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Bridge card funds to be returned students,  
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# FERRIS STATE TOCRH

April Fool's Edition

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**Mascot Change**

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# We got the Bieb!

*Ferris Fest to feature teen sensation*



Photo Courtesy of MCT

**Bieber Fever**

Justin Bieber will be replacing Sean Kingston as the headliner at Ferris Fest 2011. Ferris Fest will be held on April 16 in the campus quad from 12 to 5 p.m.

**Brandy VanDenbrook**  
A&E Editor

Never say never, FSU students. Teen pop phenomenon Justin Bieber will be replacing Sean Kingston as the headliner at Ferris Fest this year.

When news broke that Kingston could not make it to Ferris Fest this year due to a very severe paper cut, many students wondered who would be replacing him as the headliner. Rumors spread like wildfire and many thought a good performer would not be able to be booked on such short notice.

"I really thought we were going to get somebody lame like Miley Cyrus or Britney Spears," said underwater basket weaving junior Mandy Moore. "I really am not interested in attending a concert that has some washed up celebrity jumping around on stage half naked screeching about how a guy at a club wants to have sex with them."

Other students thought Ferris Fest would simply fall through as an event this year.

"It honestly wouldn't have surprised me if they simply set up a big sound system in the middle of the quad and told us to gather around that and act like we were at a good concert," said Brian McAdams, senior in the pickle packing program. "I try not to get my hopes up because I'm used to being disappointed."

But Entertainment Unlimited did come through for Ferris students by getting the one and only Justin Bieber. The student body is in a frenzy as everyone is buzzing over the news.

"When I found out, I was like, 'O-M-G my future husband is going to be here,'" said Ally Gosling, freshman in the ghost hunting program. "He is totally my idol. I even have a poster of him on my ceiling so that his face is the last thing I see every night before I go to sleep."

Apparently the Bieb may not be alone when he comes to FSU. There is a rumor circulating that he insisted his supposed girlfriend Selena Gomez will accompany him to Big Rapids for the show. We

have heard from his people that she has been concerned about him being touched inappropriately by female fans.

"I don't know if it's true that this supposed girlfriend of his is coming to Ferris Fest with him, but if she does I'm not afraid to take her on," said Krista Breeze, sophomore in the box making program. "I don't know who she thinks she is trying to get with my man, but I will smack her up. She may have to lose a few chunks of hair, but in the end it will all be worth it when Justin realizes how much he loves me."

The male population doesn't seem so thrilled with the news though.

"Why on Earth would they have that little weenie come to Ferris? He needs a haircut and honestly, he's just a punk. I could break him in half," said Channing Murray, junior in the professional modeling poser program. "I really don't understand why girls are so attracted to him anyway. He hasn't even hit puberty yet."

Brad Burger, junior in the deejay program, said, "The only reason I'm going is because I heard Selena Gomez might show up. At least one out of the two girls is worth going to watch."

"I was going to attend Ferris Fest, but now I'm not so sure," said Chad Muffler, freshman in the table cloth making program. "I guess Justin Bieber is all right, but I would prefer somebody like Rihanna, Beyonce, or Taylor Swift. They are gorgeous and I'd much rather watch them jumping around on stage than some 12-year-old dude."

Whether you love him or hate him, the Bieb will be taking the stage on April 16 in the campus quad from 12 - 5 p.m. To lodge a complaint or to get more information in general, contact [wedontcarewhatyouthink@ferris.edu](mailto:wedontcarewhatyouthink@ferris.edu). We'll just have to wait and see if FSU students catch Bieber Fever. ■

"I guess Justin Bieber is all right, but I would prefer somebody like Rihanna, Beyonce, or Taylor Swift. They are gorgeous and I'd much rather watch them jumping around on stage than some 12-year-old dude."

**Chad Muffler**  
Ferris State University

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The first 100 people to comment on the online article will receive VIP passes to meet Justin Bieber at Ferris Fest.

# Higher education

*Ferris approves medical marijuana on campus*

**Greg Buckner**  
Sports Editor

In a surprise announcement this week, Ferris State stated that starting on April 20, students will be able to apply for a medical marijuana card at Birkam Health Center.

As Michigan universities have had to make up for lost funding from the state, many schools have looked to alternative ways to help cover the deficit.

In a loophole in Governor Rick Snyder's proposed budget for the fiscal year, public universities can now administer applications and open dispensaries for medical marijuana at on-campus medical centers.

"We became aware of a stipulation in the state budget that states that the sale of medical marijuana will now require a

sales tax and that state-funded institutions can now grow and sell marijuana with the proper license," said Jay Tumbleweed, a staff physician at Birkam. "So Ferris applied for the license to distribute and produce marijuana and received approval."

Beard said the proposed plan will bring in an additional \$750,000 to the university in the next two years from sales of medical marijuana.

"We've got kids around here with extra money after financial aid refunds anyway," said Beard. "So why not just let the students use that money for marijuana if they need it? They would have just spent it on a new television anyway."

Students will be able to apply for a card to possess up to an ounce of marijuana at any given time if they receive a prescription from a doctor at Birkam.

Solve all your health needs at the Birkam Health Center.

Sleeping problems?  
Cronic disease?  
Hangover?

Medical Marijuana cards now available on campus

Also don't forget to fill up your prescription at the pharmacy!

**Grand Opening Sale**

Free consultations on April 20 at 4:20 PM.

**BOGO**  
First prescription fill \$4.20  
get next one for FREE

• Please present coupon upon arrival. Offer not valid with any other coupons. Patient must be present at 4:20 pm to receive promotional offer.

"It's great that Ferris is totally grooving with the vibes of the student body," said Alice Kramden, an undeclared sophomore at Ferris. "Now my RA will get off of my case when I'm taking bong rips because I'm super stressed from forgetting to do my homework."

Although the administering of prescriptions is up to the discretion of the doctor, the most common condition reported by students applying is depression.

"I'm going to apply just because I'm bummed out that the Dave Matthews Band isn't making a Michigan stop on their

summer tour this year," said Jeff Spicoli, a five-year freshman at Ferris. "So I'm going to have to get my prescription and watch The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou to try and figure out my life after such heavy news."

Birkam will add a dispensary room in the pharmacy of the building this week, with students having over 30 strains of cannabis available as medication when April 20 rolls around.

"I'm hoping that I can get a prescription just so I can finish my thesis paper on how Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Money explains the current state of United State's foreign rela-

tions with the Middle East," said senior philosophy major Jeff Lebowksi. "Otherwise, I can't get my creative juices flowing, and that whole depression thing too or whatever I told them I have."

While the student body has embraced the new development, Ferris faculty is bracing for the new influx of "enlightened" students.

"These kids are all on dope anyway," said John Wooderson, an accounting professor at Ferris. "Just more kids that I can mark down for not showing up to class. I get a sick thrill out of it anyway." ■

## *FSU shirts are back*

*Racy shirts are now being sold by Amazon to decrease revenue gap*

**Joe King**  
Apparel Liaison

After low funding and recent budget cuts, Ferris State University has pitched the idea to sell the controversial "FSU" shirts to Amazon and the Internet giant is fully on board.

President Eisler made this bold decision last week and is now collaborating with a few designers to start working on the new look.

"The old shirts were so plain, but I liked the message it gave and I wanted to make sure the style matched," said Eisler.

To increase profits, Ferris decided to outsource the manufacturing and printing to China. It is rumored the design is in its final stages and will be in production as early as next week.

Teddy Graham, a financial management advisor, is getting ready for the new designs and the possible chaos the sales might bring.

"We will start selling the shirts on April 8. We know they will be in high demand, and we are preparing for Black Friday conditions," said Graham.

Amazon hired models from different colleges all round

the state to pose in the redesigned shirts. Other trademarked apparel will include sweatshirts, shorts and baby bibs. Amazon marketing director Cal Pengin thinks the models will really help drive sales by providing a "wholesome image."

"It is a proven fact that models improve any products sales," said Pengin. "I'm predicting we'll sell 5,000 shirts in the first hour alone."

At a \$20 price tag, the revenues will be divided between Amazon and the university. Half of the revenue will go toward the university's budget deficit, 40 percent will cover material costs and 10 percent going to Amazon. Ferris is looking at every option to increase revenue after recent cutbacks.

Richard Cheese, a senior in

the Music Industry Management Program, believes that the shirts are going to come back in full swing.

"A lot of buzz has been swirling around campus about the return of the shirts. I know I am going to be online at 6 a.m. to buy the first one. I can't wait to wear it to party's and let everyone know that when I walk into a place, I am ready to take on anything," said Cheese.

President Eisler is proud of his decision to bring back the shirts and encourages everyone to support their university proudly.

"Although racy with the slogan, we have to start appealing to the kids these days. If they want racy, they will get racy. After all, without their tuition money, what would Ferris be?" said Eisler. ■



## *Back and better than ever*

*Many Ferris students will have their Bridge Card benefits doubled*

**Kaitlin Dupon**  
Photo Editor

Beginning April 15, the Michigan Department of Human Services will begin to reimburse college students' Bridge Cards.

DHS has stated that to make up for the confusion and inconvenience, they will also be doubling the current benefits of any student who was told their benefits would be cancelled.

The director of DHS has also announced that card holders will now be able to buy alcohol on the cards. In the past no card holder has been able to purchase any sort of alcohol beverages as it wasn't seen as a necessity.

Ferris student Marissa Engles, junior in pharmacy, was one of the students who received a letter first stating her card was being cancelled and then stating her card was being given back to her.

"When I was informed I would have my Bridge Card back and with double benefits, I was beyond pumped; it's just one less thing I have to worry about," said Engles.

Engles also commented on the fact that she will now be able to purchase alcohol. "I am

excited that now I can save even more money by making all my alcohol purchases with my card. This change will really help pull me out of debt." Engles believes that some people may abuse the card with the new benefits.

The source of funds for the newly reimbursed Bridge Card will come out of Michigan universities' budgets. This new source of income will result in a rise in the cost of tuition for many Michigan universities, including Ferris State. Christine Smith, a Ferris accounting student, agrees redeeming the Bridge Cards will have positive and negative effects.

"A lot of students really need those Bridge Cards to feed themselves and our tuition is already rising, so if it rises a little more for those students to eat than that's the price we pay," stated Smith.

The Bridge Card changes will take effect on April 15. Approximately 1,000 Ferris students can expect to receive letters stating they will be reimbursed throughout the first two weeks of April. ■

# The (half) naked truth

*Ferris administrators find a new way to pay the bills*

**Ryan Partial**  
Ferris State Torch

With the costs of living going up, and the salary rates for faculty going down, administrators at Ferris State are having some difficulty making ends meet.

The solution: moonlighting. Some administrative members perform magic tricks on street corners. Some remove garbage from the street at night. Others remove their clothes to loud, exciting music at Big Rapids' very own exotic nightclub.

"It's hard out here for a professor," said Dr. Gordan Weever, professor of disposable economics. "We're simply not good at anything else. Some of us get desperate."

It is a sight not uncommon throughout the state. Since late 2007, the number of university professors in Michigan—male and female—entering the adult entertainment industry has risen by a whopping 230 percent.

Although the club in Big Rapids is known for its non-nudity policy, the shows put on each night can be described as

nothing less than scandalous. Dancers take the stage in nothing more than a g-string, corset, thong bikini, or occasional diaper.

"They show a lot of skin, alright," said former dancer and Ferris instructor Phillipa Moss. "I used to freeze my buns off back in my day."

The "day" Moss is referring to is, in fact, last Tuesday.

"I think it is sad what they're doing," said vice president of finance and administration Jerry Scoby. "I wouldn't dream of doing what they're doing. Never again."

Scoby can be remembered as having a two-man burlesque show in Las Vegas alongside vice president of university advancement and marketing John Willey.

"He's lying," Willey said. "Those were his best days. He would return to the stage in a heartbeat, given the opportunity."

As of February, at least nine Ferris faculty and administration members were "dual-enrolled"

at the local strip club, including members of administration. That solitary administrator is none other than President David Eisler.

"Eisler's the star of the show," said Maureen Milly-Ferguson, an FSU hospitality management senior who wishes to remain anonymous. "He gets up there in his loincloth, playing Chattanooga Choo-choo on his clarinet... he rocks the house."

Eisler was unable to comment at this time, but did return an autographed photo of himself in the now infamous loincloth.

Unlike most Ferris faculty who are required to dance to avoid the imminent threat of bone-crushing poverty, Eisler is one of the few that performs simply out of recreation.

"What's the man supposed to do?" said Milly-Ferguson. "He's got a very passionate audience."

There are currently no plans for pay increases or promotions for faculty members, and until they see that problem addressed, we will see them undressed. ■

# Hopping to a new beginning

*New name and mascot represent positive changes*

**Jessie Ledger**  
Beat Writer

After some critical thinking, Ferris officials have decided it's time to make some changes to the university's image.

Ferris President David Eisler and the Board of Trustees have decided it's time to drop "State" from Ferris' title, therefore changing "Ferris State University" to "Ferris University."

"Since we are implementing many changes throughout the university, we have carefully made the decision to alter Ferris' name in order to represent such changes," Eisler said.

In addition to the changes, officials have found it suitable to change Ferris' mascot along with the name. The new mascot is Kurt the Kangaroo.

Kurt the Kangaroo was chosen since staff and students have agreed that Ferris University is a unique college and deserves a unique mascot.

A sophomore in optometry said, "I've never heard of a school with a kangaroo for a mascot. I think it's pretty cool. Kangaroos are neat animals."

Another student agreed the kangaroo is a good fit for a mascot. "Sure, kangaroos look innocent, but they can be vicious and know how to fight," said a freshman in pre-biology.

For quite some time now, officials have been debating whether or not such a dramatic change for the university should take place; however, after many discussions, they have all agreed the name and mascot change will reflect upon the university in a positive manner.

President Eisler said this is the beginning of a new era and

a positive change for Ferris. He said Ferris will continue to provide a strong, solid education to all students even though it is now "Ferris University" and the mascot is a kangaroo.

"Ferris University Kangaroos: I like the sound of that, it's definitely a fresh, new name and sweet mascot," said a junior in music industry management.

"There will only be changes for the better," Eisler added. Work has begun on removing the previous iconic Brutus the Bulldog mascot and adding Kurt the Kangaroo to the exterior of the university.

A kangaroo mascot costume is also being ordered as well. Applications are now being taken for those who would like to play the role of Kurt at sports and community events.

There is only one condition for becoming Kurt: Whoever gets the mascot position must hop around like a kangaroo at all times. No walking will be permitted.

Since the name and mascot have changed, the decision of changing the school's colors is still in discussion.

"We still may want to keep a piece of the past to remind us all of where Ferris came from and where it is today – we're still unsure if we want to change the colors," said Eisler.

Some of the color choices include red and white, purple and orange, or blue and green. The decision will be made within the next month.

In addition, the previous slogan, "Imagine More" will be changed to "Hop to Victory." This announcement was made last week. ■

**FERRIS  
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\*VIP PASSES AVAILABLE FOR MEET AND GREET WITH JUSTIN BIEBER



# Co-ed Rooms

*Miller Hall now houses both males and females in the same room, will implement more for fall 2011*

**Reid Enright**  
Freelance Reporter

After long hours working on the renovations to Ward and Masselink Halls, the finish date has been pushed back once again.

With Carlisle Hall now being added to the renovation list, housing is trying new ways to figure out where to place everyone next year. Some halls may have up to three people living in one room while others may be living with different sex roommates.

Miller Hall, the current substance free residence hall, began allowing residents to be co-ed by room as an experiment. This option is not sitting well with officials, but they understand what needs to be done so renovations can be on schedule.

Hurd the Third, the supreme vice president for Housing Affairs, believes next year will be a challenge for on-campus students, but also a learning experience for all.

"These kids are adults now, they have to understand that you

have to make sacrifices at certain times. These students will be placed in situations unlike ever before and we hope to provide an experience they will never forget," said Third.

The housing office is not very happy with allowing both males and females to live in the same room, but they understand it has to be done. New rules and guidelines, such as toilet seat lid position, are currently being updated in the housing contract.

Due to adult activities that could happen behind closed doors, the housing office is investing in small, one-person beds and installing cameras in every room.

Justin Crustin Melons, a freshman in the GALA program, is excited that within his first year away from home he will get to live with a female.

"I realize that the new beds will be really tiny, but I am hoping to be able to woo her with my stunning eyes and maybe she will let me push the beds together," said Melons.

With a grin on his face, he



Photo By: Angie Walukonis | Photographer

### Co-Ed Roomies

Tristan Willingham and Hannah Thome are newly placed roommates in Miller Hall. Co-ed dorm rooms will become more integrated in fall of 2011.

added, "It is college and you only get to live once."

Just to be safe, the housing office teamed up with Planned Parenthood and is thumb tacking condoms around Miller Hall's hallways to make sure residents play it safe. Since Miller Hall

is the substance free hall, most people are not worried that there will be any drunken hookups in the building.

This new style of living is potentially only going to be for the next school year, but housing will evaluate the system

and decide if this may be a viable option for future years. If this system works and poses no problems, it may turn out to be a permanent living condition.

What is your stance on this issue? Please comment online. ■

