

# FERRIS STATE TORCH

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January 28, 2015

## Art at a conscious level



Graphic by Jordan Lodge

## *Big Rapids to host free month-long arts festival*

**Megan Smith**  
Ferris State Torch

Throughout the month of February, students are invited to attend a variety of free concerts, performances, workshops and more hosted by the Big Rapids Festival of the Arts (FOTA).

"I wanted people to come together," said Bruce Dilg, chair of the 2015 Festival Board of Directors who started the festival 8 years ago, "and I thought the arts was a vehicle to make that happen. Whether you're a wood-carver, whether you're an opera singer, whether you're an architect, whether you're a painter or dancer, you name it—everybody's involved in art whether they know it or not."

The Board of Directors has been working diligently since

last year to plan and coordinate this year's program. They hope to introduce the community to art in a variety of mediums.

"This year it was a really great experience," said Courtney Gilson-Piercey, a music professor and classically trained singer who is new to the Festival Board this year. "We had a



**Bruce Dilg**  
Chair 2015 FOTA

meeting where we brainstormed all of the different types of art that there were—visual art, musical art, theatre art, literary art, films, things like that—and then

we had a board that had all of these categories designated and we brainstormed events that we could put into each of these categories. Then, from those big, long lists of events, we wanted to pick a cross-section that would appeal to the largest variety of people in the community. We wanted to make sure that we had balance. It was a really fun process to get the juices flowing."

This year, for the first time, events in the festival program are listed not just in chronological order, but also by genre. There are 11 different artistic genres featured, including everything from architecture to cinematic arts to textile and fashion design to music. There will be events to appeal to people of all interests, ages, and artistic skill levels.

While most of the artists fea-

### FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

**JANUARY 30**

Opening Reception feat.  
Honors Art Show

**FEBRUARY 6**

"Advice from Authors"-  
One Act Play Showcase

**FEBRUARY 9**

"Making of an  
Independent Film"

**FEBRUARY 23**

Complete Shakespeare

# Mentor Month Wrapping Up

*Month to celebrate mentors closes with presentation and fun challenge*

**Jennifer Corrie**  
Ferris State Torch

As January comes to an end, Mentor Awareness Month will continue to be recognized with two more events.

On Thursday, Jan. 29 the SCHOLAR Peer Mentor Program will be hosting a guest speaker at the Mentor Appreciation Reception, which will take place at 11 a.m. in University Center 217. Minister Carnel H.L. Richardson, Ferris Alumni and motivational speaker, will be presenting.

To finish the month, mentors and mentees can participate in the "Mentor Bulldog Challenge" on Saturday, Jan. 31. In this challenge the pairs of mentors and mentees will try to locate as many of the bulldog statues around town as they can, take a photo with it and then upload it to the Peer Mentor Program's Facebook page. First place winners will receive a prize.

"The SCHOLAR Peer Mentor Program pairs sophomore, junior and senior student mentors with first-year students-mentees. The program strives to help first-year students meet

their educational goals and make their college experience exciting and fulfilling," said Karen Green-Bay, Director of the SCHOLAR Peer Mentor Program.

According to GreenBay, the type of support given by mentors depends upon the mentee. Mentors can help first-year students navigate the resources available to them on campus, and help them to form relationships with their instructors and academic advisors.

"This is the second year that Mentor Awareness has been recognized campus wide," said GreenBay. "The SCHOLAR Peer Mentor Program has always internally recognized our mentors, but we believe that campus wide recognition is important to emphasize how our mentors contribute valuable time and effort to another student."

Students who are interested in volunteering as a Peer Mentor can do so by completing a mentor application via the SCHOLAR Program website or pick up an application at our office in Arts and Science's Commons room 1021.

"We also have a Facebook Page, Scholar Peer Mentor Pro-



Photo Courtesy of mctcampus.com

Nancy Josephson helps Edgar Ruelas on his algebra homework in her office in Beverly Hills, CA on October 22, 2014.

gram at Ferris State University, where students can obtain immediate information more about what we do," said Green-Bay. "The program has also

scheduled Mentor Workshops in April where prospective mentors may learn more about the program and ask questions."

GreenBay also will be present-

ing on 'Why Mentoring Makes a Difference' at the Academic Support Center-Speaker Series, on Tuesday, March 17.



## Artists featured in the festival will be a mix of both students and professionals

featured in the program are from Ferris or the Big Rapids community, FOTA is also bringing in performers from all over the state of Michigan and even the world, including the Michigan Opera Theatre; Andrei Marek, a master

woodcarver from Romania; and Thirza Defoe, a Native American dancer; and the Grand Rapids Symphony. For the Grand Rapids Symphony concert, FOTA is trying hard to reach out to those in the community who wouldn't

normally have the opportunity to see such a concert. They have teamed up with Dial-A-Ride to create a bus service to pick up people from nursing homes, Our Brothers Keeper homeless shelter and the local WISE shelter.

"I hope [people] find some artistic event or project or culture that they've never seen before—maybe just kind of passed it on the internet, but never really seen it," said Jerena Keys, pastor of the United Church and Board member who has been active in the Big Rapids fine arts community for years. "I hope they find something that can be part of their lives for as long as they live, that they find something that they never knew about, but they 'adopt' it and it becomes part of their life. I'm hoping that will happen only for students

and community members—but for everybody. It's very surprising what people 'adopt' over the years and this is an opportunity for them to do that. It can change your whole life."

This year, FOTA is doubling its efforts to reach out to the FSU



**Courtney Gilson-Piercey**  
Music Professor

ways to connect with students more," said Dilg. "I would love to have more students involved."

FOTA hopes to achieve this through giveaways in the new University Center and increased presence on social media websites. In addition, 18 of the festival's 54 events will take place in various locations on campus for students' convenience.

The first festival event is the Opening Reception, which will take place January 30 in the University Center at 6 p.m. The event will take place in conjunction with the FSU Honors Art Show and the "Disparate Elements: A Steampunk Revolution" exhibit.

Events will take place between January 30 and February 2 and the majority are free to the public. Students can find more information about FOTA including an interactive 2015 program booklet online at their website, [www.brfota.org](http://www.brfota.org).

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## TORCH NEWS BRIEFS

**Ben Rettinhouse**  
News Editor

### Provost visits underway

The search committee for a the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs is underway, and on-campus visits are set this week.

Dr. Michael R. Stevenson came to campus on Jan. 26 and the next opportunity to meet a candidate takes place on Jan. 29 from 10-11:30 pm and 3-4:30 pm.

Dr. Michael Licari will be the candidate visiting on Thursday and his open sessions are in room 203 of the University Center.

### Steampunk exhibit set for Grand Opening

University Center room 205 will host the Fine Art Gallery's Grand Opening Exhibit this week.

On Jan. 30, Steampunk which has been tabbed as "The most popular new trend you've never heard of," will be the opening exhibit in the University Center.

The exhibit entitled "Disparate Elements: A Steampunk Revolution," is open 6:30-9:00 pm on Friday, with 2D and 3D work by national and international artists.

The exhibit will also include Steampunk inspired work by FSU/Kendall student's. Their projects will be on display as well, giving the event an appropriate Ferris connection.

### Mental health awareness headlines Five-Star event

Zeta Tau Alpha will be hosting a Five-Star speaking event with the topic of mental health on the docket.

The event is set for Tuesday, Feb. 3 from 7-9 pm inside Williams Auditorium. The event will feature Ross Szabo.

Szabo served in the Peace Corps in Botswana from 2010-2012, and is an advocate for mental health awareness.

From 2002-2010, Szabo was the Director of Outreach for the National Mental Health Awareness Campaign.

Szabo himself struggled with mental health, as he was diagnosed with Bipolar disorder at age 16. Since he was 17, Szabo has been telling his story to others which he says on his website has helped him achieve mental health.

"Behind Happy Faces," is one of his two keynote presentations and it is used to reduce stigma and empower others to seek help while education about mental health.

# Bow and arrow assault

*A round-up of this week's crime across the FSU campus*

**Ben Rettinhouse**  
News Editor

### Dumped and distraught

Jan. 17, officers received call from distraught individual claiming that their girlfriend had broken up with them.

### Marijuana in Lot 61

Jan. 22 at 9:35 p.m., officers investigated suspicious people in Lot 61, resulting in 2 being ticketed for possession of marijuana.

### Blunts in Bond

Jan. 21 at 9:30 p.m., officers assisted hall staff at Bond on a marijuana complaint. One subject was lodged in the county jail for possession.

### A toke for the road

Jan. 20 at 11 p.m., officers stopped a vehicle on Ives for improper turn. Driver was found to be in possession of what else?-marijuana and was ticketed.

### Police called to hospital

Jan. 20 at 8:20 p.m., officers assisted police with disorderly subject in the waiting room of Spectrum Hospital.

### Complaints of stalking

Jan. 19, officers received complaint of unwanted email contact

from a staff member from off campus. Suspect was identified and warrant was put out.

### Harassment in the halls

Jan. 20 at 12 p.m., officers responded to Travis Hall on a harassment complaint. Suspects were identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

### Illegal trash dumping

Jan. 19 at 1:55 p.m., officers investigated illegal dumping of trash in Finch Ct. One subject

### Harassment accusations

Jan. 16 at 8:15 p.m., subject came to police department complaining of harassment by another student. Victim stated she was never threatened or insulted, the guy just creeped her out. Referred to hall staff.

### Attempted murder by bow

Jan. 16 at 4:29 p.m., officers responded to Apperidge apartments on a call to assist the police and arrested subject for attempted murder of an officer with a compound bow.

### Wild night at UPS

Jan. 18 at 12:18 a.m., officers assisted Sherriff's department with disorderly party (party as in person, not event) at University Park Suites.

### Fleeing on foot

Jan. 17 at 5:50 a.m., officers assisted city police in arrested a subject attempting to flee on foot. Officers pursued in vehicles. Subject didn't get far, was arrested, and lodged in county jail.

### One car collision

Jan. 18 at 9 a.m., officers investigated a one car accident on 205 at Ferris Dr. Driver claimed they lost control of their car and ran into a ditch.



was identified and the incident was forwarded to the prosecutor's office.

### Disorderly in West Campus

Jan. 13 at 8 p.m., officers responded to noise complaint in West Campus. Subject was drunk, went on rampage, broke furniture.

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## CORRECTIONS

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# Supreme Court takes on Gay Marriage

## Students weigh in on the upcoming decision

**Devin Anderson**  
Ferris State Torch

The Supreme Court has decided to take on the issue of gay marriage, combining four existing cases in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee.

The court will hear arguments from these states and rule this spring on the following: Do same-sex couples have the constitutional right to get married? If so, are states required to recognize these marriages?

Same-sex marriage being one of the most controversial social issues of this century, many students and faculty members here at Ferris are hopeful that the court will rule in their favor.

Corey Nichols, a sophomore architecture major from Holly, was excited to hear the news, having struggled because of his lifestyle since he was in high school.

"I'm thrilled at the idea because I could get married in my own state," said Nichols. "I left my home when I was 15 after I came out. I lived in an abusive home. After 5 years, they still don't speak about it."



**Corey Nichols**  
Sophomore, architecture

While Nichols is hopeful, he's still aware of the current political climate in Michigan.

"Michigan is a very conservative state. I feel now that Rick Snyder is back in office, gay marriage is one of his smallest concerns," said Nichols. "His main goal is the economy, not humans."

It is that political climate ex-

actly that could be why Michigan's gay marriage case has become so complicated. Last year, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee had all lifted their bans on same-sex marriage. In Michigan, some 300 gay couples got legally married before a U.S.



**Krystal Karnofsky**  
Ferris State Alumna

Circuit Court decided to uphold all four states' marriage bans, claiming states did not have the authority to decide on matters of the Constitution.

A 2014 Washington Post-ABC News poll indicates that 59% of Americans support allowing gay couples to marry.

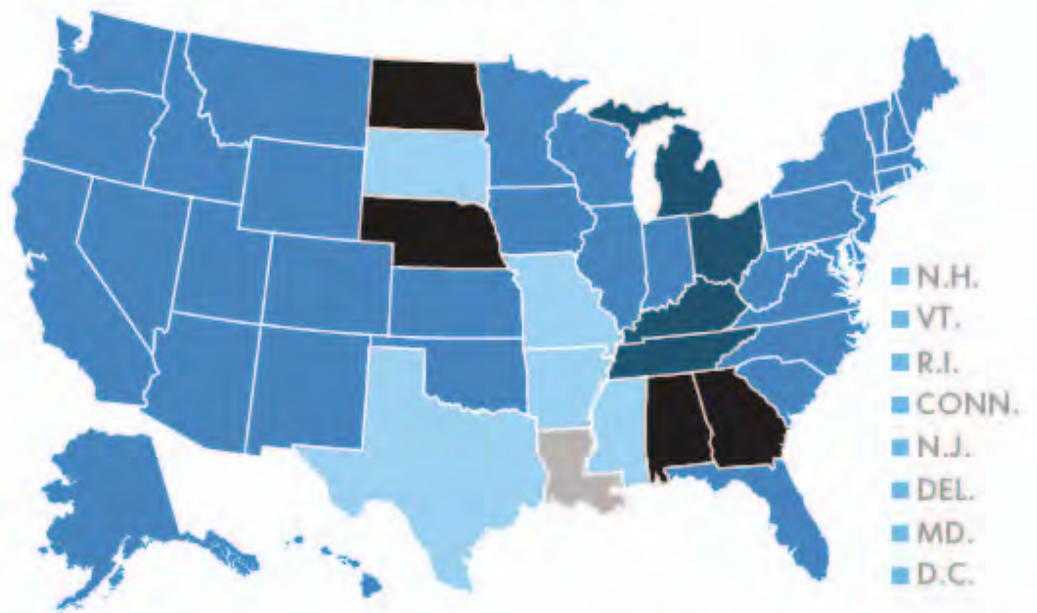
"If they rule against gay marriage, I personally will be sad," said Krystal Karnofsky, a Ferris alum with a degree in Music Industry Management. "This would mean that the Supreme Court doesn't agree with most of the country about allowing same sex couples to marry."

Karnofsky has dealt extensively with the Ferris Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance (D-SAGA). She said that on campus, her lifestyle has generally been accommodated.

"I feel that the LGBT community is properly accepted at Ferris. It has been getting better and better over the years," said Karnofsky. "We are being heard about issues that need to be discussed and worked on here at Ferris. When D-SAGA has events on campus, we are seeing more and more support from not just stu-

## SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LANDSCAPE ACROSS THE U.S.

- Ban same-sex marriage
- Allow same-sex marriage
- Bans struck down, appeals pending
- Appeals court upheld ban
- District court upheld ban



SOURCE: USA TODAY research  
Janet Loerke, USA TODAY

USA TODAY

Photo Taken By: USA Today

This map provided by USA Today headlines the countries in the United States and their stance on gay marriage.

dents but the faculty and staff."

Nichols tends to feel the same level of respect from students and faculty.

"All of the advisors and faculty are strictly professional and seriously don't care," said Nichols. "The ones I do know on a personal level are super cool with it."

Katherine LaPietra is a professor of theater here at Ferris.



Some of the plays and musicals she directs, including "The Laramie Project," have tackled gay rights and homophobia head on.

"What it boils down to is that everyone should be able to love who they want to love and be recognized," said LaPietra. "Why is it a threat? I've never understood that. It doesn't threaten your lifestyle if somebody else lives their life different than you."

"Maybe 10 years from now, it won't be an issue," said LaPietra. "It'll be the issue that people made big that isn't big anymore. Won't that be nice?"

Just last week, a federal court in Montgomery, Alabama struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage, citing that any marriage ban would infringe upon gay couples' equal protection and due process rights.

36 states now have legal same-sex marriage, while the other 14 ban it.

For more information on the upcoming Supreme Court decision go to <http://www.equality-mi.org/marriage> for all the latest news

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# Meet Ana Ramirez-Saenz

## A conversation with your new trustee board member

Ana Ramirez-Saenz began an 8 year term on the Board of Trustees in January.

She was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder. Ramirez-Saenz is CEO and owner of La Fuente Consulting LLC.



President Eisler and a few members of the Board of Trustees.

Photo Courtesy of ferris.edu

**Devin Anderson**  
Ferris State Torch

**Torch- What interests you about committing your time and energy to Ferris State University?**

Ramirez- It was an honor just to be appointed. In terms of looking where Ferris is going and the emphasis they want to have on diversity and inclusion, it was a good opportunity.

**Torch- What kind of work does La Fuente Consulting do?**

Ramirez- La Fuente Consulting has been in business since 2000 and we operate in 3 primary areas. One is strategic planning for diversity and inclusion. I work with executive management and CEO's to help set a vision and strategy for diversity. That is the biggest piece of the business. Another piece is cultural training; doing a lot of diversity and inclusion facilitation. Communicating between multicultural teams and helping them to work better and value the differences that they have. The third piece is translation. We provide

translation and interpreting for the medical, legal and business environment.

**Torch- How do you hope to use your expertise in diversity and inclusion to benefit both the Office of International Education and our diverse student body?**

Ramirez- I think it would be presumptuous of me to think that I would be able to step right in. The first thing would be to learn about the university and learn about what they're doing; what their interests are. Then ask some

questions that would help Ferris to further its efforts. Overall, the long-term goal is hoping to impact the University in terms of their expansion into different communities. Bringing in a more diverse student body and a more diverse faculty.

**Torch- You were appointed by the governor, have you had any contact with him? How did the appointment process work?**

Ramirez- I have had contact with his office and the person that is in charge of managing those appointments, yes. They were

very diligent in terms of making sure the information I needed got to me. It was really pretty easy and painless.

**Torch- When you're not being a board member or running a company, how do you like to relax?**

Ramirez- I like to read. I read a lot of Latin American literature. I attempt to play golf; I'm not very good but I do like it. I'm a bird watcher, so I love doing that. Other than that, just spending time with my family.

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Monday - Thursday	7:30pm - 10:30pm	<b>Holiday Hours</b>		
Friday	5:00pm - 8:00pm	<i>Spring Recess</i>	Saturday March 7 - Sunday March 15	Facility Closed Office Open M-F
Saturday	1:00pm - 6:00pm	<i>Mid-Semester Recess</i>	Thursday April 2 - Sunday April 5	Facility Closed Office open April 2
Sunday	5:00pm - 9:00pm	<i>Exam Week</i>	Monday May 4 - Thursday May 7	7:00am - 8:00pm
<b>Facility</b>		Friday May 8	7:00am - 1:00pm	Office open until 5:00pm
Monday - Thursday	6:00am - 11:00pm			
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# FERRIS STATE TORCH

# LIFESTYLES

This year, with our director on sabbatical, several students have stepped up to direct one-act plays.

**Paul Darnton**  
Ferris State University  
See page 8 for story

## SUCCESS IS COMING HIS WAY

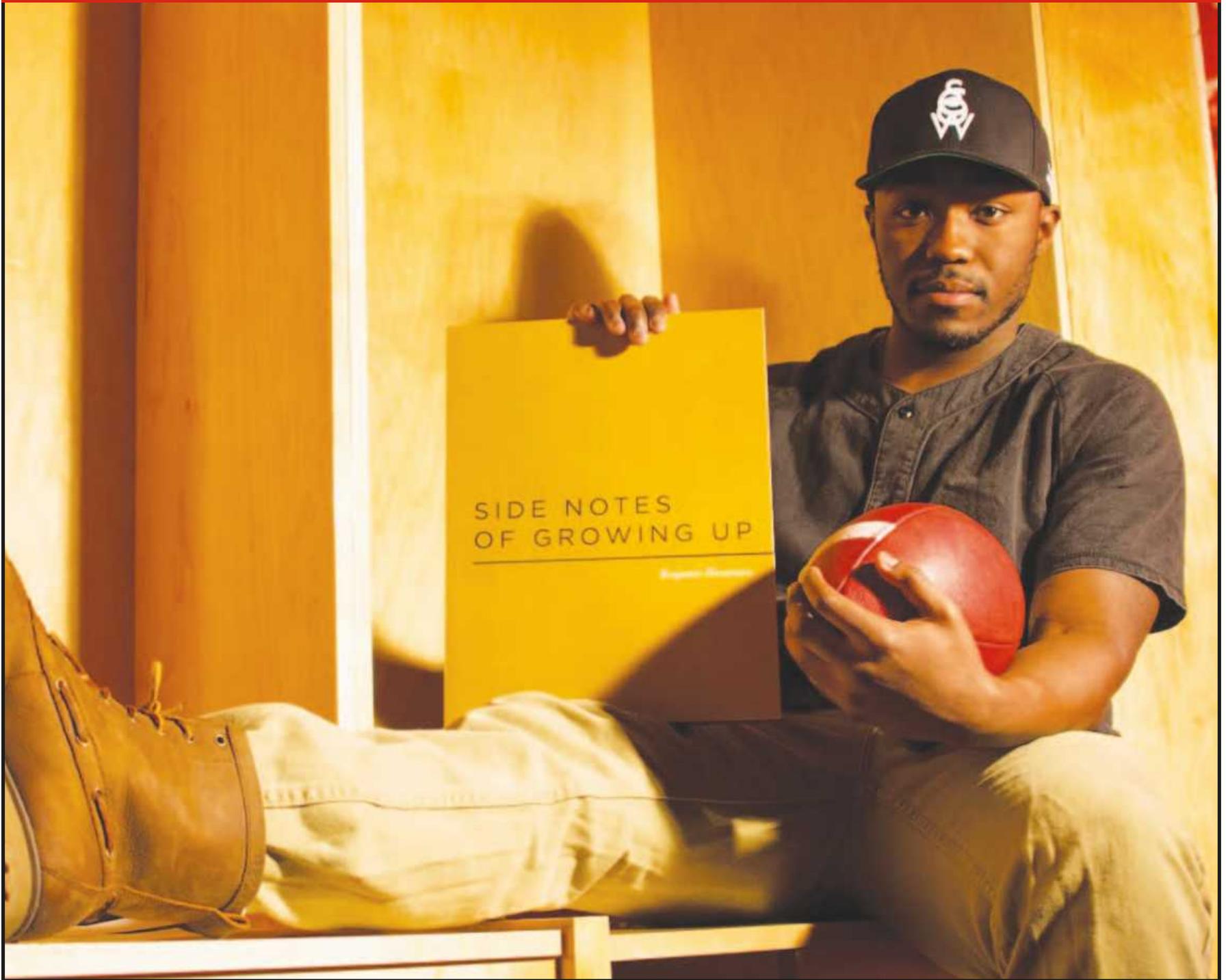


Photo By: Michael A. Corn | photographer

Ferris football player Ben Hinamanu is a published author and an entrepreneur and has yet to graduate college. Hinamanu's slogan, "Success is Comng Our Way," is abbreviated "SCOW," which shows on many of his clothes.

### *Ferris football player doubles as entrepreneur and author*

**Sarah Force**  
Lifestyles Editor

Take a look at what you've accomplished so far in your life. Are you proud?

Most of us probably aren't quite done with our life goals, but one Ferris student is making a killing on his bucket list.

Marketing senior Benjamin Hinamanu came to Ferris on a football scholarship, finding his sweet spot as a running back.

As if moving to a new town, his very first load of college classes, and commitments to football didn't put enough on his plate, Hinamanu decided to take on another chal-

lenge during his freshman year.

He became an entrepreneur, creating his own clothing line called S.C.O.W. (Success is Com-

ing Our Way).

"Authentic growth helped propel it into the right direction," Hinamanu said. "It has room for improvement, but its growth has been genuine and that's the best part to me."

Facing personal hardships in his life, Hinamanu used those obstacles to fuel the in-

spiration behind S.C.O.W.

"Paying attention to the progress around me helped me create something that

hopes to create a community or support system that can help people overcome their own obstacles.

"I simply think that everyone deals with their own trials and tribulations in life," he said, "Why not put that support system into something you can wear around that looks good?"

**Thomas Carlyle**  
Creator of S.C.O.W

According to Hinamanu, his strategy for starting his own business was that of trial and error and asking lots of questions to clothing companies,

friends, and business people.

"It took me a lot of patience to put my pride away and to just put myself and my questions out there publicly," Hinamanu said. "Everyone is somewhat of a competitor, so them helping you could hurt their business."

Criminal Justice junior Ericka Halfmann has had a front row seat to Hinamanu's ambitions and successes for the duration of their seven year long friendship.

"I think that hard work and determination play a huge part in Ben's success, not only with S.C.O.W., but with school and football too!" Halfmann said. "Not taking no for an answer and just pushing forward, even if

"I've got a great ambition to die of exhaustion rather than boredom."

# Breaking the ice

## Black Greek Council members open up about party excitement and expectations

Hailey Klingel  
Ferris State Torch

Providing attendees with good, clean, genuine fun is Black Greek Council's goal with their Spring Ice Breaker.

"I really like how people just come to have fun," Accounting and Computer Information Systems senior and vice president of Black Greek Council Jasmine Davis said. "The purpose of [the Icebreaker] is just for people to get to know each other, have fun, and be safe because it is on campus."

The main difference between this party and an off campus party is the safety factor. And the fact that there's no alcohol, of course. Ferris' Department of Public Safety monitors the party to make sure everything runs smoothly and as planned.

"DPS has their magnetometer, which prevents weapons and you can't bring in a bottle or Gatorade or anything like that," said Davis. "There's no alcohol at all. We really just socialize."

Because the Ice Breaker is on campus, students who don't have cars can attend and not worry about getting back to their dorms or apartments. Usually, the Ice Breaker is held at the Sports Complex, but this year's will take place in the University Center.

"I'm excited to be able to use the new University Center facility," Business Administration senior and BGC president Tamira Owens said. "My favorite thing about Ice Breaker is being able to see everyone dressing up outside of their everyday clothes and really just having everyone all together dancing and smiling."

According to Davis, DPS recommended that this year's Ice Breaker be held in the University Center because there are a lot of hazards with holding it in the Sports Complex, especially in the winter.

"The University Center is the safest way, really," said Davis. "I think the only thing that's scary about [having the party in the UC] is that we're the first party and obviously we don't want to mess up anything. But, I mean, I'm excited to have it here."

According to Davis, BGC members from Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, Michigan State University, and Oakland University are expected to come to Ferris. Davis estimated that around 300 people would attend, which will produce a decent profit for BGC.

"This past weekend I actually went to Central because they were having an Ice Breaker," said



Submitted Photo

Members of the Black Greek Council, pose for a photo in the new University Center.

Davis. "A couple of us went and we just travel as a way of supporting their parties. We like to go there and support other schools so they can support ours."

The Semi-Annual Ice Breaker will be held on Jan. 30 at 10 p.m. in the University Center. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Anyone with questions

can contact Jasmine Davis at [davisj73@ferris.edu](mailto:davisj73@ferris.edu).

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## Hinamanu is currently working with a publisher to have his work distributed globally

all odds are against him is what got him where he's at today and what will help him continually succeed in all that he does."

Not only is Hinamanu now the founder of a popular clothing line, he became a published author on his 21st birthday.

*Side Notes of Growing Up* was published on Jun. 18, 2014 by Schuler Bookstore. Hinamanu is currently working on a contract with Schuler that will allow the book to be distributed in 39,000 different bookstores across the world.

"Growing up and growing old are two things I learned the hard way," Hinamanu said. "This book defines my understanding of what it means to experience things in life and take away a deeper understanding of everything."

*Side Notes of Growing Up* discusses topics like communication and patience in relationships to allow progress to naturally occur.

"Re-appreciating people and what they offer has always been something I tried to put into words," Hinamanu said. "Finally verbs, nouns, and adjectives came together and let people understand my mind and my sense

of empathy towards the world."

The inspiration behind *Side Notes of Growing Up* was simply adding positivity.

"Knowing that my generation's progress in the world was limited by the amount of people that were dedicated to having a voice made me want to write," Hinamanu said.

Like many people that get to

line that you can hardly go anywhere without seeing someone wearing. Then, he has to put football, school, and friends on top of all of that, and I think he does a good job of balancing them. It just goes to show not only how hardworking he is, but also how determined he is to reach his dreams and shoot for the stars."

Hinamanu keeps a strict schedule to balance being a college student, football player, an author, and an entrepreneur with his own clothing line.

"There is a quote I always repeat in my head whenever I'm running on two or three hours of sleep," Hinamanu said. "I've got a great ambition to die of exhaustion rather than boredom by Thomas Carlyle."

Hinamanu is currently working on his second book, *Scare Me, August*, which will also be made into a movie.

"Getting my degree next fall, winning a national championship with my brothers on the football team, writing books, making movies, and helping S.C.O.W. grow to new heights are my goals this year," Hinamanu said. "I'm turning 22 in June, and I'm far from bored in life."

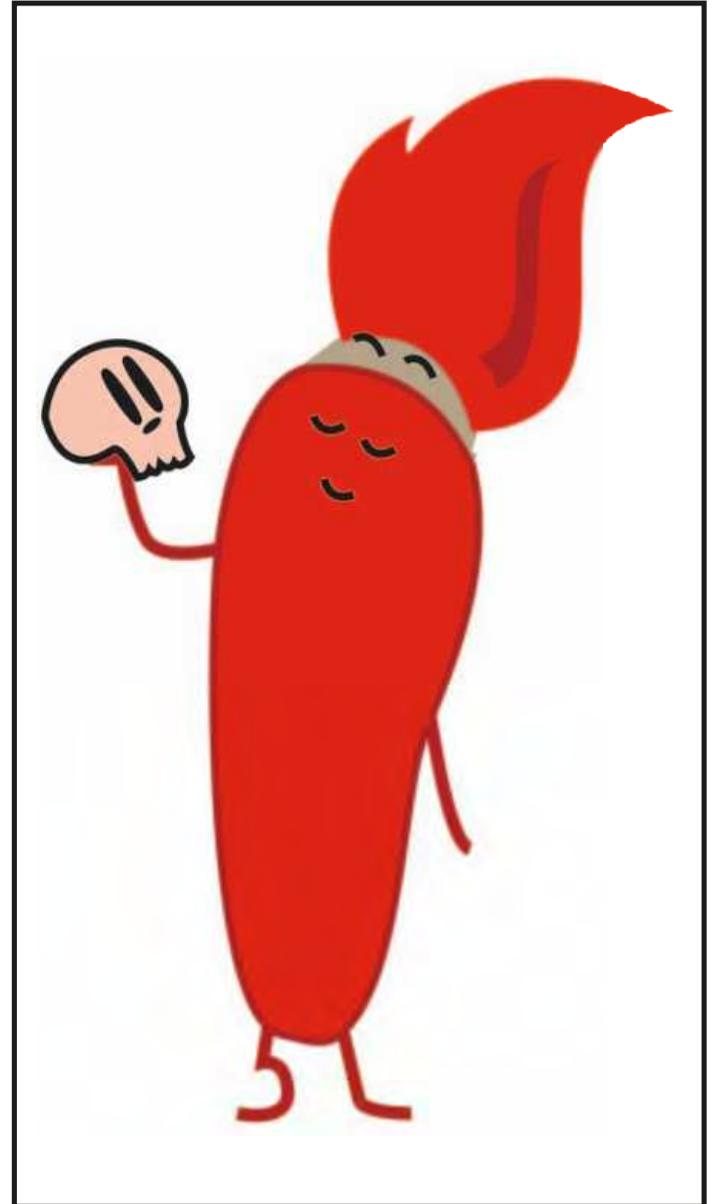
know Hinamanu's story, Halfmann is amazed at the hard work and responsibility her friend takes on, despite being in college.

"I think that all of his achievements are awesome," Halfmann said. "Not many people at the age of 21 can say they have a book that's being sold by Schuler's or be able to say they have a clothing



# Love, Life & Death

## Ferris State Theater to hold auditions for upcoming play



Graphic by Jordan Lodge

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**Kelsey George**  
Ferris State Torch

Everybody's got their niche. For some, it could be dancing, painting, or running. For the Ferris students in the FSU Theater group, their calling is acting.

FSU Theater is an unofficial club on campus composed of students who share a mutual love of the theater, whether it be singing, acting, directing, or working behind the scenes.

If you've got an itch to get up on stage, FSU Theater is holding auditions for their unique, entirely student-driven upcoming play, *Love Life & Death*.

"This year, with our director on sabbatical, several students have stepped up to direct one-act plays," English BA senior and student director of *Love Life & Death* Paul Darnton.

These student directors include Devin Anderson, Isaac Wilson, Corey Nichols, and Darnton himself.

"*Love, Life and Death* is an anthology of four short plays, the longest running slightly over 40 minutes and the shortest ending around 20 minutes," Elementary Education junior

Isaac Wilson said. "The first two plays will take place during the first half, then the intermission, and the last two plays."

The series of plays vary from an experimental thriller to comedic drama that will surely give the audience a rollercoaster of a night.

Auditions for *Love, Life and Death* will be held January 27 and 28; callbacks if needed will be the 29.

*Love, Life and Death* will be Wilson's 6th production as a part of FSU Theater.

"My first play as part of the group was *Legally Blonde*, I played the role of Warner," Wilson said.

The group usually does a musical production in the fall, and a more serious, dramatic play in the spring.

"I've always been a theater kid," Darnton said. "When I came to Ferris, I knew that I wanted to be a part of the theater community here. I've really connected with everyone in the group, and with a bit of luck, have made some lifelong friends."

*Love, Life, & Death* is set to premiere on Thursday, March 26 and running until the 29.



# Media Minute

## The Interview



Photo courtesy of mctcampus

The interview featuring Seth Rogen and James Franco is available for streaming on Netflix, iTunes and YouTube



**Ben Rettinhouse**  
News Editor

I saw a film last week...oh boy.

Seth Rogen and James Franco's "The Interview" proved not to be the cinematic "little engine that could" when theater owners pulled the film from screens nationwide. However, the movie was shortly after released via streaming and purchase from YouTube, leading this critic to label it "the little movie that shouldn't have."

I refuse to believe that fiasco caused by this movie is the work of a few brilliant marketing folks over at Sony who knew that making this film

a forbidden fruit as it would be the only way "The Interview" would maintain its relevancy past opening weekend. After all, patriotic duty was the only way I was ever going to invest either time or money into this.

Everybody involved in this should feel a significant level of shame. Sony for thinking this was a good idea, Rogen and Franco for thinking this was funny, and Kim Jong-Un

for thinking this was even worth paying attention to. In short, this movie is unfunny and boring. So let's talk about politics.

Is it right to allow a movie about assassinating a head of state—a comedy, no less—if the person in question is someone we don't like. Thought experiment: if North Korea made a comedy about assassinating Barack Obama what would the discussion be? I mean, hey, they're entitled to free speech to, no? No? Okay then, whatever you say.

# Modern love

## Tinder and dating apps aren't ruining romance



**Hailey Klingel**  
Ferris State Torch

Today I got on Twitter and saw a rant about how social media and Tinder are killers of genuine love and courtship. One of the quotes included was this: "We can order up a human being in the same way we can order up pad thai on Seamless."

Well, yes—but only if that human being wants to be ordered up.

To get some perspective, here's a quick example of how Tinder works. If I had an account, I would open up the app and would be shown a picture (or pictures) of a guy who is also using Tinder somewhere geographically close to me. I would be provided with the last time he was on Tinder, how many miles away he is, his name, age, and a short bio he wrote himself.

If I decided he wasn't for me, I would swipe left and a huge "NOPE" would appear on his face and I'd be presented with another candidate. If I liked what I saw, I would swipe right. If he came across me on Tinder and also swiped right, we would both get a notification that we were a "match" and then could message each other on the app.

This dating app faces a lot of criticism, and I'm here in defense of Tinder and similar apps.

To me, Tinder's greatest asset is that it's based on mutual interest. Users have to give their permission for conversation by swiping right before their matches get the chance to talk to them. No more creepy, one-sided "Hey ;)" messages like the ones that appear in your Facebook inbox from a guy you went to middle school with and haven't seen in six years. Sometimes Tinder matches do take it too far (Google "creepy Tinder conversations" if you want a good laugh), but not replying is always a viable option.

Tinder often gets judged for its shallowness based on the fact that the only information provided generally focuses on the surface level features of a person. I read an article today written by *Catfish* creator Nev Schulman in which he said, "Tinder basically ensures that the only thing you have in common with your 'match' is owning smartphones and being in the general proximity. Oh, and maybe being DTF."

So what? Tinder's tagline is "It's how people meet." It's not promising anything else.

It's probably not the best method of online dating for those whose goal is to find a real relationship (though it does happen sometimes).

Users know damn well what they're getting into when they start swiping left or right.

*Forbes* estimated that 50 million people use Tinder a month and 15 million matches are made each day. The app is projected to make \$75 million in 2015. It's not going anywhere. I'm not advocating that everyone gets Tinder and utilizes it. I'm just saying that it might be time to stop blaming Tinder and the likes for their lack of genuine romance when their purpose isn't to find you your future husband or wife.

The best-case scenario with Tinder? You get a confidence boost, kill some time in an entertaining way, talk to some interesting people, and maybe go on a few dates—some of which might lead to something more.

The worst-case scenario? James, the smokin' hot 22-year-old who loves to hike and play lacrosse won't stop messaging you asking if you want your muffin buttered. Life could be much worse.

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# SPORTS

“We’re still just attacking it the best way we know how and thinking about the next game.”

**Andy Bronkema**  
Men’s basketball head coach  
See below for story

## MENS BASKETBALL

# Fight for first



Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

Junior point guard Dietrich Lever leads the men’s basketball team up the court. Lever and the Dawgs won and lost a contest during their two game weekend set.

## Coach future?



**Keith Salowich**  
Sports Editor

Following a wildly successful 11-1 season, Head Football Coach Tony Annese has garnered national attention, potentially including the attention of a neighboring Division I college with a vacant head coaching position.

The days leading up to National Signing Day, which is February 4, are generally comparative to the calm before a storm. However, when longtime Central Michigan Head Coach Dan Enos resigned on Jan. 22, the storm began early for CMU and the suitors who may be looking to take Enos’ spot, and Annese could be among them.

Of course, no list of candidates has been officially drafted, and the university has been careful to not leak any information until the hiring becomes official. However, various news outlets around the state of Michigan claim that Annese is in the running with the likes of Tennessee Offensive Coordinator Mike Bajakian and Virginia Offensive Coordinator Scot Loeffler.

Media outlets have discussed former University of Michigan Head Football Coach Brady Hoke as a possible candidate as well.

Of the 128 head coaches in Division I football, Enos was the 119th highest paid, raking in \$360,000 last season according to USA Today Sports.

According to the university, Annese made \$94,908 dollars in 2013. Assuming that Central would pay their next coach similar salary to what they paid Enos, Annese would roughly quadruple his salary if he were to take the job.

Central Michigan was used as a Launchpad for former Grand Valley State Head Coach Brian Kelly, who coached at CMU from 04-06 before moving on to the University of Cincinnati, and then to his current job as head coach of Notre Dame. Annese received a Masters Degree from Central Michigan, and has a nephew named Tony Annese on the team as well.

Having taken over the helm of the Bulldogs’ coaching staff in 2012 and leading them to three increasingly successful seasons with 7-4, 8-3 and 11-1 records respectively, Annese has built an impressive résumé at Ferris.

Annese had a similar tenure at Grand Rapids Community College, where he coached for three years and finished his final season with an undefeated 11-0 regular season record, just as he

## FSU and SVSU set to square off

**Keith Salowich**  
Ferris State Torch

Since the beginning of the season, the Bulldogs and Cardinals of Saginaw Valley State have been battling for supremacy over the Northern Division and the GLIAC throne.

Both teams have had seemingly parallel seasons thus far, as they raced to an unbeaten 11-0 conference record before both losing on the same night to drop that record to 11-1. However, unlike parallel lines,

these teams are scheduled to meet on Jan. 31 to finally settle who will stand atop the GLIAC.

After a rocky season last year, the Bulldogs have made a seemingly miraculous turnaround. They’ve already topped their overall record of 10-16 last year, and there are still plenty of games to be played to further improve that record.

“We really weren’t that far off last year, so this year we’ve just tweaked a few things, brought a few guys back from injury and we’ve been doing some re-

ally great things on the court,” says Head Basketball Coach Andy Bronkema. “It doesn’t feel much different to lose ten in a row last season and now win fifteen in a row this season. We’re still just attacking it the best way we know how and thinking about the next game.”

The Cardinals also suffered through a comparably poor season last year, posting an overall record of 9-17, which included a pair of losses to the Bulldogs. Yet just as the Bulldogs managed to improve dramati-

cally his year, so too has SVSU.

“It’s nice to win, but in reality we’ve still got a lot of conference games to go, and here in the North Division it’s just going to keep getting tougher,” says junior forward Jared Stolicker.

There is a good chance that Stolicker had SVSU on the mind as he considered stiff competition within the Bulldog’s division.

In addition to Ferris State’s win total being on the rise from last season, fan attendance for Bulldog home games has also been increasing with the team’s success.

See Basketball on Page 12

### FSU VS SVSU Basketball Statistics

Overall Record	15-3	14-3
Points per game	79.4	75.7
3-point percentage	35.6%	32.3%
Total rebounds per game	38.8	34.2
Assists per game	17.3	15.2
Steals per game	9.7	9.4

See Annese on Page 11

# Round two

Men's hockey plays MNSU again



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | Photographer

Sophomore forward Kyle Schempp battles against Lake Superior State.

**Keith Salowich**  
Sports Editor

The Ferris State men's hockey team has a tough road trip ahead of them this weekend. After having last weekend off, the Bulldogs should be well and rested as they travel 518 miles to Mankato, MN to take on the Minnesota State Mavericks for the third and fourth time in a row this season. Two weekends ago, the Bulldogs fell to the Mavericks 2-1 on Friday and 3-1 on Saturday night against the No. 1 ranked Minnesota State

team. Kyle Schempp scored both goals for the Bulldogs in the series, but one goal in each game was just not enough to best the Mavericks. Minnesota State had games this past Friday and Saturday against Minnesota, who they beat 4-2, and Bemidji State, who they fell to by a 3-1 margin, so that could factor in to how the games will go this next weekend. Sophomore forward Kyle Schempp said, "Having a weekend off is always nice because it gives the guys rest and more preparation leading up to the games. Even though MSU is play-

See **Hockey** on Page 12

# Court to Court

Hess finds success on both basketball and volleyball court

**Keith Salowich**  
Sports Editor

Dual-sport athletes in high school are commonplace, but in college they're practically unheard of. However, senior Kara Hess has suited up and served as a team captain for the Bulldogs on both the volleyball and basketball court. "I spent my first two years playing just volleyball, then in my junior year I played both volleyball and basketball," Hess said. "After that I decided to make the switch to just basketball in my senior year, and now this is my 'super senior' year and I'm playing basketball again, so I ended up spending three years doing each."

Hess' passion for multiple sports began in high school, where she stood out in every sport she could possibly participate in. "In high school I always played the big three sports, which were volleyball, basketball and softball. I always had this really big passion for basketball, but when I got recruited at Ferris I was only recruited for volleyball," says Hess. "Even though I had a great time playing volleyball, I really missed basketball. During my junior year, Coach Colleen came in and she allowed me to join the basketball team. After that, my heart stuck with basketball."

The life of a Division II student-athlete can get hectic when they attempt to balance a demanding practice schedule with a full class load, but the obligations are amplified when the athlete participates in multiple sports. Yet Hess, saw her schedule as structured rather than stressful.

"It was definitely a lot of practice time, but to be honest, I think it actually helped to structure my life even more. I knew exactly when I had practice and where I needed to be, and it ended up being one of my best

years here at school," Hess said.

Instead of spending her remaining three years of eligibility playing both sports, Hess opted to switch to just basketball for a variety of reasons.

"I made the switch because I'm the type of person who likes to give 100% to whatever it is that I'm doing, and at that point in my career in volleyball I wasn't playing a ton and I didn't want to be that girl on the sideline holding people back, so I committed to giving everything to basketball rather than splitting up my effort between the two," Hess said.

Being away from the basketball court for so long may have forced Hess to shake the rust off of her jump shot, but experience on the volleyball court may have also given her an edge over her competitors who practice only one sport.

"Having already been a junior and a captain on the volleyball team when I made the switch, I think my leadership qualities and will to work hard carried over easily to the basketball team," says Hess. "A lot of people think that volleyball isn't a very tiring sport, but that ball is coming at you pretty fast, so there is a lot of quick motion and footwork involved. So I think my quickness in volleyball helped me out on the basketball court too."

Hess and the rest of the Bulldogs are currently sitting on a 6-6 conference record and are chasing Northern Michigan for fourth place in the GLIAC's North Division. They will next

see action at home against Hillsdale, who is also 6-6 in conference play. Tipoff is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. in Wink Arena.



**ANNESE from Page 10**  
**CMU job**

did with the Bulldogs in 2014. After his three years at GRCC, Annese travelled 55 miles to reach Ferris State and jump to the Division II level. The trip from Ferris State to CMU and Division I is even shorter, and it just might be a trip that Annese makes in the coming days.

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BASKETBALL from Page 10

## FSU and SVSU are sharing the top spot in the conference

Last year, the average attendance for Ferris State home games was 769 people. Now, in the Bulldogs' last two home games, 1,150 and 1,300 fans packed the arena.

"It's great to see a big crowd at home. We've been dreaming of getting it rolling so that we can pack the house every day for every game. People have been enjoying our team because they share a piece of it," says Bronkema. "These aren't just people in the crowd,

they're fellow students, community members and friends, so we really appreciate the crowd."

Ferris State has one more conference foe to get through before reaching SVSU, as they host Hillsdale College in Wink Arena at 8:00 p.m. tomorrow. Following that game, they will head to Saginaw to tipoff at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday.



Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

Freshman guard Drew Cushingberry makes a move at the top of the key. Cushingberry has provided a scoring touch off the bench this season.



HOCKEY from Page 11

## Bulldogs take on Minnesota State for second time

ing this weekend we know they will be ready to play and we will have to be as well."

The Bulldogs have had some woes on the offensive side of the puck this year, scoring just 12 goals in their last eight games. The team went 2-6 in that stretch, with both wins and over half of those goals coming against Alaska-Anchorage where Ferris scored four and three goals.

When asked what the team needs to improve on to beat the Mavericks this weekend, sophomore forward Gerald Mayhew said, "We need to score more goals, we can't win by scoring only one goal a game."

The Bulldogs are trying to improve their 11-13-1 record against a 19-5-1

Minnesota State team. The Mavericks have lost just two games in their last 17.

Ferris came close to dethroning the No. 1 team two weekends ago. The Bulldogs led Minnesota State 1-0 for most of the game until the Mavericks responded with 3 straight goals in the final 13:02 of the game. The Bulldogs will try their best to finish strong on Friday and Saturday.

Kyle Schempp said, "To come out on top we just have to compete hard for 60 minutes. We did a pretty good job of that last time around, but we just came up a little short."

The puck will drop at 7:07 p.m. on both Jan. 30 and 31 at the Verizon Wireless Center in Mankato, MN.

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# All I'm saying is...

**Justin Aiken**  
 Ferris State Torch

The Ferris State men's basketball team is 18 games into their season. Eighteen games in which 15 wins were rattled off right in a row. Pretty impressive for the nationally ranked Bulldogs.

Despite the loss on Saturday afternoon to the Lake Superior State Lakers, the Dawgs are still poised for a share of the GLIAC lead with Saginaw Valley State. Both teams post an 11-1 conference record, with a face-off between the two looming on Jan. 31 in Saginaw.

With the match-up in sight for the Bulldogs, it's important for this team to not look too far ahead

and to focus on the task at hand, which first comes a showdown at home against Hillsdale on Jan. 29. Hillsdale has been a middle of the pack team so far this season, posting a 9-7 overall record which includes a GLIAC record of 7-5, which is tied for fifth in the conference.

After a tough loss Saturday to the Lakers and a huge matchup against Saginaw Valley State this weekend, it can be easy to overlook games like Thursday evenings. If the Dawgs want any chance of a GLIAC Championship this season, one like the football team and volleyball teams took home this fall, looking ahead to Saturday is something that will have to wait until after the decision on Thursday.

The good thing for the Bulldogs, leadership has been a huge

portion of the team's success so far this season. With that leadership, I don't think the Bulldogs will have any problems staying focused on the ultimate goal. With senior leadership like guard Drew Lehman brings, and the focus and passion to execute to perfection that head coach Andy Bronkema brings, this team should have no problem finding success in the upcoming contests.

All I'm saying is, focus will be key for the Ferris State men's basketball team from this point of the season and on. The team has proved they have the talent and determination to win a GLIAC Championship, now they just have to go out there and get it. Night after night, go out and execute to bring another GLIAC Championship back to Big Rapids.

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# Sports Shorts

**Keith Salowich**  
Sports Editor

### Track & Field Compete at Aquinas Invite

The men and women of the Ferris State track & field teams suited up for the second time this season to take part in the Aquinas Invitational held in Grand Rapids.

The Bulldogs men's team took home third place with 100 points in the meet. Running strong for the Bulldogs was Damonta Madden who took first place in both the 60-meter dash and the 200 meters. Ryan Stankey also finished first in the shot put with teammate Ross Miller just behind him in second place.

The women earned 56 points, thanks in part to Rachel Long and Maycee Robinson who took first and second place in the weight throw. Breeann Ovokaitys also finished ahead of the crowd, winning the mile run.

The teams' next action will take place at Saginaw Valley State this weekend, as the events span both Friday and Saturday.

### Bulldog Squads Split at Home

Both the men and women's basketball teams had home games against Northwood and LSSU this past week. The women split the two games, first losing to Northwood 84-60, and then topping LSSU 62-55.

Meanwhile, the men's team defeated Northwood 84-78 before having their train derailed when they met Lake Superior State, who stymied a Bulldog comeback attempt and won 69-67 to end a 16-game winning streak. Despite the conference loss, the men's team still holds a share of the number one spot in the GLIAC thanks to Saginaw Valley State, who also lost their first conference game last Saturday.

Both Bulldog teams will play at home against Hillsdale tomorrow, before hitting the road to take on Saginaw Valley State on Jan. 31.

### Four Dawgs Recognized by GLIAC

Each term, the GLIAC recognizes both athletic prowess and academic achievement by compiling a list of six male and female student-athletes to grant the GLIAC Commissioner's Award. Ferris State University had the most award recipients, with four winners sporting crimson and gold jerseys.

Receivers of the award, were junior libero Danielle Dowd and junior hitter Alexis Huntey of the Bulldog volleyball team, along with junior defensive end Justin Zimmer and junior quarterback Jason VanderLaan of the football team.

The same honor will be awarded to 12 student-athletes following the spring season as well.

# Top Dawg



Photo courtesy of FSU photo services

Bulldog #21, Drew Lehman tears up the court earlier this season against Tiffin. Lehman is the team leader in points, and recently scored his 1,000th career point as a Dawg.

**Marshall Scheldt**  
Ferris State Torch

The Ferris State Men's basketball team went 1-1 this past week, falling to Lake Superior State to put a halt to their 16-game win streak.

The Bulldogs were given a great performance in both conference games by senior guard Drew Lehman, who dropped 28 points in a victory over GLIAC opponent Northwood University on Thursday night. The six-foot guard

from Toledo, Ohio had 6 assists and 2 steals to go along with his 28 points. Lehman nearly tied his season high of 29 points, which he scored in games against Bowling Green State and Quincy University earlier in the season.

The Bulldog's experienced their first conference loss of the season in a 69-67 game against Lake Superior State on Saturday. Lehman put up another great performance in the game, scoring 18 points to go along with

8 rebounds and 8 assists in the game. The senior guard was the team's leading scorer in both games last week.

The Bulldogs will be hoping that Lehman can keep up his numbers as they face conference foe Hillsdale College at home this Thursday, and travel to play an 11-1 Saginaw Valley State team who shares the top spot in the conference with the Bulldogs on Saturday.

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# OPINIONS

"The contents of the massive cardboard box in front of the College of Business doorway have eluded me for too long."

**Devin Anderson**  
Ferris State Torch  
See page 16 for story

## FERRIS STATE TORCH

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## Wings

**Harrison Watt**  
Editor-in-Chief

Jason VanderLaan wants his wings, and he wants them now.

This is my 200th career story as a member of the Torch, and while I could write something profound and meaningful, I'm going to attack this in the way a 240 pound quarterback would attack a plate of barbecue chicken wings: With great passion (and general hilarity).

For those of you that don't remember, the Westview Dining facility in the old Rankin University Center hosted "Wing Night." The chicken wings attracted students from far and wide, and Jason VanderLaan misses the tradition.

The man is 6'4" and 240 pounds. He is arguably the greatest football player in Ferris State history. He is certainly one of the more physically impressive.

In the last month, VanderLaan has been recognized as the best player in the nation at the Division II level as he brought in the Harlon Hill trophy, the Division II equivalent of the Heisman.

WBBL came to Ferris to broadcast their morning show on January 23, where VanderLaan admitted the only thing wrong with the brand new University Center was the lack of the continuance of Wing Night.

The building is gorgeous, and far more navigable than the old Rankin Center.

VanderLaan brings good publicity to Ferris. He's a great football player, and in my experiences a better man. He's an NCAA record holder. Ferris should consider naming the school record book after Jason.

In Division I football, Jameis Winston and Johnny Manziel dominated headlines over the last few years.

Unlike Manziel, you don't have to worry about VanderLaan being a team-first player. Unlike, Winston, you don't have to worry about VanderLaan stealing chicken wings.

Like Moses and the Pharaoh, I imagine Jason standing in front of the Timme Center commanding President Eisler to "Let my B-Dubs go!"

(Disclaimer, the wings are not from B-Dubs, but it sounded better than "Let my wings go.")

So kudos to Jason, for leading us into the battle for our freedom to eat delicious chicken wings in the University Center.

# Heart of Ferris

## Reflection of the changed Ferris Campus



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | photographer

The new University Center opened earlier this month to rave reviews.



**Roxanne Cullen**  
Guest Writer

The University Center. It is just that, a central point on the campus, the hub around which things revolve, a focal or pivotal point, encased in a beautifully and thoughtfully designed building that is a physical tribute to our university goals of community and collaboration. Last week after my 11:00 o'clock class in FLITE I decided to just swing through the new building on my way back to my office in ASC. I had seen some of the video footage that had been posted, but that doesn't really do it justice. A photograph can't capture the energy and you feel when you enter the building. I stopped at one of the food courts to grab something to eat and the young man behind the counter smiled sheepishly and said "This is my first day." I smiled back and said "me too!" Everyone was still exploring the space and taking in the lovely design features.

The combination of glass, wood, stone and other natural elements like the birch trees that form the entrance to the dining area creates a sense of seamlessness between the outdoors and the indoors, though on that cold January day, the fireplaces provided a welcome distance from the sub-zero weather. The designers also incorporated thoughtful pieces of Ferris history like the corner stone from Masselink Hall and other remnants of Ferris structures.

I have been part of the Ferris

community since 1983 and what a different campus we have become in that time. Each new building, the creative landscaping along with features like the Art Walk have contributed to a friendlier more student-centered campus. When I arrived here in 1983 there were no outdoor seating areas; there was no main entrance to the campus; there were no signs to help one navigate the campus because there was only one road through campus. Commuters had to gather in a dark lounge area at the end of the second floor hallway in the Starr building, an area that eventually had to be taken from them when additional office space was needed, leaving them virtually nowhere to congregate. The Rankin Center needed renovation thirty years ago! While located centrally, there was never anything that was very inviting or convenient about the space. Our colleagues in Student Affairs have been very patient waiting for this renovation.

To call it a renovation may technically be true, but the entire structure feels brand new. My husband, the other Dr. Cullen, had a meeting scheduled in the Center a few days after I had first been there. He had not yet visited and asked if the room he was going to was where the Dome

Room was. I just laughed out loud. I told him that he would not be able to tell where the old rooms were, that he had a totally new experience awaiting him.

That first day when I was finding my way around unfamiliar territory, I ran into several of my students who were eating lunch. They asked me to join them, which I did. For me, having an inviting space where I can meet with my students on an informal basis is perhaps the greatest benefit of all. Over the years we have come to understand the importance of the student experiences outside of the classroom and the role those experiences play on student learning inside the classroom as well as the impact on things like student retention. This new space goes a long way toward recognizing in a very visible way the big picture of student life and the many facets that make up the Ferris community.

I think it is very fitting that at the end of this month, the kick off for the annual month-long Festival of the Arts will be held in the new Center with the program "Disparate Elements: A Steampunk Revolution" featuring international artists alongside student and faculty work and community artists. The new University Center is a space that invites this kind of collaboration and offers us comfortable and engaging spaces in which to interact and build community.

### About the Writer

Roxanne Cullen is a professor of Language and Literature and currently serves as program coordinator for Liberal Arts and Bachelor of Integrative Studies.



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# What's in the box?!

*The contents of the mysterious package in the IRC*



Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

Marketing junior Ashley Soller walks by the box that has been mysteriously placed inside the IRC, where it has been since the first semester, apparently untouched.

We've been walking by it in the IRC for months now. I estimate you could fit six people comfortably inside of it. The contents of the massive cardboard box in front of the College of Business doorway have eluded me for too long. The question that's plaguing all of us is: What's in the box?

Some days, the box makes me angry. Other days, I'm filled with imaginative wonder about what the university purchased that is really THAT BIG. Whatever actually is in the box must be

of great importance. I am taking it upon myself as a journalist to uncover Ferris' greatest mystery. Time to do some "investigative journalism." I believe I deserve a few guesses.

My first guess: A jacuzzi for the exclusive use of students in the College of Business. Those big gaps we have in between classes will soon be filled with relaxation and enjoyment. That's right, business majors. Next time you suit up for a stressful day in class, remember



your swim suits underneath.

My next (even more probable) guess: The box will soon open to reveal yet another Starbucks. You might be thinking, "that's ridiculous because we already have two of those on campus." Think again, my friend. The only thing better than two overpriced coffee shops is three of them.

My final guess: Inside of the box is the cryogenically frozen body of Walt Disney himself. Acquiring Disney's body would be a huge expense to the university, but a justified one. Mr. Disney will likely emerge from the box in the near future and begin work on a new theme park here in Big Rapids.

Now, jokes aside. In all likelihood, it's a printer. Not even 3D, just a plain old printer. It may be useful to note that four additional, much smaller boxes have

since appeared on top of the big one. What could these be?

Five days a week, I walk by these packages and in truth, I wonder most about how much bubble-wrap will be inside. Maybe packing peanuts? Administrators, hear me now: Whatever you do, don't just throw away the boxes and bubble-wrap. Let my fellow classmates and I enjoy ourselves, for popping bubble-wrap is one of life's few guiltless pleasures.



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