1729 yards with 23 touchdowns in 1995 en route to an NCAA Div. 2 semi-final appearance and 12-1 overall season. His rushing record still holds today.

Other members of the Hall of Fame Class of 2017 are Kathryn Bobbie (women's golf, 1999-03), Steve Fountain (cross-country and track, 1974-79), Kathy O'Connor (women's volleyball and basketball, 1990-93), Jody Gifford (softball 1996-99) and Scott Schultz (tennis head coach and administrator, 1982-89).

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Sports Shorts

By Cody Burkhard - Torch Reporter

Davenport Connection

Ferris football hired interim Davenport head coach Steve Casula as an offensive coordinator and assistant coach for the reigning Midwest region champs. Casula will fill roles held by Kyle Nystrom and Sparky McEwen after both assistant coaches earned head coaching jobs at Northwestern and Davenport respectively.

Casula became the interim head coach for the Davenport Panthers after former Ferris defensive coordinator Lou Esposito resigned as head coach. Esposito and Casula helped Davenport to become a National Athletic Intercollegiate Association (NAIA) program after guiding it through a "practice" season in 2015. Esposito resigned in January and McEwen filled the position in February after Davenport went 6-5 in its first official season in 2016.

Davenport will become a Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletics Conference (GLIAC) team in the 2017 season. Casula and McEwen will be reunited with Ferris head coach Tony Annese and the rest of the coaching staff when the Dawgs play the Panthers Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017.

Three-peat and some more please

Three-time reigning GLIAC champion Ferris volleyball will face some tough tune-up games in their spring exhibition schedule loaded with Div. 1 competition. The Dawgs began this schedule Friday, March 17, at home when they played the Central Michigan Chippewas.

Western Michigan will host an all-day event Saturday, April 1, against Ferris. Afterwards, the Dawgs will have their skills tested against a variety of schools of the region Saturday, April 8, at the Dunes in Indiana. The last contest scheduled is against new GLIAC foe Davenport Thursday, April 13, in Grand Rapids.

Due to NCAA regulations, no official scores or results are published for Spring exhibition. However, the Bulldogs went 30-6 last year and will look to build on that success next year.

Rackin' up the wins

Ferris Men's tennis cruised through the competition this weekend on March 17-19 as the Dawgs went 3-0 at the GLIAC/GLVC Crossover in Plainfield, Illinois. Ferris defeated Southern Indiana Friday, March 17, by score of 6-3.

The Dawgs finished their undefeated weekend with a 7-2 victory over Lewis improving to a 9-2 record this season. This sweep came a week after Ferris lost both games in a southwest road trip. National No. 15 Midwestern State defeated the No. 20 Bulldogs 7-2 with stellar doubles play Tuesday, March 7. Ferris lost a close match 5-4 to Southeastern Oklahoma the following Thursday, March 9.

Prior to those losses, the Bulldogs were 6-0 with three shutouts. The win-streak was snapped, but the play of the Dawgs was not as they came back with another unbeaten weekend after taking the only two losses of the season.

The Bulldogs will focus next on Grand Valley when the Dawgs take on the Lakers in Grand Rapids Tuesday, March 28.

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Hail Mary movies

Ferris Athletes discuss their favorite sports films

Everyone remembers great movies that revolve around sports like "Friday Night Lights" and "The Mighty Ducks," but what exactly makes them so memorable? According to athletes here at Ferris, each particular movie has something special that inspires the audience.

Ferris softball sophomore third baseman Logan Fleming: "One of my all-time favorite sports movies is 'When the Game Stands Tall'."

"Two unbelievable situations happened to the team and what's amazing is how they reacted. This movie really represents a team being more than just that, but being a family. Being part of the Ferris State softball team has allowed me to experience the same sort of strength and family comfort. So, the movie really hits home for me."

Ferris hockey freshman defenseman Chris Allemon: "The thing that makes a sports movie great is how intense it is."

"'Never Back Down' is by far the most intense movie out there. The storyline is so great and it keeps you on your toes."



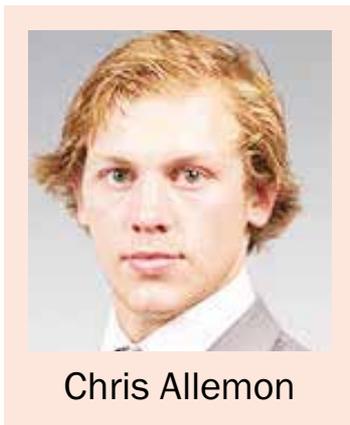
Brendan Samuels
Torch Reporter

Ferris track and field freshman sprinter Hannah Price: "My favorite sports movie is 'Remember the Titans'."

"My dad is a football coach and as a little girl I watched it with my dad's team. The message it sends about facing adversity is phenomenal. I still get goosebumps every time I watch it. It never gets old!

As for my own opinion, 'Invincible' with Mark Wahlberg has to be the greatest sports film of all time. It's got everything you could want in a movie: a great plot, a comeback story, and a cast of characters that are easy to relate to.

Whether it be a sense of family, an intense plot or a sense of nostalgia that makes a movie great, one thing is for sure, a great sports film can inspire all those who watch.



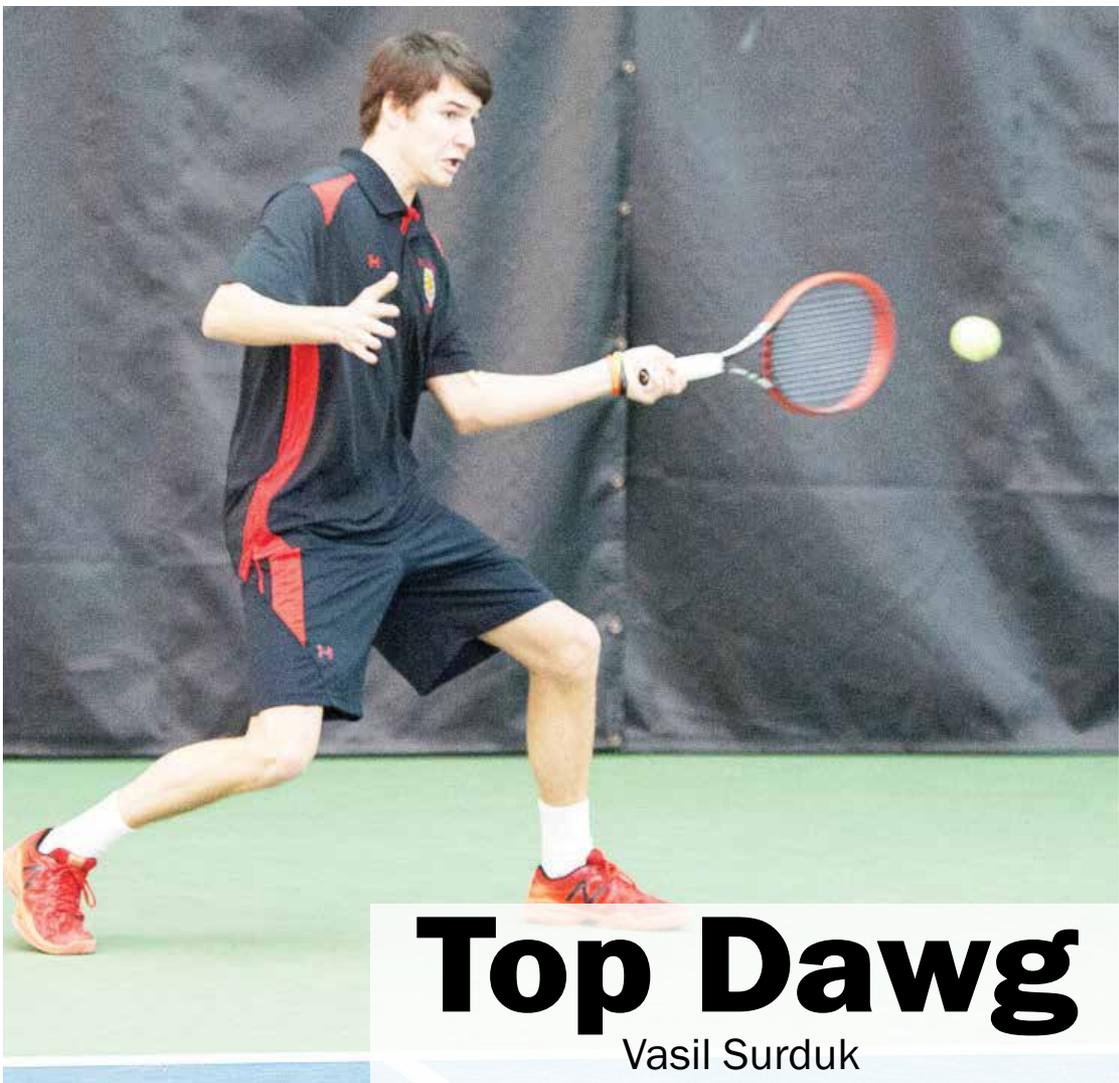
Chris Allemon



Logan Fleming



Hannah Price



Top Dawg

Vasil Surduk

Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Keith Salowich

Editor in Chief

Ferris junior Vasil Surduk helped the men's tennis team have a happy St. Patrick's Day by going undefeated in doubles through three straight matches and 2-1 in singles over the weekend.

Surduk teamed up with Ferris sophomore Nur Adim Ramdani Iswan Friday, March 17, to top the No. 2 doubles team of Southern Indiana 8-4. Surduk also won his singles match that day, helping the Bulldogs to a

6-3 victory.

The Surduk and Iswan duo also rolled through their doubles matches against Rockhurst, then Lewis, in the two following days by winning 8-1. Surduk again won his singles match against Rockhurst, which helped the Bulldogs triumph over Rockhurst 8-1.

The Bulldogs also topped Lewis 7-2 to close out the GLIAC/GLVC Crossover weekend event.

The men's tennis team will next see action at Lake Superior State 10 a.m. Saturday, April 1, in Sault Ste. Marie.

Hunting for success

Ferris tennis teams starts year under new head coach

Brendan Samuels

Torch Reporter

In any sport, the head coaching position is considered a carousel, spinning around and making frequent periodic stops. The Ferris men's and women's tennis teams both experienced this when Chad Berryhill departed in the fall.

Berryhill coached the Ferris tennis programs for five years before taking a position at St. Leo University in Florida this past year.

With Berryhill out the door, the carousel started its rotation once again. On its latest stop, Danny Hunt stepped on to take the reins after serving under Berryhill for two years.

"Adapting to a new head coach is never easy," said Ferris senior Raleigh Grossbaum. "I think it helps a lot that coach Hunt served under Berryhill because he already knows us and what motivates each player. Overall the team seems to be doing very well at adapting to his coaching style."

Having an interim coach who

served under the previous head coach is often the best thing for a team stuck on the carousel without a horse to ride.

While it may seem that Hunt has some very big shoes to fill, the interim coach has plenty of accolades on his resume. One of the biggest is his 2015-16 national assistant coach of the year award at the Div. 2 level.

"Coach Hunt brings something unique to the team," Grossbaum said. "His passion for the game and goals for success really push us to improve as athletes and overall people."

Athleticism plays a big part in the success of a team, but according to members of the Ferris men's tennis team, Hunt chooses to base his philosophies more on the side of character.

With a "team first" mentality, Hunt could provide the missing piece the Bulldogs need to push their game to the next level and compete for a national championship this year.

Standing at an impressive 8-2 record thus far this season, Danny Hunt appears ready to "pony up" and keep Ferris' tennis carousel headed towards success.



Raleigh Grossbaum



Danny Hunt



Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

Head Coach Danny Hunt has led the Ferris men's tennis team to a 9-2 spring record thus far while the women's team currently stands at 1-3 since February.

MEN'S TENNIS SCHEDULE

March 28 - at Grand Valley - 10 a.m.

April 1 - at Lake Superior State - 10 a.m.

April 2 - at Michigan Tech - 10 a.m.

April 7 - Northwood - 2 p.m.

April 9 - Wayne State - 10 a.m.

April 13 - vs. Edinboro (Pa.) - TBA

April 14 - at Walsh - 10 a.m.

April 15 - at Tiffin - TBA

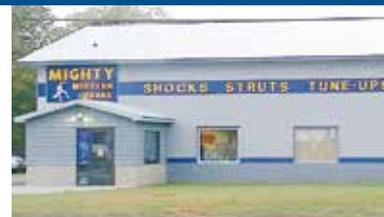
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OPINIONS

"The loss of loved ones has become a major theme for post-emo rock music, and Sorority Noise's third major release echoes the principle set by Brand New 11 years later." -Travis Sacher

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Chat with the chief

Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

Spring has sprung and in addition to birds migrating north, snow melting away and leaves returning to the trees. The changing of the seasons is bringing back one more warm weather staple.

Outdoor drinking.

College students who've been driven stir crazy from a long winter of parties confined to living rooms will soon once again be able to take the party—and the alcohol—outdoors.

It can be easy to chug a beer, smash the can on one's head and chuck it on the ground when a person is already a few deep into a six-pack.

We've all seen the fallout of a large, outdoor party. Red Solo cups and crushed cans span as far as the eye can see.

Unless the owner of the residence or a passing conscientious soul cleans up the mess, it's likely to lie there until the next party.

Then more cans, cups and broken glass continue to pile up.

If not for the environmental impact, take care of your party scraps for the 10 cents you can earn back by returning the cans or bottles. Not every state offers bottle return refunds, but Michigan's bottle deposit is among the highest in America.

That's right, it's called a deposit. Meaning you're already paying extra when you buy cans or bot-

tles and that excess cost is only mitigated when you return the cans or bottles for refunds.

If you and your buddies go in on a 30-pack, you're chipping in an additional \$3 just to cover that deposit. Don't throw that money on the ground or in the trash. Take ten minutes to take the containers back to your local superstore and get \$3 closer to your next week-end of inebriation.

Someplace warm

Spring break should be spent the way you want



Drue Thornton
Guest Writer

One of the best changes from high school to college is how students spend their spring break.

In high school, you want to go somewhere warm and sunny, no doubt, but your parents made the decisions and plans. They chose where you go, who you go with and how much fun you were allowed to have. After all, they were the ones paying.

In college, the world is yours. You can go where you want, with whomever you want and have as much fun as your heart desires. That is, of course, if you work and use your own money. I wouldn't recommend asking your mother for money and simultaneously telling her you're doing whatever you want. You'll end up spending your vacation in good ol' Big Rapids.

I've had opportunities to spend each of my college spring breaks differently. Freshman year, I went crazy on spring break in Panama City Beach, Florida and New Orleans, Louisiana. Sophomore year, I was broke and I spent my week in Chicago. And this year, all I cared about was being somewhere warm. So Fort Myers, Florida was the right choice for me.

Going to southern Florida and relaxing on the beach was everything I wanted. Surprisingly, it wasn't all old people. The beaches were full



Submitted Photo

Ferris public relations junior Drue Thornton relaxes at a southern Florida beach during spring break.

of college spring breakers. I relaxed and got a slight tan, but still had the opportunity to let loose a little without disappointing my parents.

My days were full of 85-degree weather, laying on the beach, golfing on gorgeous courses as well as attending a spring training baseball game, mini golfing, feeding alligators, watching dolphins and exploring islands. Overall, it was a perfect vacation. Then I returned to Michigan to 20-degree weather and a snowstorm.

No matter if you're at home with your parents or in South Padre, Texas, with your classmates, spring break helps break up the semester and provide students time to relax. I found that my vacation in southern Florida was the

best choice for me. I loved running away from classes for a week and feeling the sunshine. I didn't need the crazy "darters" that some spring break destinations offer. I just needed a break from the stress of school.

My name is Drue Thornton and I'm a public relations junior from Lakeview. I was recently elected president of Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) for the 2017-18 school year. I'm the current social media manager of PRSSA and fund development chair for the regional conference. My life revolves around my amazing boyfriend Trevor and supporting his incredible fraternity Sigma Pi.

Driven by loss

Sorority Noise's recent release focuses on the struggle of coping with death



Travis Sacher
Opinion Editor

Brand New's quintessential album "The Devil And God Are Raging Inside Me" opens to the lines: "Was losing all my friends. Was losing all my friends to drinking and driving. Was losing all my friends but I got them back."

The loss of loved ones has become a major theme for post-emo rock music, and Sorority Noise's third major release echoes the principle



Photo from Sorority Noise's Instagram Account

Sorority Noise's new album dropped Friday, March 17.

set by Brand New 11 years later. The Connecticut rock band Sorority Noise released "You're Not As _____ As You Think" through Triple Crown

Loss | see page 15

Are you afraid of the dark?

Power outages: Light a candle and deal with it



Jen Corrie
Copy Editor

It's a dark and stormy night in Big Rapids. All that can be heard is the howling wind and torrential rain pounding on rooftops. Most of the town has settled in for the night, comfortably warm and dry inside their homes. Then, suddenly, the lights go out. And everyone loses their minds.

Let me clear this up without the theatrics: the number of people that throw a fit when their power goes out is ridiculous. It seems

like their first instinct is to get on Facebook with their phone and make a post about how crappy their life will be for the next few hours.

You don't have lights? Get some candles and a flashlight. You don't have water? Maybe you should've listened to the people that told you to keep bottled water on hand for emergency situations. You don't have heat? Better suit up in that North Face

parka and some earmuffs. You can't use the stove or microwave? Looks like it's cereal for dinner. You. Will. Survive.

Clearly, I have absolutely zero sympathy for people who think that power outages are the end of modern civilization. I have even less tolerance for those who think that restoring power to a neighborhood is as easy as a flip of a switch. Don't even get me started on that one. You didn't blow the town's breaker. Restoring power takes time.

Now, there's also the issue of boredom during power outages. Lord have mercy on our souls. Let me help you out a bit.

Play a few rounds of Euchre with your roommates. Do some yoga and relax. Spend some quality time with your pet. Read a

book by candlelight. An actual book with characters and a plot. Not that textbook malarkey. Take a nap for a few hours. You're always telling people how much you need one anyway.

Power outages are inconvenient. There's no denying that. But it's really not as big of a deal as it's made out to be. It's a much bigger deal for the people who have to spend countless overtime hours fixing what those storms destroyed.

So, if you're not willing to leave your warm, cozy bed at 3 a.m. and head out into the wind and rain to go help restore power to all of your surrounding counties and then some, you'd best not complain that you don't have power.

GOT AN OPINION?

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions by 5 p.m. every Friday
Travis Sacher | Opinions Editor | Email: sachert@ferris.edu

1. Think of a topic that you feel strongly about.
2. Write out your thoughts in a coherent and respectful manner.
3. Include a headshot and some information about yourself (location, age, etc.).
4. Email your opinion to the editor for a chance to have your work published in our next issue.

LOSS

Continued from page 14

Records Friday, March 17. Mike Sapone, the producer of every Brand New album produced Sorority Noise's newest release.

Before I go any further, if you think the point I'm making is any album of music that echoes influence from Brand New, arguably the best rock band of our generation, should be listened to, you're wrong. Sorority Noise began their career as angsty punks writing songs about mental health, drug use and sex (like Brand New), and as the group matured—and frontman Cameron Boucher was faced with the loss of close friends—their direction changed (like Brand New). It just so happens that the music also resembles Deja Entendu and The Devil And God (as all modern emo-rock music in some way does) because yes, Brand New is the best rock band of our generation.

I guess you could say the point I'm making is music about death is good, and bands seem to dive into that topic around album number three. Kyle Durfey, the lead vocalist of Planos Become the Teeth said this about writing dark music: "I feel like most of us and most bands we are into tend to write about darker things. It's hard to write when

you're happy. This doesn't mean we aren't happy as people." Every song Durfey has ever written and recorded is about his father's struggle with multiple sclerosis and ultimate death and how it has affected him. This came to full form on their third album "Keep You." Likewise, on Touché Amoré's fourth album "Stage Four," vocalist Jeremy Bolm sang about dealing with the aftermath of his mother's passing to cancer for the entirety of the album. Both of these albums are, in my subjective opinion, two of the best rock albums of the decade.

Sorority Noise's You're Not As ____ As You Think is the newest edition to this list of rock albums about the personal struggle of losing loved ones and I strongly recommend giving it a listen. Even though the topic is often dark, it's relatable and fucking rules. Boucher is honest in his struggle and harnesses the feeling of isolation after losing multiple close friends. The music is powerful and uplifting, shifting between smooth atmospheric verses to emotive screamed choruses. Notable tracks include "No Halo," "First Letter From St. Sean," "Disappeared" and "Leave The Fan On." But what really matters is why should students care about this.

Sure, the music is great and no review of the album will make students listen. But what might persuade some is the understanding that dealing with loss is challenging. Death is complex. It's heavy and it's something the human species is

forced to suffer from, as we are creatures of emotion.

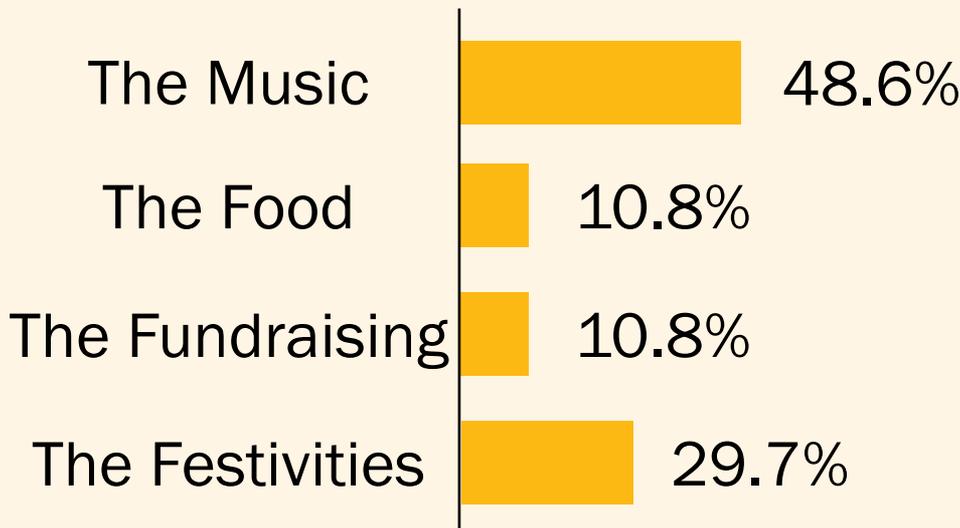
Music is a form of expression for artists. For listeners, it's a source of entertainment, excitement and comfort. Music is used to cope; it is used for a release. It's comforting to find solace in music with lyrics about loss, as opposed to something like dating, sex, partying and drugs. Don't get me wrong; these are some of my favorite themes of music. But that darker stuff is necessary, too.

We as emotionally fragile college students need to hear somebody sing to us about their honest and heart-wrenching emotions, about the questions they have for those who were gone too soon and will never have the chance to ask. When you hear the questions, the sleepless nights, and with the loss of life constantly on your mind, you know you aren't alone. Somebody else pushed through to document their emotions into powerful rock songs. They made the music for us, the general audience as young adults; just like all popular artists.

Maybe this is not the most popular type of music. It might not be the most "fun." But it's special. It's becoming prevalent for bands that are associated with the current state of rock music that exists because of bands like Brand New to write about loss. As rock music is forever growing, the loss of life will continue and artists will continue to write about it.

TORCH POLL RESULTS

What aspect of Music Takes Action (Friday, March 24) are you most excited about?



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Sunday

After what happened this weekend, I'm never drinking again.



Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist

Friday

Whoo! The legend of Ferris Fest lives on!



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Sunday: 50¢ BONELESS WINGS; \$2 DRINKS AFTER 9 PM

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