

FERRIS STATE TORCH

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December 3, 2014

NEWS



Hat and Scarf

Ferris RSO's compete to raise clothing for charity. | Page 2

LIFESTYLES

In the saddle

Ferris student tells story of horrific injury and recovery | Page 8

Furry Friends

Animal Rescue Coalition celebrates first anniversary. | Page 9

SPORTS



Christmas in Detroit

Bulldogs hockey to play in annual GLI in Detroit | Page 11

OPINIONS

No shave November

Should girls have to shave? | Page 14

ONLINE



Check out The Torch online over the holiday break for coverage of the Great Lakes Invitational.

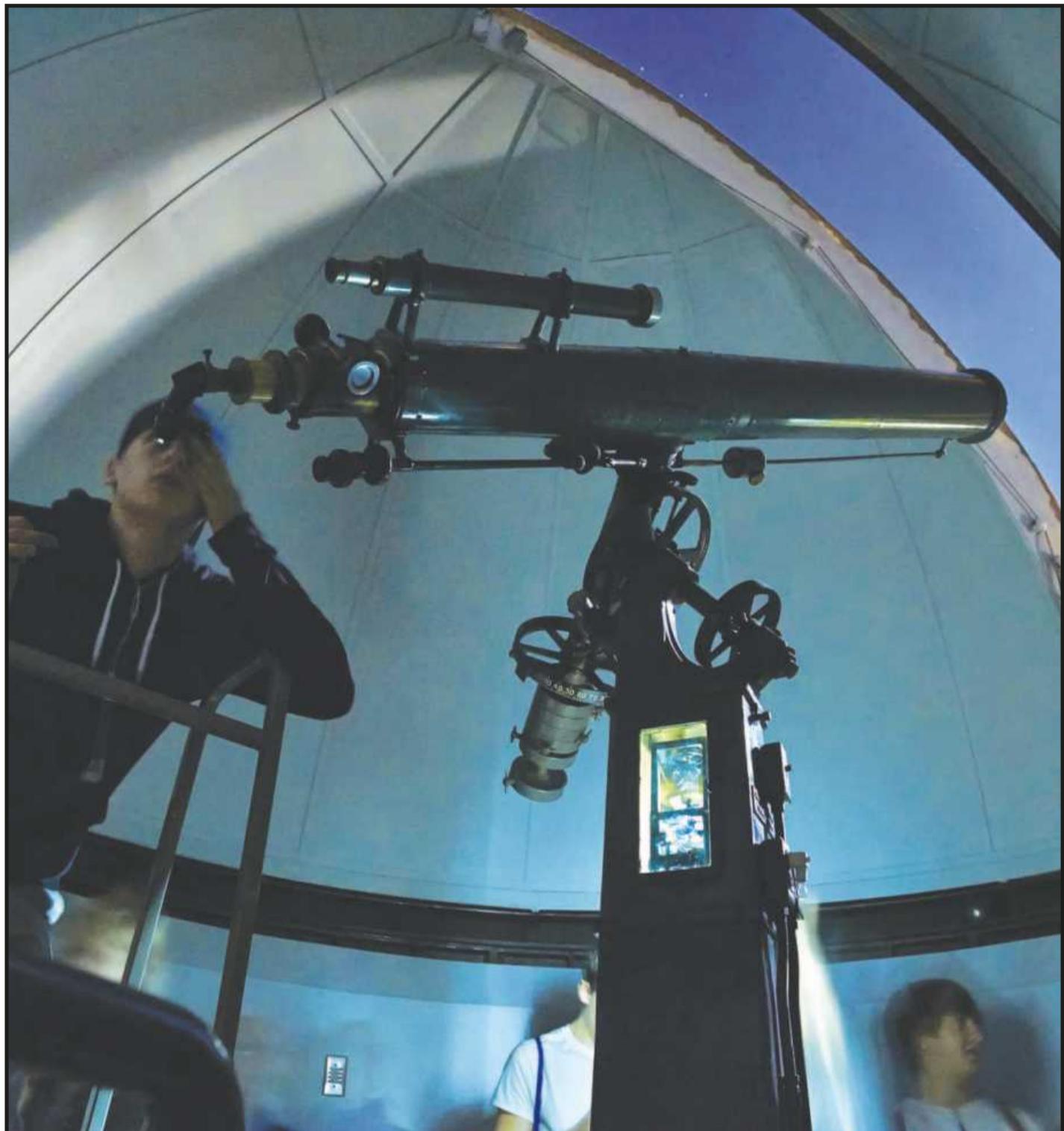


Photo courtesy of mctcampus.com

The Rawlinson Observatory recently re-opened in Science 400.

Rawlinson Observatory

ASC funds repairs and grand re-opening

Devin Anderson
Ferris State Torch

The College of Arts and Sciences hosted the grand re-opening of Ferris' Rawlinson Observatory with a presentation by David DeBruyn, former director of the Chaffee Planetarium. Students and community gathered for DeBruyn's presen-

tation, "Visual Astronomy: Inspiration for a Frantic World." He spoke about using telescopes to view the universe, observatories in Michigan and the importance of scientific curiosity.

DeBruyn also advised students to use their technology sparingly and to enrich themselves by "looking up instead of looking down."

The Rawlinson Observatory had been out of commission for nearly 5 years due to problems with its rotating dome. Rick Kurtz, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, allocated funding to begin repairs. Tom Melsheimer, an observatory builder from Ohio with decades of experience, was hired to repair the dome in 3 phases over a year.

"Upon arrival, we could see daylight through the seams of the dome," Melsheimer said. "Birds had made nests and left messes." Melsheimer estimates that he spent over 500 hours on the observatory.

Melsheimer has more work planned involving installation of cameras and computer software to modernize the observatory.

Battle of the RSOs

NAACP hosts hat and scarf drive

Megan Smith
Ferris State Torch

FSU's chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is hosting a hat and scarf drive to help underprivileged people in the Big Rapids area.

All RSOs on campus were invited to participate in the drive, which started on November 17th and will end on December 5th. The group to collect the most cold-weather accessories will receive a prize of \$100 for their RSO. "We wanted to challenge RSOs to donate to those in need," said Chaunice Wooten, vice president of NAACP troupe 3787 and coordinator of the drive. "We wanted to have a fun competition between organizations and we wanted more collaboration on campus. We really want to emphasize that it's clearly not about the money."

The group has been pleased with the amount of participation they have seen so far. They were hoping to have around 10 organizations involved before Thanksgiving. "Our Hat and Scarf is growing," Breia Harris, president, said just before fall break. "We hope to receive more donations after Thanksgiving break. Organizations such as Saudi RSO and Muslim RSO have donated over 40 items. They have also donated coats for kids and we are delighted about that. We are happy to see that organizations want to help others stay warm this winter."

"We have really high expectations," said Wooten. "[We don't have] a specific number, but we want enough to where there won't be any kids without a hat or a scarf or gloves. We just want there to be enough to help out, even if it's just a fraction."

Donations can be dropped off

in the CLACS office on the second floor of the Timme Center. The group has also had tables in the IRC and FLITE over the course of the drive. The last chance to visit one of the drop-off tables is tonight, December 3rd, from 6 to 8 pm in FLITE. Though the competition is for RSOs, individual students are also welcome to donate.

At the end of the drive, the NAACP plans to donate the items collected to St. Andrew's Church and Our Brother's Keeper, a local homeless shelter. It was Wooten's idea to collaborate with St. Andrew's. "I am actually involved in another organization, DSAGA," she said. "It's the Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance here on campus, and they are involved a lot with St. Andrew's Church, so [it] is really kind of close to home."

The hat and scarf drive was originally scheduled to take place from November 10th through the 21st, but complications arose when the group learned that there was more paperwork they needed before they could proceed. Wooten expressed disappointment that they could not begin sooner, since winter hit Big Rapids early this year. However, the new dates are just in time for the Christmas season. "This project just means so much for us," she said. "We just want people to get into the 'season of giving' and helping out. It's right before Christmas and Thanksgiving."

Charity and giving back to the community are extremely important values for both Harris and Wooten, as well as for the NAACP as a whole. "Our organization is basically about diversity and giving back to the community. We are starting to get a little more spread out on campus and we just want people to know who we are and what we do. Anything you see on the volunteer center



Graphic by Jordan Lodge

page, we try to get into. We try to get involved in as many community things as we possibly can. I started volunteering when I was 13. At first, of course, I was a 13-year-old and I was bored and, like, 'Oh, God, why do I have to do this?' But then I saw the smiles on people's faces when I helped. I think it's important to not worry about yourself for a little bit and think, 'What can I do for someone else?' It's just

being a decent human being."

"We are college students and we live on a budget," said Harris, "but there are people in the world that wish they could be in our shoes. In life, you have to remember that there are people in the world who are living worse than you. Sometimes we overreact and become ungrateful even though we are still in a stable position. It will never hurt to give back from time to time

by donating and spending time to help those who are in need of assistance. The smallest thing can alter someone's life, but this can only be discovered by getting involved in community service and donating to a cause."

Students with questions about the hat and scarf drive are welcome to contact Wooten by calling or texting (248) 254-2888 or by emailing her at wootenc1@ferris.edu.



OBSERVATORY from Page 1

Academics explains importance of astronomy

Following DeBruyn's 40 minute presentation, groups were brought up to the observatory for a demonstration by astronomy professor Thomas Brennan. Unfortunately, the weather prevented the group from viewing any stars, but Brennan marked his excitement about getting to know the observatory's Unitron telescope.

"You really learn so much more about astronomy when you actually see it with your own eyes," Brennan said. "You

can see a picture in a magazine or on the internet, but it doesn't have the same intellectual impact that it does when you see a planet through a telescope."

Brennan plans to use the observatory with his astronomy classes for experiential learning. Plans are also being made to have public viewing nights for students and community members.

The Rawlinson Observatory is located in the Science Building, room 400.



- *Girl walks into the elevator* Me:
What floor? Girl: I have a boyfriend 86
④ 4 DAYS 0 replies
- On the brightside....at least none of my freshman 15 is a fetus. 85
④ 5 DAYS 0 replies
- United States of America? You mean michigan and its 49 bitches. 94
④ 5 DAYS 0 replies
- Statistics show that the average person has sex about 50 times a year. Looks like my december is about to get crazy. 77
④ 5 DAYS 0 replies
- I wish 15 minutes could save me 15% or more on this test. 65
④ 4 DAYS 0 replies

Graphic by Jordan Lodge

Winter Weather

Season of icy roads and skipping class



Photo By: Irma Collins | Photographer

Winter came a little early this year, dumping nearly a foot of snow prior to Thanksgiving break.

Jennifer Corne
Ferris State Torch

Whether you're a fan of the snow or not, winter has seemed to come early this year.

For many campus commuters, this means terrible driving conditions in thick snow and ice.

"When the roads are bad, plan ahead and take your time," said Captain Jim Cook, Assistant Director of Ferris Department of Public Safety. "Drive slower. Park your car and plan on leaving it there until your classes are done for the day – not drive back and forth to your residence between classes. Take the time to brush the snow and ice from your windows before driving. Let your car warm up enough to clear the frost from the windshield and side windows and always look out for the other guy who may lose control of their vehicle so that you can avoid being in a crash yourself."

Cook also said that when walking as a pedestrian, make sure to pay attention to your surroundings and keep a look out for vehicles passing near you that may slide and lose control, so you can avoid being hit.

Another issue students face during the winter season is skipping class, whether it's because driving conditions are too bad, or because it's -10 degrees out and you'd rather stay in bed.

"If Ferris is open, I will have class, because I just happen to live very close," said Dr. Melissa Smith, professor of literature. "I tell my students,

if you live off campus and you feel like you can't make it in to class, use your best judgment and email me. I'm trusting you to be honest about it, but I think the majority of students are going to be honest about whether they really can or can't come to campus."

"Don't wait for bad weather to talk to your teachers about what their policies are," said Smith, on winter weather advice for students. "Give yourself a lot of time. If you live far away, don't take 8 a.m. classes, because the roads aren't going to be plowed at seven in the morning. So if you know you're going to be commuting, take the ten or eleven classes. Make the best decision for yourself. Even if you are marked absent or you miss a couple points, that's still better than getting hurt."

According to studentscholarshipsearch.com, the average student will skip 104 classes in their entire time at college. That's \$2,400.32 in skipped hour-long classes for public institutions."

"Missing one class, or two classes over the course of the semester- I think you can work around that. But because I teach literature and writing, so much of what we learn in those classes is based on discussion. So when you miss class, you're not just missing out on the discussion, but even more importantly, your classmates are missing out on what you contribute," said Smith. "Don't miss class for silly reasons, so that if you do miss class for bad weather, it's only one or two times."

Smeared food on Merrill Hall door

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

Ben Rettinhouse

News Editor

Nov 16 at 2:05 am, officers located a car crash in the east row of Lot 4. Vehicles were going to fast for conditions and slide off the side of the parking lot.

Nov. 16 at 7:10 pm, report of a one car accident on Campus Drive near Lot 27. Vehicle was driving too fast and ran off the road. Driver was ticketed for driving at excessive speeds.

Nov. 15 at 11:02 pm, report of a person in Westside Café entering without paying. Two subjects were removed from the facility and were referred to the office of student conduct.

Nov. 15 at 12:55 am, report of two intoxicated subjects in Ward hall. Hall staff were interacting with subjects prior to officer arrival. Both subjects were given MIP's.

Nov. 16 at 8:44 pm, officers stopped a vehicle for driving without headlights on Warren Ave. near Spruce. Driver was ticketed for having a suspended driver's license.

Nov. 15 at 12:25 am, officers stopped a vehicle for driving without headlights near Michigan Ave. Driver was found to be intoxicated and lodged in the county jail for driving under the influence.

Nov. 17 at 5 pm, student walked into the office complaining that his credit card has been fraudulently used by somebody. Officers investigated the complaint and arrested one student for credit card fraud. Subject was lodged in the county jail.

Nov. 19th at 1 am, officers encountered subjects with marijuana in Merrill Hall. Subjects were referred to the office of student conduct.

Nov. 17 at 9:45 pm, officers received a complaint of harassment. Victim reported being threatened in Lot 17 earlier that evening over an argument regarding a parking space.

Nov. 16 at 5 pm, officers assisted Sheriff's department with a two-car collision that occurred on Southland Dr. just south of Big Rapids.

Nov. 17 at 9:30 pm, officers received information of a hit-and-run accident in Lot 5, officers were unable to locate the vehicle that fled the scene. Incident was reported by a witness who was unable to report the license number.



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Student Government



Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Being a part of Ferris Student Government gives students a lot of opportunities to blossom.

A look at Student Government's busy semester

Megan E Smith
Ferris State Torch

Student Government has kept busy throughout the semester by hosting and participating in a variety of events on campus.

"The Ferris State Student Government Association is the central entity for all Ferris State students, organizations and academic colleges," said Andrew Kalinowski, president of the organization. "The mission of Student Government is to represent FSU student interest in campus life as well as maintain open channels of communication between student, faculty, staff, administration, and the Big Rapids community."

Some of the activities the group has taken part in range from the State of the University event in October, a Town Hall Debate and a Holiday Food Drive for Project Starburst in collaboration with the Ameri-

can Marketing Association. The food drive is currently going on and will end on December 5.

"My favorite activity this semester has been the State of the University," said Kalinowski. "This was my favorite event this fall because it increases transparency and the relationship between the student body and the administration. President Eisler, VP of Student Affairs Dr. Ward-Roof and myself provided an update and hosted a panel of discussion where students [could] ask questions and provide their input."

Another of Kalinowski's favorite events is Pancakes with the President, which is coming up on December 8 from 10 to 12 pm. There is no admission charge. "Ferris State University students are invited to take a break from studying and fuel up for final exams by enjoying pancakes with the President," he said. "President David Eisler will be joined

by faculty and staff members who will serve students breakfast. This event will be held at the Rock and will welcome all Ferris Students. The last event had a record breaking attendance with over 1,000 students last spring."

Students can also look forward to many exciting events in the spring semester, including the first ever Leadership Dinner. Student Government is inviting two representatives from every RSO on campus to the dinner, where they will be addressed by many of the top administrators on campus, including President Eisler and several of the Vice Presidents and Deans. "The thesis behind having the event," said Kalinowski, "is to promote networking between the administration and the student body, as well as create opportunity for students to learn about other organizations and host better events. Haley Lomba, Director of Operations, will be coordinating this innovative event."

The most well-known Student Government event hosted in the spring is the annual BIG Event, which will take place on April 18th. The organization expects to serve over 250 homes this year with over 1500 volunteers.

This is Kalinowski's second school year as president of the Student Government. "Being Ferris State Student Government

President has been one of the best experiences of my life," he said. "I care so much about this great university and the students who attend. I am so happy that I was elected into office for another term. This school has done so much for me and I want to give back to Ferris State and the Student Body. I have learned so much this past term as Student Government President. We have seen the importance of transparency, representation, collaboration, and student leadership." Kalinowski also wishes to express his appreciation and recognize the Student Government Executive Board and Advisors.

"Any student can join student government," said Kalinowski. "A student can either be a Representative of their Registered Student Organization or a Senator of their Academic College. Students benefit by enhancing their resume; meeting new friends; networking with students, Ferris State Administration, employers,

and the community; and by gaining exceptional experience in speaking, diversity, event planning, leading, managing, finance and more. Registered Student Organizations benefit by having control over student funding; having networking and collaboration opportunities with other Registered Student Organizations, Ferris State Departments,

Big Rapids Community and other resources and by obtaining experience through their representative that they can transfer to enhance their organization. Student Government is a great place to implement change, benefit yourself and to maximize an organization. It is a great opportunity to be a part of this great organization of your fellow students."

Any student interested in joining Student Government is invited to attend meetings, which take place every Monday in room 202 of the Student Center at 6 pm.

EBOARD MEMBERS

WAYNE VERSANO- VP

CARMEN PLANK- Director of Finance

CHAUNTEL WOOTEN- Director of Internal Assessment

CORY SALADIN- Director of PR

DYLAN CARPENTER- Parliamentarian

HALEY LOMBA- Director of Operations

BENJAMIN BRACKETT-Treasurer

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FSU students stand for Ferguson

Students peacefully rally held after grand jury's decision

Devin Anderson
Ferris State Torch

More than 30 Ferris students held a peaceful rally in Ferris' north quad after a grand jury decided not to indict a police officer who killed unarmed teenager Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo.

Minutes after the grand jury's decision was announced, members of the Ferris Black Student Union and NAACP worked to quickly organize the event for the following morning through social media. They planned the rally for 11 am on Nov. 25.

Ferris television and digital media production senior and President of the Black Student Union Anthony Brock of Detroit said, "I organized a peaceful rally to get students of all races to come get informed of the issues and voice their opinions on the matter."

Students gathered at 11 a.m. for a long moment of silence and then read aloud a letter written to Ferris State University President David Eisler that "spelled out the frustrations of the black population here at Ferris," according to Brock.

Peaceful gatherings were held across the country and on college campuses including CMU, Michigan State and Grand Valley. Brock stressed that efforts on social media are not enough and that a public display is more effective.

"It's very important to do something on campus because we face the same inequities here at FSU," Brock said. "What's lacking from this entire situation is compassion for all parties involved. The underlying tension is hateful."

Breia Harris, President of Ferris' NAACP chapter, said that a divisive issue like Ferguson should bring students together and not pit them against each other.

"We have diversity at Ferris statistically, but not realistically," Harris said. "College is supposed to be a learning experience and one part of that is learning who is sitting next to you in class."

Harris and Brock spoke of racial slurs posted to the anonymous social media platform Yik Yak after the Ferguson news broke.

"It's scary, because I really go to school with students who feel this way. Then the worst thing is it's anonymous so I could be sitting next to the person that wrote it," Harris said.

Brock said that the posts to Yik Yak were "foul and very eye-opening. It's impossible for us to overcome the stereotypes placed on us if those who judge don't

give us a fair chance or clean slate."

One aspect of the Ferguson outcome is push for police officers to wear body cameras while on duty. As the media and the internet continue debating the grand jury's decision, body camera legislation is being drafted in several states, including Michigan.

A statement released by Michael Brown's family includes a call to action: "Join us in our campaigns to ensure that every police officer working the streets in this country wears a body camera."

Ferris criminal justice junior John Hill of Owosso is open to the idea.

"If officers were to wear cameras on their vests, it would help with the he-said/she-said cases," Hill said. "I would be comfortable with wearing a camera, because I would have nothing to hide. People may call it a privacy infringement, but I call it a necessary tool to protect both police and civilians."

The Brown family's statement continued: "We respectfully ask that you please keep your protests peaceful. Answering violence with violence is not the appropriate reaction."



Anthony Brock
Television and Digital Media Production



Photo courtesy of facebook.com/handsupdontshot

Several Colleges across the country stood with Ferguson in a protest called, "Hands Up Dont Shoot."

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LIFESTYLES

I remember just lying there, sobbing and not sure what to do. It was like this radiating pain I just couldn't shake off.

Logan Bixman
Ferris State University
See page 8 for story

Tis the season

Students discuss their different holiday traditions



Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

Holiday spirit is popping up all around campus, including this Christmas tree that was put up in the Student Rec Center.

Kailey Klingel
Ferris State Torch

Students can rejoice knowing that about a week from now begins a whole month of holidays, family time, and winter activities.

That's right, we survived first semester and are now about to be rewarded with what is truly the most wonderful time of the year: winter break.

Nursing junior Amanda Mathy is ready to break out her Christmas sweater and get into the holiday spirit.

"I'm looking forward to my annual ugly Christmas sweater party with friends and family

because I get to see all my close family and friends I haven't seen in almost a year," Mathy said.

Mathy isn't filling her vacation with Netflix and naps, but is instead focusing on how she can give back this holiday season. She is volunteering at a preschool for her nursing program and said she is excited to teach nursing skills to three and four year olds.

The thought of being reunited with loved ones is also a motivator to get students through mass amounts of studying and exams in the near future.

"I get excited to see my pets because we don't have any pets up here," Social Work sophomore Devin Hodgson said.

"I also like to spend time with my mom; we're actually going to Cancun for the first week of Christmas break."

Pre-Veterinary Medicine senior Julie Cohen is Jewish, and therefore doesn't participate in Christmas. Her winter break is a little different than most, but no less enjoyable.

"I kind of abandon my religion while I'm up here because there are no resources for Jews and the closest synagogue or Jewish population is in Grand Rapids," Cohen said. "So I'm really excited to go home and do Hanukkah things."

Those who don't know otherwise may assume that

Hanukkah is somewhat of the Jewish version of Christmas, but there is much more to it.

"Hanukkah isn't even really a major holiday except for in America because it's associated with Christmas," Cohen said. "So

in Israel it's a small holiday, but it does have a big meaning, which is to celebrate the miracles that happened at that time."

For eight days, Cohen and her family honor the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem during the Maccabean Revolt that took place in second century B.C.

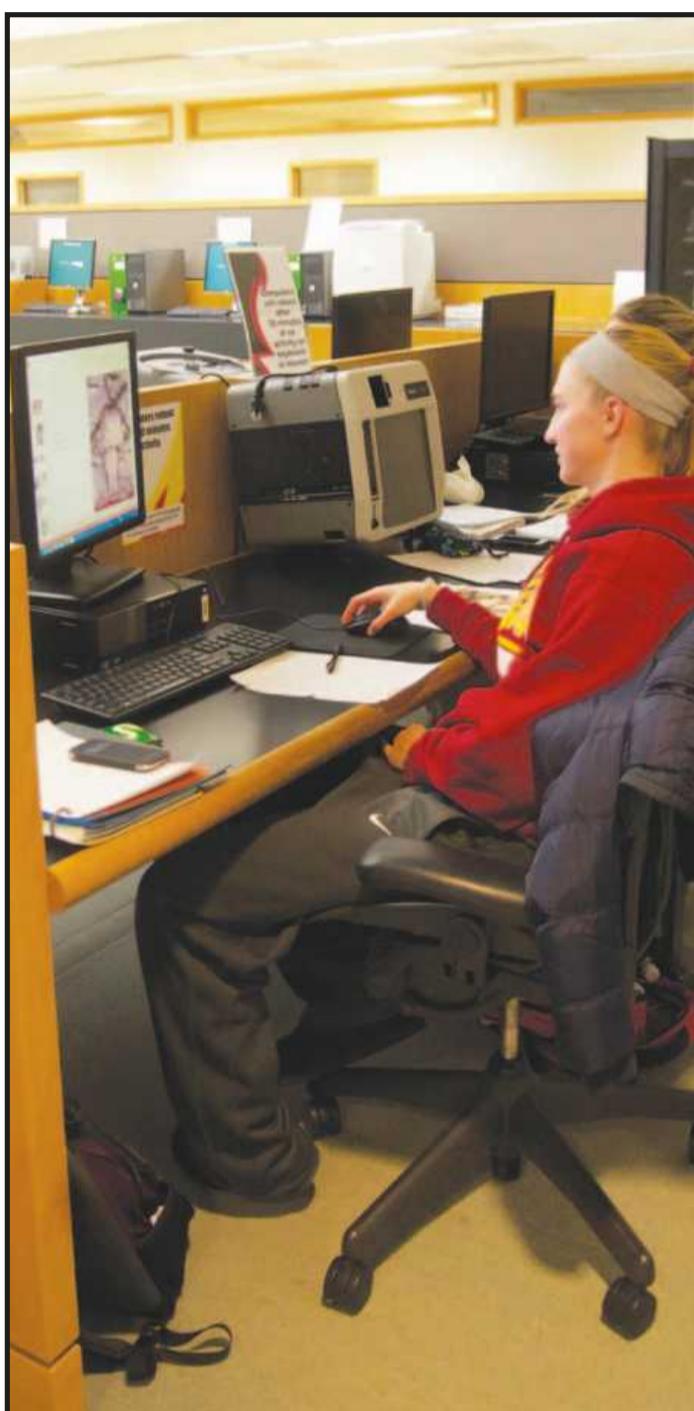
"The way we celebrate Hanukkah is by having our own menorah," said Cohen. "We light a candle for each day and after the eighth day we give presents, which is just more of an American thing to do to make up for Christmas."

Even though her holiday season doesn't look like most students', Cohen is still looking forward to what everyone loves about the holidays: good times, good food, and good people.



Julie Cohen
Senior, pre-veterinary med

Grand Finale



Emily Evans a sophomore in pre-med and Ally Christman a sophomore in pre-dental, study for an anatomy exam in FLITE.

Students deal with finals week

Kelsey George
Ferris State Torch

Finals week: The two words capable of sending chills down the spine of any college student.

Final exams signify two things. First, it means staying up until 3 a.m. running on nothing but ca-

feine and the fear of all of the work from the past 3 months amounting to nothing. Secondly and most important-

ly, it means we made it through the seemingly endless semester and have now earned a month of relaxation.

While the juniors and seniors are clearly the seasoned professionals at test-taking, students from all grades are voicing their thoughts, worries, tips, and tricks

for the upcoming week of hell. "I have three finals this semester, and I'm not really nervous for any of them," Resort Management freshman Joe Houle said. "I'm expecting them to go pretty well. I'm prepared, and as long as there are no surprises, all of the studying I've done will pay off."

If you're debating what study tools you should take advantage of, some students utilize the note card strategy. Memorizing 200 definitions seems like a daunting task, but going over a few of them each day up until your exam will be extremely beneficial.

"The finals I'm most nervous for are biology and psychology," Marketing freshman Brooke Combs said.

"Psych is hard to study for because it's all about thinking

Joe Houle
Freshman, resort management

Getting Back in the Saddle



Bixman still has to push through physical therapy, and will have to undergo more surgery as her recovery stretches into its second year.



Photos courtesy of Logan Bixman

X-ray's of Logan's spinal injuries. Her sternum was in half following the injury, and one of her vertebrae was crushed to 30 percent of its normal size.

Dylan Peters
Ferris State Torch

Despite some damage to her shoulder, Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Logan Bixman is living life in a normal fashion again.

The significance of living in relative norm for Bixman, is that in March 2013, that was seriously in doubt.

Bixman, an honors student rides horses and is the Co-President of the Hunt Team. The practice of horse-back-riding has its dangers, and on one particular March day, Bixman experienced the

full force of those dangers.

"I was warming up. I [went] over the first jump and it was so long, I barely got over the second one," Bixman said. "I went to jump over the last one, and we went up and over. Then, the horse I was riding caught it with her legs and she went down. She went down so fast, it sent me flying."

Witnesses estimated that Bixman flew around 30-40 feet in the air and landed on her left shoulder and neck.

"I was instantly in so much pain," Bixman said. "I wasn't sure if it was all in my head or something. It wasn't like any other pain

I've felt before. I remember just lying there, sobbing and not sure what to do. It was like this radiating pain I just couldn't shake off."

Bixman had her friends use her phone to call her parents and an ambulance as she was unable to move her body.

"I was picked up by the ambulance and driven to the hospital," Bixman said. "They were asking me 'can you feel this,' or 'can you see this,' and everything was fine except I could only feel things from the base of my neck up."

X-rays revealed that Bixman had broken her spine in five places, broke nearly all of her ribs and

cracked her sternum in half. As of today, she still has muscle damage in her left shoulder.

"For three months, I had my mom, my sister and boyfriend at the time," said Bixman. "They had to help me go to the bathroom, feed me, bathe me and change me and stuff. It was a total eye opener to how much everyone takes for granted. If I wanted to change my pants because I was too warm, I had to call my mom to do it."

Bixman had to finish her freshman year at home in Fenton, roughly a two hour and 40 minute drive away from Big

Rapids.

"It was exciting because I had gotten a 4.0 GPA that semester," Bixman said. "I really didn't have anything else to do."

Bixman is an honor's student and recipient of the Outstanding Leader Award, Volunteer Award and Rising Star Award.

"It's a lot better now," Bixman said. "I've ridden since then and stuff, but there's still so much I'm afraid to do. You never think something's going to happen to you, but it can."

FINALS from Page 7

Students find many different strategies in studying for finals

outside the box, and biology has a lot of definitions to remember. I'm making a lot of note cards. I'm still nervous, but just ready for the next semester already."

As tempting as it may be, one student advises to avoid putting things off until the last second. You aren't going to remember every bit of information you tried to cram into your head the night before the test.

"Don't procrastinate, and even if the professor gives you a study guide it's a good idea to make your own," Professional Golf Management sophomore Jacob Connell said. "Studying in groups can also help, as well as listening to music as long as it doesn't become distracting."

Some kinesthetic-learning students focus on their physical readiness along with their mental preparations.

"Eat good foods, and make sure you find time to exercise, even if it's just 15 minutes of cardio," Elementary Education junior Taylor Caslow said. "What I like to do is bring my notebook with me and go over the mate-

rial while I'm on the treadmill."

It may seem like you should take advantage of every second of study time, but taking breaks is also necessary.

"Don't forget to leave time for



Chris Okoye

Freshman, pre-law

just hanging out," Caslow said. "I found out the hard way that over-studying doesn't do you any good."

Lastly, one of the most important tips to remember is planning ahead.

"I start studying about two weeks in advance," Pre-Law freshman and Honors student Chris Okoye said. "I do two hours of studying per class, but try to only study for two classes a day. When it comes to your studying environment, any quiet place will suffice."

Exam Week Schedule

If your class meets:	Your exam Day, Date & Time is:		
8:00 am	M combinations	Wed., Dec. 10	8-9:40 am
8:00 am	T combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	8-9:40 am
9:00 am	M combinations	Mon., Dec. 8	8-9:40 am
9:00 am	T combinations	Tues., Dec. 9	8-9:40 am
9:30 or 10:00 am	T combinations	Mon., Dec. 8	10-11:40 am
10:00 am	M combinations	Tues., Dec. 9	10-11:40 am
11:00 am	M combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	10-11:40 am
12:00 pm	M combinations	Mon., Dec. 8	12-1:40 pm
12:00 pm	T combinations	Tues., Dec. 9	12-1:40 pm
1:00 pm	M combinations	Wed., Dec. 10	12-1:40 pm
1:00 pm	T combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	12-1:40 pm
1:30 or 2:00 pm	T combinations	Wed., Dec. 10	2-3:40 pm
2:00 pm	M combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	2-3:40 pm
3:00 pm	M combinations	Tues., Dec. 9	2-3:40 pm
3:00 pm	T combinations	Mon., Dec. 8	2-3:40 pm
4:00 pm	M combinations	Mon., Dec. 8	4-5:40 pm
4:00 pm	T combinations	Tues., Dec. 9	4-5:40 pm
4:30 or 5:00 pm	M combinations	Wed., Dec. 10	4-5:40 pm
4:30 or 5:00 pm	T combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	4-5:40 pm
6:00 pm	M combinations	Mon., Dec. 8	6-7:40 pm
6:00 pm	T combinations	Tues., Dec. 9	6-7:40 pm
7:00 or 7:30 pm	M combinations	Wed., Dec. 10	6-7:40 pm
7:00 or 7:30 pm	T combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	6-7:40 pm
8:00 pm	M combinations	Thur., Dec. 11	8-9:40 pm
8:00 pm	T combinations	Wed., Dec. 10	8-9:40 pm

ARTIST OF THE WEEK

The Last Bison

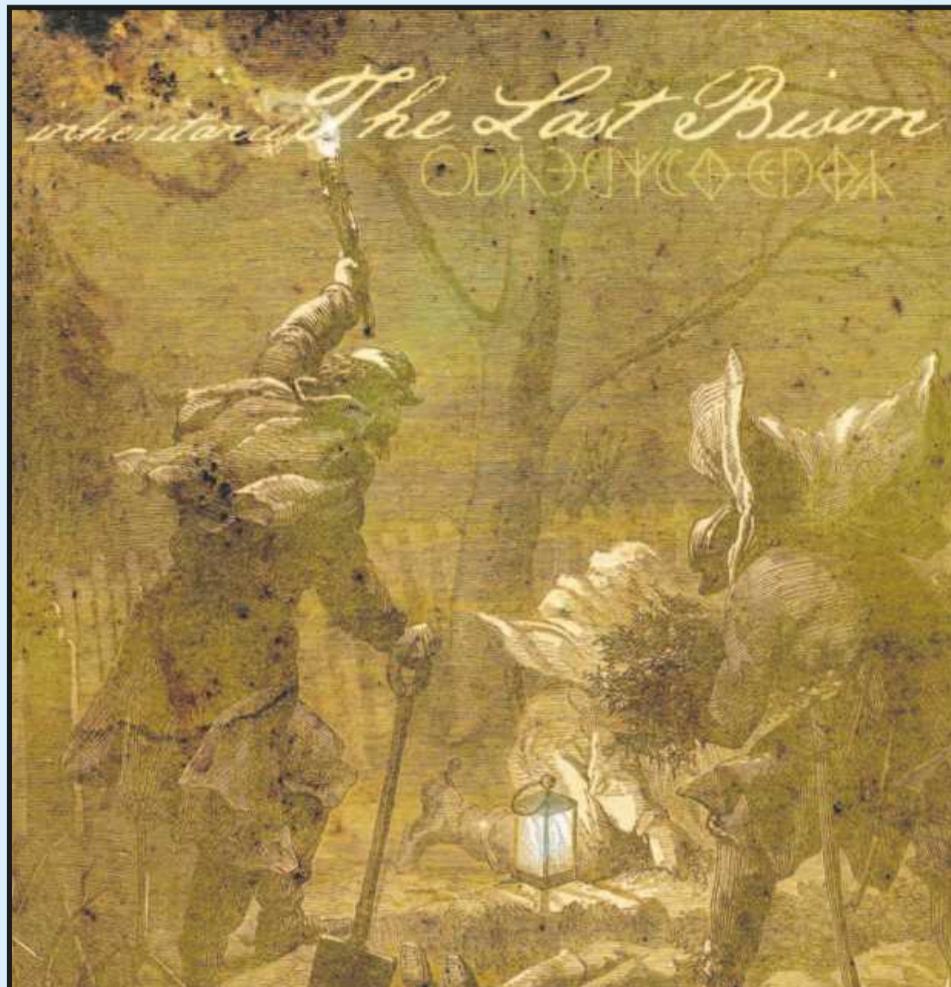


Photo courtesy of iTunes

An album cover of The Neighbourhood, provided by iTunes.

Genre: Folk Rock

Like: Mumford & Sons,
Hey Marseilles, Fleet
Foxes

Dubbed "classical-influenced southern folk rock" by National Public Radio, The Last Bison arrived on the indie music scene in 2010 when they performed on a Norfolk, Virginia radio station.

They originally called themselves simply "Bison," but decided to lengthen the name in 2012 to avoid confusion with another band called Bison.

The Chesapeake, Virginia band is large, consisting of 7 members, including lead singer and guitarist Ben Hardesty, his siblings Dan and Annah, and their friends Andrew

Benfante, Teresa Totheroh, and Amos Houseworth.

The band's sound is a unique blend of Hardesty's eclectic vocals—at times rugged and gravelly, at others a smooth tenor—is accompanied by flowing melodies and harmonies on a variety of acoustic instruments, including guitar, banjo, bells, violin, and cello.

All of these qualities create a distinctive sound the band describes as "mountain-top chamber music." Like Mumford and Sons, their lyrics often contain religious references without being classified as belonging to an overtly Christian genre.

Their first full album, *Inheritance*, was released in March 2013 and their latest album, VA, was just released this September.

They also have a Christmas album entitled *Sleigh Ride*, which puts an original twist on traditional Christmas carols and is worth checking out as well. All of their music is available on Spotify.

The Last Bison is one of those rare bands I never get bored of. When a band has a distinct sound, no matter how likable, it's easy for all of their songs to start running together in my mind.

That's not the case with The Last Bison. For first-time listeners, I recommend the light and rollicking tones of the song "Quill," which reminds me of being at a circus or carnival, or the complex "Switzerland," which is incidentally the first Last Bison song I ever heard.

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SPORTS

FERRIS STATE TORCH

FOOTBALL

ROUGHED UP



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | Photographer

Head coach Tony Annese and junior quarterback Jason Vander Laan share a moment towards the end of the 46-33 loss to Ohio Dominican.

Dawgs drop playoff game to GLIAC rival, end season with 11-1 record

Justin Aiken
Ferris State Torch

The 2014 Ferris State football team saw their season come to an abrupt ending on Saturday afternoon after being upset by the Panthers of Ohio Dominican in the second round of the NCAA Division II Playoffs.

"I'm just so proud of my team, they fought so hard. It's a tough battle man, 11-0," said Bulldog's head coach Tony Annese. "There's certain things that happen in the game of football. Maintaining a level of excellence for 12 games is hard to do."

The Panthers upset the Bulldogs by a score of 46-33 in Big Rapids, in a game where

there was no shortage of offense. ODU racked up 548 yards of total offense, with 462 of those yards coming through the air, all behind the arm of senior quarterback Mark Miller. Miller was efficient in his passing, going 34-for-46 and adding four touchdown tosses.

The Bulldogs posted 428 yards of total offense, but five turnovers on offense eventually led to their defeat. Junior quarterback Jason Vander Laan did what he does best, running for 156 yards on 26 carries, while adding a score. He also had 241 yards through the air with three touchdowns, along with three interceptions.

"They did a good job of attacking our youth," said

Annese. "They knew where we were young and they did a good job of attacking those guys. I think their defensive front is the most stout defensive front that we've played this year."

The loss on Saturday afternoon still sits heavy with the Bulldog's, as this isn't how the team saw their season coming to an end.

"We weren't ready for it to end this way. Coming off the bye week, you're real fresh and you're thinking you have three or four more weeks in you," said Vander Laan. "We knew ODU was a good team, but just having all that time to prepare for them we thought we had a good game-plan. The seniors that we have right now, we're going to

miss them a ton. Losing those guys, it's going to really hurt. This all really hurts. We haven't lost at all this year, so I don't really know what it feels like until now. Nobody was expecting this on our entire team."

A subdued Annese, with a hoarse voice, expressed thankfulness despite the loss.

"You don't feel as bad for the loss as much as you feel bad that you aren't going to be with this great group of guys," said Annese. "It's been a fabulous year. I've got probably eight or nine guys that played for me at GRCC. I've got guys that have played for me for a long time. I've got a bunch of seniors that have fought so hard. It's been such a blessing to have

They knew where we were young and they did a good job of attacking those guys.
Tony Annese
Head Coach, Ferris State Football
See below for story

Dawg gone

Aftermath of NCAA Playoffs

Harrison Watt
Editor-in-Chief

Since the dawn of my being, I've watched the Detroit Lions tear themselves apart in some of the most hilarious ways possible.

The Lions found ways to lose.

The Ferris football team this season found ways to win.

Going into their home playoff game (a 46-33 loss) against Ohio Dominican, there was little thought that Ferris would find a way to lose.

There was a bevy of experience on this 2014 football team, but there was also an influx of youth that the Ohio Dominican Panthers sought to expose.

The Bulldogs gave up 462 passing yards through the air and four touchdowns in this playoff game.

It wasn't because of one man. The Bulldogs have plenty of talent, though young in spots, in the defensive secondary.

Late in the fourth quarter and down a score, the Bulldog defense had held off the Panthers and forced a fourth down and 11 on the Ferris 43 yard line.

When the Bulldogs had a chance to return the ball, they took a truly costly penalty.

Though multiple Bulldogs were in on the play, sophomore defensive tackle Torrey Appel was called for roughing the kicker, which automatically gives the kicking team a new set of downs and 15 yards.

The Panthers scored on the drive to salt the game away.

Ferris hadn't seen the NCAA playoffs in 18 seasons. At the time, Jason Vander Laan was four years old.

It takes pain and painful experiences over a period of time to build a winning tradition. Had this team won the NCAA title this season, it would have been borderline miraculous. They had plenty of talent, but the experience of going through the fire is necessary.

There are exceptions to that rule. The Lions often go through painful experiences and don't get any better (Or so it seems).

The fact that this Ferris team has improved its record in large increments over the last three years should be a sign that next year is not a rebuilding year.

This team means business. Come and see it next August.

HOCKEY

Ferris invited to Great Lakes Invitational

Bulldogs will take part in 50th installment of the tournament



Photo By: Michael A. Corn | Photographer

The Ferris State hockey team will make its debut appearance in the Great Lakes Invitational holiday tournament in Joe Louis Arena on December 28 and 29.

Keith Salowich
Ferris State Torch

The Ferris State hockey team is set to make its debut appearance in the Great Lakes Invitational holiday tournament in Joe Louis Arena on December 28 and 29.

The annual tournament, which will celebrate its 50th year of existence this season, is hosted by three of the state's powerhouse hockey programs in Michigan Tech, Michigan, and Michigan State. The Bulldogs will begin the weekend by clashing with Michigan State, who they previously split a series with earlier in the season.

"We've always wanted to be in this tournament. We've played in a lot of holiday tournaments over the years, but we really wanted to get into this one because it's the oldest and probably one of the most prestigious in the country," head coach Bob Daniels said.

Having been played for fifty years, it comes as a bit of a shock that Ferris State has never found a spot in the tournament until now despite its prominence in the college hockey world. However, there was a clear barrier holding them out of competition, which has since been cleared.

"The problem that we had is that we couldn't get into it as long as we were in the same conference as Michigan and Michigan State. Their fans don't want to watch them play teams that they face all the time, because then it just becomes a conference tournament. So once we had the conference realignment we were eligible to be offered a spot in the tournament, and we're absolutely thrilled to be invited," Daniels said.

Now that the Bulldogs have finally been invited, they are hoping to secure a place for themselves within the tour-

nament in the near future.

"Knowing the amount of alums in the area, we're really hoping that we can get a good following at that tournament. It's important that we bring a lot of fans, because then we would be that much more appealing to getting another invitation sooner rather than later," Daniels said.

Of course, playing before a substantially larger crowd in a historic NHL arena seems to raise the stakes of a game. One might worry about pressure and nerves afflicting a new team participating in this tournament for the first time, but coach Daniels sees it differently.

"We've played in this type of environment before. Our seniors would have played in the Frozen Four in Tampa, which was played on NHL ice and in front of an NHL crowd," Daniels said. "Over the years, we've seen these types of situations, so I don't think

nerves will get to us. Once the puck drops, it's the same game and it doesn't matter if there's a huge crowd or no one watching."

The fact that this esteemed tournament is hosted in Michigan, and that this installment of it has only Michigan-native participants, demonstrates just how prominent college hockey is in the state.

"Hockey in general is huge in Michigan. We have more division-I teams here than any other state in the country. Therefore, it feels only natural to have a tournament of this prestige in this state," Daniels said. "The majority of our players come from Michigan, so they understand the importance of the GLI. Now while we can't guarantee victory, we can guarantee that we are going to go there with the absolute idea that we badly want to win this tournament."

In addition to the recogni-

GLI SCHEDULE

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Joe Louis Arena

FSU VS. MSU
10/31 & 11/01

CJ Motte
shutout in 1-0
Win on 10/31.

Five different
players scored a
point in the se-
ries.

See GLI on Page 13

FOOTBALL from Page 3

Dawgs finish 11-1 in 46-33 loss to GLIAC rival Ohio Dominican in NCAA home playoff game

such a great family of men to be with every day. That's my proudest moment, I love these guys."

Although the Bulldogs didn't reach their ultimate goal of a National Championship, the season will still go down in the record books as the Dawgs

posted a regular season record of 11 wins and zero losses. Along with those 11 wins came a GLIAC Championship trophy, something the Bulldogs hadn't taken home since 1999, and their first outright championship since 1996.

The Bulldogs also had 16 student-athletes named to All-GLIAC teams, with Vander Laan taking home the honors of GLIAC Player of the Year and Annese grabbing the GLIAC Coach of the Year award.

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BASKETBALL



Photo courtesy FSU photo services

Stolicker using his 6 foot 10 frame to dunk during a home game last season. Stolicker is the team's top rebounder and has excelled in blocking shots with his rangy wingspan.

Walking tall

Junior big man showing improvement

Keith Salowich
Ferris State Torch

Standing 6 feet and 10 inches above the ground, redshirt junior post player Jared Stolicker of the Bulldogs basketball team is well aware of, "how the weather is up there."

Stolicker has seen the Bulldogs hover around a .500 winning percentage for the last few seasons, and is looking to change that by improving himself and his teammates daily. Whether that improvement comes through minutes on the court, or sweat in practice, Stolicker is pushing those around him to succeed.

"When I came in last year, I noticed that as the season progressed in practice, he started pushing me harder and harder to make me better, and I was trying to push him harder. We guard each other almost every day, so I really notice that he's trying his best in practice, and that makes everyone take notice and try to play harder," said redshirt freshman post player Zach Hankins.

A commendable work ethic and ample experience have

helped to push Stolicker into a leadership role among younger athletes such as Hankins, who also happens to measure in at 6'10".

"Yeah, I think I've started to step into a leadership role a little bit more just because of my seniority," Stolicker said. "I mean, we already have two captains, so I'm not trying to take anything away from them, but I always try to help the younger guys whenever I can."

Mentoring underclassmen teammates has become a priority for Stolicker. While much of this guidance comes through support and motivation, he is able to effectively lead by example when it comes to play in the post.

"The best aspect of my game would have to be my rebounding. That and blocking shots is probably what I'm best at. Those are the things that let me take advantage of my height," said Stolicker.

Of course, basketball is a game that can be tremendously influenced by the length of a player. This height that Stolicker was blessed with, which helps to carry him above his competitors, can be primarily attributed to one huge adolescent growth spurt.

"I pretty much grew up all at once. It happened during my sophomore year of high school," said Stolicker. "I could dunk in my sophomore year after I was done growing, so as a kid I felt pretty cool because of that."

A 6'10" sixteen year old is a bit of an oddity, but Stolicker has taken full advantage of his height, and has grown into his game. Stolicker's presence off the court also seems to have developed, as his positive attitude and humorous nature offers a boost to the team's overall morale.

"Off the court, he's kind of a goofy guy. He's always messing with other people and trying to make them feel uncomfortable for his own amusement. He just makes all kinds of jokes and calls everybody out, so it's really fun to be around him," Hankins said.

The Bulldogs are showing promise thus far this season with a 3-2 record, including an undefeated home record and currently maintaining a 3-game win streak. The Dawgs will hit the road, bound for Painesville, Ohio in order to tip off conference play against Lake Erie on December 4.

FANTASY SPORTS

FanDuel

As if football wasn't exciting enough

Marshall Scheldt

Ferris State Torch

If any of you have played fantasy sports, then you know the feeling of excitement when your team is winning. Or like some not-so-fortunate players, you don't.

According to the Fantasy Sports Trade Association industry demographics, to date there are over 41 million people playing fantasy sports in the USA and Canada. That number has risen by almost 29 million since 2005.

One of the largest fantasy sports websites is FanDuel.com

FanDuel was founded by Lesley Eccles, Tom Griffith, and Nigel Eccles in 2009, and has taken off since. The idea of FanDuel is to break down a season-long fantasy sports experience into a one day, or one-weekend contest of who can pick the best team.

Most FanDuel users decide to place their bets on NFL fantasy football teams, although users can create lineups in the NHL, the NBA, MLB, college football, and college basketball.

A FanDuel member can place bets anywhere from \$1 to over \$5,000, depending on how much they want to risk. I personally stick with the \$1-\$5 bets,

but if you want to risk a semester's tuition on how many touchdowns Peyton Manning throws next week, then more power to you.

Since I am particularly familiar with the football aspect of FanDuel, and it 'tis the season for football (remember the Bulldogs are nearly undefeated?) I'm going to stick to what I (kind of) know.

So here's how it works:

After signing up and picking which pool he/she wants to enter into, the user picks a lineup. Each FanDueler picks one quarterback, two running backs, three wide receivers, a tight end, a kicker, and a defense.

The trick is that each user is given a \$60,000 salary cap for their team. This \$60,000 isn't literal, think of it as Monopoly money.

Players are worth different amounts of money

depending on how many points they are projected to earn during their game for that week. Obviously, a great quarterback like Tom Brady would cost more than a rookie like Derek Carr who plays for a 1-10 Oakland Raiders team who just got their first win this past week.

I just decided to try FanDuel two weeks ago after fellow Torch writer Justin Aiken recommended it, and I'm already hooked. I entered \$10 into my account and bet it all on six different entries of \$1 and \$2.

Although I only won money on one of my entries, with a little help from Steeler's running back Le'Veon Bell, I won my \$10 back.

So of course this past week I spent the \$10 on more entries. This time I won on two of the six and made \$12.50. Now I wish I could say that this was skill, but for the most part it's up to the FanDuel gods if you're going to win money. So if you're struggling to pay your rent every month, I don't recommend dropping a hundred bones on a tip you heard that Calvin Johnson is supposed to, "go off" this week.

I realized though, that the reason I'll be back next week won't be because of the \$12.50 I still have on my account, but for the sheer thrill of the experience. Now regardless if I have money on a game, I'm going to spend most of my Sunday during the fall watching NFL football anyway. But now since I've been using FanDuel, I really get into the action.

I even watched the Cowboys play the Giants on Sunday night.....and I can't stand the Cowboys or the Giants. The reason I decided to watch? There were six different players in that game who I had on my FanDuel lineup.

So if you're interested in fantasy sports and have a couple extra bucks saved up from all the beer cans you drank while watching the Lions throttle the Bears on Thursday, return the cans and sign up for FanDuel. Maybe you'll win some money.



Sports Shorts

Harrison Watt

Editor-in-Chief

Hockey drops one, ties another with 1-8-1 Wisconsin

The Bulldogs were riding a three win in four game wave of momentum headed to Madison, Wisconsin over Thanksgiving weekend, but were unable to maintain it.

On Nov. 28, the Dawgs found themselves down 1-0 to the University of Wisconsin Badgers in the third period when freshman forward Andrew Dorantes found the back of the net.

Minutes later, sophomore forward Jared VanWormer appeared to put Ferris up 2-1 in the waning moments of regulation, but his goal was called off on a goaltender interference call.

The Bulldogs ended the game in a stalemate, despite losing the post-tie shootout (which held no bearing on the result of the game as it was a non-conference game).

On Nov. 29 Chad McDonald put the Bulldogs in the drivers seat early when he scored his team-leading eighth goal of the season. After the score was tied 10 minutes later, freshman defenseman Austin Kosack scored his first career collegiate goal.

The Badgers scored 37 seconds later to tie the game and went up 3-2 headed into the third. Freshman forward Tyler Andrew scored his second career collegiate goal early in the first, but the Badgers answered on the powerplay and added the empty net goal to take a 5-3 victory, dropping Ferris to 7-7-1 overall.

Women's basketball burns Tiffin Dragons at home

Ferris improved to 2-1 following a resounding victory over Tiffin University on Nov. 30 inside Wink Arena.

The 77-51 blowout was due in large part to the Bulldogs offensive explosion in the first half.

Ferris went up 51-24 while shooting 54.3 percent from the floor.

Junior guard Katie Mavis paced the Bulldogs in the first half with 11 points, and senior forward Ashley Rando added 10 off the bench.

Mavis finished with 13, but was outstripped by sophomore guard Ally Christman who scored 14 to lead the Dawgs.

Ferris was outscored 27-26 in the second half, as the Dragons shot 34.5 percent. Tiffin went 1-15 from three-point range in the first half, which was good for a 6.7 percent shooting percentage from beyond the arc.

Senior Harper finishes top 20 in region; paces Dawgs

Andrew Harper paced all Ferris cross country runners at Division II regional championships in Evansville, Indiana.

On Nov. 22, Harper took off with the pack in the 10k race, and finished 19th in the region with an official time of 31 minutes and 18 seconds.

Harper's dash earned him All-Region accolades. Junior Lucas Copi finished in 37, giving Ferris two top-40 runners in the nation in a field of over 200.

Sophomore Logan Hammer and junior Spencer Gerber finished 41st and 78th respectively, giving Ferris four men in the top 100.

The women's team also saw four runners finish in the top 100 out of 211.

Ferris sophomore Samantha Humphrey led all Bulldog women with a 54th place finish. Junior Ashley Hamilton finished in 58th, while junior Emily Haynes was 62nd. Sophomore Alyssa Cummings finished out in 92nd overall.

The men scored 291 points and finished seventh in the region. The women scored 398 and finished 14th in their region.

National championships will take place in Louisville, Kentucky on Dec. 6.

This season was the Bulldogs first under former Ferris standout Jared Kelsh. Kelsh took over when former coach Steve Picucci moved on to Division I Moorhead State.

Kelsh currently has the tag as interim head coach, and was hired on August 20.

Top Dawg



Photo By: Michael A. Corn, Photographer

Jibreel Jackson scored just five points, but nailed a game-winning three point shot at the buzzer to down Albion College on his birthday/

Harrison Watt

Editor-in-Chief

The basketball god's shone down upon Jibreel Jackson on his birthday.

Jackson, a junior point guard out of Chicago, was able to hit a game-winning three-pointer at the buzzer on Nov. 29 to give the Ferris men's basketball team a 54-52 victory over Albion.

The Bulldogs shot a brutal 15.2 percent from the floor in the first half, and trailed 34-18 at the half.

In 14 minutes in the first half, Jackson had two points

on 0-3 shooting (2-2 at the free throw line).

Ferris heated up and shot three times as well in the second half as they did in the first at 46.7 percent.

Despite the improvement, the Dawgs found themselves down 52-51 in the final seconds with the ball out of bounds on the farthest side of the court.

Junior center Jared Stolicker fired a baseball pass to center court where junior forward James Chappell caught it.

Chappell turned and dished it aside to a driving

Jackson, who pulled up at the three-point line.

Jackson let the ball go as time expired and his shot tickled the twine to give the Bulldogs a 54-52 victory over the Britons.

The shot was the only field goal that Jackson made the entire day, but it counted in the biggest way.

After the game Jackson was elated with his birthday present.

"This is the best birthday I have had," Jackson said. "It will be hard to top this birthday and I certainly won't forget it."

GLI from Page 11
Chosen for prestigious tournament

tion and chance at a tournament championship that comes with this invitation, there is also another potential benefit to reap from the weekend.

"What I like about these tournaments is that it parallels our league championships. You have four teams going to a neutral site and they'll be sharing locker rooms and bumping into each other in the corridors," Daniels said. "This is a good dress rehearsal for the league playoffs and the NCAA playoffs. It's a chance to win a championship on a weekend, and it kind of mimics the structure of our postseason, so that experience can help us in the long run."

The Bulldogs have already met with every team in the tournament this season, and only one of the five previous contests was decided by more than one goal. Therefore, the competition should be fierce at this tournament, and it is hard to pick a clear favorite. The stage is set for epic rematches between these familiar teams, and it is one of the largest stages in all of college hockey.



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OPINIONS

FERRIS STATE TORCH

"I've been given many reasons to love this place, but I don't."

Tyler Hanan
Opinions Editor
See page 16 for story

FERRIS STATE TORCH

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Letter From The Editor

Feelings

Harrison Watt
Editor-in-Chief

You cannot argue with feelings. I don't understand the pain of the violent protestors of the Michael Brown indictment. I come from a white-collar family in one of the wealthiest suburbs in the country.

I do not fear the police because I have never been given a reason to fear them. In my elementary school, I was taught to revere the police as heroic figures.

Being that I was brought up in that manner, I cannot fully understand the weight of the pain these violent protestors.

I don't understand the violence.

At no point in my lifetime when I've been pulled over by an officer have I felt victimized. There are people in this country that do deal with that, and it's not my right to say that those people are being irrational.

I once dated someone that was ridiculously afraid of spiders. I see spiders as tiny, slightly creepy but mostly harmless (I'm terrified of spiders for the record, but for the sake of the metaphor, let's pretend I'm not).

The way we see the something like that is completely different. Because I am not afraid, I'm inclined to call her irrational. That's the problem. You can't call feelings irrational; it's nonsensical to argue that someone isn't allowed to feel a certain way about something.

People perceive actions and beings in different ways. Strong feelings are rarely logical. In a way, it would be a waste of time to try and understand what the few, and I reiterate, few people in that city are going through.

The potential depth of our life experiences is limited by many factors.

I can say I'm happy and proud that the protests on this campus were peaceful. Protests in that manner make me proud to be a part of this community. I don't have to side with the protestors to recognize that peaceful protest is good, especially on this campus.

What I won't do is condemn the violence, because the depth of my life experience does not encompass a feeling of unease towards law enforcement, and it is not fair to tell someone "Your feelings are dumb."

No shave November

On our bizarre hair standards



Graphic by Jordan Lodge

Every November, society expects men to embrace their masculinity by growing and shaping their facial hair into various styles of mustaches and beards.

We find many men proudly displaying their abilities to produce magnificent feats with their facial hair, while those who cannot are stigmatized from their manhood. What we tend to ignore is the double standard of this competition – women are discouraged from letting their body hair grow.

From a young age, women are told to be hairless creatures (except for our heads, where we're encouraged to sport long, traditional locks). Our culture emphasizes the use of razors to remove "objectionable hair", and older women who tire of



Irma Collins
Ferris State Torch

this routine seek various forms of permanent hair removal.

The few women who do not shave are, once again, stigmatized for being "hairy freaks" or what I often hear, "dirty hippie." But are we really freaks, or are we embracing our human nature? We are born hairy creatures, a point that is evident in our phylogenetic tree.

The removal of this hair is a young and new cultural standard; it was established in America less than 100 years ago. In the 1920's, razors companies were pushing for sales by creating the standard of "objectionable hair," and the fad caught

on when sleeveless dresses became a fashion trend. Unlike America, European, Asian and African cultures continue to embrace natural body hair.

For the longest time, I questioned the sanity of shaving. It involves constant upkeep and can lead to various minor injuries. It's also costly, as we are constantly buying new razors and shaving cream. Talk about a racket. For some women, missing a day leads to too much stubble, while others cannot shave every day lest they risk the wrath of razor burn. It hurts!

Though I hate shaving, that does not mean I do not take part in this trend. If my hair is a nuisance, as in the case of my under-arms, I remedy the situation as needed. I shave

See November on Page 15

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"What lies behind you and what lies in front of you, pales in comparison to what lies inside you."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



Merry Christmas!



Photo By: Shelby Soberalski | Photo Editor

Campus has entered the holiday season by decorating around Ferris.



December 3, 2014

TO THE FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY GLIAC CHAMPION FOOTBALL TEAM:

Congratulations on an outstanding football season. You gave this University and community great excitement and enjoyment as we watched you do battle on Saturdays! A great football tradition is starting at FSU.

Beginning with move in week, in sweltering weather, we were able to watch as you graciously helped more students than we can count move into residence halls. Students and parents were beaming watching our football team, as well as other FSU athletes, drip sweat all day long while taking the pain out of moving in for many of our students. I think one of you might have told me that it was harder than two-a days! As the season began, your commitment and work effort brought our outstanding coaching staff what they needed on the field.

Beyond the football accomplishments, your conduct and the image of FSU football players that you demonstrated all season set a standard for future FSU football players to aspire to. I am very proud of what each of you has accomplished both on and off the field. We are all looking forward to next year already!

We love you guys!

Bruce Borkovich
Director of Public Safety

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.....



Maria Roelofs
Junior, Graphic Design

"What has been your most awkward Ferris experience?"
"I'm an awkward person, I have lots of awkward moments."



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NOVEMBER from Page 14

Women shouldn't have to shave

once every 4-5 days, and that is enough. My legs, on the other hand, are never bothersome, so I have not shaved them in a year and a half and do not plan on it.

What do the men say about my hairy legs? Most of them DO NOT CARE.

Surprising? It shouldn't be. They aren't touching my legs, and if they can't handle my hair, they can't handle me. And if I am wanting the comforting touch of smooth legs, I simply wear my silky leggings and life is grand.

I display my hairy legs proudly, for they make a powerful statement about beauty standards. The media is persistently projecting ideal standards of beauty to subconsciously force us into thinking we need various products to achieve them. What we truly need is a more accepting perspective, one that sees beauty outside of the physical realm. My body hair does not hamper any aspect of my inner beauty; there's no reason it should affect yours.

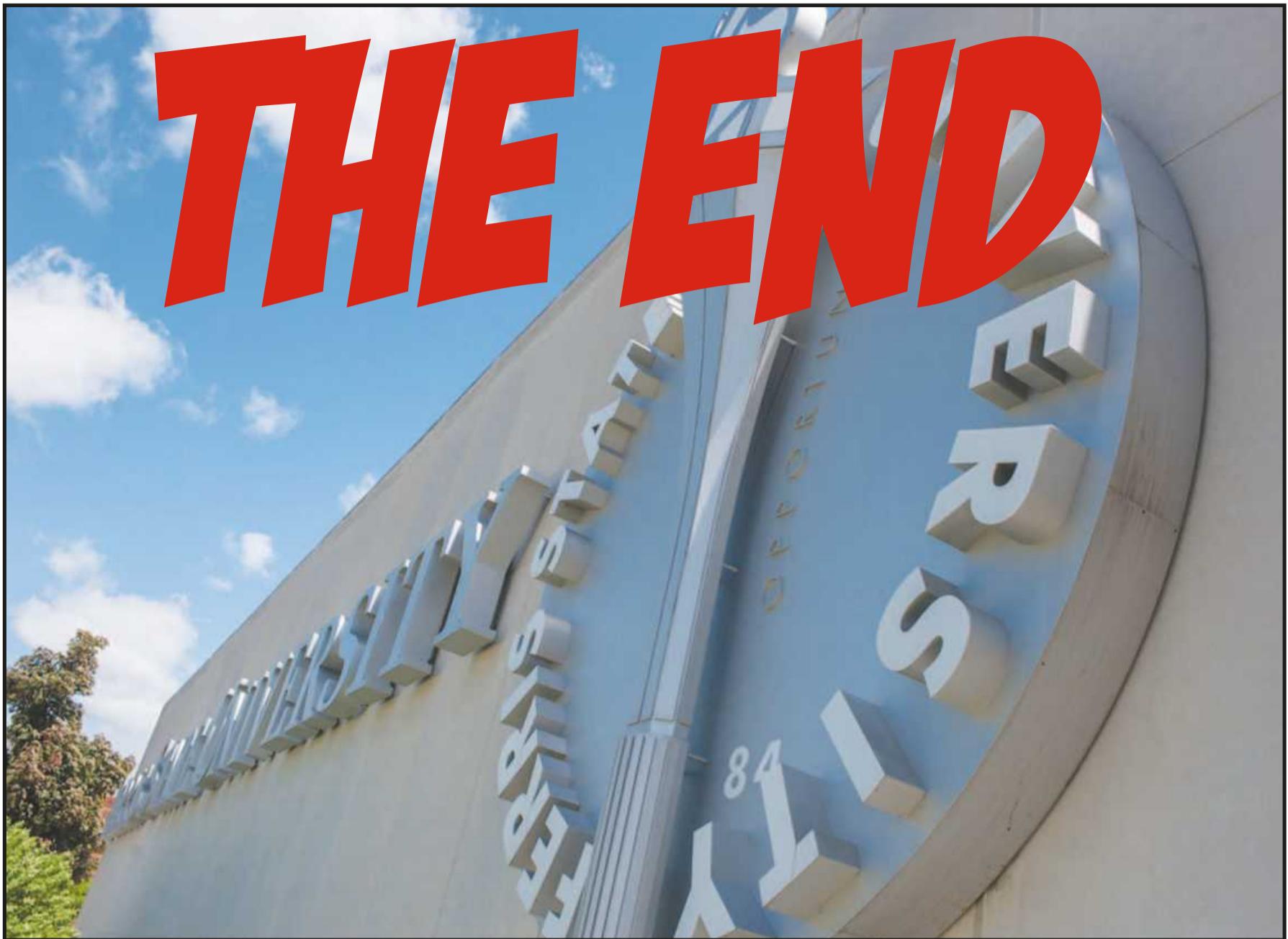


Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Congratulations to all of the students graduating this December! Our opinions editor Tyler Hanan is leaving the Torch after two and a half years this December due to graduation.

A “school pride atheist” on the end of our time at Ferris



Tyler Hanan
Opinions Editor

As this article is published, I have a week-and-a-half left in my traditional college career. It's been a non-traditional journey, but I've spent much of my last two-and-a-half years in Big Rapids at Ferris. The only felling this brings me is relief.

There isn't any last-minute realization that, no matter what I told myself, I loved this place all along. I don't find myself gazing wistfully at FLITE or lingering sadly on that thing that looks like a goal post by the music building.

I've had one foot out the door since the first time I stepped foot in this town, and now the other one, wedged in there for years, has kicked itself free and

followed its brother through.

I've found lifelong friends at Ferris, and I've made some of the best and bluriest memories in my brief life in Big Rapids. I wasn't a bitter loner; I've felt accepted in ways I never have been before in life. I've been given many reasons to love this place, yet I don't.

I don't feel bad for that. I love and will miss many people here, and my program, but there will be no longing for the old days. My heart and mind are free of bittersweet reflection.

That is my experience. It's valid and it's important to me. Another important thing: mine is not the only experience.

Many people, on that Saturday

in December, on a Saturday next May and on many graduation days in the future, will miss this place. They are proud Bulldogs. They will cry beautiful, joyful tears tinged with sadness, for this time in their life that has come to an end. Not evolving, the way it has going from one year to another. It's finished, and it won't be coming back.

Their lives here were every bit as valid as mine, however they spent their time. I am likely the outlier. They will smile and laugh and cry for what they've

lost, and it will be beautiful. I will not do those things, but that, too, is beautiful in a way. Each of our experiences was vital and important, however personal that level of significance may be. They are next to nothing on a grand level, these individual experience of one class in a single school in a sprawling country. But in the small space each of us lives and dies in, our individual experience can be everything.

I will happily leave this place, whole and unmoved and that is wonderful. Others will leave willingly, happily, but with pieces of their heart left behind to feed more earnest future reminiscence, and that, too, is

wonderful. Every person and every experience is different, and every one of them matters.

Graduating feels like more of a formality, a dumb, slight ceremony preempting other, more important things in life. And it is that, understand. But that doesn't mean I can't appreciate the event, not only for the piece of paper it will provide me, but also for the positive, negative, or non-existent emotions it will bring to us all. This place may not be important to me, but the significance of this time to the lives of many people is not something lost on me.



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