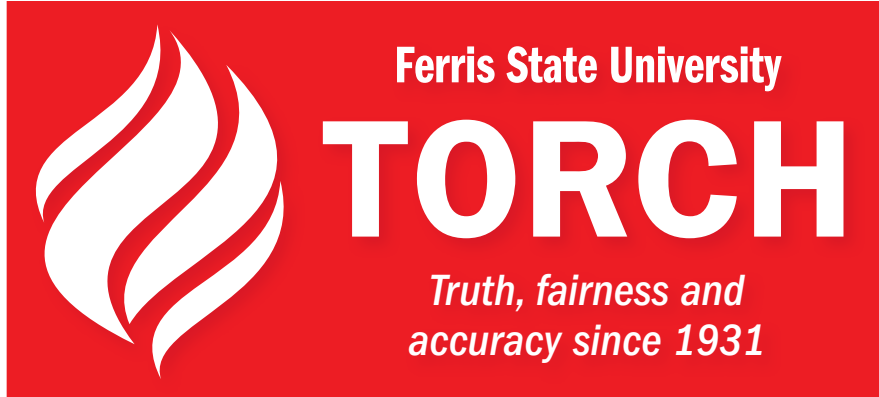


# Birkam hell center



## Students share their experiences at Ferris' Birkam Health Center

Angela Graf

News Editor

In the mission statement of Birkam Health Center and all over their website, in fact, they claim that their primary goal is to "provide the best patient care and experience."

The Health Center charges a \$47 refundable "health services" fee at the beginning of the year for these services. After speaking to students that have visited Birkam, though, it is called to question: just how quality is the care that students are receiving?

Three Ferris students of varying age came forward and shared stories about their personal experiences at Birkam Health Center. Due to the personal nature of this content, they chose to remain anonymous.

### Female Ferris freshman:

I went to Birkam in order to get my yearly check-up and my yearly prescription of birth control refilled. I made sure that the provider understood that I was there for my yearly check-up because I was due for one and that is what my insurance would cover.

However, I got a call from my mom later that week saying she had received a notice from the insurance stating that they wouldn't cover the appointment because Birkam had not given them enough information to deem the appointment necessary.

Let me be clear, I have very good health insurance; the provider had written virtually nothing in her patient care report. Additionally, we received a bill from Spectrum Health for \$400 for the labs Birkam sent there because they failed to also send over my insurance information.

On top of all this, Birkam charged my student account for the cost of the appointment without ever notifying me. That's not even the end of my complaints, though. When I went to pick up my prescription, the pharmacy told me that I only had a three-month prescription rather than a prescription for the whole year like I had requested and like I had had before.

When I went in to complain and have the prescription fixed, Birkam made me make another appointment to get my yearly prescription. So approximately \$1,000 later, I can now avoid getting pregnant. Thanks, Birkam.

### Female Ferris senior:

I've had multiple bad experiences at Birkam. The worst, though, was when I'm pretty sure I was misdiagnosed with chlamydia.

I started sleeping with a new guy and noticed some weird vaginal symptoms, so I went to Birkam. They ran some tests and told me I had this thing called bacterial vaginosis (BV), which could be cured with antibiotics. They also told me they wanted to STD test me for chlamydia and gonorrhea because the symptoms were similar. They told me it was \$35 per test if they didn't bill my parents' insurance, so I said okay and got tested. The doctor also prescribed me antibiotics for BV, so I got those and started taking them.

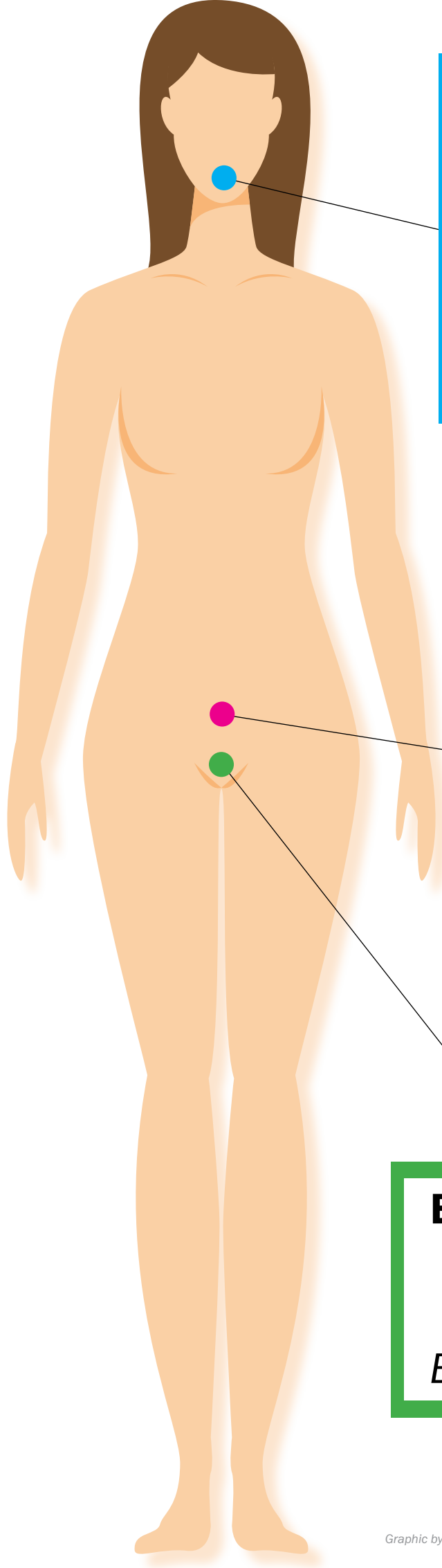
The next day, Birkam called me and told me I needed to come back because one of the tests was positive. I was freaking out. I went back and they told me I had chlamydia. The doctor gave me more antibiotics on the spot that supposedly killed chlamydia. I asked if it was okay to take them while I was on the BV antibiotics and they said yes.

I was sick to my stomach and bed ridden for three days. I couldn't move without wanting to puke. It was terrible. The BV antibiotics had the worst taste ever and I'm pretty sure they reacted with the other antibiotics because I thought I was dying.

When I thought I had chlamydia, I told everyone I had ever slept with. All of them got tested and not a single person had chlamydia (unless someone lied, but I doubt it). I then did a little research and found out that if you have BV, it often causes chlamydia tests to come back falsely positive.

That's not even the worst part, though. About a week later, I got a bill for my lab tests from Big Rapids Spec

See BIRKAM on page 2



**Reason for going to Birkam:**  
*Birth Control*  
**Result:**  
*Charged over \$800*

**Birkam Diagnosis:**  
*STD*  
**Actual ailment:**  
*Not an STD*

**Birkam Diagnosis:**  
*Chlamydia*  
**Actual ailment:**  
*Bacterial Vaginosis*

Graphic by: Jordan Lodge | Production Manager

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**Angela Graf**  
News Editor  
grafa1@ferris.edu

"I believe that in order for a society to succeed the people need to be educated..."  
- Jackie Zvonar  
See below for story

# Drowning in



Graphic by: Shelby Soberalski | Production Assistant

## Studies show that student concern over money issues is on the rise

Megan Hiler  
Torch Reporter

Freshmen at Ferris State are becoming more and more stressed out about their financial situations, echoing the results of a national survey.

The annual survey, sponsored by the Higher Education Research Institute at University of California at Los Angeles, showed an increase in students' concern about money and reliance on Pell Grants. This is money from the government given to students who need help paying for college. It found that 54.7 percent of students who received these grants still needed to take out loans to pay for school.

Last year, the average amount of student debt that students were graduating with was a whopping \$35,051. With the cost of tuition increasing, students are left questioning if the future will prove that college was a good investment.

"I'm always stuck wondering if the check I'm going to be getting one day is going to be worth all this money I'm

putting into it," said Ferris marketing freshman Dani Bronson.

Even students who do not bear the full burden of paying for school on their own are feeling the pressure. Ferris freshman and pre-optometry student Ashlee Adams said that mon-

*"I don't want to waste money by doing poorly in a class."*

*Ashlee Adams*

ey is still a major concern despite help from her parents and receiving an academic scholarship.

"I don't want to waste money by doing poorly in a class," she said. Adams has a valid concern; the average cost of tuition at Ferris is upwards of \$20,000.

"I don't think it's fair. It's ridiculous to expect young adults to be able to pay for [classes] or to pay off extensive loans," Adams said.

Tuition bills can also be a determining factor when it comes to choosing which school to attend. Sometimes a student will choose to go to one college over another because it is cheaper for her.

"Ferris was not my first choice, but I ended up choosing to go here," Ferris pre-medicine freshman Jackie Zvonar said. "They offered the most scholarship money." She is also a member of Ferris' Honors Program.

Attending college is something that over half of the population does after high school and something many students feel that they need to do in order to lead a prosperous life.

"I believe that in order for a society to succeed the people need to be educated; therefore, we should make higher education more accessible to more people," Zvonar said.

For more information on The American Freshman Survey, go to [www.heri.ucla.edu](http://www.heri.ucla.edu).

**Birkam** from page 1  
*Students share their experiences*

trum Health for \$296. They told me it'd be \$70.

I called Birkam and they said they couldn't help me and to call the hospital. The hospital said it was that much because I didn't bill it to my parents' insurance. I told them to just bill it to their insurance because I wasn't going to pay \$300 for two STD tests. They billed it to my parents and it was still \$196 out of pocket.

So my parents found out I had an STD, and I had to pay \$200 to be made extremely sick and falsely diagnosed with chlamydia. I bet Birkam is by far the worst college healthcare place in Michigan. It's fucking terrible.

### Female Ferris freshman:

Last October I went to Birkam Health Center for what I thought was a UTI because I've gotten them a lot ever since I was little. It was your typical doctor's visit; she took a urine sample and was going to send it for cultures over the weekend. She gave me antibiotics for the time being and I was supposed to get my lab results back the following Monday through an email to know how to continue.

Monday came around and no lab results came to confirm my condition or make sure it wasn't anything more serious. I called them and they said I would have to make another appointment and pay for another visit in order to get my results. I refused to make another appointment and asked to speak with the doctor. I saw that following week about the matter. They said she retired on Friday.

Then I got transferred to medical records and they told me my lab results were inconclusive. They still charged my student account with lab costs, though, despite the fact that they didn't go through AND proceeded to tell me that I needed to make an appointment for another urine sample.

At this point I was beyond mad. I was transferred to a nurse to make an appointment. She asked me what my visit was for, I told her the whole situation, and she put me on hold to speak with the new doctor that replaced the one that retired.

When she returned, she informed me that the doctor didn't want another urine sample, he was sure I had an STD and wanted me to schedule a vaginal exam, not a urine sample. A doctor who had never even seen me and hardly knew what was going on making assumptions like that extremely offended me. I told the nurse to forget about it and hung up the phone.

Over spring break, I didn't get to go lay on a beach, I got to go see a urologist and get scheduled for further ultrasounds. Also, no STDs. Big surprise there. Thanks a lot, Birkam.

If you would like to contact Birkam Health Center, located at 1019 Campus Drive, clinic hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Call (231) 591-2614 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

# No chill in the Rec Center

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

By Angela Graf, News Editor

## Bumper cars

Feb. 24, 10:10 p.m., officers investigated a report of a two-vehicle accident on Knollview Drive, south of South Street.

## Why we can't have nice things

Feb. 25, 12:05 p.m., officers investigated a complaint of malicious destruction at the University Center.

## Non-recreational fight

Feb. 25, 6:40 p.m., officers investigated a report of disorderly students fighting in the Recreation Center.

## Bad midterms?

Feb. 26, 1:25 p.m., officers reported to the dean's office in the Arts and Science Commons where a student was demanding to speak to the dean. The student left before officers arrived on the scene.

## Travis Hall high

Feb. 27, 3:55 a.m., officers assisted the staff in Travis Hall in the investigation of a marijuana complaint.

## Merrill MIP

Feb. 27, 1:40 a.m., officers investigated a harassment complaint in Merrill Hall. One student was ticketed with an MIP and two non-stu-

dents had warrant requests sent to the prosecutor's office on their behalf. Both non-students have been arrested and posted bond.

## Turnt up

Feb. 28, 12:20 a.m., officers investigated a complaint about a loud party at the West Campus Apartments. Two students were identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

## Weed in West Campus

Feb. 28, 1:20 a.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint at the West Campus Apartments. One student was identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

## Fender bender

Feb. 28, 7:05 p.m., officers investigated a report of a two-vehicle accident in Lot 5.

## Another Rec fight

Feb. 28, 7:50 p.m., officers investigated a report of disorderly fighting in the Recreation Center. One student had a warrant request sent to the prosecutor's office for assault. Another student was transported to the hospital for their injuries.

## Passing the bong in Brophy

Feb. 29, 11:30 p.m., officers investigated a marijuana complaint in Brophy Hall. Three students were referred to the Office of Student Conduct as well as having warrants sent to the prosecutor's office.

## Hit and run

March 1, 9:45 a.m., officers investigated a hit and run accident in Lot 2.

## No chill

March 1, 7:20 p.m., officers investigated a report of disorderly fighting at the Recreation Center. One student was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

## Credit card fraud

March 2, 7:35 p.m., officers investigated the fraudulent use of a credit card in Brophy Hall. The investigation is ongoing.

From Feb. 26 to March 3, the Ferris Department of Public Safety issued 332 violations totaling \$5,550.



# Professors talk politics

## Ferris professors discuss restrictions on political classroom discussion

Liz Yost

Torch Reporter

How much is too much when it comes to professors discussing their political views?

Today's news is composed mostly of presidential debates—with candidates such as Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders, how could it not be? Controversial topics like this call into question what Ferris professors are allowed to discuss with their students, both by their own standards as well as the university's.



Jana Pisani

"Ferris's Board of Trustees has created (in the past) an academic freedom policy," said Ferris history professor Dr. Jana Pisani. "The policy does suggest what while they do have academic freedom, professors are supposed

to show various views on a particular topic, which in my mind means that if discussing politics you would be obligated to discuss not just your own view but also the views of other politicians. I like to present various sides of events and issues when I can."

The academic freedom policy mentioned states that "academic freedom is granted to all full-time and part-time teachers" and that "the right to academic freedom shall include the right to support or oppose political causes and issues outside normal instructional activities." The policy goes on to explain that teachers are entitled to discuss in essence anything they deem fit in reference to their subjects without restriction.

However, with free speech comes responsibility. Though professors are legally unrestricted in discussing politics in the classroom, they may morally choose otherwise.

"I follow the advice of Enlightenment thinkers in allowing students the freedom to form their own views," said Ferris humanities professor Robert Quist. "I may discuss candidates or events, but I do not divulge my current political party affiliations. It is not a good teaching environment to press political or hot-topic social issues that are outside the course content. It tends to alienate the students who may disagree."

*"I may discuss candidates or events, but I do not divulge my current political party affiliations."*

Robert Quist

Despite the university policy, professors seem to choose not to discuss their affiliations of any kind with their students. Academic freedom provides teachers with a very open playing field for discussion as well as the option to choose their own personal policies.

"I filter myself to a good extent," said Pisani. "I never tell students my political affiliation nor do I tell them my religious affiliation unless I am asked directly. I believe Ferris' policy is very fair, and my own policy to allow students to think for themselves on these things makes sense, too."



Robert Quist

# NEWS BRIEFS

Angela Graf

News Editor

## Birkam new hire

The Division of Student Affairs and Birkam Health Center welcomed new staff member Dr. Peter S. VanDeMark to Ferris on March 7. VanDeMark is board certified and obtained his MD from Wayne State University. He has been practicing medicine in the Big Rapids Community for over 30 years and is excited to join the Ferris State team.

## Last day to withdraw

The last day to withdraw from a class and receive a "W" on your transcripts is March 23. If you wish to drop a class it is suggested that you meet with your professor in that course, as well as your academic advisor, immediately to discuss possible repercussions. For more information visit <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/admision/financialaid/DroppinGAClass.htm>.

## PRISM Writing Contest

Due to the break, the deadline for submitting work to the PRISM Writing Contest has been extended. Categories include poetry, short fiction, research papers, essays and other artworks in various mediums. The new deadline is Friday, March 18 and details on how to submit work can be found at [ferrisprism.com](http://ferrisprism.com).

## Fifth 3D printer

The Ferris Maker Space, located in room 110 of the Swan Building, now has a fifth 3D printer as well as a small desktop CNC mill and has collaborated with 3DXTECH, a supplier that offers regular and high-end engineering compounds, to obtain filament at a cut-rate.

## Password reset

On March 8, Information Technology Services updated their password management tool to be more secure by getting rid of "challenge questions." Instead, you can now use an alternative email to receive a temporary security code. If you do not set up an alternative email, and you forget your password, you will need to call TAC to have the password reset. This new method of resetting your password is only necessary if you have forgotten your password, or if you need to change your current password. If you have any questions concerning password reset, contact TAC at (231) 591-4822 or toll free at (877) 779-4822.

## Ferris State Torch Corrections

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# Ferris freshmen leaning left?

## National survey of freshmen finds highest percentage of liberals in over forty years

Keith Salowich

Editor in Chief

This year's college freshman class includes the highest percentage of liberal students since Watergate, and Bernie Sanders could be the reason.

According to UCLA's Cooperative Institutional Research Program Freshman Survey, roughly one-third (33.5 percent) of freshmen entering a four-year institution in 2015 considered themselves to be liberal, or saw their political views as leaning "far left." This marks the highest percentage of liberal students since 1973, which was the year Republican president Richard Nixon was first accused of having involvement in the Watergate scandal.

Comparatively, 21.6 percent of incoming students identified as conservative, or acknowledged that their political views leaned, "far right."

Senator Bernie Sanders, who is running for the Democratic bid in the presidential election, has focused much of his campaign efforts on tackling college affordability. According to the Washington Post, Sanders has drawn the support of far more millennials than any other candidate currently running in any party.

Sanders popularity among college-aged voters could be responsible for this spike in potential voters.

"I'm Democratic Socialist. I'm all for Bernie," Ferris undecided freshman Sierra Ojeda said. Ojeda, who would find herself representing the third of freshman students that lean far left on the political spectrum, sees Sanders as the obvious choice over Hillary Clinton for the Democratic ballot come election time.

"She tries so hard, but all of her views are twisted," Ojeda said. "She's saying everything, practically, that Bernie says because she's realizing that the young people like him and not her. It's sad that a lot of her supporters are girls that just think it's time for a woman president. It's not time for an idiot woman president."

Ojeda believes that in addition to Sanders' support from college-aged voters, social media

hype has also played a role in the increased interest in voting among millennials.

"I think the social media movement has really changed our views on politics. Millennials are all over Facebook. I mean, politics are everywhere, memes are everywhere—it's really helped bring politics to our attention," Ojeda said.

In 2014, which was a midterm year, just over half of students claimed that they had a "very good" chance of voting in a local, state or national election while in college. This year that number has seen almost a 10 percent increase, with 59.8 percent of students stating that they're very likely to vote while attending college.

Ferris social work freshman Lindsey Schader doesn't tie herself to any one party, but does plan on voting for Sanders should he appear on the presidential ballot.

"I'm more in the middle. If I had to pick one it'd probably be Bernie, but I wouldn't vote for anyone just because of their party," Schader said.

Schader believes that if each student attending Ferris were polled on their preferred candidate, the bid would go to the current Republican frontrunner.

"Honestly, I think it'd be Trump, which kind of worries me. A lot of people around here are stuck in a certain mindset and don't see his racism."

It is true that not all Ferris students are "feeling the Bern" on campus. Ferris welding engineering freshman Adam Petrowitz saw himself as independent, but tended to side with Republicans in fiscal matters, while generally leaning left for social issues.

"I really do look at what the views are. Free college would be nice for Bernie Sanders, but that means other people are paying for it. Free isn't really free," Petrowitz said. "I do plan on voting. I'll look at it once it gets a little closer and break down what the views are."

For information on registering to vote in Michigan, visit <http://www.dmv.org/mi-michigan/voter-registration.php>.

# Taking care of business

## Freshmen make plans to work the summer away

Nick Vanderwulp

Torch Reporter

Freshmen at Ferris State await their first summer break with the anticipation of working and setting themselves up for success in their next years of higher education.

The Higher Education Research Institute (HERI), a graduate research organization based out of the University of California, Los Angeles, developed a survey of college freshmen asking them questions about their overall health, work/life balance and even what they planned to do over the summer break.

During the summer of 2015, the vast majority of freshmen surveyed, a whopping 83.7 percent, said they planned on working for pay during the summer. Student loans only seemed to increase the number of freshmen who planned on working for money over the summer, and 90 percent of those who had loans over \$10,000 planned on working rather than taking an internship or traveling.

"I was just planning on trying to find a job in my hometown with some vet to get some experience," said Ferris pre-veterinary freshman Taylor Hare. "I'm looking for something that's paid rather than an internship."

Many other freshmen don't take a break from classes during summer. Of those surveyed, 17.7 percent said they'll take at least one course at the university or college they attend and 25.9 percent planned on taking a class at another institution.

"I'm possibly going to take a higher level English class so I don't have to take something like that during the regular school year," said Ferris television and digital media production freshman Nick Derr. "I can take that at Muskegon Community College, and when I come back I'll have that done so I can concentrate on other higher level classes."

For Ferris advertising and integrated marketing freshman Elena Macino said she's planning on taking summer courses to put herself in a better position for getting an internship next year. While men were slightly more likely than women to plan on participating in an internship, Macino is doing what she can this year to prepare for her future internship opportunities.

"I plan to take three classes over the summer, so that way it opens up my ability to do an internship possibly next year," said Macino. "I do work at a cheerleading gym, as well as my mom helps me do volunteer hours for colon cancer awareness, so we normally do a lot of walks over the summer."

While the study said 66.1 percent of freshmen surveyed said they will travel during summer break, more Ferris students would need to be interviewed to get a better idea of how many will travel.

The study "Your First College Year" was developed by HERI and is given to students nationwide every year by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP). 11,267 freshman students at 46 institutions answered questions for the survey.

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# Student's respond to Lupe Fiasco headlining Music Takes Action



Courtesy Photo

Lupe Fiasco will be performing at Ferris' Music Takes Action event on April 23 as part of his "For the Fans" tour.



Travis Sacher  
Torch Reporter

The media at Ferris has been taken by storm over the release of Lupe Fiasco headlining Music Takes Action, the title music event held at Ferris State.

Students were disappointed with the event held last spring. The now defunct Ferris Fest was moved inside the Wink Arena due to threat of rain. Students were already disappointed over the selections of Big KRIT and Mayer Hawthorne and were even more irritated when the festival was held indoors on a warm sunny day.

This year should be a drastic turnaround. As you may know, Entertainment Unlimited's (EU) event was renamed to Music Takes Action and will raise money for Musicians On Call through merchandise sales and a fundraiser. The stage will also be moved back to the North Quad.

Although not all students will be thrilled with the selection of Lupe, many students, and myself, have good feelings for this semester's fes-

tival.

I did not attend the show last year because of the headliners and the fact that it was held inside, but I am stoked to see Lupe live. He has been an artist that I've occasionally played since I first heard "Kick, Push" during my freshman year of high school. I would love for him to play his hit, "The Show Goes On," which was written by members of indie rock band Modest Mouse. The melody is based on MM's most popular hit, "Float On." The line "And we'll all float on alright," in "Float On" is transformed into "Alright, already the show goes on all night" in "The Show Goes On."

Cheer Team President and junior Alexis Areeda was part of the large consensus dissatisfied

with the event last spring; "Last year I did not go because I did not know the artists playing or had any desire to go to a concert inside."

Tyler Smith, president of Professional Golf Management Student Association and diverse music fanatic stated, "Lupe has collaborated with many artists that I listen to frequently. He brings something different to the stage and should connect with the student well." Smith expects the attendance to be up this year.

Another PGM major and avid hip hop music listener Dustin Darling became ecstatic when I told him the news of Lupe coming to campus. He immediately declared out loud, "Kick, Push' changed my life." Darling added, "I hope he plays songs off of 'Laser.' To me, the album focuses on soul searching and personal moral, qualities of music I enjoy."

Stay tuned for EU's upcoming release of supporting performers.

## 2016 MAY COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 6, 2016 and Saturday, May 7, 2016

Ewigleben Sport Complex (Wink Arena)

College	Contact	Phone #	Location
Health Professions	Richelle Williams	(231) 591-2263	VFS 210
Arts & Sciences	Barb Hampel	(231) 591-3660	ASC 3052
Business (Undergrad Students on & off-campus)	Carri Griffis	(231) 591-2493	BUS 200
Business (Graduate Students)	Shannon Yost	(231) 591-2168	BUS 200E
Education & Human Services	Jacee Potts	(231) 591-2700	BIS 604
Engineering Technology	Deb Ducat	(231) 591-2961	JHN 200
Optometry	Michelle Aldrich	(231) 591-3700	MCO 236
Pharmacy	Tara Lee	(231) 591-3780	PHR 105
DCCL	Megan Biller	(231) 591-2710	ALU 113

**Note:** You must satisfy all of your degree requirements before you officially graduate and receive your diploma.

**Caps and Gowns** may be purchased at the Grad Fair on March 22nd, 11:00 am - 5:00pm in the University Center - Multi Purpose Rooms or starting March 22nd - May 3rd at the Ferris State University Bookstore (located in the University Center, 805 Campus Drive, Big Rapids MI 49307).

**Tickets** are required for all ceremonies. All students planning on participating in a ceremony will receive (6) six tickets and are available at Grad Fair on March 22, 2016, tickets must be reserved by midnight on May 5, 2016. Electronic tickets will be available for students to access/print starting March 22, 2016. Extra tickets are not distributed and lost tickets will not be replaced.

**Commencement Program** - Graduates must complete their online graduation application by **Friday, February 26, 2016 for their names to appear in the Spring 2016 Commencement Programs** or their name will not appear in the Commencement Program. In order to have the program printed and back in time for the ceremonies we have to adhere to these deadlines. Contact your college's Commencement Coordinator if you have any questions.

Friday, May 6	
Time	College
3:30 pm	College of Health Professions
7:00 pm	College of Arts & Sciences College of Pharmacy Doctorate in Community College Leadership
Saturday, May 7	
Time	College
9:00 am	College of Business
12:30 pm	College of Education & Human Services Michigan College of Optometry
4:00 pm	College of Engineering & Technology

For special accommodations or for more information regarding the Commencement ceremony, please visit the Commencement website [www.ferris.edu/commencement](http://www.ferris.edu/commencement) or call (231) 591-3803.



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# LIFESTYLES

**Hailey Klingel**  
Lifestyles Editor  
klingeh@ferris.edu

"I wanted to be on the broadcasting side, and there were several times where I was told, 'You can't be a broadcaster, you're a girl.'"  
- Victoria Hudgins  
See page 9 for story

## Bulldog spring break

Jen Corrie

Torch Reporter

Ferris criminal justice junior Brett Chesebro spent her spring break in New York City with her friend Sarah McKeon, another Ferris student who is originally from the area.

Chesebro said that McKeon was going home to see her family for spring break in New York and asked if she wanted to join her.

"My friend Sarah was born and raised here so she's been showing me all the city has to offer," said Chesebro. "It's been a place I've always wanted to visit. I grew up in the small town of Morley, about 15 miles from campus, so it's been a great experience."

The girls spent their time off school exploring and sight-seeing in the city, including the Empire State Building and her favorite sight on the trip; the 9/11 Memorial World Trade Center site.

"It was very eye-opening," Chesebro said about the memorial.

"The city is very fast-paced and very diverse. I was amazed at all the different cultures, races and lifestyles all in one place," she said. "It has been a trip I'll never forget."



Courtesy photo

Ferris criminal justice junior Brett Chesebro (left) spent spring break exploring New York City with fellow Ferris student Sarah McKeon (right).

Jen Corrie

Torch Reporter

Ferris healthcare systems administration freshman Amber Dolegowski traveled with a group for her spring break trip to Chicago. Her registered student organization (RSO), Newman Center for Catholic Students, carried out a mission trip in the windy city, working alongside local nuns.

"The Our Lady of the Angels Mission is located in west Chicago, and that neighborhood is extremely poor," said Dolegowski. "We participated in a food and clothes giveaway, worked in the after school program that gives kids the opportunity to have a safe place and meal after school, worked in a nearby school, assisted in the community dinner and volunteered with the Senior Program. We also did some cleaning here and there in the church and convent."

Dolegowski said her favorite part of the trip was working with the kids at St. Sylvester's Catholic School, which they did for two days.

"Half of us went to work with preschool and kindergarten, and the other half went to help the sixth through eighth graders with test prep. They were preparing for their ACT Aspire tests, and those determine which high schools they can get into," she said. "Some of the kids mentioned that the only meals they get during the day are from Kelly Hall, so the after school program was more than just a place for them to hang out, it was their main source of food. That was probably the most surprising and heart wrenching part of the trip."

Overall, Dolegowski and the rest of the group had a successful spring break, completing their mission trip.

"The Sisters are great, and I love all the work they do for the community there," she said.



Courtesy photo

Ferris freshman healthcare systems administration Amber Dolegowski (second row from top, far right) spent her spring break in Chicago with Ferris' Newman Center for Catholic Students. She and the group volunteered with local nuns in a soup kitchen in West Chicago.



# Nicaragua

Courtesy photo

Ferris nursing senior Kaley Funkhouser (front row, right) traveled to Nicaragua with eight other Ferris nursing students for a medical service mission trip.

Jen Corrie

Torch Reporter

Kaley Funkhouser spent her spring break in Nicaragua.

She and eight other fourth-semester nursing students traveled there for a service learning project required for the nursing program. The project aims to promote health and all the ways nurses can provide support to communities. It requires 30 hours of community service from the participants, along with six journal entries about the project and a presentation to the nursing students who aren't as far along in the program.

"Personally, I've always wanted to be involved with a trip like this because it's a combination of my two passions, which are traveling and nursing," said Funkhouser. "I think that we as a group thought that this project would be a perfect opportunity to expand our nursing skills and contribute to a population that is in desperate need of medical care."

Funkhouser said the trip has produced some struggles, including lack of running water, language barriers and living in close proximity to a plethora of cockroaches. The trip was still extremely rewarding, though.

"Getting to care for the people of Nicaragua has made every 'struggle' we've had extremely worthwhile because they are so grateful that we are here to help in any way we can. They are just happy to have someone care, in my opinion," Funkhouser said.

During the trip, the group of nine nursing students got to take a tour of one of the main hospitals in Nicaragua, San Juan de Dios Estelí, and observe surgeries in its operating room. They also got to set up and work in 'pop-up' health clinics around rural areas of the country, which Funkhouser said was her favorite part of the trip.

"I think what the career of nursing boils down to is being able to truly be there for another person who needs your help through the good, bad and ugly, which is not something that can be learned from a textbook," she said. "I feel incredibly lucky to have the opportunity to go on a trip like this with eight other really exceptional future nurses."



Courtesy photo

Funkhouser and eight other Ferris students toured a Nicaraguan hospital, observed surgeries and worked in pop-up health clinics.



Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Photographer

The Ferris Museum of Sexist Objects (MSO) contains objects that show the sexism and empowerment of women throughout the past few centuries. The MSO is in Starr 314.

# Women leaders at Ferris

## Recognizing women's issues during Women's History Month

Nick Vander Wulp  
Torch Reporter

Women's History Month at Ferris is a time to celebrate the women who lead by example and help make registered student organizations (RSOs) run on campus.

The month of March is Women's History Month, and while our society has made great strides toward gender equality, which is reflected in many ways at Ferris, there is still work that needs to be done in recognizing women leaders and their contributions.

"First of all, I think Ferris should recognize Women's History Month a little more than it does," said Ferris applied speech communication junior and president of Active Minds Victoria Hudgins. "You see things, and you hear things and sometimes they have events. Maybe coming from a woman's perspective, there should be something bigger."

Ferris criminal justice senior and vice president of You Beautiful Black Woman Jazmine Goode and Ferris business administration junior and president of Alpha Kappa Psi co-ed business fraternity Sarah Bryant expressed the same sentiments about Ferris organizations needing to be more cognizant of Women's History Month. Both

think Ferris students from all organizations should become involved in planning events and making the month stand out more on campus.

"We can make it better," said Goode. "If all of the women's organizations on campus came together and we did one big thing and helped shine a light on Women's History Month, I think it could be a lot better. That might be a big or fun event if all of us came together to bring awareness to it."

Though Ferris and RSOs on campus generally do their best to push for equality in programs and rights for women on campus, there are still examples of sexism that happen inside of programs.

"I was originally a television and digital media production (TDMP) major, and then I was in sports communication, and now I'm in applied speech," said Hudgins. "Originally I wanted to do video, and then I lost my love for it and I didn't



Jazmine Goode



Victoria Hudgins



Courtesy photo

Ferris business administration and mechanical engineering technology senior Quincee Denault pictured at her 2015 IT project management summer internship at Amway in Ada.



# What to do for St. Patrick's Day

Travis Sacher  
Torch Reporter

It's the time of year again where Americans discover their Irish heritage.

It's time to break out the green and clover-themed outfits and begin preparing a nice dinner of corned beef and cabbage. St. Patty's Day is Thursday, March 17 and Big Rapids is preparing itself for it.

### Raven Brewery and BBQ

The Raven is hosting a St. Patty's Day Extravaganza. The doors open at 9 a.m. and the Raven will be serving fresh corned beef and cabbage. Live music will begin at 4 p.m., starting with two local bands. The Pistil Whips will play at 6 p.m. and The Balsam Brothers will close out the show at 8 p.m. Check out the Facebook event page (search "Raven St. Patty's Day Extravaganza") for more information.

### The Gate

The Gate's bowling alley and bar will be open until 2 a.m. as usual, but will be serving fresh corned beef and cabbage.

### Cranker's

Cranker's Brewery will be hosting the second entry round of the Cranker's Sing-Off. The first round of the sing off took place on March 3. The event starts at 7 p.m. Volunteers sign up through a first sign-serve system. Volunteers who perform will have the chance to win the grand prize of \$500. The first round was reported to be a great success with 23 volunteers given a chance to impress the crowd.

Outside of hosted events at the town's public bars, the atmosphere among Ferris students on St. Patty's Day is always vibrant. Green shirts, hats and necklaces will be worn by almost everybody. It's one of the very few days of the year where students seem to be excited to go to class. As the day progresses, students tend to congregate in the courtyard of the Oakwood Apartments according to one Ferris State junior who preferred to remain anonymous.

## WOMEN from page 8 Celebrating female Ferris students

want to do it anymore. And I loved sports, so then I went into sports. I got that being a girl in sports communication was hard because you get looked at differently, you get judged. I wanted to be on the broadcasting side, and there were several times where I was told, 'You can't be a broadcaster, you're a girl.'

Women In Technology (WIT) president and Ferris business administration and mechanical engineering technology senior Quincee Denault represents a RSO that works to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) studies to women interested in entering these fields.

"I think it's definitely progressing because what we're doing here at Ferris is happening at a lot of other places," said Denault. "Where if we're already a woman in a STEM field, we're trying to really encourage other women to consider if that's something they're genuinely interested in, are skilled in and can move forward with that. Because I think so many people really thought that, or they grew up thinking that nursing is a really important thing for females to do and it's a very traditional view. I think that now that people are really starting to stand out and really follow their true interests, it's really starting to spark more interest in other fields."

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH EVENTS AT FERRIS

**Tuesday, March 22**

**Women's History Month Student Tribute**  
UC 217 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

*Ferris students spotlighting women who have made positive contributions to society.*

**Monday, March 28**

**Ferris Collection of Sexist Objects**  
FLITE 304 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

*Professor Tracey Bush will present a short history on the "Ferris Collection of Sexist Objects."*

**Tuesday, March 29**

**Successful Women in Greek Life**  
UC 202B from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

*Sigma Lambda Gamma and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. alumni will join in this discussion of how Greek life leadership develops professional women.*

**Thursday, March 31**

**"It's a Girl"**  
IRC 120

Film Screening: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Director Meet & Greet: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

*Watch this documentary about the stories of women who have suffered through traumatic events and then meet the film's director, Evan Grae Davis, later that day.*

**Thursday, March 31**

**Woman to Woman: 2016 Women's Expo**  
Location TBA from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

*Vendors, guest speakers, health promotion and beauty tips will be available at this event.*



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# SPORTS

**Marshall Scheldt**  
Sports Editor  
mscheldt99@gmail.com

“Perry Park is a different animal. It’s 27 holes which is very different for us”  
- Libby Berens  
See page 11 for story



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

After a 2-0 sweep of the Northern Michigan Wildcats in the first round of the WCHA Playoffs, the Bulldogs will head to Van Andel Arena to take on Michigan Tech in the WCHA Final Five Semifinals.

# Final Five fever

*Bulldog hockey advances to their third consecutive Final Five appearance*

Beau Jensen

Torch Reporter

The WCHA Final Five is once again calling Ferris State’s name after a home playoff sweep over the Northern Michigan University Wildcats (NMU) last weekend.

The Bulldogs defeated NMU last Friday in an exciting 3-2 victory before taking the Wildcats down once again Saturday night with a 5-2 win. The Dawgs secured themselves an extra day of rest by defeating NMU Saturday night as a Wildcat victory would have resulted in a tie-breaking game Sunday afternoon. Freshman goalie Darren Smith, now 2-0 in his college playoff career, talked about the excitement of making it deeper into the playoffs.

“This means a lot to everyone on the team, this is what we have worked for all year,” said Smith. “This was everyone’s goal from the start and I think we have to take it one game at a time and worry about the task at hand.”

Smith tallied 48 saves over the weekend against the Wildcats. Bulldog head coach

Bob Daniels even went as far as saying Smith had a whale of a night on Saturday. Daniels also talked about what his team is focusing on after a hard-fought series.

“It’s a heck of an accomplishment, and I know I want the boys to enjoy between now and Monday,” Daniels said. “Come Monday, we’ll set our sights on Van Andel and going for the conference championship. I like our chances there a lot.”

The weekend sweep marked the first time all year that the Dawgs were able to take both games at home. As Ferris looks forward, they will be playing a team they have not faced since Halloween—Michigan Tech.



Darren Smith

The Dawgs went 2-2 against the Huskies during the regular season, splitting weekends both at home and at Michigan Tech. Friday’s game will be the first time that these two teams have gone up against each other in the WCHA playoff picture.

In only his second career start in goal for

Ferris, Smith made 18 saves in the third period alone and 36 saves total on the night in Ferris’ last regular season game against Tech. Smith will look to be a big factor in the playoff game as Michigan Tech has either led or tied Ferris State in

“This means a lot to everyone on the team, this is what we have worked for all year.”

Darren Smith

shots on goal in three of their four regular season meetings. Junior forward Chad McDonald talked about what he expects from the Ferris State fans.

“It’s going to be awesome. I look back to my freshman year and we had almost the

whole lower bowl sold out so we are really looking for Bulldog Nation to come out and support us,” McDonald said. “Our students bring a whole different element that we can rely on for a little bit of energy.”

Anyone looking to purchase their playoff package tickets can head to the FSU Athletics Ticket Office inside the Ewigleben Sports Complex. Members of the Dawg Pound can purchase their tickets starting Monday, March 14 at 12 p.m. and all other students can begin purchasing their tickets at 3 p.m. The first 150 students with their ID present will also be able to ride the fan bus down to Grand Rapids.



Chad McDonald

The No. 4 seed Bulldogs are hopping on U.S. 131 headed south to Van Andel Arena Friday, March 18, where the puck is set to drop at 7:37 p.m. in their game against the No. 1 seed Michigan Tech Huskies.

## Women's golf back in full swing



Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

The Ferris State women's golf team is locked and loaded and ready to make a statement in Kentucky this weekend.

Mark Hansen

Torch Reporter

After a long break the Ferris State women's golf team is back and ready to take on the spring season.

The Bulldogs have had a long break and haven't played in a tournament since Oct. 26 when they placed third in the Davenport University Invitational. The Bulldogs have been training though, looking to have a strong spring outing.

Junior Kelsey McKinley has been working hard to improve her game, since a few of the seniors will be away on internship. "Over the winter I have been working hard on my iron game. My goal was to increase my greens in regulation statistic because this was a big weakness of mine," McKinley said. "I think we will do really well this spring. We have had a few months off but everyone has been working really hard to improve their games."

The Bulldogs are getting ready for the Perry Park Spring Fling in Kentucky on Saturday, March 19 and Sunday, March 20. This course is definitely different

as the Bulldogs will be playing 27 holes in the two-day span.

"Perry Park is a different animal. It's 27 holes which is very different for us," senior Libby Berens said. "Hopefully the weather will hold up well enough this year. The course has some difficult parts, but most of the course is manageable."



Libby Berens

"Every team is coming out of off season so some will have had spring breaks to practice and others won't. Everyone should be very competitive at this tourney. Grand Valley and Indy should be huge competition but the majority of our conference should be as well," Berens said.

Although the Bulldogs will be missing a few of their teammates due to internships, this team is going to try making some noise in the upcoming tournaments. The Bulldogs will be looking to their underclassmen to step up and show what they worked on over the winter break.

## Sports Shorts

Beau Jensen

Torch Reporter

### Balance is key for Bulldog basketball

The Ferris State Bulldog men's basketball team has been very consistent in their winning ways so far this season.

Some of that may be due to the fact that the team is able to count on anyone on the court to produce for the good of the team. There were five players in double digit scoring when the Bulldogs won their second NCAA Tournament game of the season last weekend.

Senior center Jared Stolicker and senior forward James Chappell both led the team with 19 points apiece. Sophomore guard Drew Cushingberry and senior forward Josh Fleming shared 12 points apiece while junior guard Quentin Ruff added 10 points of his own coming off of the bench.

During the first round of the GLIAC Tournament, every player that stepped on the floor for the Dawgs was able to produce points for the team. There were four different men who scored double digits during the GLIAC Championship game as well.

No matter the outcome of the 2016 NCAA Tourney, the Ferris State men's basketball team has had success playing their brand of unselfish basketball.

### Three Bulldogs earn GLIAC Tournament Awards, Stolicker named tourney MVP

Ferris State senior center Jared Stolicker was named the Most Valuable Player of the GLIAC Tournament.

Stolicker became the second straight Bulldog to win the honor, as former Ferris guard Drew Lehman was awarded the tournament MVP Award in the 2015 GLIAC Tournament.

Sophomore guard Drew Cushingberry and junior guard Quentin Ruff were also named to the 2016 GLIAC Men's Basketball All-Tournament Team after the Bulldogs took down Walsh University 76-59 in the tournament finals earlier today.

Stolicker averaged a double-double in the tournament, contributing 11.3 points and 10.7 rebounds per game. Cushingberry averaged 9.7 points and 3.3 assists in the tournament and also scored the game-winning basket for the Bulldogs with just 0.7 seconds remaining in their first-round game against Findlay. Ruff averaged 9.7 points and shot 7-of-16 from behind the arc in the tournament.

Ferris' GLIAC Tournament Title was the team's third in school history and second in a row.

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# Back home



Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

Ferris junior Robert Camplin, a Walpole, England native blasts a serve in a match earlier this season in Big Rapids.

## Men's tennis goes 3-2 in Florida, set to begin GLIAC play

Cody Burkhard  
Torch Reporter

Ferris men's tennis spent a week in Florida on a spring break trip that was all about business.

Normally spring break in Florida entails beaches and relaxation, but the Bulldogs went to work.

Junior Conner Hunt said, "We didn't get out very much. We knew we were down here to play so we tried to stay rested for our matches."

Ferris went 3-2 in five matches earning wins over Post (8-1), West Liberty (6-3) and Methodist (6-3). However, the Dawgs lost to Florida Southern 5-4 and were swept by No. 7 Saint Leo 9-0.

Hunt said, "Saint Leo is a really good team. We have quite a ways to go. Hopefully we'll see them again in the NCAA tournament."

The Bulldogs have returned from the sunshine state with bronze skin and eyes set on gold—the GLIAC championship.

They took first place last year and are looking to repeat. The first step towards the championship will be taken this weekend as Ferris opens up their conference schedule against Findlay and Hillsdale.

Ferris has the best overall record in the conference at 9-3, but the conference record is a blank slate for all teams. The competition in the GLIAC will be close.

Hunt said, "There's always going to be tough matches. Everyone in the GLIAC can play and has a chance but I think we're going to be good."

The conference schedule opens with a road trip. Ferris plays Findlay at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 19 and Hillsdale at noon on Sunday, March 20.



## Top Dawg

Photo by: Katie Tobak | Photographer

Cody Burkhard  
Torch Reporter

Ferris hockey junior Gerald Mayhew earned Top Dawg with a two-goal performance on Saturday that pushed Ferris to the semi-finals of the WCHA tournament.

The Bulldogs swept Northern Michigan, winning 3-2 and 5-2 on Friday and Saturday. Mayhew had an assist in both games but scored both of his goals in the second.

The junior out of Wyandotte has played well for Ferris all season. He leads the team in goals and assists with 13 and 22 and is tied with Northern Michigan's

Darren Nowick for third in points in the WCHA. Mayhew's play will be instrumental for the Bulldogs as they enter the WCHA Final Five.

The Final Five is really a final four and Ferris sits in the last slot. Mayhew and the Bulldogs will take on the No. 1 seed Michigan Tech Huskies. These teams opened up their conference schedules with each other, splitting the series. Ferris came away with a 3-2 victory in the second of two matchups with Mayhew earning one assist.

This semifinal matchup will be played at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids at 7:37 on Friday, March 18.

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# Proving a point



Photo courtesy of FSU Photo Services

The Ferris State softball team returned home from a 22-game stint in Florida with a 15-7 record and needs just one more win on the season to tie their win total from a 16-36 campaign in 2015.

## SOFTBALL 2016 RECORD

<b>Feb 28</b> Saint Anselm W, 3-1 Final West Va. Wesleyan L, 5-4	Shippensburg W, 11-6
<b>Feb 29</b> Kentucky Wesleyan W, 6-4 Georgian Court W, 7-2	<b>March 6</b> West Chester L, 7-6 Shippensburg L, 7-1
<b>March 1</b> Florida Southern W, 6-4 Florida Southern W, 5-4	<b>March 8</b> Eckerd W, 5-3 Eckerd W, 5-4
<b>March 2</b> Embry Riddle L, 6-1 Embry Riddle W, 10-1	<b>March 9</b> Tampa L, 3-2 Tampa L, 3-2
<b>March 4</b> Cedarville W, 7-1 Nyack W, 10-1	<b>March 11</b> Cedarville W, 4-1 Nova Southeastern W, 5-3
<b>March 5</b> Lake Superior State W, 6-4	<b>March 12</b> Minot State W, 8-0 Saginaw Valley State L, 4-0

## Ferris softball comes back from Florida with impressive start to season

Marshall Scheldt

Sports Editor

After a disappointing 16-36 outing in the 2015 season, the Ferris State softball team is turning the team around and have returned from a 22-game trip to Florida with a 15-7 record.

"It is such a 180 from last year," said Ferris junior pitcher Megan Hiler. "It shows that we have what it takes, and really is a confidence booster."

The Bulldogs started their vacation on a 10-2 run under first year head coach Wally King and

*"No area of the game is more important than another; we are always working on every aspect of the game."*

Sam Bates

split their last 10 games 5-5. When Ferris came back from their spring break trip in Florida last year, the Bulldogs were 6-21 and started their trip winning only one game out of their first 13. King has obviously made some adjustments for the Bulldogs that are working in their favor.

"Coach King has made a strong impact on making sure we are locked in and ready to go at all times, which transitions into game situa-

tions," said Ferris sophomore pitcher and outfielder Sam Bates.

Hiler also had nothing but positive things to say about King.

"We are being coached way more. Coach King has the ability to tell us what we are doing wrong and he isn't afraid to get on us and hold us accountable," said Hiler.

Whatever it is he's doing, it's working. The Bulldogs have a combined batting average of .290, which is up from last year's combined batting average of .249. The Dawgs have been

doing well on the mound too, with Bulldog pitchers combining for an earned runs average of 2.35, less than half of the 4.75 ERA the team racked up last year.

The biggest problem for the team in their trip to Florida was their fielding. Ferris had 38 errors in 22 games, accounting for 26 runs against.

"This shows us that we still have progress to make," said Bates. "No area of the game is more important than another; we are always working on every aspect of the game."

In the 2016 GLIAC Softball Preseason Coaches' poll released in early February, Ferris State was predicted to place in the No. 11 spot out of 14 places in the conference. The Dawgs aren't taking that lightly.

"Don't overlook the Bulldogs this year. We have 23 girls that are tired of being written off as not good enough. We are not satisfied with being projected to finish 11th in the GLIAC," said Hiler.

Ferris State plays their first home game next Tuesday, March 22 in a double-header against Davenport. The games are set to begin at 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.



Sam Bates



**Kip Biby**  
Opinions Editor  
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“There are serious consequences to making a false report of this kind.”  
- Kip Biby  
See page 16 for story

The Ferris State *Torch* is published on 27 Wednesdays throughout the academic year. This student-run newspaper is printed by The Pioneer Group.

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## Lessons learned at Ferris: a reflection

It's been a hot minute since I left Big Rapids for the "adult world." I've maintained roots on campus through my fraternity, which has kept me coming back to share stories and see the experience of current students.

"What's the real world like?" They'll ask. I'll tell them it's mostly dark and depressing, with many evenings spent curled on the couch wishing the sun would expand and consume the Earth.

Truthfully, it's not bad. Much like college, you are mostly in control of your experience, and you'll get out what you put in. Ferris was a great time and education, but a lot of what will help later in life will happen outside of the classroom. Classes are certainly important; for most people your GPA won't matter as much as you think, but that's not an excuse to bury yourself in debt without a degree. Here are some things you should work on outside of the classroom.

**Learn to drink. Or not.** This isn't about those health and wellness posters that are part of Ferris' annual smear campaign against fun, but more about learning your limits. You're going to have professional outings of all varieties and people drink. It's great.

You don't want to be the drunkest person at the party, so learn what your limit is to still be a decent person when drinking. If you aren't a drinker, that's fine, too. Learn not to be pretentious when people ask why you aren't drinking or drink soda water with



Matt Valleau  
Ferris Alumnus

Matt Valleau graduated from Ferris in 2011 with a degree in Public Relations. He now lives and works in Grand Rapids. To see more of Matt's work, check out [mattvalleau.wordpress.com](http://mattvalleau.wordpress.com).

lime so people assume you're drinking.

**Be a small talk champion.** Small talk is the absolute worst, but use your time at Ferris to ready yourself to handle it in any setting. The secret to small talk is to ask questions and have basic knowledge about a lot of things. People love talking about themselves, so let them do it.

**Dank memes.** It's a heated political season and our generation is pointedly guilty of battling on Facebook with memes and half-truths. It's fantastic because that's 100 percent the communication style in the adult world. That is, if your adult world is going to consist of an annual pilgrimage to the Gathering of the Juggalos. Facebook is Facebook, but be sure to still be capable of carrying a high level discussion in person.

Good luck with your adulting!

## MICHIGAN PRIMARY RESULTS

### Republicans

#### Donald Trump

Billionaire businessman  
Michigan votes - 483,751  
Percent of vote - 36.5%  
Michigan Delegates - 25

#### Ted Cruz

Texas Senator  
Michigan votes - 330,051  
Percent of vote - 24.9%  
Michigan Delegates - 17

#### John Kasich

Governor of Ohio  
Michigan votes - 321,655  
Percent of vote - 24.3%  
Michigan Delegates - 17

### Marco Rubio

Florida Senator  
Michigan Votes - 123,673  
Percent of votes - 9.3%  
Michigan Delegates - 0

### Democrats

#### Bernie Sanders

Vermont Senator  
Michigan votes - 595,222  
Percent of votes - 49.8%  
Michigan delegates - 67

#### Hillary Clinton

Former secretary of state  
Michigan votes - 576,795  
Percent of votes - 48.3%  
Michigan delegates - 60

## Chat with the chief

Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

## I get by with a little help

As prideful members of the human race, it's not easy to admit that we need help, but sometimes and in my current case, it is entirely necessary.

This semester, I'm enrolled in one class in particular that has been destroying me. It's simply a very different class structure and learning style than I'm accustomed to, and it was not easy for me to adapt to this new challenge.

For much of the first few weeks of class I was not seeing the grade book results I wanted to. Because of this, I begrudgingly had to seek out tutoring sessions.

Think about what tutoring meant in high school. The only kids who were tutored were the helpless or the lazy.

Oftentimes, students required the extra help just because their personal procrastina-

tion demon sitting on the right shoulder overruled the ambition for assignments angel on their left.

Of course, there were also students who utilized tutoring sessions in high school because they were motivated to achieve higher grades than what they alone were capable of, but every rule has its exceptions.

Throughout high school I never needed any extra help. I excelled in class, and honestly didn't have to try very hard. College coursework is by and large a different, more dangerous animal. I'm hunting bear with a No. 2 pencil and only a portion of the necessary know-how.

In that situation the bear has a tendency to win.

In my high school mind, there was always a negative stigma surrounding tutoring, but my

college mind has now been forced to move past that feeling and embrace the idea of somebody offering to help.

Woodbridge N. Ferris once said, "I have come here to help you... if you will let me."

In keeping with that message, Ferris State provides free tutoring to all of its students, but they have to seek it out first.

Miraculous assistance or divine intervention will not descend from the heavens directly into the classroom.

Improvement comes to those who seek it out.

The Academic Support Center is located in Room 1017 of the Arts & Science Commons. For more information regarding free tutoring or to make an appointment, contact (231) 591-3543.

I'd blame this on Daylight Saving Time, but you sleep every lecture!

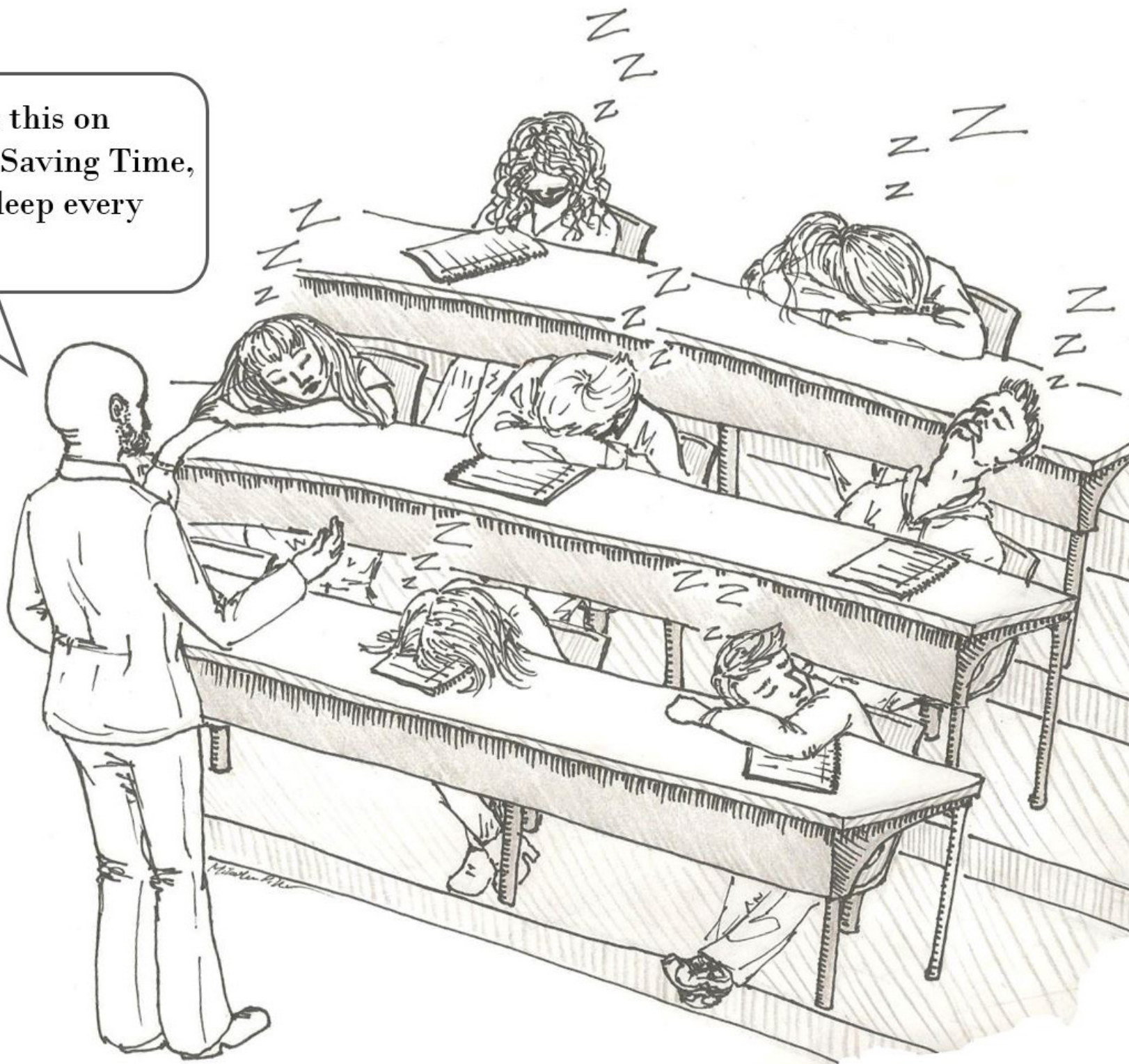
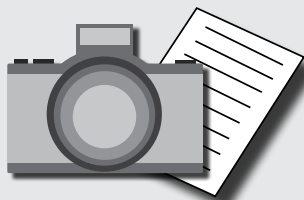


Illustration by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist

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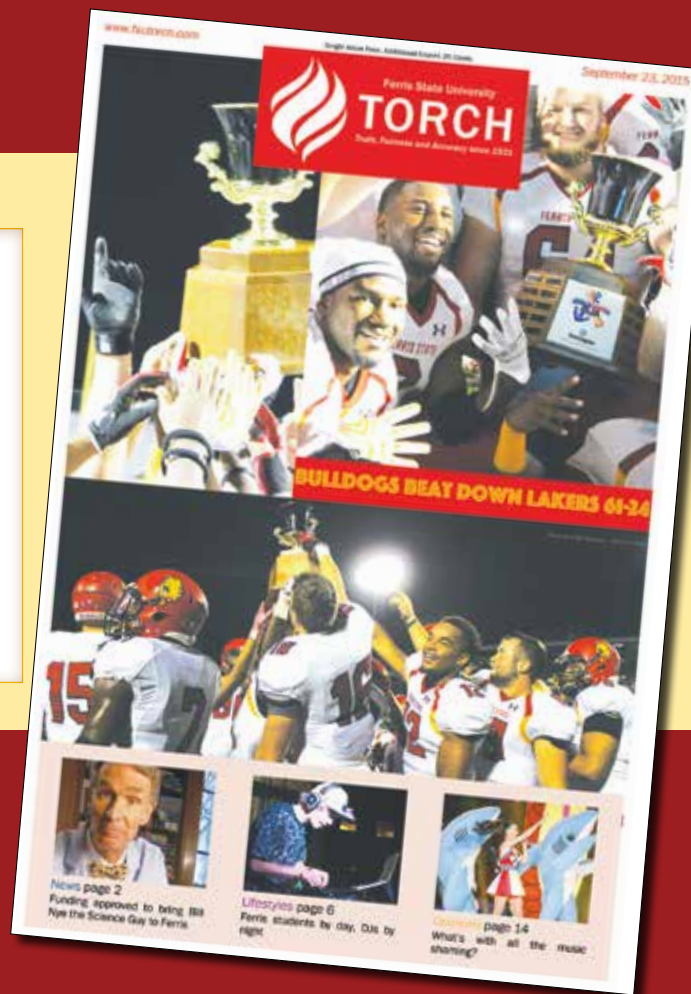
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# Fake claims, real consequences

*The destruction of making a  
false report*



Kip Biby  
Opinions Editor

We all love attention. If you think I don't love to see my name in the newspaper every week then you are mistaken. I long for the Wednesday night meetings at the *Torch* where my coworkers clap upon my arrival. But just how far will people go to get their much needed attention?

You might remember getting a text or email from Ferris about an assault that happened on campus. According to the student, she was grabbed by a man while walking in the dark. That is one of the more unsettling things to hear about on your campus.

Well hold on, because it turns out it was all false. The student admitted to lying about the incident. I don't know what her motives were, but I think it's a safe assumption she did it for attention. This kind of thing goes beyond just "not cool." There are serious consequences to making a false report of this kind.

The police allocated time to this, Ferris administration gave it their attention, and the student body was put on edge, all because one person needed someone to pat her on the back and call her brave. Not to mention the permanent water mark on our school. Picture this conversation, "Hey mom, should I go to Ferris?" "The school where all the assaults happen? No, you should go to Central."

These incidents happen all the time, not just at Ferris, and a lot of the time they have even more serious outcomes. A couple of years ago, a woman claimed she was sexually assaulted at a fraternity house at the Uni-

versity of Virginia. All Greek life at the school was suspended, the fraternity house was vandalized and nearly destroyed and members of the fraternity received death threats. As it turns out, the "victim" made it all up. The assault never happened.

This incident went from a hand grenade to a nuclear bomb when Rolling Stone magazine did a story about the sexual assault. Fact checking was apparently not on the priority list of the journalist who wrote the piece. Many innocent people were made to look evil and the University of Virginia name will be synonymous with this story for a long time.

Want more examples? Google them—there are hundreds. Any serious crime, especially sexual assault, should be investigated to the fullest extent. That is what makes false claims all the more destructive. An atmosphere of falsehoods leads people to not take these claims seriously. People who are actually victims of a crime are not taken as seriously because of the jerks who seek attention in this way.

I am in no way calling for putting less trust in victims of crimes. What I am calling for is for people to be honest. Your life may be boring, but do not let your misfortune hurt others.

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