



Tire Fire INSIDE



Diplomas served on a silver platter

Grade inflation has critics wondering if college is too easy

Harley Harrison
Torch Reporter

Grade inflation no longer comes as a surprise to college campuses, yet experts are still debating the cause of this 30-year-old trend.

According to gradeinflation.com, the average GPA at four-year colleges and universities has risen across the nation since 1983, regardless of whether or not the school is private or public.

The question that baffles many is: why has there been an inflation of grades?

Ferris forensic science instructor and president of the Ferris Nontenure-Track Faculty organization Mary Bacon has been teaching for more than 27 years and has seen the majority of grade inflation in the high school GPAs of her freshmen classes.

"There are a variety of reasons for grade inflation," Bacon said. "One main reason is university administrations are viewing students as consumers, 'The customer is always right' philosophy. Professors may get tired of fighting and if a student complains, administration may not be supportive, so the professor may say, 'Why fight it?'"

Grade inflation has also seen higher increases in disciplines such as the humanities compared to disciplines such as engineering, according to gradeinflation.com, which raises the question: why is there higher grade inflation in the arts and social sciences?



Ferris English professor Zac Wendler, who has been teaching for nine years, attributes the difference to the improvement of writing instruction, as many arts and social science classes revolve around the skill of writing.

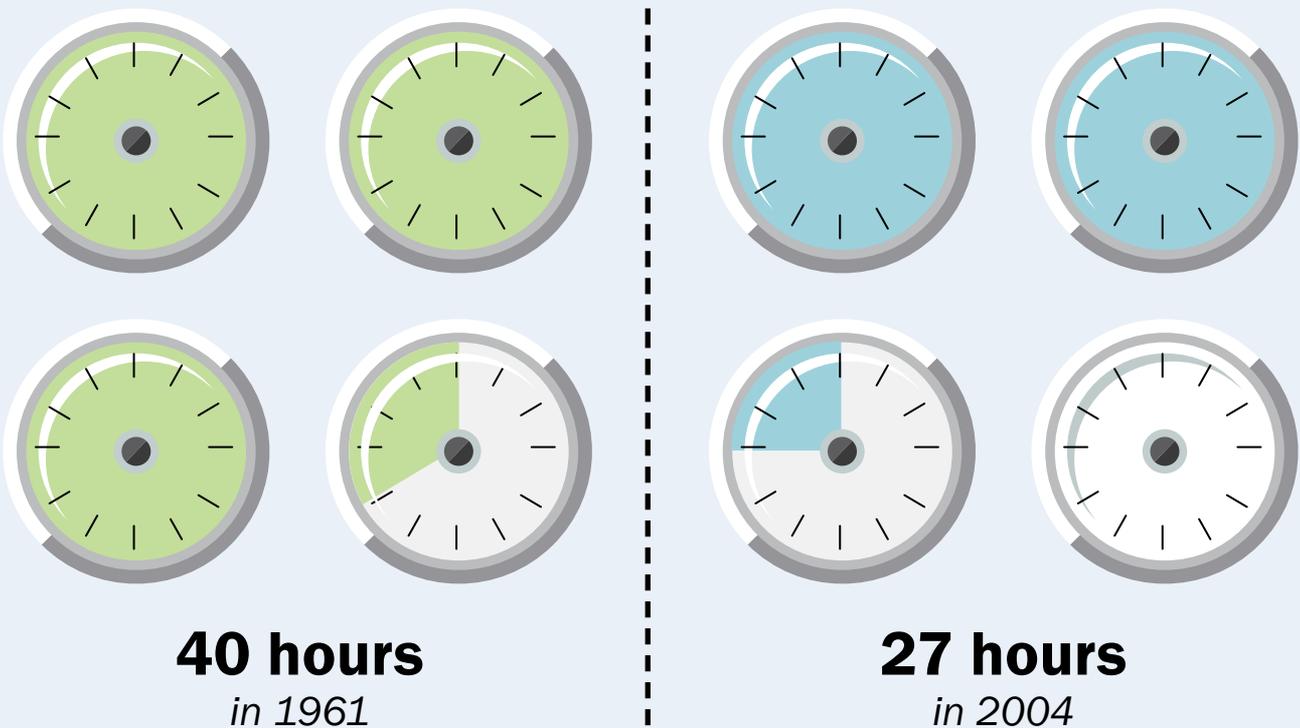
"We started noticing that the more we focused on revision, on process, rather than result, the better students were able to do the tasks we asked them to do," Wendler said. "And this has really become the foundation of writing instruction."

Wendler went on to exemplify this process by comparing it to art.

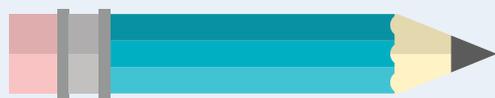
"Somebody's teaching painting, the focus isn't on the painting at the end, the focus is on the technique used to create the painting in the process and I think that's one of the big differ

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Full-time college students: hours per week spent on academics



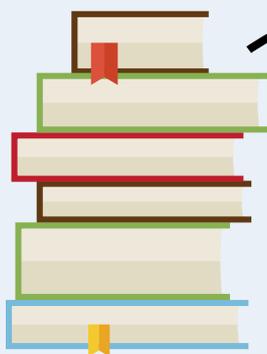
A study that followed more than 2,300 students at a range of schools from the fall of 2005 to the spring of 2009 showed the following statistics:



36% of students said after the full four years that they had not improved their studying skills



45% of students in the first two years said that they had made no significant improvement in skills that related to critical thinking, complex reasoning and communication.



The average number of hours that students spend studying has dropped by almost 50% since the 1960's.



The above information was taken from gradeinflation.com

HERE'S WHAT'S INSIDE

LET'S BREAK THE ICE

Students and faculty share their winter weather stories and discuss the reason Ferris never closes.

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"ALMOST CAREERS"

What careers did Ferris students almost settle on before entering their programs?

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IF IT WORKS, IT'S NOT WEIRD

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PLEASE SIT DOWN

Torch copy editor Jen Corrie discusses her thoughts on extreme feminism and "manspreading."

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NEWS

"I believe that if Ferris were to ever close it would be because the governor issued a statewide state of disaster," - Dorothy Hart, see page 4 for story

Angela Graf | News Editor | grafa1@ferris.edu

What do I say?

AMA holds resume critique workshop

Harley Harrison
Torch Reporter

Writing a resume is one of the most difficult responsibilities that students have to go through. However, AMA is here to help.

The Ferris American Marketing Association hosted a Resume Workshop Thursday, Jan. 19, with five resume perfecting professors to provide assistance to an overflowing room of students.

Ferris advertising junior and E-board Vice President of Professional Development Katelyn Williams planned this event, along with 19 other events, up until winter break.

"So basically, it's just any students, they don't have to be AMA members, can come in and get their resumes reviewed by professors," Williams said. "If they want, they can go to multiple professors and it's just to help them for when they're applying for internships and our networking events and things like that."

Resumes for internship applications were the main focus for many of the attendees including Ferris business administration junior Jeremy Graham.

"[I'm here] to have my resume looked at so I can hopefully obtain an internship this summer," Graham said.

Many of the students in attendance

had already taken a class at Ferris that taught the basics for writing a resume, but still wanted to attend for the extra critiquing.

"I took advanced business writing last semester, so we did lot with our resume and my mom's also in human resources so she always helps me too," Ferris advertising senior Samantha Neering said. "I'm applying for internships right now, or looking to apply to them, so I just want to make sure that my resume is as good as it can be."

The event had such a massive turnout that students were waiting in line to get their resumes reviewed by the experts.

"Put your best foot forward," Ferris Professor of marketing Paul Jackson said. "Communicate the things that you feel are crucial to your getting the opportunity for an interview."

For those who missed the AMA resume workshop, upcoming AMA events can be found at amaferris.org.



Katelyn Williams



Jeremy Graham



Photo by: Harley Harrison | Torch Reporter

Ferris Associate Professor Paul Jackson worked with Ferris advertising senior Samantha Neering at the American Marketing Association's resume workshop event.



Bulldogs in DC

(left to right) Ferris CAD & Tool Design sophomore Luke Richmond, CAD & Tool Design sophomore Derek Fredenburg, CAD & Tool Design sophomore Adam Yunker and CAD & Tool Design sophomore Matt Simmons made a spontaneous trip to Washington DC to attend the inauguration of 45th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump.

Submitted Photo

- ON THE RECORD -

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

Headlights are for the weak

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Old blue

Jan. 11, 11:05 a.m. officers responded to a report of damage done to a blue couch on the second floor lobby of Clark Hall.

Smokin' that dope

Jan. 11, 9:20 p.m. officers investigated a suspicious vehicle in Lot 28. Two students were identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct for marijuana use.

Someone needs a nap

Jan. 12, 12:20 a.m. officers assisted the city police on Grand Traverse near State Street with a disorderly subject being placed under arrest.

On the run

Jan. 14, 3:50 p.m. officers responded to a report of a stolen vehicle from Lot 46. A juvenile suspect gained entry to the locker rooms during a basketball game and took money and car keys. The suspect drove to Lansing before being located by family members and brought back to Big Rapids where a petition was filed with the juvenile court.

Reefer madness

Jan. 14, 11 p.m. officers investigated a report of marijuana in Cramer Hall. One student was identified and referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Headlights are for the weak

Jan. 15, 12:40 a.m. officers stopped a

vehicle on Cedar Street near State Street for driving without their headlights on. The driver was found to be drunk and was lodged in jail for OWI.

Taillights are also for the weak

Jan. 15, 2:45 a.m. officers stopped a vehicle on State Street near Locust Street that didn't have its taillights on. The driver was ticketed for possession of marijuana.

Whoops

Jan. 15, 3:20 p.m. officers responded to a report of a hit and run in Lot 39.

Shoplifter

Jan. 16, 9 a.m. officers investigated a theft complaint at The Market. The suspect was identified and admitted to the theft, and

then was referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Deep trouble

Jan. 16, 3:05 p.m. officers responded to a report of marijuana in McNerney Hall. One student was identified, referred to the Office of Student Conduct for possession and had a warrant sent to the prosecutor's office.

Gotcha

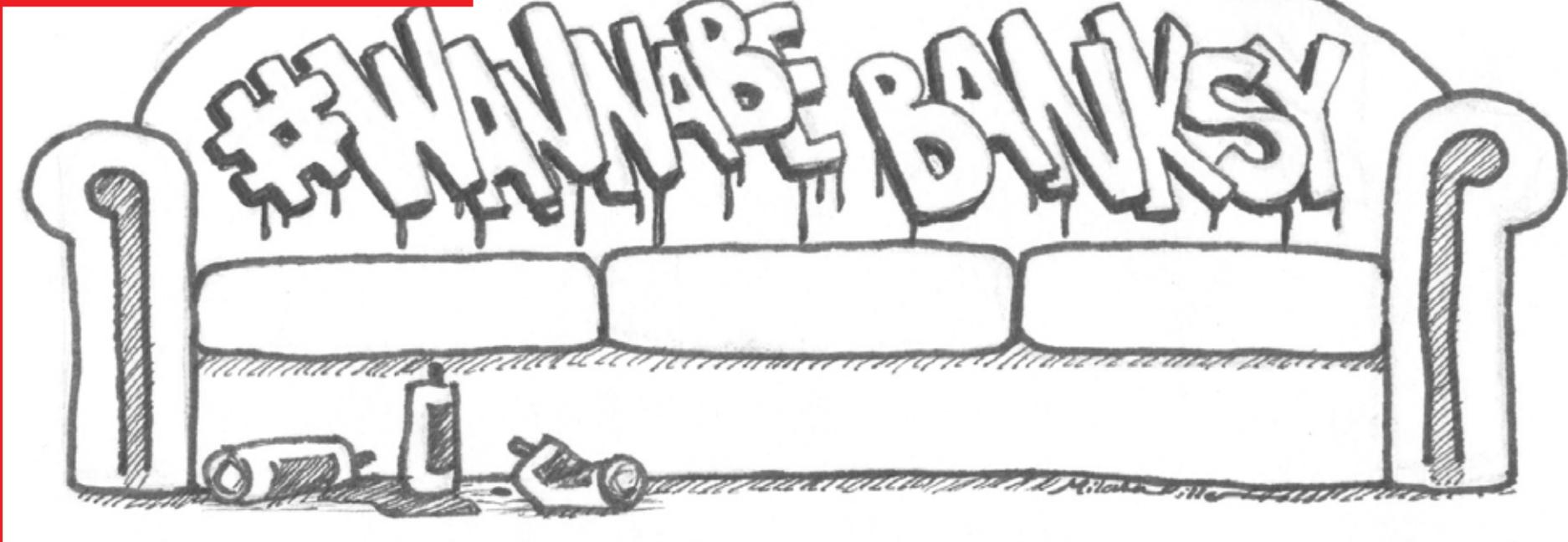
Jan. 16, 9:55 p.m. officers investigated a hit and run accident in Lot 5. The suspect was located in Bond Hall and ticketed for failure to report.

The Department of Public Safety issued 306 tickets between the dates of Jan. 12 and Jan. 18, totaling \$4,800.

Cartoon special

"Old blue"

Cartoon by: Mikala Piller | Cartoonist



NEWS BRIEFS

By Angela Graf - News Editor

Year of the Rooster

The lunar new year is approaching and, while not prominently recognized in the United States, cultures all over the world have their own ways of celebrating the event. Ferris is paying homage to some of these traditions with arts, crafts, performers and authentic asian cuisine. Due to the collaborative efforts of the Office of International Education, Diversity & Inclusion Office, Office of Multicultural Student Services and the Asian Student Organization, the event is set to take place from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 in the IRC Connector.

GRADES

Continued from page 1

ences between instructional styles," Wendler said.

Bacon also agreed that the difference lies within the structure of the rubrics, which will be different depending on the subject area.

"We want a superior outcome, but it's the process itself that we're trying to get neck deep in," Wendler said. "I think anytime you have revision built into education, you're going to have higher grades."

The development in teaching provides an explanation for many of the statistics and a further breakdown on grade inflation can be found at gradeinflation.com.

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Badges to Briefcases

Criminal justice fraternity hosts annual career fair

Kip Biby

Torch Reporter

The printers were flowing with resumes and cover letters as Lambda Alpha Epsilon (LAE) held its annual career fair in an effort to connect criminal justice students with potential employers ranging from local to federal law enforcement agencies.

The criminal justice career fair has been hosted by LAE for five years and it's members boast huge success. Jessica Wilhelm, a senior in the law enforcement academy, is the president of the organization.

"Career fairs are important because it provides a bridge of interaction between a candidate and a future employer," Wilhelm said. "Being able to have a personal interaction helps get your name out there as well as the opportunity to hear what departments have to offer."

Nearly 100 suit-clad students participated in the event and there were no shortage of opportunities.

"There are 31 departments all ranging from local law enforcement, corrections, federal, etcetera that offer both employment as well as internship opportunities," Wilhelm said.

Zack Washkevich, a sophomore in the Ferris criminal justice program, was the committee head in LAE for planning and executing the career fair. Washkevich and his team have been planning the event since September 2016.

"It's important to get a grasp on things you can expect outside of college. It's good to be able to talk to police officers and understand what they do day-to-day," Washkevich said.

Washkevich outlined that the demand for police officers is high and in the current political climate, there is an increased need for new officers.

The career fair was held last Wednesday, Jan. 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the University Center. Members of LAE stressed that they will continue to host the event in years to come.



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Ferris criminal justice corrections freshman Danielle McClaran attended the Criminal Justice Career Fair at which 31 law enforcement agencies were pres-



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Ferris criminal justice generalist senior Tom Peterson was one of roughly 100 criminal justice students attending the event.



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Let's break the ice

Student ice tragedies and the reason why Ferris State University never cancels classes

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

With the recent freezing rain and ice-covered sidewalks, many Ferris students like Haley Robinson have wondered why the Big Rapids campus never closes.

Ferris pre-diagnostic medical sonography freshman Haley Robinson slipped and fell on the ice 9:45 a.m. Monday Jan. 11, severely injuring her hand.

Robinson was walking from one class to another when the incident happened.

"It was very icy, none of the sidewalks had any salt on them at all, and I was wearing snow boots with grips on the bottom," Robinson said. "I even filed an accident report."

Robinson was not the only student to come forward saying they fell on the ice last week.

Ferris advertising and integrated marketing freshman Emily Hamner also slipped on the ice Monday night.

"I slid across the parking lot until reaching my car and fell while trying to open my door," Hamner said. "After that, I was

certain that Ferris was going to close because if they couldn't even salt the sidewalks, the least they could do was close the campus in the morning or until it was safe to walk again."

So, what does it take to get a snow day?



Emily Hamner

Dorothy Hart, a FLITE library assistant, who has been on this campus for 40 years between attending the university and as an employee, has seen Ferris close three times.

According to Hart, the first time was when she was attending Ferris. Students blocked off State Street, which used to be the old 131 and partied. The second closure was due to an ice storm in the 90s and the third time was in 2013 because of a campus-wide power outage.

"I believe that if Ferris were to ever close it would be because the governor issued a statewide state of disaster," Hart said.

According to the University Closing or Cancelling of Class-

es Policy, found on the Ferris website, the Big Rapids campus is a residential student campus and accordingly will almost always be open to students residing on campus.

The policy states that the University will cancel classes only under the most severe weather or other conditions, but does not state what those conditions are.

The policy also states that the President of the University or their designee is responsible for making the call for the Big Rapids campus, while decisions on weather related delays and closures at Kendall College of Art and Design (KCAD) are made by the President of KCAD or their designee.

The decision to cancel classes at KCAD are often made after the closure of Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC). In those cases, the class cancellation would also apply to the FSU-GR classes held at GRCC, according to the policy.

Many students at the Big Rapids campus commute, but according to Captain Jim Cook from the Department of Public Safety, there have not been any accidents reported in January due to weather conditions.



Women march on Grand Rapids

Hundreds of women flocked the streets of Grand Rapids to take part in a sister march, supporting the National Women's March happening simultaneously in Washington, D.C. The local march was on Saturday, Jan. 21, and was organized by the Fountain Street Church, who also hosted a rally from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

Thank you, Dr. King

A recap of MLK week celebration events

Andrea Lenhart

Torch Reporter

The Office of Multicultural Student Services hosted their 31st Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) celebration last week.

The celebration kicked off with a MLK Day of Service Volunteer Expo, the MLK Freedom March and Student Tribute and Tunnel of Oppression last Monday, Jan. 16.

Other weekly events included a MLK featured discussion, "Politics Now: What Would MLK Think?" and a Five-Star speaker, Bakari Sellers.

"Ferris is a very open place. We have more than just one type of people, we have students from all over the world. We can't recognize or celebrate just one historical figure in one day, it should be spread out to make an impact on the most students as possible," Ferris graphic design sophomore Morgan Dodson said.

Even though the day of the Freedom March was

cold, rainy and snowy, students, Registered Student Organizations and sports team still marched around campus.

According to Dodson, the Housing Department did their part in the celebration as well.

"The housing department brought people out to the Freedom March, so I decided to join them. The halls also hosted an event where I learned that the bus boycotts were 388 days long," Dodson said.

Directors of the event suggestion participants walk the Freedom March with someone that they did not know. That is how criminal justice junior Pandora Kurtz and pre optometry junior Megan Eagloski met.

"I think it's a great way to show unity on campus. As a part of a majority culture, I think it's valuable to see interaction and understand that people try to include everybody," Eagloski said.

Kurtz has had a lot of experience with civil rights in the past, so that is why she took part in the celebration.

"I think that this is a great thing that every student should try at least once," Kurtz said.



Pandora Kurtz



Morgan Dodson

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OPINIONS

“I will never live for the sake of another man, nor ask another man to live for mine.”- Ayn Rand See page 7 for story

Travis Sacher | Opinions Editor | sachert@ferris.edu

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Chat with the chief Editor in Chief, Keith Salowich

We're in the thick of winter so it's no surprise to see the word "snowflake" pop up regularly in conversation this time of year. Yet, it's been used in a whole new way recently.

"Snowflake" has become a synonym for entitled, lazy, worthless millennials like myself.

We are the participation trophy generation, often ridiculed for our inability to accept criticism, our attachment to smartphones and

our terrible work ethic. Yet I think hard on my youth soccer days of 15 years ago and definitely don't recall asking adults to incessantly mock me for the rest of my life for the meaningless trophy they chose to present me.

Questioning work ethic is absurd when I see students everyday who are balancing 19 college credit hours, a job or two and membership in RSOs, among other things.

But we'll put up with all that!

Special snowflakes

Because throughout our entire childhood we were told that if we attended college we'd get a good job right after graduation, and even if we didn't go to school we could still make a decent enough wage to get by. Either way, all the hard work will be worth it when we're able to settle behind a white picket fence for our slice of the American Dream.

That absolutely is not reality, but here's a little piece of reality:

we millennials weren't the ones destroying the economy and spiking the cost of tuition while we were in pre-school. That's just the landscape left waiting for us by our elder generation.

We're not entitled snowflakes waiting for everything to be handed to us. We're just pissed off that there's nothing left and we're the ones being blamed for all the world's problems.

Jimmy ate World

Rock band still rocking into "Middle" age



Travis Sacher
Opinions Editor

When someone asks, "Who are the best rock bands of our generation that are still active?" Would you consider Jimmy Eat World to be one? I would.

Popular answers to the question above oftentimes are Radiohead, Arcade Fire, Arctic Monkeys and The Strokes—and respectively so.

Of course the list goes on and on and is completely subjective, but every group mentioned above has achieved worldwide fame and the capability of selling out arenas. But not Jimmy Eat World. What they have done, though, is consistently make great and oftentimes boundary-pushing rock music for 24 years.

To clarify, Jimmy Eat World never headlined a major festival, broke numbers with record sales and has only one major hit song, "The Middle."

"The Middle" was the second single for Jimmy's breakout album, Bleed American, which came out July 24, 2001—the group's fourth full-length album at the time. Of the popular groups listed above, only Radiohead had released a single album up to that point. The album, and especially the one major hit, are approaching their 16th birthdays. For many of us, "The Middle" is a staple track of our childhood.

Why bring this question up now? What's the significance? Well, as some fans may know, after Bleed American, Jimmy Eat World released one more great album in 2004, Futures, before releasing a decade's worth of less memorable albums and began to lose their edge. That all ended Oct. 21, 2016, when the group's ninth album dropped, Integrity Blues, and totally put the spotlight back on a once pioneering emotive rock band.

Integrity Blues has easily become one of my favorite albums of 2016. To sum it up briefly, I'll quote Pitchfork writer Ian Cohen in his review of the album:

"The expansive, emotionally weathered Integrity Blues is perhaps Jimmy Eat World's best record since Bleed American, and even serves as its unlikely spiritual sequel."

The idea of Jimmy Eat World being a top rock band of our generation came to me after I finally saw the band for the first time of my life this past Christmas break in New York City.

The show was flat out mesmerizing. I watched a band I've known for my entire memorable life go out on the stage and own the crowd with hard-hitting classics and well-crafted new tracks. The campaign was aided by the intimate capacity of 1,500 people—small for a band with



their stature—which meant almost everybody in the crowd knew every word to most songs. But it doesn't matter. Those guys are straight rock stars. I didn't just have fun singing tunes I've listened to 400 times, I was mesmerized by the performance they put on. The constant energy from lead singer Jim Adkins was inspiring, and the metal/punk noise session during the new track "Pass The Baby" was not what you would expect from a "2000s mainstream emo, alt-rock group" as they have been dubbed. It was the work of a true, tried and seasoned rock band.

Recently in televised media, Jimmy Eat World performed new single "Get Right" on the Conan Show Wednesday, Jan. 11, as well as at the iHeartRadio Theater for iHeartRadio LIVE in

Los Angeles two days later. Both performances were great and can be viewed easily online.

Speaking briefly on the history of the band, Jim Adkins formed the band in 1993 at 18 years old. The group never broke up, only switched drummers once in 1995 (and never after) and also never created any form of real controversy. They took understandable creative and touring breaks, but for 24 straight years and counting, the group has been nothing short of active.

Now the real question to answer: why should Ferris State students care about this?

When people ask me what rocks bands are doing it right now, I oftentimes may name

MIDDLE | see page 7

Ayn Rand's Objectivism

Is it wrong to be self-interested?

Many of us have had to take a philosophy class at Ferris for one reason or another. If you have, you might remember your professor mentioning Ayn Rand. Although I doubt your professor talked in great detail about Rand or her philosophy, it is one of the most important and influential schools of thought in business, government and day-to-day life, now more than ever.

Ayn Rand's father found success as the owner of a drug store in Soviet Russia. Before she immigrated to America, her father's store was nationalized by the communist government. She witnessed firsthand the destruction of her father's entrepreneurial spirit for the sake of the Soviet Union's "common good." Her experience with the extremes of collectivist thought led to the development of her philosophy.

Rand's philosophy is called Objectivism. While a somewhat complex way of thinking, I am just touching on one aspect of



Kip Biby
Podcast Manager

Objectivism in this article. This aspect can be explained (reductively) in just one quote from Rand's most revered book, *Atlas Shrugged*. The quote is, "I swear by my life and my love of it that I will never live for the sake of another man, nor ask another man to live for mine."

We are living in an increasingly collectivist society. The way many of us think is that to be self-concerned is wrong. We see examples of this in the growing support for universal health care, entitlements and movements to make attending college free for students. These are movements where earned money must be taken from people

to pay for other people's goods and services. Some people might even call it theft. If you even mention birth control not being a "right" in a classroom discussion you might be mauled.

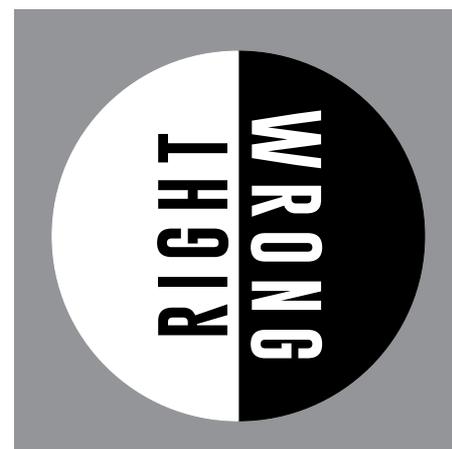
Ayn Rand's ideas that to be self-interested is actually a virtue are extremely foreign in today's political climate. But let's break down the aforementioned quote and apply it to entitlements.

"I will never live for the sake of another man," means, in this example, that I will not participate in a system where my money is taken against my will and used for the sake of another person.

The flip side of that is, "nor ask another man to live for mine." This means I will not use other people's money against their will for myself.

Simply put, we should all be responsible for our own happiness. Does that really sound so evil? I encourage everyone to

read the books, *Atlas Shrugged* and *The Fountainhead*. These books can explain objectivist values far more in depth than I can in this piece. Many people have said that these books have changed their lives and I am one of them.



MIDDLE

Continued from page 6

bands people have never heard of, because the fastest growing and boundary-pushing artists right now are not rock groups. They tend to be rappers or pop stars, such as Kendrick Lamar and Beyoncé. So now when somebody asks me what rock band is doing it right now, I can confidently say Jimmy Eat World, who most college students should know.

I mean I've heard "The Middle" being played in the UC, The Rock, Starbucks, Oakwood, Fraternity houses, Shooters and really anywhere around campus, because it is a "classic" and familiar song, just like All The Small Things by Blink 182. As much as I worship Blink, their 2016 release 'California' was arguably their worst album yet. It shyed far away from

their punk roots and used a lot of auto-tuned vocals. "Integrity Blues" was a step forward, while also revisiting musical themes from Jimmy Eat World's beginnings, as vocalist Jim Adkins delivers honest and introspective adult lyrics. After releasing a couple albums that did not achieve the success or push the limits that Bleed American did, Jimmy Eat World took a year away from music, regrouped and produced their best album in 15 years, and display a live performance that literally has me publishing an article about it over a month later. I believe any fan of "The Middle" or rock music in general will find some form of enjoyment or solace in this new album.

I recommend to anyone looking for new rock music to check out "Integrity Blues," but before that, give Bleed American a full listen and try to tell me it isn't a fantastic and pioneering emo rock album.

Will the extreme feminists please sit down

Buzzfeed introduces "manspreading"

Buckle in everyone, we're going for a rocky ride on the social justice roller coaster.

A few months ago, BuzzFeed released a video called: "Women Try Manspreading for a Week." I've never been a huge fan of BuzzFeed, but this video has scraped the bottom of the barrel of petty complaints.

In the video, several women explain what manspreading is—basically men spreading their legs into a large V-shape when they're sitting—and then try doing it for a week themselves. Apparently, these women think that men should sit more like women tend to, with their legs closed. They think that men take up too much space when they sit down in crowded places like city busses.

Some of them do. I'm 100 percent aware that there are some jerks out there that sit in an obnoxious position and take up more room than necessary when there are other people looking for a seat. There are even people that will lay down across two to three bus seats. Most of the time, however, men just sit with their legs apart because it's the most comfortable way for them to sit. In the words of my brother, "It's uncomfortable to sit that way [with your legs closed]." It's not rocket science to figure out why.

The women in this video don't really care about that, but they certainly care about the amount of space that they think they are allowed to have on busses and the like. No one ever told these women that they aren't allowed to take up more than one seat on a bus, so the fact that this is an assumed rule is ridiculous.



Jen Corrie
Copy Editor

Furthermore, public transportation is crowded to begin with. It's not uncommon to see three women crammed into bus seats next to each other. We all have to share the bus and that means sometimes, we're going to be uncomfortably close to other people. If you need more personal space, I suggest you call an Uber or drive yourself.

Now, I'm sure that there are some women who are upset when they are told to "sit like a lady." I don't like being told, either. Newsflash: no one is going to make you sit like a lady if you're a grown woman on a bus. Sit with your legs open. Sit with your legs closed. That's up to you, no matter what your mother said when you were a kid.

Buzzfeed wasn't addressing an issue that is exclusive to males, either. It's an issue that pertains to people who are rude and have no respect for others. For example, I specifically remember looking around the University Center atrium for a seat about a year ago when I saw another female student who was sprawled out over an entire couch. I've also seen women taking up entire bus seats and putting up their feet. Kind of hard to call it manspreading now, huh?

This manspreading idea is taking the brilliant movement of feminism too far. Bringing justice to victims of sexual harassment and assault is an important feminist issue. Equal career opportunities for both men and women are an important feminist issue. Manspreading is just whining that is being labeled as a feminist issue.

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Contact Kip Biby
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Ferris State University Tire Fire

The second truest, fairest and most accurate student newspaper on campus



North Hall construction, which is still ripe with the scent of adolescent lust, is scheduled to be completed before the fall 2017 semester.



Tire Fire begins printing moving photos that your filthy muggle eyes can't see properly

Pg. 2

Obama family still living out of suitcases; not ready to unpack

Pg. 2

Ferris male freshman still valiantly clinging to hoodie, cargo shorts, long socks and flip flops look despite freezing winter weather

Pg. 3

President Trump's inauguration crowd-size mirrors local little league season opener

Pg. 3

Ferris pharmacy program continues to grow; adds new "street pharmacist" masters degree

Pg. 4

Entire country distracted from blatant social and economic issues by football game

Pg. 4

Lovin' the new hall

Exhibitionist couple christen new North Hall by having sex on construction site

Unit-758861
Ordinary Organic Lifeform

Elevator shafts aren't the only things being erected at the North Hall construction site.

At 1:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 23, a pair of naked Ferris students were chased out of the construction area by Ferris Department of Public Safety foot patrol officers.

The officers received a call at 1:27 a.m. to investigate, but the exhibitionist couple—or more likely only the male student of the pair— had already finished by the time officers arrived at the scene.

"I've been at Ferris almost four years and I've done my time. I've gotten busy in the library study

rooms, in the bathroom of the UC and done it a few times in the pool area at the Rec. There was no way I was going to graduate before christening the new building," Ferris history senior Fred Sharpleton said.

Sharpleton and his girlfriend, Ferris social work senior Jaclyn Maliki, have been issued warrants for public indecency and trespassing.

"I just hope they were wearing protection. It's really important to wear hard hats to protect your head on construction sites. I reckon it's important to protect the downstairs head as well," North Hall construction foreman Red Penssil said.

Witnesses to the lovemaking incident recall seeing the couple change positions multiple times in order to sully as much of the building's infrastructure as possible.

"It was really cold being that high up and exposed to the wind," Maliki said. "It was still worth it, though. I can't wait for them to start bringing in furniture so we can carve our names into the first headboard they move in."

At press time, the young couple was trying to devise a way to have sex on top of the grill at the Rock Cafe's Mongo Grill without getting caught or burning their flesh.

Legal Disclaimer:

The Ferris State University *Tire Fire* is a satirical newspaper featuring fabricated or exaggerated stories written by members of the Ferris State Torch staff. Pseudonyms and false job titles have been adopted for each of the Torch staff members whose work is included in the *Tire Fire*. The *Tire Fire* utilizes invented names and quotes in its stories unless public figures or notable university personas are being satirized or described for the sake of our personal enjoyment, and the enjoyment of our readers. All other use of real names is coincidental. While the *Tire Fire* is an extension of the *Torch*, it is meant to be satirical and does not necessarily reflect the views of the *Torch*, nor Ferris State University.

Eisler Says:

*"WHOA-OH-OWOO-OH
SWEET CHILD O' MINE!"*

Sung at 1 a.m. in karaoke bar



Tire Fire

Satirical insert laced with absurdity, hyperbole and going way too far

Pull out this section for the hardest-hitting fake news ever put to print



Miracle on ice

Ferris hockey players skate across icy campus sidewalks, terrorize students

Stephen A1 Smith

Abraham Lincoln Impersonator

Ferris hockey saw an incredible performance on the skate to class Thursday, Jan. 12, with transfer goaltender JJ Watt recording 102 saves and 50 injured students.

Watt, who spends most of his time as a Houston Texan but was able to receive a year of eligibility in college hockey based on a technicality, showed an inspired effort by not allowing a single student into the IRC that icy morning.

Head coach Bob Daniels said, "It was unbelievable. We give JJ the start in front of the IRC Connector and he plays tremendously. They tried to go in the bottom shelf. He wasn't having it. Wanna go around? Nope. He covered the whole double door! I've never seen a goaltender protect the crease that well."

Meanwhile, the Dawgs' skaters checked students into buildings all around campus as they passed the puck with precision and great timing. Despite the effort, the Bulldogs would tie in overtime.

Senior forward Gerald Mayhew said, "It was like there was no goal. We passed the puck well and people were getting great shots, but we couldn't find the net anywhere."

The Ferris coaching staff signed Watt

after they couldn't decide who was the better goalie on the current roster.

"Both Darren [Smith, sophomore] and Justin [Kapelmaster, freshman] were playing great hockey. We felt that we couldn't cut the hairs between them anymore so we decided to outsource," Goalie coach Jason Voorhees said.

Watt was not alone in his spectacular performance. Sophomore defender Tyler Dorantes was undefeated in fights on the ice. Students kept tripping him with their injured, writhing bodies so he decided to take matters into his own hands by dropping the gloves.

He added 10 students to the carnage total, which Daniels thinks is the key to street ice hockey.

"You've got to play hard. You've got to play aggressive, and I think my guys showed that. They played with heart. Our team is chomping at the bit to get back on the ice for another scrimmage with Ferris students," Daniels said.

The balmy weather as of late has interrupted the Bulldogs' ice time, as the campus sidewalks fill with muddy water in place of ice.

At press time, members of the Ferris hockey team were seen surfing the Ferris State Trades Facebook group in hopes of coming across a cheap pair of secondhand rollerblades that could be used to body check students when the weather isn't cooperating.

Back to the past

Physics professor, student charged with driving near 90 miles per hour on campus

Henry Hill

Propane/Propane Accessories Salesman

A Ferris physics senior student and retired physics professor were arrested near the North Quad by campus police on charges of reckless driving and possessing nuclear material.

When Ferris and Big Rapids Department of Public Safety officers arrived at the scene, Ferris physics senior Marty MacFarlane and former Ferris physics professor Emmett Black were approaching speeds of 90 miles per hour.

"We heard professor Black from Clark Hall screaming, 'We're going back to save the future!' I was terrified when I heard the car coming down Ives,"



Ferris pre-nursing freshman Anna Moore said.

Ferris Department of Public Safety officers Adam Kendrick and Jack Roseau arrested MacFarlane and Black and have detained them in Mecosta County Jail until their arraignment.

"MacFarlane was going 88 miles per hour when officers Kendrick and Roseau arrived," Ferris DPS Chief Bruce Borkovich said. "In an odd twist, when officers were able to subdue MacFarlane, he asked us what year it is. He also asked if Trump is still president and said something about failing his mission. We've notified Homeland Security and the Secret Service based on this information."

The suspects are being held at the Mecosta County Jail until they're arraigned on the charges.

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on
fsutorch.com/tire-fire!

Check out the Tire Fire in the last Torch of each month!

Horror-scope



Aries: March 21-April 19

The next time you decide to sing in your shower, your roommates will decide to cut out your larynx while you sleep.



Taurus: April 20-May 20

Those that fall under the Taurus sign were conceived in missionary position, and are therefore boring and vanilla.



Gemini: May 21-June 20

You'll be just one of about 10,000 students at Ferris' Big Rapids campus to fall on your ass on the way to class today.



Cancer: June 21-July 22

Your irrationally inflated sense of self importance will make it difficult for you to notice that nobody cares about your opinion and you've got awful breath.



Leo: July 23-Aug. 22

Your sign may be a lion, but you are like the cowardly version. Your lack of courage means that person you've been wanting to go out with will be asked out by someone else, and you will forever be friend-zoned.



Virgo: Aug. 23-Sept. 22

The next guy who comes into the bathroom will take the urinal right next to you, take a peek and be unimpressed. This feeling will change to revolt as he sees you leave without washing your hands.



Libra: Sept. 23-Oct.22

You are so focused on getting perfect grades that you will never sleep. No sleep means mental capacities are lacking, which means no perfect grades. Oops.



Scorpio: Oct. 23-Nov.21

You will wake up late and miss your first class, eventually leading to the downfall of us all.



Sagittarius: Nov.22-Dec. 21

You will hold the door for someone walking just far enough behind you to make the encounter intensely awkward, eventually leading to the downfall of us all.



Capricorn: Dec. 22-Jan.19

Every time you sneeze you'll pee a little bit, eventually leading to the downfall of us all.



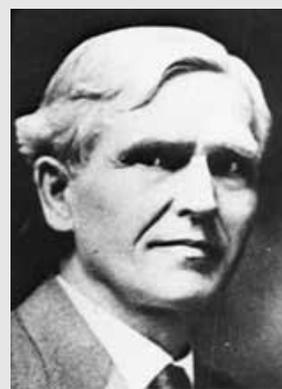
Aquarius: Jan. 20-Feb. 18

Your next attempt at flirting will be thwarted by an accidental—yet perfectly placed—punch in the genitals.



Pisces: Feb. 19-March 20

Pisces will be in pieces. There's a lot of ice and not a lot of salt. Slip and you will shatter.



Ask Woodbridge

Submit questions to fsutirefire@gmail.com for a chance to see Woodbridge N. Ferris give you personalized advice.

“Dear Woodbridge, I've been dating this guy for a few months and things are going pretty well. He's sweet, he's a good listener and he is always there when I need him to be. My roommate's cat died and he baked her cookies for crying out loud. I'm afraid our relationship isn't exciting enough, though. We have chemistry, but in the past I've always been more attracted to the “bad-boy” type. My question is: is there such a thing as being too nice?”

- Mrs. Too-Nice Guy

Listen here, bitch, I don't know if you're naïve or just plain stupid, but guys like that don't come along every millennia.

Do you know how many women would give their left tit to have a guy—a college-aged guy no less—that doesn't play games and genuinely cares about them? Would you prefer to fight all the time? Do you want him to ignore you for days on end? I bet you'd love for him to make passive-aggressive comments about what you eat or how often you work out?

Ya know what? Maybe you should move on. Look for someone more exciting. I mean, clearly all your past relationships with the “bad-boys” have been super successful—oh wait.

You shut your mouth and hold onto that boy like grim death. Too nice? Are you kidding me?

- Woodbridge

“Woodbridge my mom is a total psycho. She's been calling and texting me CONSTANTLY even though I've been ‘out of the nest’ for months. I don't think I can deal with this level of clinginess. I don't want to hurt her feelings or anything, but how do I let her know that I'm just way too busy to talk to her every single night?”

- Nate Needs Space

You have two options here. Giving in to her whims and speaking to her regularly is probably the choice that's more likely to keep you out of Hell. After all, she squeezed your entire existence out of her birthing canal, and may have required stitches as a result. She probably deserves some slack. However, you've gotta cut that umbilical cord eventually, because that shit can get old real quick.

But if you're going to ignore your mother, you can't do it halfway. You have to dip out of society entirely. Fake your own death using pig's blood for aesthetic then head to the woods. You'd better establish a good base camp because relieving yourself outside is your life now. Have a good time, you ungrateful prick.

- Woodbridge

What do your dreams mean?

Tire Fire sleep experts weigh in on the hidden meanings behind most common dreams



Falling off of a Cliff - Your grades are falling. Your self-esteem is falling. This is why you DREAM of falling. The only way to stop the downward cycle is to use a parachute or to go splat. That is, either freebase some Adderall or drop out.

Naked in Public - This can only mean one thing: you definitely WANT to be naked in public. At least, there's a chance that's the meaning. I guess there's only one way to find out... Drop those pants!

Running from a Serial Killer - You actually survived an extremely traumatic attack by a serial killer. Your mother never told you, but you spent the summer after fourth grade at Camp Crystal Lake. Have you ever wondered why you also have a crippling fear of vintage goalie masks and machetes?

Waking up on a deserted island - You're feeling super isolated because none of your family, friends or friends with benefits have called or texted lately. Hell, you'd even settle for some attention from the smelly guy behind you in your lecture hall. I guess you can always throw yourself into social media to live vicariously through others, am I right?

Is MySpace still cool?

Non-traditional student tries desperately to recapture lost youth

Douglas Welts
Lobster Claw Bander

You graduate high school, attend four years of college, earn a degree, get a job. In that order. Right? That's not the case for Ferris sixth-year business management senior Ronny Tarshall.

Tarshall simply isn't ready to graduate.

"I'm still trying to discover myself, know what I mean, fam?" Tarshall said. "I mean... what even is a degree? Proof of somebody's worth? I'm worth more than a piece of paper."

After graduating high school during the Clinton administration, Tarshall did not consider himself a model college student. Tarshall attended community college for two years, but dropped out before employing at a local gas station. A

long stint of dead-end jobs and failed relationships prompted Tarshall to reconsider the university life.

"The gas station totally sucked but it wasn't nearly as bad as my last job," Tarshall said. "I worked in a factory imploding geese using concentrated microwaves. I have no idea what we were manufacturing. The geese would come on a truck each morning, we'd hit them with gamma radiation, then we'd ship the carcasses off to North Korea. It was a very traumatic experience for me. And for the geese, as well. At that point, I knew something had to change."

And so, Tarshall enrolled at Ferris State University in the pre-pharmacy program, before switching to the history program, back to pre-pharm, to social work, back to history,

pre-pharm again, golf management and then finally business management.

"I'm thinking about switching majors to psychology," Tarshall said. "Because Freud and stuff. Also, the chicks there are HOT."

Curriculum aside, what brings Tarshall back to Big Rapids each semester is not the education but the lifestyle.

"I finally found my calling," Tarshall said. "I was meant to be a student. Until FAFSA denies me my loans, or my grade slips, I don't see myself stopping."

Tarshall hasn't graduated for lack of credits earned, however. Twice he's been offered degrees based on completed requirements, and both times he's turned them down.

"Why should I graduate? I still look young, so I blend in

flawlessly," Tarshall said, wiping the sweat from his wrinkled brow. "I'm just not ready to take that step. Know what I mean, fam? See that girl over there? That's Kelsey. We've got something strong between us, something you can't find outside of the college experience. It's lit. Did I say that correctly?"

"I think it's cute when students' dads try to flirt with me," Kelsey Shellhome said candidly. "It's kind of sad, but kind of flattering, too."

"I've considered graduating and entering the workforce," Tarshall said. "But every time I do, I hear those geese screaming. I panic and next thing you know, I've enrolled in another semester. It is SO not lit. Know what I mean, fam?"

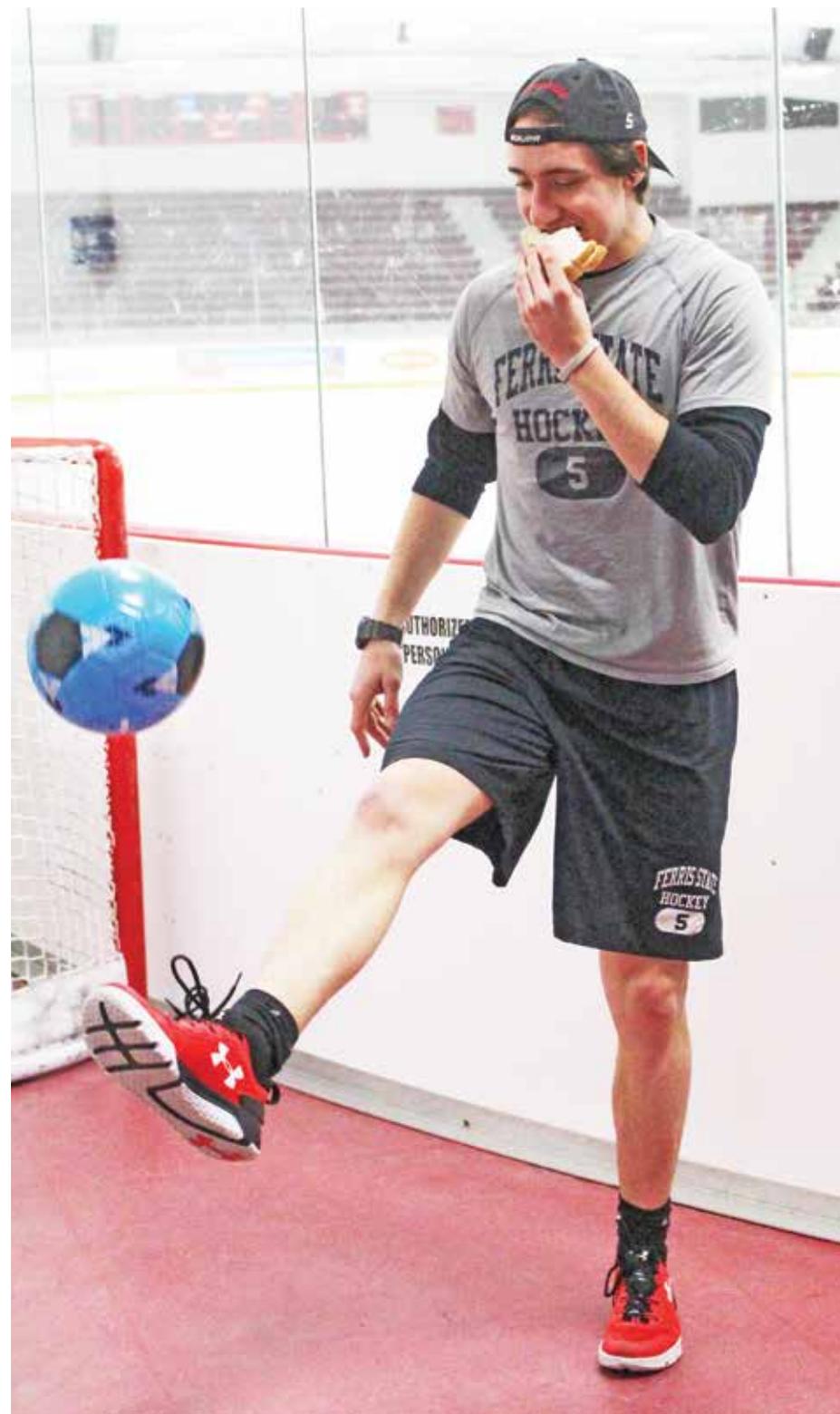
We have no idea what you mean, fam.

SPORTS

"There's no need to panic. I'm still extremely optimistic about this year's team." - Bob Daniels See [page 11](#) for story

Apply now! | [Sports Editor](#)

IF IT WORKS, IT'S NOT WEIRD



Photos by: Samantha Dow | Torch Photographer

Ferris women's basketball senior forward Joslyn Nicholson (left) dances away nerves before games while Ferris hockey sophomore defenseman Tyler Dorantes (right) always eats a peanut butter and honey sandwich and loosens up by kicking around a soccer ball before he takes the ice.

Ferris athletes share their pre-game rituals

Beau Jensen
Torch Reporter

Before every game in his pro years, Michael Jordan would put on his North Carolina Tar Heels shorts under his Chicago Bulls shorts. Former defensive tackle for the Jacksonville Jaguars John Henderson used to ask one of the team's trainers to slap him across the face before he'd take to the field. Odd rituals such as these are pretty common among high-level athletes, but what do our Bulldog athletes do to prepare themselves for a game?

Heading to the hardwood first, it seems that many of our Bulldog ballers can't step on the court without their headphones. Senior forward Joslyn Nicholson of the women's basketball team can never resist the urge to dance the pregame jitters away.

"Before a game I normally throw on my

Beats or my headphones and tune out the world by listening to music that really pumps me up," Nicholson said. "Most times, I'm so into the music that I'll be dancing to myself while everyone else in the locker room is getting dressed for the game."



Quentin Ruff

Senior wing Quentin Ruff also has to listen to music before a game, but he gets a little more specific with his music choice. He has six different songs that he shuffles through before a game. The song that gets him the most hyped up is "300 Violin Orchestra" by Jorge Quintero.

Making the switch over to the ice, a couple of our hockey players have some interesting rituals. Senior forward Gerald Mayhew can't get to the ice before a bit of sleep, making sure he's well rested.

"I have to nap for an hour before the game," Mayhew said. "And if we win, I wear the same suit until we lose."

Mayhew's ritual of a nap an hour before the game and wearing the same suit may seem like quite the routine, but wait until you hear what junior forward Tyler Dorantes has to do before a game. Hopefully, you can keep up with it all.

"On game days, I like to come back from morning skate. Fridays, I'll eat a peanut butter and honey sandwich when I get home. Saturdays, I'll have a bagel from Panera. Then I'll clean up the apartment a little bit," Dorantes said. "I like to shower and then sit at my suit combo, pick out my kitchen counter and have a cup of coffee before I head to the rink."



Gerald Mayhew

That's only before Dorantes gets to the rink. His ritualistic tendencies don't stop there.



Tyler Dorantes

"When I get to the rink, I foam roll, tape my stick and then kick the soccer ball around before our meeting," Dorantes said.

"After games, I like to drink a lot of water and Scratch, which is an electrolyte mix and I also foam roll and static stretch."

Whether it's Michael Jordan, Tyler Dorantes or Joslyn Nicholson, sometimes repeating something that works for you just works. The only thing ritualistically different between these Ferris State athletes and the pros is that the Bulldogs have to go to class on Monday, one ritual that none of them can avoid.

Top Dawg

Chad McDonald

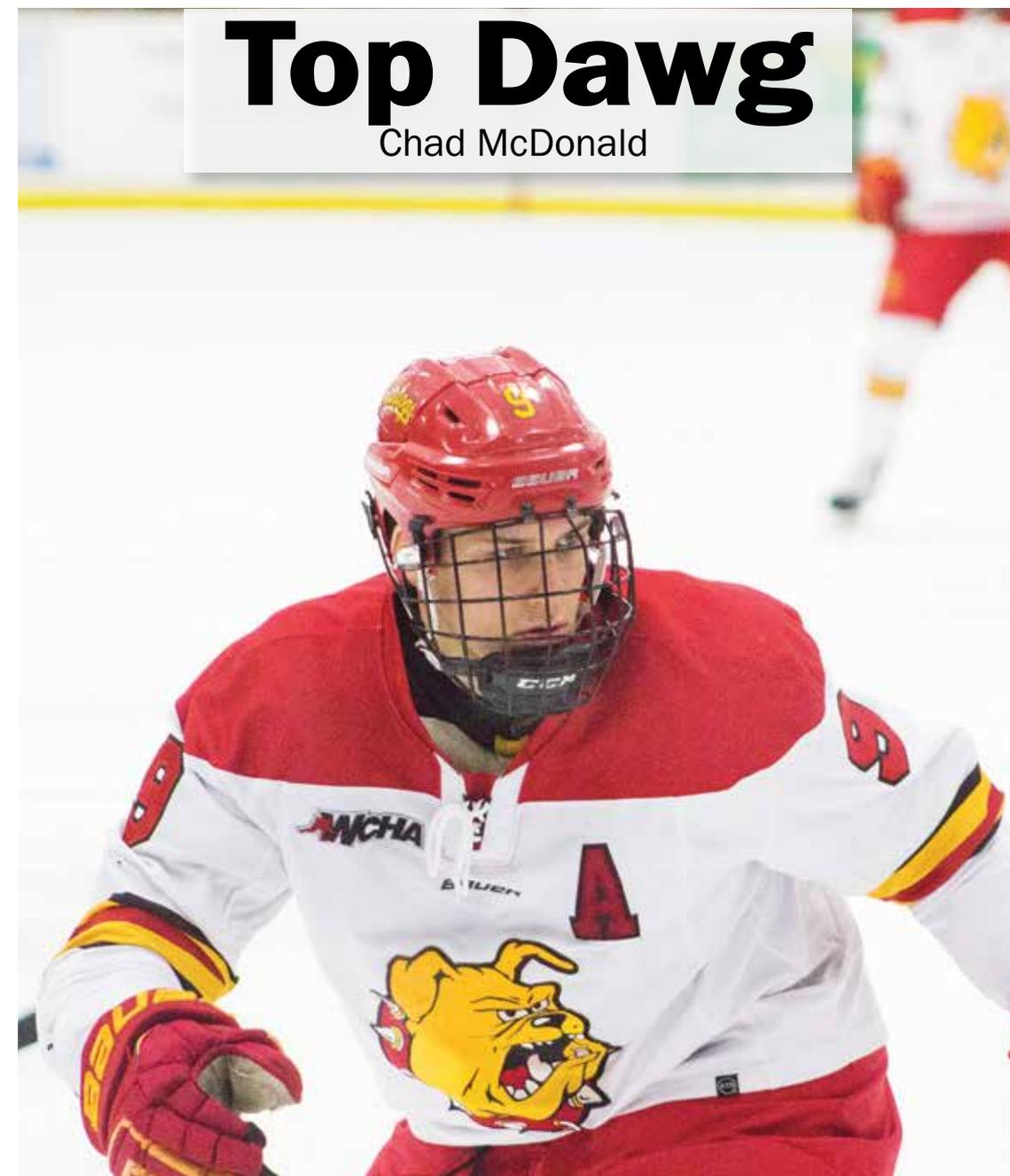


Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Keith Salowich

Editor in Chief

180-pound Battle Creek native followed up the performance by scoring Ferris' lone goal in their 5-1 loss to the Beavers on the following day.

McDonald has suited up in 135 games for the Bulldogs tallying 35 goals and 42 assists during that span.

He's also helped lead the Dawgs to the WCHA Final Five every year since he's been on campus, and the NCAA Regional Final twice since 2013.

Ferris will host Bowling Green State 8:37 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, in Ewigleben Arena.

Sports Shorts

By Cody Burkhard - Torch Reporter

It's a block party

Sophomore Zach Hankins has been nominated to the 2017 Bevo Francis Award watch list. This is an award given to the player with the best season in small school basketball. These include players from non-major conference Div. 1, Div. 2 and Div. 3 players. Former Ferris standout center Jared Stolicker was nominated last year.

Hankins is leading the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) No. 1 Bulldogs in points and rebounds with 15.1 points per game and 9.4 rebounds per game. He also leads the team in blocks with an astounding 4.4 blocks per game. In conference, he averages 5.1 blocks a game.

Saturday, Jan. 21, Hankins recorded a career high in blocks against Wayne State. He had 10 blocks in a 102-81 conference win. The 15-3 Bulldogs will take the block party to Marquette when they play the Northern Michigan Wildcats 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26. They then travel to Houghton to take on the Michigan Tech Huskies 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28.

They probably could have just ran to the meet

Ferris track and field placed in the middle of the pack Friday, Jan. 20, at the Grand Valley Open in Allendale. Of the 16 teams, the men's Dawgs placed seventh with 13 points, and the women placed sixth also scoring 13 points.

Ferris junior Molly Emerick won the women's 800 meter in NCAA qualifying time at 2:13.72. Emily Haynes and Kathryn Etelamaki placed fifth and sixth in the 3,000 meters with times of 10:21.11 and 20:23.45 respectively.

Cody Stilwell led the Bulldog men with a third place finish in weight throwing. He had a provisional NCAA qualifying throw at 57-11.5. Ross Miller and Brett Allpow also competed in the event placing eighth and tenth respectively. Senior Logan Hammer placed fifth in the mile with a time of 4:16.21.

Ferris track and field will compete next Friday, Jan. 27, and Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Saginaw Valley Jet's Pizza Invitational in Saginaw.

Ferris football award season

Head coach Tony Annese won the Football Gazette Super Region Four Coach of the Year for the second year in a row and sophomore defensive end Zach Seiler won the Super Region Four Defensive Player of the Year.

Seiler broke Ferris records for sacks and tackles for loss this season with 19.5 and 29.5, respectively, after New Orleans Saint Justin Zimmer set them in 2015.

Two other Bulldogs earned first team all-region honors in senior linebacker Anthony Darkangelo and junior corner Tavierre Thomas. Offensive linemen Jake Daugherty and Devin Johnson garnered second-team all region laurels for their work in the trenches helping Ferris place as the second best rushing team in the GLIAC.

All of these players will be up for All-American honors as first and second-team placers. Voting will be held later this month for the 2017 Don Hansen's Football Gazette All-American team.

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

January

Support your fellow Bulldogs!

27 - Men's Hockey - Bowling Green State - 8:37 p.m.

28 - Men's Hockey - Bowling Green State - 7:07 p.m.

February

2 - Women's Basketball - Saginaw Valley - 6:00 p.m.

2 - Men's Basketball - Saginaw Valley - 8:00 p.m.

8 - Women's Basketball - Lake Superior State - 6:00p.m.

8 - Men's Basketball - Lake Superior State - 8:00 p.m.

16 - Women's Basketball - Northern Michigan - 6:00p.m.

16 - Men's Basketball - Northern Michigan - 8:00 p.m.

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Letters must be postmarked by January 31, 2017. Please include your name, address, phone number and the name of your female cat.

This event is sponsored by The Riley MacKenzie Fund and The Pioneer Group

Houston, we don't have a problem

Ferris hockey players unabashed about sub-.500 season

Cody Burkhard

Torch Reporter

Ferris hockey split a series with Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) No. 1 Bemidji State this weekend with hopes of steering this sub-par season to the playoffs.

The Dawgs won their Friday, Jan. 20, matchup 5-2, but lost to the Beavers 5-1 Saturday, Jan. 21. Friday marked the first win of the calendar year for Ferris but they'll need to continue to win consistently in order to make the playoffs.

"What we need to do is find ways to win in regulation. Right now we need those three point games. That's the only way to move up the standings," Head Coach Bob Daniels said.

"If we can get a playoff spot then we can make a run like we did last year."

- Gerald Mayhew

A team receives three points for win in regulation or the first round of overtime. But if the game goes to three-on-three overtime, then the winner only gets two points and the loser gets one. The Bulldogs are currently seventh in the WCHA with seventh with 26 points.

Senior forward Gerald Mayhew has been a big factor in the league points they have garnered as the leading goal scorer and point man with 13 goals and 10 assists on the year.

"It's obviously not the year we wanted, not even being at .500,

but I think right now the most important part is to make a playoff. If we can get a playoff spot then we can make a run like we did last year," Mayhew said.

Last year, the Bulldogs won the WCHA tournament and fell in the final eight of the NCAA tournament after going .500 for most of the season. The Dawgs failed to earn two wins in a weekend until they beat Alaska Feb. 5, and Feb. 6, in 2016. Last year's turnaround gives Daniels confidence about this year.

"There's no need to panic. I'm still extremely optimistic about this year's team," Daniels said. "Even though we haven't won the amount of games we would have liked to have won, our record isn't indicative of our play and we're starting to play some really good hockey."

The main focus for Daniels is to earn a playoff spot. For Ferris to earn a playoff spot, the offense needs to become more consistent.

"Our biggest hindrance right now is the ability to score on a consistent basis," Daniels said.

Sophomore goaltender Darren Smith has split time with freshman goalie Justin Kapelmaster. Both have a save percentage above .900 but the Dawgs are just 2-14-1 when Smith is between the posts. Kapelmaster has seen more success at 6-1-3, but Daniels said both goalies have played well this year. They will continue to share time in goal.

The Bulldogs look to take a positive step forward when they play the leading goal scoring WCHA team in Bowling Green.

The action begins 8:37 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, and 7:07 pm. Saturday, Jan. 28, at Ewingleben Arena.



Bob Daniels



Photo by: Samantha Dow | Torch Photographer

Ferris senior forward Joslyn Nicholson (left), freshman guard Renee Sturm (middle) and sophomore forward Abby Nakfoor (right) find time to study between practices in the Ewingleben Sports Arena.

On the road again

Ferris women's basketball team juggles academics and busy road schedule

Brendan Samuels

Torch Reporter

Adjusting back to academics to start the spring semester is a challenge for most students at Ferris State. Even more difficult is attempting to balance school work with athletics.

The Ferris State women's basketball team has struggled on the court this year, posting a 4-13 overall record to this point. However, this has not discouraged the players from doing their best to keep up academically.

"Finding time to study is sometimes tough," said junior forward Rachel McInerney. "When we have long road trips, we will miss three days out of the week. The long travel gives us spare time to work on whatever we need to finish."

The Bulldogs are amid a nearly month-long schedule of road games with upcoming trips to Michigan Tech., Northern Michigan and Grand Valley. Two out of

three of those games will require more than five hours of travel just to arrive at the destination.

Spending that much time on the road forces the players to find alternate routes to complete assignments. One popular route for the women's basketball team is taking advantage of the long hours spent on the bus.

"Personally, I struggle to do homework on the bus," said freshman guard Renee Sturm. "During study tables and on trips, everyone helps one another out. Sometimes it feels impossible to balance basketball and school, but with the academic support we have in place, it's more manageable."

As tough as it may be, student athletes aren't left to fend for themselves completely. Most Ferris sports programs organize study tables for athletes to meet up and receive any extra help they may need on their assignments.

The women's basketball team will close the books and hit the road as they travel to Marquette to take on Northern Michigan 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26.



Renee Sturm



Rachel McInerney

WCHA STANDINGS

1.	Bemidji State	16 - 4 - 2	52 PTS
2.	Michigan Tech	12 - 3 - 5	43 PTS
3.	Bowling Green	11 - 10 - 1	35 PTS
4.	Minnesota State	10 - 7 - 3	34 PTS
5.	Lake Superior State	8 - 9 - 3	28 PTS
6.	Alaska	7 - 10 - 3	27 PTS
7.	Ferris State	7 - 10 - 3	26 PTS
8.	Alabama Huntsville	7 - 11 - 2	23 PTS
9.	Alaska Anchorage	4 - 11 - 5	19 PTS
10.	Northern Michigan	5 - 12 - 3	19 PTS

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Doubters beware, you're in for a scare



Photo by: Kaitlyn Kirchner | Torch Photographer

Ferris junior libero Lauren Reminga helped lead the Bulldogs to a third consecutive GLIAC Championship this season. The team will welcome five incoming freshman athletes to replace four graduating seniors.

Ferris junior libero Lauren Reminga writes on last season and reloading for next year

Lauren Reminga | Guest Writer

I have so many amazing things I could say about this team and this season, I do not know where to start.

This season took us for a ride. With multiple All-American, All-GLIAC and two-plus year starters leaving us the previous season, we did not know how the dynamic of our program was going to change. We received multiple comments along the lines of, "This year is going to be interesting," or, "It is probably going to be a rebuilding year for your team."

I remember having our first team meeting, talking about what we wanted to accomplish

this year. I saw the fire in my teammates' eyes and how we wanted to prove everyone wrong. We had the talent of multiple women who had worked for years to get their chance to play, as well as multiple returners, so I knew we could accomplish something big.

We had a tough off-season, grinding in the weight room and gym to enhance our performance. We practiced for months and months, and before we knew it, we were hosting the GLIAC tournament and about to win for the third year in a row. As the NCAA tournament came around, we got to host once again, and the support we had from our parents, fans and athletic department

was absolutely amazing.

We ended up getting knocked out in the Regional Championship match. Looking back and reviewing the season, there is nothing I could say to my teammates to change what we did. I am so proud of what we accomplished, especially because of our doubters.

I do believe that much of our success came from a book that our team read called "Burn your Goals" by Joshua Medcalf. What we captured from this book was what mentally sustained us throughout the season. The book stated that if you work hard day after day, not worried about the outcome, you

will come closer to achieving your goal. And that is what we did.

This past season, we graduated four amazing seniors that did so much for our team and I cannot thank them enough; Stephanie Sikorski, Jenna Way, Kaley Konjarevich and Aspen Stuedemann. As I look forward, I am nothing but excited for this upcoming season.

We have five incoming freshmen who we are very excited to welcome. A new year is a new opportunity to work even harder, keep the standards and values of the Bulldog Volleyball Program high and see what we can achieve as a team.

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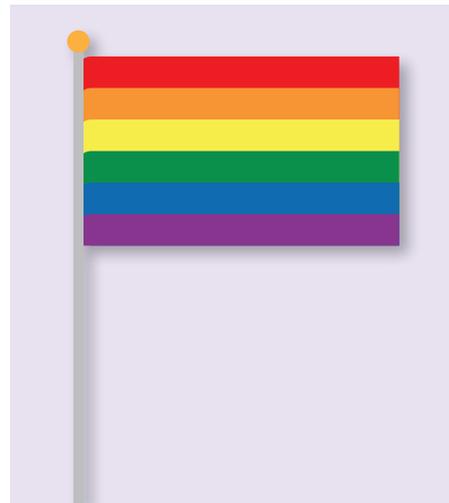
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LIFESTYLES

"I loved school so much that I wanted to do it forever. That changed drastically,"
- Lauren Stefl See page 14 for story

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



Facing the present

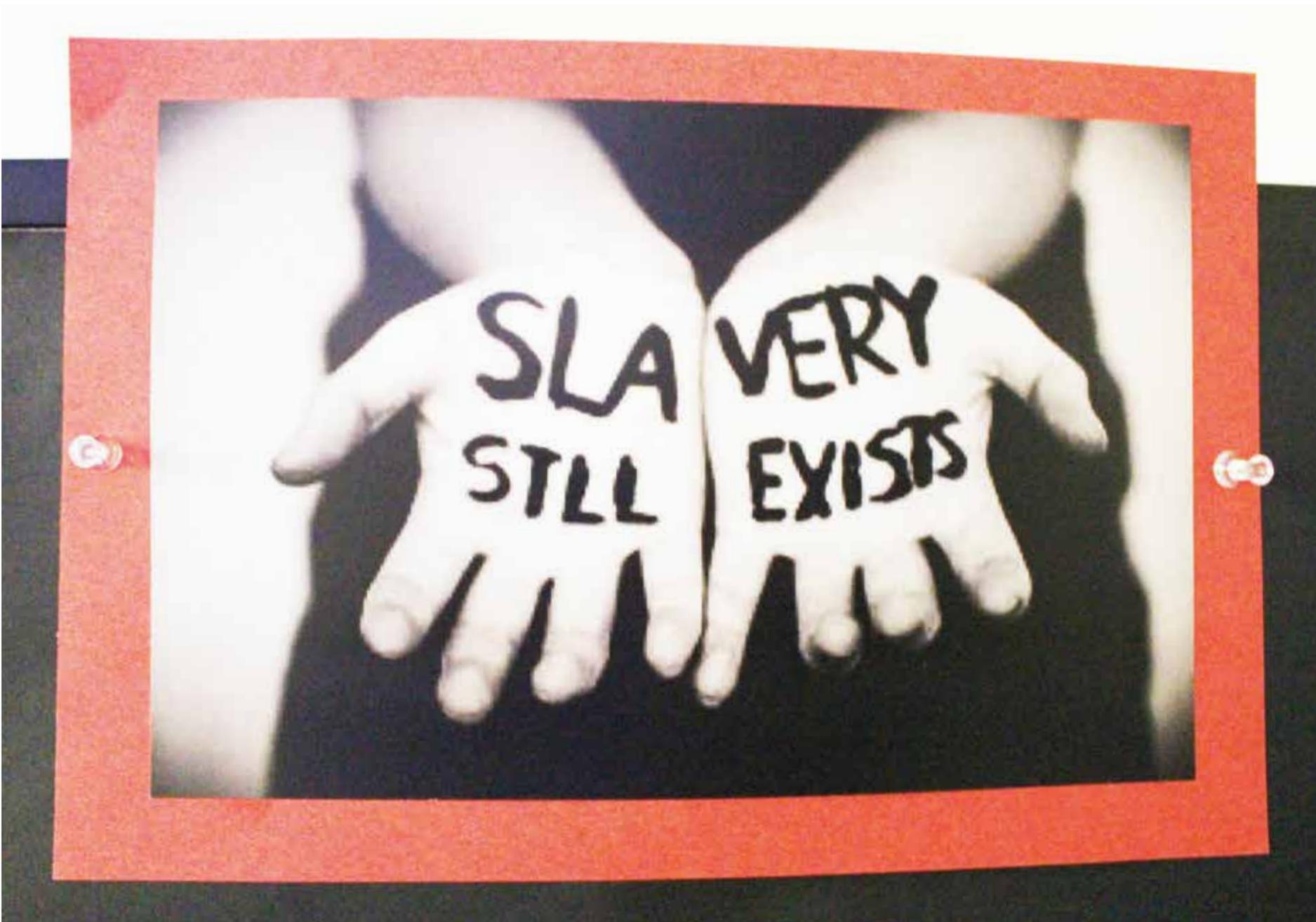


Photo by: Samantha Dow | Torch Photographer

Human trafficking and sex slavery target women and children world-wide, including here in West Michigan. This year's human trafficking section in the Tunnel of Oppression was an updated look at the issue.

The Tunnel of Oppression takes a modern angle in celebration of MLK week

Adrianna Walker
Torch Reporter

The annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy offered students a chance to view the Tunnel of Oppression, an interactive exhibit created by the Office of Housing and Residence Life Harmony Project Student Staff committee.

Exhibits in the Tunnel addressed contemporary inequality and oppression, as well as giving historical context. The following five topics comprised the display: freedom of speech, cyberbullying, gun control, human trafficking and police brutality.

Ferris CAD drafting and tools design technology junior An-

drew Vreugdenhil experienced a slight culture shock after walking through the Tunnel of Oppression.

"After coming here, it was a lot more in depth than I thought it would be," Vreugdenhil said. "A lot of the stuff you're not really quite as aware about on a small college campus, but seeing all this stuff makes it more real."

Exposing students to these modern issues was just the goal of the Office of Housing and Residence Life Harmony Project Student Staff committee.

"It's just something that we do to raise awareness for things that are happening in society that people might not be aware of," said Ferris information security junior and student staff member Elisha Parsons, who helped put together the cyberbullying display.

Parsons experienced a culture shock as well when researching cyberbullying information for the project.

"I play a lot of video games and I'm on the internet a lot, so I knew that it was a problem," Parsons said. "But one of the things that really surprised me was 'GamerGate' and how it all started. Basically this girl was just targeted and then it just blew up from there. It was really interesting to do research and learn about a lot of stuff."

Each issue had its own display with photos, quotes and statistics posted to inform and "challenge [participants] to think more deeply about issues of oppression," according to the exhibit's website.

The exhibit was just one of many campus events last week in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

What was your “almost career”?

The path forward isn't always straight or easy

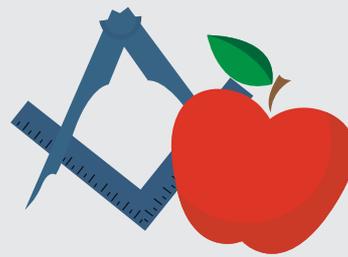
By Alicia Jaimes, Torch Reporter



“Teacher. 100 percent. I loved school so much that I wanted to do it forever. That changed drastically. Before the end of high school, I had looked at teaching and education for years. I also looked at law. But I realized that my true passion wasn't in those things. I love visual storytelling. My program allows me to capture moments and string them together into my very own kind of art.

Don't rush it. You may feel you need to make the decision right away but you don't. Take a little time to figure out what you're most interested in. It's better to take some time and be sure than rush into something you don't like.”

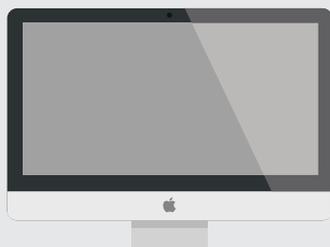
-Ferris television and digital media production junior
Lauren Steff



“I was interested in being a teacher or architect.

I originally pursued a degree in mechanical engineering at Michigan Technological University for my first two years of college. I changed majors because, even though I had gotten my grades back up (I struggled at first) and was doing fine in my classes, I wasn't enjoying what I was learning.”

-Ferris operations and supply management junior
Paula Downs



“I was in digital animation and game design first for two years and then I switched to graphic design.

Really make sure you know what you want to do so you don't waste two years majoring in something you're not interested in because it's financially a big loss.”

-Ferris graphic design fourth year
Edward Johnson



“I really wanted to be a professional athlete.

Before transferring to Ferris, I was originally pursuing a degree in sports medicine.

For students who are still pursuing a career path, I would first say that you don't have to rush it. Find an area in which you are truly passionate about, not your friends or family. But you have to ask yourself, what am I passionate about? What are my skills? What is important to me? I think those are the big questions that must be answered before you can fully commit. And it's not an easy process but use the resources around you. Job shadow, meet with multiple career counselors, etc. And don't be scared to try something new.”

-Ferris social work senior
Zenn Timmer

Graphic by: Jordan Lodge & Sarah Massey | Production

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Big Rapids gets cultural Festival of the Arts is back again

Tia-Jane' Oakes

Torch Reporter

The Festival of the Arts of Big Rapids invites students to participate in events they have planned this month for students and local residents.

The first event kicks off 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, and is titled Festival of Artists. FSU's Kappa Kappa Psi fraternity are involved with this event orchestrating a musical instrument petting zoo.

These events are a mixture of cultural events such as dance, music and art. The festival is not limited to cultural events as it will also include educational events involving literature and history.

Ferris languages and literature instructor Roxanne Cullen said the festival will have entertainment events along with workshops that specialists will teach to participants.

“Some of the events sound fun, especially doing something new. If I can have fun and learn something, I'm down,” Ferris health administration sophomore Alana Brown said.

Approximately five Ferris student organizations will be involved with the festival this year.

“We encourage students to participate. Some of the events they have planned are designed for children so it is kid friendly,” Cullen said.

Things to expect at this year's festival are impersonators, theatrical acts and a date night.

This is the tenth year the city of Big Rapids and Ferris State have collaborated for the festival.

This festival was designed for people to explore different kinds of art, and as an opportunity to learn more about different culture components.

For more information on this year's Festival of the Arts, visit brfota.org

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Happy birthday UC

The University Center celebrated its second anniversary on Friday, Jan. 20, offering indoor golf, food samples, karaoke, airbrush tattoos, a mechanical bulldog ride and more.

Photo by: Andrea Cordes | Torch Photographer

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-Lyndsay W.

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-Cynthia B.



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