



CLACS office hosts casino night for students

Kip Biby

Torch Reporter

The University Center looked more like Las Vegas as more than a hundred students gathered for the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Service's (CLACS) casino night event.

The event was held last Friday, Jan. 13, from 10 p.m. to midnight.

Angela Roman, the director of CLACS, worked in collaboration with other faculty and staff to orchestrate the event.

"This event is to welcome back students and to get them doing something fun on a late Friday night," Roman said.

Games including blackjack, poker and roulette were dealt by different faculty from Ferris departments.

Among the dealers were faculty and staff members from the Office of Student Conduct, the Office of Housing & Residence Life and FLITE library.

"It's a chance for us to meet students," Roman said. "We want people to just relax and have fun."

Participants were buzzing about the prizes for the people with the highest chip count. These prizes included Beats headphones, a Keurig coffee maker, \$100 in Bulldog Bucks and a Fitbit fitness tracker.

In addition to the games, a wide array of foods and drinks were provided such as sushi, popcorn and punch.

While some students like Ferris mechanical engineering senior Shane Nitz were notified about the event through an email, others found out through word of mouth or flyers.

Ferris nursing senior Sarah Robinson was with friends playing bingo and enjoying the food.

"I think events like this are important because it gives students the opportunity to meet other students and also it's a chance to have fun without drinking," Robinson said.



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

Students crowded around the roulette table at casino night in the hopes of being the next big winner.



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

Associate Dean of Student Life Nicholas Campau was one of many Ferris faculty and staff members dealing cards at the casino night event.



Photo by: Keith Salowich | Editor in Chief

A large part of the room was devoted to students congregated around long tables, marking their score cards as bingo numbers were drawn and called out.

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NEWS

"It has been amazing to see how a facility like the University Center can create a sense of belonging and engagement," - Mark Schuelke, see page 4 for story

Angela Graf | News Editor | grafa1@ferris.edu

What is beauty anyway?

Ferris State art exhibit challenges social norms



Harley Harrison
Torch Reporter

The term "beauty" has an ever-changing definition set in place by society, a definition we—both men and women—strive for.

Right now, we live in a culture that tells us we can buy beauty like an expensive product at the grocery store. You're beautiful when your face is plastered in makeup and you're wearing Michael Kors or Gucci accessories and holding your Starbucks coffee.

The FSU Art Gallery exhibit "Strong is the New Pretty" challenges society's definition of beauty by illustrating beauty in ways that are typically not described as beautiful. What I love about this photo series is that the beauty is found in the happiness of women doing what they love, rather than how the women look.

The subjects of these photographs are doing messy, dirty things like playing in the mud, competing in a wrestling match or skateboarding. They aren't worried about what they look like or what they're wearing as they wear their freckles and messy hair proudly without a hint of makeup in sight.

Yet, despite societal expectations, these women are beautiful because of their happiness, fearlessness and boldness. An exhibit like this is important for a college campus because it's easy for students to get lost in the societal definition of beautiful.

What makes "Strong is the New Pretty" so powerful is that it demonstrates beauty in ways many people may not have thought of.

If I asked you to make a list of things you would describe as beautiful, what would you say?

Do you remember in elementary school, maybe even middle school, when you would go to school every single day without caring what you looked like or what you wore?

Growing up, girls are subjected to makeup, fashion and other things of the pink, frilly category and they're told that those things are what makes them beautiful. Barbie dolls come with dresses and heels, not converse sneakers and jerseys. Even my soccer ball growing up had Disney princesses on it.

"Strong is the New Pretty" demonstrates beauty in ways many people may not have thought of.

The photographs reveal women in athletic gear, playing instruments or other engaging activities. The women are naturally beautiful and display sincere happiness doing the courageous, non-girly things that they love.

I encourage you to explore the exhibit and challenge your definition of beauty. There is such a wide variety of images throughout the photo series clarifying the true definition of it and, hopefully, exhibits like this will change society's definition as well.



Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

Kate Parker, the photographer behind the gallery "Strong is the New Pretty," says her inspiration for the project came from photos of her two daughters.

Strong is the new pretty

Ferris State Art Gallery introduces new exhibit

Harley Harrison

Torch Reporter

Kate Parker, a professional photographer, is changing the way we define beauty in her new exhibit at the FSU Art Gallery.

Wednesday, Jan. 18, marks the opening of the new exhibit, "Strong is the New Pretty," a photo series of women and girls of all ages exemplifying beauty in unconventional and untraditional ways.

"I think everyone should come to the gallery and experience this exhibit. It is an especially critical time, given our current social climate, it is a message that is so very relevant and one that needs to be shared," said FSU Art Gallery director Car-

rie Weis Stermer.

Parker's project has also inspired partnerships with Athleta, Kellogg's and the Oxygen television network as well as organizations such as Girls on the Run and The Bully Project, which focus on health and education in young girls.



Carrie Stermer

"Personal strength and personal power are the only qualities that a woman needs to be truly beautiful," Stermer said. "Real beauty does not exist in hair extensions and body enhancements. Real beauty exists

when a woman is confident, secure and strong."

The inspiration for "Strong is the New Pretty" came from Parker's daughters, who are 11 and eight years old, and constant subjects of her photography.

"I was shooting them every day and noticed the images that were strongest and most meaningful to me were the ones where the girls were allowed to be themselves, whatever that was," Parker said.

Additionally, Parker's photo series has



Photo By: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

The goal of the gallery is to remind young women not to lose themselves to insecurity and to stay strong in who they are.

Strong | see page 5

- ON THE RECORD -

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

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Smashin'...

Jan. 3, 6 p.m. officers responded to a two car accident in Lot 54.

... And crashin'

Jan. 4, 12:45 p.m. officers responded to a two car accident in Lot 37.

One pot...

Jan. 6, 5 p.m. officers responded to a report of marijuana in Brophy Hall. A warrant was sent to the prosecutor's office for possession.

Always drive with protection

Jan. 6, 8:30 p.m. officers

stopped a vehicle on Maple Street at State Street for an equipment violation. The driver was ticketed for not having insurance.

Sloppy drunk

Jan. 7, 1:55 a.m. officers assisted the city police with an intoxicated driver who was detained and lodged in jail.

Two pot...

Jan. 7, 11:40 p.m. officers stopped a vehicle on Maple Street at Michigan Avenue for an equipment violation. A warrant for the arrest of the driver was sent to the prosecutor on account of them being in possession of marijuana.

Three pot...

Jan. 9, 10 p.m. officers responded to a report of marijuana in Miller Hall. The incident was handled by hall staff and two students were identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Four...

Jan. 10, 10:40 p.m. officers responded to a report of marijuana in Puterbaugh Hall. One individual was identified and ticketed for possession.

Get out, right now

Jan. 10, 11:02 p.m. officers responded to the West Campus Apartments on a report of an

unwanted guest being on the premises. The suspect left before the police arrived.

Run dude

Jan. 10, 11:50 p.m. officers received information on threats made against the university on Facebook. The suspect's boyfriend attended Ferris and was threatening him as a result of his not responding to text messages in what she deemed an "appropriate" manner.

Five pot...

Jan. 11, 12:25 a.m. officers investigated a suspicious vehicle in Lot 4. Two students were identi-

fied and referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the use of marijuana.

Six pot...

Jan. 11, 9:50 p.m. officers stopped a vehicle on Campus Drive near FLITE library for defective equipment. The suspect was found to be in possession and was arrested and lodged in jail.

The Ferris State Department of Public Safety issued 250 parking violations between the dates of Jan. 5, and Jan. 11, totaling \$5,150.

Cartoon special

"Two pot"

Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist



NEWS BRIEF

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Blood drive

This week, Kappa Psi, Health Care Management Association and Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Honor Society are working together to sponsor a Michigan Blood blood drive. Those interested in participating can go to miblood.org to make an appointment. The drive will be held in FLITE rooms 446, 442 and 438 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19. Donors not only get the privilege of saving up to three lives, but they also receive a coupon for a free medium Jet's pizza to boot.

Ferris State Torch Corrections

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From: Josh Olszewski <jkawaleckiwaterloohydrogeologi@gmail.com>

Date: December 8, 2016 at 4:22:43 PM EST

To: malonep2@ferris.edu

Subject: Re: Patrick

Reply-To: presidentcomit@presidency.com

I need you to arrange a wire transfer for a payment for an administrative expenses. i will email you a back up documentation of the expenses at a later date., let me know if you can handle this right away so I can send you the bank details and also get back to me with available balance in our account.

Regards,
Josh Olszewski

Sent from my iPad

Impersonating the President

A fraudulent email asked Student Government Treasurer to wire funds

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

Ferris Student Government Treasurer Patrick Maloney received an email Thursday, Dec. 8, from president@gmail.com requesting an undisclosed amount of money through a wire transfer.

The email was allegedly signed by the Ferris Student Government President Josh Olszewski.

After receiving the email, Maloney contacted Olszewski asking what the email was about and if funds still needed to be transferred.

Olszewski said he had not requested a transfer of funds through email or at all.

Olszewski filed a report with Sergeant Tim Jacobs from the Ferris Department of Public Safety (DPS).

It appears that whoever sent the email used the president@gmail.com email address as an IP address to hide the identity of the original email.

"Sergeant Jacobs said they most likely found multiple emails from different schools and organizations and then sent a mass email," Olszewski said. "I have faith in the student population, I do not think it was a student."

According to Olszewski and DPS, the email was most likely sent from a foreign country.

Olszewski says that it was not a very sophisticated approach due to its vagueness and how poorly the En-

glish was written.

"There is no way for Student Government to transfer money in that fashion," Olszewski said. "Our key card is locked away in our advisors drawer, and we have to send accurate quotes and invoices, there would be no way for us to accidentally send money in that fashion."

Olszewski added that there is always face-to-face interaction when requesting money and it is discussed at their meetings.



Josh Olszewski

"I think Patrick is a great guy, and he takes his job seriously, like he should," Olszewski said. "Every student pays money to student government, and we do not take that lightly, we work hard to make sure that the money goes to events for all students."

Olszewski changed all of his passwords and encouraged his executive board to be aware of more potential situations similar to this so it can be reported.

"This is one of those things where you think 'it's never going to happen to me.' My email is easy to find, as it should be for students to contact me," Olszewski said. "But the fact that someone found it and impersonated me is scary. But it's reassuring to know that we have a great executive board that will question things and make sure things are correct."

Drilling holes and dropping poles

Ferris State Fishing Club hosts ice fishing tournament series

Jonny Parshall

Copy Editor

It was still dark when the 12 participants of day one of the First Annual Fundraiser Ice Fishing Tournament Series took to the frozen surface of Clear Lake just east of Big Rapids. Anticipation was high, the temperature was low and the ice was thick, with surface measurements estimated between eight and 16 inches depending on location on the lake.

The Ferris State Fishing Club's first event in a six-date series was held 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15.

Coordinating the events is Ferris construction management senior Jacob Otto who serves as vice president of the FSU Fishing Club.

"I would like to see it grow," Otto said. "It was a good start for a first event."

Participants were required to sign a waiver before entering the ice due to the potential danger of the activity, despite the likelihood of actually breaking through or drowning very low due to ideal ice fishing conditions. Still, the faint groans of the ice creaking from expansion can be unnerving for first-time winter anglers.

"First time hearing it, it takes some getting used to," said Ferris plastics engineering sophomore Alex Liebetreu. It was Florida-native Liebetreu's second time on the ice—his first being the night prior.

Liebetreu's team partner, Ferris plastics engineering freshman Garrett Lesh, has been fishing much longer.



Garrett Lesh

"I've been ice fishing since I was... three?" Lesh said. "I'd go with my uncle and grandpa."

The six two-person teams were comprised of anglers of varied levels and backgrounds, including everyone from students and club members to Big Rapids residents and alumni, from hobby fishermen to competitors in pro-level events.

Ferris alum and Shooter's manager Mike Politz partnered with wife Simone Politz.

"The key is to find where the fish are," Mike said.



Alex Liebetreu

Many had scouted the lake throughout the week before, using such equipment as underwater cameras and fish finders to pick the juiciest spots.

Standard gear included poles and tip-ups (a suspended bait line attached to a "tipping" flag), bait such as minnows and waxworms, safety ropes, augers, buckets and whatever clothing necessary needed to stay warm six hours



Photo By: Jonny Parshall | Copy Editor

Ferris alum Mike Politz, and his wife Simone Politz, pose with some crappies caught at Clear Lake during the tournament's first leg.

in single-digit weather. Several teams packed such luxuries as ATVs and shanties to make the experience even more comfortable.

Plenty of bluegill, perch, crappie and other native species were caught. Out-of-season and/or size-regulated species such as pike and bass were released in accordance with both Michigan law and the tournament guidelines.

Baldwin area resident Rocco LeVanseler was not part of the competition, but present on the ice doing some pressure-free sport fishing. LeVanseler was not bothered by the crowd on the lake that day.

"It's nice to see people actually ice fishing

these days," LeVanseler said.

There is a \$40 team fee per day, as well as a one-time \$40 tournament fee per team. Money collected goes toward funding the FSU fishing club, with portions allotted as a prize to the tournament winners.

Weight is used as the deciding factor as each team has a daily bag limit of 16 fish. Though a full tally of accumulated catches will determine an overall tournament winner, it is never too late to sign up.

"Anyone is allowed to participate," Otto said.

The second event in the series will be held 7 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 22, at Mecosta Lake.

Going Strong

UC celebrates two year anniversary

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

The University Center (UC) will be celebrating its two-year anniversary later this week.

According to a 2015 Ferris article, the UC, once known as the Rankin Center, was under a three-year renovation plan, which included remodeling the Rankin Center and turning it into the University Center.

The renovation left the building located in the heart of campus, and is meant to be a space for students, faculty and the community.

"It has been amazing to see how a facility like the University Center can create a sense of belonging and engagement for the campus," said Director of the University Center Mark Schuelke. "The student traffic on a daily basis creates an energy that helps the staff take pride in the facility."

Special celebration events include Bongo Ball, riding a mechanical bulldog and indoor golf. There will also be an opportunity to get airbrush tattoos, make a street sign and sing karaoke. Free food, door prizes and much more will be provided.

"The street signs are always a hit and the Bongo Ball in the event space will probably be the most popular," Schuelke said. "Also we will be offering prizes for hole in one's on the mini golf course."

According to Schuelke, the event gives students the opportunity to get out of their residence hall or to come back on campus to engage with other students while enjoying some food and novelty activities.

The celebration event will be held 8 p.m. until midnight Friday, Jan. 20.



Torch File Photo

Ferris' five-year plan

Checking in with building projects on campus

Megan Hiler

Torch Reporter

Construction on campus not only comes as a surprise to students, but it can also feel endless at the same time.

According to Jerry Scoby, Ferris vice president of administration and finance, construction is moving along as scheduled and proposed in the Master Plan published in 2015.

"The Swan Annex project is underway and is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2018," Scoby said. "The early part of the project includes site work on the south side of the existing Annex, adding a new loading dock for the National Elastomer Center so there is dock access after the Swan Annex addition is added to the South of the existing Annex. The bridge to Ives has been removed, and work has started on the new pedestrian bridge that will connect the second floor of the Swan five story building to the parking lot north of the building."

Scoby also explained that, back in December, the Board of Trustees authorized the administration to retain professional services for the planning of the demolition project of Merrill and Travis halls. However, it is still in the planning phase.

"Preliminary planning has been done for

an addition to and partial renovation of the Sports Complex. The exciting Center for Athletic Performance project for our student athletes is in the fundraising phase where we are seeking donor support to fund part of this project," Scoby said. "The addition would be primarily focused on adding an NCAA Division II collegiate-level strength and conditioning space."



Kayla Barwick

Pre-construction planning has also been approved for renovations to parts of the Student Recreation Center, according to Scoby. The project is categorized as long-term in the Master Plan, however improvements to the center will be made within the next two years.

As for the ongoing construction of the new north residence hall, which is not specifically listed in the Master Plan, it is set to open this summer.

"This 402-bed facility will open in Aug. 2017 and will be for first-year students," Scoby said. "It will also have three classrooms for living/learning programming, numerous small group study rooms, a fitness area for residents and a community kitchen near the main first floor lobby."

Students on campus are most concerned with how construction is and will be, affecting parking on campus.

"Honestly, they've already taken a lot of our parking spots," said Ferris public relations sophomore Kayla Barwick. "I'm going to be a commuter next year, so I'll be a little upset if I'm going to start losing more and more parking spaces next to my classes."

Ferris dental hygiene freshman Shelby Elerick is already an irritated commuter.

"It's kind of annoying," Elerick said. "I'm worried about parking next year."



Shelby Elerick

Despite parking troubles, Scoby assures that the location of new housing for students was selected directly from student input.

"We think students will love the opportunities in the [north] hall and the close proximity to Arts and Sciences, the University Center, FLITE and more," Scoby said.

Students and community members who are interested in learning more about current and upcoming campus construction can find the entire master plan at www.ferris.edu/strategic-planning2/2015-master-plan-final.pdf.

FERRIS IN FIVE YEARS

1. The Swan Annex will be renovated
2. There will be a new PGM learning center at Katke
3. Improvements made to the Pharmacy Building
4. West Campus Apartments expanded
5. Southeast campus student housing demolished and redeveloped
6. Ewigleben Sports Complex renovated and added to
7. A major electronic sign on the corner of Perry Avenue and State Street

Lions and tigers and emails, oh my!

Ferris State spam emails annoy students

Megan Hiler

Torch Reporter

When students come to Ferris, they are given a school email that they use to contact professors, other students and be sent advertisements from all over campus.

Regularly, students are sent emails from the Ferris State bookstore updating them on promotions, products and rentals. But what seems like harmless advertising, can be considered a nuisance to others.

"I think it's very annoying. I don't open them. They are just annoying," said Ferris social work freshman Kendra LaHaie.

According to a study done by The Radicati Group Inc., the average person receives 88.3 consumer emails per day. This racks up to

over 32,000 consumer emails in one year.

Ferris engineering junior Jeff Krager is used to receiving a lot of promotional email. "I get stuff from a lot of different people so I'm used to getting a ton of emails," Krager said. "Most of the time I don't read them, if I know it's nothing important I'll just leave it."

Ferris mechanical engineering technology freshman Curtis Sharman also claimed to receive a lot but said it wasn't all a bad thing.

"I get quite a few. Sometimes it is inconvenient when you are trying to get stuff done. But other than that, I don't mind it that much," Sharman said. "If the title doesn't say anything important, then I just delete them. Sometimes they are helpful because of certain things you can get and prices or deals."

The Ferris State bookstore manager Kar-

en Bohren says that the emails are simply to keep students informed. The emails are designed by Barnes and Noble College.

"Our research tells us that 79 percent of students reported that they want to hear from the bookstore the moment they are accepted," Bohren said. "As an essential support system for students, the bookstore's 'Igniting the New Student Connection' initiative is designed to connect and build relationships with incoming students from the moment they receive their acceptance letters and throughout key stages of their college journey."

The Ferris State bookstore sends 20 emails a month to students. In addition to this, it has an unsubscribe rate of 0.15 percent.

Students prefer to be reached via email ac-

ording to Bohren.

"Our emails—students' most preferred method of campus store communication—keep students engaged with timely content such as tips for course material savings, game day promotions, updates on graduation apparel as well as special promotions and sales," Bohren said.

If you want to unsubscribe from the emails, be aware that you may take yourself out of the loop when it comes to scoring a deal on Ferris merchandise and keeping up with the Ferris experience.

"We want to show our students that we're their full-college support system, not just a retailer sending them advertisements," Bohren said.

JUMP

Continued from page 2

also been published into a book that is also titled "Strong is the New Pretty."

"The photographs in this exhibit show us the faces of confidence, the faces of young women who are beautiful for the strong, separate individuals that they are," Stermer said. "We need to be reminded of this. It is critical that we are re-

minded of this."

The exhibit will be available for students and community members to view until March 31.

"Young women need to be reminded to keep a tight hold to their true self and not allow insecurity to creep in because of the messages bombarding them in popular culture," Stermer said.

For more information about the exhibit, visit ferris.edu/gallery.

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LIFESTYLES

"The pharmacy program here at Ferris is a graduate level program that provides the education and skills to mold students into professionals, who will soon be positively influencing the healthcare field as pharmacists," - Kate Nelson see page 9 for story

Nick Vander Wulp | *Lifestyles Editor* | vandern8@ferris.edu

National Mentoring Month



Photo by: Alexandra Bourne | Torch Reporter

Ferris respiratory care junior Lashai Watson (left) was introduced to the peer mentor program as a freshman when she arrived at Ferris alone and stayed on to serve others in the same situation.

Peer mentoring program helps students adjust

Alexandra Bourne
Torch Reporter

Ferris students Talesha Wright and Lashai Watson are among several students who take time out of their busy schedules to devote to younger students on campus.

National Mentoring Month was named an annual, month-long celebration in January of 2002 as a campaign to promote youth mentoring in the U.S.

The Socio-Cultural Holistic Learning and Retention (SCHOLAR) Program at Ferris

created a Peer Mentor Program in the year of 2000 to help first-year students with the adjustment that comes with starting college.

"I chose to be a mentor because I know how hard it is for some students to transition from high school to college," said Ferris music industry management senior Talesha Wright. "It is important to have somewhere a student can go or someone they can talk to when they are experiencing this brand-new environment."

The Peer Mentor Program's purpose statement reads, "The purpose of the Peer Mentor Program is to serve as an integral part of the University to promote the improvement of academic success, persistence and successful graduation of students participating in the program."

The program hosts group outings each month including horseback riding, luncheons, special trips and more. Mentors and their mentees get together on their own time to do activities such as study groups or just

a casual meal.

"My freshman year I came here and didn't know anyone and stayed in a suite by myself," said Ferris respiratory care junior and peer mentor Lashai Watson. "When I was introduced to the program, I wanted to make sure that didn't happen to anyone else."

Watson added that seeing how helpful they are to the mentees and watching them grow is the most rewarding part of mentoring in the program.

Ferris public relations junior and peer mentor Jada Dill has two mentees; Ferris general studies freshman Jae'lynn Williams and Ferris business administration freshman Taneesha Pettway. Dill says getting to know new people and having someone to talk to was most rewarding as a mentee.

"It's a very positive organization," Dill said. "It's a good organization to broaden horizons and connect with others."

"A mentor can be the difference between deciding to stay and dropping out, switching

your major or sticking to what you are already doing," Wright said. "They are a great resource that has already done exactly what [mentees] are struggling or simply dealing with—the transition."

"As a mentor, you can help them when they may not have anyone else to turn to, and you can be a great first resource for them," Wright said. "People appreciate having someone they know they can go to, and it is a wonderful feeling to know that you are helping someone become the person they have always dreamed themselves being."

Students interested in becoming or finding a mentor can contact the Director of the SCHOLAR program Karen GreenBay at scholarmentoring@ferris.edu or visit ASC 1021.

For more information on the SCHOLAR program, visit www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/university/peer/Program-Information.htm.

Word on the street

Students sound off on their opinion of MLK's efforts

Travis Sacher

Opinions Editor

Only three federal holidays are held on the birthdays of individual leaders: Christopher Columbus, President George Washington and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is best remembered as a leading activist in the civil rights movement using non-violent civil disobedience to end segregation in the 1950s and 1960s.

King's efforts earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for fighting racial inequality nonviolently. His work helped push for the signing of the Civil Rights Act on July 2, 1964, which legally ended all racial segregation in public places.

MLK day is held on the third Monday of each year, falling close to his birthday of Jan. 15. MLK Day became a federal holiday Nov. 2, 1983, and was first observed Monday Jan. 20, 1986.

Ferris State University honored the works of Dr. King on MLK Jr. Day, Monday Jan. 16. Students sounded off on their opinion of King's work and what the day means to them.

Ferris pre-nursing sophomore Robert Ross is glad to see his university take the time to honor the effort of MLK and hold no classes on the federal holiday.

"We never had this day off in high school and it's important that in college classes are not held," Ross said.

Ross also acknowledges the impact that King has had on his life alone.

"Without him, I may have never been born considering my Mom is white and my Dad is black. At one point, interracial marriage was not tolerated," Ross said.

Ferris public relations junior Drue Thornton was impressed by King's ability to bring so many people together.

"The fact that he was able to pull so many people to individual protests is incredible," Thornton said. "Today, we try to get Facebook likes and shares and that is a struggle. Without modern technology, he was able to pull over 200,000 people together to protest for racial equality in the 1960s."

Ferris digital animation design freshman Colin Keeler talked about his celebration plans for MLK Day.

"I will be marching in the Freedom March," Keeler said. "But I wish more people took this day more seriously and not just a day of no school."

Keeler was asked what he felt would be one thing King would be disappointed with if he were alive and well today, to which he simply stated, "Our President-Elect."

Ferris music industry management junior Christopher Taber stated, "King was the dream he spoke of."

Taber was asked whether or not he believe Dr. King's dream has been carried out to this day.

"His actual dream wasn't carried out," Taber said. "Racial tensions are not as bad



Torch File Photo

Ferris' annual Tunnel of Oppression is one way in which the university recognizes issues of social justice during MLK week as it touches on racism, sexism, various forms of privilege, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and many more.

as they were in the 1950s and prior, but I feel like right now tensions are growing."

On the same topic, Ross added, "His dream has been carried out where black and white students sit in the same classroom, but we need to still progress more as a nation."

Dr. King was arrested unconstitutionally multiple times, disallowing his Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Assembly rights, both protected by the First Amendment of

the Constitution.

Ferris automotive engineering technologies senior Braden Poole sounded off on his definition of Freedom of Speech.

"Freedom of Speech is exactly what it says in the title," Poole said. "When I speak, you can accept it or not. Regardless, I said it."

To view the list of events to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., visit feris.edu/omss.

Hard to say goodbye

Students share thoughts on Obama and this year's presidential election

Tia-Jane' Oakes

Torch Reporter

People all over the country await the Trump administration's takeover to see if he will live up to his campaign promises to make America great again.

But before Trump receives the keys to the front door of the White House, the current leader of the free world had to first say farewell. And there were some Ferris students who had a few final remarks of their own.

President Obama delivered his final address as president in Chicago, Illinois Tuesday, Jan. 10.

"I had in my mind that Donald Trump wasn't going to be elected as president so I was not as active in this year's election," said Ferris technical and professional communication sophomore Dona' Worthy. "Now that he is elected as president, I wonder how I will be affected."

"This year's President Election had the worst candidates ever," said Ferris pre-law student Trevor Ulewicz. "Both candidates, Clinton and Trump, focused on problems that I won't benefit from."

During his speech, President Obama said, "For blacks and other minority groups, that means tying our own very real struggles for justice to the challenges that a lot of people in

this country face."

Ferris business administration sophomore Dylan Wojkovich said that minorities fear they will be affected negatively during Trump's time as president because he's viewed as the rich white man everyone talks about.

Obama resonated those sentiments with this statement, "For white Americans, it means acknowledging that the effects of slavery and Jim Crow didn't suddenly vanish in the '60s. That when minority groups voice discontent, they're not just engaging in reverse racism or practicing political correctness; when they wage peaceful protest, they're not demanding special treatment, but the equal treatment that our founders promised."

"In recent years, videos of senseless killings of black men have black people scared," said Ferris biology sophomore Brianna Hayes. "It's scary because we still have to fight off oppression in 2017 in all kind of ways mentally, physically and financially."

In his speech, President Obama said that the American government is the most precious in the world. He said that the citizens of the United States should do more open to help America be better.

"President Obama showed people that yes we can do things that people said we can't," Worthy said. "He set that bar as the first black President. No one can take that away from him. It's sad to see him go."

Obama ends his speech saying, "My fellow Americans, it has been the honor of my life to serve you. I won't stop, in fact, I will be right there with you, as a citizen, for all my remaining days."

With Obama's tenure coming to an end, it is time to prepare for the inevitable. The Presidential Inauguration ceremonies for Trump will begin 9:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 20, in Washington, D.C.

To read the full transcript of President Obama's farewell speech, visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/farewell>.

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A magical evening



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Steven Brundage performs a card trick to an audience of more than 300 people in the University Center. Brundage got his start on "America's Got Talent" and stays close to his audience.

Magician Steven Brundage entertained Ferris with Rubik's Cube bit

Adrianna Walker
Torch Reporter

Steven Brundage shared his take on modern magic with a room full of fascinated students Thursday, Jan. 12, in the University Center ballroom.

Ferris' Entertainment Unlimited (EU) hosted the award-winning magician, whose signature Rubik's Cube magic carried him to the semi-finals on "America's Got Talent" and landed him spots on many other television shows.

"Steven had a very impressive run during his time on [America's Got Talent], as well as

an impressive repertoire of new and unique magic," said EU programmer Ryan Fouts.

Fouts personally chose to invite Brundage due to his recent and distinct success.

Brundage began his performance by asking for a volunteer right away, the first of many during the engaging evening. His set consisted of various original acts, including solving his Rubik's Cubes one-handed or blindfolded with ease, making cards appear in random places, and guessing what students were thinking.

Brundage often quipped with the audience and volunteers, and he mixed his routine with high-energy and witty humor while

making quite the first impression to some students.

"It was amazing," said Ferris industrial chemistry student Tu Le. "I watch a lot of magician shows and I know a lot of how magicians do their tricks and I couldn't catch on to his."

"My favorite part was when he threw up the Rubik's Cube unsolved, then he caught it and it was solved," Le added.

Ferris pre-dentistry student Lauren Brown, who knows a thing or two about Rubik's Cubes herself, was also impressed by Brundage's complex act, which she said went beyond her expectations.

"I'm like a rubix cube aficionado, I can actually solve five or six kinds," Brown said. "The fact that he could memorize the algorithms so well, that he could solve the Rubik's Cube with one hand, even blindfolded, and so fast with just one movement, I thought that was amazing."

Brown says that Brundage has now sparked her interest in learning more about solving Rubik's Cubes altogether.

Following his performance, Brundage stuck around to take pictures with students and to socialize.

For more information on Steven Brundage, visit stevenbrundagemagic.com.

How bad was your hangover?

Anonymous Ferris students sound off on the morning after New Year's Eve

Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Matthew Miller
Torch Reporter

"Putting something in my stomach felt good and I know it saved me a little from my hangover I knew I was going to have the next day."

"I had more than enough to drink that night. At midnight I turned up because I was finally 21 and the drinks just kept coming."

"The next morning I just had to pop some Aspirin and be on my way. I know my actions have consequences. Besides, I have drank more than I did last night."

"It was a fun night. I had about 5 shots and then I'm not sure about the rest."

"I don't need a party to get drunk. After about 6 shots of Jack, I decided I was just going to have Jack and Coke."

"I probably had like 20 drink/shots during the night. It was lit. A lot of my guy friends were buying me drinks as well."

We are Pharm-ily

Future pharmacists give insight to their busy lives as Ferris pharmacy students

Alicia Jaimes
Torch Reporter

In celebration of National Pharmacist Day, Thursday, Jan. 12, Ferris pharmacy students discussed dedicating the next six years to juggling social lives, good study habits and time management.

Ferris first-year pharmacy student Kathryn Nelson has always enjoyed science-related courses. With her aunt being in retail pharmacy, Nelson became inspired with how her aunt interacted with patients and aspired to build the same relationships, landing her in the Ferris College of Pharmacy program.

"The pharmacy program here at Ferris is a graduate level program that provides the education and skills to mold students into professionals, who will soon be positively influencing the healthcare field as pharmacists," Nelson said. "It's nice to be in classes where everyone has the same shared interests and goals of becoming a pharmacist."

Because she's taking 17 credits a semester, Nelson discovered that studying each night and having professors who are always open to answering questions are the key to a lighter work load.

Ferris first-year pharmacy student Lindsay Cavanaugh has also experienced busy schedules and putting in the time, but discovered the joys of building relationships with other students and staff members.

"We are a big 'pharmily,' which is what we say instead of family," Cavanaugh said. "The teachers have all been wonderful. They know their stuff and always want to help us succeed."

Ferris first-year pharmacy student Brian Wheaton also described pharmacy students as very studious and somewhat nerdy.

Aside from making connections and friendships, the pharmacy program, according to Ferris first-year doctor of pharmacy student Cody Wise, is to pharmacists what medical school is to doctors.

Wise said that becoming a pharmacist was not his first choice. Since kindergarten, Wise wanted nothing more than to become a firefighter. However, when his high school no longer held the class he needed to follow in his family's footsteps, this led him to the only

other interesting class available—a pharmacy technician class.

Within days, Wise fell in love with the subject and changed his life plans because of it.

Although, like Wise, Ferris first-year pharmacy student Lindsey Gerstler did not have pharmacy as her original choice, but instead wanted to become an orthodontist in high school, her interest in science and helping people directed her towards the pharmacy program.

"Ideally, I would like to become a long-term care pharmacist and work with the elderly," Gerstler said. "My grandma was diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia a few years ago, and that really stimulated my interest in how medications affect the geriatric population."

Gerstler has not had a job or internship in the program yet. However, she is looking forward to her three-week internship this summer at a community pharmacy in Michigan.

While some students are awaiting their chance to work in their field, Ferris pre-pharmacy junior Connor Anderson is a student who was able to dive right into his when he arrived at Ferris.

Anderson had the opportunity to volunteer at a pharmacy care clinic dispensing free prescriptions to those in need and was able to job shadow at McLaren Central Hospital.

Having those opportunities only solidified his decision to enter the pharmacy field. Anderson now works at a local pharmacy in his free time and was accepted into the College of Pharmacy for the fall of 2017.

"Working in a pharmacy during undergrad is a great experience to have," Anderson said. "I was surprised by the amount of work pharmacy technicians are allowed to do in the pharmacy and how fun it has been to work there prior to starting grad school."

Anderson said he finds the opportunity to work in a job that applies to his field fulfilling.

"I'm slightly nervous for the higher difficulty of classes and busy schedules, but my excitement to start grad school outweighs being nervous," Anderson said. "I'm confident enough with my undergrad education from Ferris to do well come fall."



Submitted Photo

(Left to Right) Ferris pharmacy students Kate Nelson, Lindsey Gerstler, Cody Wise and Lindsay Cavanaugh.

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SPORTS

The level of competition is always high. We always have pressure to be the best we can be, any quote - Zach Hankins See below for story

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Objects in mirror are closer than they appear



Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

The men's basketball team has claimed first place in the GLIAC standings with their most recent win against Northwood, but a host of conference competitors are tailing them by just one game in the standings.

GLIAC opponents in hot pursuit of 1st place Dawgs

Brendan Samuels

Torch Reporter

The Ferris men's basketball team has enjoyed an outstanding season to this point, but opponents within the GLIAC pose a huge threat to their success.

Currently standing at a 13-3 overall record, the Bulldogs have blasted out of the gates to a hot start. Ferris has also taken care of business within the GLIAC, with a 7-2 conference record.



Zach Hankins

"The interconference games are extremely important," said sophomore center Zach Hankins. "The level of competition is always high. We always have pressure to be the best we can be. But seeing the competition right up there with us adds some focus to who we need to beat and how to do it."

Prior to the Bulldogs' 91-59 rout of Northwood over the weekend, the men's

team was stuck in a heated three-way tie in the GLIAC standings for first place.

Now by virtue of that win, the Bulldogs have vaulted themselves into the top spot in the conference.

The Bulldogs are not in the clear quite yet as five teams are only one game back, threatening to take Ferris' No. 1 spot. Leading the charge is one of only two teams in the conference to have beaten the Bulldogs—Findlay.

It's easy to get caught up in what this team has done early in the season, but the Bulldogs know that they need to finish strong to be sitting pretty when the playoffs roll around.

"The second half of the season is really where the top teams get weeded out," Hankins said. "Generally, a few teams will begin to stand out and end up with records that place them in decent seeds in the tournament."

With a month and a half remaining in the regular season, the Bulldogs will look to build on their strong season at the home of the Saginaw Valley State Cardinals 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19.

GLIAC STANDINGS

1.	Ferris State	7 - 2	9 GP
2.	Findlay	6 - 3	9 GP
3.	Lake Superior State	6 - 3	9 GP
4.	Wayne State	6 - 3	9 GP
5.	Grand Valley State	6 - 3	9 GP
6.	Michigan Tech	6 - 3	9 GP
7.	Walsh	5 - 4	9 GP
8.	Ashland	5 - 5	10 GP

Head-to-head with GLAC's top teams

81-77 OT Loss against Findlay, Dec. 4
65-59 Loss at Walsh, Dec. 8

82-77 Win against Ashland, Dec. 17
111-103 Win at Lake Superior State, Jan. 12

Ferris vs. Wayne State, 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21

Top Dawg

Markese Mayfield



Photo by: Aubrey Kemme | Multimedia Editor

Keith Salowich

Editor-in-chief

inating the Timberwolves 91-59, and Mayfield played a key role coming off the bench.

The 6-foot-4, 208-pound Godwin Heights native scored 18 points and secured 12 rebounds in his 24 minutes off the bench against LSSU. Mayfield then netted seven points, four rebounds and two steals against Northwood.

Mayfield and the rest of the Dawgs will hit the road to take on Saginaw Valley State 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at SVSU's James E. O'Neill Jr. Arena.

Sports Shorts

By Brendan Samuels - Torch Reporter

A tale of two jerseys

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. Bulldogs fans have experienced both while watching the men and women's Ferris basketball seasons unfold.

The men's team has experienced unyielding success, currently riding an eight-game win streak on their way to a 13-3 overall record. Their most recent win came in dominant fashion when they defeated Northwood 91-59 Saturday, Jan. 14.

The women's team on the other hand has lost three straight games and currently sits at 3-12 overall.

Both the men and women's teams will be looking for their next win when they hit the road to take on Saginaw Valley State Thursday, Jan. 19.

I thought they won?

Ferris hockey recorded two consecutive ties with one coming against Alaska Anchorage Saturday, Jan. 7, and the other against Alaska Fairbanks on Friday, Jan. 13.

According to the NCAA, any game extended to double overtime or that ends in a shootout is considered a tie, regardless of who wins the overtime period or shootout. The team that comes out on top, however, is awarded two points in the standings while the losing team is awarded just one point.

The Bulldogs have recorded two ties this season as a result of games being settled by shootouts, four ties total, and are 7-13-4 on the season.

Athletic and academic

Ferris athletes do their best to shine on the field, but it seems that they're also getting it done in the classroom.

According to the Ferris State Athletics' Twitter page, the roughly 400 student athletes that make up Ferris' sports teams earned a combined 3.17 GPA for the fall semester. Way to go, Dawgs!

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Off to the races

Men and women's track and field season underway

Keith Salowich

Editor-in-chief

While most students can hardly stand up on slippery sidewalks, Ferris' men and women's track and field teams have already opened their spring season.

The squads competed in the Hillsdale Winter Opener Saturday, Jan. 7, with the men's team tallying 72 points, which was good for third place in a pool of nine competing teams. Meanwhile, the women's team finished in fourth place of eight teams with 61 points.

Ferris senior Emily Haynes took first place in the women's 3,000 meters by clocking a time of 10:52.04 with fellow Bulldog Kathryn Etelamaki finishing closely in second place.

The Dawgs also showed well in the women's mile

run, as five of the top seven finishers donned FSU's crimson and gold jerseys. Ferris junior Molly Emerick led the pack of Dawgs by finishing second in the race with a time of 5:27.68.



Cody Stilwell

The men's team also had a strong showing in the 3,000 meters, as four of the top eight finishers were Bulldogs, paced by Ferris junior Trevor Holowaty who took first with a time of 8:57.68.

In field events, Ferris junior Brett Allpow's throw of 46-3.50 was good for second place in shot put while his teammate sophomore Cody Stilwell took second in the weight throw with a 57-0 toss, which reached an NCAA national provisional qualification mark.

Both the men and women's track and field teams will next compete in the Grand Valley State Open Friday, Jan. 20, in Allendale.



Molly Emerick

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Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

The Bulldogs currently sit at a 3-12 overall record, but solid play from some young players like redshirt freshman guard Riley Blair provide hope that the program can turn the tides late in the season.

Blair bringing hope

Bulldogs have high hopes of turning the season around behind Riley Blair and company

Beau Jensen

Torch Reporter

The women's basketball program at Ferris State has been having a rough season so far, but the young team has a bright future ahead with Riley Blair on their roster.

As the second leading scorer on the team, Blair averages 12.1 points per game as a redshirt freshman guard. Second only to junior forward Rachel McInerney's 16.3 points per game, Blair's added scoring is a much needed boost for the Dawgs.

Blair is one of the underclassmen who will be with the program for the next few years. And Blair is a player who understands the importance of patience when it comes to winning games.

"We came into this year knowing it was going to be another huge year for us to help rebuild this program and that is how we are looking at it," Blair said. "Each practice, each game is another opportunity we have to gain more experience and to get more comfortable playing with each other."

Blair spent her high school basketball career on the court at Divine Child High School where she helped the team to a Class B regional title while also making it to the Catho-

"Each practice, each game is another opportunity."

- Riley Blair

lic League championship game.

"Our coaches are constantly reminding us to 'trust the process' which is exactly what we are going through right now," Blair said. "It's not going to happen overnight and we

are all on board and ready to put in the work necessary to bring some great success to this program."

Freshman guard Renee Sturm is another one of the young Dawgs in the program, and along with Blair, feels that success will come with trust in the system and time.

"I think the key for us is to stick together when it gets tough and work to do the little things, build consistency and trust together," Sturm said. "We will find our way this season and doing the little things will make us far more competitive and successful in the long run."

The team currently sits with a 3-12 overall record on the season with a 2-7 GLIAC record. Playing 27.2 minutes per game, only second to McInerney again, Blair has become a staple on the young team.

"I think there are both difficulties and advantages to us being so young," Blair said. "There is a certain wisdom for the game in which you can really only gain through experience, which since we are so young, we haven't quite obtained yet."

Of the fifteen women that make up the Ferris State women's basketball program, only one of them is a senior and that senior is a transfer student.

"Also, having so many new players, we are still getting used to playing with one another and are still searching for our groove as a team," Blair said. "On the other hand, us young players are fortunate enough to get a lot of reps in our first years that players at other schools may not have the opportunity to take advantage of."

Blair's points bring great promise for this program going forward and said that the team's captains do a phenomenal job of keeping the women's hopes up for the potential to turn the program around.

"We rely on each other heavily, which has really helped us figure out this college basketball thing," Blair said.

The team is back in action 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at Saginaw Valley State University. The women then head back to Big Rapids to host Wayne State 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21.

Riley Blair Season Stats

27.2 Minutes per Game
40.5 3-PT Percentage

182 Points
69 Rebounds

19 Assists
12 Steals

Battle in Bemidji

Bulldogs set to take on No. 1 team in WCHA

Keith Salowich

Editor-in-chief

The Bulldogs haven't won a game since Friday, Dec. 9, but they'll be looking to turn the tides when they take on the Bemidji State Beavers this weekend.

"I know everyone is kind of disappointed right now, but we've got Bemidji," said senior right wing Gerald Mayhew. "They're a great team this year so I think if we can start there and get two there then we can continue to roll and get some wins."

The Bulldogs met Bemidji State four times last season, going 2-1-1 against the Beavers with just one game decided by more than one goal.

Ferris is 6-9-3 in conference play this year, which places them in a tie for sixth place in the WCHA. Bemidji State is in first place in the conference with a 15-3-2 WCHA record.

"They've been a good team for a number of years and this year they really seem to have it going. I don't know what their secret is," said Ferris

Head Coach Bob Daniels. "Obviously they're playing well and seem to be good from the net right on out. Tom Serratore is a great coach. I have a good feel for how they play—they may have adjusted—but they've always been a really solid defensive team and I would expect that through this weekend."

Bemidji State leads the league in goals this season, having allowed just 26 goals to their opponents despite playing two more games than almost every other team in the conference. Meanwhile Ferris has allowed 51 goals, which stands as one of the worst totals in the league.

"We just have to capitalize on our chances really," Mayhew said. "We've gotta move the puck a lot faster and harder, I think. We just have to keep working. We can't get discouraged, but again we have to capitalize on our chances to win games."

A key to the Bulldogs' success this coming weekend will be slowing down BSU senior forward Phillip Marinaccio, who leads the Beavers in goals with eight, assists with

11 and points with 19 this season. The last time the Bulldogs were on the ice, they tallied a season-high 46 shots but still came up short 2-1 in overtime against Alaska Fairbanks. It marked the fourth time Ferris competed in an overtime competition in their past five games.

"I'm disappointed that we did lose, obviously, but I'm certainly not disappointed in how we played," Daniels said. "If we roll that game out each night from now until the end of the year we'll be just fine and get our share of wins. What we want to do is pursue good hockey and good play and then the wins will take care of themselves."

Ferris is striving to host a home playoff matchup for the second consecutive year and will need to finish in the top four places in the WCHA standings to do so. The top eight teams in the conference are eligible for the WCHA Playoffs.

Ferris will take on the top team in the WCHA and the No. 17 team in the nation in Bemidji State 8:07 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, then again on the following day, in Bemidji, Minn.



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Photographer

FSU has a chance to gain some ground against the WCHA's best this weekend.

WCHA STANDINGS

1.	Bemidji State	15 - 3 - 2	49 PTS
2.	Michigan Tech	11 - 3 - 4	39 PTS
3.	Minnesota State	10 - 6 - 2	32 PTS
	Bowling Green	10 - 9 - 1	32 PTS
5.	Alaska	6 - 9 - 3	24 PTS
6.	Alabama Huntsville	7 - 9 - 2	23 PTS
	Ferris State	6 - 9 - 3	23 PTS
8.	Lake Superior State	6 - 9 - 3	22 PTS
9.	Alaska Anchorage	4 - 9 - 5	19 PTS
10.	Northern Michigan	3 - 12 - 3	13 PTS

Started from the bottom

Former Ferris assistant coach accepts head coach role at Northern Michigan

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

Former Ferris defensive coordinator Kyle Nystrom is now the head coach for the Northern Michigan Wildcats.

Nystrom spent two seasons at Ferris as an assistant coach and served as co-defensive coordinator on the 2016 Bulldog team that Ferris head coach Tony Annese dubbed the best defense he has ever coached.

Nystrom possesses special qualities that separated him from the coaching pool when Annese and his staff sought a new assistant coach in 2015.

"There's a few qualities he possesses," Annese said. "Obviously, passion for a defense, and passion

"You hate to lose someone of that caliber"

- Tony Annese

to motivate young people to be successful[emdash] passion for young people in regards to what they face as student athletes."

During Nystrom's tenure, the Bulldogs led the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) with the fewest rushing yards allowed with 92.2 per game en route to a GLIAC championship and NCAA Div. 2 semifinal appearance.

After 30 years in the coaching ranks, Nystrom finally has a shot at head coach in the city he grew up in.

Nystrom is from Marquette where his father, Buck, was an assistant coach on the Northern Michigan staff.

Though Nystrom has left for another GLIAC program, Annese has nothing but admiration for this opportunity for his close friend of 25 years.

"You always have mixed emotions, obviously, from a selfish standpoint," Annese said. "You hate to lose

someone of that caliber, but from a professional standpoint with him having an opportunity to be a head coach for the first time in his career, it's a great opportunity for him."

The last two seasons have been the best in Bulldog history with the first Ferris playoff victory in over a decade and the first semifinal appearance.

A large part of this success Annese attributes to awesome play from the players, particularly on defense.



Kyle Nystrom

"When your defense is playing well, some of it has to do with the players. Some of it has to do with the team. Some of it has to do with the emotional state and how coaches get them prepared to play hard and aggressive," Annese said.

Before Nystrom became a Bulldog, he was an assistant coach at Central Michigan from 2010 until 2014 where he became the interim head coach late in his last season after former Chippewa head coach Dan Enos left.



Tony Annese

From there he served as an assistant at Western Michigan for 13 years helping the Broncos reach the Mid-Atlantic Conference championship game.

He has been a journey coach, having served on nine different teams including stints at Texas Christian University, DePaul, North Dakota State, Forts Hays State and as a student assistant at Michigan State in 1983.

Though it seems he's been everywhere in the region, Nystrom has brought his career full circle becoming the head coach where he got his start.

The Bulldogs wish Nystrom much success and will see him on the field come the fall 2017 season.

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

OPINIONS

"Take one step outside without slipping. I dare you!" - Sarah Massey See page 15 for story

Travis Sacher | Opinions Editor | sachert@ferris.edu

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Chat with the chief

Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

We should all do a bit more thinking, I think. See? I just did something there.

So much of life is nearly autonomous. Many students could probably shower, dress themselves and microwave a breakfast burrito without even opening their eyes in the morning.

A huge percentage of that process is just our bodies running through the motions while our brain occupies itself with whatever

annoying song is stuck in our heads.

With deadlines, due dates and expectations we're all desperately trying to meet constantly filling our heads, there's little time to just sit back and think.

Much of the downtime that we do find is spent in front of the television or browsing social media.

Oftentimes I'll spend an hour or so surfing the internet and once I've finished, I'll feel as if I've

absorbed almost none of what I watched or read. Why do I do it? Why waste that precious hour that could be applied to creating something, learning something or at least living consciously?

We use electronics as distractions from reality. We use drugs or alcohol as temporary escapes from reality. Why are we all just running away from real life?

It's because it's easier. It's so much easier to forget about real

life for a while and just shift to autopilot. We're turning our brain off to give it some time to recover from class, work or whatever else demanded some of your attention that day.

We can all benefit from more deep thought. Not about homework or how to gain more Twitter followers, but just about life and you're role in it.

So just breathe, unplug and think every now and then.

Introverts Unite

Why being lazy isn't always a bad thing



Alicia Jaimes
Torch Reporter

Ever since I was a young girl, all I've ever heard is how college life is the life.

It's the time to join clubs, make friends and experience life. College, to me, was going to be an amped up version of High School Musical.

The reality? Way different.

My life since 2014 has basically consisted of three things: Netflix, sleep and sleeping with Netflix on in the background. I am proudly one of the laziest people I know.

Now I know not everyone is like this, I've heard the party stories. I've seen the Instagram pictures. But that doesn't change the fact that I've come to love being an introvert.

From kindergarten through high school my teachers would call me a social butterfly. I swear sometimes they called me this more than they called me by my own name. I was the definition of extrovert. What changed?

After deciding to take a year before putting myself through another four years of schooling, I fell in love with doing nothing. I had no job, my friends were in Grand Rapids and every day was just Grey's Anatomy, a box of pizza rolls and me. It was AWESOME.

Unfortunately, a year is only so long and I ended up back at school where I thought I belonged. But when I got here, all I felt was out of place.

I remember getting to my first class and sitting in the back and watching everybody talk around me. I didn't feel that I was able to just jump into any conversation because everybody was already paired off with friends.

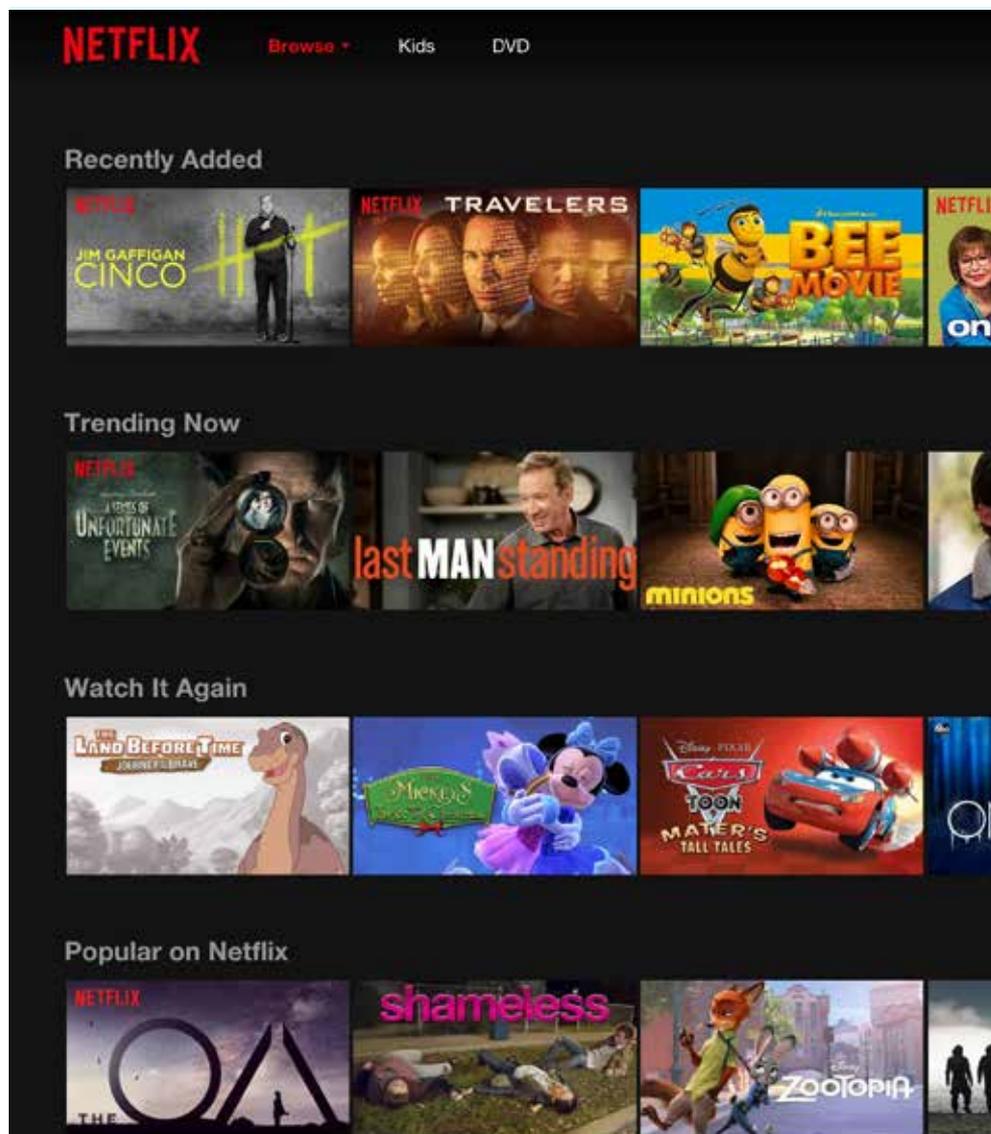
I felt even more awkward just sitting and staring at people. I was no longer confident enough to be an extrovert or comfortable enough to be an introvert and so I was stuck for that whole first year.

I tried to go back to my old ways. I made a couple of friends and we went to football games and drove around adventurous Big Rapids. We did the college life and all I felt was uncomfortable.

This wasn't me anymore. But every time I found myself sitting in my room watching television, I felt that I was missing the college experience.

I know when somebody calls you an introvert it sounds like some horrible diagnosis, like they're calling you out for being boring. Maybe they are, but don't ever think that being introverted labels you as weird.

It's perfectly normal and okay to feel comfortable with the life you have. Just because



Promotional Photo

Many introverts may find themselves catching up on Netflix shows while extroverts attend parties.

college is portrayed in movies as this wild, crazy adventure, doesn't mean it has to be. At least not in the sense that they intend it too.

College changes people. You aren't the same person you were your freshman year in high school. This is a new year, new semester and clean slate.

The movies might be wrong about how everyone parties hardcore all the time. But they aren't wrong about how this is the time to figure out who you are or what you want to be.

For the record, I am not saying go ahead and commit to the hermit life without first trying something.

Go to a game. Talk to someone in your class. Get involved at least once in college. Why? Just to say that you did.

It took me three years to find a happy medi-

um in my college life, and I didn't find it by showing up at school and sitting around all day. I got up. I went out. I discovered what worked for me and what I could do without.

Luckily, what worked ended up being me in a pair of slippers and going to sleep at a reasonable time.

So what do you do when your friends call you introverted? Own it.

Flaunt it in their faces that you are completely satisfied with sitting at home in pajamas while they feel the need to always be on-the-go and doing something.

I am a proud introvert.

I think as long as you are proud of who you are, you can't go wrong. Unless you are one of those people that enjoys taking 8 a.m. classes. Because I mean, come on, people.

FERRIS STATE

Where the students are salty and the sidewalks are not

Take one step outside without slipping. I dare you! The weather this first week back has been nothing short of brutal: from snow, rain and now ice. It seems as though Ferris is doing nothing to make our 8 a.m. trek to classes any easier.

You see remnants of salt on the ground, but the salt doesn't seem to be doing much. You would think that Ferris would be doing everything in their power to keep their students safe, such as canceling classes.

We all received the cancelation on the morning of Thursday Jan. 12... For the Grand Rapids location.

Hmm, why not here in Big Rapids? There are so many more students here on the main campus with equally as many sidewalks and roads to slip and fall on.

This past week alone, I have had numerous conversations with people about those who've fallen on the sheets of ice we call sidewalks.

These poor souls have suffered eternal embarrassment by crashing down on these sidewalks that the phrase, "Be careful, the sidewalks kill," is a common closing to any conversation.

In addition to all the conversations I have had, I was scrolling through my Facebook feed and I saw four posts in a row about the snow and ice on the



Sarah Massey
Production Assistant

sidewalks.

All of these posts were renditions of "Fell on the sidewalks today" or "Big Rapids is just one big sheet of ice". This isn't exactly what I signed up for when I decided on attending school here.

Now, here in the city of Big Rapids, there are laws which require people to clear sidewalks of snow and ice so they are safe to walk on.

Sure, this is mostly for residential areas, but there are thousands of students who live on or near campus who walk to classes or dining halls daily.

We are paying tens of thousands of dollars to attend classes at this university, but that is impossible when we are not able to leave our apartments and residence halls because of the treacherous walk.

So while we bundle up and waddle to class, we can only hope that Ferris decides to salt the sidewalks today.



Graphic by: Sarah Massey | Production Assistant

Don't @ Me

What you don't understand about Trevor Noah

So it's 2 a.m. and I'm up scrolling through my Facebook feed. I was literally about to log off when this YouTube video came up.

The title is what caught my attention, "What Trevor Noah Doesn't Understand." Huh? What does that mean?

Trevor Noah is the host of the late night comedy show, The Daily Show on Comedy Central.

Noah did an interview with The Blaze host Tomi Lahren, who is widely known for her "final thoughts" on the responses of the liberal "snowflakes" to everything from social justice issues to Donald Trump.

I watched the YouTube video and the vlogger basically says that Trevor Noah shouldn't speak so softly to Lahren because that's not how she talks about our views and us. And by us, I mean people of color, liberals, feminists, black lives matter advocates, proud millennials... Must I continue?

Anyway, the vlogger says that Trevor Noah couldn't understand the challenges of African Americans in America, so he should just be quiet.

YIKES. Because they couldn't be MORE wrong.

Well, I did this vlogger a favor, and explained why everything about what they said was wrong, and instead of a six-minute video, I got it down to nine points:

1. Trevor Noah is a mixed race, white and black, immigrant born in apartheid South Africa. So, LOL at the idea that he doesn't understand oppression.

2. You cannot take someone's words and dissect them in order for them to fit the description that you deemed them to mean. When anyone with any logical reasoning skills takes it at face value, and tells him good job.

3. The only way to get the "right" to understand what we go through as oppressed or "left" people, and as the mighty culture of people we are, is to CONTINUE to extend an olive branch. You mean because he didn't "shred" her that his interview didn't go well?

4. We will never have a conversation with people who are different from us unless we actively continue to seek one. How will people learn if they're not edu-



Jasmine Nettles
Managing Copy Editor

cated? Who will best educate them other than the people who have lived it?

5. It is absolutely RIDICULOUS to, as the vlogger so eloquently said, grandstand against someone who literally had our back as a people. And always will. Did you watch his interview with Tomi Lahren? You couldn't have, at all. Before people continue with this rhetoric, do some research before you attack someone's knowledge, experience or education.

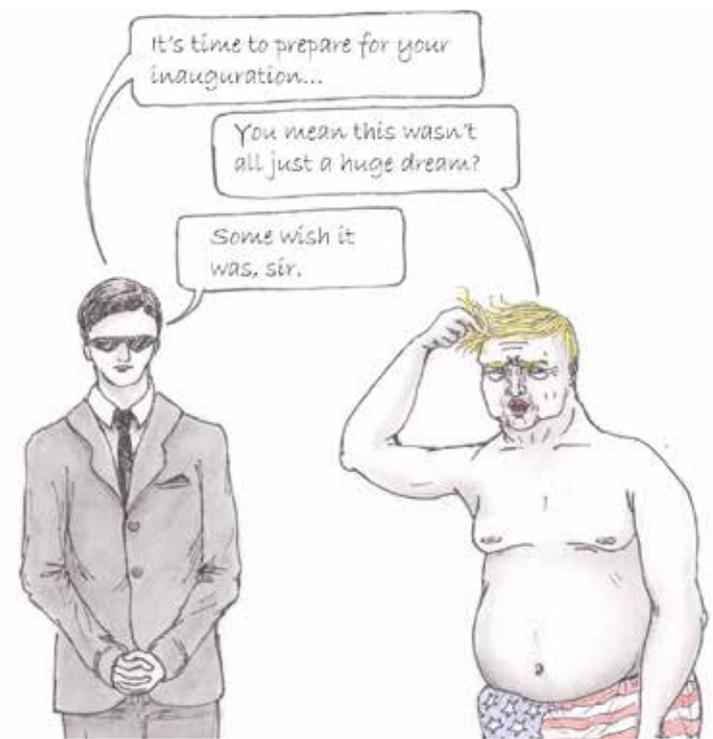
6. Some feel that his being nice to her after his fans who misinterpreted his message, were completely disrespectful to her was "odd." Why do you care that he's a nice human being? We need more people like that.

7. He kept the message light. He knew that arguing or provoking a hostile environment would do nothing to further the cause. And I completely agree. What would that have done? Would it have proved that he could scream, too?

8. I take issue when people target irrelevant facts about someone in an attempt to prove a point. What did his ratings and performance on his previous shows have to do with his education on the topic of oppression of people of color? Tried it. And try again.

9. Finally, this is what's wrong with America right now. How dare you tell someone that their way of interacting with someone like Lahren was wrong? We all handle these things in different ways. Noah kept it light. But he made his point. He couldn't force her to hear him. If anyone could, then I don't think we would be continuing to have this conversation at all.

Don't agree? Too bad. Don't @ me. Thanks.



Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist

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