



The Accidentals rock Ferris

Photo By: Devin Anderson | Torch Reporter

The Traverse City folk rock group The Accidentals, composed of Michael Dause (left), Katie Larson (center) and Savannah Buist (right), performed for over 200 people in the College of Business.

Concert kicks off Independent Showcase series

Devin Anderson
Torch Reporter

Ferris' College of Business was filled with the sound of roaring applause last week, courtesy of one of Michigan's hottest bands, The Accidentals.

Kicking off the Music Industry Management Association's Independent Showcase concert series, the Traverse City folk rock act, consisting of Savannah Buist, Katie Larson and Michael Dause, performed to a crowd of more than 200. The band played an hour of energetic and catchy music; Buist and Larson switched between guitar, bass, cello and violin while Dause pounded a small drum set.

Larson and Buist were both accepted to Berklee after graduating high school, but put off college to record and tour. The band played 230 shows in 2015, with appearances at South by Southwest and Electric Forest. They won an ArtPrize award for their song, "The Silence" and later this year, they are set to release a new studio album featuring collaborations with Marshall Crenshaw and Grammy-winner Stewart Lerman.

Ferris music industry management junior Zach Kidder

had seen The Accidentals previously in Grand Rapids and said each performance has been exciting.

"Folk music really has the ability to bring people together," Kidder said. "The Accidentals really demonstrate that quality. They're incredibly talented."

The band said they've enjoyed becoming a part of West Michigan's music scene.

"Savannah and I started playing when we were 15 and 16," Larson said. "We were very introverted and still are, but a lot of the people around Michigan are totally open to having us jam with them. It's really crazy to feel so accepted."

"We're really lucky to have such a supportive Michigan family," Buist added.

After their performance, The Accidentals hosted a question and answer session, discussing their work ethic and life on the road as a trio still under the age of 21.

Music industry management senior and Independent Showcase coordinator Olivia Odette said she enjoyed hearing the band's perspective on music as she prepares to enter the industry.

"It was really fun. All their answers were relatable and they were very easy to talk to," said Odette. "They're our

age and they know what they're doing in terms of how to market themselves."

For more information on The Accidentals, visit moreaccidentals.com.

INDEPENDENT SHOWCASE

Mark Rose
7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11
UC Ballroom

Rival Summers
7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18
UC Ballroom

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NEWS

Angela Graf
News Editor
grafa1@ferris.edu

“Folk music really has the ability to bring people together and The Accidentals really demonstrate that quality. They’re incredibly talented.” - Zach Kidder
See page 1 for story

Art meets Athletics



Photo By: Angela Graf | News Editor

One of the items being raffled off at the pre-Super Bowl football celebration was a ball signed by Ferris’ own 2015 undefeated football team.

Ferris football displays art through photos

Keith Salowich
Editor in Chief

Not even the promise of free food was enough to attract students to the Ferris State football Super Bowl pre-game raffle at Top Taggart Field on Super Sunday. As part of the Festival of the Arts, the event was meant to tie Ferris State and its surrounding community of Big Rapids to a common cause—celebrating the arts.

“We were looking for a way to unite the community of Big Rapids with Ferris, so we came up with this idea of jointly sponsoring, jointly funding and jointly locating art events every day of the month. I believe we have 74 this year,” Coordinator of the Festival of the Arts Bruce Dilg said.

Because athletics are such a significant part of the Ferris State culture for many students and alumni, it was only a matter of time before they became a part of the festival.

“This was our first attempt at doing something like this, the Super Bowl always comes in the middle of the festival, so we wondered what we could do to try and tie the festival together,” Dilg said.

The event promised free food and showcased 13 total pieces of art and autographed memorabilia to be raffled off, many of which bore the signature of NFL hopeful and two-time Harlon Hill Trophy winner Jason Vander Laan. Still, the staff working at the event and four Ferris State football players made up

the overwhelming majority of the crowd.

“I’d like to see more people here, but it’s one of those events that you don’t know how it’s going to come off. We have the pre-game stuff on one screen and Ferris highlights on the other. I was really hoping we would have some students here today with free food and stuff, but getting through to students is tough,” Dilg said.

Despite the fact that the amount of students in attendance could be counted on one hand, the student athletes on hand were still thankful for those that did make the trek to Top Taggart.

“We’re just going to keep being good men and giving back to the community. Thank you to everybody for coming out and supporting this event, it means the world to us,” said Ferris sophomore offensive lineman Jake Daugherty, who won the most pieces of Ferris memorabilia in the series of raffles.

This event was not the first attempt at weaving art and athletics together, and it will likely not be the last. Previous efforts to introduce the two include last year’s roaming guitar player at a Bulldogs’ hockey game, and a mariachi band at a home basketball game.

“It’s been really interesting to take 2,000 sports-oriented people and expose them to some fine art. We’ve gotten very good reception,” Dilg said.



Photo By: Angela Graf | News Editor

Bruce Dilg, who played a key roll in the creation of the Festival of Arts nine years ago, drew tickets for the raffle of various sports-related artwork and Bulldog memorabilia including the signed print of Jason Vander Laan featured above.

High times at Ferris State

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

By Angela Graf, News Editor

Drink and dash

Jan. 20, 12:30 a.m., officers assisted the city police at Shooters with a subject attempting to leave without paying their bill. The incident was investigated by the city police.

Bumper cars

Jan. 28, 1:20 p.m., officers responded to a two-car crash in Lot 27.

Ice, ice, baby

Jan. 28, 2:30 p.m., officers assisted the Sheriff Department with a one-vehicle accident on 14 Mile Road near Northland Drive.

Dent and drive

Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m., officers investigated a hit and run in Lot 17.

Fleeing the scene

Jan. 29, 3 p.m., officers investigated a hit and run on Robin Court.

He's your ex for a reason

Jan. 29, 6 p.m., officers received a report of stalking and harassment from a female student. The complaint was about a male non-student, the victim's ex. The suspect was contacted and advised to leave her alone upon threat of charges being filed.

Swerve

Jan. 30, 1 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle on Maple Street near State Street for driving erratically. The driver was found to be intoxicated and was lodged in the county jail.

Cranked up in Cramer

Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m., officers received a noise complaint about Cramer Hall. Four students were identified and referred to the Office

of Student Conduct.

Busted in Bond

Jan. 30, 9:45 p.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint in Bond Hall. One student was identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Turn down

Jan. 30, 11:30 p.m., officers received a noise complaint about West Campus Apartments. The subjects was contacted and asked



to quiet down.

Defective driving

Jan. 31, 1:10 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle on Perry Avenue near State Street for defective equipment. The driver was found to be without a license and was lodged in the county jail.

Night rider

Jan. 31, 1:10 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle on State Street, south of Perry Avenue, for not having their headlights on. The driver was found to be intoxicated and was lodged in the county jail. The passenger was also found to be intoxicated and was charged with an MIP and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Take it outside

Jan. 31, 2 a.m., officers assisted city police in breaking up a fight

that occurred on Michigan Avenue near the back door of Shooters. One subject was lodged in jail.

Cat fight

Jan. 31, 3:30 a.m., officers investigated reports of a disorderly subject in Merrill Hall. Several females were found fighting in the hallway. Four students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct and two warrant requests have been sent to the prosecutor's office.

Clouded in 'Cook

Feb. 1, 12:35 a.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint in Vandercook Hall. The complaint was ultimately unfounded.

Ridin' solo

Feb. 1, 10:15 p.m., officers responded to a one-vehicle accident on Knollview Drive near Lot 61.

Busted in Bond, part two

Feb. 1, 11:10 p.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint in Bond Hall. One student was identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Merrill-juana

Feb. 1, 11:15 p.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint in Merrill Hall. One student was identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Toking in Travis

Feb. 1, 11:35 p.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint in Travis Hall. The complaint was ultimately unfounded.

From Jan. 28 to Feb. 4, the Ferris State Department of Public Safety issued 439 parking citations, totaling \$7,190.

NEWS BRIEFS

Angela Graf

News Editor

Philanthropy Day

On Thursday, Feb. 11, Ferris State University will join more than 100 educational institutions worldwide by participating in Student Engagement and Philanthropy Month. The Student Alumni Gold Club (SAGC) members will host tables that will allow students to write "thank you" cards to various Ferris donors. In return, the students will receive a free tank top shirt. The tables will be located in the University Center and IRC, from 10 a.m. until supplies last.

Presidential debate watch

On Thursday, Feb. 11, there will be a democratic debate viewing event held in the University Center, room 202C. This will allow the opportunity for students to both view and discuss the debates. The event begins at 9 p.m. and will conclude at 11 p.m. Food and drinks will be provided.

The Moxie Strings

On Saturday, Feb. 13, as part of the Big Rapids Festival of Arts, the group the Moxie Strings will host a live performance at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Fuller Ave. in Big Rapids. The duo is composed of fiddler Diana Ladio and electric cellist Alison Lynn. The event begins at 7 p.m.

Valentine's Day concert

There will be a Valentine's Day concert held on Sunday, Feb. 14, in Williams Auditorium. The FSU West Central Concert Band, the FSU Symphony Band and the FSU West Central Chamber Orchestra will each present a short set of pieces in celebration of Valentine's Day. The show is set to run from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

In the Feb. 3 edition of the *Torch*, the Ferris State table tennis meeting times were incorrect. The club meets and practices at 7 p.m. on Thursdays in the Rec Center.

Corrections can be submitted through email at fsutorcheditor@gmail.com or by calling 231-591-5978

Cello-Bella jazzes up Ferris

Stringed due takes the stage as part of Ferris Arts and Lectures series

Elizabeth Yost

Torch Reporter

Nationally-profiled stringed duet Cello-Bella took to the Williams Auditorium stage to bring a modern twist to throwback songs.

On Saturday, Feb 6, the cello-guitar twosome was invited to perform for the most recent installment of the Ferris Arts and Lectures series. The pair consists of Alison Donahue's jazzy cello and Mike Wilhelm's blues guitar, combined to support both with their soulful vintage vocals.

Several days before the performance, however, Wilhelm fell ill, so temporary replacement Ben Luttermoser performed guitar for the Ferris audience.

The duo performed over 20 songs, ranging from remixed flapper songs to Popeye themes to modern day soul twists. This style of music is what Cello-Bella has been performing together for the past six years.

"I grew up hearing jazz standards and always had a love for them," explained Donahue. "This was an opportunity for me to combine my love for singing with my cello experience. The words in songs can be so evocative and to be able to express this is what I always wanted to do."

Despite the fact that one-half of the duo was temporarily replaced, tempos were improvised and lyrics were changed. Donahue and Luttermoser shot playful banter between each other, keeping spirits in swing and the mood light. The pair radiated energy as each song was divided with friendly raillery

between the two and with the crowd.

"I had to transition from a classical chair cellist to this," said Donahue during the performance. "It's a good example to encourage anyone who wants to do something a little out of their comfort zone to just try it."

The string duet brought in an audience of many

“ This was an opportunity for me to combine my love for singing with my cello experience. ”

Alison Donahue

ages, students and seniors alike, to hear the self-proclaimed songbook of "jazz, swing, and pop standards from the 20s to the current day."

"I had never heard of them before tonight, but I thought the show was amazing," said Ferris criminal justice alumnus Allen Adams. "I came to this event not knowing what to expect but I'm really glad I came."

Cello-Bella has been featured on National Public Radio, performed at multiple festivals and concert series around Michigan and they have music available on many online music retailers.



Photo by: Chris Martin | Photographer

Jazz cellist Alison Donahue was joined on stage by temporary replacement guitarist Ben Luttermoser during their Feb. 6 performance in Williams Auditorium.

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Photo By: Katie Tobak | Photographer

Motivational speaker and author Kris Mathis shared his story and his eight major keys to success with a captivated audience in the University Center.

From success to significance

Ferris students get the keys to success

Shantelle Bonham

Torch Reporter

"Success doesn't knock at every door. It stands there beside you patiently, waiting to be recognized," said motivational speaker and author Kris Mathis, as he informed Ferris students about the eight major keys to success.

Mathis, an accomplished motivational speaker and noted writer, visited Ferris on Feb. 3 and spoke from personal experience in regards to growing up in a life of poverty, negativity and violence. He explained that despite this, he would not change the experiences and hardships that he has faced.

Through thick and thin, sunshine and rain, Mathis eventually reached his path to success. He stressed the importance of perseverance and keeping faith.

"What kept me going was what I had to go back to. Where I was going was better than where I came from," said Mathis.

Hosted by the Black Leaders Aspiring for Critical Knowledge (BLACK) and the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS), the speaking of the eight

major keys to success forced many students, faculty and even parents to pull out pen and paper as they took notes on the inspirational message.

He begins with the very first key to success identified as the "reality check" and ends with the last key being "significance." Mathis reiterates a number of times that success is meaningless without significance.

At the end of the presentation, every single person seated in the audience left with a free, signed copy of Mathis' book, "From Success to Significance: The 8 Major Keys to Achieving any Goal or Dream."

Mathis shared that 100 percent of the proceeds for any additional copies sold that night would be donated to the efforts directed at the water crisis in Flint. He expressed that he will be personally delivering over 300 bottles of water to the Flint community in the near future.

"If it weren't for life and circumstance, I wouldn't be where I am today," said Mathis. He is said to further his leadership path as he continues to motivate and inspire youth in the community and around the country.

Feeling at home

Gender neutral restrooms part of 2016 inclusion initiatives

Devin Anderson

Torch Reporter

The designation of gender neutral restrooms will be the first of several initiatives to be carried out from Ferris State University's new Diversity and Inclusion Plan.

Most single-stall restrooms at Ferris are in pairs, one designated for men and one for women.

This semester, Physical Plant will install new signs so that about three dozen single-stall restrooms at Ferris can be used by anyone. According to David Pilgrim, Ferris' Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, work on the restrooms will be substantially completed by the end of the semester.

"No one should ever be in a situation where they have to plan their day around the accessibility of a restroom," Pilgrim said. "Single-stall restrooms at the university should be treated the same way the ones in our homes are treated. In other words, they should be open to men and women."

The 2016 Diversity and Inclusion Plan, titled "There Is a Home for You at Ferris State University," serves to expand on Ferris' efforts to recruit and retain a diverse student body, faculty and staff, as well as make sure those groups feel fully incorporated into the Ferris community.

Pilgrim is the primary author of the new 5-year plan, but sought help identifying what should go in the plan from a group of more than 40 professors, administrators and students. Ferris also hired a consulting firm to conduct a "diversity audit" on campus, surveying 17 focus groups as well as 1,646 students and hundreds of faculty and staff.

Over the next five years, other goals of the plan include the creation of an LGBTQ resource center, creation of a center for academic literacies, designating a lactation room for nursing mothers, designating space for a prayer or meditation room, assessing the needs of homeless or hungry students on campus, displaying diverse art around campus and more.

According to Pilgrim, administrators are being asked to champion individual goals of the plan that they are prepared take on.

"They come in, we have lunch, eat a pizza or something and I shut

up and they tell me about their experiences at Ferris," Pilgrim said. "I don't want to wait for surveys to hear the voices of our students."

Additionally, a Multicultural Student Advisory Committee has been created to provide informal counsel about ongoing inclusion efforts to Pilgrim and Vice President of Student Affairs, Janine Ward-Roof. The committee consists of about 15 members from several cultural student organizations.

Tom Gladney, head of Student Government's diversity committee, was consulted during the planning process of the Diversity and Inclusion Plan and is now a member of the Multicultural Student Advisory Committee.

"They listened to our input quite a bit," said Gladney, a Ferris criminal justice senior. "We see things everyday that [the administration] may not see and that some people might not bring up to faculty otherwise."

Ferris first released a plan to become more diverse in 2008, but it didn't contain efforts for inclusion, a component Pilgrim feels is just as important.

"Diversity focuses mostly on numbers. Inclusion is much more difficult," Pilgrim said. "It is about making sure people feel welcome. Our ambition is to create a place where everybody believes the campus belongs to them. We're moving in that direction."

Gladney agreed, saying Ferris does have a diverse population and that for students, efforts should be focused on inclusion.

"The job doesn't stop when you get the diverse population," he said. "You have to keep working toward making people feel like family. Getting them here is great, but being able to incorporate everyone so they feel at home is another important aspect."

To view Ferris' Diversity and Inclusion Plan in full, visit ferris.edu/diversity.



Tom Gladney



David Pilgrim

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GROUP OF 1,646 FERRIS STUDENTS

Disagree that Ferris' general environment is comfortable for students who are gay, lesbian or bisexual:

Heterosexual: 13.8% Others: 24.5%

Disagree that Ferris' general environment is comfortable for students who are transgender:

Heterosexual: 25.4% Others: 36.9%

More than just cartoons

Arab American National Museum
Curator Isra El-beshir visits Ferris

Jonny Parshall
Torch Reporter



Khalid Albaih

More than a cartoonist, Khalid Albaih is an artist, and his art can be viewed in a new exhibit at the Arab American National Museum in Greater Detroit.

His illustrated works transcend religious and political ideologies, often focusing on ideals shared by all cultures, and pointing out the ironies and redundancies in modern geopolitics.

When considering Islam and cartoons, the Charlie Hebdo killings come to mind. Recent history has allowed cartoons and Islam to seem as polarizing disciplines, with focus on the negative aspects regarding the depiction of the prophet Muhammed. And yet, there is a side we do not see as often.

Isra El-beshir, a curator for the museum, came to Ferris Tuesday, Feb. 2 to promote the exhibit and demonstrate Albaih's work.

"He's using popular culture and imagery that resonates with you to make a political situation more real," said El-beshir. "He's hoping for a dialogue."

In politically intolerant countries, criticizing government can be a risk. Born in Qatar, but residing primarily in Sudan, Albaih—a Muslim—has taken many risks in condemning national dictators and the intolerance of free speech they share. His works have been used by activists and graffiti artists throughout the world, often feeding feelings of dissent and rebellion, including during the much-publicized Arab Spring.

"It was very educational," said Elizabeth Alexander, a senior in Ferris' pre-pharmacy program. "It was interesting to hear about the political cartoons and what they go through to produce."

With the highest Arab population density, southeast Michigan seemed like a good place to stage his art.

"The other element [of Albaih's art] is to show that political activism can manifest in many ways," said El-beshir. "It can manifest through protesting on the street, participating through cartoons, or just using social media as a platform. There are so many mediums to be politically active and represent your communities."

Khalid Albaih's cartoon illustrations and other works can be viewed on his website, Khartoon.com, or through his Facebook page, facebook.com/KhalidAlbaih. The new exhibit is at the Arab American National Museum, 13624 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, Mich.

Wanted

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FERRIS STATE TORCH

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We are seeking an organized student (enrolled in at least six credit hours) for the Editor in Chief position during the 2016-2017 school year. Candidates must write well, possess excellent leadership skills and work the entire school year. Candidates should be familiar with digital publishing techniques. Qualified students can receive competitive wages for up to 20 hours per week. Ability to work and train in April and August of 2016 is necessary. Prior journalism experience or training desired.

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LIFESTYLES

Hailey Klingel
Lifestyles Editor
klingeh@ferris.edu

"If you'd like a more casual, relaxed atmosphere with your date, invite him or her to help you with your grocery shopping at Meijer." - Jen Corrie
See page 8 for story



Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Photographer

Ferris pre-optometry freshman Jordan Lee represents the Bulldogs on Ferris State's cross country team, despite her constant hiccups that have been ongoing for more than three years. Her hiccups, which are technically a "diaphragmatic flutter," began after a bad coughing fit.

Three years and counting

Life with never-ending hiccups

Hailey Klingel
Lifestyles Editor

Hiccup!

Ferris pre-optometry freshman Jordan Lee has been making this sound multiple times an hour for more than three and a half years.

Her never-ending hiccups were induced by a bad coughing fit after running a race during high school track.

"A couple days later I started hiccupping all the time and it just never stopped," Lee said. "It was really weird when I first started doing it but I figured it would go away. But months passed by and it just never went away."

Lee went to a doctor after the onset of her hiccups, but the doctor said there was nothing he could do about it. The technical term for her hiccups is a "diaphragmatic flutter," which creates a high pitched "yelping" noise she can't control or feel coming.

"It happens during the national anthem or moments of silence... That's always awkward," she said. "When I start new classes, I always have to go up to my teachers and say, 'I'm not trying to be rude, I actually have a thing and I can't fix it.'"

Lee says when she meets new people, they often try to mimic the sound or they think she's faking her hiccups.

"If I had to give a PSA, I'd say that if you ever encounter someone who has hiccups like this, the worst things you can do are mimic the noise or suggest, 'Oh, have you tried eating peanut butter? Have you tried someone scaring you?'" Lee said. "It's been three and a half years, homie—

these things have all been tried. One guy suggested waterboarding but I'm not down to try that one."

Though they are annoying, the hiccups don't significantly impact Lee's everyday life. She's still a runner for Ferris and is able to have a normal college experience—she just startles people once in a while with her signature yelp.

"It happens during the national anthem or moments of silence... That's always awkward."

Jordan Lee

"I'd definitely prefer to not have them," Lee said. "They're loud and kind of disruptive and kind of awkward. Most people habituate and get used to them but some people never do."

On top of her abnormal hiccups, Lee is still plagued by getting the normal hiccups once in a while, too. Her hope for the future is that her diaphragmatic flutter flutters out of her life for good.

Modern Love

When am I going to meet my soulmate?



Angela Graf
News Editor

Thanks to the pop culture universe, we have all asked ourselves this at one point or another. Who will be the Ross to our Rachel? The Pam to our Jim? The Derek to our Meredith?

I will preface this by saying that people have told me that I have a weird take on the universe and love, but it doesn't seem so crazy to me.

I think there truly is a soulmate in the world for everyone. Maybe I'm just not jaded enough yet or my glasses are rose colored by the current state of my own personal life, but I think every person has another person who compliments them in every sense of the term.

A soulmate is supposed to be somebody who challenges you. They wake you up and push you to think about the world in a more abstract way. In many cases, it feels like you've known them forever, and suddenly there's a shift; the things that seemed important before just don't anymore.

In many cases, it isn't meant to last forever. It burns too brightly and too intensely for that. The same way they appeared when they were supposed to, they leave when they must.

A soulmate can be a friend or a family member. It's somebody who you connect with in a way that you have never felt with anybody else. The misconception is that it's going to be someone you fall in love with and get married to and ride off into the sunset with. That isn't always the case.

If you want somebody to spend time with and share yourself with in a mutual way—that's a life partner. It won't be as intense, but it will be comfortable and familiar. Warm. The foundation of this relationship is built on mutual feelings of trust, understanding and respect.

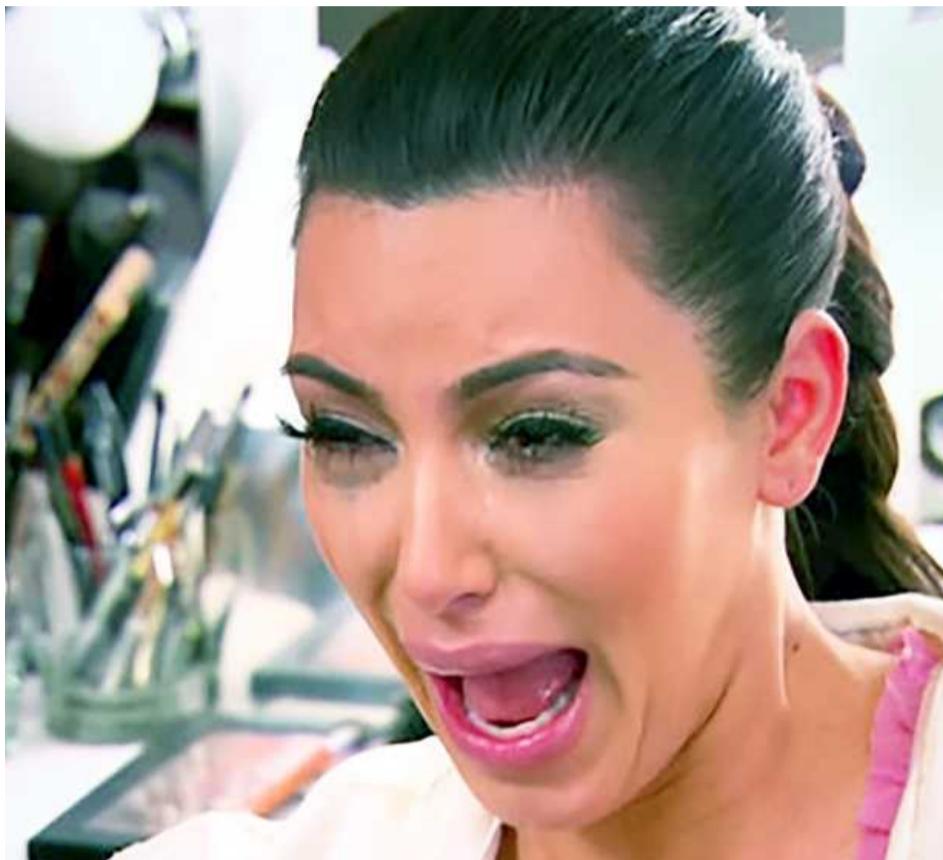
You share values with your life partner and you get along like best friends. With them, there is a drive to cement the relationship through things like marriage and starting a family. This is typically what people imagine when they think about what a spouse is.

Despite the discrepancies between the two types of relationships, your soulmate can be your life partner and it is possible for one to grow into the other over time. When that happens, the only way to describe it is mindboggling.

So the answer to that burning question above is frustratingly simple: when you're supposed to. All you can do in the meantime is make sure that you're happy with yourself, keep the faith and have a happy Valentine's Day.

Reality bites

FSU researchers study effects of reality TV



Submitted photo

"I wasted everyone's time. I wasted everyone's money," said Kim Kardashian as she threw a pity party. FSU researchers recently studied the narcissistic effects of TV shows like "Keeping Up with the Kardashians."

Nick Vander Wulp

Torch Reporter

Researchers at Ferris have found a link between watching certain reality television shows and an increased level of narcissism in those who enjoy them.

"Jersey Shore," "The Real Housewives," "The Bachelor" and "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" were some of the more narcissistic shows selected because of the content of the show, the traits shown by the characters of the show and how viewers become immersed in the show relating themselves as "experience-takers" to the characters.

"The real key was whether or not the people who watched these shows could relate to the people in the show," said Ferris psychology senior Nathan Pastrick. "We wanted to see how much experience-taking plays a role in how someone begins to behave like the characters."

Ferris professor of psychology Christopher Redker was the lead researcher of this study. He helped design the study along with colleagues at Central Michigan University, University of Michigan and Ohio State University.

Volunteers who indicated they like to regularly watch reality shows and identify with at least one of the characters in the show scored higher on a narcissism personality inventory. Higher scores on the inventory tended more toward narcissistic traits. For example, the more a volunteer indicated they were immersed in the show "Jersey Shore," identified with Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino and wanted to be like him, the volunteer also had a tendency to score higher on the narcissism personality inventory.

"The people who watched the shows a bunch but couldn't relate to the characters didn't score very high in narcissism," said Pastrick. "They may have been viewers who watched some of these shows sarcastically or because they thought it was funny."

Redker added that people have a variety of reasons for watching these immersive, ex-

perience shows. Some people really love the characters and in many ways and want to model their lives after what they see their favorite characters doing on television. However, others may tune into these shows because they think it's a circus, and they're comparing and ridiculing rather than immersing and experience-taking.

According to Pastrick, "Duck Dynasty," "Shark Tank" and "Cops" were rated more neutrally than the other types of reality shows.

"This study was really looking at these surveillance reality television shows, which have grown exponentially," said Redker. "Now, when we're talking about reality shows, we're not talking 'Little People, Big World,' and the more pro-social shows. We're talking about deliberate narcissistic shows that exhibit a lot of relational aggression—how can I screw up relationships, talk behind people's backs and get people to hate each other?"

Narcissism is defined as a personality that craves attention and praise, a tendency to lash out when challenged in even the slightest ways, expresses a lower commitment to romantic relationships and can become aggressive to the point of violence, including sexual violence.

"The whole thing with narcissism is that they really have high egos of themselves," said Pastrick. "What differentiates a narcissist from an egomaniac is that if you question a narcissist's views or contradict their beliefs, they'll explode and that might involve getting violent. They'll yell, they'll be extremely hurt by it and they'll do whatever they can to prove you wrong to keep their fragile ego intact."

Visit <https://goo.gl/j2mqdJ> to read the full study on reality television and narcissism.



Christopher Redker

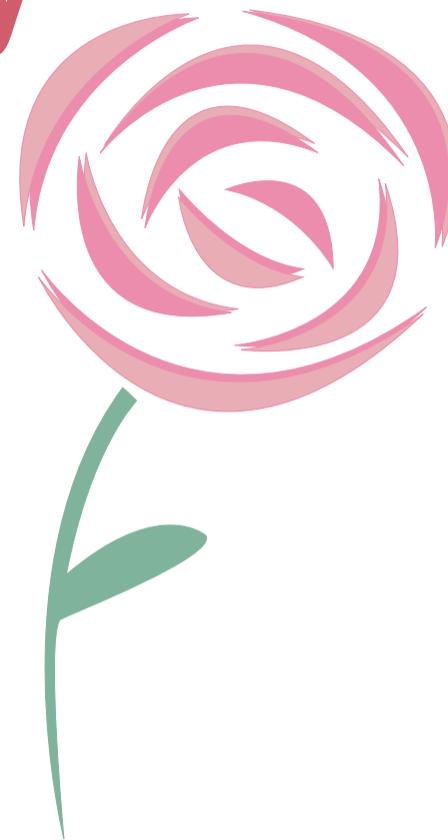
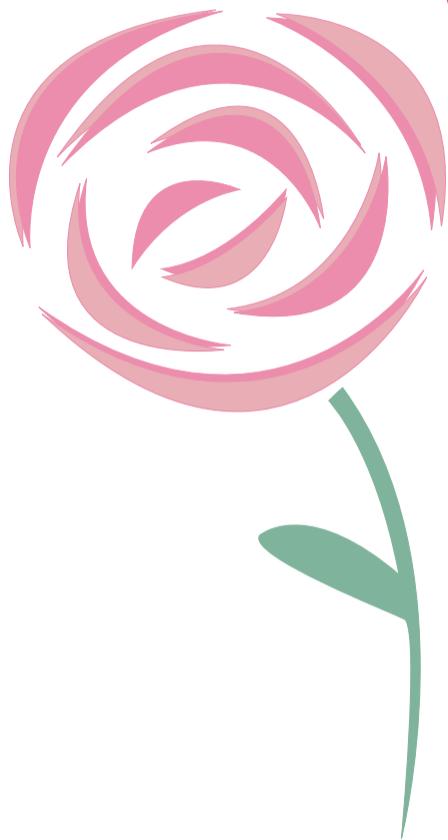


Nathan Pastrick



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How to spend Valentine's Day in Big Rapids



Jen Corrie
Torch Reporter



If you'd like a more casual, relaxed atmosphere with your date, invite them to help you with your grocery shopping at Meijer. You'll be surrounded by elderly people and obnoxious children, so it won't be overly romantic and you'll also have someone to help you carry your bags.



If you've recently started dating someone new, take them out to Cranker's or Biggby, and then ask them for their opinion on every controversial topic you can think of. If they disagree with anything you believe in, proceed to crush them into your way of thinking with an intense public debate. This is also a great way to find out early if the relationship will last.



If your date is into horror movies, plan a romantic evening of events such as a candlelit dinner on lost souls followed by a walk in the woods at 2 a.m. For bonus points, make sure to get one of your friends to dress up like a zombie and chase you with a chainsaw or a hatchet for a good 20 minutes. Afterwards, you can spice things up by playing Russian roulette in your apartment. Eat your heart out, Christian Grey.



For the hopeless romantics out there, make sure to take your date out for breakfast. It's a cute thing that old folks do, so why not college students? The ideal time for pancakes is 6 a.m.

For some Valentine's Day kicks with your date, dress up in your finest finery and head to one of the car dealerships on the south end of town. Here, you will pretend to be buying your date a new car for Valentine's Day. Make sure to act very snobby and spoiled, so no one questions the limits of your bank account, and then request to test drive all of their most expensive cars together. Bonus points: complain about the cars as if your previous one was better.



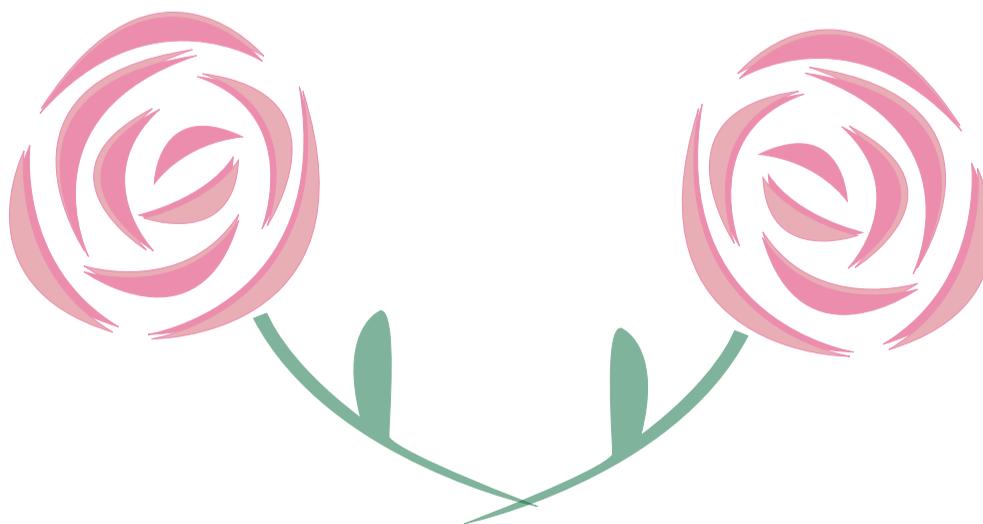
For the dudes who are into ladies, I'll let you in on a secret. Girls love it when their boyfriends pick out and buy outfits for us. Don't ask for her size, that will ruin the surprise. Just head to the nearest clearance rack and snag the most uncomfortable-looking ensemble that you can find. She'll love it.



If your significant other loves the great outdoors, plan a romantic picnic by the Muskegon River for Valentine's Day. You can even bring fishing poles and catch your lunch! Just don't forget your mittens.



Since Valentine's Day has basically turned into Singles Awareness Day anyway, why not surprise your special someone by not doing anything for them at all? It would be a refreshing change from all the years filled with flowers and chocolate. Romantic dinners are overrated, anyway.



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Miracle on a street corner

If you were a homeless man, how would you react if you found a \$20 bill on the ground in the street at 3 a.m.?

Let me tell you how a 57-year-old marine vet ex-convict responded: "It's a miracle, thank you, God; I hit the lottery, God is good!" repeated over and over again. It was early Sunday morning on Jan. 31, and a true miracle was evolving in front of my eyes.

On Friday, Jan. 29 at 6 a.m., seven brothers of Ferris' Sigma Pi fraternity, myself included, hit the road for St. Louis for a business and leadership conference. The event concluded late Saturday evening and afterwards the seven of us treated ourselves to a nice dinner and a night out in downtown St. Louis. After returning to the hotel, we parted for our rooms to call it a night.

Some time after calling it a night, Ferris students Braden Poole, Nate McMillen, Marcus Lindsey and myself headed outside the main lobby for fresh air and a quick cigarette. It was 3 a.m., somewhere between 45 and 50 degrees. As we were halfway through our tiny cylinder-shaped channels of death, I saw somebody coming toward us from the darkness of the sidewalk. A moment later, a 6-foot slender homeless man asked Poole to give him a light. After Poole lit the man's cigarette, he started panhandling to Poole for a few dollars for food. Poole's kind nature agreed to this request, but he told the man he would accompany him to a market. As they started walking, McMillen, Lindsey and I took a quick glance at each other and immediately began to follow the duo.

We set out on our journey for food and the man began telling his life story. He grew up on 3rd Mile in Detroit, was in the Marines from 1977-1984, spent many years in prison for an undisclosed reason and has been homeless ever since his release. He has been all over the country searching for a new street to call home. He spoke highly of Memphis and said he recently made his way to St. Louis. He spoke highly of religion and spirituality. One moment that stuck out to me occurred when McMillen asked the man if he receives support from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

"The VA don't do nothing compared to the Catholic Church," said the man.



Travis Sacher
Torch Reporter

After walking in a circle for 45 minutes, we came to a halt in our journey. We failed to find an open market for this man. Ironically, we all gained something from this experience. We were touched by his story and his words of wisdom. We were moved by the prayers he placed over our hearts.

Before we departed ways, three of us gave something to our new friend. Poole gave him \$5. Lindsey gave him a fake \$1,000,000 bill that had been given to him by his father. After Lindsey spent 10 minutes describing the importance of his gift, I took out my wallet and gave the man 50 shekels of Israeli currency. I had saved them to remember my journey to the Jewish state. I explained to him my experience in Israel and what it meant to me. I challenged him not to exchange the currency for its U.S. dollar amount of \$13.

It was at this moment that the man finally told us his name was Don, but people call him P-Funk, a nickname tattooed on his upper chest. I listened as P-Funk thanked us over and over again. My eyes were wide as tears rolled down his cheeks letting us know how good God will be to us.

Something changed for me on the street corner. Growing up in New York, I've passed hundreds of homeless people. I have helped some, spoken to others and ignored many. I will do my absolute best to at least say hello to each person I pass. That miniscule form of communication may be the only they receive that day. I challenge Ferris students to do the same. If you have nothing to give at all, you never lose the power of spreading love.

After P-Funk hugged us goodbye on that dimly lit street corner, he had a \$20 and a \$5 bill, a fake \$1,000,000 bill and 50 shekels in his wallet. At that moment these were the only assets he was able to claim as his. None of us are likely to ever see him again.

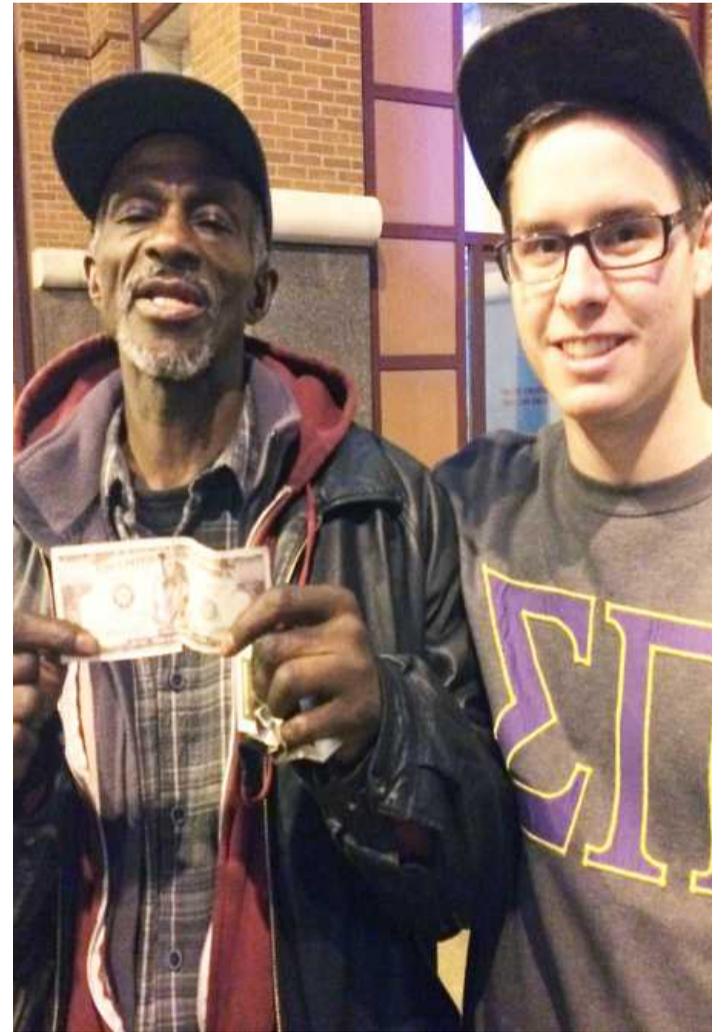


Photo by: Travis Sacher | Reporter

Ferris automotive engineering sophomore Marcus Lindsey, along with six other Ferris Sigma Pi students, traveled to St. Louis a few weeks ago. They met P-Funk, a homeless veteran, who shared many life lessons and stories about living as a homeless vet.

Independent Showcase February 11th



Mark Rose 7-9pm in University Center Ballroom

Q&A after the show



SPORTS

Marshall Scheldt
Sports Editor
mscheldt99@gmail.com

“Our goal is to build a center for all 380 student-athletes at Ferris State.”
- Perk Weisenburger
See page 11 for story



Photo by: Katie Tobak | Photographer

Red Out will begin with women's basketball at 1 p.m. followed by men's basketball at 3 p.m. and hockey at 7:07 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13.

Red Out

FSU students bring awareness to heart health

Marshall Scheldt
Sports Editor

Ferris State students will be bringing awareness to heart health during all Ferris State athletic events this Saturday, Feb. 13.

Sports Careers, a registered student organization at Ferris, will be putting on the Red Out event with help from the Ferris Athletic Department and students of Dr. Sandy Alspach's sports communication classes.

Cierra Buckner, a junior in the sports communication program, is the coordinator for Red Out.

“Students should come to support these events, and this cause, because it has affected a lot of our peers on a personal level,” said Buckner in a press release.

The Red Out event will take place all day long and will tip-off in Wink Arena with the FSU women's basketball game at 1 p.m. followed by the men's basketball game at 3 p.m. Both teams will be matched up against Lake Superior State in GLIAC play.

The event will conclude at Ewigleben Ice Arena as the Bulldogs take on Northern Michigan at 7:07 p.m.

The fundraiser will be aimed at raising money toward heart health, and all proceeds will be donated to the Cardiac Unit

of Spectrum Health Hospital in Big Rapids.

Buckner's goal is to spread awareness for heart health and to raise more money than the event brought in last year.

During each sporting event, spectators will be urged to wear red and make donations towards the cause. Donations can be made at donation tables in the lobby of the sports complex, during an ongoing silent auction or during the Red Out “Miracle Minute.”

There will also be opportunities for fans to win some prizes from local community sponsors. The prizes can be won through different games and activities during timeouts and between intermissions of all three games. Activities will include a half-court shootout, a dance off and more.

“We appreciate all those in the community that have helped make contributions to Sports Careers RSO,” said Buckner.

Ferris students and members of the surrounding community are urged to come to all three games wearing red to support Ferris athletics as well as Spectrum Health.

A check with the total donation amount throughout the day will be presented to Spectrum Health Foundation Chair Dee Van Horn during the hockey game.

Back on track

Mark Hansen

Torch Reporter

The Ferris State track and field team is back in season and will be competing at the Grand Valley State Big Meet this weekend.

The Ferris State track and field team will be in Allendale on Friday Feb. 12 and will be competing against other Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) teams. Both the men's and women's track and field team will be competing and looking to continue the winning culture that has been reinforced here at Ferris the past few years.

Sophomore Matt Crawford discussed how he prepares for his races.

Crawford said, “Waiting for my heat to be called to the track is one of the most nerve-racking feelings I've ever endured. It's comparable to riding a roller coaster all the way to the top only to plunge down as your gut drops over and over again. However, as soon as the starter yells for the runners to take their marks, all distractions are set aside and my eye is on the prize.”

Crawford is passionate about running and is always looking to improve and focus on training for the events he participates in. Crawford will be competing in the men's open 400 meter and the 200 meter.

“The goal for this week and the final days leading up to competition is for my teammates and I to get as much speed and strength workouts in while staying physically healthy and mentally relaxed,” Crawford said.

Senior Shea Van Klompenberg is a veteran on the women's team and has been running for a long time. “I've always enjoyed running ever since middle school and high school. I have ran in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track and that might be weird but I enjoy it,” Van Klompenberg said.

Van Klompenberg talked about what is racing through her mind when she comes up to the starting line and how she gets focused. “At the start line I'm in my blocks so you have to be extremely still and wait for the sound of the gun. So basically I'm freaking out up until that sound. I do try to keep steady with my breathing and focus on the splits. I mentally keep reminding myself that it's about sprinting not striding,” Klompenberg said.

The Bulldogs will begin their season at Grand Valley in the Kelly Family Sports Center. The event will take place on both Friday, Feb. 12 and Saturday, Feb. 13.

Homegrown

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

2016 FERRIS RECRUITING CLASS

WR Aaron Vinson: River Rouge
WR Ashawnti Howard: River Rouge
WR Lindrell Mitchell: East English Village
WR Brett Pero: Swartz Creek
Slot Nate Boleware: East English Village
RB James Wyrick: Ottawa Hills
OL Dylan Pasquali: Trenton
OL Juanye Johnson: Muskegon
OL Karson Murley: Lowell
OL Jake Boonstra: Kenowa Hills
OL Caleb Wisniski: Onokama
DB Miles Jones: Grand Rapids Christian
DB Keyante Carpenter: Muskegon
DB Cyntell Williams: Battle Creek Central
DB Jesse Johnson: Pershing
DB BJ Powell: East Lansing
DB Alex Bock: Detroit Catholic Central
LB Trevor Tank: South Lyon
LB Liam Daly: Jackson Lumen Christi
DE Lawrence Gordon: Saginaw Arthur
DL David Curl: Watervliet
DL Gregory Leatherwood, Jr: University of Detroit Jesuit
DL Tyler Shreve: Walled Lake Western
DL Austin Simpson: Livonia Churchill
K Jackson Dieterle: Jenison
K Tyler Burch: Hill-McCloy

Ferris State football kept its recruiting in-state with 26 players from the state of Michigan signed during National Signing Day on Wednesday, Feb. 3.

Head coach Tony Annese and his recruiting staff left no corner of lower peninsula Michigan unrecruited inking players in every high school division.

Annese said, “We've recruited nationally in the past and signed kids from out of state, but this year we identified and found the guys we really wanted right here at home in the state of Michigan.”

This is a balanced recruiting class with 11 offensive players, 13 defensive players and two kickers. Seven of the 26 players earned All-State recognition.

Five receivers, five linemen, and a running back were added on offense. The offensive linemen are the most decorated corps of players with three of them garnering All-State laurels.

Wide receiver Lindrell Mitchell was the player Annese and his staff had the hardest time recruiting.

Annese said, “Of the guys we got, he was probably the hardest to get. We love all the guys we got but he had a lot of attention. We really won out on Lindrell.”

Mitchell caught 81 balls for 953 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior.

The most heavily represented corps was the defensive secondary. Six defensive backs joined the squad along with two linebackers and five defensive linemen.

With new Bulldogs ready to get groomed into the Ferris football culture, the two-time defending GLIAC champions look like they have another solid roster with over 50 letterwinners returning.



Photo by: Katie Tobak | Photographer

Former Ferris defensive tackle Justin Zimmer is in McKinney, Texas training for a shot at the NFL.

Zimmer prepares for regional combine, NFL draft

Marshall Scheldt
Sports Editor

Ferris State's Justin Zimmer had an incredible career as a Bulldog and is now training for a shot at the National Football League (NFL).

Zimmer, a 6-foot-3-inch 292-pound Greenville native is training in McKinney, Texas with Michael Johnson Performance along with about 20 other elite athletes. He is the only Div. 2 player working with Michael Johnson, along with one Div. 3 player and the rest from Div. 1 schools.

He is working out with players from powerhouse schools all-across the nation, including Notre Dame, Oregon, Texas, TCU and Kansas State.

Zimmer is preparing himself for the upcoming NFL Regional Combine at the Houston Texans Methodist Training Center this Saturday, Feb. 13. He is definitely staying busy and working hard as the combine approaches.

"It's six days a week. Saturday is kind of more of a half day, but Monday through Friday are full days," said Zimmer.

Zimmer has been working on everything and anything to get him prepared for the combine, whether it's his 40-yard-dash, bench press and much more. He said that out of everything he is trying to improve

the most on his short shuttle time, his vertical and the broad jump.

"I've enjoyed the whole experience down here. It's great coming down here and focusing on getting bigger, stronger and faster every day. It's nice hanging out with all the different guys and getting to meet new people. Training at a world-class facility is pretty awesome," said Zimmer.

Just because he's meeting new people doesn't mean he's forgotten about his old friends. Zimmer has kept in touch with former Ferris quarterback Jason Vander Laan who is also training for combine.

"We talked about the similar experiences that we're going through, so it's kind of cool to compare. We're basically doing the same things, just in a different location and with different people," said Zimmer.

Zimmer has also selected Kevin Poston from Rochester as an agent to represent him in his push towards becoming an NFL player.

"He met with me a few times after the season. There was a few other guys I talked to, but he just seemed like he had been around the longest, he knew more people and he just seemed like the best person to promote me to all of the teams and get my name out there," said Zimmer.

When the regional combine is over, Zimmer said he plans to return to train with Michael Johnson Performance to prepare for pro-day.

Closing in on the GLIAC Tourney

Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

With five games left to play in the regular season and three of those in Big Rapids, Ferris State basketball is up against two more GLIAC opponents at home this week.

Ferris first looks to take on Northwood on Thursday, Feb. 11 before taking on Lake Superior State on Saturday, Feb. 13.

Tied with Ashland for the No. 3 spot in the conference, the Bulldogs are ready to fight to stay among the top teams in their conference. 6-foot-5 senior wing James Chappell believes the Dawgs have what it takes to bring that fight.

"With five games left in the season, I just think that as a team we have to be more together than anything," Chappell said. "We have a real strong group and if we are all on the same page, we are lethal together."

Chappell also talked about head coach Andy Bronkema and his vision as the regular season begins to slow down.

"I think coach wants us to focus on the team we are playing at the moment," Chappell said. "We fo-

cus more on the game in front of us because it is so important. We never really talk about the season ending, but we all know the regular season is coming to an end."

Chappell led the Dawgs in both points and rebounds last weekend against Northern Michigan University to give him a triple-double on the day.

6-foot-10 senior center Jared Stolicker is fourth in all of the GLIAC in field goals made (157-242) and field goal percentage (64.9). Although he is the point leader on the team, Stolicker still knows the importance of a cohesive unit.

"Everyone on the team has the same goals, no one's individual goals get in the way of our team's mission," Stolicker said. "We all buy into the system we have in place, and as long as we can stick to our system and game plan we are tough to beat."

Stolicker credits a defensive state of mind to creating more offense and opportunities of the team.

"Our defense works right into our offense; we like to get stops on defense and get a quick transition into the offense," Stolicker said. "On the defensive end we are pretty versatile. We rebound pretty well and we have a lot of

shot blockers, and even when they do not get the blocks, they alter the shots. It all goes back to that 'team first' mentality, we go out every night and play for each other."

The last time that the Bulldogs met up with the Timberwolves of Northwood in Midland, they brought an 83-76 victory back to Big Rapids. Sophomore guard Drew Cushingberry had a dominant performance in that game, scoring 18 points shooting seven-for-nine from the field.

The last encounter with Lake Superior State in Sault Ste. Marie saw a Bulldog victory 86-82 with sophomore guard Noah King leading the charge with 18 points.

With two of the four Bulldog losses this season coming at home and some very good top teams at the top of the GLIAC, Ferris basketball will be looking to come out on top this week to stay among the top teams in the conference.

Bulldog basketball first hosts Northwood on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. before taking on Lake Superior State on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 3 p.m. Both games will be played at Jim Wink Arena.

Plans in the works for new athletic facilities

Marshall Scheldt
Sports Editor

Ferris State University is currently in the planning process of a new addition to the university's athletic facilities,

Administrators are overlooking the feasibility of enhancing current athletic facilities with early cost estimates ranging between \$5.5 and \$6.5 million.

The objective of the Center for Athletics Performance started last summer when Ferris State began exploring the scope and costs associated with building a new strength and conditioning center. They reviewed preliminary design concepts that were donated by a Ferris State alumnus.

The design elements included an addition to the existing Sports Complex with the creation of a new strength and conditioning area for all student-athletes. The facilities would also encompass all areas adjacent to the FSU volleyball arena, which would be renovated and expanded.

The project would also involve the renovation of existing locker rooms, the creation of new locker room space for each team, an enhanced area for sports medicine as well as rooms for meetings and team activities that all help align with the athletics department's gender equity initiatives.

"The current space conditioning that we're in is limited and undersized for a Div. 2 program," said Ferris Athletic Director Perk Weisenburger. "Currently our teams lift or work in shifts due to cramped conditions. Too often our student-athletes have to stretch and exercise in the hallway, and the Center for Athletics Performance would provide us with a facility where several of our teams to train together."

Weisenburger said not only would the new addition create more opportunities to grow and develop the championship culture that exists among Ferris athletics, but it will also work as a tremendous recruiting tool for Ferris

coaching staffs.

Weisenburger said that the current weight room currently lends itself more to the male athletes.

"We need increased space, better equipment and more multi-purpose space so that we can adequately train the 90-pound female golfer as well as the 320-pound offensive lineman," said Weisenburger. "Our goal is to build a center for all 380 student-athletes at Ferris State."

In addition, the plan calls for a new east entrance to the Ewigleben Sports complex with a connecting corridor to the administration and coaches office wing of the complex.

"Currently you either have to go through the hockey arena or go outside to get from the arena area [to the athletic department]," said Weisenburger.

Weisenburger said that the overall goal of the project is to continue to build and create a championship culture at Ferris State.

"We feel there is no better time in the history of our athletics program, on the heels of our national success, to consider building a state-of-the-art training facility that matches those of our conference rivals, helps our coaches recruit athletes at a higher level, enhances the student-athlete's experience and also contributes to the enhanced image of the university," said Weisenburger.

Funding for the project will come from a combination of funds through the university and private support. Weisenburger indicated the optimal completion date would be January of 2018.

Weisenburger said, "We're in the feasibility study stage a little bit with our Ferris foundation helping us with the feasibility study and our ability to raise the money. So we're not quite there in terms of knowing exactly what it is we're going to do and how much we need but we're moving fast and furious and it's an exciting time for Ferris State athletics and the university."

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Sports Shorts

Cody Burkhard
Torch Reporter



Photo by: Katie Tobak | Photographer

Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

In a weekend full of great Bulldog hockey, it is not easy to choose a clear standout, but junior forward Gerald Mayhew pulls away with Top Dawg honors this week.

Ferris State hockey made the long trip to Alaska last weekend to take on the University of Alaska Nanooks. Now 28 games into the season, the Bulldogs finally brought in their first weekend sweep of the season, taking it to the Nanooks 4-0 on Friday, Feb. 5 and then netting an overtime win on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2-1.

Four different Dawgs found the back of the net for the Dawgs in Friday's game, including Mayhew, but what sealed his spot as Top Dawg this week was Mayhew's overtime goal only 14 seconds into the extra period.

With two goals this weekend, Mayhew, the 5-foot-

10 Wyandotte native now has seven goals so far on the season, only trailing freshman forward Corey Mackin who has eight. Mayhew is also tied for the most games played so far this season, proving that he is a staple on the ice for Ferris State.

Mayhew's lightning fast overtime goal gave Bulldog hockey their third overtime win of the season, already on pace to beat last year's total OT victories of four. Though he holds seven goals so far, only two of those have come at home.

With only seven games left to play in the 2015-2016 regular season, Mayhew is certain to play a big role in the team's immediate future. Of those seven regular season games left to play, four will be at home in the presence of the Dawg Pound. The Dawgs currently hold a 5-3-5 home record with a 7-5-1 away record.

Ferris State hockey will host Northern Michigan in a weekend series starting Friday, Feb. 12 at 7:07 p.m. followed by a rematch the following night at the same time.

Dude, I found my broom

Ferris State hockey got its first sweep of the season over the weekend against Alaska. The Bulldogs won the first game 4-0 but went into their eleventh overtime of the year the next day. Junior forward Gerald Mayhew scored the game-winner just 14 seconds into the extra period.

Ferris State improved to 11-7-4 in-conference and gained sole possession of fourth place. With six conference games left, the Bulldogs are five points behind first place Minnesota State and three points behind second place Michigan Tech and Bowling Green.

The Dawgs have three conference opponents remaining in Northern Michigan, Bowling Green State and Lake Superior State. First up is Northern Michigan this weekend when Ferris puts its month-long unbeaten streak on the line at home.

End of the road

Ferris State women's basketball faced setbacks against Michigan Tech and Northern Michigan last weekend. Both games had double-digit deficits taking the Bulldogs to 4-13 in-conference.

With only five games left, Ferris is tied for twelfth in the GLIAC. The top eight schools get a bid to the GLIAC tournament and Ferris is five games out from the three-way tie for seventh. The Bulldogs are mathematically unlikely to make the tournament.

Even though they may not make the tournament, they can still affect the seeding with a strong finish to the season. The Dawgs have upcoming games against Saginaw Valley and Michigan Tech which are tied at second. Last time Ferris played Saginaw, the Dawgs stunned the Cardinals with a buzzer-beater for the win.

Ferris State has a homestand against Northwood and Lake Superior State this weekend. Ferris plays Northwood at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11 and Lake Superior State at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13.



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Kip Biby
Opinions Editor
kbiby44@gmail.com

“One common element to all countercultures is the use of music.”
- Travis Sacher
See below for story

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STAFF LIST

Editor in Chief
Keith Salowich
(231) 591 5978
fsutorcheditor@gmail.com

Production Manager
Jordan Lodge

Production Assistant
Shelby Soberalski

News Editor
Angela Graf

Lifestyles Editor
Hailey Klingel

Sports Editor
Marshall Scheldt

Opinions Editor
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Interim Reporters
Shantelle Bonham

Web Editor
--

Community Engagement
Caroline Cousineau

Distributor
Nick Vander Wulp

Managing Copy Editor
Kira Poncin

Copy Editor
Jasmine Nettles

Adviser
Steve Fox
(231) 591 2529

OUR LOCATION
Alumni Building 013
410 Oak Street
Ferris State University
Big Rapids, MI 49307
www.fsutorch.com/letter-to-the-editor/

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Feeling opinionated?

Here at the *Torch* we pride ourselves in being completely run by students. We have student writers, photographers, production people and a multitude of others who make the paper possible. And you, as a Ferris student, must understand that this is your newspaper.

For us to be the voice of the students, we cannot limit ourselves to just students that work at the *Torch*. So this is your opportunity to have your voice heard. I mean, you could just post a Facebook status, but that's hardly something you can brag to your friends about.

Write about anything you have an opinion on—classes, policies, politics, issues that matter to you. Send me your personal diary. It probably won't make print but at least I'll have something to read that does not involve Donald Trump.

My email is at the top of this section. Send an email with your opinion attached, and I will be in touch. Let's write!

- Kip Biby, Opinions Editor

The depths of society

Music's effects on counterculture

American countercultures are the underlying movements in this country whose values differ substantially from mainstream society. These movements oftentimes falter out due to government crackdowns and lack of guidance. Fortunately, other movements have left a permanent mark on society. Prominent moments include the civil rights movement, hippie movement, Anti-Vietnam Protests and the LGBT Liberation. All of these subcultures succeeded in some way and transformed social equality. One common element to all countercultures is the use of music.

Music is used to spread ideas both sacred and secular. It brings people together through vocals and recognizable tunes. Many subcultures are built on music. Hippies formulated through the popularity of folk and psychedelic rock music; punk music corresponds with the 80s and 90s anti-establishment movement and rap music speaks about the hip-hop subculture.

The hippie movement was a 1960s youth movement that counteracted the idea of a normal American lifestyle. Hippies expressed love, nature, activism and acceptance of all people. Hippies popularized everything liberal. Folk and rock music of the 60s sang about all of these aspects including antiwar protests. Punk music spoke to angry youths who were irritated by the



Travis Sacher
Torch Reporter

rules and regulations imposed by the government. Punks rejected everything mainstream. It promoted individual freedom under the Reagan and Bush regime. The hip-hop subculture was created in urban settings, mostly African American communities. Rap lyrics mix politics with gang violence and police brutality. These lyrics are angry and honest.

One similarity between these three subcultures is the idea of non-conformity. Not conforming to American mainstream ideals terrifies conservatives, the government and the elder generations. Conformity and conservation refuse to allow social justice, the social justice that the majority of our youthful generation today strives for. Music is used to personify the ideas of a counterculture. A number of musicians famous and unheard of are known as leaders of their subcultures.

Pete Seeger, Phil Ochs, Bob Dylan, The Beatles, Ramones, Grandmaster Flash, NWA, Fugazi, Nas, Nirvana, The Strokes

See *Music's effects* on page 15

Chat with the chief

Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

The *Torch* is now required to include a 243-word non-discrimination statement in each week's publication.

The decision comes on the heels of a federal mandate issued to multiple universities in hopes of bringing them up to a standard when it comes to non-discrimination policies. How the continuous printing of fine legal print in our publication is expected to accomplish that feat is beyond me, however.

The statement is found in every university publication, which is a category—for reasons beyond our control—that the *Torch* has been lumped into. The *Torch* has existed as an entirely separate entity since 1931, yet someone along the uni-

versity's hierarchy of power line agreed that we would be included in the decision.

To make something clear that should already be obvious, I am not against the non-discrimination policies, nor the statement being put out reinforcing them. The problem that I have with the scenario is the fact that our publication has to surrender space for the unabridged version of it on a weekly basis.

Unfortunately, the *Torch* must run the category one statement, which is the longest of the three options because it is a publication longer than 12 pages. Yet, this requirement doesn't seem to account for the fact that the statement is running every week.

Most university publications that run the statement are used as recruiting tools, or are published just once or twice per year. It makes more sense for these publications to include the full statement, since they'll likely only be read once, if at all.

After almost two months of dispute over the matter, the university agreed to pay a weekly fee for space to include the statement as if it were an ad, so as not to seem like it was controlling what we are able to publish.

Though more space devoted to ads limits editorial content in a newspaper, this conclusion is considered a compromise.

Yet, I can't help but think that regardless of how often the universi-

ty slaps a non-discrimination statement on a parchment, it doesn't mean a thing if it doesn't live up to the words contained therein.

In conclusion, I'm no longer upset about being forced to include the statement. However, because we have no choice but to run it, I'd like to see that statement put into practice rather than just written out in legalese.

There now exists a beautiful example of irony in the *Torch*. Check our newspaper for the same non-discrimination statement every week. You can pick up a copy each week in the basement of the Alumni Building, which is inaccessible to anyone who can't descend stairs.

Practice what you preach

MUSIC'S EFFECTS
from page 14
*Music's impact
on countercultures*

and Kendrick Lamar are just a selection of musicians who are icons to their respected subcultures.

Pete Seeger's popularization of the song, "We Shall Overcome," is an anthem to the civil right's movement. A general American history class would fail to include this fact. "We Shall Overcome," brought people of all colors together. Seeger also wrote, "Turn! Turn! Turn!" a plea for world peace, a major influence on the hippie movement.

NWA's debut album, "Straight Outta Compton," brought to life the reality of living in areas like Compton, Calif. The album ticked off the government to a point where the FBI and Secret Service sent Ruthless Records a letter stating they did not like the message the album portrayed. In 1991, hardcore punks Fugazi played a show in front of the White House protesting the Gulf War. Everybody today knows NWA for the popularity of their music, but Fugazi gained no musical success.

In history, we study moments. We are taught history the way that conservative white men want us to remember them. History books are the selections of what is decided to be most important segments of history. These musicians are history. They are part of a timeline of modern culture. Culture is the distinction of who we are as a country. The study of American culture needs to be more prevalent in the next generation. Musical activists shall be remembered for the cultural compositions they created.

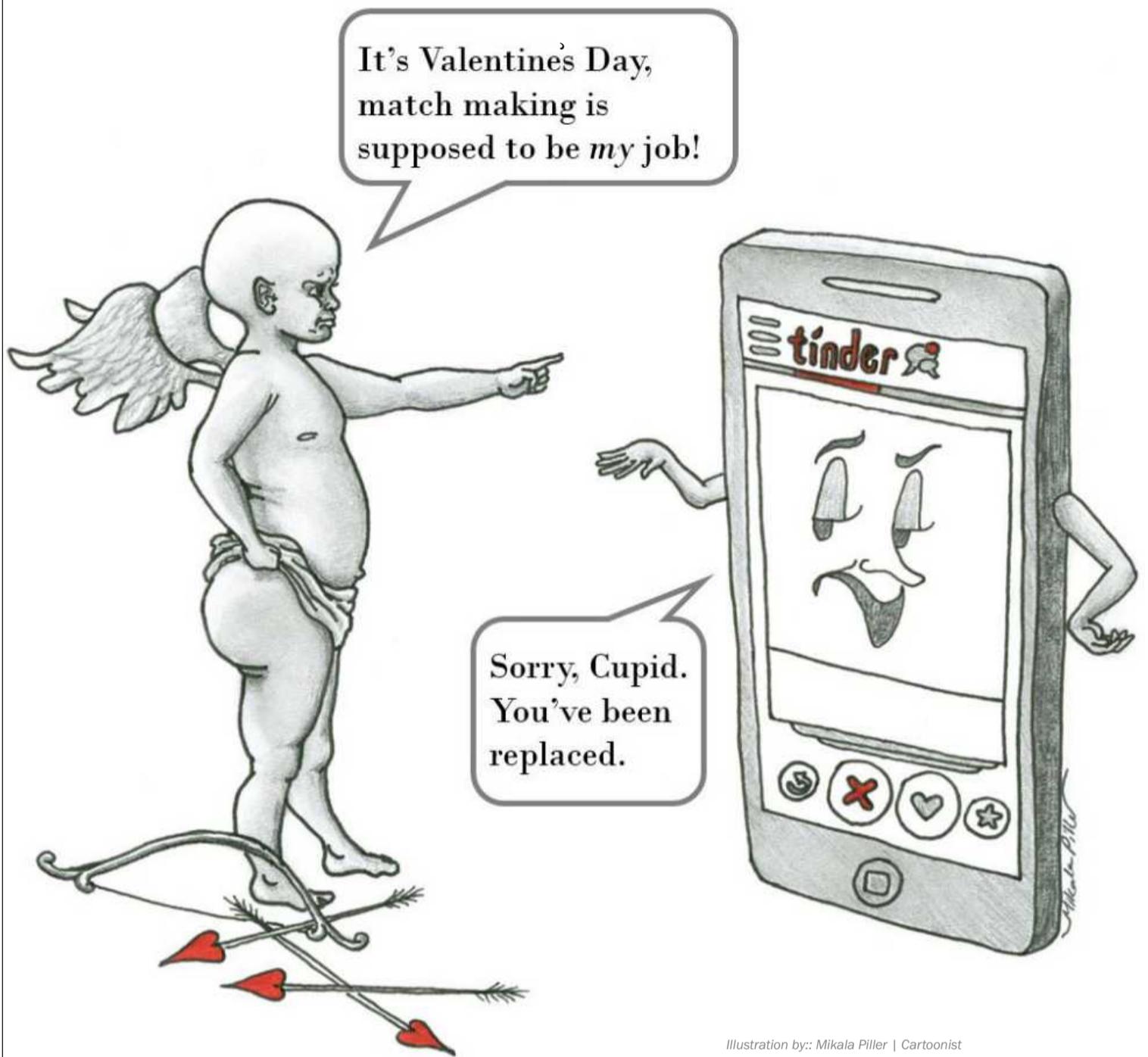


Illustration by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist

Every student's favorite d-word: debt

How to pay college expenses and save some money

Let's talk about debt, something that people don't really ever want to discuss. But let's face it, it can't be avoided.

I am a senior in college and have no debt. None at all. Let me tell you, it hasn't been easy. First of all, I have to admit that I do get a good chunk of assistance from the state because my family is low income. But the rest of the amount I owe to Ferris is paid by cows. Yup, cattle. I grew up on a small-scale beef farm and my dad and I would raise and sell beef cattle to pay for school. It's a lot of work, but it is paying off. I know it sounds pretty redneck, but it has also taught me to appreciate hard work and that I can achieve goals if I set my mind to it.

I still have bills and expenses just like any other college student. Here are a few tips and tricks that I have learned over the last few years.

I have had at least one job since I was 15. Before that, I babysat a lot. My life has been chaotic at times from juggling school, the farm and work. Not to mention trying to be an average kid and have a social life, play sports and do 4-H. I was the kid that always had to work and people would ask me, "Why work now when you have the rest of your life to work?" I knew then that if I worked hard and saved money and gained experience, it would pay off in the long run.

It has. One tip I can give about job experience is always think about resume building. I always knew that I wanted to go into art and graphic design and I was fortunate enough to get a job in a professional photo gallery in my hometown. This job alone has



Shelby Soberalski
Production Assistant

boosted my resume in many ways and helped me get my graphic design internship. My boss at my internship could care less about the one summer I taught swim lessons at my local pool. I know that not everyone can have opportunities like that, but if you look, I'm sure you can find something.

Do you hate taking Gen Eds? Did you know you can take most of them during the summer at a community college and have them transferred to Ferris? Want to know the best part? You only need to get a C for it to transfer and it won't affect your GPA at Ferris. I've spent all four years at Ferris and completed two summers' worth of classes, which was a very wise decision financially.

I am good at saving money, but I like to spend it, too. I have every paycheck direct deposited and I put 85 percent into my checking and 15 percent into my savings. It works great, because it's money that I don't really look at. Sometimes I forget it is there. It's nice to have in case of an emergency and even at only 15 percent, it adds up pretty quickly. In 2015, I challenged myself that every \$5 bill I came across, I would put in a box and save it throughout the year. Of course bills came up and I had spend it before the year was over, but it was rewarding to know that I had saved quite a bit of money that I didn't think was possible. I love saving coins, too. I have had so many

friends who hate coins and will throw them on the ground and not think twice about it. I have no shame in picking up that crusty penny on the ground—sorry not sorry. For the last few years, I would save all my coins for a year and use them for Christmas shopping. It doesn't usually add up to much, but it is better than nothing.

Like I mentioned above, I love to spend money, too. What girl doesn't? I try to budget as best as I can. I have a planner that I write my hectic schedule into, but I also write in it every bill I have due and every pay day. I am a very visual person. This helps me visualize what money I have coming and going from my account. As dorky as it sounds, it works really well for me. All of the bills that I pay are directly withdrawn so that I don't miss a payment and have a late fee. If I get paid this Friday, I know what bills need to be paid within the two-week period and then I have an idea of what I have left over to spend on fun things. When it comes to spending, I tend to have a lot of self control. I have that annoying debate with myself every time I buy something. Do I really need those shoes? If I buy that shirt, what do I have that will look good with it? Should I buy that book; will I actually have time to read it?

When it comes to spending, I look at the big picture. If I'm going to spend \$5 at Starbucks, I could spend that \$5 on a bag of coffee from Meijer and it would last me more than one day. Do I really need to spend \$20 at the bar? Maybe I can get one drink with my friends at the bar and have a six pack

at home and drink from the comfort of my home. Possibly save money on a cab, too!

One other tip that has helped me from time to time is to sell my old junk. I really don't need all these books laying around, or I haven't worn a certain dress in a while, why keep it? I sold my Wii console and bought a drawing tablet—best decision I made in quite a long time.

I may not buy everything I like, but I don't live without. I keep a list of all the things that I'd like to have but don't have the resources to get. I'll save money for a while and when that goal is met, I'll buy it. I can't tell you how satisfying it is to be able to work and save and buy something cool.

One last tip that has really helped me stay debt-free is that I use my skills to my advantage. I am a photographer and I sell my work on the side to make extra money every now and then. In 2015, I shot three weddings, senior photos and two family sessions. It was downright exhausting and after awhile it wasn't as fun anymore. But it was well worth the money. I know that not everyone is a photographer, but you have to possess some skill that would mean something to someone else. You can knit? I can't, I'd love to buy a scarf from you.

Being debt-free is pretty nice, but it has cost me. I can't tell you how many sleepless nights I've had, parties I've missed, things I've given up or the number of times I've nearly driven myself crazy. But let me tell you, hard work pays off.

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