



HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

NEW FACES ON CAMPUS

The process for attending school overseas is extensive. Discover the reasons students from all over the world chose Ferris.

LIFESTYLES | PAGE 8

PIT PEOPLE

Looking for a new game to play? Check out an opinion on Pit People, written by Managing Copy Editor Jen Corrie.

OPINIONS | PAGE 16

An offer he couldn't refuse

Nick Offerman named Ferris homecoming comedian

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Homecoming week creates a lot of hype at Ferris, but one of the biggest events is the Homecoming Comedian.

In a vote held by Ferris State Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS) in May, students were able to vote between five famous comedians including Kenan Thompson, B.J. Novak, H. Jon Benjamin, Chris Hardwick and Nick Offerman. The announcement was made during the Bulldog Beginnings comedy show hosted by Eric O'Shea Thursday, Aug. 30.

By popular demand, students chose Nick Offerman, a comedian best known for his role as Ron Swanson on the TV show "Parks and Recreation."

"I went to the one the other day and it was great, I needed it," said Ferris liberal arts sophomore Alexis Freeland, referring to Eric O'Shea's performance. "I went to all the comedians last year and it was great."

Last year's Homecoming Comedians were Michael Che and Natasha Leggero, with a Ferris student getting the honor of opening the show. Students who would like to compete to open for Nick Offerman can sign up on OrgSync.

"It's cool to have somebody that you recognize that can just be here, especially in this town," said Ferris computer information technology sophomore Kyle Witte. "It's a name I recognize even though I haven't seen the show [Parks and Recreation], I still know him from other things, so it's cool."

Ferris marketing freshman Jaleyna Dooley is excited to take part in the unique homecoming events that Ferris has to offer.

"People get tired of having the same stuff, but having a comedian kind of separates it I guess, makes it different and unique," Dooley said. "I think he's a pretty funny guy. I've never seen him do stand up, so that will be a first. I guess that's just something we will have to wait and see."

The show is scheduled for 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28 in Williams Auditorium. Tickets will be available for students for \$10 starting Sept. 5. Students are urged to buy their tickets early because they will be available to the public for \$20 starting Sept. 19.

To purchase your tickets, bring your student ID to the CLACS office in room 121 of the University Center between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays.

HOMECOMING COMEDIAN

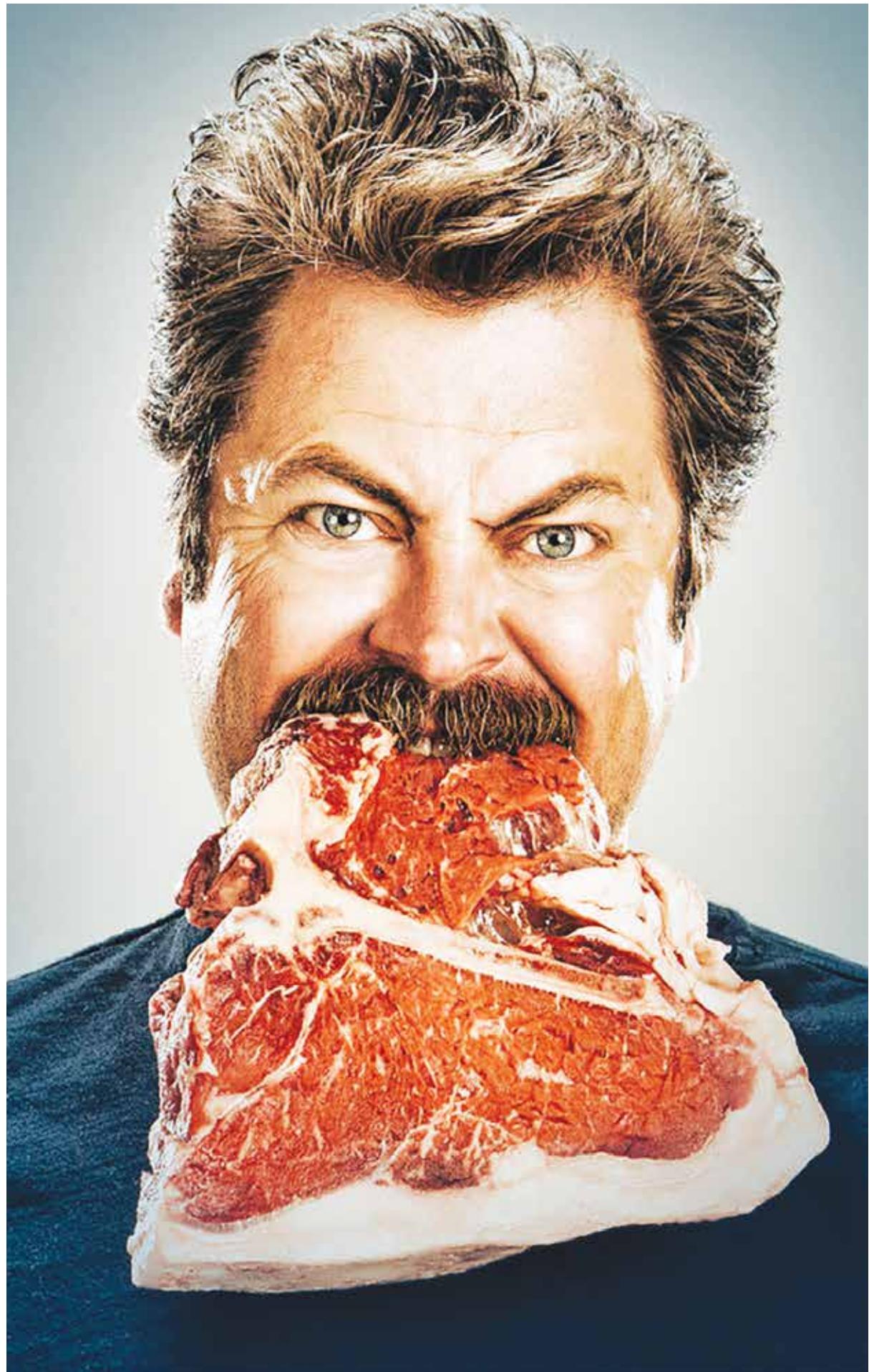
When: Sept. 28 at 8 p.m.

Where: Williams Auditorium

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets went on sale for Ferris students on Sept. 5 for \$10

Tickets will be available to the public on Sept. 19 for \$20



Promotional image

Best known for his role as Ron Swanson on the show "Parks and Recreation," Nick Offerman will be the Ferris Homecoming Comedian.

Got news? Let us know.

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NEWS

"This is our school and Big Rapids is our home...So it's kind of our responsibility to help take care of it."
- Adam Jandura - See below for story

Harley Harrison | News Editor | harrih12@ferris.edu

SafeRide gets you home

SafeRide: so you never have an excuse to drive drunk

Grant Sidall
Torch Reporter

If you're drunk at the bar and so is your DD, SafeRide has you covered.

SafeRide, as described by its webpage on Ferris' website is a free shuttle that provides transportation home from local establishments for students on the weekends.

Those local establishments include Gypsy Nickel, Sawmill Saloon and Shooters. It previously included The Gate and The Pub before their closings. The program runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 12 a.m. until 2:30 a.m.

During those times, a shuttle bus drives to each location. Once they arrive, a volunteer will come inside and announce that the bus has arrived. The volunteer will then write down the addresses of anyone who wants to ride the bus and take them home anywhere in Big Rapids. However, the bus will not drop you off somewhere other than a home or apartment complex.

"Seems like a good idea because it stops them from trying to drive back," said Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman Kylah Larson. "Because driving would be a bad idea especially with all the people walking and the crosswalks and everything."

Other than the driver of the bus, who is contracted through Dial-a-Ride, the staff on the bus is filled by volunteers. This brings a great opportunity to Registered



Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

Student Organizations (RSOs), Greek Life or anyone else looking to get volunteer hours in. Volunteers receive three hours of community service, while RSOs receive two hours per member and may have up to five members at a time, but are required to have at least three.

"I think it's great," said Ferris plastics and rubber engineering sophomore Nate Rieman. "Drunk driving is never a good thing so if people are going to help out, it's always a good thing. Get people home safe."

SafeRide provides an immeasurable service by cutting down on drunk driving in the area.

Between 2011 and 2015, Mecosta County averaged 198 arrests per year for drunk driving or driving under the influence of drugs, according to Michigan State Police's annual Drunk Driving Audit reports. Other than a spike in 2015, the amount of drunk driving arrests has steadily decreased since 2011.

By offering a free alternative to get home safely, the SafeRide program is a key contributor to helping those numbers fall. Between 2000 and 2014, 9,995 people received rides from the Big Rapids SafeRide program, keeping almost 10,000 potential drunk drivers off the road.

If you are interested in using the SafeRide program and want to track where the bus is heading, they have a mobile app named DoubleMap Bus Tracker that is available in the App Store and in the Google Play Store. If you don't want to download the app, you can also track the bus via a link on the Ferris State Volunteer Center SafeRide webpage.

If you would like to sign up to volunteer on the bus or would like more information about the program, visit the Center for Leadership, Activities, and Career Services (CLACS) office located in the University Center or visit the SafeRide page located on the Ferris website.

Campus cleaning with a bigger meaning

The Big Alleyway Cleanup previews a trial run for Big Event 365

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

Ferris has two main community service projects: the Big Event and the Big Alleyway Cleanup. But are two events really enough?

The Big Alleyway Cleanup, which begins 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9, is a community service event that focuses on cleaning up alleyways around Big Rapids. This year, the event also acts as a test run for Big Event 365.

"It's nice for the students in that the Big Event is a way for them to give back to the community, and this is still beautifying the community, but a lot of it is their own backyard," said Ferris psychology senior Alex Reeds, coordinator of the Big Alleyway Cleanup. "So we're cleaning up the alleyways that they walk through to class, which is nice because some of it is probably their mess that they're cleaning up."

Although the Big Alleyway Cleanup is smaller than the Big Event, it still had around 80 to 90 participants last year and allowed for a lot of ground to be covered, according to Reeds.

"Last year when we did it, it was smaller and we were still able to clean up about 50 blocks worth of alleyways close to campus," said Ferris fifth year industrial chemistry student Adam Jandura, president of the Bulldog Sustainability Alliance. "So if we could at least meet that goal and leave a good impact on the community at the beginning of the year, I think it's all gonna be great."

In addition to the Big Alleyway Cleanup giving back to the community, it also is a trial for a potential new charity system called Big Event 365.

According to Reeds, the idea behind Big Event 365 is that student organizations would be able to adopt an alleyway or



Ferris fraternity Pi Lambda Phi posed for a photo op at last year's Big Rapids Alley Cleanup event.

Torch file photo-

an area on campus that they would like to maintain. The organization would get a sign for their alleyway from the city, stating that the group is responsible for that area. The organization would then be in charge of doing a cleanup of their alleyway at least twice a semester.

The Big Alleyway Cleanup is the first step to see if the student body would be interested in year-round service of keeping the community clean, rather than just do-

ing one session per year.

"What we're really looking to do with this program is to see if the community wants us to have one big event like this, or if they would prefer to have it be on their own, and you would come here and check out rakes when you need them, and you were just responsible for doing it," Reeds said. "So it's a test run, basically."

Registration for the Big Alleyway Clean-up is available through Orgsync. Volun-

teers can register as an individual or with a group or RSO. Students are encouraged to help give back to Big Rapids and potentially consider adopting an alleyway with their organization.

"This is our school and Big Rapids is our home," Jandura said. "So it's kind of our responsibility to help take care of it."

- ON THE RECORD -

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

This is Fight Club

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Need Febreeze?

Aug. 19, 12:05 p.m., officers investigated a marijuana odor in McNerney Hall. One subject was ticketed for possession of marijuana.

Stop sign fails

Aug. 20, 2:50 a.m., officers stopped a vehicle on Northland Drive for failure to stop at a stop sign. The driver was ticketed for an improper license plate.

Lane changin'

Aug. 21, 1:05 a.m., officers stopped a vehicle on State Street, north of Perry Avenue, for an improper lane change. The driver had a suspended license and was ticketed.

Dangerously drunk

Aug. 24, 9:25 a.m., officers stopped a vehicle on State Street near Perry Avenue for erratic driving. They found the driver to be intoxicated and they were lodged in the county jail.

Simple suspension

Aug. 25, 2:30 a.m., officers stopped a vehicle on Perry Avenue near Ferris Drive because the registered owner had a suspended license. The driver was ticketed for driving on a suspended license.

Where's the light?

Aug. 25, 9:25 p.m., officers stopped a vehicle on State Street for operating without headlights. The passenger was lodged in county jail for the possession of marijuana.

This is Fight Club

Aug. 27, 2:10 a.m., officers assisted city police with a large fight on State Street near Oak Street. One subject was ticketed for being a minor in possession.

Insurance mayhem

Aug. 29, 8:30 p.m., officers stopped a vehicle for defective equipment on Northland Drive. The driver was ticketed for operating without insurance.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS

Catch up on news around the globe

Harley Harrison
News Editor

Oldenburg, Germany

Niels Högel, a former nurse, is serving a life sentence for murdering two of his patients. Authorities now believe the number of victims has increased from two to 86. Högel claimed to have enjoyed reviving his patients but he did not always succeed.

Original story by Melissa Eddy, Aug. 28, 2017.
The New York Times

Barcelona, Spain

A peace rally was held in Barcelona Saturday, Aug. 26, in which a reported half a million people showed up to protest terrorist attacks. The rally comes in response to attacks that killed 15 people on Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017.

Original story by Raphael Minderaug, Aug. 26, 2017. *The New York Times*

Panchkula, India

13 are dead and over 100 are injured after mobs took to the streets in response to a guilty verdict in a case against Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, a guru who raped two of his followers in 2002.

Original story by Hari Kumaraug, Aug. 28, 2017. *The New York Times*

Kenya

A new law in Kenya could mean up to four years in jail for anyone who makes, sells or im-

ports plastic bags or garbage bags. The law is mainly aimed at manufacturers, rather than citizens in an effort to become more eco-friendly.

Original story by Kimiko de Freitas-Tamura, August 28, 2017. *The New York Times*

Santiago, Chile

The Chilean Constitutional Tribunal voted to legalize abortion under specific circumstances including when the pregnancy endangers the life of mother or when the pregnancy is a result of rape. Abortion was illegal under all circumstances for the past 28 years.

Original story by Pascale Bonnefoy, Aug. 21, 2017. *The New York Times*

Canada

Canadian passport holders will now have the option to define their sex as 'X' rather than male or female. This option is also available for other government documents and the X symbolizes 'unidentified'. In Canada it is now illegal to discriminate a person based on their gender identity.

Original story by Niraj Chokshi, Aug. 25, 2017. *The New York Times*

Japan

Japanese citizens awoke to a text message from a national emergency system urging them to take cover as a missile was approaching from North Korea. Luckily, the missile broke into three pieces and landed off the coast of Hokkaido.

Original story by Motoko Rich, Aug. 29, 2017. *The New York Times*

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

The **Torch** is now hiring
for **Podcast Manager**

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outgoing and have either some
familiarity with audio recording
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to learn.

If interested, contact **Editor in Chief**
Angela Graf at grafa1@ferris.edu



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Frisbees, basketballs and rackets, oh my!

Rec Fest celebrates sports teams on campus

Marley Tucker
Torch Reporter

From fishing to basketball and disc golf, Ferris' recreational sports teams aim to hit the ground running this semester at Rec Fest.

Rec Fest was held Monday, Aug. 28, as part of Ferris' annual Bulldog Beginnings initiative. The event was held in the University Recreation Center (UREC) main basketball courts. The goal of the event was for students to learn about fitness, recreational activities and resources available around campus. Intramural and recreational sports teams hosted information tables and activities to engage people with physical activity.

"Overall, our goal is to have fun and get people involved in lacrosse," said Ferris manufacturing engineering senior and women's lacrosse club team member Karley Engelsman. "Right now we're getting a lot of people interested at Rec Fest, so hopefully we'll get a good turn out during the new season. My favorite thing about being on the team is the wonderful people and fun atmosphere."

Besides intercollegiate athletics, Ferris State offers more than 20 club-level sports. With participation open to students, faculty and staff, Ferris' intramural teams compete against each other and club teams compete against other universities. From sports like softball and table tennis to choose from, there is something for anyone who would like to join.

"Rec Fest is our biggest recruiting opportunity on campus. We travel to about six tournaments a year," said Ferris biology senior and Ultimate Frisbee team captain Aaron Weaver. "Our club team has been around Ferris since the 1970s, and we've seen a

growth in interest. It's amazing how unique and engaging our sport is and you don't have to have any experience to join."

Photo booths, cornhole tournaments, push-up contests and giveaways enticed students to get involved at the UREC. Free pizza and ice cream were also offered to visitors celebrating Bulldog Beginnings.

"I've had a lot of fun playing the games set out and I'd definitely come back and check everything out again next year."

- Alex Hankerd

"I came to check out the event after hearing about it from my dorm in Clark Hall," said Ferris plastics engineering freshman Alex Hankerd. "I've had a lot of fun playing the games set out and I'd definitely come back and check everything out again next year."

To learn more about the student intramural and club sports teams housed at Ferris, visit the Ferris Orgsync page and Recreation Center webpage for more information. If you have questions about intramural sports teams at Ferris, you can also email recsports@ferris.edu.

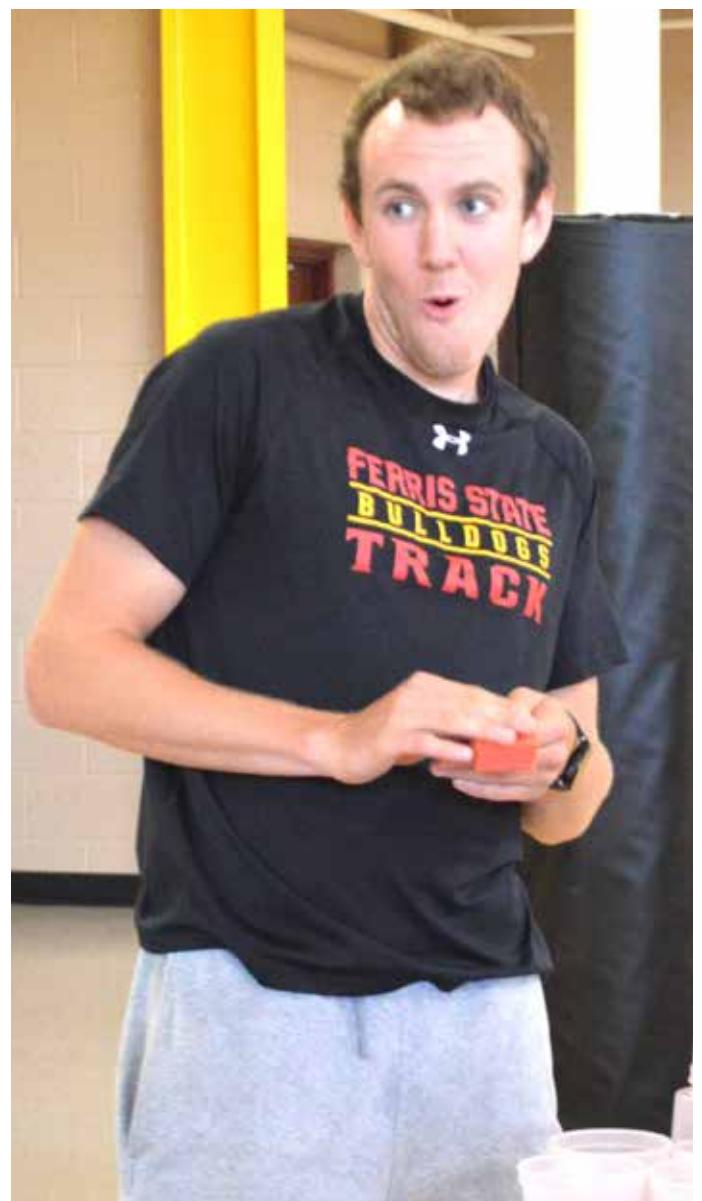


Photo by: Sam Cavotta | Torch Photographer

Lucas Harris takes delight in Ferris' annual Rec Fest event, which featured activities, pickup games and more.

Founder's Day

Ferris product design junior Justin Park (left), product design junior Kris Bennet (center) and dietary and nutrition management junior Baileigh Pomrenke took part in the food, fun and festivities at Ferris' 2017 Founder's Day celebration.

Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer



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Meet more deans

Deans you missed last week

Marley Tucker
Torch Reporter

Your college dean might seem intimidating, however, contrary to the common stereotypes, deans are humans too.

Stephen Durst
College of Pharmacy

Durst's favorite places on campus are the lobby of the Hagerman Pharmacy Building and

Williams Auditorium. The White Coat Ceremony and the Hooding Ceremony are very special and closely associated with the Auditorium. He is inspired by the people that he sees every day working to improve life for others. A lot of individuals in health care fall into that category but so do volunteers that work to benefit a particular segment of the population.

Durst has two quotations that he favors. The first is from Benjamin Franklin, "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds." The second is from the noted physician and educator Sir William Osler. Osler said: "The best preparation for tomorrow is to do today's work superbly well." Both are his favorites because Durst believes that they remind us to be open to new approaches and to do our work well.

Durst's favorite movie is "North by North-

west" and his favorite novel is "The Grace of Great Things: Creativity and Innovation" by Robert Grudin. He enjoys traveling to Isle Royale and being with family members.

David Nicol
College of Business

Although Nicol was not available to comment, the College of Business website describes his prestigious accomplishments in education. Nicol has a special interest in international business but he primarily teaches in the area of Strategic Planning and Analysis. For more information, please visit the Ferris College of Business website.

Didn't see your dean this week? Check out last week's issue of the Torch to learn about your dean.



Stephen Durst



David Nicol

Learning more with a mentor

The SCHOLAR Peer Mentor program begins another year

Megan Lewton
Torch Reporter

Between finding classes, completing homework and making friends, starting college as an incoming freshman can be a difficult adjustment for some.

The SCHOLAR Peer Mentor program is dedicated to helping make this transition as smooth as possible for new students. The program kicked off its fourteenth year Sunday, Aug. 27. Upperclassmen can volunteer to serve as mentors to freshmen and transfer students in order to help guide them during their first year at Ferris.

"We just know that that was one of the things that could benefit a student is to have someone that they could relate to and connect, as a college student or even a transfer student from another institution," said Karen GreenBay, the director of the SCHOLAR Peer Mentor program. "So we wanted to pair them up with someone that is their peer, someone that has possibly been through the ropes and can give them some assistance as they pursue their education here at Ferris."

Mentors are assigned two or three mentees to guide throughout the school year and are available to help their mentees with multiple aspects of their college experience.

"Academics is the main thing," GreenBay said. "We want to inform the students, or remind them probably, what their goal is and what their priorities are and try to help them stay on track."

Outside of the classroom, mentees can look forward to bonding with their mentor, according to Ferris criminal justice sophomore Karen Barrose.



Karen GreenBay, director of the SCHOLAR Peer Mentor program, speaks to students at the program kick off.

"It's more beyond of a friendship," Barrose said. "They help you out, you help them out."

Mentees in the SCHOLAR Peer Mentor program join willingly. With that said, every student has a different reason to be a part of the program.

Some students, such as Ferris accounting freshman Maurice Vinson, are hoping that their mentor will keep them on the right path.

"I don't want to mess up my first year,"

Vinson said. "I feel like I was gonna do bad this year without any help. I feel like I would do dumb stuff."

Other students like Ferris nursing freshman Natalie Jasman are hoping to gain academic support and a better understanding of time management.

"Sometimes new students are maybe hesitant or shy or not sure of what to do or who to see, so we just hope that individual that is serving as their mentor will make that frustration go away a little bit,"

GreenBay said.

The SCHOLAR Peer Mentor program has expanded over the past 14 years and maintains a high success rate. Some students who begin as a mentee will later volunteer as a mentor in the following years.

"This is my first year as a mentor but yeah, I plan on coming back," Barrose said. "Just because I want to help other people, just how they helped me when I needed it."



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LIFESTYLES

"Sometimes staying on top of your work means staying on top of yourself,"
- Cole Tompkins - See below for story

Alicia Jaimes | Lifestyles Editor | jaimesa@ferris.edu



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

New faces on campus

Studying abroad and what it's like for international students

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

Each year Ferris sees students travel abroad to and from the school for programs and courses.

These students tend to come from all over—some of the most popular being Saudi Arabia, China and Malaysia, drawn in by the programs offered or from previous experiences in the States.

"I came to Ferris for the architecture program, because it was one of the better schools offered in Michigan," Ferris architecture sophomore Emir Rahman said. "I was a transfer student over in Traverse City during my senior year of high school, so I visited the school then. I met

with the program director of architecture and she seemed actually interested in having me."

Ferris tries to ensure international students have a welcoming experience upon coming to the university.

"I feel strongly that Ferris is a good destination for many international students. First and foremost are our programs," Assistant Director of the International Department Lisa VonReichbauer said. "We have a lot of unique programs and also the fact that our programs are very hands-on and practical training is the focus."

The process for attending Ferris is extensive—international students must be fluent in English, meet the academic requirements, be financially secure and pass the documentation and interviews in order to receive a



Lisa
VonReichbauer

visa. However, the outcome can be very rewarding.

"I really enjoyed meeting new people, but Ferris doesn't offer a lot in diversity for food," Rahman said.

The international department recommends all students to participate in a study abroad program. It helps students learn how to globalize, which is a skill many students need in today's society.

If a student is interested in studying abroad, they can contact the International Department at (231) 591-2450 or visit the office in the IRC building.

Surviving the freshman 15

Freshmen don't have to fall into the trap

Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

With students' constant on-the-go lifestyle, it is easy to overindulge during the first year of school. Thankfully, Ferris offers some ways to help survive the dreaded freshman 15.

There are a wide variety of meal options on campus. Students can either eat at The Rock, The University Center, Westside Café or even find healthy alternatives at The Market.

"I think a lot of it comes down to education on what you can eat and what you should eat," Ferris television and digital media production senior John Benja-

min Barber IV said. "Also, be mindful of the amount you eat when you are having course meals, because I don't think the Rock Café or the Quad Café are bad locations. They do provide a lot of healthy food choices."

Students can also utilize the Recreation (Rec) Center and walk to classes to help combat weight gain.

"I would definitely go to the Rec Center because that's a part of our tuition, or the Racquet Center if you're a member there," Ferris nursing junior Meredith Campbell said.

The Rec also offers memberships for those looking for a commitment or rentals for students interested in doing an activity when time allows.

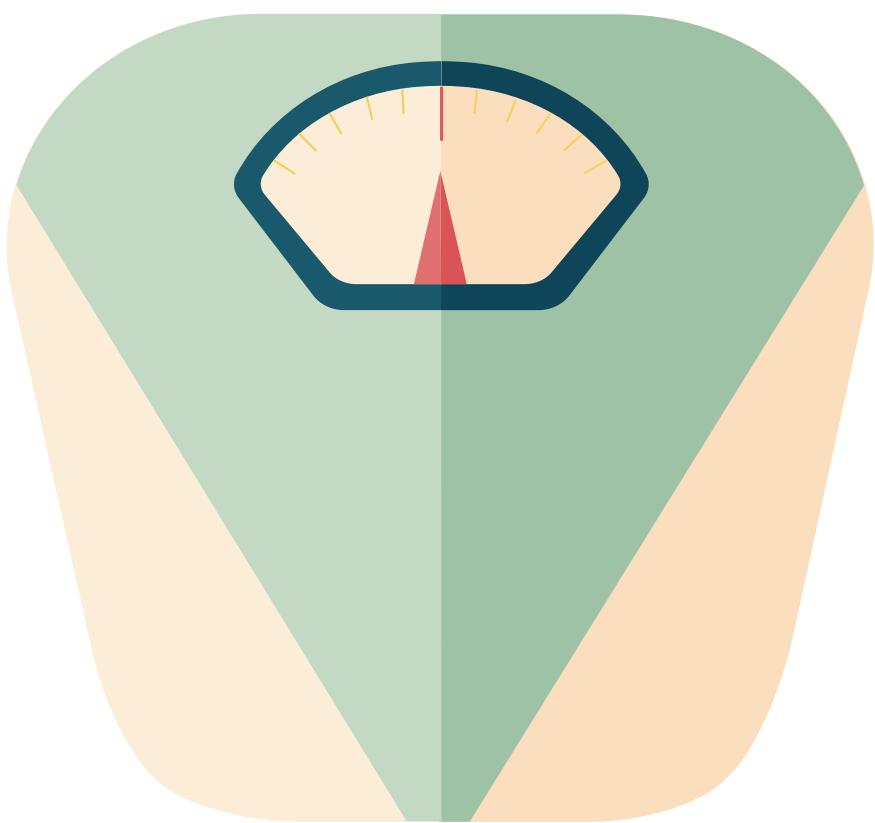
"The Rec Center is absolutely amazing because of what they have over there. They provide a very unique experience," Ferris project design senior Kristopher Bennett said. "It's not just working out. You can go over there and play basketball, tennis, volleyball. You can even go swimming."

Though swimming is a well-known and popular activity at the Rec Center, those looking to use the pool will have to look elsewhere due to the fact that it is closed until further notice.

The Rec Center is located behind the



Kristopher
Bennett



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Top Taggart field, next to the East Campus Suites. It is open 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on

Fridays, noon to 7 p.m. on Saturdays and 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Sundays.



Merideth
Campbell

Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Texas roots find their way to Big Rapids

Country icon to host Q&A and concert

Cora Hall
Interim Reporter

What do Keith Urban, Sara Evans and the Dixie Chicks all have in common? Besides being household names of country music, all of them have performed songs written by Radney Foster.

On Sept. 7, this multi-platinum singer and songwriter will be performing here on campus along with Best New Act in Country Music award-winner Drew Hale.

"I think [Radney] is going to be one of those guys who surprises a lot of people when they hear his music," Music Industry Management Program Director Paul Kwant said. "It's not just country; it's blues, it's a little bit of jazz, little bit of rock and a little bit of alternative."

One of the aspects of Foster's music that makes it unique is his lyrics.

"[He is] highly intellectual but very worldly as well and he writes lyrics that are very poignant," Kwant said. "There's not a lot of fluff, but there's a lot of substance in what he has

to say."

Both artists are originally from Texas but Hale has called Traverse City his home since 2008.

Sharing the stage with Tim McGraw, Dierks Bentley and Trace Adkins, Hale is no stranger to the big names of country music. He has made a name for himself in Michigan and the Midwest by performing at venues as big as Common Ground Music Festival and as small as local breweries and bars.

"What's exciting about Drew is when he takes the stage he delivers 100 percent at all times, and puts his heart and soul into every performance," Kwant said.

"I'm excited to have such a solid act on campus," Ferris music industry management sophomore Megan Yuchasz said. "It's a great way to start the school year."

The purpose of the night, organized by Kwant and assistant to the Music Industry Management program Leigha Oberle, was not only to have

Foster | see page 9

Winding roads

Finding success in a world full of endless possibilities

Rachel Lowing
Torch Reporter

College is a place of excitement, work and endless major decisions.

Going into college, there are many students that are still unsure about what they would like to major in, let alone what they want to do with the rest of their lives. This can be overwhelming to decide once you are in college because there are so many different roads that can be taken.

Something special about Ferris is the Retention and Student Success Program (RSS). There are multiple branches of this office including programs for tutoring (SLA and ASC), Students with Children and the Ferris State University Seminar (FSUS).

"The Retention and Student Success area is meant to provide support all across campus for students who are eager to learn, really want to be here and want to utilize all of the resources available to make sure you are successful. That's our job," Dean of RSS Dr. Bentley said.

Every freshman that has previously not been to a different college has to attend a FSUS class. These classes are, according to Bentley, designed to "put you on the path to: first, know all of the best opportunities at Ferris. Second, be able to take advantage of a network of supportive people,

that want you to be successful. Third, outline that path so that your trip along to graduation is filled with the things intended."

"Decide what you want to achieve and be determined about it," Bentley said.

When asking the incoming students their thoughts on the class, they seemed to be hopeful that it would be what Dr. Bentley says it is.

Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman Alicia Paquette said her expectations for the class were "to learn good habits with studying and to be better-rounded as a student."



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

"We didn't establish much but it's getting kids in the same program together. You build a bond with them, it's there to help out. Our advisors help too," Ferris pre-pharmacy freshman Tommia Frydrych said.

So take advantage of your FSUS class and learn all you can from your time there. For any student that may want to visit the office for one of the many programs offered, they are located on the first floor of the Arts and Science Center, or visit their website at ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/university.

Keeping your money

Money-saving tips for the broke college student

Kat Merby
Torch Reporter

The freshman 15 haunts some students' minds from the time they leave high school.

Even though a student may gain weight from eating pizza and binge-watching Netflix all day, it's sad to say a heavier wallet is not a concern for Ferris students.

In college, every student will feel the effects of having a tighter budget. No matter what age or major, it's something every single student struggles with.

Keeping up with appearance in college may be a pain for some. Between sharing a bathroom, not having enough time for taking care of bed head or just not having enough room for all your clothes, it can become stressful.

Having the money to maintain that unique style could become a problem as well.

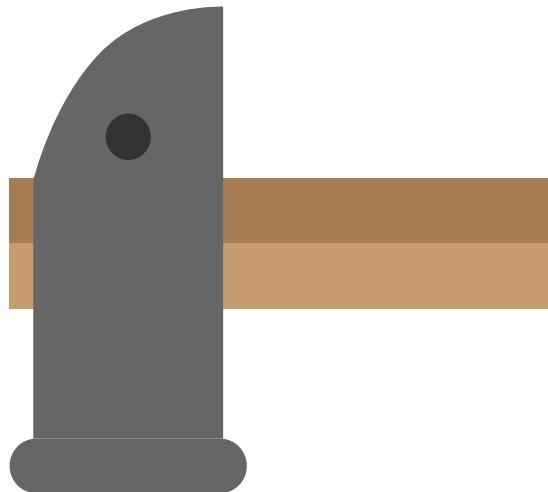
If a student is fashionable and looking for some tips in having a unique look under a budget, Ferris political science freshman Allyson Faulkner has a suggestion. Her biggest tip for saving money in the college world is to "find things you like and create them for yourself, or find it cheaper."

Taking up the skill of sewing is not only useful in creating clothing that is unique to one individual but it is helpful to know how to repair clothing.

Another benefit is that when one gets very good at this skill, others will pay for these services. This could be a nice way to make some extra cash.

In regards to finding things for cheaper prices, check online clothing stores. However, don't forget about stores such as Walmart and Meijer, which are conveniently located on Perry Avenue.

Ferris psychology freshman Devon Burse Jr. has his own way of saving money. "In terms of saving, I like to keep myself



Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

motivated, so I created a reward system," Burse said. "I want this new IKEA rug for my dorm but I'm making myself wait until I complete the daily homework and other

responsibilities for the week."

At the end of the day, every student is in college to eventually make more money than minimum wage. That may be enough

motivation for some to save money in the current moment. However, creating an incentive for saving and getting work done is a great way to multi-task.

Ferris electrical engineering sophomore Grant Joslin found that his key to saving pocket change was simple: one step at a time.

"I stopped buying candy I didn't need," Joslin said.

Joslin, like many college students trying to save money, discovered that college, money and food are practically synonymous. If a student has an unlimited meal plan, then they should definitely be using it every dining chance they get. If a student needs more energy but doesn't want to spend time in a crowded dining hall, they can check out the new take-out options at the Quad café, which is located inside the University Center. Overall, try to avoid buying candy and other small food items that won't give sustained energy.

Aside from skimping on junk food and finding food more worth your buck, Joslin found ways to save money before classes even started.

"Order things online as much as you can," Joslin said. "Plan ahead on what you need to buy and research for the best prices."

People always say that students have to do a lot of research in college and it's not just for classes. Finding the best deal on a book takes time and sometimes a lot of it. Check sites such as Amazon and Chegg first. However, some books have to be bought at the Ferris bookstore.

Cutting down on unnecessary spending is essential for trying to save money. If extra money magically seems to show up somewhere, save it.

The Human iPod

Requests were made as Josh Rush showcased his extensive knowledge of varying genres Thursday, Aug. 31 at the University Center.

Photo by: Megell Strayhdorn | Photographer



FOSTER

Continued from page 7

fun but also to learn from artists who are in different places in their careers. Prior to the concert, Foster and Hale will participate in an exclusive Q&A session.

"We do as much as we can to provide professional development experiences," Oberle said. "So we'll bring in special guests and [students] can have an hour or longer to pick the brains of industry professionals and see what their experiences are as long term artists."

"[Hale] cares about students in the music business and I think it's a great way to engage our students in an activity that's a little more fun and yet very serious at the same time, professional development wise," Kwant said.

Staying on track

When nerves settle and procrastination begins

TO DO:

- Now
- Later
- Tomorrow

Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

Alicia Jaimes
Lifestyles Editor

With syllabus week over, it's time for students to buckle down for their remaining time at Ferris.

Ferris pre-nursing freshman Alicia Paquette plans on spending her first semester discovering new methods to stay on top of her schoolwork.

"I know some people say it's good to record," Paquette said. "My microbiology teacher records his lectures so I can go back and play them."

Aside from listening to pre-recorded lectures, Paquette believes that prioritization and organization are key to having a successful academic year.

Ferris computer networking and system junior Ryan Daniel is another student who depends on repetition and organization when studying for his classes.

"Usually, I read over notes or make flashcards," Daniel said.

Starting his first week with homework, Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Cole Tompkins typically has a heavy workload. However, this does not stop him from taking some time for himself.



Cole Tompkins

Only VIP ticketholders will have access to the Q&A session and VIP tickets have been sold out.

"I'm hoping to learn more about how [Foster] likes writing for other people and I want to know more about live production from an artist's point of view," Yuchasz said. She will be attending the VIP session.

If Thursday's performance isn't enough, Foster will also be headlining at the Wheatland Music Festival on Sept. 8 and 9 in Remus. In addition, he will be releasing a book of short stories with a companion CD that has songs written about each chapter in the book.

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SPORTS

"I think we realized that everyone can be beat and it showed us what we need to work on and where we're weak," - Zach Sieler - See page 12 for story

Brendan Samuels | Sports Editor | samuelb1@ferris.edu



Torch file photo

Ferris senior quarterback Reggie Bell eyes the defense as he prepares to make a big play. Bell led the Bulldogs in both passing yards (2,085) and rushing yards (1,217) last year.

Five bold predictions for FSU football

A look into the Bulldogs' upcoming season

We are only a week away from Ferris football as the Bulldogs are gearing up to take on Findlay on Saturday, Sept. 9. With that being said, there are still several questions surrounding the team.

Enter a reporter with knowledge of the Bulldog squad and no shortage of opinions. Here are five bold predictions for the Bulldogs heading into their season opener.

Ferris junior defensive end Zach Sieler continues to make minced meat out of opposing offensive lines, enroute to yet another Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) sack title. Sieler has been impressive in his tenure as a Bulldog. If the big man on the edge can



Brendan Samuels
Sports Editor

come anywhere near his 19.5 sacks from a season ago, the title should be his.

Senior quarterback Reggie Bell leads the team in both passing and rushing yards. Bell did this last year for the Bulldogs and I see no sign of him slowing down. Posting 2,085 passing yards and 1,217 rushing yards, the speedy gunslinger has a knack of getting out of the pocket and stretching the field.

The Bulldog football team makes a deep push in the GLIAC tournament but ultimately falls short of the championship game. Don't get me wrong, this team is talented

but so are many of the other teams in the GLIAC. With a few key departures on offense, including Jamel Lockett, I'm not sure this team has that extra "wow" factor to pull out tight games.

The Ferris defense allows the fewest yards per game in the GLIAC. With guys like Sieler and senior defensive lineman Christian Okoye stuffing runs up front and senior linebacker KC Zenner roaming the middle of the field, teams are going to find it difficult to move the ball down field.

The Bulldogs finish near the bottom of the GLIAC in terms of passing yardage. Bell is a mobile quarterback and the Bulldogs utilize that. The only downside is they often neglect the arm strength of the man under center.

With the season rolling up on us soon, these predictions will either prevail or be shot down. We'll have to wait until the end of the season to find out.

New field, who dis?

Construction wrapping up on new soccer facilities



Photo by: Megell Strayhorn | Torch Photographer

The Ferris women's soccer team huddles up during a practice on their new field. Due to the construction of their new facilities, the team played all home contests at Top Taggart field last year.

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

The Ferris State women's soccer team will be enjoying a new home for the 2017 season.

Ferris is in the midst of wrapping up a project that was initially developed in late 2015 that will give the team new facilities.

"It's so cool to get the support from the University. We just feel really appreciated.

It gives us more incentive to just really go out and have a good season," Ferris junior defender Carley Dubbert said.

Ferris soccer has seen action on several different fields in the past, including Top Taggart Field, where they played their home games last season. The size of past fields was a huge issue that made the University ineligible to host post-season competition.

"Where our field was originally, it was re-

ally small and didn't even look like a soccer field. It's cool to be recognized by the University," Ferris senior midfielder Rachel Fouts said. "Now it's our field and there's more sense of home for us."

The new home of the Bulldogs will be located in the South Athletic Fields, across South Street from Top Taggart Field. The new facilities will meet the NCAA's standards to allow Ferris to host post-season competition.

The natural grass field is still premature in its development, so the Bulldogs will be playing on a turf field right next to the new grass field this season.

The Bulldogs will get the chance to break in their new digs when they take on Minnesota State Friday, Sept. 8 at 4 p.m. for the first home match of the season.

Keep 'em coming

Ferris State men's golf team adds freshman from Indonesia

Danny Collins
Torch Reporter

Ferris prides itself on making campus as widely diverse as possible with students from all different types of backgrounds and ethnicities, and the very same goes for athletics.

The Ferris State men's golf team announced the addition of incoming freshman Jason Martinus from Jakarta, Indonesia on Aug. 17. Fresh off his nineteenth birthday on Sept. 1, Martinus is very excited to join the already successful Bulldogs golf team.

"I think I will do my best to give the team a positive vibe and always be there whenever the team is down or up," Martinus said. "I am looking forward to the traveling part to different tourna-

ments around the states and get that different environment, it's just a priceless moment."

Martinus qualified for the Indonesia Open Asian Development Tour in 2016 as an amateur. Martinus, who's lowest round is 69, finished top five in the Jakarta World Cup in 2011. He also qualified three times to play in the Callaway Junior Worlds in San Diego.

"We are very excited to welcome Jason to the Bulldog family. He is a very solid player that



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Hero Sports tabs Ferris football as no. 1

Ferris State football is the best college football team in Michigan per Hero Sports

Jacob Carlson
Torch Reporter

Hero Sports recently tabbed Ferris State as the best college football team in Michigan regardless of division.

Ferris football edged out many other schools for the nod including the University of Michigan, the winningest college football team in history. For Ferris students and fans of Ferris State football, the most satisfying part of this is beating out rival Grand Valley State for the honor.

Though Head Coach Tony Annese knows the acknowledgment won't guarantee success this season, nor does it mean the Bulldogs will be meeting Alabama in the College Football Playoff anytime soon, he and the team are honored by the recognition.



"I told our guys that it's something they should be really proud of because there are a lot of great football programs in the state of Michigan. I'm very pleased to know that we've come that far and that our kids have been recognized," Annese said.

Annese has compiled a 49-12 record since taking over the program. His success has included back-to-back GLIAC championships.



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

After a dominant year in 2016, the Bulldogs were selected as the top football program in the state of Michigan regardless of division.

The excitement was shared throughout the locker room when the coaching staff broke the news to the players.

"We were pretty excited. We didn't even know they were doing a vote or anything like that and we saw that. It was nice to get recognized like that," Ferris senior de-

fensive end Zach Sieler said.

The Bulldogs received the honor a year after losing in the Division II semi-finals to eventual national champion Northwest Missouri State. The playoff run was the deepest in school program history, and the team is ready to take the next step in

hopes of winning a national title.

"I think we realized that everyone can be beat and it showed us what we need to work on and where we're weak," Sieler said.

The Bulldogs will open their season on the road Saturday, Sept. 9 against Findlay.



Top Dawg

Allyson Cappel

Photo by: Keith Salowich | Web Supervisor

Brendan Samuels
Sports Editor

This past weekend has been ruled by the Ferris State Volleyball team and the headlines are no different, as a member of the team roped in Top Dawg honors this week.

Allyson Cappel is a sophomore outside hitter who had a spectacular debut season last year for the Bulldogs, leading her team with a total of 434 kills. The closest teammate in total kills was junior outside hitter Ayanna Buckley with 362.

With such a strong season in the books for Cappel, the expectations were high heading into the Bulldogs' season opener.

The lights may have been bright when Ferris hit the hardwood on Sept. 1-2 at the Ferris State Invitational but Cappel's pure talent burst through once again.

The team finished the two-day invitational undefeated, taking down their first three opponents by

a score of 3-0 and finishing the weekend off with a 3-1 victory.

Individually, Cappel started off the weekend strong against Missouri Southern State. Ending the match with a team-high of 15 kills and accounting for an outstanding 19.5 points.

Cappel posted solid numbers in the second match of the day against Cedarville as well, finishing third in kills with seven and second in digs with 10.

With day one in the books, Cappel looked to start out strong on day two against Northwest Missouri State. The sophomore sensation didn't disappoint, finishing second on her team in kills with nine and leading the Bulldogs in points yet again with 14.5.

The Bulldogs' final game against Quincy was Cappel's most consistent of the day. Closing out the invitational with 13 kills, 10 digs and 17 points.

It's still early in the season but this Top Dawg honor figures to be the first of many accolades Cappel is certain to collect as the year rolls on.



Photo by: Abbey Good | Multimedia Editor

Jason Martinus

season that saw them win four tournaments overall and finish ranked in the top 10. To top it off, the Dawgs advanced to the national quarterfinals at the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II National Championships in Florida last May, their first national championship since 2010.

The Bulldogs will look for the same success under second year coach Kyle Wittenbach this season.

Fans can catch the Bulldogs for the first time this Fall when they head to Bay City for their first tournament Sept. 9-10.



Check us out on
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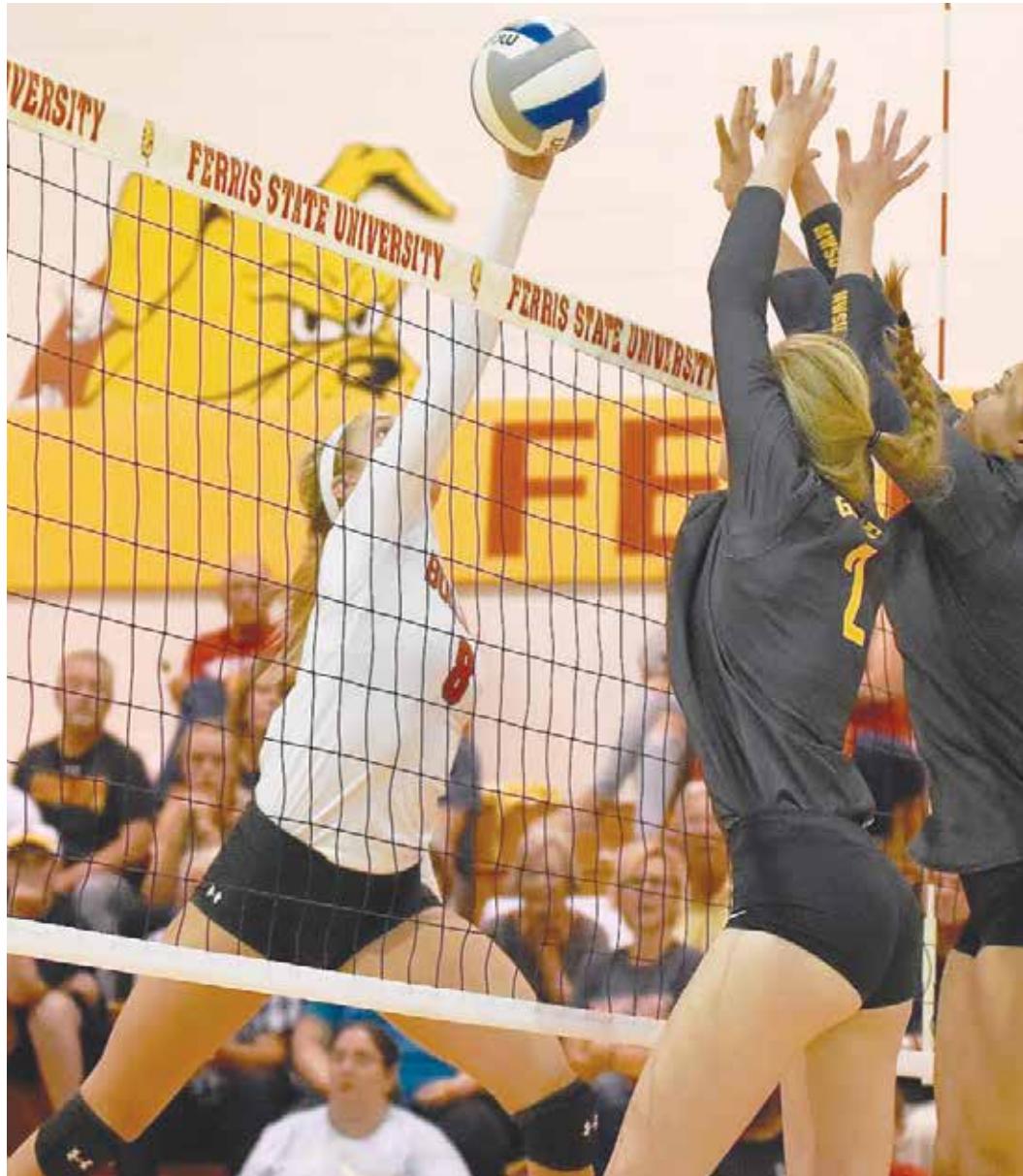


Photo courtesy of Kevin McDermott

Ferris sophomore outside hitter Courtney Brewer spikes the ball over awaiting defenders. The Bulldogs opened their season 4-0 over the weekend during the Ferris State Invitational.

Haven't skipped a beat

Bulldog volleyball continues their dominance with huge wins in 2017

Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

The Ferris women's volleyball team is back with a vengeance for the 2017 season after already knocking off two Division I programs.

The Bulldogs defeated both Western Michigan University and Central Michigan University in exhibition action on Aug. 18 and 19. The Dawgs beat WMU 3-2 and CMU 3-1.

The 2016 GLIAC Champion Bulldogs are off to a hot start and hoping to turn three straight years of GLIAC supremacy into four. Senior libero Lauren Reminga reflected on those two big victories and said that the wins gave the team a lot of confidence heading into the new year.

"Kicking off the season with two wins against two great teams was definitely awesome," Reminga said. "It mostly showed us where we are as a team kicking off the season, and definitely showed us what we can accomplish this year if we keep working hard every day."

Reminga led her team in digs in both of those big victories with 21 against Western Michigan and 17 against Central Michigan. Reminga said that the team has placed an emphasis on chemistry for a long time, both on and off the court, giving them the connection needed to succeed.

"Our seniors worked very hard and made it a goal ever since we were freshman to make the team comfortable and empower the younger players who are new, treating them as we would an upperclassman," Reminga said.

One of those young players is sophomore outside hitter Allyson Cappel, a powerhouse for the Dawgs during her freshman season. Cappel said that her goal this season is to go all out with no regrets, something that people have come to expect out of the sophomore after leading her team in kills, totaling 434 last season.

"Last year was fun because of my team," Cappel

said. "Everybody on the team this year is a great person and they have made it so much fun."

The Dawgs opened their regular season play in the Ferris State Invitational on Sept. 1 with a couple 3-0 sweeps over Missouri Western State and Cedarville to advance to the second day of the tourney.

Ferris State's momentum rolled into the next day of the Invite, gaining two more victories over Northwest Missouri State and Quincy to remain undefeated and win the Ferris State Invitational.

Ferris will have to wait until Sept. 16 before they're able to see any league competition, taking on new arrival in the division, Davenport University, who enters their first season as a member of the GLIAC in 2017.

Sophomore setter Maeve Grimes is confident that the Dawgs will be able to mirror last year's success in the league if they work hard and keep the chemistry flowing.

"Stephanie Sikorski helped me a lot in growing as a volleyball player and being able to get into the groove of being a college athlete," Grimes said. "She not only helped me with my volleyball skill but also made sure I knew the rights and wrongs of college."

Grimes said that she took those things taught to her as a freshman and utilized them in the big victories over the Division I programs and it showed, leading her team in assists during both victories.

Whether they're freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors, the women of Ferris State volleyball are all equal as Bulldogs and according to Reminga, that's what has contributed to their continued success.

The Dawgs are back in action on Friday, Sept. 8 at the Colorado Premier Tourney where they look to keep their undefeated streak alive against the University of Tampa.



Maeve Grimes

Sports Shorts

By Beau Jensen, Torch Reporter

Chipping up the charts

Bulldog men's golf will start the 2017-18 season as the No. 12 ranked team in the nation, according to the Golf Coaches Association of America Division II Preseason Coaches' Poll, marking the program's highest ranking preseason ranking ever.

The Dawgs' first tournament of the season begins on Saturday, Sept. 9 at SVSU Al Watrous Invitational in Saginaw, where they will be the only GLIAC team in attendance that has a spot on the preseason poll.

This is an impressive accomplishment for second year Head Coach Kyle Wittenbach who was appointed as the head coach just over a year ago.

The program made it all the way to the NCAA Division II Quarterfinals last season before being beaten by Florida Southern, the 2017-18 No. 1 ranked team according to the same poll.

Soccer's slow start

Bulldog women's soccer opened up their 2017 regular season on the road in a 0-2 loss against Carson-Newman.

Making the long trip down to Tennessee to kick off the year, the Dawgs defended well against Carson-Newman early on, holding back the offense of the Eagles in the first half. The Dawgs were unable to capitalize on the defensive battle, ultimately leaving the game with no scores and just two shots on goal.

Ferris soccer was able to knock in three goals in late August against Calvin in exhibition, a sign that the young team will be able to kick it into gear and get their offense rolling. With 14 freshmen on the team, the program can only learn and get better from here.

The Dawgs are back in action against Minnesota State for their first home game of the regular season on Friday, Sept. 8 at 4 p.m.

Volleyball in good shape

Every team sees potential changes to their program after seniors graduate but the Bulldog volleyball program doesn't have to worry about that.

Of the five top point scorers on the 2016-17 program, only one of them has graduated. Sophomore outside hitter Allyson Cappel led everyone as a freshman with 520.5 total points, followed closely behind by senior Ayanna Buckley who ended her season with 405.5 points.

Senior middle hitter Maria Kronner and junior outside hitter Katie Placek are the next two highest point scorers, with graduated senior Stephanie Sikorski following up the pack as the fifth leading scorer.

Four of these five women remain on the team and they look to keep an early undefeated streak alive on Friday, Sept. 8 in Denver against the University of Tampa in the Colorado Premier Tourney.

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OPINIONS

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"Nazis do not belong in the public, so let's make them hide again,"
- Grant Siddal - See below for story

Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Angela Graf

This week my boyfriend and I welcomed a third personality into our brand-new living situation: a two-year-old black lab mix named Macy.

She is a foster dog that just went through some pretty harsh medical issues, and she is still taking the five pills a day to prove it.

Both of us have pretty much constantly had dogs in our lives, so coming to college every year and not having that is always a bit of a downer.

We talked and decided that while we aren't in the position

to adopt at the moment and not knowing where we'll be living a year from now, we are both experienced dog handlers and we have the flexibility in our schedules to commit to fostering.

A few people have asked me the standard questions: is it worth it? Won't it be hard to say goodbye?

I am not going to lie to you, there have been rough moments. House-breaking a dog takes a saintly level of patience (and a whole lot of carpet cleaner).

But what I keep telling myself during this experience is that

A pup named Macy

we are giving her a warm, quiet, safe place to heal, and teaching her manners and skills that are going to make her even more loveable and adoptable when the time comes.

I think that's probably what will get me through letting her go, too— knowing that we helped shape her into a truly awesome dog that will make somebody else's family complete, and that they are going to love like crazy for years and years down the road.

Fostering isn't for everyone, and this has made me realize

that as well, but giving this sweet girl the one-on-one attention and love that only being in a home environment can provide has been a wonderful and emotional experience... and make no mistake, we do love her like crazy.

If you want to get involved with some great animals (and humans), consider volunteering at the Animal Rescue Coalition right here in Big Rapids. They are a great organization doing some really important work.

Contact information can be found on their website at arcof-mecosta-county.com.

It's time to silence white supremacists

America has to show that we will not tolerate hatred and racism



Grant Siddal
Torch Reporter

Nazis do not belong in the public, so let's make them hide again.

If you have used social media in the last few weeks, you have undoubtedly seen multiple news articles, status updates, tweets and memes about tiki-torch-toting white nationalists marching through the streets of Charlottesville, Virginia.

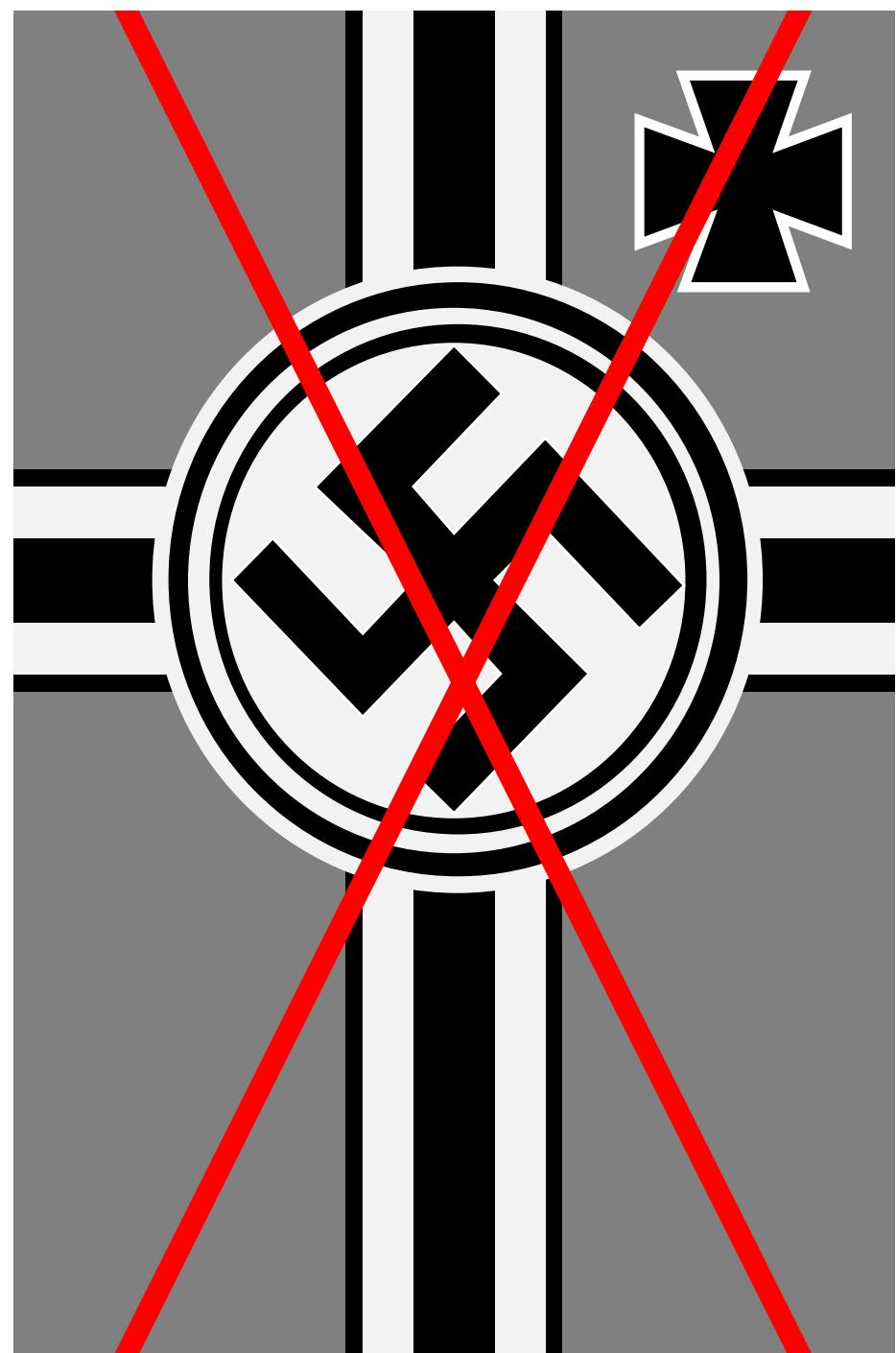
Those who participated in the march represent many of the most detestable people this country has to offer. As patriotic Americans, we owe it to the fundamental principle of equality to not sit idly by and allow progression of a movement that, at its very core, preaches hatred, intolerance and racism. The white nationalist movement does not deserve to have a place outside of the shadows.

Throughout my lifetime, the Ku Klux Klan, Neo-Nazis and other white nationalist movements have mostly held their beliefs behind closed doors. They did not feel so emboldened that they marched without masks through a college campus. This newfound sense of security that drew them out of the shadows absolutely must be struck down. These groups should be made to feel as though they cannot openly share their hateful beliefs and that they once again can only do so behind closed doors.

I find it important at this point that I express how I am in no way against free speech. I believe these people have the right to say and believe whatever they want, no matter how horrible and backwards it may be. However, I also strongly believe that they should be publicly shamed for their actions.

While driving them into hiding does not make the problem of racism and white supremacy disappear, it does let those who support racism and intolerance know that they and their belief system are not welcome here.

The Internet, in all of its glory, saw to the public shaming of many of the white supremacists in Charlottesville by sharing photos of those who marched, accompanied by their name, the city they are from and their place of employment. It is rumored that after the exposure photos went viral, many of the



Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

marchers were subsequently fired from their jobs.

If you find that unfair, imagine a Nazi working for a bank deciding who gets approved for a loan or as your own boss deciding who

gets hired and who gets let go. As far as I am concerned, their joblessness is only the beginning of justice and we cannot step down until white supremacists are once again afraid to admit their views.

Don't knock it 'til you've tried it

Why everybody needs to work in customer service

Everybody has heard the horrors of customer service.

It is always the same nightmare—the customers are rude or ignorant. They seem to forget that just like them, those of us employed in customer service have lives too.

I feel it is safe to say that I am a customer service veteran at this point in my life. I have six years under my belt working with and dealing with people. I have bagged groceries, worked as a cashier and worked at the actual desk where customers make their complaints.



Briana Hammontree
Torch Reporter

I have had customers tell me I ruined their day because I asked them to please wait until their purchase was complete and I've had customers tell me how to do my job.

With that being said, I believe everybody should have a job in customer service

at least once in their life, whether it be during their teens or later in life.

Being in customer service can teach you a lot of skills that you can use later in life. Before I started working in customer service, I wasn't nearly as confrontational when issues arose. But when I had to take on more responsibilities, I didn't care so much about being liked but rather handling the issue.

Customer service also teaches time-management, responsibility and skills to work under pressure and responsibility, which can all be used later in life.

I don't regret working in customer service because of these skills that I learned, but because now every time I go to a store or restaurant, I appreciate the person who has to deal with me for that day.

More so, I think it's important that everybody works in customer service so they can all have an understanding of what it is like. People won't look down on others because everybody will understand the experience.

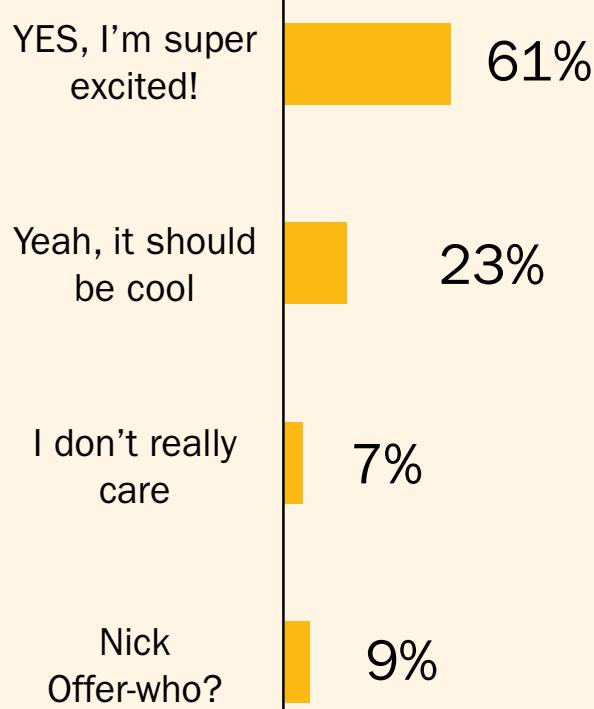


Cartoon by: Samuel McNeill | Cartoonist

TORCH POLL RESULTS



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“Pit People”

My favorite PC game of the year

The video game industry has been turning out a ton of great games in the past few years and 2017 has produced a gem in the PC gaming world—“Pit People.”

“Pit People” is a turn-based action role-playing game made by the company The Behemoth, and was initially released in January on Steam, which is a digital game distribution platform.

The story follows a guy named Horatio, who lives a humble life on his blueberry farm and is defined as “the most boring creature on the face of this planet.” At the beginning of the game, his farm gets attacked by a group of ruffians who are under the command of a giant space bear, the primary villain of the game. The bear (whose name is just “Bear”) wishes to see Horatio and anyone else who is “boring” die. From the initial attack on his blueberry farm, Horatio is thrown into helping others who are the victims of Bear’s wrath, such as a princess named Pipistrella, who lost both her castle and her father (King Papastrella) in a battle with Bear’s toadies.

With their homes lost in battle, our hero and his company band together to get revenge on Bear. The characters make money by fighting other people in “The Pit,” much like the gladiators in our own history, all while working to defeat Bear at the same time and taking on random side quests.

The story doesn’t make a ton of sense and the game doesn’t give any backstory on where Bear came from in the first place, but the gameplay makes up for it.



Jen Corrie
Managing Copy Editor

The best thing about this game is that it’s hilarious. There are jokes literally everywhere. For example, the loading screen is a goofy-looking giraffe that tells you jokes while you’re waiting for the next segment of the game to load. That same giraffe is the steed of one of the enemies that you fight in The Pit. The enemy is announced as the “Speckled Horseman,” before a smiling giraffe with balloons tied around its neck floats down from the sky into the ring, carrying a big guy who wields dual Mini-UZIS. This game’s storyline is a complete joke and it’s absolutely great.

Not to mention the game itself is so fun to play. You constantly build your team throughout the game and upgrade their weapons as you level up and defeat stronger enemies.

The animation style is meant to go along with the overall theme of the game and it’s well executed. The style is very rough and cartoon-like, and the odd-looking characters wield weapons such as flowerpots and giant lollipops.

The music is also pretty catchy. Usually, I tune out game music, but the music from Pit People is so different and catchy that I listen to it while I do homework.

It’s also co-op, so you can play with a friend if you hook up an Xbox controller to



Promotional image

“Pit People” is available on Steam and for the Xbox console.

your computer, as well as the keyboard.

However, the only downside to this game is that the storyline isn’t complete yet. The game recently updated in June, which added more storyline and more features. According to The Behemoth’s blog, in the update “insane mode is significantly more insane,” and two new story quests and a new Worldmap have been added,

among a list of other changes. I haven’t played the update yet but I’m excited to see just how insane the updated insane mode is.

The game is \$14.99 during the early access period on Steam. For any avid PC gamer who needs a good laugh, it’s well worth 15 bucks.

I swear to God, I’m really sick

If you’re a human, you’ve more than likely experienced being sick. It happens to all of us—some more than others. So isn’t being sick enough of a miserable experience? Should professors punish students for missing their classes?

Personally, I have a few issues when it comes to attendance policies in college. On one hand, I understand what they are trying to reinforce. Attendance in class is really important, and usually necessary when it comes to passing. If you don’t show up, are you truly learning anything? Engaging with professors and fellow students is one of the best ways to get a good understanding of the subject. Better understanding translates to higher test scores and retention of material. Plus, that class you really wanted to skip but went to anyway might be the class where you learn something life-changing.

On the other hand, this policy can severely hurt some students who have medical issues, family issues or who are the unlucky owners of a bad immune system. Medical bills can mount up if you’re required to show documentation for every time you’re sick and many students just can’t afford to go to the doctor for the common cold. If you fall under this category, you usually know how to make up for what you’ve missed. Making connections in classes with other students and memorizing office hours can seriously help you when you’ve spent time getting



Abbey Good
Multimedia Editor

to know the toilet. And, for those of us who spend more time under the weather than outside enjoying it, these connections have saved our test scores more often than not. But, policies that are meant to inspire the lazy can have a serious effect on those who aren’t.

I believe most students are aware of the (ever increasing) cost of college, and how much is being spent per credit. Whether you show up or not should be your own choice, and not up to the strict regulations of the attendance policies. An attendance policy isn’t going to make the difference of passing or failing if you’re too lazy to go to any of your classes. Reducing grades on projects or overall grades for a class solely off of attendance isn’t fair. If you’ve done the work and made an effort to communicate with the professor, then students shouldn’t be penalized because of a policy that’s too general. So kids, go to class. At least pretend to be engaged and you’ll be surprised how much you learn. If you get sick, talk to your professor, talk to your peers and pray to the



Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

grading gods that your professor gets amnesia the day they submit your final grades. It’s pretty much your only option.

GOT AN OPINION? HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline for submissions every Friday by 5 p.m.

Angela Graf | Editor-in-Chief | Email: grafa1@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.