

FERRIS STATE TORCH

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October 8, 2014

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Check out The Torch online for a recap following Ferris' game against Michigan University.

REAL TALK WITH TJ MILLER

The homecoming performer's exclusive Torch interview

Devin Anderson
Ferris State Torch

T.J. Miller was soaking wet by the end of his performance at the Homecoming Comedy Show. The absurdist comedian closed his set by emptying a bottle of water, or "facial spray," on himself. See, it's hard to know what to expect from T.J. Miller. He's devoted to "the absurdity of it all."

When the Torch first reached out for an interview before the show, Miller wasn't around; his voicemail greeting confidently joked "You should have confidence today because you look great and you should feel great, because you are great." Miller eventually called back and his kindness over the phone made me wonder if the voicemail greeting was a joke after all.

Torch: What's it like playing at a college as opposed to a traditional comedy club?

T.J. Miller: Well, you know... They're all stupid. They're all in their early 20s so I really try to dumb it down and only use single syllable words. But really, it's Michigan, so it feels to me like it's going to be hardworking, smart, down-to-earth people. So it's good, but I'm an absurdist so it's really a gamble wherever I go.

Torch: The comedy show is in celebration of homecoming week. Do you have any interesting homecoming memories

T.J. Miller: Well, I went to a ghetto high school in Denver. So our homecoming theme was "players club pres-

ents: red light special" and I wore like a fubu vest and saggy jeans. But they had metal detectors and shit so my homecoming was not exactly a pep parade. More like "lets make sure there are no guns here."

Torch: You were a psychology major, correct?

rect?

T.J. Miller: Yeah I went to George Washington University. I majored in psychology with a concentration in situation theory and social influence. That's how I've gotten America to think that I'm a good comedian.

Torch: You think psychology informs your comedy?

T.J. Miller: Yeah. I'm interested in how the world makes itself believe things, many of which aren't true. A lot of my work in stand-up right now is about death. How to sort of perceive death and talk about death, (pauses) and they really shouldn't be. The general job of a comedian is [to ask] what are these pre-suppositions and what are these values

Torch: So how was it to work with Michael Bay on the newest Transformers movie?

T.J. Miller: It was (long pause), a challenging and rewarding experience. Michael Bay is everything that people think he is and yet he's nothing like you would expect. Um... have you seen the new Transformers?

Torch: No, not yet.

T.J. Miller: Okay well walk, don't run (laughs), it's a long movie. But when you're the director of a \$250 million movie, you've got to yell. You've literally got 300 crew members and things that need to get done, or the whole thing falls apart. So in the midst of all this trying to corral people, he would yell "Stop! Stop!" and hundreds of people stop doing what they're doing. But it's weird like, what exactly am I doing here? I hope people enjoy the comedy that I bring to it, but I'm not an action hero. I look like a toddler that was given a growth serum. So they're holding me to the standard of Mark Wahlberg, who was just in Lone Survivor. Meanwhile, I was recently... at a Burger King, so it was arduous.

Torch: You also do some writing, what are you working on currently?

T.J. Miller: I wrote a movie called The Nihilist and we'll probably produce that in the spring. It's not a traditional comedy; it's a lot of talking about meaning. Is there meaning and if there is, does it matter? So I am the nihilist and he's a low-level drug runner who truly doesn't care if he lives or dies. If you put a gun to his head, he'll put it in his mouth. That's sort of the energy and the style of the nihilist.

Torch: Between comedy, your podcast, the rap album, television and movies, I'm sure we could talk all day. Is there anything specifically you would like to plug?

T.J. Miller: The "Cashing





Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

A visitor enjoys the interactive portions of the new exhibit, "The Way We Worked" at Artworks downtown in Big Rapids on Michigan Ave.

The Way We Worked

Artworks brings in exhibit from the Smithsonian

Megan Smith
Ferris State Torch

October 7th through November 29th, Artworks in Big Rapids will be featuring the art exhibit "The Way We Worked." "I've seen what they're setting up and it's very interesting," said Sandy Withrow, a volunteer at Artworks. "It shows many jobs and the progress through the early 20th century to the 2000s. I think everybody will be able to relate to some portion of it."

"The Way We Worked" was previously featured at the Smithsonian, so Ferris State University and Artworks are very excited to present the exhibit here in a small town like Big Rapids,

Michigan. "The Michigan Humanities Council made this exhibit possible," said Carrie Weis-Stermer, Gallery Director of the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery. The Council awarded Artworks with a grant to fund their plans to bring the exhibit to Big Rapids.

The exhibit highlights changes in the workforce throughout the 20th century brought about by race, immigration, class, gender roles, industrialization and more. It is divided into five sections depicting different components of history in the workforce: "WHERE We Worked," "HOW We Worked," "What We WORE to Work," "CONFLICT at Work" and "DANGEROUS

or UNHEALTHY Work." These sections include everything from photographs to hard-hats to music.

In conjunction with the Smithsonian exhibit, Artworks will be displaying a collection of paintings called "America at Work" by artist Paul Collins and a compilation of Collins's drawings collected by Charles and Ruth Carpenter. Artworks is also presenting related exhibits unique to Big Rapids, including the town's history of logging and public safety work.

Weis-Stermer was responsible for finding artwork to support "The Way We Worked" exhibit. "I have been familiar with the artist Paul Collins for a very long

time," she said. "His series 'America at Work' is a perfect fit for the Smithsonian exhibit, [which] is different from Collins's in that it is a historical exhibit of photos and objects as opposed to visual art. So I contacted Paul Collins, invited him to the exhibit in collaboration with the Smithsonian travelling exhibit and—voilà—we have a perfect combination of history and art!" Weis-Stermer was also involved in installing Collins's work and the Carpenter collection as well as publicity for the exhibition.

The grand opening of the exhibits will take place on Friday, October 10th from five until eight pm. Erik Nordberg, director of the Michigan Humanities

Council, and Paul Collins will be featured guests. The keynote speaker will be Professor Thomas Henthorn of the University of Michigan presenting "The Worst Jobs in American History."

Artworks has scheduled several events and workshops over the next two months to go along with the exhibits, including a workshop called "Introduction to Oral History" presented by Professor Henthorn and two movie screenings. A complete schedule of events as well as detailed information on "The Way We Worked" and Artworks can be found at artworksinbigrapids.org. Artworks can also be reached by calling (231) 796-2420.

TJ MILLER from Page 1

Tj Miller reveals his upcoming projects and how to please a younger audience

In with T.J. Miller" podcast is a fun thing that I think people can get to know a different side of me through. I'd also love people to see "The Gorbarger Show." It's weird dude. If I were you, I'd smoke a little weed and sit back and relax to understand how insane it is. But put back a

full six-pack before you get into that because it is beyond bizarre.

Also, I've been doing this a lot. I've been promoting different types of trees and aspen trees are what I'm really pushing right now. So I just encourage everyone to learn about aspen trees. Learn about their growth cycle

and what elevations they grow best. So if you could do that, just plug the idea of an aspen tree. Again (referring to meaning), no knowledge is more or less valuable than any other knowledge. That's why I know more about giraffes than anybody else.

Torch: So is this maintaining the concept of nihilism?

T.J. Miller: Well, I don't know about that. I just know it's important that I know more about giraffes than you or any of your friends or anyone that you've ever met.

T.J. Miller can be found on Twitter @nottjmilller and on his website tjmillerdoesnothaveawebsite.com.

TORCH NEWS BRIEFS

United Way Campaign

Volunteers from across the university are soliciting contributions for Ferris' United Way campaign. Through area agencies, the United Way helps deliver food, shelter, medicine, skills training and many other services. Contributions will help the United Way support the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, Project Starburst, W.I.S.E., and many other groups that people in emergency situations turn to for help.

This year Ferris' campus campaign is co-chaired by Jeanine Ward-Roof and Linda Telfer, assisted by Faculty Ambassador Dan Tuuri and Staff Ambassador Jeremy Mishler. Volunteers from throughout the university along with our students are currently working to help our campus meet its \$60,000 goal. Those looking to donate will receive a pledge card.

Disability Awareness Month

October is Disability Awareness Month which focuses public attention on issues related to individuals with learning disabilities. The Educational Counseling and Disabilities Services Office has a series of events planned. Oct. 10, they will host an exhibition in Wink Arena at 7:30 p.m.

The Grand Rapids Pacers Wheelchair Basketball team will play members of our men's and women's basketball team, as well as other participating students. Wednesday, Oct. 15, they will host speaker Bill Deering in IRC 120 at 6 p.m. who will speak candidly about his stuttering and his process of self-discovery and acceptance.

Strategic Planning and Resource Council

Oct. 14, the Strategic Planning and Resource Council will meet at 3 p.m. in MCO 211. Discussions will focus on student debt and higher education affordability. As a combined effort the university has made much progress in slowing the growth of student debt.

SPARC meetings are always open to the public. Students are encouraged to attend and look forward to planning together how we can move forward on this critical topic. Please contribute your insights as they continue to identify and implement the best ways to reduce debt for our Ferris students.

Free entrance to hockey game

For the lucky first 500 student fans to show up to this Friday's hockey game against Wilfred Laurier without tickets, there will be the opportunity for free entry.

Students must have student ID on hand in order to enter. The free seats will not be in the Dawg Pound, as those are designated for those who bought season tickets specificau

FERRIS STATE TORCH CORRECTIONS

Were we mistaken?
Let us know about it.

Corrections can be submitted through email at torch@ferris.edu or by calling 231.591.5946

The world at large

Ebola crisis heighten by media



Photo Courtesy of mctcampus.com

Ebola continues to cripple populations in Africa, and now it's reached the United States, but has the media blown it's threat out of proportion?

Ben Rettinhouse
News Editor

While the recent infection of the first person to contract the Ebola virus on American soil has many a broadcaster prophesizing doom, the director for the Center of Disease Control and Prevention says that an outbreak of

the virus is "unlikely."

The response by the media has prompted many viewers to criticize that the panic, at this point, is largely unnecessary and consider it fear-mongering over reporting.

Dr. Tom Friedman of the CDC said to reporters for various news outlets that the Ebola patient, one Thomas

Eric Duncan, is the only one confirmed to have contracted the virus on American soil. He is currently under quarantine as are those who have had immediate contact with him, all of whom will be monitored for symptoms for 21 days.

Despite the CDC saying that there is little risk of

See **Ebola** on Page 4



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Paving the way for future women

Alumna of Ferris selected as one of 2014 "Women Who Mean Business"

Jennifer Corrie
Ferris State Torch

One of Ferris' own alumna, Dr. Sarah Nutter, has been selected for Washington Business Journal's 2014 "Women Who Mean Business."

Dr. Nutter is currently dean of the school of business and a professor of accounting at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. This award, according to www.bizjournals.com, is for "women who have made a difference in their communities, blazed a trail for the rest of us and are leaving a mark on Washington."

"It's a great thing for George Mason University, where I am, because it gives them visibility. For me, it was a great honor," Nutter said of her nomination. "After Ferris, when I started to study for my Ph.D. at Michigan State University, there was only one woman on the faculty. Now that's changed, but in those days there weren't that many women in higher education, particularly in the business school. So during the opportunities that I had to go out to the DC metro area, to work for the IRS and then go on to be at the faculty for George Mason really was a time of great change in higher education, and so you did see more and more women getting Ph.D.'s, and being involved in higher ed., and I think that has really continued on to this day."

Nutter said that a priority of hers has been to serve as a model to women who would serve as dean after her. Prior to her that had been no female deans at GMU and now, since she held the position, there have been four.

As a local to Big Rapids before attending Ferris, Nutter earned her undergrad degree in accounting from FSU. She said

that she enjoyed her time at Ferris and found that she took a liking to programs offered by the College of Business.

"When I began in accounting, the department head that was the chair at the time actually asked me if I wanted to go into work at General Motors. They had a program where you did a quarter of school and a quarter of work and then repeat, and that was a pretty established program with Ferris, so I went and did that for a year. Now I learned something—I didn't want to do that for the rest of my life. So I came back to Ferris, and he (the department head) asked 'how about an accounting firm?' So I went and worked for a small accounting firm down in Saranac, Michigan and did the same thing. I did two quarters, and learned I didn't want to do that either, but it gave me an opportunity to explore those things at Ferris, in a way that I hadn't been able to, and wouldn't have had the opportunity to do growing up as a farm kid in Big Rapids."

From there, Nutter continued on to Michigan State University to earn her MBA in finance. As a result, she ended up landing and interview for the program with the associate dean of the business school at MSU who she was referred to by Ferris' department chair of accounting.

"Ferris really provided me with the foundation for what I did with the rest of my life. It gave me opportunities to decide what I did and didn't want to do, and when I found out I didn't want to do something, they said 'That's okay. Here's another option.' I wouldn't have had those opportunities had it not been for Ferris, had it not been located where it was, and had it not been focused on affordable education for students."

After working overseas in Germany at the Heidelberg cam-

pus of the University of Maryland, and working for the IRS, Nutter came to George Mason University.

"It was the next right thing to do. There're some similarities between Ferris and George Mason. The students that attend Mason are a lot like the students at Ferris, in many respects. The students come from varied backgrounds, and are incredibly diverse. It's a university that doesn't measure itself by how selective it is, but by how many students it gives opportunity to. That's a really important thing about Ferris that I always valued, and what I value about Mason. Ferris values giving people opportunity, and giving them a chance to prove themselves, and that's also what Mason does. So in one sense, it's like coming home."

Nutter said that her advice to current college students would be to make a point of "failing early and often."

"What I mean by that is, don't wait until you're a senior to jump out there." Nutter said, in conclusion to her story. "Look for all the opportunities around you to do internships, to do volunteer work in your field, to do an externship, to find a way to make a connection into the real world. Take every single opportunity you have in college to do things like that. It is by taking those kinds of chances that you will set yourself up for the best future you can. Think about not only getting a job, but creating a job. Take the opportunity to learn about other cultures and other places, the world is not an insular place. It's not going to work today to stay on your little island. The island is the globe, so if you have an opportunity to take an overseas study program, do it. It'll change your life. If you have the opportunity to do an internship, do it. It'll change your life."



Photo Courtesy of George Mason University

Sarah Nutter, selected as one of the Washington Business Journal's "Women Who Mean Business"

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EBOLA from Page 3

Ebola "outbreak" unlikely

an Ebola epidemic in the United States, the situation has caused airport security around the country to heighten security standards when putting passengers through the screening process.

"All options are on the table for further strengthening the screening process here

in the U.S., and that includes trying to screen people coming in from Ebola-affected countries with temperature checks," said a yet to be disclosed source to CNN.

In relation to Duncan, a Texas homeless man who was said to be on the low-risk list made by health officials went missing from

a medical facility after being tested for the virus. Although health officials say that he is not at risk of contaminating anyone a search party dedicated to locating him was sent out, eventually finding him a day later.

Duncan, the original patient is currently in critical condition.

Fighting Hunger



Photo By: Hannah Ringler | Photographer

Hunger Around the World CROP Hunger walk took place this past Sunday in the IRC connector.

Community and students collaborate for CROP walk

Devin Anderson
Ferris State Torch

Ferris students and the Big Rapids community came together to fight hunger on Sunday, October 5, with a double event: Hunger Around the World and the CROP Hunger Walk.

“The American Marketing Association has been helping put on the CROP Walk in Big Rapids for five years now,” says marketing major Anders Johnson. “It’s a really good way for students to get involved at the beginning of the year.”

Several campus fraternities and RSOs gathered in the IRC at noon for the five star event Hunger Around the World. Various stations were on display to explain the issue of hunger and how it affects different parts of the world. “This year, we brought in Hunger Around the World to compliment the CROP Walk so people could learn about what they’re walking for,” Johnson says.

The CROP Hunger

Walk began at 2 PM, taking participants on either a two and a half or four and a half mile walk through Big Rapids. Kate Bewak is a junior in Public Relations and team leader for the Ferris State PR walking team. “We’re walking to raise awareness,” Bewak says. “Food is a necessity of life. There are a lot of people that don’t even get a full meal a day.”

Ferris State Public Relations won a specially marked gold sneaker for donating \$190, the highest amount by a Ferris organization.

25 percent of the event’s proceeds went to the local food pantry, Project Starburst. The rest went to CROP’s sponsor Church World Service; the organization sponsors CROP Walks across the nation.

CROP Hunger Walk’s website explains that money raised not only buys food and water, but also “resources that empower people to meet their own needs.” Specifically, funds can be allocated to purchase seeds, technical training, and micro-enterprise loans.

Anders Johnson encourages students to participate in future events. “Look out for the CROP Walk next

year,” Johnson says. “It’s a good community service event for groups on campus to get involved in and student involvement has grown every year, so that’s good to see.”

Hunger Around the World and the CROP Hunger Walk raised a total of \$1,170. For more information visit the Church World Service website at cws-global.org.



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FERRIS STATE TORCH

LIFESTYLES

“That’s not what we’re about. It’s not about a war on religion”

Corrine Staten
Business Administration
See page 7 for story

Behind the Scenes: Winner of Lip Sync

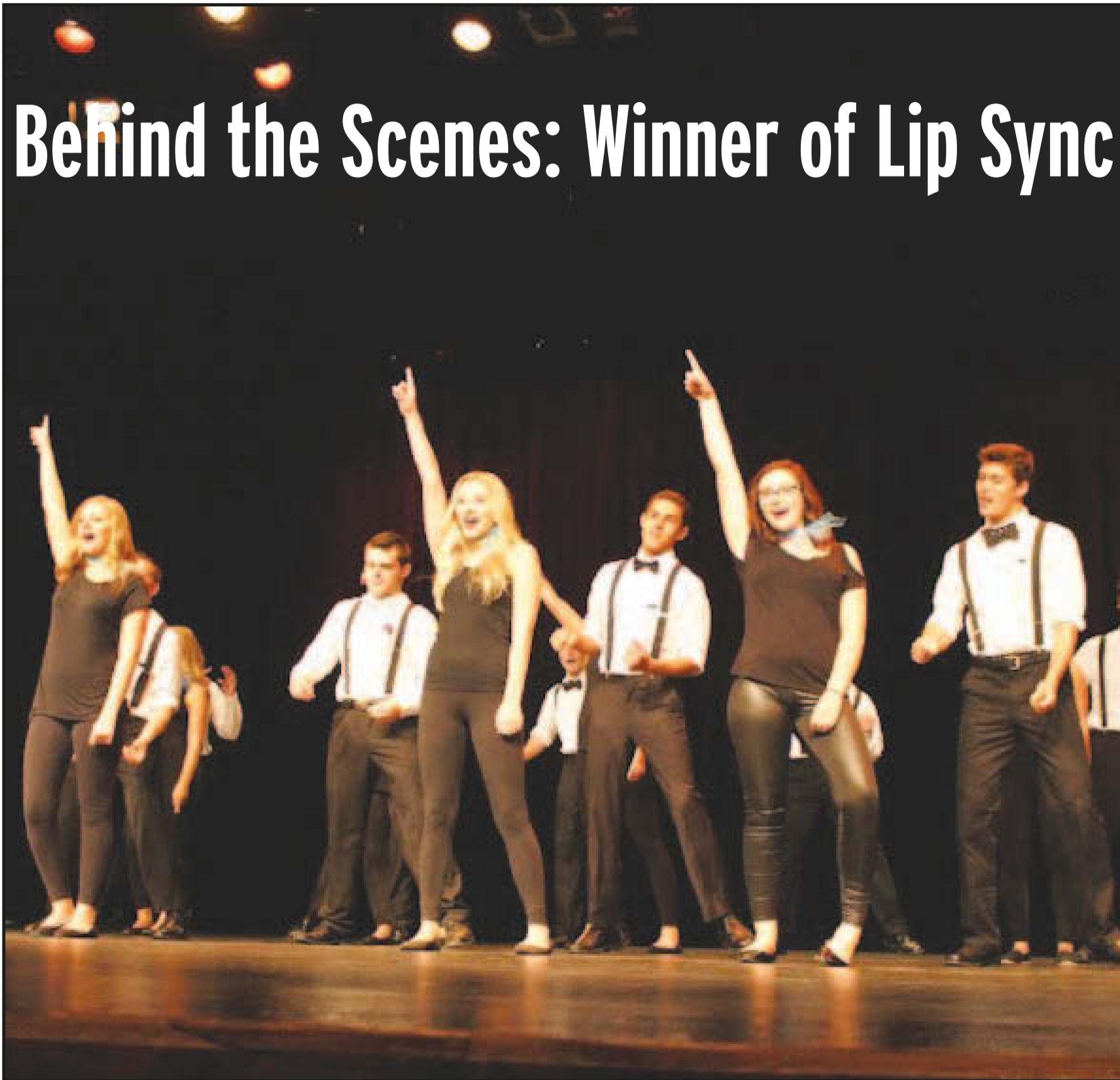


Photo By: Irma Collins | Photographer

Alpha Xi Delta and Sigma Phi Epsilon came out on top of the annual Lip Sync competition.

Alpha Xi Delta and Sigma Phi Epsilon sync their teeth into victory

Dylan Peters
Ferris State Torch

Alpha Xi Delta and Sigma Phi Epsilon came out on top in this year’s Lip Sync contest, winning first place and People’s Choice.

“It was mainly about showing school spirit and unity,” Coach Kayla Dishon said. “There are many RSOs on campus and Lip Sync brings a lot of them together.”

Coach Dishon and Coach Elizabeth Boshoven worked together to put the songs together, schedule practice times, and teach the dances to the groups. Each team had four to five practices a week that lasted from one hour to two and a half hours.

“It’s been a couple of years since both teams have won,” Coach Elizabeth Boshoven said. “It’s nice to start off the year with a win.”

Kayla Dishon
Coach

Everyone involved in the event did their very best, but with the hard work and dedication of everybody, Alpha Xi Delta and Sigma Phi Epsilon took home the win.

“It was tough competition,” Boshoven said. “Everyone did an amazing job and I’m very proud of my team for bringing the win home.”

The songs played in the event were “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough,” “ABC,” “My Girl,” “Do You Love Me,” “Dance With Somebody,” and “Sign Sealed Delivered.”

Each team was a pleasure to work with for Boshoven and Dishon.

“I loved working with both teams,” Boshoven said. “They really stepped up and were very focused. It was really a pleasure getting to know the new members of Alpha Xi Delta

and Sigma Phi Epsilon better and work with them. They’re a great group of people.”

Pre-nursing

freshman Maribeth Frick was in the contest for her very first time.

“It was so much fun not only becoming closer with my

pledge class, but also making friends with the boys of Sigma Pi Epsilon,” Frick said.

“Everyone got so into the dancing that it made it that much more fun.”

Frick’s experience in Greek life is a little over a month old, but she’s already enjoying her time with her new family.

“I have been involved in Greek life for only about a month now,” Frick said. “Being so involved on campus makes college so much more enjoyable.”

If you’d like to learn more about Alpha Xi Delta by visiting their website at www.ferris.alphaxidelta.org. You can also learn more about Sigma Phi Epsilon by visiting their website at www.ferris-sigep.org.



Show 'em what you got

Black Alumni celebration sheds light on student talent



Photo By: Hannah Ringler | Photographer

The Apollo Talent Night took place in the IRC Connector and engaged crowd interactive talent show, including covers of Beyonce. It was hosted by the Black Greek Council.

Kelsey George
Ferris State Torch

Whether it's dancing, singing, reading poetry or whatever the skill, Ferris has got it. Ferris students possess many talents and Apollo Talent Night allowed them the spotlight. Hosted by the Black Greek Council as a part of the annual Ferris Black Alumni Homecoming celebration, the talent night took place in the IRC at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3. If the crowd liked what they

saw, they erupted in applause to show their approval. If they weren't a fan, the crowd was actually encouraged to boo the performer off the stage, after a 30 second grace period. Opening the show was Destinee, tackling Beyonce's "Dangerously In Love." The performance couldn't have been more soulful if it had been Queen B herself. Lonnie Donald showed off his poetic side by an original work titled "Peels." The piece had a pattern of repeating the word "Sleep" throughout, hence the play on words, Peels. The second poetic act was an improvisational piece by Preston Little about being "Just A Regular Guy."



Lonnie Donald
Ferris State University

Multiple groups displayed their impressive dance skills such as the "Swag Twins", Kitwana Clark aka "Ill Creatures", and of course, Ferris' own dance team. "I had no idea we had so many



Alyssa MacDonald
Freshman psychology

intense and talented dancers at Ferris," freshman Psychology major Alyssa MacDonald said. The show was hosted by the Black Greek Council at Ferris, which provides leadership, responsibility, community service, and scholarship opportunities to all of its members on campus. The event was held as part of Homecoming Week and celebrated the Black Alumni groups at Ferris.

Atheists, agnostics, and acceptance

Secular Student Alliance promotes religious tolerance and expression

Hailey Klingel
Ferris State Torch

Can you imagine becoming an outcast among family and friends because of your beliefs? On top of that, imagine being completely accepting of different views of others' even though you feel intensely about your own. Students who are a part of the Secular Student Alliance (SSA) hold the belief that church and state should be separated. Many members of the SSA either have no religious ideals, or ideals that may be out of the cultural norm. "When we say church and state separation, it's trying to create a

neutral environment everybody can coexist in where one group isn't infringing on another," Marketing senior Alek Renkema said. "We talk about religious ideals and we may disagree, but we don't spread hate about religion." The SSA isn't an anti-religion group. Though most members are agnostic or atheist, they have had members with beliefs ranging from Paganism to Christianity. "It's a common misconception that we're just here to bash Christianity," SSA Vice President and Business Administration/Legal Studies junior Corinne Staten said. "That's not what we're about.

It's not about a war on religion." However, the SSA is about providing a sense of comfort to those who have struggled with their nonreligious opinions in a world flooded by religion. "It's very crippling the loneliness you sometimes get because you're the only one who thinks that way,"



Alek Renkema
Senior Marketing

SSA President and Engineering sophomore Steven Beckon said. Much of the isolation felt by SSA members is due to those close to them, which makes sticking to their principles all the more difficult. "I was agnostic up until I could decide on a religion, and I decided none," Beckon said. "My extended family, though, is very religious and I have not told them and am not planning on telling them. I would be immediately excluded." Staten grew up in the south and was surrounded by Southern Baptists, including family members, who shunned those with

differing ideals. Joining the SSA helped her immensely during her religious journey. "I'm an atheist," Staten said. "I haven't always been one. I tried to find a religion I kind of felt comfortable with, but in the end, I was like, 'none of these make sense.' So once I got here and I found out



Corinne Staten
Junior Business Admin

RELIGION from Page 7

Students deal with being out-cast by family and friends due to religion

about SSA, I felt more comfortable, like there are actually people out there who are like me.”

Renkema, who looked into many religions before deciding on atheism, has also experienced confusion in finding a belief system in line with his own.

“There was like a two-year period where I was agnostic for a while,” Renkema said. “Then at the end I was like, ‘I spent two years [not having religion] and I’m fine. I don’t really believe in any of this, so why do I need it? And now I’m just me.’”

Finding the SSA has given Renkema the opportunity to be with others who are true to themselves and feel comfort-

able expressing their beliefs without fear of judgment.

“You’re scared that your friends might ostracize you, and who knows what your family could do,” said Renkema. “So with a group like this, you get help to talk about these topics with people like you. You’re not alone in being vocal.”

Students interested in the SSA can attend a meeting on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in Cramer’s conference room.

The SSA is also hosting an “Interfaith Panel” promoting religious acceptance on November 19th at 8 p.m. in Williams Auditorium.

FSU LTE 8:08 PM 100%

New Hot

- Don't worry about Ebola coming to Ferris it won't be able to find a parking spot 124 5 DAYS 0 replies
- My check liver light just came on 98 3 DAYS 0 replies
- We don't always win hockey oh wait yes we do 69 4 DAYS 2 replies
- My GPA and bank account are having a race to zero 75 7 DAYS 0 replies
- My grades need life alert because they are falling and can't get up 65 2 DAYS 1 replies

Top yaks 5

Graphic by Jordan Lodge

Modern love

How do you know when to let go?



Sarah Force Ferris State Torch

Have you ever heard the metaphor that says relationships are like houses? If a light bulb goes out in the house, you don't just give up and buy a new house, do you? You just fix the light bulb.

People are too willing to just give up rather than putting in the work it takes to keep it alive.

Well, consider this scenario. Let's say you've been trying to fix up this house for a year or two now, but things just keep going wrong.

As soon as you fix one thing, something else breaks. Before you know it, the electrical is trashed, the roof is leaking in several rooms and the place is kind of starting to look like a dump. It just seems like the whole house is falling apart,

and you can't fix it alone.

All of the sudden, you see this beautiful house down the street. It's absolutely perfect, and it's yours if you want it. The only catch is that you can't go inside until you decide to take it. You don't know what dark surprises you might find out once you get inside.

However, as soon as word of this offer you received gets around, someone offers to help you fix up your old house. So what do you do?

Do you start over with something new and unfamiliar, but seemingly perfect? Or should you stick with the home you've

always known and loved and give it a face-lift? How do you know when to move on?

Don't let opinions of friends or family determine which choice you make because they aren't going to hold the sentimental value that you do for your old home. This is a decision you need to make on your own.

All you have to ask yourself is: does the good outweigh the bad? More importantly, are you the person you want to be? Picture your future. Do you see yourself in your old home, or this new place? Focus on what is going to make you happiest. As cheesy as it may sound, the answer can only be found within your heart.

The tricky part is that you have to be honest with yourself.

Photo of the Week



Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

The Brothers of Sigma Pi and the FSU Cheerleading Team, joined together to perform this year at the annual LipSync homecoming celebration.

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ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Meghan Trainor



Photo courtesy of iTunes

An album cover of Meghan Trainor, provided by iTunes.

Genre: Pop
Like: Ariana Grande, Jessie J, Taylor Swift

Meghan Trainor is fresh on the scene this year when she broke out with her first single through Epic Records, "All About That Bass" Like most pop music, this song is overplayed on the radio, super bouncy, and a bit repetitive.

However, Trainor has brought a twist to the pop scene. With her quirky sense of humor and posi-

tive outlook, Trainor managed to shed some light on body positivity and self-acceptance through her dance-friendly single. She breaks the pop-singer stereotypes of carbon-copied robots with no genuine talent. Trainor's music is bubbly, girly, and upbeat.

Believe it or not, Trainor is only 20 years old. Trainor attended high school at the Nauset High School on Cape Cod where she sang and played trumpet in the jazz band. She also plays

guitar and keyboard. By age 18, she self-released three albums of her own material and scored a publishing deal with Big Yellow Dog Music. And here, we were just graduating high school. When you can get "All About That Bass" out of your head, check out the rest of her EP "Title" with songs such as "Dear Future Husband" and "Close Your Eyes." Trainor is on the rise and we will definitely be seeing more of her in the future.

Ferris Royalty



Photo Courtesy of Photo Services

Evan Pazkowski and Jazmine Goode enjoy the spoils of becoming Homecoming King and Queen respectively.

THINGS TO DO

ON CAMPUS, BIG RAPIDS, GRAND RAPIDS & MORE

CAMPUS FUN

OFF CAMPUS

- 10/8: Grocery Bingo 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. in BUS 111
- 10/8: Walk Up Resume Critiques 4 p.m. in IRC
- 10/8: African Student Union: Stereotypes 6 p.m.-7 p.m. IRC 104
- 10/8: Pinat Craft Workshop IRC 131 7-8:30 p.m.
- 10/9: Zumba Night 8 p.m. held by Ferris Gamma's
- 10/10: Wheelchair Basketball 7 p.m. at Wink Arena
- 10/10: Bulldog Hockey hosts Wilfred Laurier 7:07 p.m.
- 10/11: Football Hosts Tiffin
- 10/12: Women's Soccer Hosts Northwood
- 10/14: Games in the Quad 12 p.m.
- 10/14: Krimson & Kream Wipedown 7 p.m. Team Room 122
- 10/15: Disability Awareness Month Speaker 6 p.m. IRC 120

- 10/9: Big Gigantic at The Intersection 8 p.m.
- 10/9: Eric Church at Van Andel Arena 7 p.m.
- 10/9: Karoke at The Gate 9:30 p.m.
- 10/10: You Me At Six wsg Young Guns, Stars in Stereo 6 p.m. at The Intersection
- 10/10: Four Green Fields Farm Haunted Corn Maze 8-10:30 p.m.
- 10/10: Jamie Lynn Spears at the Deltaplex in Grand Rapids 6 p.m.
- 10/10: DJ Gary S & Glow Bowling at The Gate 9:30 p.m.
- 10/11: Wine & Beer Tasting at The Big Rapids Elks 5-8 p.m.
- 10/12: Tuba Bach Chamber Music Festival 4 p.m. at Big Rapids High School
- 10/13: Line Dancing and Free Billiards 6:30 p.m. at The Gate
- 10/14: Couples Dancing 6:30 p.m. \$1 Games & \$1 Shoes 9 p.m. DJ Barcode 9:30 p.m. at The Gate

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Overheard
at Ferris

"So when is Ferris joining the Big 10?"

- Ewigleben Ice Arena

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SPORTS

“He’s such a perfectionist isn’t he? I try to just take victories and smile about them.”

Tony Annese
Ferris State Football Head Coach
See page 11 for story

HOCKEY



Photo By: Michael A. Corn| Photographer

Nationally ranked No. 9 Ferris State hockey edged the University of Michigan Wolverines for a 4-3 victory to open the 2014-15 season on the strength of two goals by sophomore Chad McDonald.

Ferris downs no. 8 Michigan to cap off homecoming

Justin Aiken

Ferris State Torch

The No. 9 Ferris State hockey team scored early and scored often en route to a 4-3 victory against the No. 8 Wolverines of the University of Michigan.

Early and often may be a bit of an understatement for the Bulldogs (1-0), as they took a commanding 2-0 lead just one minute and three seconds into the game. Sophomore and assistant captain Kyle Schempp opened the scoring just 27 seconds into the game off of a feed from junior left wing Matt Robertson. Chad McDonald, sophomore right winger, then followed suit with a goal of his own.

“You can’t really put it into words; the crowd was into it all night,” McDonald said. “I mean, 2-0 a minute and a half into

the game, you can’t beat that. It definitely got the guys going and gave us some confidence that



Chad McDonald
Sophomore forward

we can do this. Michigan is a big name, but ya know, so are we.”

Ferris State added one more goal in the opening period as freshman forward Mitch Maloney found the net on the power play and was assisted by sophomore defenseman Ryan Lowney and senior goaltender CJ Motte.

The Wolverines (0-1) tried to fight back into the game early in the second period, scoring

just ten seconds into the period off the stick of Tyler Motte. After a lengthy review, the goal would stand, bringing the game to 3-1 in favor of the Bulldogs.”

“The review took a long time and that kept Michigan from building any kind of momentum,” head coach Bob Daniels said. “That gave us a chance to regroup. We said hey look, if it goes on the board, we just have to be ready to play. If it doesn’t, lesson learned. As it turns out, it went on the board, but that break helped us.”

The Bulldogs would add another goal in the period, again from McDonald that pushed the game to a 4-1 score heading into the third period. Michigan tried to fight back late in the third period with two goals of their own off the sticks of Travis Lynch and Evan Allen.

The Bulldogs managed to hold off the Wolverine comeback, despite Michigan ending the game with a 6-on-4 power play after a tripping penalty on Lowney.

Motte was strong for the Bulldogs in net, recording 34 saves on the night and picking up his first win of the season. Schempp and Maloney took the second and third stars of the game, respectively, and McDonald picked up the number one star of the game after recording two goals on the evening.

With the win against the Wolverines, the Bulldogs will surely be moving up in the college hockey rankings and McDonald said this win puts Ferris out ahead of a lot of teams in college hockey, but they still have work to do.

“It definitely puts us on the right note to start out the year,”

McDonald said. “Obviously it’s a big win, we had them on their



Kyle Schempp
Sophomore forward

heels last year and lost in a shootout. We can have our moment here tonight, maybe tomorrow to be excited

about winning. In retrospect, it’s just another game and we still have 36 more to go and hopefully more to get where we want to be eventually, and we know that.”

The Bulldogs next game is scheduled for Oct. 10 as they face Wilfred Laurier at home in Ewingleben Arena. Puck drop is slated for 7:07 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Off the record with KC Zenner

The bearded wonder



Richard Mead
Ferris State Torch

KC Zenner has taken control over the safety spot that belonged to Marvin Robinson last season.

Zenner is enjoying a breakout season, in which he is leading his team in total tackles as well as solo tackles from the safety position as the last line of defense.

The bearded wonder has taken over this position from a former

University of Michigan transfer in Marvin Robinson, who was a leader on the defense for Ferris last season.

In this column, Zenner talks about head coach Tony Annese's big superstition, and how his beard reached it's intimidating proportions.

TORCH-First off, coming into this season, what did you see your role being after your redshirt season?

KZ-I was just gonna try and help the team anyway possible, whether that be on scout team or maybe getting on a few special teams.

TORCH-At what point did you realize that you were going to get the opportunity to start?

KZ-The week of practice before our first game.

TORCH-How did you feel knowing you were going to get the chance to showcase your talents as a starter in only your first season playing?

KZ-I felt a lot of responsibility because I was replacing Marvin (Robinson), but I knew I just had to play my hardest and do whatever it took to win.

TORCH-Those are big shoes to fill filling in for Robinson, who had a shot at the NFL. Did you feel as though you just needed to shore up the spot or did you want to make it your own?

KZ-I know I can't do a lot of things Marvin did, but it definitely gave me a lot of motivation because I didn't want to let the team down and I didn't want to be viewed as the weak link in our D by the other schools.

TORCH-Now that you have made some plays, do you feel as though teams are starting to notice that number 40 is roaming the defensive backfield?

KZ-I just try and play hard every down and I hope

I can earn the respect of the other teams by doing that.

TORCH-All right, I'm gonna loosen you up a bit. Now you are working on a pretty epic beard right now; did you always want the bald plus beard combo?

KZ-(laughs) It's something that I did in high school, so I just kept it going here.

TORCH-You look like a mean sumbitch, do you use it to your advantage on the field?

KZ-It's more of a superstition thing. I like to keep in my routines and I always got my head shaved the day before a game.

TORCH-Who has the best superstition on the team
KZ-Coach Annese (laughs). He has the superstition that if we wear red-on-red, we will lose.

TORCH-Big question, what do you give Coach Annese's belly flop against Saginaw out of ten? I'd say 5/10, he could have had better form.

KZ-(laughs) Perfect ten for me, I've never seen anything like it.

TORCH-Who is the next guy to get to the next level? I have seen a Buffalo Bills scout at every game so far this season.

KZ-Yeah, Marcus Cribbs has a good shot. He's a beast, so hopefully someone will pick him up.

TORCH-Last question, how do you see this year's defense performing down the road?

KZ-Hopefully we can keep getting better each week and continue to play fast and physical.

FOOTBALL



Five and Blow-out

Bulldogs continue to climb national and GLIAC Rankings

Photo By: Michael A. Corn |Photographer

Ferris football continues to pound GLIAC opponents into the ground, this time taking on a tough Findlay Oiler team that they buried late.

Keith Salowich
Ferris State Torch

Ferris State football marches through competition to move on to a 5-0 record following yet another blowout win with a homecoming background.

The Bulldogs are one of the national leaders in points per game and rushing yards per game. Though their contest with Findlay was hotly contested through three quarters, Ferris pulled away and blew out the Oilers by 28 points. Not all has been perfect, but it certainly has looked easy for this team to march through the conference as they have.

With five dominant victories already under their belt, the Bulldogs are riding a freight train of momentum through confer-

ence play, and they've managed to make it look easy. However, finding success isn't easy, especially in the GLIAC Conference. These players spend several hours per week training, watching film and running countless drills in hopes of producing a winning product on the field.

"He's such a perfectionist isn't he? I try to just take victories and smile about them," Head Coach Tony Annese said. Before Annese could finish his thought, junior quarterback Jason Vander Laan quickly interjected denying his coach's claim of being entirely satisfied with a victory. Annese, in speaking of his quarterback's uncompromising tendencies, then said, "He likes to evaluate every win. He has kind of taken on my personality in that respect."

Perhaps as a result of this feverish preparation and strive for perfectionism, the bulldogs have been clicking on both the offensive and defensive side of the ball. The offense's ability to run up the score gives the defense some slack, while tough play by the defense gives way to extra possessions and good field position.

"It's great to be able to play with such a good offense. We know they can put up a lot of points, so it allows us to play more aggressively as a unit. It is definitely reassuring to have them on our side," redshirt freshman K.C. Zenner said. "If we go for a big play and miss we know that they have our back, just like they know we have their back if they give up a turnover."

It is said that the best offense is a good defense, and the Bulldogs

See **Undefeated** on Page 12

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Photo of the Week



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | Photographer

Junior forward Matt Robertson leans in for a faceoff during practice. Robertson and the Bulldogs took down U of M in their home opener on October 4, and now shift their focus to a team from the great white north, Wilfred Laurier.

UNDEFEATED from Page 11
The undefeated Bulldogs are tearing through competition.



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | Photographer

Ferris State boasts the sixth best rushing attack in Division II football with 307.4 yards per game and scores 48.0 points per game which is good for seventh in the country.

are in no short supply of excellent defenders. Allowing just 12.8 points per game, and less than 175 passing yards to opposing teams, this Bulldogs defense has proven to be incredibly robust. This defensive solidarity is a team effort, but first contact is always made at the line of scrimmage. "Right now our defensive MVP would be any of our D-linemen that rotate throughout the game. They do a great job of penetrating into the backfield and occupying blocks so that our linebackers can roam and make big plays. Our D-line is definitely the best unit on our team. They set the tone for how the defense plays."

While the Bulldog defense has been playing well, the offense has certainly been doing their part to support them as well. Scoring a staggering 48.0 points per game, the Bulldogs have never lead a team by less than 20 points at the conclusion of a game. With Vander Laan at the helm and a seemingly endless list of targets and weapons for him to choose from, it is no wonder that this offense has found success.

If there is any weakness in the Bulldog armor, it has yet to make itself known, as the Dawgs have

also shined on special teams. With the combined punting efforts of Mitch Bredberg and Trevor Bermingham coupled with the unusual yet effective punting formation, successfully setting up the opponent with bad field position has been a strength for FSU. The Dawgs have also accumulated 274 return yards and a touchdown on an extremely limited amount of kickoffs. At the end of the day, the players are still students just entering adulthood. Garnering attention on a national level and boasting an increasingly impressive win streak, the coaches must keep their players focused. Annese believes that his insistence on maintaining focus on the task at hand has reached his players and become a benchmark for this team. "We take pride in trying to be our best, but we keep up the standard of it's really about us and not what the final score is or what a ranking is or anything of that sort," Coach Annese said. "So I think this team is pretty well grounded and understands our expectation to be the best, and that's what we strive for everyday."

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Sports Shorts

Richard Mead
Sports Editor

Homecoming heroics

Oct. 4 will go down as one of the great days to be on the Ferris State campus. Not only was it the day of Homecoming, but it was also the day that multiple nationally ranked Bulldog teams dominated their competition.

To start the day, the No. 15 Bulldog's volleyball team took on Lake Erie and swept them in three matches. Meanwhile, the men and women of cross country representing FSU at the Northwood Invitational Meet took first and second overall, respectively.

Back home in Big Rapids, the No. 13 Bulldogs pummeled Findlay 49-21 on the gridiron.

Later on that evening, a sold out crowd stood on their feet to bear witness to the main event. The No. 9 Bulldogs' hockey team skated past a highly competitive #8 Michigan 4-3 to cap off an incredible day for the Ferris State faithful.

Ferris State enters another week of solid competition, as hockey faces Wilfred Laurier and football plays Tiffin at home.

Volleyball winning streak continues

With the Ferris State football team climbing the national rankings and the hockey season just starting, it is a proud time to be a fan of Bulldog athletics. However, these two teams are not the only packs of Bulldogs performing well.

The women's volleyball team continues to power through conference play, having earned a 7-1 record within the GLIAC with the only loss coming courtesy of Grand Valley State. Despite that hiccup, the team has won 9 of their last 10 games, and only surrendered two sets to opposing teams in that span.

This level of domination on the volleyball court has not gone unnoticed, as the Bulldogs have been rewarded by being ranked No. 15 in the nation. The next match will send the team on the road as they travel to take on Findlay Oct. 10.

Cross Country running strong

Following a trip to Illinois in which the women's team took fourth and the men took second, the Ferris State cross country teams hit the road once again to participate in the Northwood Invite on October 4th.

Hoping to continue their success, the two teams made the trek to Midland and ran well. The men's team finished first, with all but one of the top seven finishers representing the crimson and gold. Meanwhile, the women's team took home second, finishing behind Saginaw Valley State.

The cross country teams will not see any further action for three weeks, when they head to Evansville, Indiana to take part in the Pre-Regional meet on October 25th.

Soccer ends winless streak with victory over Malone

Close games have defined the Bulldogs season, though their 2-5-2 record may suggest otherwise.

A key 2-0 victory over Malone on a successful homecoming weekend for Bulldog sports lifted the women's soccer team as they prepare for a big five game stretch that could right the ship.

The stretch starts with a road tilt against Saginaw Valley State on Oct. 10, whom the Bulldogs tied 1-1 earlier in the season.

An Oct. 12 home game against Northwood finishes the weekend before a three game week that includes a road game at Grand Valley State and two home games against Ashland and Lake Erie respectively.

The Bulldogs dropped a 3-2 contest to Grand Valley earlier this season on September 20 in Big Rapids.

Top Dawg



Sophomore forward Chad McDonald led the Bulldogs with three shorthanded goals as a freshman. McDonald spends all of his time killing penalties with junior forward Kenny Babinski, who assisted McDonald on his shorthanded goal in the season opener.

Justin Aiken

Ferris State Torch

Ferris State hockey's Chad McDonald takes home the honors of Top Dawg this week with his two goal performance which led the No. 9 Bulldogs to a 4-3 victory over the No. 8 University of Michigan Wolverines on Saturday, Oct. 4.

The 5-foot-9, 175 pound sophomore from Battle Creek scored his first goal of the evening just a minute and three seconds into the game on a rocket of a wrist shot from the top of the circles to

give Ferris an early 2-0 lead.

Late in the second period, McDonald recorded his second goal of the game, a short-handed score off a feed from junior forward Kenny Babinski, which put the Bulldog's ahead 4-1. That goal ended up being the deciding factor after a late run in the third period by the Wolverines to get back into the game.

The penalty kill specialist was loving it as he tallied his fourth career short-handed goal as a Bulldog.

McDonald finished the game with five shots on goal and the leading point scor-

er for the Dawgs. He ended the evening at plus one and also took home the number one star of the game honors.

During the 2013-2014 campaign, McDonald played 42 for the Bulldogs in his freshman year. In those 42 games, he logged 20 points on the season (eighth on the team), nine goals (eighth on the team) and 11 assists (tied for ninth on the team), which included three game winning goals (tied for most on the team). McDonald also finished the season at plus eight and recorded 21 blocked shots.

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OPINIONS

FERRIS STATE TORCH

Animals are not accessories. It's just like having a baby.

Sarah Force
Lifestyles Editor
See page 15 for story

FERRIS STATE TORCH

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The Ferris State Torch welcomes comments on topics of interest to the general readership. Letters should not exceed 300 words in length and The Torch reserves the right to edit for length. Letters will not be edited for grammar, punctuation or spelling. The Torch will not print letters deemed to be libelous or obscene. All letters must be signed by their authors and include his or her phone number.

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Letter From The Editor

Hot button

Harrison Watt
Editor-in-Chief

Students on this campus are having sex. They could be doing so right this very second.

I said it. What are you going to do about it? Get uncomfortable in your seat?

"Modern Love," is a weekly column that covers an array of romantic topics from casual dating to sex. It is not meant to offend.

I will not make the blanket statement that all college students are crazed sex-fiends because it is patently untrue.

Our generation is sick of being told "I'll explain it when you're older." We don't like to be talked down to as if we're not adults.

Sex is a perfectly natural and beautiful human process. Whatever people are using it for is up to that individual, not me or you.

I apologize if I offend religious beliefs, but it's pretty obvious. If you have working eyes, ears and a working brain, you can tell what's going on.

We cannot pretend at the Torch as individuals that we are (s)experts, but we are writing about it because it is something that happens here.

Not all of us are comfortable talking about it. I hope to God my mom doesn't pick this story up. At the Torch, our job involves becoming comfortable out of our comfort zone, and this is where that philosophy has brought us.

We will not beat around the bush. When we feel there's a topic related to sex or romance that we feel you should know about, we're going to write about it. You have the right to know. We're going to give it to you straight.

No pun intended.

Look at Ferris Crushes on a daily basis on Facebook. It drips with sexual tension between anonymous lovers.

Raise your hand if you wish your biggest Ferris Crush would just stand up in the middle of the Rock and just yell, "I love you."

Love is one positive that we can write about. So much of news we see and read is negative. Don't stand in the way of love or the expression of love just because you don't understand it.

This paper will continue to talk about it, because it is something that takes place here

Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me



Photo Courtesy of mctcampus.com

The escalation of spoiler culture

"You're not going to believe what happened in 'Gone Girl!' Ben Affleck..."

How does that sentence end, if spoken loudly in a crowd? Do I even reach its end? It's more likely someone behind me at Panera shouts me down or a classmate vaults over a desk to, quite literally, shake some sense into me.

Conversation on arts and entertainment is at its most pervasive, having reached a point where simply using Twitter regularly guarantees having a movie or TV show spoiled and, for some people, thereby ruined (a spoiler is the revealing of a story's important plot element, like "the butler was the killer").

There isn't any consensus on spoiler rules, either. If you think a year after release is long enough to blurt out plot points, you're apt to get cold shoulders from someone for a few days. You probably still can't talk about how "Lost" ended, and even now, after all these years, someone will be upset that I'm now going to spill that, in "The Sixth Sense," Bruce Willis was dead the whole time.

After years of critics and communities flailing about with excessive spoiler warnings and indignant rage about



Tyler Hanan
Opinions Editor

the reveal of who died at the end of "Supernatural" season 5 (I've never watched "Supernatural," I don't know if that's actually a thing), Netflix recently took an ostensibly forward-thinking tactic.

The web address spoilers.netflix.com will take you to a page called "Living With Spoilers." It has a very BuzzFeed-esque quiz called "What Kind Of Spoiler Are You?" Personally, it seems I'm an Impulsive Spoiler. There is also a survey in which you, the Netflix viewer, can help determine which entertainment is "Too Soon" and which is "Old News." The most public spoilers, according to this are "The Graduate," "Ghostbusters," and "Cool Runnings." Those are odd results, but that's a debate for a publication with more space.

Finally, there's the option to "Spoil Yourself." This page gives users the option to discover Old Yeller's fate and the major plot points of 29 other movies and television shows.

Netflix's position is clear: embrace the spoiler!

In a spoiler world where no rule is right (I cringed when "Vertigo's" twists was revealed to me the other day - it's been in my queue for ages), perhaps accepting the inevitable is the happiest way to live.

Is this the one true way, the narrow path? Of course not - there isn't one.

The only way to have it your way is to carefully curate your friend groups, your Twitter followers, and your many other cultural, societal, and online habits. That's a lot of work, but it's your time. Time you could spend watching these things you're desperate to avoid spoilers for, it could be said.

Then again, with Hollywood sending us movies bearing the title "Lone Survivor" and boasting one superstar in Mark Wahlberg - guess who survives - we might not have much choice in the matter. Netflix's "Living With Spoilers" seems a bit too much like giving in, capitulating to the spoil-happy, but maybe it really is the only way to stay happy in this world of spoilers.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Those who do not want to imitate anything, produce nothing."

-Salvador Dali



The hidden side of animal cruelty



Graphic by Jordan Lodge



Sarah Force
Lifestyles Editor

Since middle school, there is one thing in this world I've wanted more than anything, and I still haven't gotten it.

A dog. More specifically, a husky.

It's not that it's impossible to get or that it isn't feasible for me to get one. I've had the money.

However, I'm an individual that recognizes the fact that animals are a large commitment, and I've just never been in the right circumstances for one.

Huskies have a lot of energy. I've never had the space for it to run or the time to spend to play with it.

I've seen too many people around my age that just make the impulse purchase of an actual living being just because it's cute. However, age is no discriminatory factor in the childish decision.

Animals are not accessories. It's just like having a baby. You're not going to purposely have a child because babies are cute when you have no means to provide for it. So, why would you do so with an animal?

This is one type of animal cruelty that many people don't recognize as actual animal cruelty.

If you live in an apartment with no fenced in backyard and you get a pet, it will spend its life locked up inside that house or cage except when you take it out to relieve itself. How is that not cruel?

Maybe you have the right physical means for a pet. You might have a house and a fenced in backyard, but what if you don't have the time to spend with it?

This is especially important if you buy a young animal. They need to be raised, potty-trained, fed, exercised and played with. Again, just like a child. Ever heard of the term child neglect?

That is a form of child abuse. Animal neglect is animal cruelty.

The financial commitment is also a factor that is often overlooked. I'm guilty of this as well. There is more of a financial commitment to getting a pet than buying the actual pet.

They need a place to sleep, food, toys, medical visits and often more.

When it comes to caring for an animal, it is comparable to caring for a child. However, this is not true when it comes to dressing them.

Need I say again, pets are not accessories! There is a reason animals have fur. They don't need clothes.

There is nothing that looks weirder than buying a pet to treat it like a doll just so you can tote it around for display in your hot, messy purse or force it into these tight, scratchy clothes. This is downright strange. It is unnatural.

I have absolutely zero credentials to be preaching animal cruelty other than the fact that I'm a die-hard animal lover, which begs my point exactly.

Everything I'm saying is nothing more than common sense. Animals are animals, but should be cared for just as much as humans.

If you are looking into making the commitment of getting a pet of any kind, do the research.

Make sure you are in the right living conditions and have the time, energy and of course- the money to provide for a pet.

You're going to fall in love with this pet, so take the necessary steps to care for it like it matters to you.

Faces of Ferris

Ferris State Torch Photo Editor, Shelby Soberalski goes out each week around campus and scouts out students for Faces of Ferris to ask them a question.....

Were you excited for homecoming?



Brittany Headings
Senior
Graphic Design

"What do you want me to say?"



Will Krafcheck
Senior
Energy systems engineering

"I wish it was a more celebrated event."

College of Arts and Sciences



Inaugural

Majors, Minors, & More Expo

Meet Faculty, Students,
Program Coordinators, and Explore
your Interests



Food and Giveaways

Thursday, October 9
Williams Auditorium Lobby
11:00AM - 1:00PM



All FSU students are invited to attend

Anyone with a disability who needs special accommodations to attend this program must contact Anne Marie Gillespie x3661 at least 72 hours in advance of event.

Tower inferno

Looking past travel inconvenience

On Sept. 26, I thought I was inconvenienced by a jerk in an air traffic control tower, which was an incorrect assumption.

Brian Howard, an air traffic controller based in Aurora, Illinois, lit the basement on fire of the air traffic control center, which grounded hundreds of flights in Chicago and backed up the rest of the country.

I had planned on a nice easy trip to New York for my 21 birthday. I had intended to leave Grand Rapids airport at 6 p.m. and connect through Detroit to New York.

At 11:30 a.m., Delta informed me my flight had been canceled. I was furious. They had booked me on a 12:50 p.m. flight to Atlanta to connect to New York. There wasn't even a chance I'd make the flight, so panicked, I called Delta's hotline.

I found a two-hour wait to talk to a person and decided to try and reroute my flight. Thankfully, I found a Kalamazoo to Minneapolis flight that connected to New York. It was going in the wrong direction and I'd have to sprint to get to Kalamazoo on time, but I was just happy to be going.

Ten minutes from the Kalamazoo airport, my brother called me. A United airlines employee, my brother was keeping his watchful eye on me to make sure I got to where I was going safely. My flight had again been canceled. I was enraged and intent on tearing the head off the first Delta employee I met.

Thankfully my level headed and lovely travel partner decided it was her turn to do the talking. The desk agent in Kalamazoo set us up on a Flint to Atlanta flight that connected mercifully to New York.

The catch was that I had two hours and 45 minutes before my plane took off. We were two hours from Flint. We rolled into Flint as the low gas light in my car rang, sprinted through the airport and thankfully had a few minutes to spare.

As we arrived in Atlanta-Hartsfield airport, the busiest airport in the United States, we were met with a travel weary crowd. This jerk in Chicago had caused thousands of people to be diverted to and stranded in Atlanta.

We met an elderly couple that would be sleeping on the floor of the terminal and leaving the next afternoon. They wouldn't



Harrison Watt
Editor-in-chief

even be returning to the correct airport and would have a long drive home through rural Indiana following their ordeal.

Again, my controlled panic took over. We had little time to navigate the utterly massive airport. By a stroke of divine intervention, we landed two gates away from our next gate. The odds against that stroke of luck were simply astronomical.

I returned to Detroit on Sunday and faced a four-hour night drive back to Big Rapids via Flint that had me cursing Howard all night long as I tried to avoid nodding off.

This past week, I decided to look into the story and it changed my perspective.

Howard is a veteran of the Navy and had just been told he'd be transferred to Hawaii. He was disgruntled and clearly very troubled.

Suddenly my travel issues didn't matter. I got where I had intended to go, and I returned safely. I felt shame for dispelling anger and rage towards someone who clearly was ill.

Howard attempted to take his life. No, I should not feel sorry for him just for that reason. That would be shallow of me. It made me realize that I have it very good.

I have a job I love, a family that helps get me to New York on a fall weekend while I'm away at school and people that I can bring with me to enjoy my weekend away.

Depression is an illness, it's a chemical imbalance in the brain. It's been well documented. Brian Howard may or may not suffer depression, I am not going to diagnose him. You don't have to be depressed to attempt suicide, but depression does increase the chances.

I suffered from it for the majority of my time in high school, and continued to suffer from it as I reached college. My insensitivity towards something I experienced felt asinine.

It's that same old lesson of avoiding a passing of judgment before you have the facts. I, like many that day, wanted to give Howard a nice kick in the shins.

Now, I just want to give myself that kick with my steel-toed boots.

Watch our video content and other news coverage on Youtube at [fsutorch14](https://www.youtube.com/fsutorch14)



2nd Annual SKELETON SKURRY 5K Run/Walk

Dem bones, Dem bones, Dem *RUNNIN'* bones...
It's time to *HURRY*...
Register *NOW* for the *SKELETON SKURRY!*

Saturday October 25th @ 4pm
Registration Begins at 2:30pm-3:45pm
at Hemlock Park Pavilion, Big Rapids

Pre-register online by going to bigrapidsnews.com or
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115 N. Michigan, Downtown Big Rapids

Questions - ddoyle@pioneergroup.com

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